

# Lifelong Learning: Making Lifelong Career Guidance a Reality

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# Lifelong Learning: Making Lifelong Career Guidance a Reality

- What does lifelong career guidance mean?
- Which EU public policy goals does it contribute to?
- Where is career guidance placed in EU policies for education, training and employment?
- What is the current state of policies for career guidance in Europe?
- What actions are taking place at European level?
- What are the characteristics of lifelong career guidance systems?



# Lifelong Learning: Making Lifelong Career Guidance a Reality

## Common understanding

- **What?** Activities: e.g. information giving, advice, counselling, assessment, teaching, advocacy
- For whom? All citizens
- **When?** Any age and point in their lives
- **Focus?** Making meaningful life choices on learning and work. Empowerment to manage learning and career
- **Career?** Individual lifepaths in which competences are learned and/or used
- **Where?** Education, training, employment, community, private



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## Common principles

- Independence
- Confidentiality
- Equal opportunities
- Competent staff
- Accessibility
- Appropriateness of methods
- Continuous improvement
- Right of redress
- Impartiality
- Transparency
- Empowering
- Holistic
- Availability
- Continuity
- Responsiveness
- Collaboration



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## Which EU Policy Goals does Career Guidance Serve?

- Efficient investment in education and training
- Labour market efficiency
- Lifelong learning
- Social inclusion
- Social equity
- Economic development



# Guidance in EU Policies for Education and Training

- LLL Memorandum (1999)
- LLL Consultation (2000)
- LLL Communication (2001)
- LLL Quality indicators (2002)
- Objectives for education and training systems (2002+)
- Increased European co-operation in VET (2002+)
- Investing efficiently in education and training (2003)
- Tertiary education (Bologna) 1999+



# Key role of lifelong guidance provision

- Career guidance viewed as a key component of national strategies for the implementation of lifelong learning policies
- Career guidance viewed as a priority area for action at European Union level
- Competence to manage one's learning and career as a key factor in wage differentials in OECD countries (OECD EPA 2002)



# European employment policy

- Horizontal objective EEG: Guideline 4 (2003) :
- Lifelong learning - guidance as facilitating lifelong learning and workforce development
- Statements of Head of Public Employment Services (2002): guidance, lifelong learning
- Statement of European Social Partners on Lifelong Learning (2002): guidance as priority area
- Action Plan for Skills and Mobility (2002): guidance for workforce development and mobility
- Older workers (2002)



# Other relevant policies

- European youth consultation (2001)
- Social inclusion (2000+)
- Provision and quality of services of general interest (2003)



Lifelong Learning: Making Lifelong Career Guidance a Reality  
Relevant EU Policies – Education and Training,

- Education and Training 2010: Making lifelong learning a concrete reality
- Creating open, attractive and accessible learning environments: strengthening the role, quality and co-ordination of information and guidance services
- Applying common European references and principles to support national policies: the provision of guidance services



## Lifelong Learning: Making Lifelong Career Guidance a Reality Relevant EU Policies – Education and Training

- Council Resolution on Enhanced European Co-operation in Vocational Education and Training (2002):
- « Priority for Member States to strengthen policies, systems and practices for guidance.... »
- Council Resolution on strengthening policies, systems and practices for lifelong guidance (May 2004)



# Lifelong Learning: Making Lifelong Career Guidance a Reality:

## Findings of OECD, CEDEFOP, ETF and World Bank on Policies for Career Guidance in Europe (2001-2003)

- Career guidance policy and systems development
- Quality indicators for career guidance
- Access to career guidance
- Investment in career guidance provision
- Career guidance in tertiary education



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## Findings of OECD, CEDEFOP, ETF and World Bank on Policies for Career Guidance in Europe (2001-2003)

- European employment strategy
- Workforce competence and mobility development
- European youth policy
- Social inclusion
- Services of general interest



- **Actions at European level: Commission's Expert Group on Lifelong Guidance and Objectives Groups G and H**
- Common concepts and principles of lifelong guidance service
- Model framework for lifelong guidance provision
- Opinion on challenges facing development of policies, systems and practices
- Meta-criteria for quality - citizen perspective
- Career Guidance: A Manual for Policymakers
- Career guidance and the validation of non-formal and informal learning



# Future Actions at European level

- Joint Actions Programme 2004: European networks of national fora for guidance
- Irish Presidency Council Resolution on Guidance
- Follow-up of Education and Training 2010 Report and of Council Resolution



# Features of Lifelong Career Guidance Systems in Europe

- Co-ordinated policies for career guidance at national/regional level: education, training, employment
- Co-ordinated systems development at national/regional level
- Formal networks/partnership of providers at local level
- New partnership approaches to workplace guidance
- Flexible, accessible and responsive provision



# Features of Lifelong Career Guidance Systems in Europe

- Citizen centred principles of provision
- Staff with nationally accredited competences
- Focus on outcomes: developing citizens career management competences
- Focus on accountability: developing the evidence base for policy and systems development decisions
- Quality assurance – citizen perspective
- Europe as the reference field for guidance

