



#WORKING WITH EUROPE COMMENT#

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## LIKE YOUR NA?

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We live in the age of LIKES.  
I hope you LIKE my new post..?

Our National Agencies, or at least some of them, are now joining the LIKE age.

Stories are told across Europe about what national agencies LIKE. Very interesting stories, so let's give a few examples.

One national agency, for example, states that they LIKE small projects. Another agency states that they really LIKE multiplier events (- so, if submitting to this NA, remember to put a lot of multiplier events in the application...).

Yet another national agency states that they don't LIKE intellectual output a lot. (Well, in that case you would have some problems with exploitation and sustainability, but who cares?).

Another national agency states that they only LIKE their own language, not the other ones.

I'm sure some national agencies LIKE exceptional costs and subcontracting, while some don't LIKE.

*What's the point?*

The point is that this is pathetic.  
National agencies are not supposed to LIKE anything at all, except to manage the evaluation and implementation of applications and projects, and leave the "LIKES" to hopefully professional evaluators. They will assess the quality of each application on the basis of the common European quality criteria.

I don't know if all this LIKE stuff is a transnational kindergarten or a cross-country horror-show, but it is certainly not the job of any national agency to LIKE this or that in the projects.

Even worse, those national agencies seem to be unaware that they are not dealing with national projects, but with European projects and partnerships. Perhaps the coordinator is only one out of eight partners, and perhaps 90% of the project will not take place in the country of the national agency.  
I'm not sure that this transnational partnership is interested in what a certain national agency LIKES.

Imagine, a group of teachers having a coffee somewhere in Europe.  
"Well, my agency really LIKES... Oh, amazing, because my agency really LIKES - but I heard that the other agency didn't LIKE..."

I would LIKE to know what the Commission would LIKE to do about this LIKE circus.