



Erasmus Charter for Higher Education 2014-2020 Application Form Call: 2014

Note: The data of this application form will be used by the European Commission/ Executive Agency EACEA and National Agencies for evaluation and monitoring

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (OVERALL STRATEGY)

Nowadays professionals need to carry out their professional activity on the basis of mobility, language knowledge and lifelong learning. That makes our participation in mobility programmes a key element to fulfill the objectives established in our strategic plan.

Students Mobility

Since 2007-2008 school-year we have been carrying out mobility programmes (Leonardo-Erasmus) focused on students. The 3 month long mobility programme is carried out in restaurants and hotels during the second school-year in the period established to do the "Training" module. Besides the grants related to our own projects, we provide our students with grants managed by Ikaslan (Basque Country's Public Vocational Training Schools Organisation).

In 2012-2013 school-year up to 22% of students who have done the "Training" module have carried it out within a mobility programme in a European country. (The number is 38% in the case of students in an Upper Level Degree and 15% in the case of students in an Intermediate Level Degree). We have got these percentages after many years working on mobility programmes which have allowed us to improve their quality as well as to increase their dissemination encouraging people to take part on them. Taking into account the personal and professional satisfaction level achieved by participants we want to continue improving the results and we want a 30% of the students who do the "Training" module to do it in a foreign country by 2020.

So far all the Erasmus mobility programmes we have had have been carried out in Italy (Florence) due to its culture and gastronomic heritage, due to the importance of its Mediterranean cuisine and because our students are interested in that country.

We will continue considering Italy as a host country in the future because we have got a high quality level there. As well as Italy we will include other countries to learn about their cuisine movements. In the next school-year we are going to send some participants to Germany and once there they will have the opportunity to extend the mobility thanks to the "Adelante"

programme promoted by the Göttingen Chamber of Commerce, with whom we have just established contact.

Regarding Italy we will send participants to the restaurants which have been positively assessed in the previous years. Regarding Germany we have been offered some hotels, which fulfill our requirements, in Göttingen and Hannover by the Göttingen Chamber of Commerce. In any case, whenever we choose a new restaurant or hotel we will agree with them on the competences to be acquired by the participants, the tasks to be carried out, the calendar-timetable and the monitoring process.

We have had some participants in different Italian hotels owned by Sol Melia (Spanish hotel chain which has got hotels in many European cities). We want to establish contacts with more similar companies as they are a key element regarding our students' mobility and employability, furthermore, in many cases they provide free accommodation which allows us an efficient costs management.

We will carry out mobility programmes for students of Upper Level Technician in Kitchen Management but at the same time we will provide grants managed by Ikaflan (Consortium, with whom we collaborate).

Staff mobility

Besides, we will encourage staff to take part in mobility projects to establish contacts with other Hospitality and Catering Industry Schools and related companies (hotels, restaurants...), located mainly in the host countries where our students carry out their internships. The objective will be to create sustainable cooperation nets to exchange knowledge, experiences, working methods...

We will create a working team in the school which, after collaborating with other schools and companies, will provide ideas, knowledge and experiences in order to allow us to update our education programmes to the economical and social situation and to increase the quality level of higher education.

THE STRATEGY FOR THE ORGANISATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

The school's International Project Manager will contact other Hotel and Catering Industry Schools and related companies in the countries to which our students will go in their training mobilities (Italy, Germany, France, Ireland...).

The schools and companies selected will be the ones which are interested on:

- The modernisation and the internationalisation.
- Working in a common project to exchange knowledge and experiences and to promote innovation and creativity.
- Creating sustainable strategic partnerships and international cooperation projects.
- Taking part in mobility programmes which will allow to send-host students and staff.

Firstly we will contact Hotel and Catering Industry Schools and with them we will specify thoroughly the elements mentioned above and the action plan to carry out. After doing that, hotels and restaurants will be invited to take part in the project.

To create and to strengthen the cooperation groups, staff mobility will be done. Those who take part in mobility programmes will be in charge of carrying out the internationalisation strategy in the school with all educative departments' support and help (the principal and his team, teachers, English department, IT department, Secretary...).

Once the cooperation team's objectives and plans are set, students' mobility programmes will be carried out, mainly training mobilities.

Thanks to the mobilities (students and staff), we will promote the education of high skilled professionals (professional competences, transversal competences, e-skills, creativity...) to educate the professionals Europe's requires and to increase their employability.

IMPACT OF OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAMME ON THE MODERNISATION OF OUR INSTITUTION (For each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda)

By taking part in mobility projects our school wants to contribute to the modernisation and internationalisation of our educational programmes which will be attained by getting the following five priorities held by the European Union's modernisation and internationalisation agenda in higher education:

- 1- To increase attainment levels to provide the graduates and the researchers Europe needs.

The experience we have had so far makes clear that students who take part in mobility programmes acquire several competences and knowledge which are very important in today's labour market. They get a major personal autonomy, knowledge about other working methods and organisations and a positive vision regarding to geographical mobility.

- 2- To improve the quality and relevance of higher education.

The experience and knowledge provided by these projects contribute to update and to improve our educational programmes adapting them to the labour market necessities. This allows an increase in the quality level and prestige of our educational programmes.

- 3- To strengthen the quality in higher education through mobility and cross-border cooperation.

The cooperation nets with other schools and companies allows knowledge and experiences exchange which once applied strategically in our educational programmes strengthen their quality level.

- 4- To link higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development.

The mobility projects awake our awareness of the relevance of cooperating with the Hospitality and Catering Industry professional field sharing common objectives to promote the regional development and to educate the professionals which are required at the time.

- 5- To improve governance and funding.

The cooperation with strategic partners eases a cost-efficient management. The partnership with restaurants-hotels which provide free accommodation to our participants is a key element because it allows to reduce the cost of mobilities.