

## **VOICE – Vision On Innovation for Choral music in Europe**



**C7 - Short Summary of the project in English (max. 2.000 characters)**

**E1 - Detailed description of the project (max. 30.000 characters)**

## **C7 Short Summary of the project in English**

**“VOICE – Vision On Innovation for Choral music in Europe”** is a European project for the sustainable development and innovation of choral singing, a first-time major cooperation between choral operators, music educators and researchers.

The aims of **VOICE** are to encourage new events and methods and the creation of innovative repertoire, promote the voice as universal instrument, improve the quality of vocal music, enable transnational mobility and circulation of (young) musicians and choral works, enhance the dialogue between cultures and generations as well as the exchange of expertise and develop new tools for the promotion of singing in music education.

**VOICE** will invest in research on the voice in partnership with universities and collect data on choral life in Europe. The 14 partners will spread the results to develop a new vision on choral singing in Europe.



**VOICE** includes activities 2012 - 2015 in 11 countries, which will attract thousands of participants from around 50 countries and reach large audiences:

**JOINING VOICES** with a major festival in Italy and an Urban Youth Festival in Sweden

**EXCELLENCE IN THE VOICE** –A showcase for vocal excellence in France

**RAISING THE VOICE FOR INTEGRATION** - Singing as a tool for reconciliation in Cyprus

**TRAINING VOICES** with two sessions of the Eurochoir for young singers in Czech Republic and Hungary, training courses for conductors and managers in Austria, France, Italy and Sweden, a conference on Mediterranean Music in Spain, a vocal training programme for teachers and cooperation with the world of education in Belgium and a symposium on music education in Hungary.

**VOICE RESEARCH** with programmes on the growth of young people in relation to their singing voice and on vocal health of amateur singers, pursued by research institutions in Belgium and the UK.

**VOICE AND FAMILY** with an international collection of lullabies coordinated from Germany

**A VOICE FOR CHORAL MUSIC IN EUROPE** – with databases on choral life in Europe



## **E.1 Detailed description of the project**

### **“VOICE – Vision On Innovation for Choral music in Europe”**

“Using the VOICE in common singing is an educational, social and artistic phenomenon that secures intercultural understanding, social integration and respect for others, contributing to the physical and mental health of citizens and therefore to the society in which they live and work.” (*Memorandum of the Conference on Singing and Music Education, Vilnius, 2009*)

**VOICE is a European project for the sustainable development and innovation of choral singing, a first-time major cooperation between choral operators, music educators and researchers.**

The **14 partners of VOICE** which include choral organisations, a festival, a concert hall, a cultural centre and two research institutes at universities, come **from 11 countries** and will cooperate **across disciplines** for the first time in such a major project. At the end of the 3-year-project period they will spread the results to develop a new vision on choral singing in Europe and inspire others.

**The long-term benefits of VOICE** will lie in greater knowledge about the voice, more singing in schools, improved quality of vocal music, a sustainable development and advanced innovation in the choral world and an improved cooperation between the choral world, the world of music education and research

**The European Added value of VOICE** lies in the vast network of partners and associate partners who will help to promote the project activities, recruit participants and disseminate results, as well as in the meetings of people from different countries and cultures and the use of workshop conductors and teachers from different European countries and the use of choral repertoire from all over Europe, sung in the original language



Activities of **VOICE** from 2012 to 2015 in **11 European countries** through which the aims of **VOICE** shall be reached include:

1. **JOINING VOICES - Festivals for singers and choirs**
  - 1.1. Festival EUROPA CANTAT XVIII in Turin, Italy – 27/7 – 25/8/2012
  - 1.2. Urban Youth Choir Festival in Örebro, Sweden - 15 – 22/6/2013 and 14-21/6/2014
2. **EXCELLENCE IN THE VOICE – showcasing top choirs and ensembles**
  - 2.1. Polyfollia Festival, St Lô France – 30/10-04/11 2012 and 29/10 – 2/11/2014
3. **RAISING THE VOICE FOR INTEGRATION - singing as a tool for peace-making**
  - 3.1. Choral Crossroads – Singing Bridges II, Cyprus – 26-29/09/2013
4. **TRAINING VOICES - Training programmes for (young) singers, conductors, teachers and managers**
  - 4.1. Eurochoir
    - 4.1.1. Eurochoir session 2012 in Lomnice nad Popelkou, Czech Republic – 7 – 15/7/2012
    - 4.1.2. Eurochoir session 2012 in Pécs, Hungary - 10-17/8/2013
  - 4.2. European Academy for Conductors in Graz, Austria – 9 – 16/9/2012
  - 4.3. Lectures and seminars for conductors and training session for young managers at the festival in Turin, Italy – 27/7 – 05/8/2012
  - 4.4. Study Tour for managers at the Polyfollia festival in St Lô, France – 30/10-04/11 2012 and 29/10 – 2/11/2014
  - 4.5. Mediterranean Voices Conference in Girona, Catalonia, Spain – 18 – 21/ 07/ 2013
  - 4.6. Symposium on Music Education in Budapest, Hungary - 23-27/4/2014
  - 4.7. A vocal training programme for teachers in Belgium – 2012 – 2014
  - 4.8. Master Class for conductors in Örebro, Sweden - 1-8/9/2013 and 31/8-7/9 2014
  - 4.9. Master Class for conductors in Vaison-la-Romaine, France - 26 – 31/7/2013 and 25-30/7/2014
5. **VOICE RESEARCH - Research projects and data-collection**
  - 5.1. Research programme on the singing voice of young people - Belgium – 2012 - 2015
  - 5.2. Research programme on vocal health for amateur singers - UK – 2014 - 2015
  - 5.3. Data-collection on choral life in Europe - Germany – 2012 - 2015
  - 5.4. Data-collection on voice-training and conductors' training in Europe - Germany – 2012 - 2015
6. **VOICE AND FAMILY – Reviving the tradition of singing lullabies**
  - 6.1. International Collection of lullabies made available on a website
7. **A VOICE FOR CHORAL MUSIC IN EUROPE - Communication and dissemination of results**
  - 7.1. Networking and Round-table discussions at festival EUROPA CANTAT in Torino – ITALY - 2012
  - 7.2. Communicating about the project and disseminating the results – Germany, 2012 – 2015
  - 7.3. Conferences presenting the results of **VOICE** – Spain and Hungary, 2013 and 2015

## 1. JOINING VOICES - Festivals for singers and choirs

### 1.1. Festival EUROPA CANTAT XVIII in Turin, Italy – 27/7 – 05/8/2012

The first EUROPA CANTAT festival in Italy will gather **up to 4.000** singers, conductors, composers and managers **from up to 50 countries** worldwide, with a majority of young participants under 30 and an age-range from children to singers well over 70. The festival will thus contribute to 2012 as European Year of Active Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity, promoting **life-long singing and the meeting between generations** through the activity of joint singing.

The programme will be developed along three lines: “On Stage!”, “Festa” and “Soul Food” as a frame for the musical programme of the festival which will include ateliers **with a great diversity of music styles**, first performances of **innovative choral works, innovative offers** such as a mobile recording studio and around 100 concerts **reaching thousands of persons in the audiences**.

The ateliers will be conducted by **excellent musicians** such as The Real Group (SE) and conductors such as Filippo Maria Bressan (IT), Ragnar Rasmussen (NO), Diego Fasolis (CH), Alexander Schweitzer (DE), Anton Armstrong (US) among others. Many ateliers will have **trans-sectorial** elements, combining singing with orchestra, film, dancing and theatre.

We know how much singing in a choir enriches one’s growth - the festival thus wants to pay children and young people a special attention, **promoting the transnational mobility of young singers** and the **intercultural dialogue** between the participants. Also, the festival wants to be **a showcase for innovative projects and model situations**, where singing together develops a power able to change people and because of it, maybe, the world.

Due to its size and importance, the festival will attract **high media attention**, with coverage in TV, radio, newspapers, magazine and the Internet all over Europe and beyond.



## 1.2. Urban Youth Choir Festival in Örebro, Sweden - 15 – 22/6/2013 and 14-21/6/2014

“Urban Choir Music” is not yet an official genre of its own, and in many parts of the world it is yet to be discovered. Two Urban Youth Choir Festivals will be organised in Örebro, Sweden with choir music based on the musical heritage of rock, pop, soul, gospel etc.:

The festival instructors will be selected among the most experienced in European and American urban choir music. The festivals will start with an opening concert with four urban youth choirs from different countries, and will include concerts with invited major label artists such as and Robyn (SE), and renowned musicians such as Avis Graves (US) and Ale Möller (SE), an outdoor concert with the mass choir and a grand finale.

The Urban Youth Choir festival is a ***new international choral activity***, presenting an ***innovative music style***. It ***promotes the transnational mobility*** of young singers and conductors and the ***creation and promotion of innovative choral music*** as well as ***intercultural dialogue*** among the participating choirs.



## 2. EXCELLENCE IN THE VOICE – showcasing top choirs and ensembles

### 2.1 Polyfollia Festival, St Lô, France – 30./10 – 4/11/2012 and 29/10 – 2/11/2014

The Polyfollia World Showcase and Marketplace for Choral Singing is a **unique event** in the world, open to the general public and dedicated to professionals.

Polyfollia’s artistic committee will select for each festival 14 ensembles (from 4 to 40 singers) for their **artistic excellence**, their **innovative approach to the choral art** and their representation of a specific culture. Through this selection, Polyfollia

- offers an alternative to the globalisation of music, **promoting vocal and cultural identities**, enabling the ensembles to be the voices of a **true intercultural dialogue**.
- helps to revitalise the image of choral art and to demonstrate its modern and innovative qualities (diverse repertoires continuously renewed and enriched, original staging possibilities, etc.)

For 2012 invited ensembles will most probably include groups such as The Gents (NL), Sonic Suite (DE), Pust (NO), Svanholm Singers (SE), Leioa Kantika Korala (ES), Ensemble Aedes (FR) and a number of ensembles from outside Europe.

Polyfollia **promotes the spreading and sharing of choral works and artists**. Invited ensembles are presented to professional promoters, journalists and key people of the choral and non-choral international network, and are thus offered the opportunity to **increase their transnational mobility**.

In 50 concerts open to the public, including 20 in rural areas, Polyfollia schedules choral art also outside the main concert circuits. With more than 33 000 tickets sold, it has **proved the attraction of choral excellence to the general public**.





### 3. RAISING THE VOICE FOR INTEGRATION - singing as a tool for peace-making

#### 3.1. Choral Crossroads – Singing Bridges II, Cyprus – 26-29/09/2013

The project based on “Choral Crossroads 2011” and inspired by a Euro-Arab Youth Music Forum in Amman in 2011 and the “Singing the Bridge” conference in Hungary will explore **choral singing as a tool of youth empowerment** and put it into the contexts of **peace building, sustainable development** (cultural, creative and educational tourism) and **Euro-Mediterranean relations**. It s a 4 days project that will bring together at least 5 youth choirs - 3 from European countries of and 2 from Arab League member countries of the Middle East and North Africa, with over 200 participants, mainly under 30 years old. It will also bring together singers from both Cyprus communities (Greek and Turkish) as well as representatives of European and Arab cultural organisations and NGOs.

The project will combine workshops, lectures and concerts and will focus on **youth work, intercultural and interreligious dialogue, singing as tool for peace-making, encouraging the mobility of young artists**.

Epilogi will organize a two-days preparatory meeting in February 2013, hosting the representatives of all partner organizations ov **VOICE**.



#### 4. TRAINING VOICES - Training programmes for (young) singers, conductors, teachers and managers

##### 4.1. Eurochoir – Introduction

EUROCHOIR brings together young singers, aged between 18 and 30 years, coming from various European countries, with the aim of **promoting European choral music** as well as a cultural **youth exchange**. A demanding choral programme is rehearsed with well known professional choir conductors and the singers can work with a vocal trainer during the session. At the end the programme is presented in public concerts.

The Eurochoir **promotes European integration** as well as the **cooperation between different nations and among regional institutions** which are trying to build the European Identity as the "Soul" of Europe. The Eurochoir is a project **promoting real intercultural dialogue**. This goal will be pursued by encouraging meetings between the young European singers, offering them opportunities to get to know their different cultures (also by singing music coming from different countries), capitalizing on their diversity and creating stable links of friendship which will lead to further **transnational mobility** in future.

##### 4.1.1 Eurochoir session 2012 in Lomnice nad Popelkou, Czech Republic – 7 – 15/7/2012

Organising the Eurochoir in the Czech Republic will allow young singers from different parts of Europe to get to know this relatively new member country of the European Union. The Central-Eastern European Centre in Budapest will especially encourage member organisations in Central-Eastern Europe to send singers to this session of the Eurochoir. The programme of the session will include rehearsals, concerts and a tourist programme and participants will be accommodated together in order to facilitate the personal **contacts and intercultural exchange**. The repertoire is focused on modern Czech and international (European) choral music and will be conducted by the **renowned conductors** Franz Herzog (AT) and Jaroslav Brych (CZ). In addition there will be individual voice training for the participants and the session will be finished by 3 public concerts in Lomnice nad Popelkou, Semily and Prague.

##### 4.1.2. Eurochoir session 2012 in Pécs, Hungary – 10 – 17/8/ 2013

The city of Pécs is also known as a choral capital and hosts several choir festivals every year. The Pécs Cultural Centre aims to organize the Eurochoir project in Pécs in 2013 to attract international singers to the city. Rehearsals will be hosted in the new buildings constructed in the framework of the Pécs 2010 European Capital of Culture project, the Zsolnay Cultural Quartier and the Kodály Concert Hall.

The singers will be conducted by Tamás Lakner (HU) focusing on Hungarian and Balkan choral music and Alessandro Cadario (IT) conducting an international repertoire. Besides daily rehearsals the singers will participate in different tourist programmes and the session will end with three concerts in the Pécs Cathedral, the Kodály Centre and in the Choral Castle in Pomáz, near Budapest.



#### 4.2 European Academy for Conductors in Graz, Austria – 9. - 16.9.2012

This course offers talented conductors (under 35) the opportunity to develop their conducting skills under the direction of highly qualified conductors Prof. Johannes Prinz and Franz Jochum, teachers at the University for Music and Dramatic Arts Graz – Austria and to get to know **new choral repertoire** of a high standard in **intercultural dialogue**.

The artistic programme consists of oratorios for professional and advanced amateur choirs, with emphasize on **unknown or rarely performed and contemporary pieces** with the programme presented in a public concert.

An **innovative aspect** of the 2012 academy will be the international competition for composers (under 35) organised in cooperation with European Music Universities and choral associations - the winning pieces will be performed, published and spread internationally by the participants. This gives students of composing classes the possibility of demonstrating their talent on an international basis and contributes to the **transnational mobility and promotion of choral works** as well as to the **cooperation between the choral world and music universities**.



#### 4.3 Lectures and seminars for conductors and training session for young managers at the festival in Turin, Italy – 27/7 – 05/8/2012 – Also see 1.1

In the frame of the festival in Turin, there will be a **training programme with lectures and workshops for conductors**, with a focus on voice-training, vocal health, warming-up exercises etc., including the **presentation of the research** which will be done in the frame of the **VOICE**-project. Other sessions will present **innovative choral repertoire, innovative teaching methods** and repertoire from different regions, thus contributing to the **trans-national mobility of works of arts**. About 100 to 150 conductors from 15 – 20 different countries are expected to participate.

In addition there will be a **training programme for young event managers**, with lectures and workshops one week before the festival followed by practical work experience in different departments of the festival. **For the first time** a national training programme with young Italian managers will be combined with the European programme. 25 young Italian managers and 25 young European managers will join the programme and will have separate and joint sessions.

#### 4.4 Study Tour for managers at the Polyfollia festival

The International Study Tour takes place during the Polyfollia festival and is a **unique training programme** aiming to teach young managers how to create and manage an international choral event.

It provides the best environment for trainees to immerse themselves in the **organisation of a major international event**, and helps them understand and deal with the difficulties which can occur, benefitting from the practical knowledge and experiences of first class professionals from inside the business.

This training is offered through the **international choral network** – **VOICE** partners having priority – to young managers of choral events or vocal ensembles. In addition, this training allows the participants to enter into the international choral network, meeting the staff of Polyfollia, outstanding invited artists, key personalities of the choral world, concert organizers and musical presenters from all over the planet. Along the way, the trainees create a fresh nucleus, bonding together to **become part of the next generation of the international choral network**.



#### 4.5 Mediterranean Voices Conference in Girona, Catalonia, Spain – 18 – 21/ 07/ 2013

The Mediterranean Voices Conference wants to show the rich diversity of vocal and choral music in the Mediterranean context, reviewing the historical and contemporary repertoires, traditions, styles and forms of interpretation as well as the impact and influence of traditional music of the Mediterranean. It aims at choral directors, composers, singers and music educators from around the world who will meet and study in depth vocal music from the Mediterranean region. Thus the conference will contribute to **the transnational mobility** of conductors, teachers and students as well as to the **transnational circulation and promotion of choral works**.

The conference will offer lectures, workshops, presentations and concerts in three lines of action: **Old traditions – New Concepts / Vocal Traditions of the Mediterranean: / Tradition – Conservation and Dissemination**, mixing **tradition and innovation** in the field of vocal music and will include concerts, lectures, conferences, round-table-discussions and open rehearsals.

The choral world is only starting to reach across the sea to the countries on the Southern rim of the Mediterranean. The conference will thus **contribute to a better cooperation with Third Countries**.

#### 4.6 Symposium on Music Education in Budapest, Hungary, 23-27/4/2014

As a follow-up of the Conference on Singing and Music Education in Vilnius in 2009, a symposium will be organised about ***different music education approaches which involve singing***, including a strong focus on how the Kodály method. The symposium will gather music pedagogues, professors of teacher training institutions, conductors, choirs, vocal ensembles and singers from Hungary, other parts of Europe and beyond, with 15-20 presenters, 8-10 choirs and/or vocal ensembles selected and invited.

The conference will present ***new and innovative ways*** of implementing and synthesising the expertise of music education institutions in different countries, and aims to find new solutions by implementing well-known music education methods in new ways. It wishes to encourage a ***sustainable exchange of knowledge*** among teachers and training institutions.

A special focus shall be dedicated to ***the relation of formal and non-formal music education***, looking at how methods are implemented in schools and in informal music education, presenting inspiring models.

The symposium will also look at the ***life-long learning aspect*** in singing, discussing the role of singing in families, and the use of the Kodaly method for non-formal music education at all ages with thematic day dedicated to ***intergenerational singing***.



#### 4.7 A Voice for Vocal Training - Vocal training programme for teachers in Belgium – 2011 – 2014

The European choir world and world of education are not fully connected with each other yet. 'A Voice for vocal Training' wishes to propose ***new forms of cooperation*** for the exchange of knowledge and information, on how to make singing fun for children and propose ***new and creative tools*** to teachers in Europe. **Research** will be done of existing European initiatives in the field of singing qualitatively with children and made accessible through a new ***“European knowledge centre on vocal music”*** The use of this knowledge and expertise will also be encouraged through the ***development of innovative projects***.

A ***new European network*** in the field of singing with children will be developed with ***European centres of higher education and European choir organisations***. Discussion groups will be set up about the way in which singing with children at schools can be stimulated, with insights into examples from Belgium, Spain (Catalonia), Denmark, the Netherlands and Hungary and the presentation of results of the research programmes of **VOICE**. As a result, an ***international singing project*** will be developed at several centres of higher education in Belgium and choir organisations in institutes of higher education in Europe will be encouraged to ***roll out this project format in other European countries***.

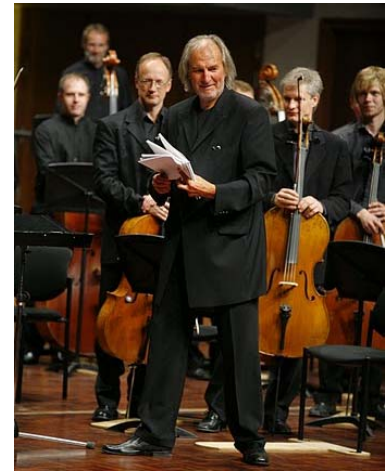
The cooperation between the choir world and the world of education is ***innovative***. The project contributes to the ***transnational mobility of professionals***, offers tools for the ***promotion of joint singing in music education*** and contributes to a ***sustainable improvement of the quality of vocal music in Europe***.

#### 4.8 Master Class for talented conductors in Örebro, Sweden 1-8/9/2013 and 31/8-7/9 2014

A unique Master Class for conductors which will be offered with the help of two ensembles of a high international reputation, the Eric Ericsons Chamber choir and the Swedish Chamber Orchestra. The focus will be on contemporary music and at least one commissioned work from a different European country will be premiered each year, ***promoting the creation of innovative choral repertoire***. The Master Class is aimed at conductors from all over Europe and beyond and will include concerts in the Örebro Concert Hall and churches in the city.

The aim is to encourage young conductors to develop in their field and give them the opportunity to work with 2 ensembles which normally perform on the best stages around the world. The students will meet professional singers from different parts of the world and will perform commissioned pieces. The course itself will explore ***innovative methods*** in the work with a professional ensemble which can be transposed into the work with amateurs as well, improving the skills of the conductors and preparing them for their possible future work. The best conductors will be considered as guest conductor of the choir in a professional production.

The teachers will be ***conducting professors of high international reputation***, e.g. Cecilia Rydinger Ahlin (SE) or Tõnu Kaljuste (EE). The repertoire will be international with ***compositions from different continents***. For each Masterclass a work will be commissioned from a talented young composer who will benefit from the fact that a professional choir of this level will perform his/her work.



#### 4.9 Master Class for conductors in Vaison-la-Romaine, France, 26 – 31/7/ 2013 and 25 – 30/7/ 2014

The international master class for choral conductors, organized by A Cœur Joie in partnership with the Festival des Chœurs lauréats in Vaison-la-Romaine will offer a ***unique opportunity*** for young conductors to be exposed to a combination of a professor, clinic choir and participants from different backgrounds, cultures and choir esthetics. It will be unique in that it will offer free travel and participation to a number of high-level selected conductors. The invited conducting teachers are Brady Allred (USA) for 2013 and Frieder Bernius (DE) for 2014. The choir in residence will be chosen among prize-winners of major international competitions and the participants will be offered active participation in the festival programme.

An ***innovative aspect*** of these masterclasses will be that the clinic choir will represent a high level instrument of a different culture from the one of the young artists. The conducting teacher will come from yet culture – thus the masterclass brings together actors who would normally not have the opportunity to work with each other.

The repertoire chosen by the organizers will give a large room to traditional music as well as new creative repertoire, ***promoting the protection and dissemination of cultural heritage*** as well as the ***dissemination of new compositions***. The master class will help establish and maintain the ***European / international choral network*** among young musicians interested by inter-cultural exchange and esthetics discoveries.

## 5. VOICE RESEARCH - Research projects and data-collection

### 5.1 Research programme on the singing voice of young people - Belgium – 2012 – 2015

The Singing Sofa is a metaphor for several goals of this project:

1. it reflects the experience that singing can be effortless, without stress and full of joy
2. it refers to moments when singers and choir directors take the time to reflect on the singing activity, on the mechanisms, the knowledge, the self observation, the listening skills, the emotional, psychologic and social aims and effects of singing on a person as an individual and as a group member.
3. the image creates the opportunity to temporarily hold back from the procedure of choral singing and to learn from each other, other disciplines, other choirs and other cultures, aiming at a broader point of view, an increased empowerment and self confidence for those involved with choral singing.

To reach these goals the Centre of Excellence for Voice will develop information for singing children and youngsters focused on their physical, personal, social, psychological, emotional and cognitive growth. Two sources of information will be incorporated: (1) the results of a European Young Singers Inventory (EYSI) on the needs, concerns and expectations of singing children and youngsters, and (2) the state-of-the-art knowledge of scientific research on the young singing voice.

The results will be presented in a number of activities, namely at the festival EUROPA CANTAT XVIII in Torino in 2012, as well as at other projects in the frame of **VOICE**. In addition they will be disseminated through the network of the European Choral Association – Europa Cantat.

The Singing Sofa is one of ***the first cooperation projects between the European choral world and a research institute***, revealing new outcomes emerging from the state-of-the-art of both partners.



## 5.2 Research programme on vocal health of amateur singers – United Kingdom – 2014 - 2015 Preventive acoustic screening of amateur choir singers

Singing is a popular pastime activity, which has positive long-term effects for both physis and psyche. Although an estimated one or two percent of Europe’s population sings in amateur choirs, little research has been done on the vocal health of these singers.

The available data suggests that the situation is far from optimal and amateur choir singers particularly suffer from chronic voice problems, caused by inadequate singing technique, and a lack of knowledge about vocal hygiene and voice function.

Since the conducted studies so far (Schlömicher-Thier, Weikert, Herbst et al) have only reached preliminary conclusions, further research is necessary

(a) to objectively determine the vocal status of amateur singers in a larger population

(b) to reveal the exact causes for vocal health impairment in amateur choir singers

Based on these findings, **preventive measures** can be implemented, in order to increase the amateur choir singers’ vocal health status, minimize costs imposed on the health care system, and increase the artistic quality of amateur choir singing.

The project „Preventive acoustic screening of amateur choir singers,, has the following aims:

1. To conclusively investigate the vocal health status of amateur choir singers
2. To develop a computer-aided screening method
3. To evaluate the acoustic and physiologic efficiency of voice use in amateur choir singers

The research will **promote life-long learning** and life-long use of the voice, improve the health status of voice users, implement preventive health measures, **improve the quality of vocal music** and thus **advance innovation in** the world of choral music





### 5.3 Data-collection on choral life in Europe – coordinated from Germany – 2012 – 2015

At many conferences the representatives of choral organisations complain that no reliable data are available concerning the number of organisations, choirs, singers and conductors in the different European countries. Such data would help to show the important position of choral music in society.

The European Choral Association - Europa Cantat will collect and publish such information with statistics and lists of choral institutions and choral events. The data will be collected with the help of the network of member organisations of the European Choral Association - Europa Cantat, co-organisers in **VOICE** and associate partners in the project. This will encourage choral organisations to collect data on a regional and national level. Finally the results of the projects will be disseminated Europe-wide and beyond, also through associate partners, e.g. with Tenso Network Europe for an Awareness Campaign on the importance of Singing.

### 5.4 Data-collection on voice-training and conductors' training in Europe – Germany – 2012 - 2015

As a service to the choral world, the European Choral Association - Europa Cantat will collect and publish information on voice training and conductors' training in Europe which will be published in an online database.

These databases will represent *innovative tools* which will *contribute to the sustainable development in the choral world*.

## 6 VOICE AND FAMILY – Reviving the tradition of singing lullabies

### 6.1 International Collection of lullabies made available on a website

The European Choral Association – Europa Cantat in cooperation with the German publisher Carus is preparing a collection of around 80 lullabies from most European countries and a number of countries outside Europe, all in the original language. The aim of the project is *to promote singing in families and thus promote singing across generations and in general*. The songbook will include translations of the texts and guitar changes, a score with piano accompaniment and two CDs (with the recorded songs and instrumental background for “sing-along”). In the frame of **VOICE** an *online resource* will be set up with PDFs of the scores for download, the translations or translated summaries of the texts and sound files with the texts spoken by native speakers. The other partners of **VOICE** as well as a number of associate partners will contribute by sending lullabies from their countries and promoting the collection and the website afterwards.



## **7 A VOICE FOR CHORAL MUSIC IN EUROPE - Communication and dissemination of results**

### **7.1 Networking and Round-table discussions at festival EUROPA CANTAT in Torino – ITALY – 2012**

The festival EUROPA CANTAT in Torino will offer a series of round tables and other **networking opportunities** which will offer choral experts from all over Europe the opportunity to discuss hot topics of the European choral world today, develop common innovative activities together exchange experience and discuss areas in which research needs to be developed. It is **the first time** that the festival will systematically plan such opportunities and that researches will meet the choral world in the frame of a festival.

### **7.2 Communicating about the project and disseminating the results – Germany, 2012 – 2015**

Throughout the project period 2012 to 2015 the European Choral Association – Europa Cantat will communicate about the project **VOICE**, advertise for and publish reports about the different events, disseminate the results, publish the databases online and prepare printed documentation on **VOICE**. In addition the association will coordinate the internal communication among the partners and 4 meetings will be arranged:

- July / August 2012 in Torino, Italy
- Spring or summer 2013
- Spring or summer 2014
- Spring 2015 in Bonn, Germany

The cooperation partners will also visit each others' events and have bilateral and multilateral meetings about specific activities.

For External Communication the following material shall be prepared:

- A special **VOICE** website with RSS feed
- regular newsletters
- Powerpoint presentation for the use at conferences, etc
- Flyer on **VOICE**
- One issue of EC magazine devoted to **VOICE**
- DVD with videoclips from the activities
- Printed project documentation
- Online publication of databases
- Printed documentation of research results
- Printed documentation of statistics from databases
- Press releases
- Communication documents from each activity
  - o Programme books, Flyers and Posters, songbooks
  - o Websites, Facebook pages, Youtube films, Twitter news etc.
  - o Press coverage on TV, radio, printed press

For further details refer to Media Plan in the application form.

### **7.3 Conferences presenting the results of VOICE – Spain and Hungary, 2013 and 2014**

Connected to the two General Assemblies of the European Choral Association – Europa Cantat in 2014 and 2015, Interim results of the **VOICE** project will be presented to the members of the European Choral Association – Europa Cantat and other participants of the conferences.