



# Irish National Commission for UNESCO

## Mobility and exchange between cities and countries towards peace, tolerance and inclusion: Erasmus+ a European case study over 30 years



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND

# Cork and UNESCO

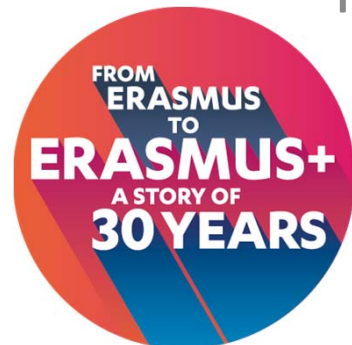


## Congratulations Cork

third UNESCO Global Network of Learning  
Cities Conference

**Thank you,** Irish National Commission for  
**UNESCO**

Mobility and exchange between cities and  
countries towards peace, tolerance and  
inclusion: Erasmus+ Case Study



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

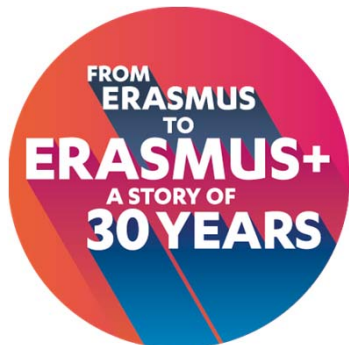


18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND



- **Fionnuala Broughan, Communications Manager**
- **Léargas** is an agency of the Dept of Education and Skills
- We manage national, European and international programmes in **Adult Education, School Education, VET, Youth**
  - For over thirty years
  - Together with the HEA, we manage **Erasmus+ in Ireland, 2014-2020**



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES



18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND

# Erasmus+

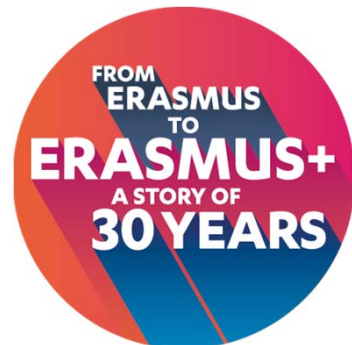


“Erasmus+ is the EU flagship education and training programme.

It funds organisations to enable their students, staff, youth and voluntary workers, from all walks of life, to explore opportunities abroad.

Some travel and bring new experiences and skills back with them.

Others stay close to home but find their world has expanded just the same.”



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND

Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council



# Erasmus+, some numbers



## Erasmus+ brings people together



**83% feel more European**  
HIGHER EDUCATION



**85% say they are more aware  
of common European values**  
EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

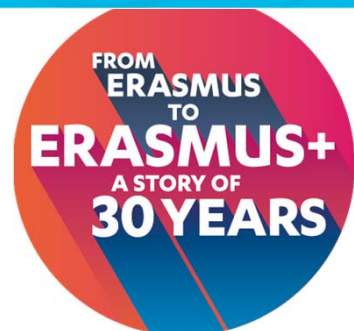


**94% have become  
more tolerant**  
YOUTH EXCHANGES



**88% of pupils increased  
their social skills**  
EUROPEAN SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

Source: Agence Erasmus+ 2010, European Commission 2014 and 2015. © European Commission, 2017

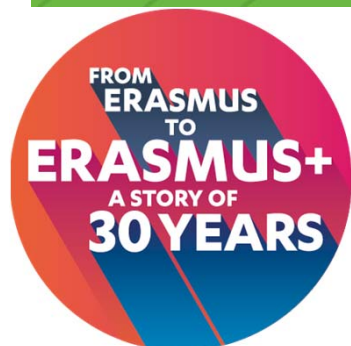
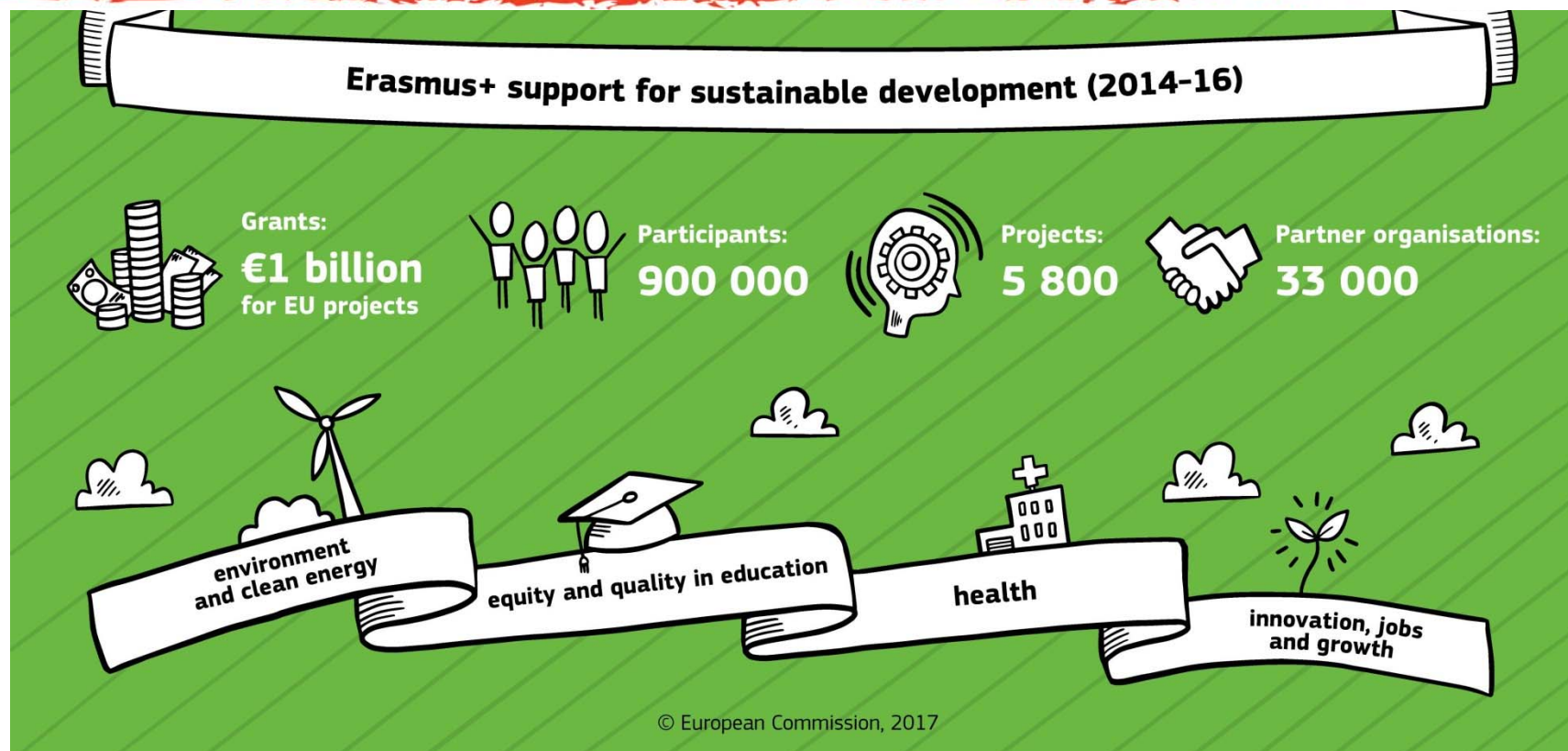


INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND

# Erasmus+, some numbers



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND

# Erasmus+, 30 years in Ireland



## 1987-2017: 30 YEARS OF ERASMUS

When the programme started, Erasmus targeted only higher education students, but it has since grown to offer opportunities in the vocational education and training, school education, adult education, youth and sport sectors. Today, all these programmes have one name: Erasmus+. Ireland joined in 1987.

### IRISH WHO BENEFITED BETWEEN 1987 AND 2017 (ESTIMATED)

**54 700** higher education students

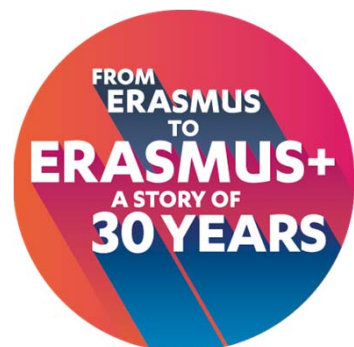
**15 800** youth exchange participants

**5 500** vocational training learners

**9 200** education staff and youth workers

**2 000** European volunteers

**1 100** Erasmus Mundus students and staff



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND



# Tracing the history



## 1976 Action Programme

*...the transition from school to working life...*

## 1995: Towards a Learning Society

1995-2007, Socrates: second-chance education

## 2001: Making a European Area of Lifelong Learning a Reality

*...social inclusion, active citizenship and personal development...*

2007-2013 Lifelong Learning, Grundtvig Adult Education:  
personal fulfilment and participation in society

## 2011: Renewed Agenda for Adult Learning in Europe

*...participate in life and society as an individual...*

## 2013: 'Europe 2020'

*...smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for Europe...*

## 2015: Paris Declaration

*... the role of education in embedding the fundamental values that lie at the heart of the European Union...*

2014-2020 Erasmus+  
inclusive education approaches... promote the values of  
pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance...



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

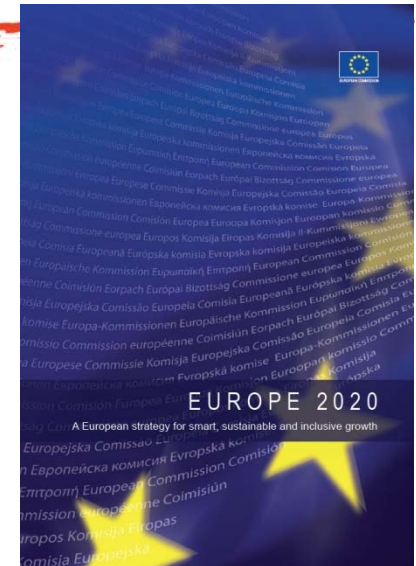
CORK CITY, IRELAND



# Erasmus+ Today

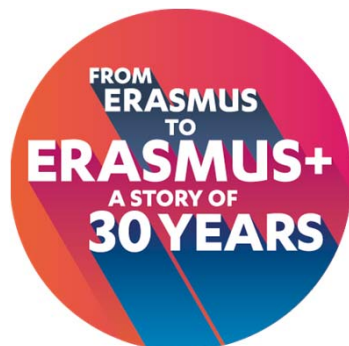


**Europe 2020**, published in 2013, was a growth strategy for Europe shaped to respond to the global economic crisis. The role of education and training and Erasmus+ were seen as integral to restoring the economy and achieving **smart, sustainable and inclusive** growth for Europe.



While the economic challenge continues to be a real one, in 2015 there was a refocus with the **Paris Declaration**.

This declaration outlines an agreement between the EU Ministers of Education to strengthen the contribution that education makes to **personal development and social inclusion** and its role in embedding the fundamental values that lie at the heart of the European Union.



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

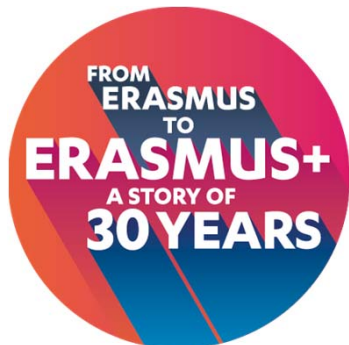
18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND

# Erasmus+ Today



Erasmus+ has embedded the aims of the Paris Declaration with priority now given to projects addressing **inclusive education approaches:**



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

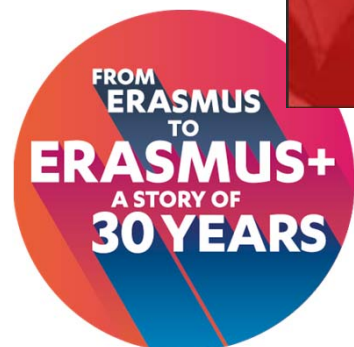
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND



# Erasmus+ 2016 in Ireland



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND



# Erasmus+ Today



**Léargas goal:**

**Implement the programme effectively  
in our target sectors**

- Supportive approach
- Focus on inclusion
- Gather evidence
- Share the learning



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

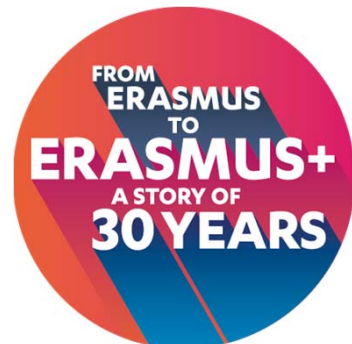
CORK CITY, IRELAND

# Erasmus+ Today



## Supportive Approach, e.g.

- What are the links between National and European policies and ‘work on the ground’?
- Policy Officer
- 123 Guides



### Linking your Erasmus+ School to national and European Policies

**1** WHAT IS POLICY?  
Policy is the set of values and the work of organisations or for example, the Irish Government.

**2** WHY IS POLICY IMPORTANT?  
Policy is important because it tells organisations and bodies how they will be guided in their work.

Government policy tells us what the Government's priorities are and what it plans to accomplish. It sets out the commitments it is making on a range of different issues.

For example: mental health; housing; young people; climate change; education; employment; people with disabilities; migrants; Travellers' rights etc.

Your Erasmus+ project can play a role in achieving these aims and help to make positive changes for young people, be that at a local, national or international level.

For example:

- Your project can directly tackle some of the issues affecting young people that are set out in EU or national policy priorities
- Your project can give young people a voice in discussions around national or EU policy that affect their lives, thereby ensuring accountability



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES



18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND

# Erasmus+ Today



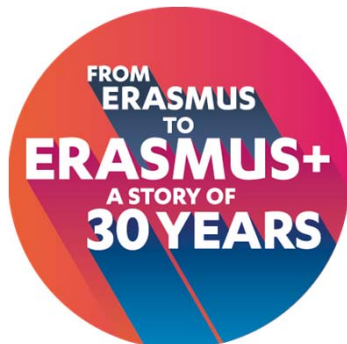
## Focus on Inclusion

- Target hard-to-reach groups
- Inclusion Officer
- Inspiration Days



I AM WHO I AM

22 September  
Dublin



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND



# Erasmus+ Today

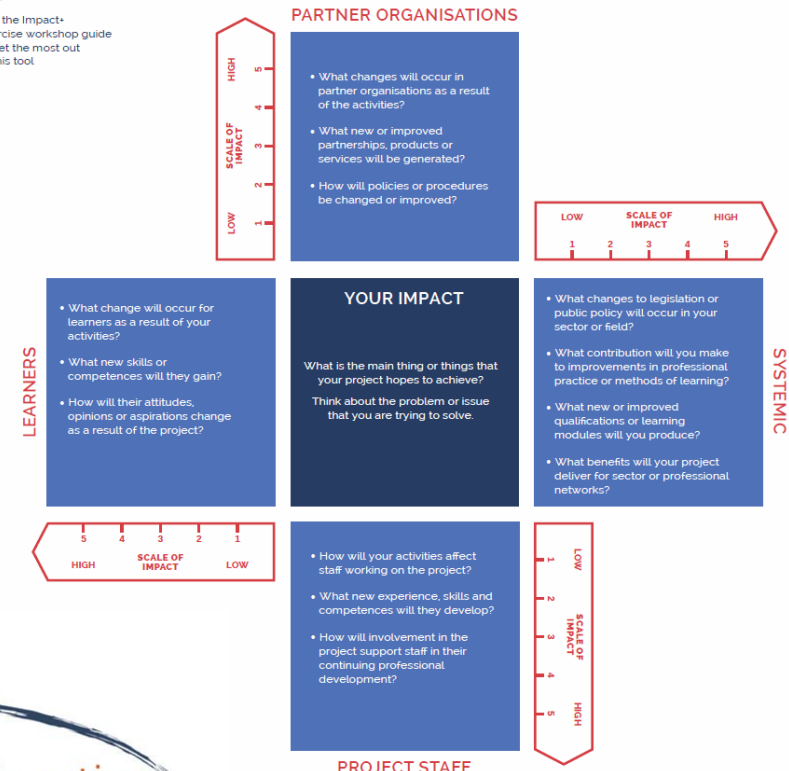


## Gather evidence

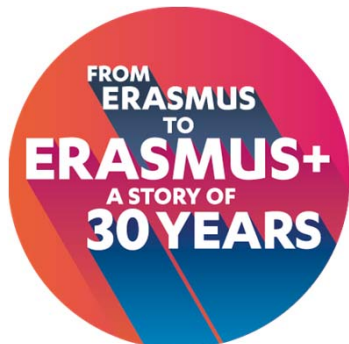
- Impact Research Officer
- Léargas staff
- Participants
- National Agencies
- Mid-Term Evaluation

### Impact+ Tool

Use the Impact+ Exercise workshop guide to get the most out of this tool



research based analysis of **youth in action**



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND

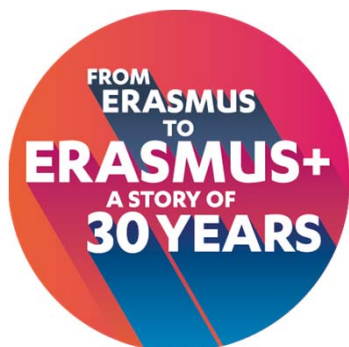
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

# Erasmus+ Today



## Gather Evidence: Mid-Term Evaluation of Erasmus+

- participants are, by a vast majority, **impacted positively** by their experience of the programme
- **improving** labour market skills and employment opportunities, and **increasing** cultural awareness and appreciation, are all in evidence.
- increases in **confidence and enthusiasm** are also reported
- formation of **professional relationships** and friendships, many of which have continued for several years.
- the programme is shown to be **relevant**, adding value, and very much aligned with **national priorities**.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES



18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND

# Erasmus+ Today



## Share the Learning

- Workshops and inputs for participants
- Léargas online

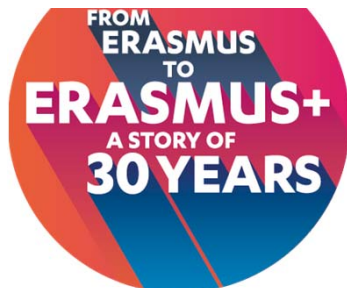
### Practical Dissemination: Share What You've Learned

Fri, Apr 21st, 2017



*Dissemination is a key part of any international project, and has particular importance in **Erasmus+**. In fact, along with impact it counts for 30% of the total score in applications! Yet it can be difficult to know where to start and how to disseminate*

*effectively. In the first part of this short series, Léargas Communications and Impact Research Officer Charis Hughes looks at practical ways to share what you've learned.*



### My Erasmus+ Experience

Fri, Sep 8th, 2017

As part of our 'Erasmus 30' series our Communications Officer, Brian Desmond, discusses his Erasmus+ experience both as a participant and as a member of the Irish National Agency.



### Youth Volunteering: Building a Path to Peace

Fri, Aug 11th, 2017

For International Youth Day 2017 youth worker Jason Dillon explores youth volunteering as a pathway to independence, social change and sustainable peace.



### From Inspiration to Application: Making a Youth Exchange Happen!

Wed, Aug 9th, 2017

Our guide to making an Erasmus+ Youth Exchange happen, from inspiration to application!



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND



# Erasmus+ and Us



“The view of participants are that the most effective promotion comes from peers within their sector who can speak about their experiences...” (Erasmus+ MTE)

**Viv Sadd**, Mahon Youth:  
‘Building Walls, Breaking Walls’

**Ger Brennan**, St John’s Central College



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING CITIES

18-20 SEPTEMBER 2017

CORK CITY, IRELAND



**Thank you!**



[Leargas.Ireland](https://www.facebook.com/Leargas.Ireland)



[@Leargas](https://twitter.com/Leargas)

[www.leargas.ie](http://www.leargas.ie)