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**SACCORD
SKILL ACCORD**

D3.3. Guideline for Set Up a LEP

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SACCORD Consortium Members:

COLLABORATE TO SKILL – The Local Ecosystem Partnership Playbook

The LEP Handbook is a practical, action-oriented guide developed within the SACCORD project to support regions and cities in establishing and operating Local Ecosystem Partnerships (LEPs) for skills development in the Cultural and Creative Industries (CCIs). It translates European policy objectives—such as the European Skills Agenda and the Pact for Skills—into concrete, locally applicable steps. The handbook provides a step-by-step methodology, tools, templates, and real-world cases to help stakeholders move from fragmented initiatives towards coordinated, sustainable skills ecosystems. It is designed to be adaptable to different regional contexts and to support replication beyond the SACCORD demonstrator regions.

Deviations from the original planning / Grant Agreement (if applicable):

Other remarks (if applicable):

No deviations

Objectives of the LEP Handbook

The primary objective of the LEP Handbook is to enable local and regional actors to initiate, structure, and sustain collaboration around skills development in the CCI ecosystem.

Specifically, the handbook aims to:

- Support the creation of Local Ecosystem Partnerships (LEPs) as operational building blocks of Regional Skills Partnerships under the Pact for Skills.
- Translate complex European skills and governance frameworks into practical, implementable guidance for local coordinators.
- Strengthen coordination across the quadruple helix (public authorities, education and training providers, businesses, civil society).
- Foster shared ownership of skills strategies through participatory governance, data-informed decision-making, and trust-building.
- Encourage the uptake of innovative learning formats, including micro-credentials and work-based learning.
- Enable replication and scaling of LEP approaches across regions and Member States.

Target Groups

The LEP Handbook addresses multiple target groups involved in skills ecosystems, with a particular focus on intermediaries and coordinators:

- Local and regional authorities responsible for education, employment, culture, innovation, and economic development.
- CCI networks, hubs, clusters, and umbrella organisations acting as ecosystem connectors.
- Education and training providers, including HEIs, VET institutions, and non-formal learning organisations.
- CCI SMEs, micro-enterprises, freelancers, and creative professionals as end beneficiaries.
- Regional Skills Partnership coordinators and Pact for Skills members.
- Policy-makers and funding bodies seeking structured approaches to skills governance.
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The handbook is intentionally written in accessible language, avoiding overly technical policy jargon, to ensure usability across different institutional and professional backgrounds.

Structure and Content of the LEP Handbook

The handbook is organised as a step-by-step practical guide, combining narrative explanation with tools and useful links:

1. Introduction & Context
 - Why local skills ecosystems matter
 - Positioning LEPs within the European Skills Agenda and Pact for Skills
2. Getting Started: From Vision to First Action
 - Defining purpose and scope
 - Identifying local challenges and opportunities
3. Awareness and Ecosystem Understanding
 - Stakeholder mapping across the quadruple helix
 - Skills intelligence and gap analysis
4. Coordination and Shared Ownership
 - Engagement strategies
 - Governance models and shared data approaches
5. Collaboration and Training Pathways
 - Co-creation formats
 - Training pathways for both CCI professionals and partnership actors
 - Integration of micro-credentials
6. Sustaining and Scaling the LEP
 - Monitoring, evaluation, and adaptation
 - Linking local action to national and European levels
7. Toolbox and Templates
 - Stakeholder Map
 - Awareness Sheet
 - Collaboration Canvas
 - Governance Roadmap
8. Case Studies and O-Tones
 - Lessons learned from SACCORD demonstrator regions
 - Short practitioner quotes highlighting real challenges and successes
9. [Free downloadable](#)

Expected Impact

At Local and Regional Level

- Improved coordination of skills initiatives, reducing fragmentation and duplication.
- Stronger alignment between training provision and labour market needs in CCIs.
- Increased capacity of local actors to design and sustain collaborative skills governance.
- Greater visibility and inclusion of CCIs within regional development and innovation strategies.

At European Level

- Contribution to the operationalisation of the Creative Pact for Skills through concrete local action.
- Strengthened links between local ecosystems and European skills policy frameworks.
- Support for evidence-based learning on how LEPs can function as scalable models across Europe.

Exploitation and Sustainability Strategy

The exploitation strategy of the LEP Handbook is embedded in existing European and regional ecosystems to ensure long-term use beyond the project lifetime.

Partner Ecosystems

SACCORD partners will actively disseminate and apply the handbook within their regional and thematic networks, using it as:

- A reference document for setting up new LEPs.

- A training and onboarding tool for ecosystem coordinators.
- A basis for workshops, mentoring formats, and peer-learning activities.
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Creative Pact for Skills

The handbook will be promoted through the Creative Pact for Skills (Large-Scale Partnership) as a practical implementation guide for regional and local members. It supports Pact objectives by offering a tested methodology for turning commitments into action.

CYANOTYPES and Related Initiatives

Synergies with CYANOTYPES and other Erasmus+ and EU-funded projects will ensure cross-fertilisation, particularly regarding:

- Innovative learning models.
- Micro-credentials and flexible training pathways.
- Shared vocabulary and competence frameworks.

Long-term Use

The handbook is designed as a living resource, adaptable to different contexts and reusable in future projects, regional strategies, and funding calls (Erasmus+, Interreg, ESF+, EIT). Its modular structure allows sections and tools to be updated as skills needs and policy frameworks evolve and will be a useful playbook for applying for Regional Skills Partnerships under the Pact for Skills.