

Intellectual outputs

The Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships are no longer structured according to 'work packages' (as in the Multilateral LLP projects). The key words now are: management, implementation, intellectual outputs, ... In what way do these new terms and structures influence the organisation of your project?

Intellectual outputs are not compulsory, it is a choice.

The KA2 Strategic Partnerships application forms in Erasmus+ serve for small scale projects and for bigger projects. One of the distinctive features in this respect are the 'intellectual outputs' (IOs). In relation to the needs of the project target group(s) and the objectives of the project the partnership can choose to create intellectual outputs or not. Partnerships of smaller organisations (schools or smaller adult education organisations) with a limited scope usually opt for projects without IOs; partnerships with bigger organisations aiming at impact in a larger context should opt for IO production in their project.

What are intellectual outputs?

The programme guide describes intellectual outputs as 'tangible deliverables of the project' ... 'substantial in quality and quantity'. Intellectual outputs are an extra opportunity (and funding) for projects aiming at a certain impact on a larger target group, within or beyond the partnership (in line with the needs of these target group(s)). If this impact requires the creation of material then IOs should come in as project outcomes.

Some specific requirements contribute to the quality of an intellectual output:

- concrete, tangible products
- substantial in quantity – proportional to the funding, realistic
- answering the needs of the target groups, in line with the objectives of the project
- high impact potential for the intended target groups (local, national, international ...)
- tailored to the target groups, flexible applicability, potential for mainstreaming
- sustainable
- innovative: new product, new service, research based
- European: proof of multinational input
- available and accessible, multi-media carried

Consequences

The creation and production of intellectual outputs give access to extra funding (staff costs) and the possibility to organise 'multiplier events' (organizational costs per participant). It also shapes the organisation and management of your project.

So, if the partnership opts for intellectual output production then extra staff costs can be claimed. This should be mainly staff costs for production & research activities and, if justified and necessary, specific management and administration. These staff costs are indicated for each IO. Quality care (evaluation) is part of the production process and is organized 'per intellectual output'.

General management and administration costs can no longer be part of the staff costs. They are included in the lump sum the coordinator (500 Euro/month) and the partners (250 Euro/month) receive from the grant.

This means that intellectual outputs are the 'units' of the project activity involving research, production, testing, evaluating and ... financial reporting, for each IO. Evaluation and quality care is no longer a 'work package' covering the whole project. Also dissemination and exploitation should be seen in the light of IO units.

Only if the project partnership opts to produce IOs there are funding opportunities (a box will open in the application form) for organizing **multiplier events**. Unit costs per participant (for foreigner (200 Euro) or national participant (100 Euro)) can be claimed. This option also shapes the activities of the project and should be seen in the light of the needs, objectives and exploitation plans of the project.