





#### VIAA & Erasmus+ NA LV01

 The State Education Development Agency (<u>VIAA</u>) - direct public administration institution, subordinated to the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia

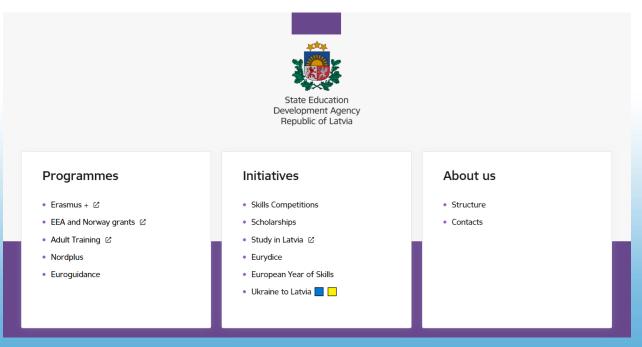
VIAA designated as Erasmus+ LV National Agency (NA) for education, training
 sports (other E+ LV NA for youth sector – Youth International Programmes Agency)

• Since its establishment in 1995, **VIAA activities have become very diverse** within the sectors of education & training, and science, including transnational and

international co-operation



https://www.viaa.gov.lv/enhttps://www.erasmusplus.lv



## Some Summarizing Inspiration from Erasmus+ (2021-2027) Regulation



**Programme to be more inclusive** by improving participation among people with fewer opportunities



range of measures could help to increase the participation in the Programme of people with fewer opportunities, including better and more targeted outreach, communication, advice and assistance, simplified procedures, more flexible learning mobility formats



increased engagement with small organisations, in particular newcomer organisations and community-based grassroots organisations - a range of measures to be taken to simplify procedures at implementation level



**people with fewer opportunities** are less likely to participate for financial reasons, whether because of their economic situation or because of the higher participation costs that their specific situation generates - in such cases, their <u>participation could be facilitated with targeted financial support</u>



# Erasmus+ Programme Essence

- to promote:
  - Equal Opportunities
  - Access
  - Inclusion
  - Diversity
  - Fairness
- across all its actions

#### This TCA I&D Event

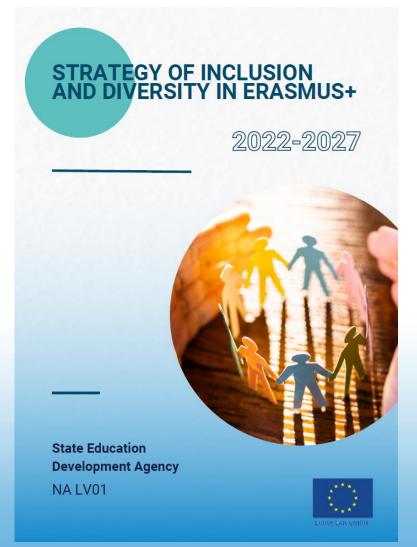
INCLUSION & DIVERSITY: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION

#### **MAIN INFO**

Sector: SE VET HE AE Priority: Inclusion and Diversity (2021-27) Scope: Transnational Type of presence: Face-to-Face Venue country: Latvia Venue city: Jūrmala English **Key Action:** Not applicable Working language: Postponed: TCA programme: Files ▼ Start date: E+ Academy: Nο 27.09.2023 End date: 29.09.2023 Subtopic:

- Initially designed in Autumn 2021 for Work Programme 2022
- Postponing 2 times forced by C-19 pandemic outbreaks
- There have been notable Erasmus+ I&D developments (both practical ones as well as capacity building) between 2021 and 2023 - looking forward to very fruitful and active discussions, and peer-learning!

### NA's I&D Strategy



- NA's Multi-Annual I&D Work Programme 22-27 approved by the European Commission in 2022
- NA's I&D Strategy development supported by I&D Salto Mentoring Activity
- started early 2023, finished in Summer of 2023
- open document to be revised/supplemented on an ongoing basis
- available on <u>www.erasmusplus.lv</u> I&D section:

**HERE** 



## Needs analysis & monitoring: Annual I&D Survey (1)

- Among Erasmus+ LV KA1, KA2 beneficiaries, accredited organisations in the fields of E&T
- Annual Questionnaire was developed to find out:
  - what type of I&D target groups, activities they have been tackling upon in their projects
  - what worked out well, what obstacles they have encountered
  - what support they would expect from the NA to facilitate smooth implementation of I&D priority aspects in their existing and future projects
  - etc.

## Needs analysis & monitoring: Annual I&D Survey (2)

#### First one in Year 2022, continued in Year 2023:

In March 2022 - on the implementation of the principles of inclusion and diversity in project activities
In 2023 (July-September), a repeated survey was conducted on the implementation of the principles of inclusion and diversity in project activities with the aim of comparing results and obtaining new examples of good practice and information on challenges



**Today in the afternoon** - Your parallel Working Groups' moderators might refer to the results of the latest Survey to depict the situation in Latvia, illustrate examples, foster further discussions

### Targeted I&D Info Campaign

- targeted I&D info campaign was implemented in year 2022 focusing specifically:
  - on promotion and explanation of the I&D horizontal priority (HP)
  - target groups
  - financial support mechanisms
  - sharing of experiences, etc.
- NA's participation in Conversations' Festival "Lampa 2022" (continued in 2023)
- granting of Quality Excellence Award 2022 for Erasmus+ HPs projects, including I&D
- etc.

#### National I&D on-line Event «Implementing the principles of inclusion and diversity in Erasmus+ projects»



26 May, 2022



E+ HP & policy context, best practice stories from E+ beneficiaries, KA1&KA2, all sectors



https://youtu.be/0Kfb5wfyqjQ



Sign language interpretation



### **Participation in Conversation Festival «LAMP 2022»**

**«Stories about Youth Inclusion»** 

How to include young people with fewer opportunities in social and democratic processes

in co-operation with <u>Erasmus+ LV Youth Agency</u>



1 July, 2022



Participants –
Erasmus+ beneficiaries,
also with fewer opportunities







https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjzWQud

Erasmus+

### Participation continued – Conversation Festival «LAMP 2023»

Skills Quarter (by VIAA)/ 2 days programme and side event activities/ sign language and accessibility

<u>Conversation "Inclusive modern society: the ability to listen and talk"</u>





Saruna dzīvās bibliotēkas formātā "lekļaujoša mūsdienu sabiedrība:prasme ieklausīties un sarunāties"













#### (supplementary info)

#### **Conversation Festival LAMPA**

- large-scale, open-air initiative, inspiring and exciting platform for everyone who has something to say, for everyone who wants to learn and talk about important issues for Latvia, Europe and the world
- the content of which is jointly created by more than 300 organizations and active individuals
- respectfully to discuss current topics in society





## Inspirational video story on I&D HP

- by Diana Ponaskova, Erasmus+ participant with fewer opportunities
- https://youtu.be/ACw9cPfNIX8 (with subtitles)

Inspirational
Videos created for all 4 Erasmus+
Horizontal
Priorities

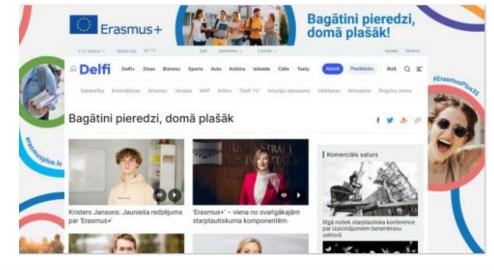


#### **Best Erasmus+ I&D practices stories** on the news portal Delfi.lv



#### **E+ beneficiaries from different sectors**

- ☐ Towards inclusive education and society
- ☐ The inclusion of young people starts with parents and teacher
- Seniors are learning and taking part in the Erasmus+ projects





All stories are available on the Delfi.lv https://www.delfi.lv/pieredzi-erasmus-plus/

and Frasmus+ Latvia web

https://erasmusplus.lv/pieredze



vecākiem un skolotāja



sabiedrību. Ināras Olenas pieredze



Jaunas iespējas skolēniem un pieaugušajiem - 'Erasmus+' finansējums pieaug, mērkgrupas



lepazīt sevi kultūru dažādībā. Jauna būvinženieris Mareks par studijām Prāgā f 23



## VIAA Quality Excellence Award 2022

 on 9/Dec/2022 nine Erasmus+ implementers were awarded for outstanding achievements in the implementation of the Erasmus+ HPs, incl. I&D

Nomination "Erasmus+ program priority "Inclusion and diversity".

in the school education sector, the award went to Koknese elementary school - development center for the project "Together we can and do";

in the professional education sector, PIKC Daugavpils Design and Art Secondary School "Saules Skola" received the award for the project "Design Skills for Creative Life";

detailed information: <a href="https://www.erasmusplus.lv/jaunums/devini-erasmus-programmas-projekti-sanema-valsts-izglitibas-attistibas-agenturas-izcilibas-balvu">https://www.erasmusplus.lv/jaunums/devini-erasmus-programmas-projekti-sanema-valsts-izglitibas-attistibas-agenturas-izcilibas-balvu</a>



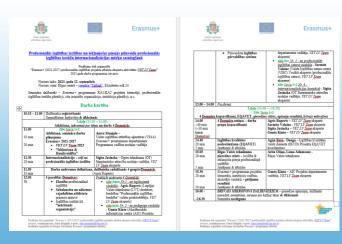
Nine Erasmus+ program projects received the "Wings 2022" excellence award of the State Education Development Agency



## Synergies - other VIAA/NAs programmes & initiatives

#### E.g.:

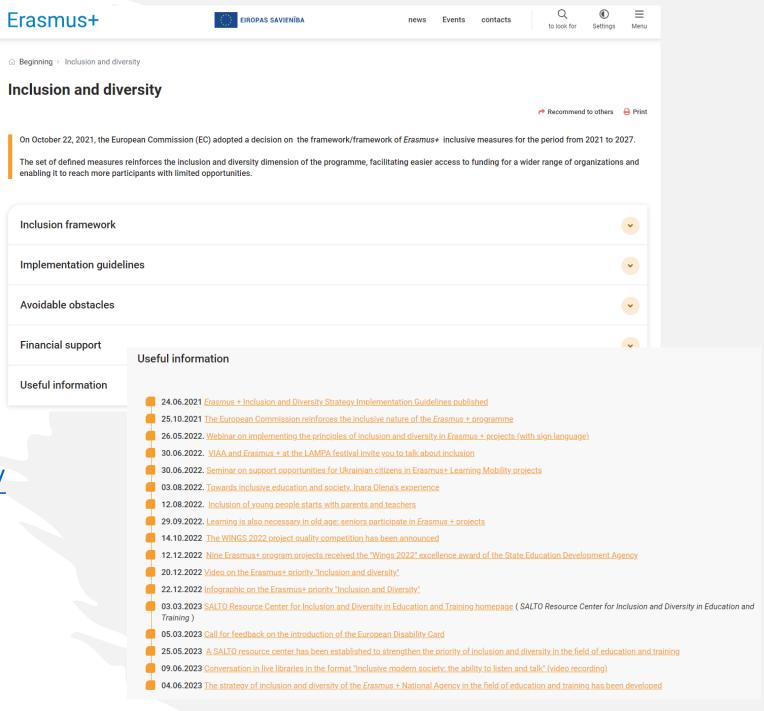
- with NordPlus project implementers 11/10/2023
- within VET LV Team 2023 activities:
  - 12/09/2023 enhancing VET institutions internationalisation by exploring and applying Erasmus+ VET excellence and inclusive approach instruments and actions





### I&D section on ErasmusPlus.lv

- dedicated I&D HP section established on national Erasmus+ web-site and supplemented with valuable guiding & inspirational information on a regular basis:
- ✓ <a href="https://www.erasmusplus.lv/">https://www.erasmusplus.lv/</a> ieklausana-un-daudzveidiba
- currently exploring audio & light language application facilities



### Infographic about Erasmus+ priority «Inclusion & Diversity»





<u>Infographic «Inclusion&Diversity»</u>

#### I&D e-list for Erasmus+ E&T



I&D community common e-list and NA's I&D dedicated e-mail address (<a href="mailto:erasmus-ieklausana@viaa.gov.lv">erasmus-ieklausana@viaa.gov.lv</a>) have been created and both are in an active use



I&D on-line channel group might be created in future



to promote I&D novelties via e-list/on-line channel group: I&D topicalities that are sectoral (HED, ADU, SCH, VET) and cross-sectoral for regular exchange of information, consultations, presentations (e.g., monthly news' summaries, quarterly on-line meetings)



**Inclusion** is not bringing people into what already exists; it is making a new space, a better space for everyone. - *George Dei* 

**Diversity** is the one true thing we all have in common. Celebrate it every day. - Winston Churchill

**Diversity** is about embracing one another's uniqueness. - *Ola Joseph* 

**Diversity** is a strength, not a weakness. - *Antonio Guterres* 

