The EIPPEE search portal is a specialised search engine dedicated to research evidence on Education in Europe. It works by searching a list of selected internet sites (sources), according to your query (using the Microsoft Bing™ search API¹). The results are analysed in order to offer some broad automatic categorisations and are then displayed as a list of links (like Google).

The main page can be used just like any other search engine: just type your query in the search box and then browse the results. Note that only 1000 results can be explored, as the software imposes this usage limit.

Additionally, each page of results can be explored in two separate ways:

1) **Automatic categories** (full-text clustering). The system will analyse the search results shown and automatically subdivide them in categories (identified via the Lingo3G² clustering engine). The result is shown on the left column. You may click on each category to access the list of results that belong to each sub-group. Note that categories are created on a per page basis, meaning that a maximum of 100 results is evaluated at any given time. Changing the results page (via the “previous” and “next” buttons) will create a new list of categories, based on the results displayed on the current page.

2) **Sort By Source**: this allows to order all shown results on the basis of their original source (website) and may be useful to quickly review what organisations cover the topic of interest and/or identify relevant results.

A search performed as above is carried against the default list of sources currently present in the system. This list can be limited and/or altered in many ways.

**Different lists for different portals.** The search interface described here allows for the creation of different search portals, each portal will be differentiated by the list of sources it contains and by the way such sources are collected. The default EIPPEE portal focuses on research and evidence based policy and practice for the whole Europe, but other portals may have wider or narrower scope. For

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¹ http://www.Bing.com
² http://carrotsearch.com/
example, the UK Educational Evidence Portal (EEP) helps to “find educational evidence from a range of reputable UK sources”.

Users can change portals by clicking on the Portals button at the top of the page. Please note that some portals may be configured to have a fixed URL where users are not allowed to change portal. The main EIPPEE search pages will always provide access to all available portals.

**Personalised Lists**: Users may choose to register on the EIPPEE portal, and this will allow the system to store their personal (and private) lists of sources. To create a new account, click the login button and follow the “Register” link.

Once registered and logged on, a new “Add Source” link appears in the upper area of the screen, you may use this to add your own favourite sources; the resulting list does not need to be related to any of the pre-defined portals and will be available whenever you log on.

Please note that individual portals may be configured in such a way that doesn’t allow users to register while using the portal. The main EIPPEE portal will always allow new registrations.

**Filtering List**: each list of sources (default and personal) can be made visible so as to refine the list of desired sources, in order to narrow down the scope of each search. Click the “Show/Hide Sources” button to access the full list of current sources. You can use the “Select all” and individual checkboxes to instruct the system about what sources you want to use for your next search. The search box within each list allows you to find/filter sources easily; when used in combination with the “Select all” checkbox it allows you to select/unselect multiple sources quickly. The system will keep track of what sources have been selected, even if they are filtered out via the “Search” feature, and will retain your choices after the lists are hidden again.

**Have your say**: the system includes procedures that allow users to submit new sources to their portal of choice. Each portal may be configured in different ways: it may accept all submissions, or apply different policies to control the quality of submissions. In general, in order to submit a new source to a portal, the user should be registered as a portal subscriber.

**Subscribe to a portal**: click on the “Portals” button, this will show a list of available portals, along with your subscription status and the links to subscribe/unsubscribe as and when appropriate. To avoid spamming, certain portals may have a reviewing process that requires each subscription to be verified individually, other portals may not allow subscriptions at all.

**Submit a source**: if you have a valid subscription to the current portal and if the portal allows it, you may submit any of your current resources to the portal. Click on “Show/Hide Sources”: the list of your sources will include the “Submit” links for your sources (when allowed). To avoid spamming, or to ensure the portal specific quality/inclusion criteria are followed, certain portals will accept submissions only after individually reviewing each resource; other portals may not accept submissions at all.