

Background

The Erasmus+ Programme is being implemented in 33 programme countries by the National Agencies in the Field of Education and Training. The National Agencies are responsible for the management of the Erasmus+ Programme at National and European level, in cooperation with the European Commission. In addition, they are also cooperating among themselves and with other relevant actors on the strategic priorities of the Erasmus+ Programme.

The **SALTO Education and Training TCA Resource Centre** established by the European Commission supports Erasmus+ National Agencies (NAs) to improve their *Transnational Cooperation Activities*, now called ***Training and Cooperation Activities (TCAs)***.

TCAs are organised by Erasmus+ National Agencies (NAs) with the purpose of bringing added value to and increasing the overall quality of the Erasmus+ programme. TCAs are tools for NAs to form partnerships and to contribute to achieving the aims of the Erasmus+ programme.

Long-term activities (LTAs) - a new initiative amongst the Training and Cooperation Activities (TCAs) since 2021 - are *recurrent or complex* activities covering several years carried out by several NAs that have agreed to cooperate to develop *a series of activities linked to a policy or programme area with the aim to produce an impact on the development of the programme and of the policy area they are tackling*.

Rationale behind this LTA

Due to rapid technological development and a growing need for sustainability, digital teaching and learning in education had already been in focus for a while prior to the pandemic – a paradigm shift towards digitisation in education was already underway. Current events have accelerated the paradigm, making way for a new normal. The Covid-19 pandemic and the physical distancing that followed have affected all walks of society, also education. In order to keep education running, educational institutions have had to quickly adapt to the situation. This has resulted in an *unprecedented push to digital teaching and learning*.

Digitalisation offers many opportunities, but also presents many challenges. Reinvention is not always a choice. The coronavirus is permanently reshaping the way we live, teach and learn. Some of the behaviours developed in crisis — including wide-scale digital adoption — will outlast the pandemic, well after restrictions on activity are lifted.

Digital transformation in education is more necessary during this crisis, not less. Resources — both in terms of talent and money — will likely be constrained. Digital initiatives may need to be reprioritised based on relevance in the current environment. New problems and opportunities may come to light with greater urgency. Digital transformation roadmaps are needed. It is key to continue to experiment and innovate with digital solutions. It is vital to train target groups to use *existing digital methods* more effectively and create *new ones* as well.

Therefore SALTO E&T has seen and grabbed the opportunity to implement an LTA in a 3-year-collaboration to support the achievement of the above mentioned digital transformation as well as the strategic implementation of the Erasmus+ Programme.

LTA in Digitalisation has been running by 7 (DE03, CZ01, MT01, IE01, LU01, HU01, NL01) National Agencies, a long-term activity coordinated by the SALTO E&T TCA Resource Centre in cooperation with the Hungarian the Erasmus+ National Agency and the Knowledge Centre both operating within the Tempus Public Foundation (TPF). This LTA is open for further National Agencies to join year by year.

The duration of the Digitalisation LTA is 3 budget years, from January 2021 to June 2024.

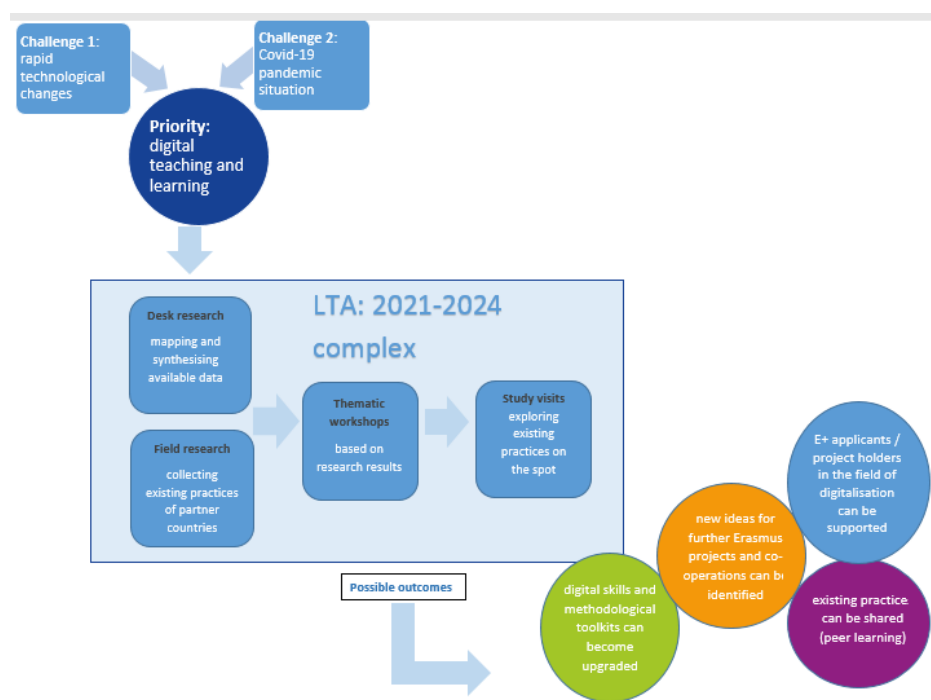
The **overall aim** of this long-term activity is

- to encourage educational institutions across Europe to use lessons learnt during the Covid-19 pandemic, and *create* state-of-the-art and update existing methodologies for digital learning at individual, community and institutional level; and to use them strategically in the future.
- to enhance the quality of the Erasmus+ projects setting the aim of digital transformation in the field of school education

Therefore, the partnership of the Digitalisation LTA is about to ground all further activities of the LTA on a research with the following **specific aims**:

- to map and synthesise available data with regard to the achievement of the overall aims set in this LTA,
- to gain data regarding project implementation experience through interviews and Erasmus+ platforms
- building on the research results to collect knowledge and practice related to digital teaching and learning and share it among the project holders of Erasmus+ through thematic seminars organised by the Erasmus+ national agencies for European beneficiaries working in the field of school education

The focus of activities organised by the participating NAs is: SCHOOL EDUCATION



Planned activities relevant to this Call

The main objective of activities within the LTA is to provide support for digital transformation in school education at institutional, community and individual level.

Activities within this LTA are organised into 6 work packages:

- WP#1: Coordination and management;
- WP#2: Desk and field research;
- WP#3: TCA events that process the results of the research on all levels;
- WP#4: Study visits aiming to share and learn good practices
- WP#5: Quality Assurance
- WP#6: Dissemination