



Erasmus+

Capacity building in the field of higher education

2025 call open
Your journey starts here

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

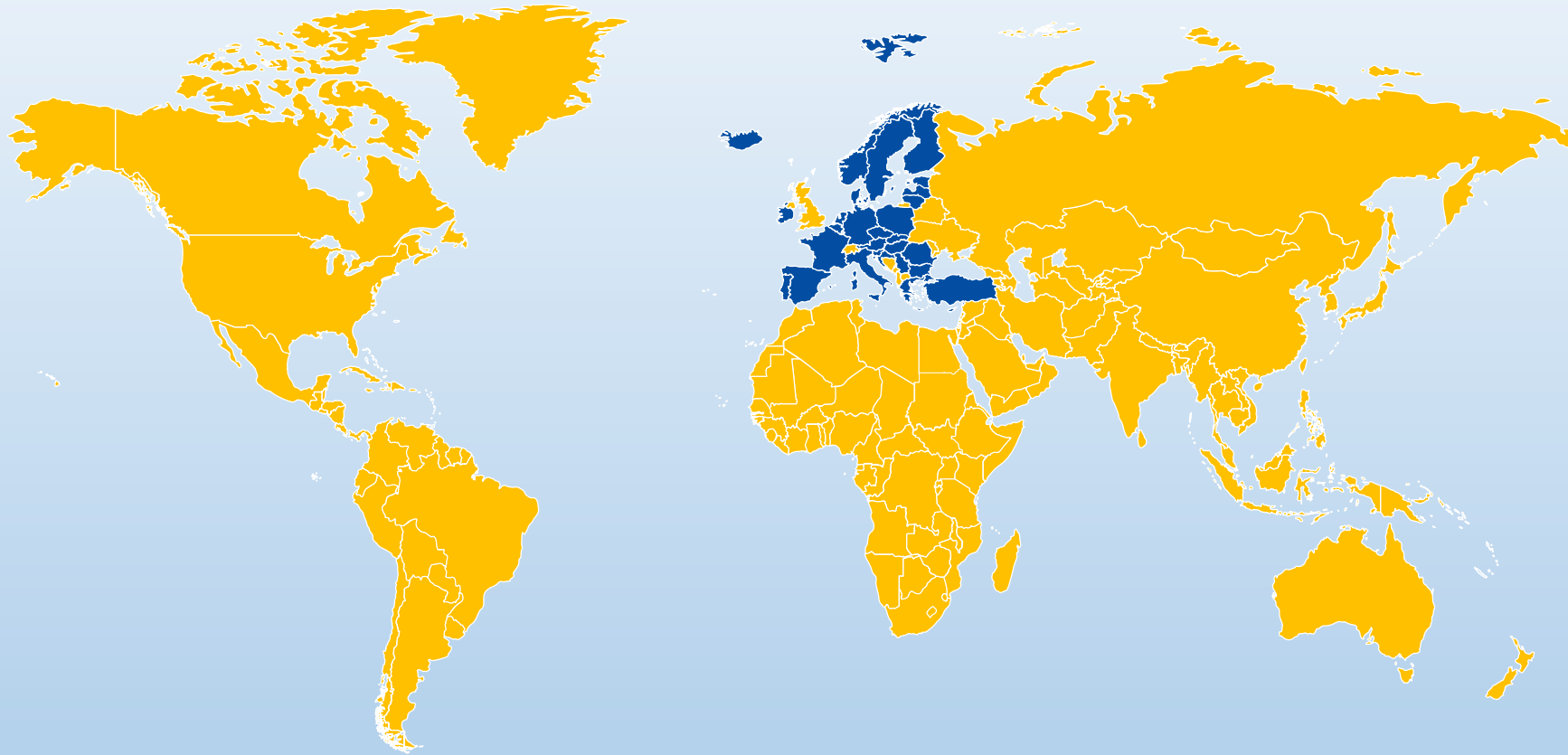
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erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu

European Commission

December 16, 2024
University of Donja Gorica

CB HE: what is it about?



Programme countries => **Member States and associated third countries**



Partner countries => **Non-associated third countries**



International cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships in the field of higher education

Supporting the relevance, quality, modernization and responsiveness of higher education in third countries not associated to the Programme for socio-economic recovery, growth and prosperity and reacting to recent trends.

Regions eligible for CB HE I

- **Western Balkans (Region 1) Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro**
- **Neighbourhood East (Region 2) Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine***
- **South-Mediterranean countries (Region 3) Algeria, Egypt, Israel*, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine*, Syria**, Tunisia**
- **Asia (Region 5a) Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, DPR Korea, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam**
- **Central Asia (Region 6) Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan**
- **Middle East (Region 7a) Iran, Iraq, Yemen**
- **Pacific (Region 8a) - Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu**

Regions eligible for CB HE II

- **Sub-Saharan Africa (Region 9)** - Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Congo – Democratic Republic of the, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
- **Latin America (Region 10)** Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela
- **Caribbean (Region 11)** Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago
- **Exception:** Participation of Syria as defined in the programme guide and in CB HE specifically for Strand 3

Purpose & Context

- Support the **relevance, quality, modernisation** and **responsiveness** of **Higher Education** institutions and systems
- In line with the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, the **Paris Agreement** and **Global Gateway strategy**

Format & Purpose

- **International cooperation projects**
- Focus on the **needs of the third countries** not associated to the Erasmus+ Programme

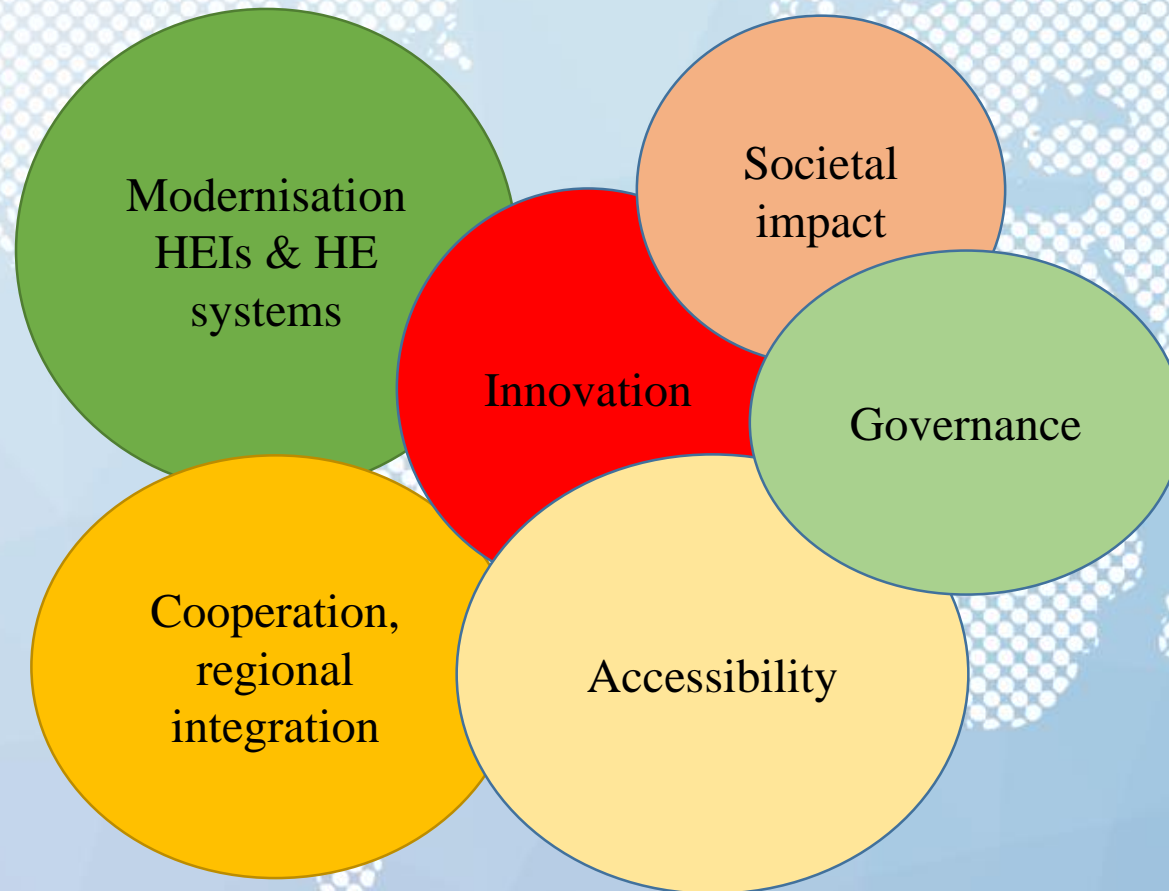


Priorities

- **EU Erasmus+ Programme priorities** for these countries/regions

Multilateral partnerships between **organisations active in the field of higher education**

Objectives of the Capacity building in HE



Capacity Building in HE: specific objectives

Improve the quality of higher education

Improve the level of competences, skills and employability potential of students

Enhance the teaching, assessment mechanisms for HEI staff and students, quality assurance, management, governance, and internationalization

Promote inclusive education, equality, equity, non-discrimination

Foster cooperation across different regions of the world through joint initiatives

Stimulate cooperation of institutions, capacity building and exchange of good practice

Improve the training of teachers and continuous professional development

ERASMUS + 2021-2027

Priorities of
the
programme:

- Inclusion and diversity
- Digital transformation
- Green economy

Overarching priorities of European Commission

Green deal

Digital transformation

Integration of migrants

Governance, peace, security and human development

Sustainable growth and jobs

Global Gateway-related priorities: how to apply them

OPTIONAL alignment with Global Gateway strategy **BUT ENCOURAGED**. Proposal should continue to select and apply one of the **overarching** priorities to which their thematic best responds to

Strand 1 & 2
Strand 3 – Regions 1-3

Three types of CBHE projects

National projects	Multi-country regional projects	Multi-country cross-regional projects
HEIs from one third country not associated to the Erasmus+ programme	HEIs from several countries not associated to the Erasmus+ programme from one region	HEIs from countries not associated to the Erasmus+ programme belonging to several regions

Three strands

Strand 1

Fostering
access to
cooperation in
HE

Strand 2

Partnerships
for
transformation

Strand 3

Structural
reform
projects

Duration and funding rules per Strand

Strand 1

- Projects can last 24 or 36 months
- Funding between EUR 200.000 and EUR 400.000 per project

Strand 2

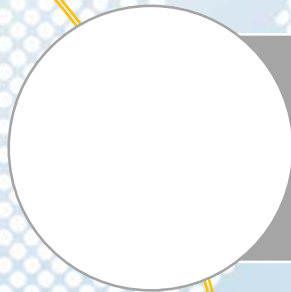
- Projects can last 24 or 36 months
- Funding between EUR 400.000 and EUR 800.000 per project

Strand 3

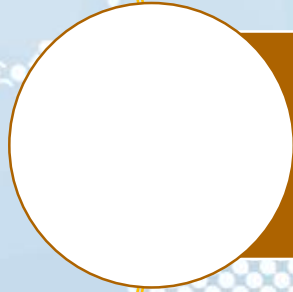
- Projects can last 36 or 48 months
- Funding between EUR 600.000 and EUR 1.000.000 per project
- Involvement of the Ministry

Strand 1

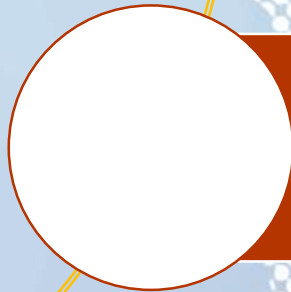
Fostering access to cooperation in HE



Facilitate access to newcomers



First step for participating organizations to enhance and increase means to reach out to people with fewer opportunities



Reduce the internationalization gap of HEIs from the same country/region

Strand 1. Fostering access to cooperation in Higher Education

Target groups

- HEIs from least developed countries
- HEIs located in remote regions
- Newcomers or less experienced
- Individuals with fewer opportunities

Strand 1. Fostering access to cooperation in Higher Education

Enhance management or administrative capacities

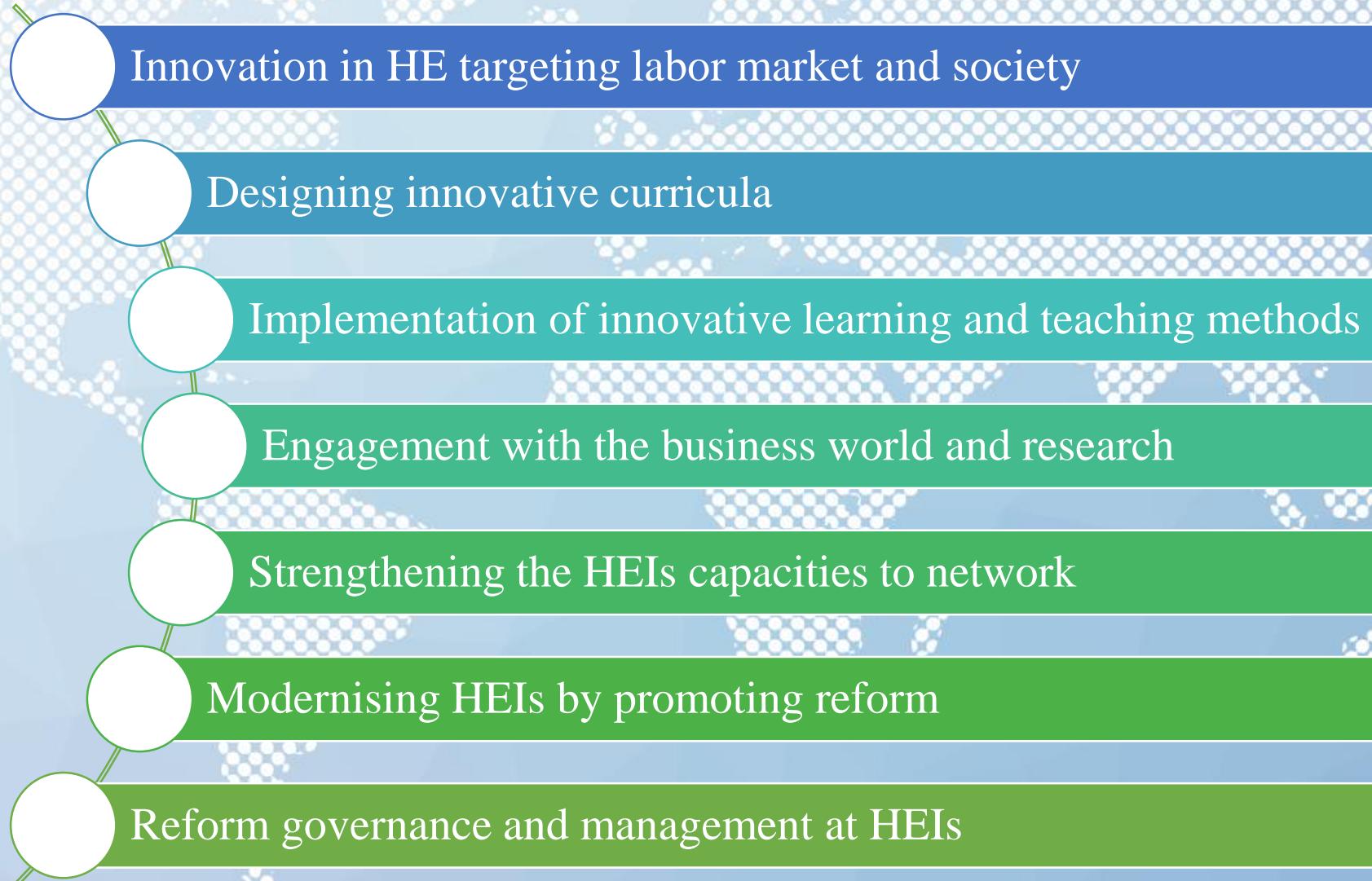
- Reforming and modernising university governance
- International Relation Offices
- Quality Assurance
- Capacity (mobility, evaluation, planning, etc.)

Ensure high quality and relevant education

- modules or study programmes, technical or professional orientations of programmes
- developing capacities for postgraduate student and academic staff as well as promoting postgraduate students and/or staff mobility;
- implementing training courses for HEI staff
- Increasing the accessibility of individuals with fewer opportunities

Strand 2

Partnerships for transformation



Strand 2. Partnerships for transformation in HE

Target groups

- HEIs
- Local actors with a link to industry and business sectors
- Individuals: students, staff, learners in general
- Bodies responsible for HE at local and national level

Strand 2. Partnerships for transformation in HE

Innovation in higher education

- Design of innovative curricula
- Innovative learning and teaching methods
- Active engagement with the business world and with research

Promoting reforms of HEIs

- Introduction of Bologna type reforms at institutional level
- Reform of governance and management systems and structures at institutional level

Strand 3

Structural reform projects

Promote cooperation and mutual learning with public authorities to foster innovation in the HE sector

Identify synergies with ongoing EU initiatives

Promote inclusive Higher Education systems allowing access to learning

Increase capacities of HE bodies to modernize the higher education systems

Strand 3. Structural reform projects

Target groups

- HEIs
- National Ministry for higher education (HE)
- Research institutions
- Other relevant authorities and stakeholders in the field of HE

Strand 3. Structural reform projects

Promoting reforms and innovation of HE system

- Mutual learning between public authorities of the countries involved
- Promote inclusive Higher Education systems
- Increase capacities of bodies in charge of Higher Education
- Identify synergies with ongoing EU initiatives
- Foster national ownership
- Efficient and effective policy making
- Foster common regional strategies in Higher Education
- Introduction of funding mechanisms

Eligible applicants and partners

Who can apply?



Higher education institutions (HEIs)

Organizations of HEIs

Who can participate?



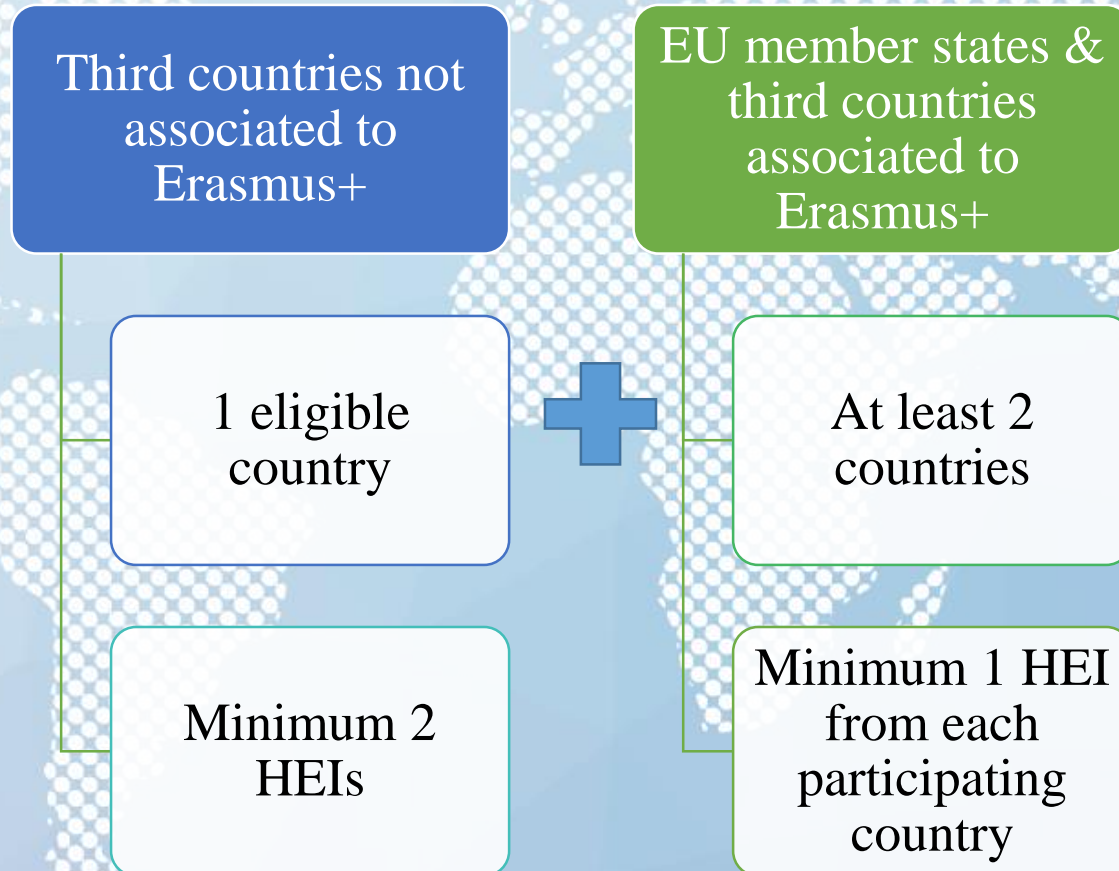
Any public or private organization recognized as HEI

Any public or private organization or institutions active in the labour market, or in the fields of education, training and youth, but not as coordinator

National projects (open for regions 2,3,5a,6,7a,8a,9)

Minimum partnership composition

Strand1, Strand2

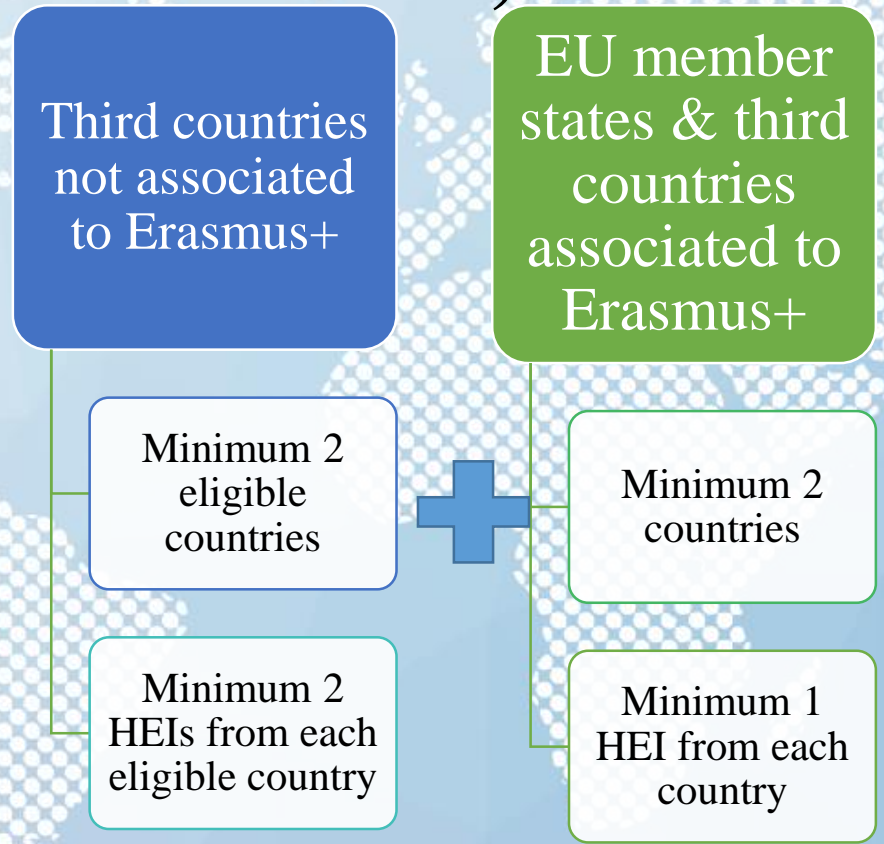


Exception: In third countries not associated to the Programme where the number of HEIs recognised by the competent national authorities is lower than 5 in the whole country, or in cases where one single institution represents more than 50% of the overall student population of the country, applications counting only one HEI from those countries will be accepted.

Multi-country projects: (open for all eligible regions)

Minimum partnership composition

Strand1, Strand2



Exception: In third countries not associated to the Programme where the number of HEIs recognised by the competent national authorities is lower than 5 in the whole country, or in cases where one single institution represents more than 50% of the overall student population of the country, applications counting only one HEI from those countries will be accepted.

Minimum partnership composition Strand3

Third countries
not associated
to Erasmus+

-1 country
(national projects)
-Minimum 2
countries (multi-
country projects)

-Minimum 2 HEIs
from each eligible
country
- Ministry
responsible for
higher education



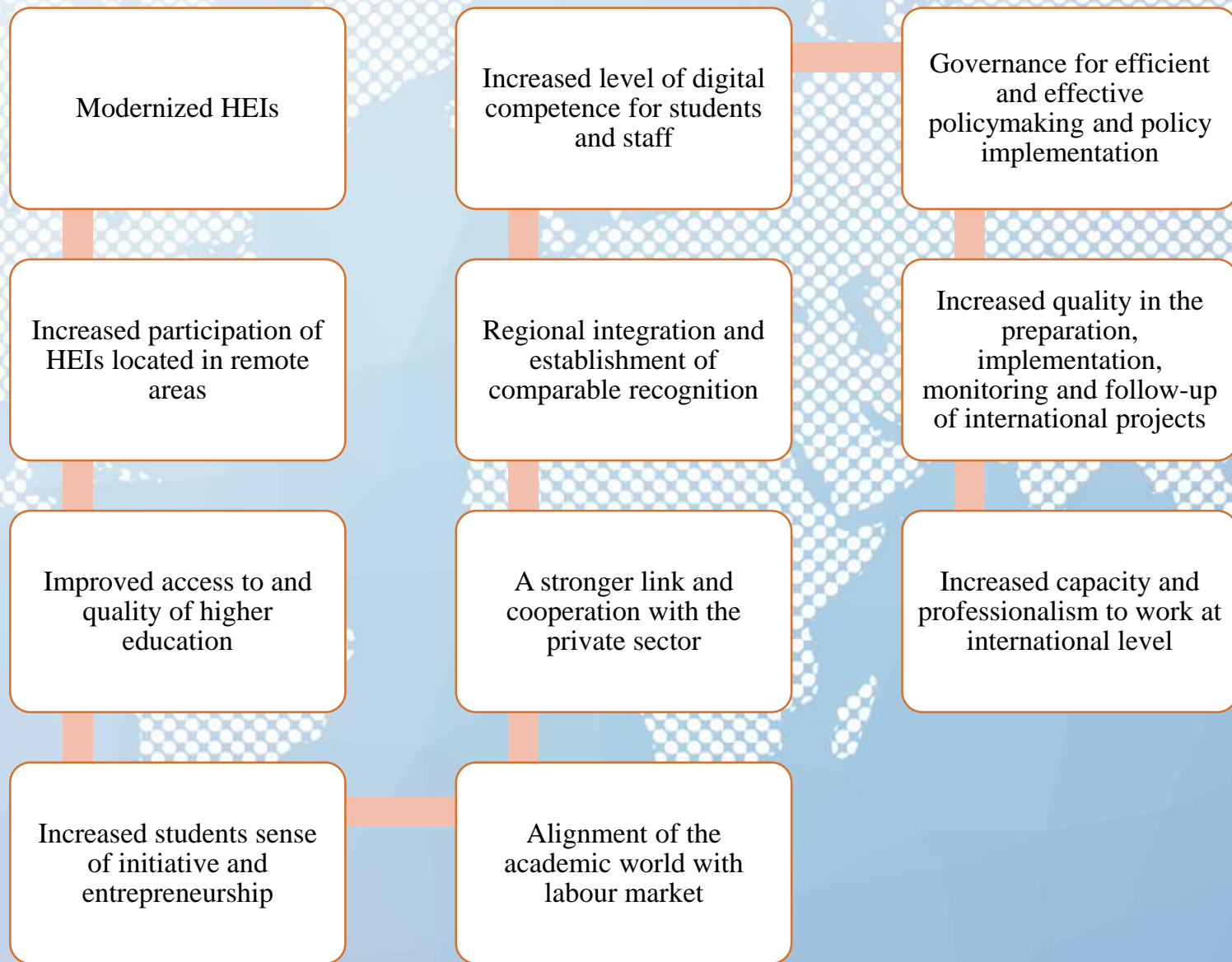
EU member
states & third
countries
associated to
Erasmus+

Minimum 2
countries

Minimum 1 HEI
from each country


Exception: In third countries not associated to the Programme where the number of HEIs recognised by the competent national authorities is lower than 5 in the whole country, or in cases where one single institution represents more than 50% of the overall student population of the country, applications counting only one HEI from those countries will be accepted.

Capacity Building in HE: expected impact



Budget type

Lump sum II: approach – basic principles



Applicants must define work packages and a detailed estimation of costs for each work package per beneficiary

Evaluator assess cost details during the evaluation and make recommendations if needed.

Based on this, the EU grant in the form of lump sum is fixed during grant agreement preparation

Award criteria

Relevance of the project
(max 30 points)

Project design and implementation
(max 30 points)

Partnership and cooperation
(max 20 points)

Sustainability, impact and
dissemination
(max 20 points)

*The applications may score up to **100 points**. To be considered for funding, proposals must score at least **60 points** in total and at least half of the maximum points for each award criterion. Additional considerations apply to determine priority among equal scoring proposals*

Indicative CB HE budget 2025

Regions	Indicative 2025 CBHE budget	Strand 1	Indicative n° of projects	Strand 2	Indicative n° of projects	Strand 3	Indicative n° of projects
Region 1 Western Balkans	10.800.000	3.240.000	8	4.860.000	6	2.700.000	2
Region 2 Neighbourhood East	14.850.000	4.320.000	10	7.830.000	9	2.700.000	2
Region 3 South-Mediterranean countries	9.730.000	3.182.991	7	5.547.009	6	1.000.000	1
Region 5a Asia	19.820.000	2.153.803	5	11.166.197	13	6.500.000	6
Region 6 Central Asia	5.600.000	613.334	1	2.986.666	3	2.000.000	2
Region 7a Middle East	1.000.000	-	-	-	-	1.000.000	1
Region 8a Pacific	1.000.000	-	-	-	-	1.000.000	1
Region 9 Sub-Saharan Africa	24.650.000	5.766.792	14	10.883.208	13	8.000.000	8
Region 10 Latin America	10.250.000	1.625.000	4	5.125.000	6	3.500.000	3
Region 11 Caribbean	1.000.000	-	-	-	-	1.000.000	1
2025 CBHE indicative budget and n° of projects to be funded (national / regional)	98.700.000	20.901.920	49	48.398.080	56	29.400.000	27
2025 CBHE indicative budget and n° of projects to be funded (cross-regional)	8.300.000	≈ 11 proposals					
Indicative 2025 CBHE budget	107.000.000	≈ 143 proposals					

What's new in the 2025 CBHE Call for Proposals?

Length of application: max. 40 pages

Promotion of EU values

AI guidelines

Strand 3: Global Gateway-related priorities

practicalities

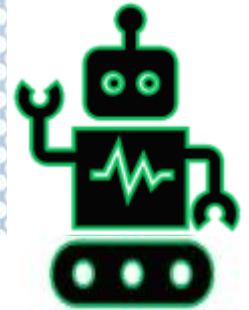
Award criterion 1 (Relevance) – Actively promote EU values

*There can be no **discrimination** based on sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation during the implementation of the activity*

Funding will be allocated to organisations in the countries within their territories as recognised by international law. Funding must respect any restrictions placed on EU external assistance imposed by the European Council. Applications have to be in line with the overall EU values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities as foreseen in Article 2 of the Treaty of the European Union.

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Guidelines on Artificial Intelligence in Part C



Applying new guidelines on AI

Original content and authorship

All applications for projects and accreditations must contain original content authored by the applicant or other organisations jointly applying for a grant. If considering the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools for the preparation of the application, applicants should be conscious of the potential of plagiarism and should exercise careful consideration to ensure the application's appropriateness and accuracy, its compliance with intellectual property regulations, as well as its original content.

Timeline

-Call budget: **approx. 107.000.000 €**
-**approx. 140 proposals to be funded**
-EU co-financing: **90% of the total costs**

Publication of
Erasmus+ Call:
**November 19,
2024**

Deadline for
CBHE:
**February 6,
2025 at 17:00
CET**

Evaluation
process:
**Approximately
5 months from
Call deadline**

Information to
applicants:
**July-August
2025**

Signature of
grant agreement:
October 2025



Erasmus+

How to submit your CB HE proposal?

Preliminary steps:

- Concrete **project idea**
- **Start locally** in your institution
- Find the right **partners**
- Consult the **Erasmus+ Programme Guide** and **National Erasmus+ Office**

Admissibility:

- Applications must be submitted before the call deadline, electronically through the **European Commission's Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal (FTOP)**
- Call ID: **ERASMUS -EDU-2025-CBHE**
- Get more guidance on how FTOP works on the **FTOP Online Manual**
- Register on the portal for an **EU Login Account**
- Make sure your organisation has a valid **Participant Identification Code (PIC)**. If not, get one via the Participant Register

More information:

Useful links:

- Funding & Tender Opportunities Portal: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home>
- Programme Guide 2025: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/document/erasmus-programme-guide-2025>
- Documents and guidelines: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/documents-and-guidelines>
- Project results platform: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects>

Contact:

EACEA-EPLUS-CBHE@ec.europa.eu

FTOP service desk: EC-FUNDING-TENDER-SERVICE-DESK@ec.europa.eu

Good luck with your project proposals! 😊

Thank you for your attention!

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