

The institutions European strategy (the institution does not work outside the EU at present) has been established for many years prompted by the recognition that both staff professional development and students learning would greatly benefit from establishing a European dimension to our activities. It is increasingly necessary within a global marketplace and the drive toward a European single market to ensure learners/students are prepared to take advantage of a Europe without Borders offering free movement of citizens. Equally, important is the need to foster closer collaboration between enterprises and education. Students seeking to enter the European labour market need to gain new skills to take advantage of this. Transnational mobility is a key objective to achieve this. The ability of students to acquire language competence in another language to their mother tongue is necessary to take best advantage of this. From a staff mobility perspective - if they are to broaden learners horizons, they too would benefit from continued professional development through greater experience of European mobility to enhance their skills, learn from others and share experience and good practice across Europe. The main driver for this aspect is the need to improve teaching and learning, introduce new delivery methodologies and technologies.

Choosing partners. Cdea has been involved through Leonardo and Comenius in mobility initiatives for over 12 years and has established considerable links with partners throughout Europe. As a member of the national association (CECE) Cdea is a member of EFVET - European Forum for Vocational Education and Training. This network of some 1500 member institutions including Vocational Colleges, Associations and Universities offers the perfect partner finding services. EFvet is actively engaged with the EC in the preparation and implementation of EU Education and TRaining Strategy 2020 and is also active in collaborative projects, networking and sharing development activity. Member institutions collaborate in transnational mobility, often on a reciprocal basis. EFVET is involved with the implementation of ECVET and EQARF and has established a major Europemobility Network. From an ERASMUS perspective - a number of member institutions have gained the Erasmus University Charter under the 2007 round. Cdea was one of them and works with other EFVET member institutions that gained the Charter at that time.

In terms of choosing partners Cdea has looked to identify partners in those countries where our Spanish HE learners wish to undertake their mobility and where their levels of language competencies do not impact negatively on the learning experience.

Geographical areas of mobility activity

Cdea works primarily with institutions in countries where our students are best placed to take advantage of the mobility experience. Hence Cdea works with institutions which match and deliver the same curriculum provision and who have a sound track record in mobility organisation, and can offer positive support and links to enterprises locally. Currently the areas where mobility is strongest include: Germany, Italy, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Portugal, Cyprus and Finland

Objectives:

To broaden students horizons through transnational internships/work placements abroad
To promote and improve language competence in another language beyond home language

Target groups:

Those students undertaking HE programmes at 1st and 2nd yr cycles from:

Gastronomy

Tourism

If applicable, please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme. (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [EN]

Cdea has been involved in a number of European Cooperation projects on a range of topics directly appropriate to the institutions strategic development, innovation and modernisation. Active involvement in such projects is a key to our development strategy. Cdea has over 12 years experience in these activity - promoting the development of new teaching methodologies; use of new technologies in the learning process; new curriculum development; resource development and the development of processes and procedures supporting Mobility. This includes most recently participation in a Transfer of Innovation project ECVET4 Practitioners - transferring the outcomes of a key project looking at ECVET and its impact on geographical mobility and driving a 'Learning Outcome' approach

Please explain the expected impact of your participation in the Programme on the modernisation of your institution (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda*) in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve. (max. 3000 characters)

Original language [EN]

The Institution is keenly aware of the need for HE to 'modernise, to reach out in many directions to improve both quality, opportunity, stimulate innovation and strengthen its links with other stakeholders – business and regional development. The institution also recognises in today's world it needs to promote greater cooperation initiatives, including transnational mobility to ensure the highest level of skills development and knowledge transfer. Erasmus mobility for both Students and Staff is a key policy objective within the institution – to raise both the quality and skills base. Erasmus will contribute toward our strategic objects in many ways – including:

- a) To improve the quality and relevance of qualifications and skills development through providing students with broader opportunities to meet the European labour market needs for high skilled and transferrable
- b) To offer opportunities to Staff to improve their teaching and learning through professional development and cross border cooperation
- c) Erasmus will contribute to strengthen the institutions knowledge transfer and assist the institutions objective to develop closer strategic partnerships with both European HE institutions and in deed business across Europe
- d) Erasmus mobility will stimulate our objective to be more entrepreneurial and creative in our offer to students – inspiring higher skills attainment for our graduates
- e) Finally the quality of our HE offer will be greatly enhanced through this cross border cooperation and enable the institution to improve its contribution to the skills agenda and economic well being of our region as well as Europe

As an institution offering a modest range of Higher Education programmes – it is imperative that we can offer our learners every opportunity to improve their prospects in today's economic climate – experience of working in another country is seen as a positive step for our learners. From a staff perspective it allows them professional development opportunities and a chance to share and learn from others – thus stimulating improvements in learning and knowledge transfer. In both instances it is important not to lose sight of the values of such mobility in terms of multiculturalism and increased awareness of the diverse cultures within which we work and live. Erasmus mobility will have an impact on this.

* COM (2011) 567 (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2011:0567:FIN:EN:PDF>)