



# EUROPEAN NETWORK OF CULTURAL CENTRES

## ENCC Staff Exchange Programme "Bridge between European Cultural Centres (BECC)"

In the light of the **European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008**, the ENCC starts with a Europe-wide staff exchange programme called "Bridge between European Cultural Centres".

### AIMS

The ENCC wants **to enable locally based cultural workers to go abroad** in order to experience the **everyday life of a cultural centre in another country**. Therewith several goals are envisaged:

- To stimulate a **lasting partnership and cooperation** between local cultural centres from different countries;
- To promote the **mobility of staff members**;
- To enhance the **sensibility and awareness raising for different cultures and working methods** as a result of training on the job in a totally different – not only culturally – environment;
- To **exchange knowledge and different experiences at international level**;
- To **reflect one's own work, methods, projects etc.** as result of the possibility to compare it;
- To introduce **new ideas, knowledge and collaboration beyond national borders** into the daily work upon return;
- To train the **participants as multipliers** who spread their experiences and newly gained knowledge to colleagues, visitors and users of the cultural centre at home;
- To allow local cultural centres to **profit from a "European guest"**;
- To improve **cultural collaboration within Europe and its immediate neighbourhood**.

### KEY INFORMATION

The regular stay covers **14 days between October 2008 and February 2009**. The participants will act as observers and do **job shadowing** but will also **get actively involved**. One of the programme's major principles is to **clearly define content and goals of the stay abroad** before the exchange takes place. Therefore, both sending and hosting cultural centre have to agree on the **learning interests of the participant and of the hosting centre** in advance. **Preparation and evaluation meetings** are part of the programme too.

**Every cultural centre can host and send a guest staff member from abroad/to a foreign cultural centre.**

However, those centres that send somebody have to be prepared to host a guest staff member from abroad in return. The participating centres do not necessarily have to form pairs – the guest staff member can be from a completely different centre and country than the hosting centre/country of the own staff member who went abroad and vice versa.

The **ENCC will find suitable centres and/or guest staff members** according to the applications received.

Furthermore, the ENCC engages in the search for additional funds in order to provide financial support especially to cover travel costs.

### PARTICIPATION CONDITIONS

- To **be a staff member** of a cultural centre no matter in which working area (managers, professionals, technicians, artists, project coordinators, teachers, trainers, freelancer, trainees, volunteers etc.);
- To attend the **preparation meeting in Brussels** (30<sup>th</sup> of September – 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2008) and the **evaluation meeting in Berlin** (March 2009);
- To sign an **individual agreement with the partner centre** before hosting and sending somebody.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

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