GUIDE International Workshop: submission deadline fast approaching!

GUIDE is pleased to remind you that the abstract submission deadline for its 2010 International Workshop is coming up. In order to participate to the event, that will take place at the Università degli Studi "Guglielmo Marconi" in Rome the 18th and 19th of March 2010, you need to submit your proposal not later than the 1st of October 2009.

The main theme of the conference is 'New challenges for e-learning in cultural, scientific and socio-economic development'. The meeting will explore many aspects of distance and lifelong learning, including vocational guidance and professional re-training, the role of instructional technology in scientific subjects implementation and the improvement of teachers and universities capacity building in developing countries.

To find out more about the conference and how to register, please visit the conference website at http://www.guideassociation.org/guide_2010/.

We take this opportunity also to thank those who have already registered and we remind you that every comment or question is, as always, more than welcome.

We hope to see as many as possible of you here in Rome!

CIHEAM – Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari
Workshop on "E-Learning in the Mediterranean – Balkan Area" –
Bari, 1-2 October 2009

The CIHEAM-MAIB, one of GUIDE Association longer-standing official member, has scheduled a workshop on "E-learning in the Mediterranean-Balkan area", to be held at its headquarters on 1st and 2nd October 2009.

This workshop intends to discuss and share the experiences of some institutions that deliver Distance Learning courses (especially in agriculture).

It is designed to analyse the results and assess the usefulness to apply a shared model with a view to setting up a Distance Learning network in the Mediterranean.

This network would be aimed at promoting partnerships for future cooperation projects and setting up a joint "Map of E-Learning" (database) collecting the projects and institutions operating in e-learning (especially in agriculture) in the Mediterranean and Balkan countries.

For any further information about the workshop please contact Dr. Luigi Sisto l.sisto@iamb.it, infofad@iamb.it or visit the institution web site at http://www.iamb.it

M-blog 2009 LAUNCH!

Last June an important workshop addressing fundamental issues related to ODL named "Flexible Learning and International Development" was held in Maastricht, The Netherlands, on the occasion of the 23rd ICDE World Conference on Open Learning and Distance Education.

The debate about crucial key-topics concerning Higher Education in general and Open Educational Resources in particular, generated a Special Interest Group aiming at contributing to find out possible responses and suggest concrete actions for the international development through distance learning.

In this respect the Università degli Studi "Guglielmo Marconi" in collaboration with GUIDE Association was asked to create, implement and manage a technological tool stimulating the discussion about an agenda including a number of themes such as promoting lifelong learning for women, favouring prior learning recognition or identifying content gaps in OER, for instance. The result has been a blog/platform, called M-blog 2009, which was officially launched in August and where "M" refers to Maastricht but also stands for mindful, motivating and multicultural.

The blog, whose main purpose is to represent a valuable and dynamic instrument of dialogue and interaction for the international research community, can be visited and joined at http://www.guideassociation.org/mblog_2009/. For further information about it, please contact the administrator at mblog@unimarconi.it or relint2@unimarconi.it.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES WORLDWIDE

3rd Annual Forum on e-Learning Excellence in the Middle-East 2010 - Bringing Global Quality to a Local Context
Dubai, UAE, February 1st-3rd 2010
http://elexforum.hbmeu.ae

Future-Learning2010 – 3rd International Future-Learning Conference On Innovations in Learning for the Future 2010:e-Learning
Istanbul, Turkey, May 10th-14th 2010
http://www.futurelearning.org.tr

ICEL 2010 - 5th International Conference on e-Learning
Penang, Malaysia, July 12th-13th 2010
http://academic-conferences.org/icel/icel2010/icel10-home.htm

EADTU 2010 - Strategies and Business Models for LifeLong Learning: frames of references building on good practices
Zermatt, Switzerland, September 27th–29th 2010
http://www.eadtu.nl/default.asp?hId=4&mmId=36

European and International Calls for Proposals

This Section keeps GUIDE Members updated with the latest opportunities to participate in cooperation and research programmes.

The GUIDE Operative Office will offer support in the search and constitution of partnerships and in the project drawing up.
GUIDE Members are kindly invited to send their proposals.

Warning: keep an eye on deadlines, the constitution of partnership and the projects writing take time

Erasmus Mundus – External Cooperation Window
The Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window aims at mutual enrichment and better understanding between the European Union and Third-Countries. Applicants must be Universities or European Higher Education Institutions representing a partnership up to 20 partners' institutions. The partnership composition has to be constituted of European Higher Education Institutions, in possession of an Erasmus Charter before the date of publication of the present Call, and Latin American Higher Education Institutions recognised and accredited by the national authorities.
Activities must take place in one of the eligible countries covered by this Call:
— The 27 member States of the European Union, European Candidate countries (Croatia and Turkey) and EEA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway),
— The following Latin American countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela.
Deadline: 15 October 2009
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/extcoop/call/2008/call_latin_america_2009_en.htm

Common agricultural policy
The European Commission co-finances information measures relating to the common agricultural policy that aim, in particular, at: explaining, contributing to, implementing and developing the policy, promoting the European model of agriculture and helping people understand it, informing farmers and other parties active in rural areas and raising public awareness of the issues and objectives of the policy.
Deadline: 31 October 2009
http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/grants/capinfo/index_en.htm

Youth in Action 2007-2013 - Action 4.6 - Partnerships
The main purpose of this call is to support partnerships between the European Commission — via the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency — and those regions, municipalities or European NGOs which aim to develop or reinforce their long-term actions, strategies and programmes in the field of non-formal learning and youth. The specific aims of such partnerships will be to: pool resources and practices with a view to maximise the impact of the 'Youth in Action' programme, provide inspiration and capacity-building to those bodies and organisations which aim to increase their investment in youth through non-formal learning activities and the development of skills and competences, add value to the scope and quality of the initiatives in the area of youth carried out at regional and local level by fostering their European dimension, transfer lessons learned from the implementation of successful actions and initiatives in the area of non- formal learning and youth, encourage synergies and cooperation between the public sector and non-governmental organisations working in the field of youth, encourage the raising of overall skills levels among young people, giving priority to education and training of those with low skills and young people with fewer opportunities and foster the recognition of youth work and the validation non-formal learning activities in the European Union.
Deadline: 01 December 2009
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/funding/2009/call_action_4_6_en.php

Seventh Framework Programme – Cooperation – Theme 2 - Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology

The project is expected to build a European Knowledge-Based Bio-Economy by bringing together science, industry and other stakeholders to seize new and emerging research opportunities that address social, environmental and economic challenges, to increase the demand for food production and for safer, healthier, higher-quality food, responding to the specific dietary needs of consumers and food-related disorders; it also aims at fostering sustainable use and production of renewable bio-resources. By doing so the project will enhance the competitiveness of European biobased industries in the current economic context.
Calls title: ERA-NET Call 2010, FP7-AFRICA-2010, KBBE 2010: general call for proposals, The ocean of Tomorrow, INFLUENZA-2010.
Deadline: various deadlines from 29 October 2009 to 03 February 2010
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Food,%20Agriculture%20and%20Fisheries,%20and%20Biotechnology

Seventh Framework Programme – Cooperation – Theme 3 - ICT - Information and Communication Technologies

The objective of this call is to improve the competitiveness of European industry and enable Europe to master and shape future developments in ICT so that the demands of its society and economy are met. ICT is at the very core of the knowledge-based society. Activities will continue to strengthen Europe's scientific and technology base and ensure its global leadership in ICT, help drive and stimulate product, service and process innovation and creativity through ICT use and value creation in Europe, and ensure that ICT progress is rapidly transformed into benefits for Europe's citizens, businesses, industry and governments. These activities will also help reduce the digital divide and social exclusion.
Calls title: FET Open scheme, "ICT for Green Cars"-2010, Cross-Thematic Call: Energy-efficient Buildings, Cross-Thematic Call "Factories of the Future", ICT Call 5.
Deadline: various deadlines from 26 October 2009 to 24 May 2011
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Information%20and%20Communication%20Technologies

Seventh Framework Programme – Cooperation – Theme 4 - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies

The principal objectives of this Theme are to improve the competitiveness of European industry and to generate knowledge to ensure its transformation from a resource-intensive to a knowledge-intensive base, by creating step changes through research and implementing decisive knowledge for new applications at the crossroads between different technologies and disciplines. This will benefit both new, high-tech industries and higher-value, knowledgebased traditional industries, with a special focus on the appropriate dissemination of RTD results to SMEs. These activities are concerned with enabling technologies which impact all industrial sectors and many other Themes of the Seventh Framework Programme.
Calls title: Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies; Materials and new Production Technologies – CSAs; ERA-NET Call 2010; Sustainable automotive electrochemical storage; Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies – EU-MEXICO; Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies – LARGE 2010; Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies - SMALL 2010; Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies – SMEs; Theme 4 – NMP - Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies – EU-United States; Cross-Thematic Call: Energy-efficient Buildings; Cross-Thematic Call "Factories of the Future".
Deadline: various deadlines from 3 November 2009 to 2 February 2010
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Nanosciences,%20Nanotechnologies,%20Materials%20and%20new%20Production%20Technologies

Seventh Framework Programme – Cooperation – Theme 5 - Energy

The programme supports all types of research activities carried out by different research bodies in transnational cooperation. It aims at gaining and consolidating leadership in key scientific and technology areas through collaborative research, the coordination of national research programmes, the establishment of Joint Technology Initiatives and common strategies such as those of the European Technology Platforms. Through joint actions among academia, industry, research centres and public authorities and the establishment of excellent research projects and networks, it is instrumental in fostering better integration of European R&D and national and regional research programmes, thus helping to establish a competitive European Research Area (ERA).

Calls title: FP7-ENERGY-2010-2, Sustainable automotive electrochemical storage, The ocean of tomorrow, ENERGY-EU India Coordinated Call; Cross-Thematic Call: Energy-efficient Buildings; Energy Call Part 1; Energy FET Call.

Deadline: various deadlines from 15 October 2009 to 4 March 2010

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Energy

Seventh Framework Programme – Cooperation – Theme 6 - Environment

The objective of the environments theme is to promote sustainable management of the natural and human environment and its resources by advancing our knowledge on the interactions between the biosphere, ecosystems and human activities, and developing new technologies, tools and services, in order to address in an integrated way global environmental issues. Emphasis will be put on prediction of climate, ecological, earth and ocean systems changes, on tools and on technologies for monitoring, prevention and mitigation of environmental pressures and risks including on health and for the sustainability of the natural and man-made environment.

Calls title: ERA-NET Call 2010, Sustainable automotive electrochemical storage, FP7-AFRICA-2010, The ocean of Tomorrow, FP7-ENV-2010, Cross-Thematic Call: Energy-efficient Buildings.

Deadline: various deadlines from 3 November 2009 to 19 January 2010

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Environment%20(including%20Climate%20Change)

Seventh Framework Programme – Cooperation – Theme 7 - Transport

Based on technological and operational advances and on the European transport policy, the Transport theme's objective is to develop integrated, safer, "greener" and "smarter" pan-European transport systems for the benefit of all citizens and society and climate policy, respecting the environment and natural resources. Moreover it is focused on securing and further developing the competitiveness attained by the European industries in the global market. Given the different structure and focus of the sectors, the theme is divided into four subthemes: Aeronautics and Air Transport (AAT), Sustainable Surface Transport (SST) including the 'european green cars initiative', horizontal activities for implementation of the Transport Programme (TPT) and GALILEO.

Calls title: ERA-NET Call 2010; Sustainable automotive electrochemical storage; FP7 - AERONAUTICS and AIR TRANSPORT (AAT) - 2010 - RTD-1; FP7 - AERONAUTICS and AIR TRANSPORT (AAT) - 2010 - RTD-CHINA; FP7 - AERONAUTICS and AIR TRANSPORT (AAT) - 2010 - RTD-RUSSIA; The ocean of Tomorrow, Sustainable Surface Transport (Including European Green Cars Iniative); FP7-TRANSPORT (TPT)-2010-RTD-1; FP7-TRANSPORT-2010-TREN-1.

Deadline: various deadlines from 14 January 2010 to 19 January 2010

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Transport%20(including%20Aeronautics)

Seventh Framework Programme – Cooperation – Theme 8 – Socio-economic sciences and Humanities
The objective is to generate an in-depth, shared understanding of complex and interrelated socio-economic challenges Europe is confronted with, such as growth, employment and competitiveness, social cohesion, social, cultural and educational challenges in an enlarged European Union, sustainability, migration and integration, quality of life and global interdependence, in particular with the view of providing an improved knowledge base for policies in the fields concerned.
Calls title: FP7-SSH-2010-Collaborative projects (large scale integrating research projects); FP7-SSH-2010-Collaborative projects (small or medium scale focused research projects); FP7-SSH-2010-Collaborative projects (small or medium scale focused research projects) for specific cooperation actions dedicated to international cooperation CP-FP-SICA; The ocean of tomorrow; FP7-SSH-2010-Coordination and support actions.
Deadline: various deadlines from 15 December 2009 to 2 February 2010
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Socio-economic%20sciences%20and%20Humanities

Seventh Framework Programme – Cooperation – Theme 9 – Space
The objective of the FP7 space work programme is to support a European Space Policy focusing on applications such as GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security), with benefits for citizens, but also other space foundation areas for the competitiveness of the European space industry. This will contribute to fulfil the overall objectives of the European Space Policy, complementing efforts of Member States and of other key players, including the European Space Agency.
Call title: Space Call 3.
Deadline: 8 December 2009
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Space

Seventh Framework Programme – Cooperation – Theme 10 – Security
The objective of the Security theme is to develop the technologies and knowledge for building capabilities needed to ensure the security of citizens from threats such as terrorism, natural disasters and crime, while respecting fundamental human rights including privacy; to ensure optimal and concerted use of available and evolving technologies to the benefit of civil European security, to stimulate the cooperation of providers and users for civil security solutions, improving the competitiveness of the European security industry and delivering mission-oriented research results to reduce security gaps.
Call title: Security Research 2010.
Deadline: 26 November 2009
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Security

Seventh Framework Programme – Ideas - European Research Council (ERC)
The European Research Council (ERC) has a unique position in European research funding to support the best science and scholarship and the fundamental principle for all ERC activities is that of stimulating investigator-initiated frontier research across all fields of research. Awards will be made and grants operated according to simple procedures that maintain the focus on excellence, encourage initiative and combine flexibility with accountability. Two types of ERC grant are available at present:
1. The ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grants (ERC Starting Grants). The objective is to provide critical and adequate support to the independent careers of excellent researchers who are at the stage of starting or consolidating their own independent research;
2. The ERC Advanced Investigator Grants (ERC Advanced Grants). The objective is to encourage and support excellent, innovative investigator-initiated research projects;
The ERC actions are open to researchers of any nationality who would like to establish their research activity up in any Member State as well as any Associated country. The Principal Investigator can be of any age and nationality and he/she can reside in any country in the world at the time of the application.
Call title: ERC Starting Independent Researcher Grant.
Deadline: various deadlines from 18 October 2009 to 9 December 2009
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage

Seventh Framework Programme – People - Support for Training and Career Development of Researchers

This action aims to reinforce the international dimension of the career of European researchers by giving them the opportunity to be trained and acquire new knowledge. Lifelong training will improve their skills and help them join established research teams. In parallel, complementary training will enhance their career prospects in both public and private sectors.

Calls title: Marie Curie Reintegration Grants (RG) ; Marie Curie Initial Training Networks (ITN).

Deadline: various deadlines from 22 December 2009 to 31 December 2009

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage

Seventh Framework Programme – Capacities - Theme 1 - Research Infrastructures

The overall objective of the Research Infrastructures part of the 'Capacities' specific programme is to optimise the use and development of the best research infrastructures existing in Europe, and to help to create in all fields of science and technology new research infrastructures of pan-European interest needed by the European scientific community to remain at the forefront of the advancement of research, and able to help industry to strengthen its base of knowledge and its technological know how.

Calls title: Call 6: FP7-INFRASTRUCTURES-2010-1; Research Infrastructures Call 7.

Deadline: various deadlines from 24 November 2009 to 3 December 2009

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Research%20Infrastructures

Seventh Framework Programme – Capacities - Theme 2 - Research for the benefit of SMEs

The overall objective of the Research Infrastructures part of the 'Capacities' specific Programme is to strengthen the innovation capacity of European SMEs and their contribution to the development of new technology based products and markets by helping them out source research, increase their research efforts, extend their networks, better exploit research results and acquire technological know how, bridging the gap between research and innovation through European level collaboration.

Call title: Research for SMEs.

Deadline: 3 December 2009

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Research%20for%20the%20benefit%20of%20SMEs

Seventh Framework Programme – Capacities - Theme 3 - Regions of Knowledge

The "Regions of Knowledge" initiative in FP7 responds to a need at European level to increase the overall capacity of regional players in enhancing science and technology based development. Its purpose is to enable regions to strengthen their capacity for investing in and conducting research and technological development activities in a way which can contribute significantly to economic development. This shall maximise the potential for a successful involvement of regional actors in the European Research Area (ERA).

Call title: Transnational cooperation of regional research-driven clusters.

Deadline: 14 January 2010

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Regions%20of%20Knowledge

Seventh Framework Programme – Capacities - Theme 4 - Research Potential
The action aims at strengthening the potential of research entities established in the Convergence and Outermost regions of the European Union (EU) that need new knowledge and support to realise their development. It will help to enhance the capacity of their researchers to successfully participate in research activities at EU level. It will therefore tackle a variety of challenges such as 'brain gain' through networking with other European world class research players and industry, upgrading of relevant RTD infrastructure, recruitment of experienced researchers and institutional mobilization as well as dynamic contribution to the regional or European sustainable socio-economic development.
Calls title: Unlocking and developing the Research Potential of research entities established in the EU´s Convergence Regions and Outermost regions; Research Potential in the Western Balkan Countries.
Deadline: various deadlines from 15 October 2009 to 17 December 2009
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Research%20Potential

Seventh Framework Programme – Capacities - Theme 5 - Science in Society
In the terms of the 7th Framework Programme, activities in the field of Science in Society aim to "stimulate, with a view to building an open, effective and democratic European knowledgebased society, the harmonious integration of scientific and technological endeavour, and associated research policies in the European social web, by encouraging pan-European reflection and debate on science and technology and their relationship with the whole spectrum of society and culture".
Calls title: FP7-SCIENCE-IN-SOCIETY-2010-NCP; FP7-SCIENCE-IN-SOCIETY-2010-1, FP7-SCIENCE-IN-SOCIETY-2010-CAREERS, The role of universities in the process towards a knowledge-based society.
Deadline: various deadlines from 2 December 2009 to 29 April 2010
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Science%20in%20Society

Seventh Framework Programme – Capacities - Theme 7 - Activities of International Cooperation
The international competitiveness of modern economies is linked increasingly to their ability to generate, adapt and use new knowledge. Science and technology (S&T) are considered to be key factors contributing to achieving sustainable development, prosperity and economic growth. S&T has also proved to be instrumental to enhancing and enriching many other policy areas with an impact on external relations: trade, development, environment, energy, telecommunications, etc.
Calls title: Bi-regional coordination of S&T cooperation including priority setting and definition of S&T cooperation policies – Activity INCO-NET; Bilateral coordination for the enhancement and development of S&T Partnerships – Activity BILAT; Supporting the coordination of national and regional policies and activities of Member States and Associated Countries in the field of international cooperation – Activity ERA-NET; Integrating Europe's neighbours into the ERA - ERA-WIDE activity.
Deadline: 19 January 2010
http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7CallsPage#Activities%20of%20International%20Cooperation

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