

**PARTNER SEARCH FORM**

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<b>Name of Organisation</b>	European University of Cyprus (EUC).
<b>Call for proposal</b> -Title and call identification - Link to the call document - Closing date	<p><b>“Erasmus+ programme – Key Action 2: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices - Strategic partnerships in the field of youth ”</b> EAC/S11/13 <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/youth/programme/partnerships/strat_partnerships_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/youth/programme/partnerships/strat_partnerships_en.htm</a> <b>2 September 2014</b></p>
<b>Preliminary title</b>	<b>WEP/Work Experience Programme</b>
<b>Outline of the project idea</b>	<p><b><u>Background</u></b></p> <p>In the academic year 2013-2014 our Department of Humanities, in collaboration with our Office of Student Affairs inaugurated the <b>WEP/Work Experience Programme</b> to provide work experience for unemployed graduates with English degrees from our English programs. Four classes of primary school English (levels 1 and 2) were running in afternoon sessions (twice-weekly. 1.5 hours per class) on our EUC campus. Supervisors and trainers of our graduate ‘teachers’ were very experienced EFL faculty who gave the student teachers an inaugural training session before the classes started and supervised and evaluated their class performance in teaching over both semesters. The graduate teachers were selected on their academic GPA and their level of communication skills in English and Greek.</p> <p>The students were EU citizens from impoverished families in the Nicosia district who could not afford private English sessions. A positive outcome was the growth in self-esteem and language confidence by the end of the year. The enthusiasm and gratitude of the children and their parents (the majority unemployed), has been remarkable and they will recommence classes in October 2014. All learning materials (books etc.) were provided by EUC. Social activities like for instance a Christmas party were covered by donations. Our student teachers gained much self-knowledge and valuable class experience fully documented for their CVs. A waiting room is provided for parents without transport who walk their children quite some distance to the classes.</p> <p>Parents have regular contact and feedback with teachers and supervisors on their child’s performance.</p> <p><b><u>Project objectives:</u></b> This WEP program is tailored to two fundamental EUC goals:</p>

	<p>1. Teaching language skills to the disadvantaged children of Europe and 2. Providing work experience to the educated unemployed youth of Europe</p> <p><b>Activities</b> We are proud of our ongoing community venture which we would like to expand in the new academic year. We now seek EU partners for research, offering language degrees.</p> <p><b>Research Activities:</b> The WEP classes will be investigated systematically by assigned groups of researchers who will monitor these marginalized children in class or after-class time individually with parental permission. Our experience until now indicates that most of the children have real problems. The research will embrace multiple angles relevant to the individual child but also to the accompanying parent who has his/her own troubling issues. Research teams will be formed from EUC faculty with wide, on-going experience in handling vulnerable children/community needs. The duration of the research will be minimum two academic semesters (one calendar year after which the research findings from EUC and our partners will be presented and published.</p>	
<b>Keywords</b>	Teaching, English, children, working experience, etc	
<b>Foreseen duration of the project</b>	Minimum one year	
<b>Type of Partner</b>	Consortium	Position within consortium
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> + Create a new consortium  <input type="checkbox"/> Join an existing consortium	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> As a coordinator  <input type="checkbox"/> As a partner
<b>Partner Sought</b>	Suitable partners would be educational institutions <b>who offer language degrees (not necessarily English) and whose graduates gain supervised teaching practice free of charge.</b> This opportunity for certified training and Fall 2014 teaching practice for their graduates is a plus. They will also discover if teaching is that they want as a career. Funding will enable our teachers to receive a stipend, something we have not been able to offer in the first round of the WEP program.	
<b>Answers expected before</b>	<b>As soon as possible</b>	
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