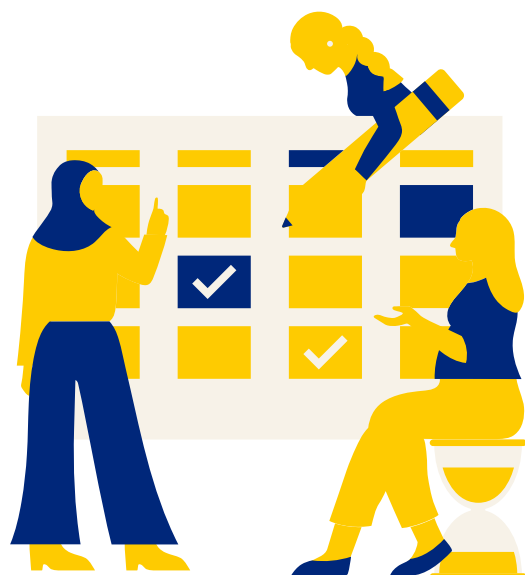




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EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL & LOCAL
AUTHORITIES FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

2024/25 WORK PLAN



TOGETHER FOR LIFELONG LEARNING



| www.earlall.eu



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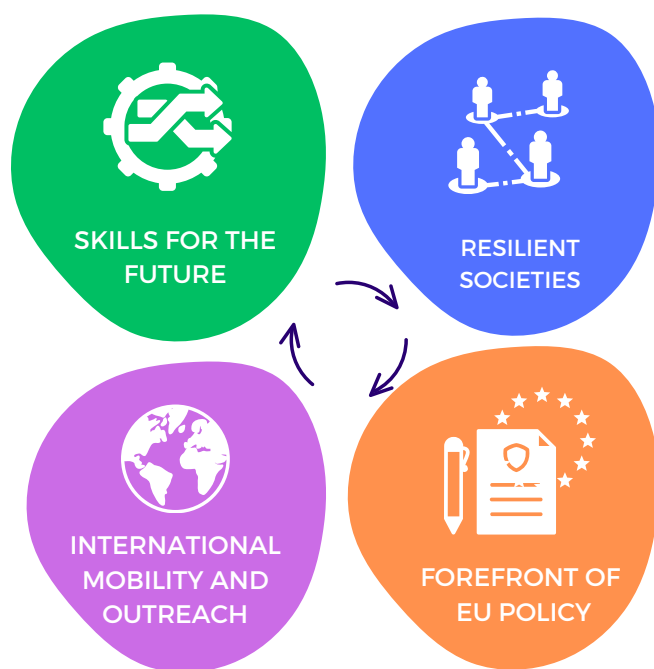
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I. Strategic Priorities

2023 - 2028

Following the approval of EARLALL's first strategic plan in 2023, the work plan for 2024-2025 seeks to meet these priority areas across its network. The strategic plan provides a clear and overarching vision for EARLALL, outlining its goals and aspirations for the next five years. This long-term perspective allows the organization to focus on its core purpose, establish a sense of direction, and align its activities accordingly. In light of the increased stakeholder cooperation of EARLALL during the European Year of Skills and the increased visibility of the network, the first five-year strategic plan will provide for greater stakeholder engagement. Through the five-year strategies, EARLALL can gather input from its members, partners, and other stakeholders to ensure that the strategies reflect their needs and interests. This engagement fosters a sense of ownership and collaboration, enhancing the annual action plan's chances of successful implementation. Finally, the plan will increase the adaptability and flexibility of our actions, all the more important in the face of the digital and twin transition, demographic changes and uncertainty that many lifelong learning systems are coping with.



5-Year Strategic Priorities: 2023 - 2028



Read the full priorities in [this report](#) or in Annex A.

II. Monitoring and Evaluation of the implementation of the strategic priorities

As outlined in the strategic priorities 2023 – 2028 document, the implementation of the five-year strategic priorities will be defined through a series of specific actions. The action plan will be updated annually. The goal of the action plan is to establish clear objectives and indicators, to be used to measure progress effectively:

	Actions	Description	Status
YEAR 1	Internal Evaluation	EARLALL internal survey launched on the relevancy of Working Groups, transversal task forces and actions to meet the strategic priorities	✓
YEAR 2	Review and implementation	Review the internal evaluation and make necessary adjustments according to the internal evaluation.	⌚

Within Year 2 of the monitoring and evaluation plan for the strategic priorities, the following activities are planned:

1. Revise the action points set during Working group meeting consultations in Q2 of 2024
2. Propose an action list to all working group members by Q4 of 2024
3. Evaluate the EARLALL Academy sessions following the 2024 review

III. EARLALL Topics and Actions in 2024 - 2025

In line with the five-year strategic priorities that seek to guide the vision of the EARLALL network, it is necessary to set specific themes, actions and initiatives to ensure these priorities are met. For 2025, EARLALL has established key themes that reflect the needs and insights gathered through extensive consultation with its members and Working Group leaders. These topics will guide the network's initiatives in supporting regional and local approaches to education and training in Europe.

1. Inclusion and Increasing Participation of Underrepresented Learners:

Promoting inclusivity remains a core focus for EARLALL in 2025. The goal is to ensure that learners from underrepresented groups—such as those with socio-economic disadvantages, migrants, people with disabilities, and older adults—have better access to lifelong learning opportunities. The network will work on developing strategies to remove barriers to education and encourage participation in both formal and non-formal settings, creating pathways for these groups to successfully engage in learning and skills development.

2. Reaching Out to Municipalities and Learning from Local Practices:

In 2025, EARLALL seeks to deepen its collaboration with municipalities, recognizing its pivotal role in shaping education and training on the ground. Municipalities often innovate and lead local initiatives that respond directly to community needs. By fostering closer relationships and sharing best practices, EARLALL aims to promote scalable solutions across regions that leverage local know-how in building inclusive, accessible, and impactful education programs.

3. Attractiveness of VET and ALE, and Retention in Challenging Professions:

Enhancing the attractiveness of Vocational Education and Training (VET) and Adult Learning and Education (ALE) is crucial, particularly in sectors facing talent shortages. EARLALL will address the perception of these pathways, aiming to improve their visibility and appeal, especially to young people and career-changers.

4. Regional Strategies for AI in Education and Training:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming education, and EARLALL's members are keen to harness its potential responsibly. In 2025, the focus will be on learning if there are regional strategies to integrate AI in education and training systems, with a specific emphasis on ethical use, enhancing learning outcomes, and improving administrative efficiencies. The network will facilitate knowledge exchange on how AI can support personalized learning experiences, automate administrative tasks, and provide new tools for teachers and learners.

5. Reskilling Workers to Adapt to the Evolving Labour Market:

As labour markets shift due to technological advances and the green transition, the need for reskilling is more urgent than ever. EARLALL will prioritize regional strategies for the continuous upskilling and reskilling of workers, particularly in industries undergoing rapid change. By promoting lifelong learning programs that are closely aligned with labour market demands, EARLALL aims to equip workers with the skills necessary to thrive in evolving sectors and maintain regional economic competitiveness.

6. Evaluation of current EU funding programmes and the preparation of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for the term following 2027.

EARLALL aspires to play a crucial role in monitoring and contributing to discussions at the EU level regarding the evaluation of current funding programmes and the preparation of future Multiannual Financial Frameworks (MFF) beyond 2027. As a representative of regional and local authorities, EARLALL will ensure that the voices and needs of these stakeholders are considered in shaping EU policies and financial allocations. By actively participating in consultations and policy dialogues which already started in 2024, EARLALL advocates for the inclusion of lifelong learning and education priorities in the new programmes, ensuring they align with regional needs and promote social cohesion and innovation across Europe.

Aligned with the Strategic Priorities and 2025 main themes, the annual work plan for 2024- 2025 sets out specific actions to achieve these goals, within the remit of the following activities: capacity-building; responding to policy development; outreach and cooperation and communication and dissemination.

Action 1: Capacity-Building

Capacity-building actions relate to actions that improve our members' ability to implement their lifelong learning strategies, at the local and regional level. EARLALL as a network facilitates this through training and workshops, knowledge sharing and best practices and networking and collaboration. These capacity-building actions can help strengthen the expertise, knowledge, and skills of EARLALL members, enabling them to effectively implement their strategic priorities and contribute to the development of lifelong learning systems in their respective regions.

c actions. The action plan will be updated annually. The goal of the action plan is to establish clear objectives and indicators, to be used to measure progress effectively:

EARLALL Initiatives

EARLALL Academy



The EARLALL Academy was an initiative laid out in the context of the Work Plan for 2023- 2024. To continue to support our members in their capacity-building at the local and regional level of lifelong learning, the Academy aims to offer 6 webinars from 2024-2025, which will cover transversal themes and topics pertinent to the whole network. The webinars will be learning opportunities tailor-made for the needs of EARLALL's members.





Upcoming Webinars in 2024 - 2025	Period
 17 Encouraging adult education in lifelong learning	3 December 2024
 17 Successful Advocacy campaign in the sustainability sector	February 2025
 17 NET Zero Academies (with DG ENERGY)	April 2025
 17 Microcredentials, update from EARLALL regions	June 2025
 17 Using EU tools in the regions (pt1): Europass and national VET teams in national agencies	Summer 2025
 17 Using EU tools in the regions (pt2): LTA Euroapprenticeships in cooperation with the Working Group on Youth Policies	Autumn 2025

Skills analysis across sectors key to EARLALL Members

Working Group: Skills and Labour Market



Following on from three successful skills sectoral analysis webinars held from 2023-2024 on Agriculture, the Care sector and the Blue Economy, EARLALL's working group on skills and the labour market plans the following sectoral skills analysis webinars:

Upcoming Webinars in 2024 - 2025	Period
 Cultural and Creative Industries	Winter 2024/2025
 Advanced Manufacturing	March 2025
 Tourism	June 2025
 Battery industries	Autumn 2025

Participation in the Apprenticeship Support Services

EARLALL Secretariat



EARLALL is a member of the Apprenticeship Support Services and will contribute to drafting the annual action plan and taking part in expert stakeholder group consultation meetings twice a year.

Running the EAfA Community the Role of Regions and Cities for Apprenticeships

EARLALL Secretariat



In 2023, the European Alliance for Apprenticeships (EAfA) Community was launched. EARLALL, as a co-leader of the Community, has planned the following activities:

- Peer-Learning Workshop (Online): Apprenticeship Insights across the globe: Cities leading the way in the EU and USA (Autumn 2024)
- An in-person event in Rome in Spring 2025
- Contribution to the factsheet on the role of guidance in apprenticeships, Winter 2024 / beginning of 2025
- Survey on role of regions and cities in apprenticeships. Build-on during in-person event in Rome. Launched June 2024 – November 2024.

Survey and Mapping the State of Play of Apprenticeships in EARLALL Members and Regions

Working Group: Youth Policies and Skills and Labour Market



To create common knowledge and exchange on the state of apprenticeships (from a legal and societal perspective) in EARLALL regions, two working groups propose to create a survey and map the similarities and differences in apprenticeship systems across the network.

EARLALL Mobility Matchmaking tool

Working Group: Mobility



This initiative comes from recognising the benefits of cross-border exchange within the EARLALL network. It is an online form where EARLALL members can propose receiving or sending initiatives and the secretariat will match opportunities. This will lead to the first staff exchange on gender equality in Autumn 2024.

EARLALL Lifelong Learning Mobility Promoter

Working Group: Mobility



This initiative comes from recognising the benefits of cross-border exchange within the EARLALL network. It is an online form where EARLALL members can propose receiving or sending initiatives and the secretariat will match opportunities. This will lead to the first staff exchange on gender equality in Autumn 2024.

EARLALL Lifelong Learning Mobility Promoter

Working Group: Mobility



EARLALL Lifelong Learning Mobility Promoters is an initiative that focuses on highlighting and giving visibility to individuals across the network who promote educational mobility.

Activities 2024/25	Period
 Publication of promoter profiles	Winter 2024/2025
 Online meet and greet,	Spring/Summer 2025

Erasmus+ KA2 project matchmaking workshop

Organised by SwissCore, Movetia, EfVET and with support from the Autonomous Region of Trento



This Erasmus+ KA2 project matchmaking workshop is organised by EfVET and EARLALL Member SwissCore and the Autonomous Region of Trento. The "Project Matchmaking" workshop provides participants with the opportunity to meet in person and start building future Erasmus+ partnerships with reliable organisations from across Europe in Autumn 2024/Spring 2025.

Webinar on making unattractive industries more appealing

Proposed by GO! Flanders



With several sectors in the EU struggling to retain and attract workers due to harsh conditions, irregularity and other factors, it has become a challenge for regions to work to improve the appeal of certain industries in Spring 2025.

Webinar on Individual Learning Accounts

Proposed by Working Group on Skills and the Labour Market



In 2022, EARLALL organised a successful webinar on individual learning accounts. EARLALL will organise a follow-up with updates from the regions in the summer of 2025.

Webinar on regional strategies for the use of AI in education and training

Proposed by the EARLALL Secretariat



As artificial intelligence reshapes the future of learning, it's essential to understand how regional approaches can tailor AI solutions to local needs and opportunities. Autumn 2024

Participation in external initiatives

European Week of Regions and Cities 2025

Proposed by the EARLALL Secretariat



Each year, the Committee of Regions organises the European Week of Regions and Cities, in October in Brussels. EARLALL will contribute to a session during this week.

Lifelong Learning Platform's Lifelong Learning Week, 18 – 22 November 2024

Organised by the Lifelong Learning Platform



Participation in the Lifelong Learning Platform's Lifelong Learning Week 2024.

Action 2: Responding to Policy

To meet the strategic priority of remaining at the forefront of policy development at the EU level, our actions must relate to EU-level initiatives, Recommendations and policy developments. In the 2024-2025 period, EARLALL will continue to lead a series of actions relating specifically to responding to these policy evolutions.

Important policy developments at EU Level

Follow-up on the Committee of the Regions (CoR) SEDEC Committee



In January 2024, EARLALL took part in the CoR consultation on “Skills and Talent Mobility”. EARLALL will continue to follow up on this initiative and others of the SEDEC Committee in the Committee of the Regions

Follow-up on the new European Parliament committees



Following the European Parliament elections in June 2024, new committees are forming. EARLALL will follow up on this, notably through an EARLALL academy on the subject. See Annex D for a timeline of key upcoming events.

Follow-up on the CEDEFOP briefing note on monitoring and evaluating lifelong guidance systems across Europe



In June 2024, CEDEFOP released a briefing note on evaluating lifelong guidance systems across Europe, linking quality frameworks and recognition. The working group on lifelong guidance and ageing societies will monitor the developments.

European Alliance for Apprenticeships – Factsheet on guidance

Working Group: Lifelong Guidance and Ageing Societies



EARLALL is a member of EAfA and as such will seek to contribute to the factsheet that will be produced in December 2024 by the EAfA on guidance for apprenticeships.

Follow-up Erasmus+ Evaluation

EARLALL Secretariat




The European Commission organised two consultative workshops with stakeholders on the new Erasmus+ programme. EARLALL attended in March and July 2024. EARLALL will continue to follow up on this stakeholder consultation

“Europe on the Move” Follow-up

EARLALL Secretariat and Working Group on Mobility



Following the publication of EARLALL’s key message on the “Europe on the Move” proposal, the network will continue to follow up on this legislation.

 In-person Brussels meeting with stakeholders to discuss implementation, Spring 2025

Follow-up on Quality Framework for Traineeships, Council and Committee of the Regions *EARLALL Secretariat and Working Group for Youth Policies*



The Council discussed the Directive in June 2024. The Committee of the Regions SEDEC Committee is developing a Reinforced Quality Framework for Traineeships opinion, which EARLALL will follow up on as it contributed to the stakeholder consultation on this topic.

Evaluation of the Digital Education Action Plan, European Commission *EARLALL Secretariat and Working Group on Skills and the Labour Market*



The European Commission has opened a consultation to gather the views of civil society on the relevance of EU digital education policies, inform about gaps or areas of further strengthening in the EU digital education policies, and discuss how civil society can cooperate further with the EU through the Digital Education Action Plan.

Follow-up on the implementation of the EU Talent Pool *Working group on lifelong guidance and ageing societies*



In the context of the SALAM project, EARLALL's Working group on lifelong guidance and ageing societies will follow up on the implementation of the EU Talent Pool.



Meeting with Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs

DG Regio Harnessing Talents Working Group on Research and Innovation *EARLALL Secretariat*



EARLALL is in the subgroup on place-based innovation strategies and skills development. the next steps include:

- Finalisation and Publication of Issue Papers on the topic of place-based innovation and the role of VET.
- A full-day in-person meeting of the Research & Innovation Working Group (R&I WG) are scheduled for the end of 2024 and also for 2025.

Council of Europe European Year of Digital Citizenship Education *EARLALL Secretariat*



The [European Year of Digital Citizenship Education \(DCE\)](#) will provide a platform for member states to set common goals, exchange sense-making practices, measure achievements and define together a road map for the future.

European Youth Week, June 2025 TBC *Working Group on Youth Policies*



The European Commission organises an annual youth week. This is an opportunity for EARLALL's working group to organise a session or campaign about the role of regions and cities in youth promotion for lifelong learning.

Action 3: Outreach and cooperation

To achieve EARLALL's ambitious strategic targets, particularly that of facilitating mobility and internationalisation across the EARLALL network, it is important that EARLALL works with international organisations, European and non-European associations, CSOs and other key actors. The goal of outreach and cooperation actions is for EARLALL to actively seek to build and enhance connections with stakeholders in lifelong learning, through, for example, meetings, conferences and relationship-building activities. These actions prioritise the exchange of knowledge, experiences and practices, to promote collaborative initiatives between its members and external partners. Overall, within outreach and cooperation actions, EARLALL would aim to contribute to a collaborative ecosystem in the field of lifelong learning, leveraging the collective knowledge, resources, and expertise of its members and partners to drive positive educational outcomes and promote lifelong learning opportunities.

As mentioned earlier, the network will also pay special attention to the local level and attract municipalities to our activities. Specific actions will be discussed and agreed upon during the Working Group meetings in 2025.

Advisory Board for the SMARTageCARE project

Working Group: Lifelong Guidance and Ageing Societies



SMARTageCARE aims at building a Smart Ageing Ecosystem to effectively deal with changes associated with ageing (health, participation, resources, lifestyle, capabilities). This Ecosystem is composed of an Ambassadors' Network, a European Advisory Board, and an Ikigai Toolkit (Manifesto, Training Program, Digital Platform).

Advisory Panel for the RALExILA project

EARLALL Secretariat



RALExILA is a forward-looking project aiming to develop and deliver a model for an integrated information system of the national registries for training, focusing on ALE (Adult Learning and Education), to support the implementation of Individual Learning Accounts. With a methodology based on interoperability, accessibility and inclusiveness, the RALExILA model should include a soft framework (including quality assurance and governance frameworks for the ALE system) and a hard framework (information model and guidelines for its implementation). The information model prioritises a collaborative design approach, focusing on accessibility and user experience. It addresses common challenges such as integrating quality assurance criteria, sustainability, and providing effective guidance.

EARLALL Mobility Matchmaking Tool – Planning and Facilitation of bilateral exchanges

Working Group: *Mobility and Guidance and Ageing Societies*




In 2022-2023, the Working Groups on Mobility and Guidance and Ageing Societies initiated the idea of creating a privileged network of mobilities among EARLALL members. This concept will be defined and implementation stages will be planned. As a pilot, EARLALL will seek to facilitate bilateral study visits and delegation exchanges across the membership.

Pact for Skills – Regional Skills Partnership for Lifelong Learning Mobility

Working Group: *Mobility*



EARLALL's application as a Regional Skills Partnership in Lifelong Learning Mobility was approved by the European Commission's Pact for Skills service in September 2024. Launch activities will include:

- 1-2 page brief on fewer opportunity mobilities
- Developing Lifelong Learning Mobility Promoters
- Organising one-off or regular project match making events and mobility opportunities
-  Webinar on increasing participation in international mobilities, Autumn 2025

See Annex B for the complete Partnership work plan.

Gender Equality Task Force Activities





Gender Equality Task Force

For equality in lifelong learning



Gender Equality Task Force with EfVET, EARLALL and EAEA

Following the launch of the Gender Equality Task Force between EAEA, EfVET and EARLALL in January 2023, and 3 activities carried out in 2024, the 2025 Work Plan will plan to:

Activities 2024/25	Period
 Session organized on mental health and gender issues	06 November 2024
 Participation of men and non-binary individuals in certain sectors	Winter 2025
 Gender Equality staff shadowing, Borås Municipality (Sweden)	December 2024
 Online campaigns	Ongoing

Action 4: Projects and project events

Current

◆ SMALEI – Sustainability Matrix in Adult Learning and Education Institutions

<https://smalei.eu/> | [LinkedIn Community](#)



Coordinator: EAEA
(European Association for
the Education of Adults)

Erasmus+ KA2 specific call
for European networks
Mar 2022 - Feb 2025


EU Grant 400,000 €
EARLALL grant : 66, 900 €

Project events 2024-2025

 17 SMALEI in the European Week of Regions and Cities 2024, October 9, 16.30 – 17.30.

 17 SMALEI Lunchtime talks

- 5 December 2024, Engagement of Learners (Glokala)
- 19 December, 2024, Awareness Raising (STOP)
- January 9, Partnership Building (VHS)
- February, Advocacy campaigning (EARLALL)

 17 Final Conference, 25-26 February 2025 in Brussels

◆ LCAMP – Learner-Centric Advanced Manufacturing Platform

<https://lcamp.eu/> | [LinkedIn](#) | [X](#)



Coordinator: Coordinator:
TKNIKA - Basque VET
Applied Research Centre


Erasmus+ CoVEs
June 2022 - May 2026

EU grant: 3,999,988.00 €
EARLALL grant t: 287, 200 €

Project events 2024-2025

 17 14-15 January 2025, TPM in Slovenia

 17 LCAMP Conference 2025 and TPM meeting, May 13-15 2025, Sweden

 17 LCAMP Partners Meeting, Autumn 2025, Brussels

◆ Lifelong Guidance 5.0: Upscaling Guidance Services in Europe

<https://lifelong-guidance.eu/> [LinkedIn](#)



UPSCALING GUIDANCE SERVICES IN EUROPE



Coordinator:
Volkshochschulverband
Baden-Württemberg (VHS
BW)

Erasmus+ KA2
December 2023 – December
2026

EU Grant: 400, 000 €
EARLALL grant: 35, 000 €

Project events 2024-2025

 Project partners' meeting, Sweden, Winter 2025

 Project partners' meeting, Austria, December 2025

◆ SKYLA – Smart Specialisation Skills Ecosystems for the Twin Transition

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/skyla> | [X](#)

Interreg
Europe

Co-funded by
the European Union

SKYLA




Coordinator:
ASEV/RESOLVO Tuscany


Interreg Europe
March 2023 - March 2027

EU Grant: 1,61 million €
EARLALL grant t: 109,986 €

Project events 2024-2025

 March 2025, Live Stream on the Good Practices is organized

 April 2025, Partner meeting in Lithuania

 September 2025, Partner meeting in Podlaskie Voivodship

♦ SALAM – Sustainability of Access to the Labour Market

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/salam>

Interreg
Europe



Co-funded by
the European Union

SALAM







Coordinator:
University of Florence

Interreg Europe program
April 2024 - June 2028

EU Grant: 1,792,903 €
EARLALL grant: 123,549 €

Project events 2024-2025

-  17 Second in-person meeting in Stuttgart, January 2025
-  17 Launch of policy needs evaluation on social media, February 2025
-  17 Semester 2, focuses on the identification of policy needs.
-  17 Third in-person meeting, Catalonia, Autumn 2025

♦ TRAILS - Enabling Data Analytics for Actions Tackling Skills Shortages & Mismatch

<https://www.trails-project.eu/> [LinkedIn](#) [X](#)

TRAILS
Enabling Data Analytics for Actions
Tackling Skills Shortages & Mismatch




Coordinator: Democritus
University of Thrace
(Greece)

HORIZON-CL2-2023-
TRANSFORMATIONS-01-07 call
for the topic of 'Tackling
European skills and labour
Shortages" | January 2024 -
January 2027

EU Grant: 2, 994 403,75 €
EARLALL grant : 296,250 €

Project events 2024-2025

-  17 Third TPM in Greece, April 2025
-  17 D2.3 - QUESTION III – Design of Interventions and Experimental, due March 2025

Submitted for 2024 – 2025 start

Project Title	Key themes	EU Funding Program /	Working Group or Lead partner
QUEEN – Quality Apprenticeships for Evolving Labour Needs	Apprenticeships, guidance	Interreg Europe	Tuscany, WGs Youth Policies, Skills and the Labour Market
LeadEx – Learning About the Educational Approach to develop excellence	Underprivileged individuals	Interreg Europe	WG Lifelong Guidance and Ageing Societies
GreenHER	Women in STEM	ERASMUS-EDU-2024-POL-EXP – Vocational Education and Training	Gender equality Task Force for lifelong learning
SkillCareLab: Enhancing Skills for a sustainable Care sector in Europe	Care sector; upskilling	ERASMUS-EDU-2024-POL-EXP-ADULT – Policy Experimentation - Adult Education	Barcelona Activa; WG Skills and the Labour Market
WISE - – Supporting Ukrainian (UA) Refugee Women’s Socio-Economic Integration and Wellbeing	Integration of migrants	ESF+ Social Innovation	IRC, Lifelong Guidance and Ageing Societies

In the pipeline

Key themes	EU Funding Program	Working Group or Lead partner
Sustainable Tourism	Erasmus+ CovE	Working Group on Skills and the Labour Market
General life skills for Seniors in a digitalised world	Erasmus+	WG Lifelong Guidance and Ageing Societies
Upskilling women in rural settings	AMIF	Gender equality Task Force for lifelong learning

Action 5: Communication and Dissemination

Communication and Dissemination are critical transversal activities of the EARLALL network that will complement the key action areas above. The EARLALL communication and dissemination activities will continue to aim to raise and consolidate the profile of the network in the European lifelong learning arena, promote its Member Regions' achievements and best practices, and provide opportunities for networking and engagement. These activities are needed to widen the outreach of the network's activities, promote knowledge exchange and capacity-building and be effective advocates in policy issues.

Key targets

To ensure that EARLALL's communication and dissemination efforts are effective, it is important to continue to grow our online presence and engagement rates in online and offline activities. To this end, the following targets have been set for the year 2024 - 2025.

Social Media	Website	Newsletter
2200 followers on X (2083 as of 10/07/2024)	1 post per month on member activities.	Release EARLALL Insights Newsletter 4 times in 2023-2024.
1600 followers on LinkedIn (1432 as of 10/07/2024)	1 post per month on project activities.	Online campaign 4 times before the Insights Newsletter to increase audience (+121 since 2023)
Engage regularly with regions outside of the EARLALL membership.	1 post per month on EARLALL-wide activities	Disseminate member activities from the Insights newsletter on social media

Key initiatives

In addition to the targets set above for increasing audience and engagement across EARLALL's online communication and dissemination channels, the following initiatives are highlighted and should be monitored and followed up by EARLALL:

Initiative	Organisation	Potential Impact
#TogetherForLifelongLearning	EARLALL flagship Initiative	Continue the momentum of the European Year of Skills online visibility, specific to the network and adding to new EU initiatives.
Project stories (notably SALAM, SKYLA, TRAILS)	EARLALL & consortium partners	Engage the audience on projects further

Initiative	Organisation	Potential Impact
EARLALL Learning Mobility Promoters	EARLALL & network members	Spotlight the work of the Learning Mobility Promoters.
Regional Pact for Skills Partnership for Lifelong Learning Mobility	EARLALL, network members & other stakeholders	Highlight key initiatives, success stories, and resources that support lifelong learning and cross-border mobility
Gender Equality Task Force for Lifelong Learning	An initiative promoted by EARLALL, EAEA, EfVET	Campaigns on international days and/or promote events, initiatives ...

Strategic Priority 1: Working towards skills for the future at the regional level, through innovation in lifelong learning



This priority seeks to align the goals of sustainability, digitalisation, and other emerging skills trends with lifelong learning by promoting innovative practices and policies. It aims to equip individuals with the necessary knowledge, skills, and competencies to contribute to the green economy, adapt to technological advancements, and participate actively in a rapidly changing society. A key element of this approach is the shift towards STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics), rather than solely STEM, recognising the critical role of soft skills in today's workforce. By integrating the arts, we acknowledge that creativity, leadership, communication, and collaboration are vital in making workers more versatile and better prepared to meet the demands of increasingly complex projects and technologies. Training these skills will ensure professionals are equipped for the future, especially in areas where AI and automation cannot replicate human capabilities.

This focus on STEAM strengthens lifelong learning by fostering a more holistic skillset, ultimately expanding opportunities for individual growth and career adaptability. It also supports the development of professionals who can thrive in diverse fields, ranging from technical roles to leadership positions, aligning with broader trends in the modern labour market. As Europe seeks to build resilient and versatile workforces, a shift towards STEAM ensures we prepare individuals not only with technical expertise but also with the critical soft skills that will drive innovation and collaboration across industries.

By combining these elements, the priority aims to drive economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability at the regional and local levels. It involves exploring new approaches, methodologies, and practices that can enhance the effectiveness, relevance, and accessibility of lifelong learning opportunities. This can include initiatives such as competency-based learning, flexible learning pathways, individual learning accounts and micro-credentials, recognition of prior learning, and the promotion of innovative learning environments and methods in VET, apprenticeships, and adult learning.

The priority aligns with the European Skills Agenda by promoting upskilling and reskilling throughout individuals' lives to meet the evolving demands of the labour market. The priority's emphasis on equipping individuals with a comprehensive set of knowledge, skills, and competencies supports this agenda. It also links to the Digital Education Action Plan, which seeks to harness the potential of digital technologies for learning and skill development. Moreover, the priority's focus on digitalisation and promoting innovative learning practices aligns with the European Framework for the Digital Competence of Educators (DigCompEdu), providing a reference for the digital competencies educators need to effectively integrate technology into teaching and learning.

Vocational excellence and the role of VET (new in 2024)

Vocational excellence is key to promoting regional lifelong learning practices at their best and supporting Smart Specialisation Strategies. VET excellence ensures high-quality skills and competencies that lead to specialised employment and long-term career opportunities. EARLALL is committed to this addition to the development of VET excellence across the network.

Strategic Priority 2: Facilitating mobility and internationalisation across the EARLALL network and outreach



This priority aims to enhance the mobility of individuals and ideas, promote international collaboration, foster networking and knowledge exchange, and influence policies in the field of education, training, and lifelong learning. By facilitating mobility and internationalization, the EARLALL network can expand its reach, enhance its impact, and contribute to the development of a more interconnected knowledge base of lifelong learning systems. This priority seeks to empower EARLALL members to become more inclusive and international, through increased exchange among the membership, work to recognise lifelong learning and qualifications obtained in each region and increased efforts to boost the attractiveness of their lifelong learning structures to other regions.

This priority aligns with several initiatives of the European Commission. The priority relates to the EQF's objective of facilitating the recognition and comparability of qualifications across different countries and systems. The EQF Recommendation promotes transparency and understanding of qualifications, supporting mobility and lifelong learning. It also aligns with the broader vision of the European Education Area (EEA), which aims to strengthen European cooperation in education and training. The European Commission's Communication on the EEA highlights the importance of mobility, internationalization, and cooperation in building a European knowledge base. It also links to the European Skills Agenda, which focuses on enhancing skills development, recognition, and mobility across Europe. The Skills Agenda aims to facilitate the transferability of skills and promote lifelong learning, supporting individuals in adapting to changing labour markets.

Strategic Priority 3: Supporting the resilience of lifelong learning structures in the face of demographic and societal changes



This priority aims to strengthen the resilience of lifelong learning structures by addressing demographic changes, supporting active ageing, integrating migrants into the labour market and advancing equal access to lifelong learning. By addressing the challenges posed by demographic and societal changes, EARLALL can contribute to the creation of sustainable and adaptable lifelong learning systems that meet the diverse learning needs of individuals throughout their lives. Particularly important to EARLALL members are the shifts in demographics including ageing populations engaging youth in rural areas, and ensuring that their populations have the right skills to support Europe's changing industries. It also emphasises gender equality in lifelong learning, as work-based skills affect the gender dimension of the working population and their engagement in lifelong learning.

This priority seeks to align itself with the European Pillar of Social Rights, which highlights the right to lifelong learning as a means to enhance employability and social inclusion. The priority's focus on resilience and addressing demographic changes aligns with the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights, particularly concerning skills development and access to lifelong learning opportunities. Moreover, it is in line with the EU Gender Equality Strategy. The priority's emphasis on gender equality in lifelong learning aligns with the goals of the strategy, recognizing that work-based skills and engagement in lifelong learning can impact the gender balance in the workforce.

Strategic Priority 4: Remaining at the forefront of policy development at the EU level



This priority seeks to ensure that EARLALL is actively engaged in relevant policy discussions and consultations. This involves staying informed about new initiatives, recommendations, and reports from the European Commission, the European Parliament, and other EU bodies. By closely following policy trends, EARLALL can proactively respond and shape discussions. It also involved strengthening cooperation with strategic partnerships and alliances with other relevant stakeholders, such as European networks, educational institutions, NGOs, and industry associations. Collaborating with like-minded organizations allows for collective following policy trends, EARLALL can proactively respond and shape discussions. It also involved strengthening cooperation with strategic partnerships and alliances with other relevant stakeholders, such as European networks, educational institutions, NGOs, and industry associations. Collaborating with like-minded organizations allows for collective advocacy and increased influence in shaping EU policies. Through networking, EARLALL can also access and share best practices, knowledge, and resources.



September 25'

- Webinar on increasing participation in international mobilities (PfS)
- Webinar on regional strategies for the use of AI in education and training
- SKYLA meeting in Poland

October 25'

- (Skills Analysis Webinar) Battery industries webinar
- (EARLALL Academy) U Using EU tools in the regions (pt2): LTA *Euroapprenticeships* in cooperation with the Working Group on Youth Policies
- European Week of Regions and Cities 2025 (Brussels)

November 25'

- LTA Euroapprenticeships in cooperation with the Working Group on Youth Policies
- Gender Equality Task Force: Participation of men and non-binary individuals in certain sectors
- PfS regional partnership webinar on increased participation in international mobilities

Pact for Skills: Regional Skills partnerships for Lifelong Learning Mobility

What is the Pact for Skills and what is a regional skills partnership?

The Pact For Skills is one of the flagship initiatives of the European Education Area, from the European Commission. **EARLALL, as a network of regions and local authorities, is a member of the European Commission's Pact For Skills Initiative.** Through the Pact for Skills, the European Commission is supporting the development of regional skills partnerships. These partnerships bring together different stakeholders to help working-age people in a region learn new skills or improve existing ones. On 17 September 2024, EARLALL launches a regional skills partnership for **lifelong learning mobility**, as part of the Working Group on Mobility.

What does the Regional Skills Partnership for Lifelong Learning Mobility commit to?

Acknowledging the ambitious targets set in the proposal Europe on the Move, the Regional Pact for Skills for Lifelong Learning Mobility seeks to increase the number of mobilities of Vocational and Educational Training (VET), Apprenticeship, Adult Education, informal education students, in addition to increasing mobilities for those with fewer opportunities. **The Partnership will focus on promoting a culture of lifelong learning and providing opportunities for those with fewer opportunities, by creating solid links between regions in these fields of exchange and by committing to monitoring and evaluating exchanges in these fields.** The Regional Skills Partnership for Lifelong Mobility commits to help to reach the goals of Europe on the Move, with 20% of VET learners by 2030 on mobilities and 20% of all mobilities for those with fewer opportunities and The Partnership commits to networking with regional and local authorities to implement solid cooperation links in the field of VET mobility, with a focus on providing opportunities for apprenticeship mobility and on attracting new members to the Partnership.

What are the planned activities?

- 1 Sharing inspiration and good practices of mobility, particularly for those with "fewer opportunities".
- 2 Defining the meaning of "fewer opportunities" and how to best involve these people.
- 3 Monitoring and tracking mobility opportunities and mobility in implementation across partners of this Pact
- 4 Developing the concept of lifelong learning mobility promoters, working to expand a network of individuals and institutions committed to educational mobility.
- 5 Expanding the scope of a mobility matchmaking tool to new stakeholders, matching high-quality exchanges and, student mobility and also regional and local staff job shadowing.
- 6 Organising one-off or regular project matchmaking events to prepare for joint mobility projects.

What are the next steps and how will EARLALL be involved?

The Working Group on Mobility will use the upcoming working groups to determine the next activities of the Pact for Skills Regional Skills partnership, with the goal of ensuring each meeting has a presentation of best practices and a networking opportunity to interest new members. The EARLALL secretariat will support this planning process and facilitate meetings and networking with new members.

Give your support!

EARLALL is excited for this opportunity to increase the visibility of the network and to continue its commitment to high-quality lifelong learning mobility. Contact communication@earlall.eu and let us know if we can include your logo in official communication about the Pact.

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