



# Criteria Catalogue

Supporting the European Year of Citizenship by promoting EU projects dealing with concepts and ideas of Active European Citizenship

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## Introduction

The EC designated 2013 as the European Year of Citizens. Throughout the lifetime of the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) this is a theme which concerns many major European funding programmes dealing with education, training, youth, culture and citizenship. It is also relevant for both young people and adults, in both formal and non-formal learning contexts. This means that, on the one hand, a lot of money was invested – and is still being invested – to promote the quality and quantity of AEC, its benefits and added value in the LLP. However, there are many other programmes also focusing on this issue: most of all, Europe for Citizens, as well as Youth and Culture.

YOURopa project set the following main objectives:

- Raising general public awareness about the issue of AEC in Europe, including the presentation of general EU policies, of opportunities, risks, chances and benefits in this context, as well as the introduction of adult education providers and educational counsellors specialised in this field
- Attracting citizens from all over Europe to the concepts, opportunities, benefits and possibilities of AEC, and encouraging them for pro-active engagement.
- Promoting European policy and funding opportunities related to AEC.
- Supporting EU projects which in their activities deal with AEC, to disseminate their project ideas and to build reliable networks for stakeholders and target groups.
- Providing several platforms where all relevant target groups and stakeholders (e.g. adult education providers, policy makers ranging from local to EU level, social partners, NGOs and associations representing the interests of AEC, representatives of EU funding bodies etc.) can meet, discuss and push forward the issue of AEC in Europe.

YOURopa puts AEC for one year in the focus of all of the project activities. It will demonstrate how much EC policy and programmes have already achieved in funding AEC-oriented projects and at the same time inspire possible future improvements.

The following activities will be carried out:

- Collection of 30 Good Practice Projects
- Organisation of a 2-day conference in London on 26-27 June 2013 with project fair
- Publication of a special edition of the European Magazine FOCUS EUROPE on AEC
- Production of YOURopa video clip

This document presents the whole approach of project selection for the good practice collection – starting with the procedure of project screening and the actual selection of 30 good practice projects according to defined selection criteria. Those selected projects will be invited to present their products and share their experience in the field of AEC with a transnational audience at the YOURopa conference in London.

## Project selection

The process of selecting good practice projects will be done **in three steps**:

- 1. Project screening**
- 2. Project pool**
- 3. 30 Good practice projects**

As part of an intensive research, YOURopa will screen EU projects from different funding programmes dealing with AEC and collect them in a project pool. The main focus will be given to the Lifelong Learning Programme as YOURopa is also funded within this action. Further funding programmes that were taken into consideration in the screening process are for example Europe for Citizens, Culture, Youth in Action, Media and Daphne.

The following databases were screened:

- ADAM ([www.adam-europe.eu](http://www.adam-europe.eu))
- EVE ([http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education\\_culture/eve/all\\_about\\_eve\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/eve/all_about_eve_en.htm))
- European Shared Treasure (<http://www.europeansharedtreasure.eu>)
- Daphne Toolkit ([http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/daphnetoolkit/](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/daphnetoolkit/))
- E.N.T.E.R. project database ([www.enter-network.eu](http://www.enter-network.eu))

In a second step project compendia in Lifelong Learning Programme (*available at [http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/results\\_projects/project\\_compendia\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/results_projects/project_compendia_en.php)*) were taken into account.

### Get active – nominate a project:

In a further step all national agencies and all national contact points for the Europe for Citizens Programme were contacted by email and invited to nominate one project from their country into the project pool.

The possibility of nominating projects in the project pool was furthermore disseminated through YOURopa Facebook page, website and directly by the project partners. With this option people can actively take part in the process.

Form to nominate projects:



Promoting Concepts and Ideas of Active European Citizenship  
Be a part of it

<http://youropa-project.eu>

**3 STEPS to nominate your project in the YOUropa project pool**

- 1) Make sure that the project you have in mind **matches the required criteria** listed at <http://youropa-project.eu/selected-projects/>
- 2) **Fill in this form** with relevant information about the project
- 3) **Return the document** to [petra.kampf@enter-network.eu](mailto:petra.kampf@enter-network.eu) by **31 January 2013** the latest.

PROJECT NUMBER	
COUNTRY	
TITLE OF PROJECT	
ACRONYM	
FUNDING PROGRAMME	
SUBPROGRAMME	
WEBSITE ONLINE	
COORDINATING ORGANISATION	
PROJECT PRODUCTS and OUTCOMES	
CONTACT of COORDINATOR (NAME, EMAIL)	
FURTHER COMMENTS	

Thank you!

## Project requirements

The following requirements for projects were identified by the project partners in order to be nominated for the project pool.

A) The projects need to represent elements of AEC in one of the following sub categories:

- Promotion of **active involvement** and **participation of diverse individuals**, including those from disadvantaged groups, in life of communities and public affairs
- Actively addressing problems and bringing about positive changes in communities, as well as opposing unwanted negative changes (e.g. extremism, xenophobia, racism, discrimination), on the basis of principles such as **human rights, equality, inclusiveness, diversity and social justice**
- Active promotion of **community cohesion and social solidarity**, thereby strengthening civil society as well as empowering individual citizens
- Promotion and **development of learning and skills**, such as those necessary for planning, leadership and management, to effect positive changes in society and communities
- Promotion of and **effective development of knowledge and understanding** of issues addressed by a project, amongst its participants and **wider public**, enabling them to make informed decisions about their communities and improve their quality of life (e.g. can include voting, involvement in pressure groups, being members of parties/movements)
- **Promotion of volunteering** and voluntary activities as the most effective expressions of active citizenship
- Promotion of **democratic citizenship** and active engagement of citizens in dialogue, consultation and policy-shaping processes at different levels

B) The projects did not end earlier than in 2009.

The project pool will include a minimum of 100 projects dealing with AEC in a broader sense (see sub categories listed above). Subsequently, an international team of experts will select 30 of the most promising projects according to defined criteria for special promotion activities.

Project Pool Project Description Matrix	
Country	
Project Name	
Acronym	
Special remark	
Funding Programme	
Sub programme	
Finish Year	
Website Online	
Online	
Product/Outcome	
Target groups	
Sector	
Contact	

## Selection criteria

In detail, the following nine parameters have been revealed in relation to the YOUropa project aims:

- Content Innovation
- Methodology
- Practical testing
- Target group relevance
- Presentability
- Accessibility
- Product quality
- Geographical coverage
- Inclusivity

### *Content Innovation*

This parameter is about exploring the content aspects of the respective project in terms of innovation with reference to the subject in question. Thereby the focus will be on the educational approach that was made. Furthermore, the projects will be scanned for results that focus on one of the defined sub categories and for contents that are directed to new innovative grounds and new challenges for AEC.

### *Methodology*

The parameter named methodology concentrates on correlation between chosen methods of the project or learning methods and the target group. The question will be raised if there have been established methodological guidelines before starting the developments and if the project answers to new challenges of learning in the field of AEC.

### *Practical Testing*

Here the question is raised to what extend the products and actions have been sufficiently evaluated and field tested with the target group and if the projects or the results are still in use. Another important point lies in the analysis of the project own evaluations and possible awards the project at hand has acquired.

### *Presentability*

Another important parameter has been defined in order to evaluate if the projects and their results are presentable. This includes the indication that the necessary equipment for showing is easy to provide, that the products are tangible, transportable and most importantly that the products and results can be convincing and attractive for passing by visitors at the conference exhibition.

### *Accessibility*

Accessibility as a parameter examines the ease of access of the project results and/or actions (for instance in the download area). Therefore the respective website is studied in order to find out if the results are available in different languages and if there is easily access to the mattering information. The website is also screened for information on hand for different kinds of multipliers.

### *Product Quality*

This parameter appraises the general impression about the quality of the project and the outcomes, substantiated by evaluation results of the final report and the visit of the website.

### *Geographical Coverage*

Geographical coverage as parameter evaluates the dispersion of the project partners in Europe, considering mainly the local and institutional diversification.



### *Inclusivity*

Inclusivity as parameter refers to embracing diversity and respecting the rights and dignity of all citizens. A focus will be given if projects work with groups which often have been excluded in mainstream work, such as youth, minorities, disabled, women, and others, thus enabling their full participation in active citizenship opportunities. The project products will be screened in terms of supporting the overcoming of stereotypes and the building of a sense of belonging and community across boundaries.

### **Evaluation process**

The selection parameters have been rated on a scale from 1 – 5 (1 very low – 5 very good). According to this the particular project results (if available), the project descriptions and aims as well as the process descriptions have been consulted. A significant part of the sources lied in the products themselves.

After having evaluated all of the listed projects, a ranking will be determined by calculating the average of the assigned points. It is important to remark, that all of the nine parameters are of equal value. Consequently the 30 good practice projects will be identified.

<b>Project Pool Selection grid</b>	
<b>Content Innovation</b>	(Comments)
<i>Points</i>	
<b>Methodology</b>	(Comments)
<i>Points</i>	
<b>Practical Testing</b>	(Comments)
<i>Points</i>	
<b>Target Group Relevance</b>	(Comments)
<i>Points</i>	
<b>Presentability</b>	(Comments)
<i>Points</i>	
<b>Accessibility</b>	(Comments)

<i>Points</i>	
<b>Product Quality</b>	(Comments)
<i>Points</i>	
<b>Geographical Coverage</b>	(Comments)
<i>Points</i>	
<b>Inclusivity</b>	(Comments)
<i>Points</i>	
<b>General comments</b>	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	

## Conclusion

The selection process will be organised by each partner and by including the feedback of external experts. After the selection process the 30 good practice projects identified will be contacted and invited to participate in the further project activities.

- Presentation of project products at the YOUropa conference in London 26-27 June 2013
- Presentation of project, products, activities in the European Magazine Focus Europe that is published as special edition on the topic AEC in September 2013
- Presentation of project in the YOUropa video clip
- Presentation of project at YOUropa website ([www.yourop-project.eu](http://www.yourop-project.eu)) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/youropaproject](http://www.facebook.com/youropaproject))
- Promotion of project in all project dissemination activities of the project partners

In case of non interest further projects from the project pool will move up. In any case all projects of the project pool will be informed about YOUropa's events and use its activities as platform for promotion and to raise awareness.