

Recommendations Following the LTA Accreditation Project

(2021-2024)

for TCA Officers and SALTOS

Based on a detailed analysis of the activities, outcomes, and needs of the Long Term Activity (LTA) NA partnership on accreditation, the following recommendations aim to enhance support for NA transnational partnership (LTA) cooperation and the three main target groups of Accreditation:

- Newcomers to Accreditation
- Accreditation Experts and
- Accredited Project Organisers

Recommendations for Partnership Cooperation and Coordination

Facilitate Knowledge Sharing: Continue to organize joint activities and events to promote cooperation between NAs and share best practices across the network.

Provide ongoing support: Ongoing support for long-term projects and continuous review based on feedback should be ensured. Regularly review and refine activities based on participant feedback and outcomes to foster a culture of continuous improvement.

Structured Approach: Ensure a structured approach to planning and executing LTAs, considering feedback and needs of all partner NAs, setting realistic expectations and providing adequate support throughout the process to enhance the quality and impact of TCA activities.

Define roles and contributions: Clearly define roles and contributions of each partner NA from the outset and formalize these through agreements like Memoranda of Understanding. This will balance workloads and improve collaboration.

Resource Allocation: Allocate necessary resources well ahead of activity delivery and allow time to procure external experts' support where necessary. Ensure adequate support from all involved, including external experts, facilitators.

Comprehensive TCA Listing: Ensure all TCAs related to specific topics are listed, even if they are not part of the LTA, to enhance visibility and coherence in support for beneficiaries.

Quality Assurance: Work closely with quality assurance officers to integrate feedback and continuously improve support offered to beneficiaries. Ensure that training and resources provided are responsive to the evolving needs of participants.

Onboarding of new partner NAs: Develop a more structured onboarding process for new partners and inexperienced officers, including clear outlines of roles, expectations, and available resources.

Enhance consistency: Involve a wider range of NAs in hosting and sending participants to seminars, encouraging less experienced NAs to participate in a shadowing capacity to

disseminate knowledge and best practices more widely, thus enhancing consistency of assessments across all programme countries.

Effective Digital Tools: Promote consistent use of digital tools like Microsoft Teams for collaboration and provide training to partners to ensure proficiency.

Community building: Foster a sense of community and mutual support among NAs. Enhance engagement through co-delivery of events, shared responsibilities, and in-person interactions to build strong collaborative relationships.

Branding and Communication: Invest in communication and branding strategies to increase the visibility and sustainability of outcomes. This could include external support for communication tasks, as seen in the Youth sector.

Securing support from communication colleagues in the design of LTAs means outputs can reach wider audiences and greatly enhances the sustainability of outcomes. Common branding and communication designs such as template presentations, a good project name and well designed brand identity can increase visibility of the partnership.

Dissemination and Engagement: Develop structured dissemination strategies, such as webinars and workshops, to share best practices to beneficiaries. Encourage collaborative events.

Facilitation Training: Review NA staff's facilitation skills and promote active learning methods in seminars. Diverse and engaging methodologies like the 'Carousel' method have shown success in fostering impactful seminars.

Adoption of practices: Encourage the adoption of quality practices from other NAs and promote engagement with resources created as part of TCA activities. Ensure that successful practices are disseminated and utilised effectively across the partnership.

Recommendations for Changes and Future Support for Newcomers

Tailored Seminars: Continue organizing international seminars and workshops, targeting specific groups and adjusting content based on national and program priorities, that foster networking and collaboration of newcomers to accreditation . Expand the length of training sessions to allow for more in-depth learning on impact sessions and practical application of concepts presented.

Hybrid and Follow-up Support: Reinforce the hybrid approach and provide detailed follow-up support to maintain engagement post-seminar

Include passive virtual preparation before registration as a prerequisite to set a consistent baseline for participants. This would ensure a minimum level of preparation for participants, irrespective of whether they can be allocated a place at the TCA, and support over-subscription. It would also demonstrate commitment from participants.

Work closely with national teams to allow for parallel national training seminars and leave a longer period between the initial training sessions and the follow up to increase impact.

Knowledge Transfer: Promote the transfer of training formats across TCA officer networks to sustain the impact and prevent loss of knowledge due to staff changes or the closure of partnerships.

Recommendations for Changes and Future Support for Accreditation Experts

Collaboration with Working Groups: Ensure that outcomes and recommendations from seminars are widely shared within the NA network, linking them to relevant TCA activities.

Structured Support for Accreditation Experts: Plan TCA activities for external experts and develop more structured support systems that cater to their unique sector needs.

Recommendations for Changes and Future Support for Accredited Project Organisers

Face-to-Face Gatherings and Networking: Organize regular in-person events with structured networking and breakout sessions to foster collaboration. Additionally, offer both online and in-person events to accommodate diverse learning preferences.

Thematic Seminars: Focus on thematic workshops and seminars that address specific sectors and Erasmus+ priorities to deepen understanding and application of program objectives.

Tailored Support for Consortium Coordinators: Provide focused sessions to support consortium coordinators in tackling their specific challenges and sharing best practices.

Cultural Integration and Informal Learning: Integrate local culture, study visits, and informal activities into TCA events. Activities like walk-and-talk sessions and cultural tours can enhance learning and justify travel for international seminars.

Active Networking Opportunities: Encourage contact-making through structured and informal networking opportunities during seminars. These might include organized seating rotations, city tours, or cultural activities to build rapport and collaboration.

In summary, the recommendations focus on enhancing collaboration, resource allocation, and the sharing of best practices within the LTA Accreditation NA partnership. Structured approaches to training, effective use of digital tools, and creating active learning environments are emphasized. Additionally, tailored support for newcomers, experts, and accredited project organisers will further strengthen the overall effectiveness of Erasmus+ accreditation initiatives.