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LETTER OF COMMITMENT

To participate as partner of the project "SKILLS SHORTAGE"
@LIS Call for Proposals (e-Learning and cultural diversity)

IDP Consultants would like to cooperate on the pilot project "SKILLS SHORTAGE", initially proposed by the LRE-EGO-CreaNET Research Educational Laboratory of the University of Florence, Italy, under the @LIS program call.

IDP Consultants is part of the ETS group that operates as a consulting organisation and training service provider for European network development and management in the light of European innovation programmes with a focus on the Information Society, Knowledge Management and business development. We have substantial experience in developing and managing European projects, proposals and networks that could provide added value to the SKILLS SHORTAGE" initiative.

Our participation could contribute to the development of one of your sub projects involving partners from both the research world, public authorities, SMEs targeted at NET learning in the Information Society between Europe and Latin America. We could contribute to your initiative providing input based on previous and ongoing experiences in SME oriented IS learning and Knowledge Management through the following ongoing projects:

1. eTTEC: A European eContent project to develop an off and on-line learning cycle for Multimedia start-ups based on "European Critical Success Factors" that derive from a benchmarking exercise that we will carry out with 10 US and 20 EU multimedia SMEs. We are leading partner in a consortium that features partners from 6 EU countries. We will experiment with the combined class room and eLearning tools in 3 different countries and the courses will take special care of multicultural issues for multimedia products and services such as multilinguality, localisation of content, international intellectual property rights and contracts in a networked exploitation model. Main partners are therefore TermNet, a specialised organisation set up by UNESCO, that represents knowledge on terminology and multilinguality, LISA, a world wide association that represents more than 200 solution providers on localisation of content, a law firm specialised in IP and IT issues, a few international innovation consultancy firms with specialisation in international Project Management etc.
2. VISION: A European Thematic Network in which we are partner together with FZI, University of Athens, British Telecom and a group of knowledge management solution providers to develop R&D roadmaps for the Sixth Framework Programme. In this project we will study state of the art on knowledge management and outline RTD roadmaps on Knowledge Management for the next 5 years, taking into account IT, business process (organisational) and human resource issues. Please refer to www.km-vision.org for further information.

Sincerely yours,

On behalf of IDP Consultants


Ron Weerdmeester
Managing Director