



Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

What is an Erasmus+ KA2 project?

KA2 for the Vocational Education & Training Sector



EUROPEAN UNION



UK Government



Today's agenda:

- ❖ Erasmus+ quick programme overview
- ❖ VET sector – scope & eligibility
- ❖ Small-scale & Cooperation partnerships
- ❖ A reminder of what's funded
- ❖ Benefits
- ❖ Case studies
- ❖ Defining next steps
- ❖ Resources
- ❖ Q&A



Housekeeping

We will have a Q&A session at the end - in the meantime please add your questions in the chat function.

If you see a question in the chat you would also like to be answered, please react to the question, this will help us to see the most popular questions.

Erasmus+ overview

EU flagship programme for education, training, youth and sport – divided into 6 sectors:

- Adult Education
- Higher Education (HE)
- Schools
- Sport
- **Vocational Education and Training (VET)**
- Youth

Increased budget for UK in 2027 from €200m in 2019 to **€436 million** in 2027

4 horizontal priorities: Inclusion and diversity,
Environment and fight against climate change,
Digital transformation, Participation in democratic life



The VET Sector is defined as:

‘Education and training which aims to equip young people and adults with **knowledge, skills and competences required in particular occupations or more broadly on the labour market.**’

Eligible applicants could include:

- Organisations providing initial or continuing VET (e.g. FE Colleges, ITPs)
- Local authorities, coordination and organisations with a role in VET
- Businesses and other public or private organisations hosting, training or otherwise working with learners and apprentices in VET.

Full eligibility details will be in the National Agency VET guide released later in 2026.



Two quick questions:

Who's here today?

What are your plans?



KA2 – Cooperation and Collaboration

- KA2 is all about **partnerships**
- Focus is on sharing, developing and transferring **innovative practices**
- Partnerships for Cooperation: You and your European partners design a shared project: think of this as **shared study or work**.
- Organisations in the UK team up with people and groups in Europe to make something new and/or share proven best practices, build new tools, swap ideas.
- Your organisation can apply for Erasmus+ KA2 funding to manage this collaborative project on behalf of the whole partnership.
- Erasmus+ funding pays for meetings, travel, and the work done to create and share the final project.

KA2 - what is funded

Small-scale partnerships:

- Designed for grassroots, smaller organisations or those new to Erasmus
- Small and simple to run
- Partnerships run from 6-24 months
- Minimum two organisations from 2 different countries.
- Lump sum funding – either **€30,000** or **€60,000**
- Partners work on a joint project - very flexible, partners decide activities
- Example activities: partnership meetings (online and face to face), training activities, joint events, site visits, national event, pilot an activity
- Eligibility: any public or private organisation (not sole traders)
- Priorities: must address either a horizontal or a sector-specific priority

Example: small-scale partnership – budget*

Two organisations in UK and NL partner to share best practice in learner wellbeing
They each develop a training course to deliver to the others' staff/learners
They plan an event each in the UK and NL to encourage participation.

Project management and coordination	€8,500
Development of training courses	€6,000
Delivering training to each other (UK to NL, NL to UK)	€8,000
Raising awareness campaign	€3,500
Disseminating and documenting the project	€4,000
Total	€30,000

KA2 - what is funded

Cooperation partnerships:

- Larger scale partnerships involve at least 3 organisations & 3 countries
- Partnerships focus on creating something that did not exist before: curricula, tools, research and other results that can be used by others
- Projects should run for between 12-36 months
- Funding tiers of **€120,000, €250,000 or €400,000**
- As above, partners work on a joint project, structured into work packages, producing substantial outputs that can be widely used
- Eligibility: legally constituted public or private organisations active in education and training
- Priorities: must address either a horizontal or a sector-specific priority

Example: cooperation partnership – budget*

Four partners in UK, DE, AT, NL: partnership project to update traditional automotive repair training for apprentice mechanics, build & pilot a virtual engine simulator to safely work on EVs

Partners: a VET college; an ITP with EdTech specialism; a Chamber of Craft representing automotive sector, national VET qualification agency

Work package	Total	P1 College Coordinator	P2 ITP curriculum lead	P3 Chamber piloting lead	P4 Qual Agency certification lead
WP1 Project Management	€50,000	€20,000	€10,000	€10,000	€10,000
WP2 Design EV simulator module	€70,000	€15,000	€35,000	€10,000	€10,000
WP3 VET tutor training & apprentice pilots	€70,000	€10,000	€10,000	€35,000	€15,000
WP4 ECVET Accreditation	€60,000	€12,000	€10,000	€10,000	€28,000
Total:	€250,000	€57,000	€65,000	€65,000	€63,000

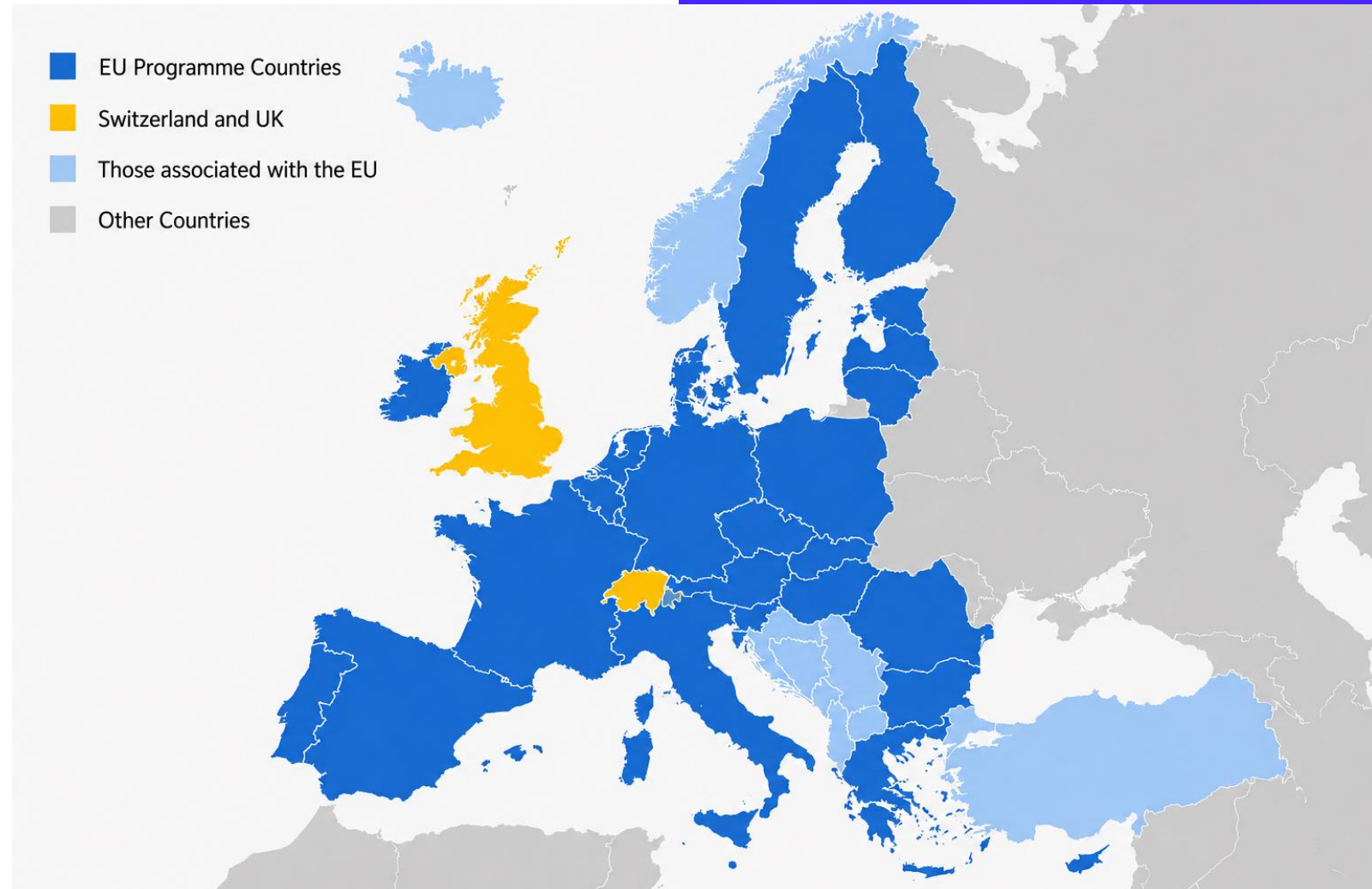
Eligible partner countries

The 27 EU member states

Plus third countries associated to the programme:

Iceland
Liechtenstein
North Macedonia
Norway
Serbia
Turkiye

Some eligibility outside of Europe



How are KA2 projects assessed?

Applications are considered against four criteria, weighted to reflect its importance to the Erasmus+ objectives. Understanding these is essential for designing your partnership project and writing your application.

Relevance	30	25	A clearly evidenced need; a defined target group; how it addresses Erasmus+ and NA priorities; why it requires a European partnership to work
Quality of Project Design	30	30	SMART objectives, activities and outputs, workplan, timing, budget for activities
Quality of Project Team	20	20	Each partner's expertise and role in the project, experience within the partnership
Impact	20	25	Expected outcomes, reach, events, what will happen after the project ends

Other Partnership opportunities for Key Action 2 -EACEA

There are a number of other partnership opportunities open to VET providers. Applications for these projects should be made through the European Education and Culture Executive Agency, (EACEA).

- ❖ **Centres of vocational excellence:** Regional networks drive innovation, quality and inclusion in VET.
- ❖ **Alliances for innovation:** Educational institutions and companies work together to develop future work skills. Includes separate funding for projects focusing on education, enterprise, sectoral cooperation and STEM skills.
- ❖ **Future-oriented projects:** These projects are dedicated to current challenges and innovations in education.
- ❖ **Capacity building in VET:** These projects aim to strengthen VET systems in partner countries outside the EU.

VET - Key Action 2 - case studies

Let's look at some examples of previous projects based on official Erasmus+ criteria, project structure and strategic priorities before moving to what you can do to be application ready.



BENEFITS OF BEING IN A KA2 PROJECT

Erasmus+



JON HARDING

UCS
COLLEGE GROUP
TRANSFORMING LIVES

Project '3D-PRINT'. Standardising additive manufacturing in VET

Organisation: Tech College Aalborg (Denmark). Partners from Spain, Italy, Belgium, and a private additive manufacturing firm.

Participants: 30 VET curriculum developers, 12 industry engineers, and over 150 pilot engineering students.

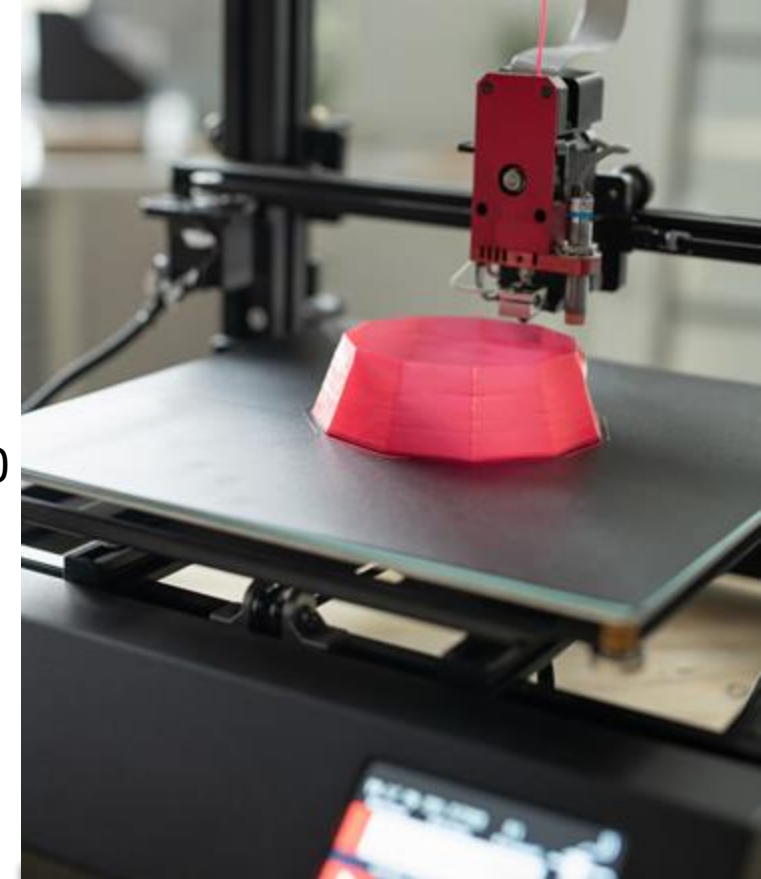
Mobility type: Transnational Project Meetings and Blended Mobility of VET Learners.

Host organisation: Basque Center for Applied Mathematics & Manufacturing (Spain)

Objectives: To bridge the gap between industrial engineering practices and outdated VET manufacturing syllabi by establishing a certified European 3D-Printing curriculum module.

Activities: Transnational engineering sprints, creation of 4 comprehensive digital training modules, establishing a unified assessment matrix mapping directly to European Qualification Frameworks (EQF).

erasmusplus.org.uk



Erasmus+ Priorities Addressed:

Digital Transformation

Contributing to innovation in VET

Project 'ECO-BUILD'. Vocational training for green architecture

Organisation: Construction Industry Federation Training Centre (Ireland). Partners from Finland, Estonia, and Italy.

Participants: 20 Building technology trainers and 80 apprentice builders.

Mobility type: Cooperation Partnerships in VET – joint staff training events.

Host organisation: Helsinki Vocational College (Finland)

Objectives: To build an interactive, open-access training curriculum centered on building insulation, heat-pump retrofitting and carbon neutral carpentry for European apprentices.

Activities: Comparative research on green building codes, development of VR (Virtual Reality) simulation toolkits for safety and precision insulation, validation of modules by industry standard bodies.



Erasmus+ Priorities Addressed:

Environment and Fight against Climate Change

Increasing flexibility of opportunities in VET

Project 'CARE-DIGITAL'. Modern hybrid competencies for healthcare VET

Organisation: Sanitas Healthcare Training School (Spain). Partners from Greece, Lithuania, and the Netherlands.

Participants: 35 Nursing and elderly-care instructors, plus technology vendors.

Mobility type: VET Cooperation Partnerships - Short term exchanges of staff and blended learning testing.

Host organisation: Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences (Netherlands)

Objectives: To integrate digital healthcare solutions, including telehealth platforms, electronic patient logging and assistive robotic, into standard vocational nursing curriculums.

Activities: Formulation of the 'Digital Care Syllabus', multi-language online learning portal deployment, pilot testing across 4 nursing colleges, creation of an EU-wide digital care micro-credential.



Erasmus+ Priorities Addressed:

Digital Transformation

Enhancing quality assurance and professional development of VET teachers

Next steps – decide what you will do

- ❖ Talk to colleagues and peers about ideas and opportunities
- ❖ How can E+ further your organisation's aims?
- ❖ Who will benefit from your project and how will they be involved?
- ❖ Small scale partnership or larger partnership for cooperation?
- ❖ What is the main objective of your project? How does it align to cross-cutting and/or sector priorities?
- ❖ How will you show need of the project? (e.g. data, consultation)
- ❖ Project duration - how best to overcome challenges and boost participation?
- ❖ Supporting those with fewer opportunities is at the heart of Erasmus+ 
- ❖ Think about practicalities such as safeguarding and any visas/passports that may be needed

Next steps – finding European partners

Remember partners can be from EU member states or associated eligible countries including: Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland or Türkiye.

- ❖ Reach out to an already established partner
- ❖ Use the British Council's **“Partner Finder Tool”**
- ❖ Use the Erasmus+ EPALE **“European Platform for Adult Learning in Europe”**
- ❖ Training and Cooperation activities – **SALTO Education and Training TCA Resource Centre**
- ❖ **Erasmobility** – Work placement exchanges Platform
- ❖ Utilise your own professional networks – ask any existing partners who they work with
- ❖ There are some Facebook/LinkedIn Groups dedicated to finding Partners
- ❖ Attend one of the British Council's dedicated Partner Finding Sessions

Next steps - application readiness

Autumn 2026:

- ❖ British Council applicant helpdesk, webinars and clinics
- ❖ National Agency guidance for applicants
- ❖ New Erasmus+ Programme Guide

Until then:

- ❖ Consider the eligibility rules in current PG for your organisation
- ❖ Register on EU Funding & Tenders portal for your Organisation ID (OID)

Resources - Erasmus+ programme

- ❖ **2026 Programme Guide:** the new Programme Guide applicable to the 2027 funding call will be out in Autumn 2026.

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-programme-guide>

- ❖ **E+ Resources include:** Example application forms (note: 2026 and subject to change), distance calculator and online language support.

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools>

- ❖ **Example Past Projects:** Use the approved projects list detailing all past projects including best practice

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects>

Resources - stay informed!

- ❖ Website: www.erasmusplus.org.uk/
- ❖ Events Website: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/erasmusplus>
- ❖ X: <https://x.com/ErasmusPlusUK>
- ❖ Insta: <https://www.instagram.com/erasmusplus.uk/>
- ❖ LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/erasmusplusuk/>
- ❖ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/erasmusplusuk.britishcouncil/>

Q&A

KA2 for the Vocational Education & Training Sector

