

## Writing a European development plan

For section D of the Erasmus+ application form, you have to answer **four questions** about your school's European development plan.

A European development plan is a strategic view of your school's plans for European activities. It should include:

- an overview of your school's current status (i.e. where you are now)
- a vision for the future (where you want to be in two, five or ten years' time)
- identified needs (how you will get from where you are now to where you want to be)
- how your planned activities will meet these needs

Make sure your planned activities (i.e. your NILE training courses) are relevant to both individual participants and your school as a whole. They will have a stronger impact on the quality of teaching and learning if well-integrated into your school's strategic development.

The European development plan should give a context for your application, and focus on internationalisation and modernisation, identifying staff development needs and making sure that information is disseminated and widely used.

The best way to do this would be to look at the learning objectives on the description of the NILE course you are applying for, and work these into your application.

### Question 1

The question asks:

*What are the organisation's needs in terms of quality development and internationalisation? Please identify the main areas for improvement (for example management competences, staff competences, new teaching methods or tools, European dimension, language competences, curriculum, the organisation of teaching and learning.)*

Be as specific as possible in terms of areas identified in your answer here for further training, paying particular attention to internationalisation and the European aspect.

A way to answer this could be:

'Our school has little/no experience in ...' (CLIL? New technologies in language teaching? Recent developments in teaching methodology?)

'Our school there needs teachers who are able to...' (use new teaching methods, network with colleagues in other parts of Europe...)

'To do this, we need to...' (develop a strategy for internationalisation, manage activities with our European partners, make sure all our projects have certain quality standards, give our students internationally-recognised certification, make sure knowledge and skills are disseminated throughout our school...)

‘A course at NILE will help us to do this by...’ (equipping us with these skills, developing intercultural awareness, helping us to develop a network of international contacts...)

## Question 2

The question asks:

*Please outline the organisation’s plans for European mobility and cooperation activities, and explain how these activities will contribute to meeting the identified needs.*

Here, you should show how your plans for European mobility and cooperation activities fit into your plan as a whole and how the outcome of the training activities at NILE will contribute to your organisational development over time. Include a note of how many people will be affected by the training – the more the better! (If there is more than one participant from your school, more ideas and skills will be gained and will be more widely disseminated.)

You could begin your answer: ‘Our school wants to...’ Do not include more than two or three objectives. Make sure your aims are strategic, measurable, achievable and realistic.

Say **what** your aims and policies are, **how** you are going to achieve them and how they will be evaluated.

Continue by saying ‘Therefore training of staff is needed to acquire the following competences...’ (implementing a wide variety of international activities that can be carried out in cooperation with partner schools, evaluating international activities and the European dimension in the curriculum, disseminating the activities and outcomes, strengthening intercultural awareness...)

## Question 3

The question asks:

*Please explain how your organisation will integrate the competences and experiences acquired by staff participating in the project, into its strategic development in the future.*

Here, show how you will share the ideas and experiences from your NILE course with specific reference to particular activities. For example, will teachers who take part in the course then give training sessions to their colleagues? Will you lead workshops or seminars on what you have learnt? Again, give a number of how many people will be affected by the outcomes of the NILE training.

Show how the mobility activity (i.e. your NILE training) is part of a wider and long-term strategy of development and modernisation in your school and describe the impact the training will have on pupils, teachers, other staff and stakeholders and the school overall.

You could begin your answer 'Our school will...', and continue by listing five or six things you plan to do.

#### **Question 4**

*Will your organisation use eTwinning in connection with your mobility project? If so, please describe how.*

eTwinning is not essential, but can strengthen your application. If you use eTwinning, describe what criteria you used to choose your partner/s.