# A Framework For Consultation on a Foreign Languages in Education Strategy for Ireland

Submissions Summary: Further/Higher Ed and Business & Enterprise



# Summary of all submissions

http://bit.ly/SubmissionsSummary

#### Number of submissions in this sector

- Further Ed 2
- Higher Ed 13
- Enterprise and Business 5

# Raising Awareness

- Incentivise school mgt, teachers and guidance counsellors to establish contacts with third level colleges in their area
- Better inform students of languages options as part of CAO choices
- Establish awards for companies to recognise outstanding multilingual performance
- Companies that trade internationally should communicate the importance of foreign languages

## Supporting migrant languages

 Accreditation for online learning that would continue through third level

# Learning & Teaching: Third-level

- Universities should recognise MLs as distinct Arts/Humanities discipline
- Actively support and encourage FL competence as a core graduate skill
- Promote FLs as electives where possible so more students could take a FL
- Teach languages in context

#### Learning and Teaching:

- Colleges should collaborate more in providing a greater variety of languages at different levels
- Establish a co-ordinated strategy for provision of Asian languages in Ireland
- Increase access to study of Asian languages
- Teach ALL language programmes through the TL
- Universities should ensure heightened visibility of, and engagement with the linguistic and cultural diversity that defines it

#### Teacher Education

- Produce teachers with higher levels of subject knowledge knowledge who can teach using CLIL
- Introduce specialised pathways for language teachers
- Include a language requirement on PME programmes
- Develop a teaching profession for Asian languages
- Create jobs for Asian language teachers

### Assessment and Qualifications

- Apply the CEFR
- Provide formal accreditation for students doing languages as part of other degree programmes

## Quality Assurance

- Create a Languages Advisory Board
- Have a Languages Policy Unit in DES
- Create a Languages Strategy Implementation Group
- Create Institutional Level Implementation Groups
- Establish Irish Council for Asian Studies

- Invest in CPD for all professionals involved in language training
- Reduce the teacher/student ratio
- Require all language degree students to spend significant time in a Target Language country

# Supporting multilingualism— the role of the education system

- Award bonus points for foreign languages
- Support retention of LC foreign language matriculation requirement
- Publicise career pathways
- Fund successful initiatives which enable students to enter the labour market
- Support research targeted at identifying the problems

- Persuade third-level to equip all students with strong language skills & intercultural knowledge
- Focus Erasmus programme in non-English speaking countries
- Offer vocationally oriented language training to adult learners

# Supporting multilingualism – the role of employers

- Work with FE and HE sectors to develop flexible language learning routes
- Develop international dimension to all undergrad placements
- Make international experience & FL competence important criteria in graduate recruitment
- Employers need to use CEFR so that graduates can match skills to what employers seek
- Expand no of internships combining marketing/sales with languages