ERASMUS MUNDUS
Action 2 - Partnerships

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Action 2 - Erasmus Mundus and External Cooperation
Presentation outlines

1. Action 2: the framework
2. EM Action 2 - Strand 1 and Strand 2
3. Partnerships structure

Q & A

4. Application and selection procedures
5. Tips and advice
6. Website information
Action 2 → overall objectives

- Promoting institution-based cooperation in the field of higher education between the EU and third countries
- Improving transparency and mutual recognition of studies and qualifications for study periods abroad
- Enhancing the capacity and employability for EU and third-country staff and students

Building on the experience, broadening the scope, combining excellence and cooperation
Action 2 → provides

- Support to establish partnerships between European HEIs and HEIs from targeted third countries in order to organise and implement structured individual mobility.

- Scholarships for European and third countries individuals, of various length and of different level of studies - depending on the priorities defined for the third countries concerned.
Action 2 → different financial instruments

**EM A2-STRAND1 => quality and development**

- ENPI, European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument, DG AIDCO and External Relations
- DCI, Development Cooperation Instrument, DG AIDCO and DG External Relations
- EDF, European Development Fund, DG Development
- IPA, Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance, DG Enlargement

**EM A2-STRAND2 => quality and excellence**

- ICI, Industrialised Countries Instrument, DG External Relations
2. EM Action 2 - Strand 1 and Strand 2
EM Action 2 - STRAND 1

- Builds on previous experience of External Cooperation Window (2006-2009)
- Structured cooperation between HEIs which contribute to the development of human resources and the international co-operation capacity of higher education institutions in third countries

Partnerships:

Minimum size: 5 EU HEIs from at least 3 EU countries (coordinator + partner) + Third-country HEIs (partner) in accordance with lots requirements

Maximum size: 20 eligible partners (incl. the applicant)

Minimum size of the partnership varies according to the geographical windows/lot
EM Action 2 - STRAND 1

Mobility for students, researchers and university staff from EU and third countries, with a focus on vulnerable groups:

- Nationals European students and staff registered in one of the universities member of the partnership (TG1)

- Nationals third country students and staff (in general 70% of total mobility) classified in three target groups (TG1, TG2, TG3)

Type of mobility, distribution, duration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Mobility</th>
<th>Distribution</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>30-40%</td>
<td>1 sem. to 1 acad year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>20-30%</td>
<td>1 sem. to 2 acad years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctorates</td>
<td>15-25%</td>
<td>6 - 34 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-doctorate fellowships</td>
<td>5-15%</td>
<td>6 - 10 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>5-15%</td>
<td>1 - 3 months (only TG1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The type and the distribution of the mobility varies according to the geographical windows/lot.

The distribution must be respected.
EM Action 2 - STRAND 1: regions/lots, budget and min. mobility

- S. Med, E. Europe & Russia: 33M, 1165 sch
- Middle East: 3M, 100 sch
- South Africa: 4.8M, 150 sch
- Argentina: 4.4M, 130 sch
- ACP: 6M, 200 sch
- Central Asian Republics: 9.75 M, 350 sch
- Asia Regional: 24.75 M, 1100 sch

\[ n = \text{n° of projects to be selected} \]
EM Action 2 Strand 1- Award criteria

1. Relevance (25%)

- potential to foster structured cooperation, to develop higher education teaching and learning capacity and to build the management capacity of HEIs in the third countries;
- needs and constraints of the target groups and country/countries;
- thematic needs and how they fit into the development strategies and the impact on HEIs in third countries;
- cross-cutting issues such as equal opportunities, gender balance, social equity and the programme’s possible brain-drain effects.

“The proposal fully addresses the specific objectives...it is comprehensively explained how the project will work at academic level as well as to contribute to the socio-economic development”

“backed by the commitment of the local HE authorities”

“...action opposing the risk of brain-drain”

“several objectives of the call not mentioned”

“the declared main aim is the harmonization of the European and Asia nHEI which looks too ambitious for a project based on mobility”

“results are overestimated”

”the needs and constraints of the countries are not well developed”
2. Quality (65%)

2.1 Partnership composition and cooperation mechanisms (20%)

- applicant’s and partners’ operational capacity, their experience in the management of international projects;
- partners' level of involvement and participation; distribution of the mobility activities
- quality and reliability of the cooperation and communication mechanisms (Memorandum of Understanding).

"Partners from less developed regions have not much experience in international cooperation. The partnership consists of ... partners with enough technical experience and management capacity to implement the activities envisaged"

"European partners have a large experience, but no details are provided for Asian universities"

"Transparent structure in operational level and decision making"
2.2 **Organisation and implementation of the mobility (25%)**

- internal management for implementation of mobility cost/effectiveness balance
- relation between the mobility flows and the thematic expertise of the partner institutions & the profile of the students
- academic recognition & quality assurance monitoring & quality control
- procedures and criteria for the selection of students
- visibility & awareness-raising;

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"transparent structure in operational level and decision making"

"more information on management strategy is needed"

"Specific tasks of the partners well defined "

"Comprehensive description of application and selection procedures"

---

"the involvement of each of the partners is not detailed"

"No details about the distribution of grants among the partners"

"the process will be monitored and evaluated only internally in each institution"
2.3 Student / staff facilities and follow-up (20%)

- Student agreement;
- Learning agreement describing the programme of study abroad and how its existence facilitates academic recognition;
- Practical arrangements for the reception of incoming students and staff;
- Integration of staff in the study programme and training plans.

"transparent structure in operational level and decision making"

"more information on management strategy is needed"

"Specific tasks of the partners well defined"

Comprehensive description of application and selection procedures"

"the involvement of each of the partners is not detailed"

"No details about the distribution of grants among the partners"

"the process will be monitored and evaluated only internally in each institution"
3. **Sustainability (10%)**

- Impact on its target groups and at institutional level
- Multiplier effects and plan for capitalisation of the project results and dissemination activities
- Potential to continue activities after EU financing

"the commitment of governmental institutions and prominent associates ensures impact at individual institutional level"

"clear strategy for dissemination of project results and important role of associates in this framework"

"The measures proposed to limit the risk of brain drain seem effective and reasonable"

"No information how the results will be disseminated"

"The information provided about the impact are very general, no reference is given about what exactly one or the other institution can offer"

"Brain drain is tackled but the general policy is left in the hands of governments"
EM Action 2 - STRAND 2

- supports cooperation between higher education institutions with a view to promoting study programmes and mobility;
- fosters the mobility of master students, doctoral and post-doctoral candidates with a view to improve recognition;
- supports the mobility of professionals (academic and administrative staff) with a view to improving mutual understanding and expertise;
- develops a distinctive value for the promotion of region to region cooperation.
EM Action 2 → STRAND 2

Structured cooperation between HEIs in view to promoting study programmes and mobility

Partnerships

Minimum size: 5 EU HEIs from at least 3 EU countries (coordinator + partner) + 3 HEIs from at least 2 third countries (partner) of the lot

Maximum size: 12 eligible partners (incl. the applicant)

Minimum size of the partnership varies according to the geographical windows/lot
EM Action 2 - STRAND 2

Mobility for students, researchers and university staff from EU and third countries

✓ European students and staff registered in one of the universities member of the partnership or having obtain a degree in the same year coinciding with starting of the project

✓ Third country students and staff registered in one of the universities member of the partnership or having obtain a degree in the same year coinciding with starting of the project

✓ Type of mobility, distribution, duration

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Distribution</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>45-55%</td>
<td>1 sem. to 2 acad years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctorates</td>
<td>20-30%</td>
<td>6 - 34 months</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The type and the distribution of the mobility varies according to the geographical window/lot.
EM Action 2 - Strand 2: Regions and Lots

- US & CAN
  - Euro 1 m
  - 20 scholarships

- JPN & KOR
  - Euro 1.5 m
  - 30 scholarships

- SE Asia
  - Euro 1.4 m
  - 35 scholarships

- AUS & NZ
  - Euro 1.5 m
  - 30 scholarships

- Gulf
  - Euro 2.1 m
  - 50 scholarships

ICI
- Euro 7.5 M
- 165 scholarships
EM Action 2- Strand 2: Regions and Lots

17 Partner Countries in 5 lots

- North America (USA, Canada) → 1 million €
- Pacific (Australia, New Zealand) → 1.5 million €
- East Asia (Japan, Republic of Korea) → 1.5 million €
- South Asia (Brunei, Macau, Hong Kong, Singapore, Chinese Taipei) → 1.4 million €
- Gulf Countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates) → 2.1 million €
EMAction 2 - STRAND2 Award criteria

1. Relevance (25%)
   • Geographical coverage of the partnership;
   • Significance for the relationship between European Union and the Third-Countries/Territories

2. Contribution to excellence (25%)
   • contribution to educational quality, excellence and transfer of knowledge and know-how;
   • potential to foster institutional cooperation, to develop higher education teaching and learning capacity of students, researchers in view of further study professional opportunities;
   • strategy for covering different thematic fields, and the impact on the participating institutions in these countries
EM Action 2 - STRAND2 Award criteria

3. Quality (50%)

3.1 Partnership composition and cooperation mechanisms (15%)
• operational capacity, experience in the management of international projects;
• involvement and participation; distribution of the mobility activities
• cooperation and communication mechanisms (Memorandum of Understanding).

3.2 Organisation and implementation of the mobility (20%)
• internal management and cost/effectiveness balance
• relation between the mobility flows and the thematic expertise
• academic recognition & quality assurance monitoring
• procedures and criteria for the selection of students
• visibility & Awareness rising
• Sustainability strategy

3.3 Student / staff facilities and follow-up (15%)
• Student agreement;
• Learning agreement
• Practical arrangements
• Integration of staff in the study programme and training plans
## EM Action 2 - Strands overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strand 1</th>
<th>Strand 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives</strong></td>
<td>contribution to development</td>
<td>Contribution to the quality and excellence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Partnership max</strong></td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Type of mobility</strong></td>
<td>all levels</td>
<td>no undergraduate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maximum project duration</strong></td>
<td>48 months</td>
<td>48 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mobility start</strong></td>
<td>September '10 -December '11</td>
<td>September '10 -December '11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EU mobility</strong></td>
<td>in few lots</td>
<td>in all lots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Third countries mobility</strong></td>
<td>in three target groups</td>
<td>one target group</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Partnership structure
A partnership MUST

Sign a Memorandum of Understanding
- Set clear and comprehensive rules within the partnership
- Endorsed at the highest level of the partner Universities
- Covering all aspects of the projects (academic, administrative and financial)
- Defining the roles and responsibilities of each partner

Set up a visibility and communication strategy
- Create a specific website Partners must act as awareness raising centre in their respective regions
- Involve EC Delegations, EU embassies, local government and national bureaux / government agencies
- Use the local and EM Student and Alumni associations
A partnership MUST

Transparent and fair selection mechanisms

- Define clear students selection and enrolment procedures
- Set common admission and selection criteria for all candidates
- Identify (/activate) key actors in the EU and the partner 3Cs for students identification / enrolment / preparation
- Develop ad hoc tools for submission and database
- Bear in mind: Gender balance

Ensure academic recognition

- Academic recognition given by the home university for the study period spent in the host university (including examinations or their assessments)
- Agree on system for grading and marks before the implementation of the mobility
- Provide for transcripts and credit transfer (ECTS) or other compatible system
- Agree on Diplomas and degree recognition / Provide Diploma Supplement
A partnership MUST

Provide services and facilities:
• Ensure assistance for obtaining visa
• Welcoming and hosting students and scholars
• Ensure housing facilities, coaching and counselling and social integration
• Language courses
• Monitor / Mark individual academic progress

Have a sustainability strategy:
• Analyse the impact on target groups
• Multiplier effects and capitalisation of project results and dissemination activities
• Impact on the institutional governance
• Potential of the partnership to continue after the EU funding
A partnership MUST

• Sign agreements with the selected students defining students rights and obligations, evaluation, examination procedures and milestones, class attendance and other administrative and financial aspects

• Define clear learning agreements designed by the “Home - Host” pair in accordance with the type of mobility concerned and signed by sending institution, host and students

• Partnership is free to define the organisation costs among the partners but the costs must be transparent and clear to candidate students (the costs should be defined taking into account the maximum contribution included in the student scholarship
Partnership implementation: 4-step cycle

1. Planning and Organisation
   - Institutional Commitment / Memorandum of Understanding
   - Sharing tasks and responsibilities
   - Efficient communication mechanisms

2. Visibility and preparatory activities
   - Awareness raising and promotion
   - Working with local partners / authorities
   - Tools and procedures for scholarship application and selection
   - Assistance for Visa

3. Implementation of individual mobility
   - Student Agreements
   - Implementation of recognition mechanisms
   - Administrative and financial management of scholarships

4. Monitoring
   - Reports
   - Quality Assurance
   - Evaluation questionnaires
   - Balance of flows
   - Regular monitoring and follow-up visits
Partnership funding

- Lump sum for organisation of the mobility
  (Flat rate of 10,000€ per eligible participating institution)

- Elements used in individual scholarship calculation:
  - Travel costs (varies with distance: from 250 to 2,500 €)
  - Monthly allowance (from 1,000 to 2,500 €)
  - Tuition fees (from “fee waiver” to 5,000 € / acad. year)
  - Insurance costs (75 € / month abroad)

- Scholarship amounts vary in accordance with the grantee and the duration:
  - 7,700 € for 3 months for a professor;
  - 13,750 € for one year for an undergraduate student
  - 62,500 € for 3 years for a doctorate candidate
Financial Management

• Lump sum for the partnership management and organisation of the mobility

• Define clear / transparent procedures for the management of the scholarships within the partnership (transfer of money)

• Ensure that students and scholars receive a fair amount at the beginning of the mobility

• No possibility of transfer from “management lump sum” to “scholarships” (and the reverse)
3. Application and selection procedures
Application and selection timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deadline for submission of proposals</td>
<td>30 April 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment and selection of proposals</td>
<td>May-June 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award decision and publication of results</td>
<td>July 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signature of Agreements</td>
<td>July-September 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start of the individual mobility</td>
<td>from September 2010 until December 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Action 2 - APPLICATION FORM

- **Part A**
  Identification of the applicant and other organisation participating in the project (coord., partners and assoc. members)
  - Official name and address(es)
  - Structure, aims and activities of the organisation

- **Part B**
  Description of the project
  - Summary description of the proposal
  - Duration and grant amount requested
  - Type and number of individual mobility

- **Part C**
  Technical capacity of the applicant consortium
  - List of related projects/activities
Action 2 - APPLICATION FORM

- **Part D**
  Award Criteria (detailed under Annex 1)

- **Part E**
  Timetable for the implementation of the project activities

- **Part F**
  Declaration of Honour signed by the Legal representative of the applicant organisation, endorsing the proposal on behalf of the consortium.

- **Part G - Checklist**
Action 2 - APPLICATION FORM

- **Annexes**
  - Annex 1: Detailed questions reflecting the award criteria
  - Annex 2: Codes to be used in the form (country, regions, thematic fields)

- **To be submitted**: To EACEA
  - Electronically (e-mail)
  - On paper – 3 copies (one with original signature)
Application and selection procedure

Phase 1

Students

Partnership Promotion

Partnership

Applicant

Receive application

Process / check eligibility

Expert 1

Expert 2

Experts' Panel

Selection Decision / Contractualisation

Partners
Application and selection procedure

Implementation Principles

• Programme Guide + Annual Calls for Proposals + Annual Guidelines to the Call published on 3 December 2009

• Strong support role of EC Delegations and Erasmus Mundus National Structures,

Involvement of a variety of actors

• The Executive Agency checks
  ▪ eligibility and selection criteria
  ▪ Respect application submission requirements
  ▪ respect Action 2’s eligibility criteria
  ▪ Financial capacity
  ▪ Technical capacity
Application and selection procedure

- The EU Delegations in third countries
  - check the eligibility status of the third country HEIs involved
  - assess the relevance of the proposals in accordance with the regional priorities
- Independent Experts assess the quality of the proposal in relation with the award criteria
  - experts Assessment manual used for 2009 Action 2 selection available on EACEA website
- Evaluation Committee composed of EACEA, AIDCO, RELEX, DEV, ELARG members and EU delegations who helps in the evaluation
- Selection results July 2010
4. Tips and advice
Characteristics of a good proposal .....

- The need for the proposed activity is clearly established, preferably with data.
- The most important ideas are highlighted and repeated in several places.
- The objectives of the project are given in detail.
- There is a detailed schedule of activities for the project, or at least sample portions of such a complete project schedule.
- Collaboration with all partners in planning of the proposed project is evident in the proposal.
- The commitment of all involved parties is evident,
- The budget and the proposal narrative are consistent.
- All of the major matters indicated in the proposal guidelines are clearly addressed in the proposal.
- Appropriate detail is provided in all portions of the proposal.
Characteristics of a good proposal ..... 

- All of the directions given in the guidelines have been followed carefully.
- Annexes have been used appropriately for detailed and lengthy materials which the reviewers may not want to read but are useful as evidence of careful planning, previous experience, etc.
- There is a clear statement of commitment to continue the project after EU funding ends.
- The qualifications of project personnel are clearly communicated.
- The writing style is clear and concise. It speaks to the reader, helping the reader understand the problems and proposal.
- The proposal shows liveliness and enthusiasm
- The proposal is honest
Tips and Advice 1

Success can not be guaranteed, but …..

- Focus mainly in the thematic fields defined in the Call although the needs of partners might slightly differ;
- Be aware of management capacity, academic offers of the partners while designing the mobility flows;
- Explain cooperation mechanisms among the partners, explore synergies and complementarities and make them explicit so that added value of the cooperation becomes clear
Success can not be guaranteed, but ..... 
- Ensure commitment at high level of the HEIs
- Draw on the experience and the capacity of partners who have been involved in earlier or other international grant programs; make clear how the non-EU partners without such experience will manage the project
- Explain in detail issues such as recognition, student recruitment strategies, students ‘support, role of staff mobility
- Impact at individual and institutional level - capacity building of third-country HEIs to manage international projects
5. Website information
CALL FOR PROPOSALS ON THE WEBSITE

Programme Guide purpose:

- For applicants - for use with individual Calls for Proposals
- Provide understanding objectives, activities, eligibility and selection criteria
- For Action 2 read Sections 1 to 5
- Valid for 2009-2013 period
OTHER WEBSITES

- Study on quality of EMMC
  http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus-mundus

- ECTS
  http://ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/socrates/ects

- Diploma Supplement
  http://ec.europa.eu/education/policies/rec_qual/recognition

- European Quality Register for Higher Education
  http://www.eqar.eu

- Erasmus Mundus National Structures
THANK YOU!