



Erasmus + International Credit Mobility (ICM) Proposal for Partner Universities

Partner Country Higher Education Institution

Legal Name:	BUXORO DAVLAT UNIVERSITETI (in Uzbek) BUKHARA STATE UNIVERSITY (in English)
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1. Relevance of The Strategy

Explain why the planned mobility project is relevant to the internationalization strategy of the higher education institutions involved (both in programme and partner countries). Justify the proposed types of mobility (Student and/or staff).

Bukhara State University is one of the largest scientific and academic centers of Uzbekistan. It has more than 7500 students in 8 faculties. BSU offers academic programs at all levels: from vocational training to post-doctoral studies, including bachelor, master, graduate and post-graduate courses. Long-term scientific and educational international cooperation is based upon direct agreements with many universities and research institutes of the world.

BSU staff has gained expertise in international and national projects, related with quality assurance in higher education, curricula reforms, internationalization etc. Senior staff is actively participating in enhancement of standards in teaching and learning.

Internationalization is one of the main priorities in the BSU Strategic Development Plan for 2015-2020. Our university has become more internationally-known due to active participation in European projects. This participation has significantly contributed to the improved internationalization of the university, as well as improvement in scientific and academic issues. From 2014 in our country, rankings of the HEIs started to be prepared, and internationalization scope is playing very important role in this. BSU has a wide network of contacts of professionals from HEIs of all over the Central Asian Region.

Promotion of mobility, especially at MA and PhD levels, as well as staff mobility is being fully supported by the related authorities in the higher education sphere of Uzbekistan.

2. Quality of Cooperation agreement

Detail your previous experience of similar projects with higher education in this partner country, if any and explain how, for the planned mobility project,

responsibilities, roles and tasks will be defined in the inter-institutional agreement.

So far BSU has participated in 15 Tempus and 9 Erasmus Mundus Action 2 projects. Besides, 12 new projects in new Erasmus+ programme were selected with BSU participation (4 CBHE, 8 KA107).

Some dozens of BSU representatives have passed mobility periods abroad within these projects. Scholarship holders achieved significant results as outcomes of the mobilities, especially:

- Increased employability. All of the exchange projects scholarship holders possess jobs now.
- Increased scientific potential. 7 PhD theses were defended by the scholarship holders.
- Improved professional skills. At the moment, 9 Erasmus Mundus scholarship holders are employed at BSU as high managers, such as vice-rectors, deans and heads of departments.
- Innovations in teaching. Scholarship holders have contributed positively in quality assurance of education at BSU.

Quality assurance in this mobility project will be aimed towards:

- Improving and maintaining students academic standards and performances
- Improving the quality of knowledge triangle
- Improving and promoting international links and collaborative research between EU and CA
- Increasing excellence of education in partner universities
- Better balance of research supply and demand

Quality will be evaluated by the following indicators:

- Variety of the study programmes
- Number of Participants
- Program evaluations
- Student performances
- Number of students completed their study programs
- Number of new projects between partners
- Staff Exchange Performances
- Number of Drop out / Stop out
- Feedbacks
- Student questionnaire will include among others assessment of academic quality in opinion of students (quality of teaching staff, their qualifications in terms of fitting the program/subject profile and content, quality of learning and teaching processes etc.).
- Academic supervisors questionnaire will collect information about and control



students' academic results, language abilities and progress, and overall academic performance.

3. Quality of Project Design and Implementation

For the smooth selection process, the followings are planned:

- Applications will be examined at the same time and separately by the Host and the Home University .
- The Home University will check the fulfillment of the administrative requirements of the candidate
- No candidate will be admitted without the acceptance of the Host University; nonetheless, the evaluation of the Home Universities will be taken into account.
- The Home and Host Universities will rank the candidates according to a grading system based on academic merit, the motivation and the strategic importance and institutional interest of the academic area.
- Language knowledge will be considered as one of the basic requirements.
- Additional criteria will seek to promote equal opportunities, gender balance and social equity.

BSU will support all of the outgoing students from our university in the preparation of their Learning Agreements. Concerning PhD students, their research proposals and the part they will be preparing at host university will be discussed at the scientific council of their department and required tasks will be given to them. Staff members will have enough information about the opportunities host university is providing, so their program will also be designed based on these opportunities.

Together with this, all students will be granted extra language courses by BSU staff.

Recognition of studies abroad will pass different procedures. All course names and marks received by Bachelor and Master exchange students will be written in their diploma appendix. In case of similar courses taken and passed at home university, students will be granted the right not to follow these courses at home university and their marks will be accepted.

PhD and post-doc student's scientific work done at host university will be reported to Department of Science and this period will be accepted as part of the PhD work. As PhD studies in Uzbekistan don't require classes, because they are accepted as pure research work, there is no need to incorporate student's credits to any kind of document.

Period taken abroad of staff members will be registered as training in their work records.

4. Impact and dissemination

BSU will pay special attention to dissemination campaign of the project results.

Main objectives will be:

- to establish a feasible and efficient system of communication aiming to contribute to knowledge creation within the project;
- to inform about the project activities and outcomes and to raise awareness on the key issues addressed by the project among all stakeholders and beneficiaries;
- to facilitate knowledge sharing among the project partners, relevant external actors, and beneficiaries.

Different types of dissemination tools will be used, as the website of the project, leaflets, newsletters, photographs, audio-visual productions, public events, media etc.

For the dissemination of the project, we will be using:

- Websites of the universities. The website will be used for sharing information, news, events, reports, publications, data, photographs and other dissemination materials.
- Leaflets. Detailed leaflets of the project will be useful in providing basic information on the project, data on mobility schemes and a presentation of the partners. The leaflet will include also information on the project funder and on the project website where extra information can be found. Leaflets will be distributed during field visits and other official occasions, like conferences, kick-off meetings, selection meetings, information days etc.
- Public events. As BSU representatives will participate in events organized by main actors and stakeholders in the field of higher education in partner countries, a series of different public events such as workshops, organization of panel at conferences, discussion seminars can be used to present, discuss and disseminate project's inputs and outcomes and to contribute to policy-making.
- Media. BSU will be presenting project information in all Erasmus Plus workshops, trainings and information days within the projects BSU is involved. International Office of BSU has an agreement with main local newspaper "Buxoronoma" about publication of a number of articles in weekly attachment of the newspaper, each devoted to individuals, who have benefited from international projects.
- Social media. Facebook pages will be used for dissemination.