



Erasmus+ Programme

Capacity-building in the field of higher education (CBHE)

What is Erasmus+?

For over 30 years, Europe has funded the Erasmus programme, which has enabled over four million European students to study, train, and gain experience abroad.

Erasmus+ recognises the importance of opening up these opportunities, funding the exchange of students, academics, ideas and good practice between organisations in Programme countries¹ and Partner countries² throughout the world.

In the framework of the new programme 2021-2027, the international activities will cover Higher Education (HE), Vocational Education and Training (VET), Youth and Sport.

What is a CBHE project?

A **Capacity Building for Higher Education project** operates as a multilateral partnership between institutions active in the higher education field from Programme Countries and Partner Countries. Projects support the relevance, quality, modernisation and accessibility of higher education, to make it a driver for sustainable social and economic development.

All projects are required to pursue and observe the guiding principles of the action: inclusiveness, innovation, impact and sustainability.

What does a CBHE project do?

CBHE projects can carry out a range of activities focused on Partner Countries:

- Develop, test and adapt curricula, in terms of relevant and innovative content and through the teaching and learning methods used;
- Support university-enterprise cooperation;
- Work on upskilling and professionalisation of academic and administrative staff;
- Reform of the governance and management systems and structures at national, regional or institutional level;
- Foster the internationalisation of HEIs and their capacity to network effectively in research, scientific and technological innovation;
- Support the introduction of Bologna-type reforms at institutional, national or regional level;
- Develop and implement new approaches and tools for policy making and monitoring

Three types of projects:

1. FOSTERING ACCESS TO COOPERATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION:

These smaller scope projects are focused on higher education institutions. This project type is new and designed to cater for newcomers to the programme, less involved countries/regions, and for disadvantaged target groups. Project budget between EUR 200 000 and EUR 400 000, 2-3 years.

¹ EU Member States and third countries associated to the programme.

² Third countries not associated to the programme.

2. PARTNERSHIPS FOR TRANSFORMATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION:

These are also focused on higher education institutions, but designed to have a larger and wider impact on innovation, university/business relations and institutional governance.

Project budget between EUR 400 000 and EUR 800 000, 2-3 years.

3. STRUCTURAL REFORM PROJECTS:

These projects focus on the macro level of policy reforms required to foster internationalisation. Besides higher education institutions they will also require the involvement of education authorities and/or ministries. Project budget between EUR 800 000 and EUR 1 000 000, 3-4 years.

Who can apply and take part in Capacity-building in Higher Education? How?

Taking part as an organisation:

Participation in CBHE projects is open to a range of stakeholders in the higher education sector:

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)

- HEIs, associations or organisations of HEIs, as well as legally recognised national or international rector, teacher or student organisations;
- Bodies in charge of higher education (councils, agencies) and national authorities (ministries, departments of higher education) in partner countries for those projects supporting reform processes at national/regional level;
- Vectors of change in the education system (university managers, international departments, deans, quality agencies, etc.);
- Organisations and/or associations active in the labour market or in the fields of education, training or youth in partner countries.

Project partnerships

All projects must be based on a partnership of organisations from Programme Countries and from Partner Countries:

- Minimum 4 organisations
- Minimum 1 HEI from 2 Programme Countries and 2 HEIs from one or more Partner Countries.
- The number of organisations from Programme countries should not be higher than the number of organisations from Partner countries

Who can apply?

- HEIs, associations or organisations of HEIs, as well as legally recognised national or international rector, teacher or student organisations, established in a Programme Country or in one of the eligible Partner Countries³. The applicant institution applies on behalf of all participating organisations involved in the project.

How to apply

- **Funding opportunities for 2021-2027 and information on how to apply are announced on the European Commission's Funding & Tender Opportunities portal:**
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>

What is new in 2021-2027?

- New structure for projects – three categories based on size and scope.

More information

Detailed information on the **criteria and funding rules**: [Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#)

³ Countries belonging to the following regions: Western Balkans, Neighbourhood East, South Mediterranean, Russian Federation, Asia, Central Asia, Middle East, Pacific, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, Caribbean. Participation is not possible from high-income countries in Asia, Middle East and the Pacific. For more information about these regions: see the Programme guide.