



Erasmus+ Week 2025 for Sub-Saharan Africa

20-22 May 2025 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



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Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting 2025 for Sub-Saharan Africa

20-21 May 2025 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



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Morning of day 2 – 21 May 2025



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Jenny Elmaco, *n pefsbups*

Academic Expert

Centralised Support to the network of Erasmus+ National Focal Points, PRAC SIS srl





Education institutions as beacons of green behaviour

Elena Palavrova, *moderator*

Project Adviser, European Education and Culture Executive Agency

- Maria Kasidoni, Senior Piotr Sadowski Researcher, National Technical University of Athens (SWARM project)
- Dr. Bedilu Teka Geleto, Vice President for Academic and Research Affairs, Mattu University (COPAFEU project)
- Gezahegn Berecha, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Ethiopia
- Aboubacarr Jallow, Principal of The Gambia College (G.R.E.E.N. Gambia project)
- Retselisitsoe Thamae, Associate Professor, Energy Research Centre, National University of Lesotho (LETSEMA project)
- Piotr Sadowski, Secretary General, Volonteurope (Vi-Act project)



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Elena Palavrova

Project Adviser

European Education and Culture Executive Agency



Senior Researcher

National Technical University of Athens (SWARM project)

SWARM

Sustainable Plastic Waste and Recycling Management Capacity Building

ERASMUS-EDU-2024-CBHE Project: 101179183

Prof. Maria Loizidou

Unit of Environmental Science and Technology (UEST),
School of Chemical Engineering,
National Technical University of Athens
mloiz@chemeng.ntua.gr ; www.uest.gr

**Regional Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting
and Contact-Making Seminar for Sub-Saharan Africa Green transition**

“Education institutions as beacons of green behaviour”

21 May 2025, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)



The SWARM project

The challenge: Escalating plastic use in Sub-Saharan Africa leads to environmental and social challenges.

Solution: Drive plastic circularity and reuse through the SWARM initiative based on the Triple Helix Strategy:

- Collaboration among Academia, Government, and Industry
- Targeting systemic change in South Africa and Nigeria via 6 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)

➤The **SWARM project** aims to revolutionize **sustainable plastic waste management** and **recycling** practices within Higher Education Institutions in South Africa and Nigeria.

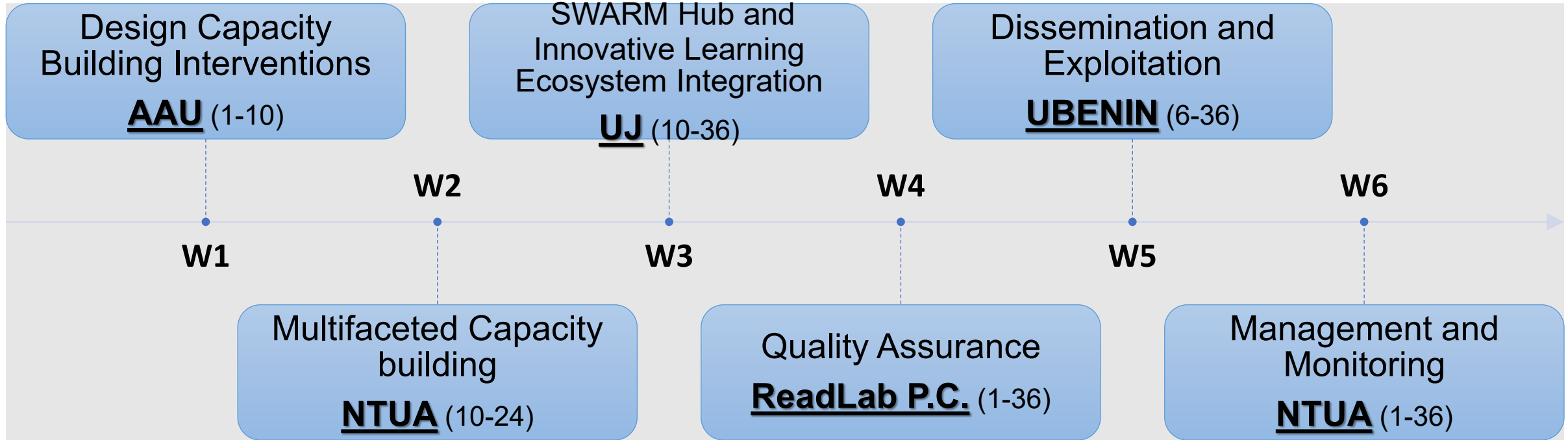
➤Through workshops, training sessions, and the development of virtual learning environments, SWARM aims to produce tangible outputs like enhanced curricula, the establishment of SWARM Hubs, and open educational resources.

Coordinator	National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)
Project partners	University of Johannesburg (UJ)
	University of Mpumalanga (UMPU)
	University of Fort Hare (UFH)
	Igbinedion University, Okada (IUO)
	University of Nigeria (UNN)
	University of Benin (UBENIN)
	Aalborg University (AAU)
	Research Innovation and Development Lab Private Company (ReadLab P.C.)

Project duration: 36 months

Grant: €799,923.67

The SWARM work packages & outcomes



O U T C O M E S



Education & Awareness

- 17 existing courses enhanced with localised sustainability content
- Capacity-building workshops & EU study visits
- Ambassador programme & national awareness campaigns
- 1 Virtual Learning & Collaboration Platform



Institutional Impact

- 6 SWARM Labs established in HEIs (3 per country)
- Community of Practice: academics, startups, policy-makers, and civil society
- 2 policy tools developed to guide national strategies



Dr. Bedilu Tekale Geleto

Vice President for Academic and Research Affairs
Maddis University (COPAFEU project)



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COPAFEU's Role in Green Transition

COPAFEU stands for Co-Producing Knowledge On Sustainable Growth through Enhanced Service- Learning Pedagogy

10 Higher Education Institutions: Two from global North and 8 from global South are working on COPAFEU project.

 EU Partners: Finland, Greece

 Africa: Ethiopia, Nigeria, Tanzania, South Africa



HEIs as Beacons
of Green
Behavior



Green transition needs that we were identified and being Implemented

1 Developing interdisciplinary courses on climate change, renewable energy, circular economy

Agribusiness and Value Chain



Haramaya University from Ethiopia

Biogas production



FUNNAB from Nigeria

Multimedia application and management



Mattu University from Ethiopia

Innovation and entrepreneurship for green growth



Dar Es Salaam and RUCU from Tanzania

2 Supporting sustainability research, innovation and green growth



Food Waster Management

CPUT from South Africa



Environmental management and integrated water management

UFS from South Africa



Organic and Agro-ecological farming

UI from Nigeria

3

**Developing and
Introducing Digital
platforms**

Using appropriate technology in service learning in the manner it ensures a sustainable collaboration culture among partners;

Implementing virtual and remote learning to reach wider population

4

**Inclusion of Indigenous
Knowledge into E-SL**

**People or institutions involved in the project –
and/or benefit from COPAFEU**

5

**Integration of real-world Green
Transition Challenges into
student Projects by
producing 3 MOOCs.**



- ❖ 10 Higher learning Institutions(Two from Europe and 8 from Africa)
- ❖ Students, Faculty, NGOs, Local Governments, Innovation Hubs, and the Private Sector
- ❖ Rural and urban communities in Sub-Saharan



Gezahegn Berecha

Professor

Director of the International Institute of Coffee Research, Jimma University (IMPACT-HE project)

Capacity Building for synergies, **impact** assessment and management of international **higher education** cooperation funds - **IMPACT HE**

Visit @: <https://impacthe.obreal.org/>

Basic Information on IMPACT HE



"Structural project" approved under the Erasmus+ Capacity Building for Higher Education call 2024



4 years



Targeting Ethiopia and Kenya



23 Deliverables



Strategic value-add: a 'pilot project' of the S-DHG group with possible replicability.



Co-funded by
the European Union



Objectives

- **General Objective**

- To enable diverse African universities as strong local development agents, enhancing their capacity to contribute to sustainable development, drive development cooperation agendas, shape policy and partner with EU universities in pursuit of common development goals.

- **Specific Objectives**

- **SO1: Enhance African HEIs' capacity to manage development cooperation funds and projects**
- **SO2: Reinforce internal project monitoring mechanisms and strategic impact assessment**
- **SO3: Create a framework to align and trace cooperation projects for synergy and cumulative impact**
- **SO4: Engage policymakers and agencies in joint impact assessment and policy development**



Co-funded by
the European Union



The project helps address green transition needs as follows

Need	Green Transition Challenge
Fragmentation of sustainability-related projects	Inhibits integration and strategic impact
Lack of institutional impact assessment tools	Blocks tracking of environmental and social outcomes
Absence of national coordination platforms	Prevents national-level sustainability coherence
Under-resourced internal structures (QA, Intl. Office, Outreach)	Hinders institutionalisation of sustainability
Low African ownership of development projects	Weakens long-term embedding of green practices and agendas



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Key Deliverables Supporting Greening:

- Mapping of existing development cooperation projects in each university
- Hybrid training programme
- Software installation for project monitoring and data integration
- Development of a self-assessment tool for impact assessment
- **Societal Impact Reports**
- EU partner mapping of funding mechanisms and priorities
- Ministry-level mapping and policy situation analysis
- Policy synergy and impact events
- National reports on HE development cooperation impact
- Policy briefs and scale-up plans
- National platforms for mapping cooperation projects



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Beneficiaries/Participants

- Management staff of International Relations Offices (IROs)/Project Management Offices in partner universities
- wider university community in Africa
- Associations and networks that support internationalization of HE in Africa
- Policy Makers and National Authorities in Ethiopia and Kenya
- civil society, local community and private sector

Concluding remark:

- IMPACT-HE **creates the foundational institutional and policy conditions** that are essential for a green transition in higher education. These include:
 - *Governance structures*
 - *Monitoring systems*
 - *National platforms for coordination*
 - *Skills for sustainability-oriented project leadership*
- These capacities are prerequisites for universities to become beacons of green behavior in their communities and countries



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Principal

The Gambia College (G.R.E.E.N. Gambia project)



CINOP



Funded by
the European Union

PARTNERS

- GAMBIA COLLEGE
- CINOP
- GAMBIA SHANGHAI INITIATIVE
- LTH



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COMPONENTS

horticulture/food processing (during the meetings we had for the preparation of the proposal Mango and Papaya were mentioned).

- Eco Tourism
- Entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship can be embedded within the two value chains or be separate.

Horticulture (for example mango production) and eco-tourism would be linked to create sustainable opportunities for new jobs and reduction of food loss



STEPS/STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The development of short training courses (Horticulture Eco Tourism, Entrepreneurship) in cooperation with stakeholder working groups, teachers and consortium experts with learning objectives and content decisions based upon Entrecomp & Greencomp workshop

- The staff works with the private sector stakeholders in delivering the training which will be both on and off site
- Students will be trained on business development plans and those with the best or each of the programmes will be given start up capital
- Throughout the project a sustainability approach will be embedded





Energy Research Centre, National University of Lesotho (LETSEMA project)

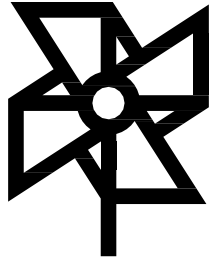
LETSEMA - Low-Carbon Economy Transformation through Sustainable Energy Modernization and Access in Lesotho 2023-2026

Regional Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting and Contact-making Seminar - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 20-21 May 2025

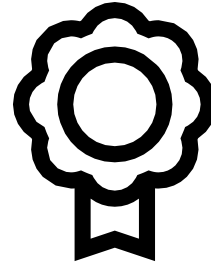
Retselisitsoe I. Thamae
Energy Research Centre (ERC)
National University of Lesotho (NUL)



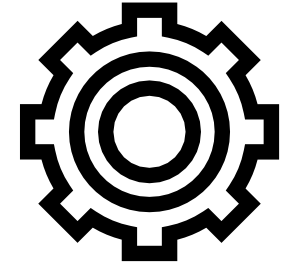
LETSEMA Priorities



**GREEN TRANSITION &
ENERGY ACCESS**



**DIGITAL
TRANSFORMATION**



**SUSTAINABLE
GROWTH AND JOBS**

LETSEMA Wider Objective: to promote the capacities of NUL and BBCDC to provide **equitable, digital and future-oriented quality education on sustainable energy** that promotes inclusiveness, diversity and creation of green jobs and growth opportunities.

LETSEMA Consortium



**UNIVERSITY
OF TURKU**



Linnæus University



BBCDC

BETHEL BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTRE






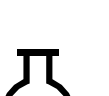


National University of Lesotho



**Energy
Research Centre**

LETSEMA in Numbers

-  **5 MSC COURSES ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY UPDATED AND PILOTED**
-  **3 MICROCREDENTIALS ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS INSTALLATION**
-  **60 PARTICIPANTS IN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TRAININGS**
-  **60 PARTICIPANTS IN ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION TRAININGS**
-  **NEW EQUIPMENT TO SUPPORT HANDS-ON TEACHING AND LEARNING**
-  **10 STUDENTS WITH SCHOLARSHIPS/INDUSTRY PLACEMENTS OR ENTREPRENEURIAL PROJECTS**



Thank you.



Piotr Sadowski

Secretary General

Volonteurope (Vi-Act project)



Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting 2025 for Sub-Saharan Africa

20-21 May 2025 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



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Ergonomics



Erasmus+ actions open to Sub-Saharan Africa

Jenny Elmaco, *n pefsbups*

Academic Expert, Centralised Support to the network of Erasmus+ National Focal Points, PRACSIS srl

- International Credit Mobility (Claire Herrmann)
- Capacity Building for Higher Education (Elena Palavrova)
- Capacity Building for Vocational Education and Training (Danila Conte)
- Capacity Building for Youth (Caterina Valitutti, Project Adviser, EACEA)
- Erasmus+ Virtual Exchanges (Danila Conte)
- Jean Monnet Actions (Claire Herrmann)
- Erasmus Mundus (Caterina Valitutti)



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What is available for Sub-Saharan African countries

HIGHER EDUCATION

- International Credit Mobility
- Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters & Erasmus Mundus Design Measures
- Capacity Building for Higher Education
- Jean Monnet activities

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Capacity Building in VET

YOUTH / HIGHER EDUCATION

- Virtual Exchanges
- Capacity Building in Youth

International credit mobility

What is it?

A 2- or 3-years project

- linking a European with an African university
- willing to organize short-term mobility for their students, and staff
- Based on an interinstitutional agreement
- Coordinated by a European university

Main features

- **All levels:** Bachelor, Master and PhD candidates
- In **both directions** with some limitations for Europeans
- Mobility in **any subject** or academic discipline
- Also supports **traineeships** for students and training for staff
- **Study periods** and traineeships of 2 – 12 months. 5 days to 2 months for staff
- Blended mobility (physical mobility of 5 – 30 days + virtual component)

International Credit mobility in practice

- The applicant is a higher education institution in Europe
- This action is managed by the Erasmus+ National Agency where the European applicant is located

- The European University and its partner institution in a non-associated country sign an **inter-institutional agreement**.
- A **grant agreement** links the European University and its E+ national agency.
- A **learning learning/mobility agreement** links the participant to the sending and hosting institutions.
- A **grant agreement** links the European University and the mobile individual.



Organisational support

EUR 500/participant



Individual support

EUR 700-900/month for students and

EUR **140-180**/day for staff

EUR 79/day up to the 14th day of activity and EUR 56/day from 15th to the 30th day of activity in case of blended mobility



Contribution to travel costs

EUR 28-1735, depending on distance travelled

**Inclusion
support possible**

Capacity Building in Higher Education

- Support the **relevance, quality, modernisation** and **responsiveness** of **Higher Education** institutions and systems

Format & Purpose

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



Priorities

- **EU overarching priorities**
- **Global Gateway priorities**

Strand 1: Fostering access to cooperation in Higher Education

- Duration (months): 24 or 36
- Funding: EUR 200.000 to EUR 400.000

Strand 2: Partnerships for transformation in Higher Education

- Duration (months): 24 or 36
- Funding: EUR 400.000 to EUR 800.000

Strand 3: Structural reform projects

- Duration (months): 36 or 48
- Funding: EUR 600.000 to EUR 1.000.000
- Involvement of the Ministry

Capacity Building in Higher Education

Who can participate?

- HEIs or organisations of HEIs
- Associations, public or private organisations active in the labour market or in the fields of education, training and youth

Who can coordinate?

- HEIs or organisations of HEIs
- Coordinator applies on behalf of all participating organisations involved in the proposal

What else?

Applicants must be established in:

- an EU Member State or third country associated to the Erasmus+ programme
- in an eligible third country not associated to Erasmus+ programme

All strands (1, 2 and 3)

at least 2 EU Member States or third countries associated to the programme

- each of these (minimum 2 participating) countries must involve **at least 1 HEI**

only 1 eligible third country not associated to the programme

- with **at least 2 HEIs***

Strand 3

National authority

- Ministry responsible for Higher Education

Capacity Building in VET

- CB projects are international cooperation projects based on **multilateral partnerships** between organisations active in the field of VET
- Build capacity of VET providers to **strengthen cooperation between private and public stakeholders** in VET
- Align VET provision to **local, regional and national development strategies**.

Thematic Areas – focus on one or more

- **Key competences, including entrepreneurship and citizenship**
- **Public Private Dialogue, Partnerships in VET**
- **VET teachers/trainers' professional development**
- **Quality assurance mechanisms**
- **Work-based learning (for young people and/or adults)**
- **Development of curricula and training modules**
- **Skills matching with current and future job opportunities**
- **Green and digital skills for the twin transition**
- **Innovation in VET**





Minimum requirements to participate past calls

	At least 4 organisations	From minimum 3 countries
Scenario 1	2 organisations (coordinator+ full partner) + 2 organisations (full partners)	2 EU MSs + 1 eligible Third country not associated to the Programme
Scenario 2	2 organisations (coordinator+ full partner) + 2 organisations (full partners)	2 Third countries associated to the Programme + 1 eligible Third country not associated to the Programme
Scenario 3	2 organisations (coordinator+ full partner) + 2 organisations (full partners)	1 EU MS + 1 Third country associated to the Programme + 1 eligible Third country not associated to the Programme
NOT POSSIBLE	Number of organisations from EU MSs and Third countries associated to the Programme CAN NOT BE HIGHER than number of organisations from eligible Third country not associated to the Programme Example: 3 organisations from 2 EU MSs + 2 organisations from 1 Third country not associated to the Programme (not possible)	

Capacity Building in the field of Youth (CBY)

Partnerships of youth organisations from Europe and other regions of the world that work together on common themes to benefit young people.

Objectives:

- Increase the capacity of youth organisations 
- Promote non-formal learning and synergies with formal education system 
- Promote the development of youth work by improving its quality and recognition 
- Contribute to the implementation of the European Youth Strategy 

Thematic priorities:

Political participation/encourage active citizenship, encourage democracy and rule of law, climate change, non-discrimination and gender, entrepreneurship, digital skills.

Capacity Building in the field of Youth (CBY)

Who can apply?

- ❖ NGOs (including European Youth NGOs and national Youth Councils) working in the field of youth
- ❖ Public bodies at local, regional or national level working in the field of Youth.

Other public or private organisations may also participate but not as coordinator

- Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of at least 4 applicants which complies with the following conditions:
 - minimum 1 legal entity from an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme;
 - minimum 2 legal entities from 2 different eligible third countries not associated to the Programme belonging to the same eligible Region: Region 1 (Western Balkans), Region 2 (Neighbourhood East), Region 3 (South Mediterranean countries) or Region 9 (Sub Saharan Africa)

Duration of project

- ❖ Between 12 and 36 months

Budget:

- ❖ The maximum grant amount cannot exceed EUR 300.000 for proposals targeting Regions 1, 2 and 3, and EUR 450.000 for proposals targeting Region 9 (Sub-Saharan Africa)

Virtual Exchanges

Online people-to-people activities that promote intercultural dialogue and soft skills development. They make it possible for every young person to access high-quality international and cross-cultural education without physical mobility.

- **Inclusion and diversity;** ▪ **Digital transformation;**
- **Environment and fight against climate change;**
- **Participation in democratic life,** common values and civic engagement.

They take place in **small groups** and are always **moderated by a trained facilitator.**

They should be easily integrated into youth (non-formal education) projects or higher education courses – involve participants from either only one or from both sectors.

Participant organisations must arrange virtual exchanges for people in **the 13-30 age range.**



Consortium composition

Minimum 4 independent entities (beneficiaries, not affiliated entities)
from 4 different eligible countries, of which:

Minimum of 2 higher education institutions
or youth organisations
from 2 EU Member States and third countries
associated to the Programme

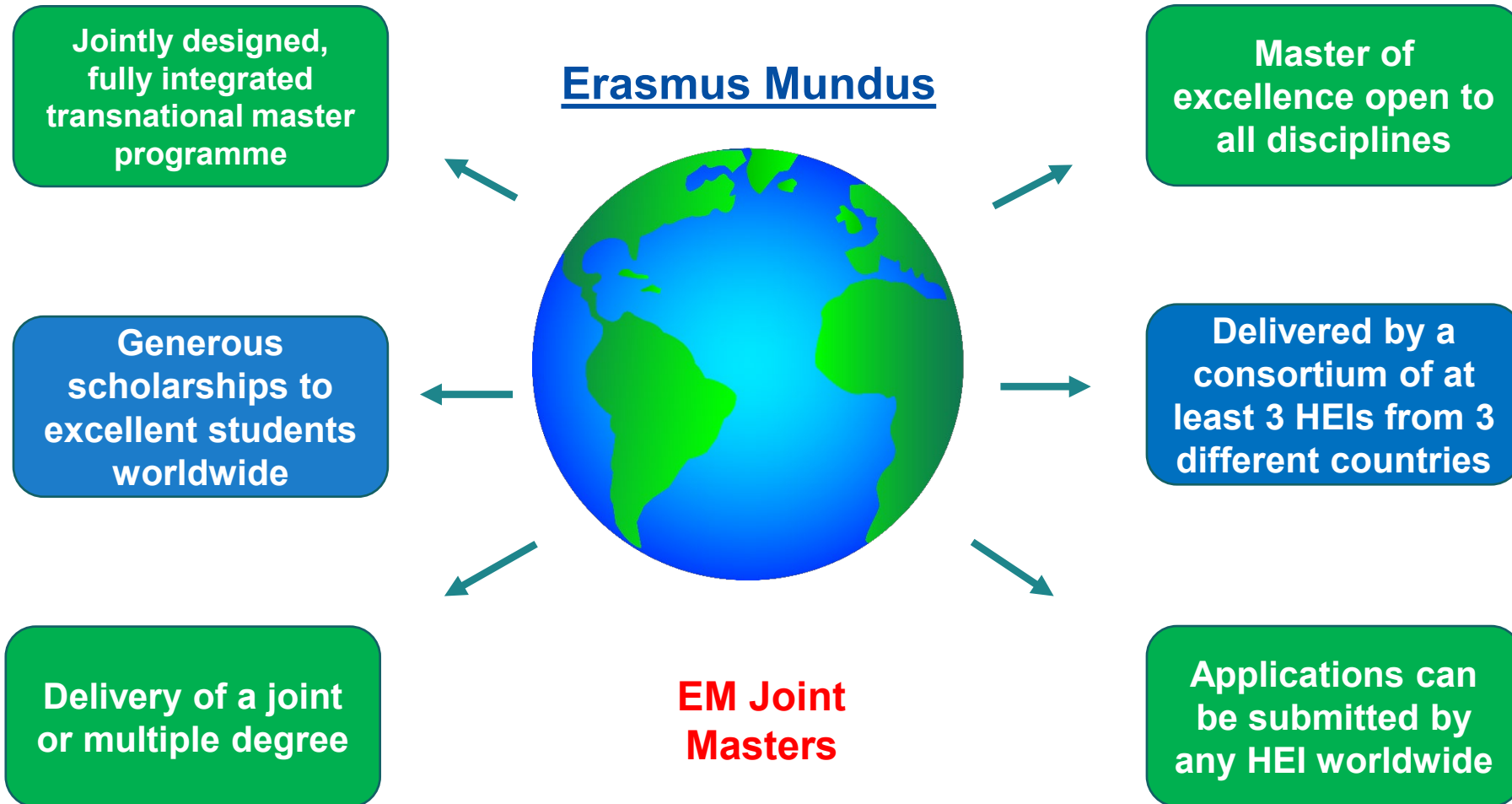
and

Minimum of 2 higher education institutions
or youth organisations
from 2 eligible third countries not associated to
the Programme
belonging to the same eligible region

The number of organisations from EU Member States and third countries
associated to the Programme
may not be higher than
the number of organisations from third countries not associated to the Programme

Affiliated entities and associated partners do not count towards the minimum
eligibility criteria for the consortium composition.

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master (EMJM)



What an EMJM can offer to HEIs and students?

EM Joint Masters

Fixed Grant Agreement **of 74 months**

Maximum **50 scholarships** per project + top-up scholarships for students from targeted regions of the world

At least **4 complete editions** lasting 1 to 2 academic years (60, 90, 120 ECTS)

Maximum budget of **over € 5 million**

Jean Monnet Actions

The Applicant can
be located in an
African Country



Focus on European integration studies:

- Teaching and research
 - **Modules:** 3 years project / min. 40 h/year
 - **Chairs:** 3 years project / min. 90 h/year
 - **Centres of Excellence**
- Networks for policy debate with academic world

UNILAG - Jean Monnet Module

University of Lagos as a leading University in Africa championing international collaboration for a united World based on mutual benefits initiated this Jean Monnet Modules. The Module project will be hosted in the University of Lagos and opened to students who had little contact with European studies and EU. The Module is scheduled to run for three years with 8 modules grouped in



3 Sessions of Summer Schools



3 sessions of Workshops



3 sessions of EU Mock Parliament Presentation and Policy Dialogue



1 Conference



Connect

The module focuses on training young undergraduates who have little exposure and background in EU studies in their traditional academic program but will have opportunities in the future to relate to and interact with EU systems and institutions both locally and internationally.

[UNILAG-Jean Monnet Module \(euafricaconnect.org\)](http://euafricaconnect.org)

Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme

Beneficiaries

- **Consortia of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)** from Sub-Saharan Africa and the EU

Purpose

- Organisation and implementation of **international mobility to African HEIs** for
 - *Master & Doctorate students (credit/degree mobility)*
 - *Trainees*
 - *Staff members*

Themes/Subject areas

- Aligned with Global Gateway Priorities in 5 sectors in Sub-Saharan Africa

Grant per project and duration

- Maximum 1,45 mln € to fund institutional activities and scholarships
- 48 months (fixed duration)



Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme

Minimum 4 and maximum 6 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) from Sub-Saharan Africa

Minimum 3 different countries representing minimum 2 regions from Sub-Saharan Africa

One HEI from one of the EU Member States (EU technical partner)

Only HEIs from Africa as lead applicant/coordinator

Other organisations from Africa (including North Africa) can participate as Associated Partners

Maximum 2 HEIs from the same African country



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