



DG EACEA

“Virtual Exchanges in Higher Education and Youth”

Info Note

Total Budget:
6.266.138 €

Duration:
36 months

Grant per Project:
Max
500.000 €

Deadline
26th April at
17:00

Objectives:

The action will aim at:

- Encouraging intercultural dialogue with third countries not associated to the Programme and increasing tolerance through online people-to-people interactions, building on digital, youth-friendly technologies.
- Promoting various types of virtual exchanges as a complement to Erasmus+ physical mobility.
- Enhancing critical thinking and media literacy.
- Fostering the digital and soft skills development of students, young people and youth workers, including the practice of foreign languages and teamwork, notably to enhance employability.
- Promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education.
- Strengthening the youth dimension in the relations of the EU with third countries.

Activities:

- Online-facilitated discussions between young people of youth organizations based in different countries, as part of youth projects
- Training for youth workers
- Online facilitated discussions between students of HE institutions based in different countries
- Training for university professors/staff
- Interactive open online courses (e.g. MOOCs)

A virtual exchange:

- Should be moderated **by trained facilitators**;
- **Secure and protective** (GDPR)
- Embedded in the youth and HE sectors and updated with young people's online and offline cultures;
- **Open and accessible at user experience & interaction level**, easy interaction with peers, facilitators, admins, and other stakeholders;
- **Synchronously (mainly)**, with possible asynchronous components;
- **Recognition** of participation & learning for young people at the end.

Priorities:

- Proposals **ought to** convincingly demonstrate their expected impact in relation to one or more of the above-mentioned objectives.
- Gender aspects **should be considered** as needed, depending on the projects' scope and themes (e.g. by introducing gender sensitivity aspects in the trainings).
- **Inclusion of socially vulnerable people and persons** unable to apply for physical mobility.

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Eligibility

Eligible applicants:

- Public or private organizations active in the field of HE or youth (non-formal education)
- HE institutions, associations or organizations of HE institutions, as well as legally recognized national or international rector, teacher or student organizations.

The applicant must be legally established & located in an EU Member State or third country associated.

Type of participating organizations:

- Youth organizations (NGOs, youth councils, foundation, public authority, educational/research institution);
- HE institutions, associations or organizations of HE institutions, and legally recognized national or international rector, teacher or student organizations;
- Vectors of change in the education system (university managers, international departments, deans, quality agencies, etc.); public or private organizations active in HE or youth and established in an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme or in one of the eligible third countries not associated to the Programme.

Associated partners, subcontractors, third parties for in kind-contributions can participate as associates. Affiliated entities are not eligible.

Consortium composition:

Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of at least 4 applicants which comply with the following conditions:

- A **minimum of 2 higher education institutions or youth organizations** from **2 EU Member States and third countries** associated to the Programme and **2 higher education institutions or youth organizations** from **2 eligible third countries** not associated to the Programme being to the same eligible region (**WB, Neighborhood East, South Mediterranean, Sub-Saharan Africa**)
- The number of organizations from EU Member States & third countries associated to the Programme may not be higher than the number of organizations from third countries not associated to the Programme.
- In **Sub-Saharan Africa**, applicants are encouraged to involve partners from a wider range of countries in their proposal, including **least developed countries and/or partners that have less experience in Erasmus+**.
Sub-Saharan Africa region: A special priority shall be put on migration key third countries not associated to the Programme: Burkina-Faso, Burundi, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, South Sudan, and Sudan).

Geographical Targets

The budget available is divided between different regions and the size of each budgetary envelope is different. Further information on the amounts available under each budgetary envelope will be published on the FTOP.

Sub-Saharan Africa: Priority will be given to least developed countries in this region; a special emphasis shall also be put on migration priority countries; no country will access more than 8% of funding foreseen for this region.

Funding Rules

The EU grant per project will be **of a maximum of 500.000 €, with EUR 200 as maximum investment to organizations per participant** (i.e. a project of 500.000 € would have to reach at least 2.500 participants). The grant awarded may be lower than the amount requested.

Important links:

Guidelines for applicants available [here](#).

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