



Leonardo da Vinci

## From Copenhagen to Helsinki Best Practices Supporting European Cooperation in VET

4th December 2006 in Marina Congress Center, Helsinki, Finland

### Invitation

The Finnish Leonardo da Vinci National Agency in CIMO in co-operation with the Ministry of Education in Finland and the European Commission will organise a European conference on the 4th December 2006 in Marina Congress Center, Helsinki, Finland.

The conference is organised, with the goal of highlighting the importance of the Leonardo da Vinci programme as a testing field for the strategies and priorities for European cooperation in VET (the Copenhagen Process).

The Copenhagen Process aims at enhanced cooperation in European vocational education and training. It underlines the important role VET has to play in order European Union to achieve the goal to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world.

The aims and priorities of this process were agreed in the Copenhagen Declaration adopted in December 2002 by the education Ministers of 31 European countries, social partners and the European Commission. More recently, further actions were outlined in the Maastricht communiqué adopted in December 2004. Now, during the Finnish Presidency in 2006, the aim is to follow-up the current situation in the member states and set the agenda for the future development areas.

The Leonardo da Vinci programme supports these European processes at several levels. At the moment a number of projects are dealing with the various priorities set in the Copenhagen process. The priorities during the Calls for proposals 2005-2006 were also closely linked with the Maastricht Communiqué.

### AIMS

The conference will take stock of links between policies, as outlined in the Copenhagen Declaration and Maastricht Communiqué, and practice as displayed in Leonardo-projects and emphasise the key role of Leonardo da Vinci programme in developing, testing and implementing tools and practices for European cooperation in VET.

Also, since the pre-call notice including priorities for Leonardo da Vinci proposals for 2007 is expected to be published in October 2006, the conference will be able to look concretely at how the Copenhagen process can be addressed during the next call.

The conference will supplement the Ministerial Meeting taking place on 4-5 December in Helsinki. This Ministerial Meeting is, after Maastricht 2004, the second follow-up meeting of the Copenhagen process and is expected to issue a Helsinki Communiqué, reviewing the priorities and strategies for the Copenhagen process. The Communiqué, to be issued on 5 December, will be based on Council Conclusions accepted earlier in November 2006. The conference will therefore also be in good position to look at future priorities and strategies for European cooperation in VET as outlined in the Council Conclusions and will highlight key areas of interest VET providers and project promoters within the Copenhagen process.



Furthermore, the conference will showcase the 10 projects that during the Ministerial Meeting will be receiving the Helsinki Awards for best practice projects contributing to the aims of the Copenhagen process.

## FOR WHOM

Whilst the Ministerial Meeting will take place on the highest political level with restricted attendance, this conference “From Copenhagen to Helsinki” is aimed at a broader audience and to all practitioners in vocational education and training:

- VET providers
- Teachers and researchers in VET
- Promoters of projects with links to the Copenhagen process
- Future promoters of projects under these themes
- Policy makers
- Social partners
- Leonardo da Vinci National Agencies

Please note that the project fair is by invitation only.

The language of the seminar is English.

## REGISTRATION

The registration form can be found at [www.leonardodavinci.fi/index-eng.html](http://www.leonardodavinci.fi/index-eng.html). Upon registration the participants are asked to choose one parallel session (1-4) before lunch. Please refer to the attached programme for more information on the parallel sessions. We ask you register by **10.11.2006 at the latest** on the web. The seminar is free of charge.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The participants will be responsible for their own travel and hotel arrangements. However, since due to the presidency this is a busy time in Helsinki, the organisers will have a number of pre-reserved rooms at the conference venue Marina Congress Centre, Hotel Scandic Grand Marina for a special conference price.

Please find the reservation form on the above mentioned website to be sent directly to the Hotel Scandic Grand Marina by fax +358-9-664 764 or by e-mail [grandmarina@scandic-hotels.com](mailto:grandmarina@scandic-hotels.com) **at the latest 10.11.2006**. When making the reservation please use the reservation code CIMO041206 for special conference price. The rooms are on offer on a first come-first serve basis.

Further information about the Hotel Scandic Grand Marina can be found at <http://www.scandic-hotels.com/grandmarina>

If you have any other questions at this point, please do not hesitate to contact us via email at [leonardo@cimo.fi](mailto:leonardo@cimo.fi) or by phone at +358-9-7747 7219.

*Best regards*  
*Finnish Leonardo National Agency*  
*The Centre for International Mobility CIMO*

