Background and Objectives

Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (ICM) is a European Union mobility programme in the field of higher education. The programme runs for seven years, from 2014 to 2020, with European higher education institutions. European higher education institutions are, together with their partners from other countries, invited to apply for funding each year or student and staff exchange (one application per country).

The objective is to achieve better understanding and mutual enrichment between the participating universities in the field of higher education by promoting the exchange of people, knowledge and skills at a higher education level. For students and staff participating in this program the expected outcomes are amongst others enhanced employability and improved career prospects, improved foreign language competences and enhanced intercultural awareness.

Furthermore ICM strives to improve transparency and comparability and to facilitate academic recognition of studies and qualifications to overcome barriers such as the differentiation of degree systems. All partners have the responsibility to increase knowledge about each other’s higher education systems and to facilitate the academic recognition for all grantees. Additionally, each partner is encouraged to work actively with the dissemination of knowledge and understanding about the higher education systems in Sweden and partner country.

Project Timeline

- **Project Initiation (Ongoing)** – Discussions between LU & Potential Partners
- **Proposal Submission (Sep-Oct)** – LU internal selection process
- **Project Application (Nov-Dec)** – Application Writing & Submission
- **Funding Decision (May)** – Receive application results
- **Project Implementation (26 months; Jun-Jul)** – Nominations & Mobilities take place
Project Initiation

Find Partners, Prepare for Participation
When choosing a partner, consider your existing contacts (e.g., existing bi-lateral agreements, other EU-funded program partners, alumni, visiting professors, network members, etc.) or identify new partners with whom you’d like to collaborate with.

Based on last year’s budget for Sweden, we encourage you to consider the competition level and budget amount for the partner country/instrument you wish to work with:

- High Competition/Low Budget – Partnership Instrument (PI), European Development Fund (EDF)
- Medium-Competition/Medium-Budget – Development Co-operation Instrument (DCI)
- Low Competition/High Budget – European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) & Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA)

If you do not have any existing contacts or need help connecting with a new one, please contact the appropriate International Officers at the Division for External Relations for assistance.

Project Planning
As you discuss project details with your partner, consider the following:

- What are you looking for?
- What are your priorities?
- Concept of credit mobility/recognition
- Roles and responsibilities
- Strategy (ICM → Capacity Building)
- Level of education/type of mobility
- Language of instruction
- Subject areas
- Numbers and duration
- Selection criteria
- Recognition
- Academic calendars, mobility windows
- Deadlines (nomination/selection)
- Financial information
- Services, insurance, accommodation

Proposal Submission (September-October)

Proposal Components
The proposal is a collaboration between two partners. While LU is responsible for submitting the application, the content for the application must come from the involved researchers/programs/departments. A complete proposal must be submitted by the listed deadline and include the following information:

- Relevance of the Strategy
- Quality of the cooperation arrangements
- Quality of project design and implementation
- Impact and dissemination
- Mobility Details
- Letter of support from Department Head

Application Evaluation
- Relevance of the project - The extent to which the planned mobility project is relevant to the internationalisation strategy of the higher education institutions involved (both in the
Programme and in the Partner country) and the rational for choosing staff and/ or student mobility.

- **Quality of the project design and implementation** – The extent to which the applicant organisation has previous experience of similar projects with higher institutions/organisations -in the partner country and the clarity of the description of responsibilities, roles and tasks between partners

- **Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements** – The completeness and quality of arrangements for the selection of participants, the support provided to them and the recognition of their mobility period (in particular in the Partner country).

- **Impact and dissemination** – The potential impact of the project on participants, beneficiaries, partner organisations, at local, regional and national levels and the quality of measures aimed at disseminating the results of the mobility project at faculty and institution levels, and beyond where applicable, in both the programme and partner countries.

**Project Application (November-December)**

Please note that if your proposal is accepted, you are expected to work closely with your partner and the relevant Regional Coordinator at LU’s Division of External Relation to write and finalize your project’s the application.

**Funding Decision (May-June)**

The Division External Relations submits one (1) application on behalf of all selected proposals to UHR in February each year. A decision from UHR is typically issued in May or June and will then be communicated to you at that time.

**26 Month Project Implementation (June-July)**

Before any mobilities can take place using the awarded funds, project contacts and their partners will receive the ICM Project Handbook which outlines details about signing agreements, making nominations, hosting responsibilities and all other relevant information needed in order to successfully use the awarded funds.
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