The EU programme for education, training, youth and sport (2014-2020)

What's better?
- A 40% increase in funding compared to the predecessor Lifelong Learning programme
- €14.7 billion in grants over 7 years
- Opportunities for over 4 million people
- A stronger focus on improving young people's job prospects and tackling youth unemployment
- A more open and inclusive programme supporting people with fewer opportunities

MOBILITY EXCHANGES: Who Can Benefit?

Students in higher education:
Up to 2 million students, including 450,000 trainees, expected to benefit from grants to study and train abroad - more than doubling opportunities offered over the past 25 years. Master students will be able to apply for an Erasmus-backed loan on more affordable conditions to complete a full degree (the scheme is already available in Spain and will soon be available in Hungary and France).

Vocational training students and apprentices:
Up to 650,000 grants offered to those undertaking vocational studies or apprenticeships abroad.

Volunteers and youth workers:
About 500,000 young people to go abroad as part of volunteering or other youth work activities.

Teachers, youth trainers and other staff:
Opportunities for 800,000 school teachers, lecturers, trainers, education staff and youth workers to gain new skills abroad.

COOPERATION PROJECTS: Working across disciplines
- Facilitating the transition between education and work: funding for more than 25,000 partnerships among 125,000 education, training and youth organisations and enterprises. These organisations work with peers in other countries in their own sector and other sectors to develop, transfer and implement innovative education, training and youth practices, for example developing new teaching practices or curricula, or allowing students to study real-life cases with enterprises.
- Boosting employment and entrepreneurship: support for more than 300 large partnerships among education institutions and enterprises to tackle skills gaps and foster entrepreneurship.

EMBRACING SPORT: Improving the game, getting Europe active
- Sport joins Erasmus+: a novelty in the programme, Erasmus+ aims to support a range of sports events, projects and competitions, with funding for up to 600 partnerships. Erasmus+ supports transnational projects involving organisations in grassroots sport, promoting, for example, good governance, social inclusion, the fight against racism, dual careers and physical activity for all.
eTwinning: connecting European schools

Through eTwinning, classrooms across Europe can work together on projects by connecting with each other through an online platform. Supported by €11 million per year from the Erasmus+ programme, eTwinning is helping pupils develop new skills and competences and supporting teachers in their professional development. Working on projects like the Big Lie, which analysed media messages in different countries, school children learn to understand different perspectives and develop skills. In 10 years, eTwinning has already connected more than half of schools in Europe and involved nearly 2 million pupils and more than 300,000 teachers.

SMEs and Higher Education Institutes in Innovation Partnerships: Using research to boost economic growth and job creation

This project brings together universities and SMEs to translate knowledge and innovation into marketable products and boost growth. With over 70 partners in Ireland, UK, Germany, Spain and Romania, the project is building four innovation alliances, involving universities, enterprises and other organisations. The project will notably develop training and tools to help SMEs engage with universities on research for innovation transfer, as well as a guide for universities. The project started in December 2014 and will end in late 2016, with a contribution of €563,362 from Erasmus+.

PACE: Encouraging Civic Engagement among young people

This project will design, run and review a learning programme aimed at encouraging socially excluded young people, for example Roma, to engage in civic projects. It involves 6 organisations from Ireland, Greece and Portugal, among them academic institutions and youth organisations. The project began in July 2015 and will run for two years. The organisers are receiving €194,872 from Erasmus+.

Did you know that...

... More and more young people are using Erasmus exchanges to gain valuable work experience abroad

... 1 in 3 Erasmus trainees are offered a position by the company they worked for

... Five years after graduation, the unemployment rate of young people having studied or trained abroad is 23% lower than that of their non-mobile peers

... In sport, Erasmus+ will help address match-fixing and doping