Request For Proposals

Fostering Creativity and Critical Thinking in Education and Higher Education

Context

Creativity and critical thinking are key skills for the complex and globalized economies and societies of the 21st century. There is a growing consensus that education systems should cultivate these skills with their students at all levels of education to be more employable in the digital transformation and also to contribute to solving some of the complex challenges faced by countries globally. Through a project on creativity and critical thinking, the OECD Centre for Educational Research and Innovation (CERI) supported education systems and higher education institutions to innovate their teaching and nurture students' creative and critical thinking. The project has identified key contextual factors and effective approaches to foster these skills in school-level and higher education settings, developed tools to support instructional practices and assessment as well as instruments to measure the effectiveness of different interventions having this objective.

A report on school education summarises the findings of phase of the work and field-tested teacher-friendly materials are available on the OECD website. The ongoing work focuses on the completion of a report on the higher education work as well as the completion and diffusion of pedagogical tools for university professors and teacher educators. Ultimately, the project has developed a method to improve education through creativity and critical thinking and a practical way to support teachers to implement competency-based curricula.

Request for proposals

The two strands of the OECD project on creativity and critical thinking in education will continue in its 2023-24 programme of work. The OECD is looking for partnerships and/or funders to help expand the work and make it more impactful and visible to OECD and partner countries. This could take different forms such as:

- Expanding the OECD bank of pedagogical resources to new subjects such as coding, computational thinking, civics education – by making new proposals, supporting the editing of new proposals according to OECD methodology, etc.
- Translation of existing resources into different languages and adaptation of substantive content for a variety of audiences
- Implementing the OECD projects' method of disciplined innovation at a larger scale to allow for the development of new tools and further analysis of the effectiveness of the method
- Developing a series of training programmes for teachers, school principals and policy makers that could be partly customized to countries' local context: this could be online and/or in-presence
- Supporting the development of the OECD app on creativity and critical thinking in education
- Contributing to a webinar series on how countries embed critical thinking and/or creativity in their education policy/practices
- Co-hosting international or country events for international learning and sharing on policies and strategies supporting the development of creativity and critical thinking in education

Who can apply?

The request for proposals is open to

- National or sub-national governments
- Universities
- Foundations/Charities and Not-for-profit organization
- Corporate Social Responsibility of for-profit companies
- Companies

Individuals cannot apply.

Terms and conditions

Outputs. The OECD bank of pedagogical resources to develop creativity and critical thinking includes materials published under a Creative Commons license. Other types of licenses may be possible. Authors of the resources are credited, but they go through an editing and peer review process. Examples of lesson plans and assessments must be adapted to the OECD template.

Expected contribution(s). The expected contribution could be a grant (voluntary contribution), in-kind support, or both. It could for example be the connection of the OECD Secretariat with possibly interested parties, the implementation of the OECD method in a specific context, the provision of the translated resources or a grant to get resources translated, etc.

Timeline. Please apply by **January 15th** with a **maximum 2-page** proposal, including a paragraph on your organisation (individuals are not eligible), how you propose to support the OECD project, what kind of financial or in-kind resources you would provide, where you are located, any other relevant information about your organisation, and your contact information (email address mandatory). The OECD Secretariat will get back to you by **February 15th**.

Contact

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