TCA E & T Working group

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Research results "Taking stock of realized TCAs 2014 - 2018"

> **Conclusions** by Monika Held



Highlights

- Most agencies agree that TCAs bring added value and increase quality in the overall programme implementation.
- Most agencies agree that TCAs at least partially contribute to increasing the impact of the Programme at systemic level.
- 228 TCA events were realised with almost 12,000 participants taking part in the various activities.

Critical points

Budget and staff:

- Most agencies spend less than 1% of the 5% of the KA2 budget available
- Working on TCAs is often fragmented both in terms of time and personnel

NA participation:

- All agencies are involved to some extent in TCAs
- The engagement in offering hosting activities is not well balanced among the countries

Main obstacles:

- Evaluation of achieved outcomes and follow ups
- Realization of TCA events
- Administration in EplusLink and defining the budget

Objectives of TCAs:

- increase the quality of the programme implementation
- increase the impact of the programme at systemic level



Towards a more strategic approach

- Strengthen activities such as study visits and peer learning activities
- Support from the SALTO E&T to further raise the quality and impact of TCAs
- Cooperation with existing European networks and platforms such as the School education gateway and EPALE
- Rethink working methods of the TCA officers network (long term planning)



Strengthen human resources

- The **position of TCA-officers** should be strengthened
- Provide the necessary human resources
- Staff development is important to increase the impact and quality of the programme.
- Trainings for NA staff involved in TCA including online trainings (SALTO E&T)
- TCAs are also important learning occasions for NA staff - the participation in TCA-events should be encouraged

Reduce the administrative burden

- Funding rules for TCAs should be simplified and streamlined with other programme actions
- Transparent regulations and adequate tools for the administration

Last but not least:

TCAs should remain a flexible instrument that allow NAs to react on educational or programme developments and beneficiaries needs

Recent work in response to Covid-19 situation

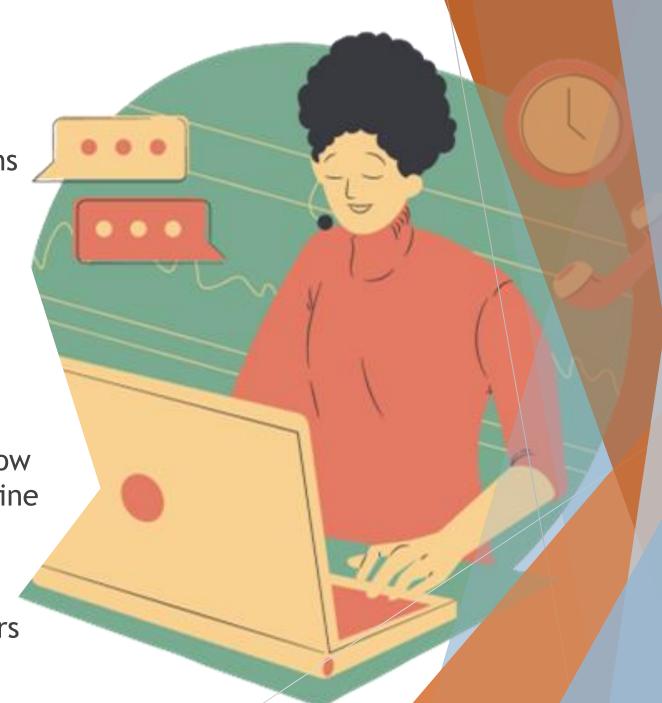
By Sara Southam

Initial actions

- Organised exceptional WG meetings every 2 weeks
- Shared knowledge across NA's, TCA Youth sector, SALTO E&T and Commission
- Raised responses and clarifications to Commission
- Supported SALTO E&T with information and support for TCA officers

Meeting discussions

- NA realities, challenges, concerns and options of situation
- Extension to calendar for use of funds and planning TCAs for 2021/2022
- Virtual TCA's, online tools and how TCAs can be implemented in online or blended ways
- Impact and needs for TCA officers meeting



Follow up and support for E&T officers

- Raised responses and clarifications to Commission through SALTO E&T
- Collaborated on needs and amendment to the TCA officers meeting
- Input in to upcoming course on conversion of f2f TCA
- Evaluated online tools, platforms and resources, sharing experience and needs

Current situation

- Postponement, cancellation or alternative delivery of many TCA activities
- Extension to eligibility period for TCA and NET activities under the 2019 and 2020 Delegation Agreement of 6 months
- NA's to decide on delivery of remaining TCA's from work plans based on resources and feasibility
- Efforts to avoid overlap of activities planned under 2019 and 2020 work plans





WG thoughts & reflections

Virtual event management is a good option but has its limits, especially in terms of structure, contact seminars and inclusion

Dilemma regarding future planning but encourage exploration of dissemination and research activities and outputs

TCA remains the most flexible tool for each NA to support post-covid19 recovery and re-engagement of beneficiaries, leading by example and keeping the European spirit



Thank you!