

International Conference 2014

Educational Institutions for Development – down to earth and close to the people

10 – 12 June 2014, Diplomatic Academy Vienna, Favoritenstraße 15a, 1040 Vienna, Austria

BASIC INFORMATION

CONTEXT

Since 2010 HORIZONT3000 in complementation of other program activities has organized a series of Regional Conferences and workshops to enhance knowledge management, knowledge transfer and capacity development among its partners, involving also other like-minded organisations. In 2011 the first International Conference dedicated to „Rural Development - Natural Resource Management“ was held. The second International Conference in 2012 was dedicated to the topic „Promoting Human Rights - Empowering Civil Society“. Currently the third International Conference, which will be held in June 2014, once again in Vienna, is being prepared. Its title will be „**Educational Institutions for Development – down to earth and close to the people**“ and it will focus on the role of universities and of tertiary level institutions. The conference will be closely aligned with another element of HORIZONT3000's know-how system, the KNOW-HOW3000 platform. In practical terms this means that information on EXPERIENCES or GOOD PRACTICES which in some way are going to be presented or exhibited on the conference will have to be described according to a set of common criteria/questions that are being sent to potential participants/members of the HORIZONT3000-knowledge network. Those experiences will also be exhibited and possibly discussed on the KNOW-HOW3000 site before and beyond the conference. Structured information received from partners will be used as input for a one page presentation and a fact sheet, which will be made available on the platform and at an exhibition or market on the Conference. This will enable a more sustainable discussion and impact of even those topics that cannot be presented at the conference in detail. The bulk of experiences will come from the HORIZONT3000-network; in addition a number of contributions coming from like-minded institutions can be expected. Apart from HORIZONT3000-partners in the South, invitations for participation are going to the development cooperation community and universities in Austria, as well as to partners of the TRIALOG project in Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. The conference aims at providing an overview and enabling discussions on the contributions of universities to a more just and sustainable development in southern countries.
2. It will present relevant experiences of educational institutions in the south, prioritizing those from the HORIZONT3000-partners network and focusing on the role of universities.
3. It will accumulate a broad set of structured information on experiences and good practices in the educational sector in the south, which are made accessible via the KNOW-HOW3000 platform by internet and directly at the International Conference.

TOPICS

...regarding tertiary level institutions will include:

- Promotion of regional autonomy and of ethnical groups
- Universities as development actors for remote and/or neglected areas
- Universities in the service of rural development and of responsible management of natural resources

Other experiences may relate to:

- Cooperation of schools and NGOs/civil society/private sector
- Governance concerns in schools
- Vocational training und life-skills
- ICT in schools

PARTICIPANTS

About 200 persons, 20 of them project partners and HORIZONT3000 technical advisors in the South (from Nicaragua, Brazil, Uganda, Mozambique, Senegal, Papua New Guinea), project partners from member organisations of HORIZONT3000, NGO-representatives from Eastern Europe (target group of the TRIALOG project), representatives of universities in Austria and Central-Eastern Europe, staff of HORIZONT3000 Vienna and regional offices, staff from member organisations of HORIZONT3000, other Austrian organisations working in development cooperation, members of the official Austrian development cooperation.

PROGRAMME

We will work in 3 modes:

1. Exhibition/market of a number of general experiences in the education sector in the South with exchange/discussions in thematic groups (1st day)
2. Presentation of experiences involving tertiary level institutions in the South with more structured and intensive discussions, focussing on specific experiences
3. Field visit(s) for participants from the South with limited possibility for participation of other interested participants.