

Language learning for economic competitiveness

Find out how one project on foreign language skills helped to strengthen Europe's position in the global economy

There is a clear link between proficiency in foreign languages and increased job prospects*. That is why the Linguistic Policy for the Labour Market (LILAMA) Network launched a project to develop guidelines, best practices and recommendations for linguistic policy across Europe.

The project was a valuable experience, as Project Co-ordinator Ion Gorriti recalls:

“ We managed to make the knowledge and best practices gathered throughout the project easily available through publications and other products; we also established a set of recommendations to help policy makers and practitioners create linguistic policies that are better linked to the labour market.”

Seven organisations specialising in linguistics and employment came together from five countries to bring the initiative to life. Their aim was to support the development of comprehensive linguistic policies, aligned with a country or region's economic strategies and business needs. Having a true linguistic policy, as opposed to simply teaching a language, supports citizens to compete in the international labour market by improving their wider linguistic skills and mobility.

The LILAMA team produced recommendations on best practices, brochures, and policy models in a number of languages. They also produced specific guidelines for industry sectors, making it easier to sell products and services around the world, and so enhancing the EU's position in the global market.

The results were shared through a series of workshops and a final event attended by more than 400 people. LILAMA also participated in more than 20 international events to promote their conclusions to local, national and European stakeholders.

* http://ec.europa.eu/languages/policy/strategic-framework/documents/languages-for-jobs-report_en.pdf



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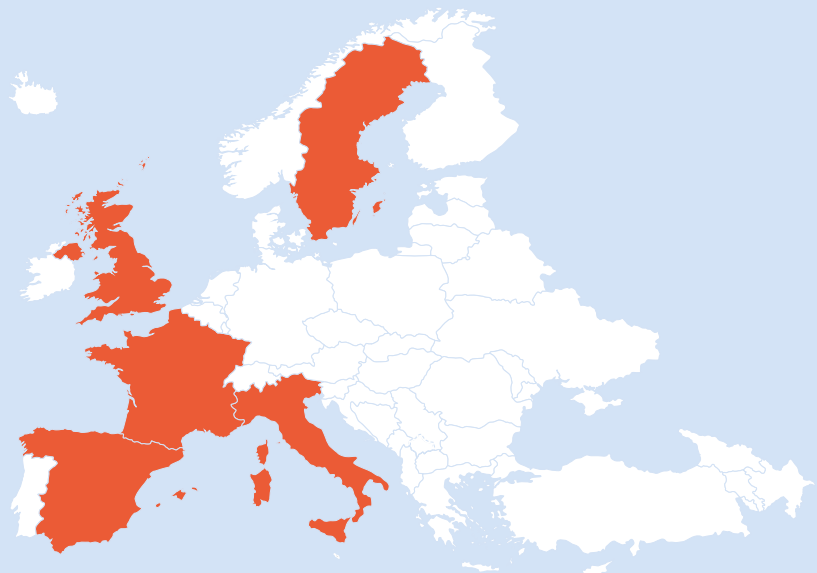
Field: Languages

Key facts and figures

	Organisations: 7		Countries: 5
	EU grant: €449,000		Project duration: 2009-2011

Project title

Linguistic Policy for the Labour Market - LILAMA



Lead organisation

Name: Iniciativas Innovadoras S.A.L
Location: Zizur Mayor, Spain
Website: www.iniciativas-innovadoras.es

Partners

Université de Montesquieu - Bordeaux IV, **France**; Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale and Regione Basilicata, **Italy**; Employment Service of Navarre, **Spain**; The Adult Education Committee of Göteborg, **Sweden**; Regional Language Network, **United Kingdom**

More information

Project website:
www.lilama.org

The Erasmus+ Project Results Platform:
<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects>