**Latvian Association of Higher Education Institutions for Life-long learning**

Strategy for 2014-2020

**Introduction**

Education has a crucial role for development of individuals and society; it is a part of human rights and it is an important tool in order to reach such aims as equality, development of economy and civil society. In the evolution of education system development the long-term aim of the state is the progress to a knowledge based society, which’s cultural, social and economic growth is determined by the high intellectual level of inhabitants. Collaboration between different life-long learning participants in Latvia and abroad is crucial for the development of life-long learning (Ministry of Education and Science).

Life-long learning is an education process throughout the life of a person, and it is based on variable needs to obtain knowledge, skills, experience, in order to improve or change qualification according to demands of the job market, interests or needs of a person. Life-long learning combines informal learning with formal education, develops hereditary skills in addition to new areas of responsibility.

The politics of life-long education is a legal, organizational, financial provided states’ support for education of every inhabitant, which promotes initiative and activity, employment and adaptation abilities, active social participation and social participation, personal improvement during every part of a life and every field starting from childhood to agedness.

LAKMA as an association was created in 2013. 10 universities of Latvia are its’ founders.

**The vision**

Latvian Association of Higher Education Institutions for Life-long learning promotes life-long learning politics’ development in Latvia, by offering high quality education services in all regions of Latvia and develops as an innovative life-long learning support center.

**The mission**

The mission of Latvian Association of Higher Education Institutions for Life-long learning is to support and help the association members to become fulfillers of qualitative life-long learning.

Latvian Association of Higher Education Institutions for Life-long learning **operation characteristic tasks/directions/programs:**

* To coordinate and implement joint education program and course development and implementation for association members, as well as to inform the society and specific legal entities about the availability of the programs.
* To promote the arrangement of Latvia education field terminology and its eligibility to international (Europe’s and worlds) standards.
* To develop and implement lecturer qualification improvement events.
* To promote collaboration and contacts with employers of Latvia.
* To promote guest lecturer involvement in the association and its members education program implementation.
* To take part in state and municipality developed planning document, standard act and other decision project debates, to take part in standard act and their amendment project development.
* To summarize and inform society about the activities of association members.
* Create education programs oriented towards development of Latvia.
* To provide university life-long learning process realization and sustainability.
* To enroll new members in the association.

**Achievable results** of Latvian Association of Higher Education Institutions for Life-long learning

* To develop and carry out 3 joint education programs.
* To disseminate information about the activities of members in the association web page.
* Developed and introduced suggestions to the ministry of Education and Science about terminology arrangement.
* To enter EUCEN (European Association for University Lifelong Learning).
* To sign a contract with LDDK (Employers’ Confederation of Latvia), Municipality, Latvian Association of Local and Regional governments etc.