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## Certification of linguistic, entrepreneurial and digital skills in the Algerian higher education system (LEADS)

ERASMUS-EDU-2023-CBHE - Project number 101126783

### Call for Proposals: Recruitment of External Expert

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## **1 Background**

The LEADS project (Linguistic, Entrepreneurial And Digital Skills) is an ERASMUS+ initiative funded by the European Union with a budget of 811,943 €. It runs for three years starting from December 1, 2023. Coordinated by the Abdelhamid Ibn Badis University of Mostaganem, the project involves the following partners:

- Djilali Liabes University – Sidi Bel Abbes (Algeria)
- 8 Mai 1945 University – Guelma (Algeria)
- Badji Mokhtar University – Annaba (Algeria)
- Polytechnic School of Architecture and Urbanism (Algeria)
- Lounici Ali University – Blida 2 (Algeria)
- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (Algeria)
- Rigas Tehniska Universitate (RTU) – Latvia
- University for Foreigners of Siena – Italy
- Norwegian University of Science and Technology – Norway
- Kirikkale Universitesi – Türkiye

The primary objective of LEADS is to develop a competency framework specific to the Algerian higher education system, recognized by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MESRS). This framework covers three domains: Linguistic, Entrepreneurial, and Digital Skills. The project will create training resources and certification exams delivered in both Arabic and English. While primarily designed for undergraduate students, the qualifications can benefit master's, doctoral students, academic staff, and anyone engaged in lifelong learning. Students who complete the program will receive certifications as an addendum to their diplomas.

## **2 Objectives and Key Evaluation Areas**

The purpose of the external evaluation is to ensure that the project's implementation proceeds adequately. This involves assessing the overall project execution, progress, and the achievement of intended objectives and results. External evaluation reports will both summarize the progress made within the initially planned activity lots and evaluate the



project's impact and the quality of outcomes. Additionally, these reports will provide recommendations to ensure the project's results are sustainable and have a long-term impact.

Based on a participatory approach, the evaluation results will be shared and discussed within the project consortium during its meetings. The external evaluation will focus on the following elements:

- Objective Attainment and Continuous Improvement
- Quality of Partnership
- Individual and Institutional Project Impacts
- Effectiveness and Impact of Project Activities
- Risk Identification and Mitigation Measures
- Best Practices within the Project
- Sustainability of Project Results

### **3 Expert profil**

We seek an expert with the following qualifications:

- Proven experience in designing and implementing certification programs.
- Proven experience in international projects
- In-depth knowledge of linguistic, entrepreneurial, and digital competencies.
- Ability to work with multicultural and multidisciplinary teams.
- Familiarity with higher education challenges in Algeria.
- Ability to write clear, concise and objective reports.
- Fluency in English. (While fluency in Arabic or French is not required, it would be a benefit for the successful candidate).

### **4 Task and responsibilities**

The external expert will be responsible for:

- Evaluating relevant quality indicators and monitoring procedures.
- Collecting and analyzing data. The expert will have access to the internal management platform and any document from all partners upon request.



- Ensuring evaluation coordination, conducting opening and closing meetings, tracking any deviations, and preparing the final evaluation report with necessary recommendations.
- Verifying the existence and application of project documentation.
- Collaborating with the project's Quality Committee and integrating the evaluation results.
- Assessing the risk identification and management process.
- Second General Assembly: The expert will participate in the second general assembly, scheduled around October 2025 in Riga. During this assembly, he will discuss its initial report and offer advice for project execution improvements if necessary

## **5 Deliverables by the external expert**

The external expert's deliverables will include:

- PowerPoint Presentations: These presentations will cover initial conclusions and assessments during consortium meetings.
- Interim Report: The expert will submit an interim report by May 31, 2025.
- Final Evaluation Report: The expert will submit a comprehensive evaluation report. The final report is due by July 31, 2026.
- Comments and Explanations: Upon request from the project consortium, the expert will provide additional comments and explanations.
- Mission Reports: The expert will document visits to partner universities in mission reports.

Project Extension: If the project is extended, the expert will remain engaged.

## **6 Selection criteria for the Call of Tenders**

Candidates will be selected **on file**.

The selection panel will be composed of members of the steering committee of the LEADS project.

Candidates will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:



### Criteria 1 Application and profile (33,3%)

- **Application and profile:** Education and practical experience relevant to higher education, thematic of LEADS project and public funding. In case of company - previous portfolio and expert grid, in case of individual - CV
- **Work Plan:** Proposed methodology for evaluation of LEADS project

### Criteria 2: Proven Experience in the Field (33,3%)

- Experience in conducting audits of international projects,
- Expertise in the field of higher education, particularly in the certification of language, entrepreneurial, and digital skills.

### Criteria 3: Price of the Offer (33.4%)

- The price proposed by the candidate will be taken into account in the final selection. The lowest price will not necessarily be the determining factor, but the candidate will need to justify their price and demonstrate that they offer good value for money.
- time of performing interim and final evaluation

**Total: 100%**

## 7 Tendering timetable

- Publication of the call of tender: 30/09/2024
- Deadline for submission of applications: 25/11/2024
- Selection of the final candidate: 11/12/2024

## 8 Application file

The application file must include the following documents:

- A detailed CV.
- A letter of motivation.
- References.



## **9 Remuneration conditions**

The expert's remuneration will be set according to his or her qualifications and experience.

## **10 Contact**

For any further information, please contact:

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## 11 Annex

- Description of the Erasmus+ Project

Project LEADS: Linguistic, Entrepreneurial, And Digital Skills: Enhancing Transversal Education in Algerian Higher Education

The LEADS project aims to modernize transversal education within the Algerian higher education system. Focusing on language proficiency, entrepreneurship, and digital skills, LEADS seeks to empower students with essential competencies for today's dynamic world. Let's delve into the key aspects of this transformative initiative:

### 1. Objectives:

- **Enhanced Skills:** LEADS strives to equip students with practical skills beyond their academic disciplines. By fostering language proficiency, entrepreneurial mindset, and digital literacy, we prepare them for diverse professional contexts.
- **Certification System:** The project aims to develop an advanced certification system that complements traditional diplomas. This certification will validate transversal competencies acquired by students during their academic journey.

### 2. National Committees:

- Three national committees, each dedicated to a specific transversal competency, have been formally established. These committees collaborate with European partners to create knowledge bases and certification standards.
- The resulting reference framework is officially recognized by the Algerian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

### 3. Academic Advisors and Certification:

- LEADS trains academic advisors in Algeria to provide high-quality multimedia training resources, as well as placement and certification tests.
- These advisors, in turn, train certification assessors and candidates within partner higher education institutions.

### 4. Infrastructure and Support:

- LEADS equips partner institutions with production studios for course development and certification centers.
- Engineers receive training in equipment installation and maintenance, ensuring seamless operations.



5. Target Audience:

- While primarily designed for undergraduate students, LEADS certification is relevant for master's and doctoral students, academic staff, technical personnel, and administrative professionals. Lifelong learners can also benefit.

6. Dissemination and Impact:

- The Algerian Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research will disseminate project outcomes to all institutional higher education entities in Algeria.
- Graduates will carry the LEADS certification alongside their diplomas, enhancing their employability and adaptability.

By integrating LEADS certification into their profiles, students enhance their employability and embark on successful career journeys.