European Commission

Erasmus+ Programme
Erasmus Mundus Design Measures (EMDM)

What is Erasmus+?

Erasmus+ is the EU-funded programme to support individual exchanges and institutional cooperation in the fields of education, training, youth and sport. The programme has a strong international dimension, which opens up many of these opportunities to individuals and stakeholders from countries worldwide. All projects are based on partnerships: the international dimension usually requires a partnership between institutions from 35 countries (EU Member States plus eight countries associated[1] to the programme) on the one hand, and those from non-associated third countries on the other.

What is Erasmus Mundus?

The Erasmus Mundus action comprises **Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM)** and **Erasmus Mundus Design Measures (EMDM)**. They are autonomous funding schemes with independent calls for proposals. EMJMs support joint master programmes during its implementation whereas EMDMs support the design of future joint master programmes.

What is an EMDM project?

Erasmus Mundus Design Measures are projects which support the **design of high-level study programmes at master level**, jointly delivered by an international consortium of higher education institutions (HEIs) from different countries and, where relevant, other educational and/or non-educational partners with specific expertise and interest in the concerned study areas/professional domains.

What does an EMDM project do?

The main objective of the Erasmus Mundus Design Measures is to encourage the development of innovative, highly integrated, new international study programmes at Master level.

By joining the action, beneficiaries will commit to initiate contact and collaboration activities in view of setting up a master programme in line with the definition set for Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters:

- Offer a fully integrated curriculum delivered by a partnership of HEIs (composed by at least three HEIs from three different countries, of which at least two must be from an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme)
- Aim at recruiting excellent students worldwide
- Include compulsory physical mobility for all recruited students
- Lead to either a joint degree or multiple degrees.

[1] The third countries associated to the Erasmus+ programme are the following: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Republic of North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, and Türkiye. **Switzerland and the UK also plan to associate to the programme in 2027, bringing the total of associated third countries to eight.**

Expected outcome of an EMDM: the project is expected to have designed the following joint mechanisms for the master programme under development:

- Joint **programme design** and joint procedures
- Joint **administrative** and financial management
- Common **services** offered to students
- Joint **promotion and dissemination**
- A draft joint **Partnership and Student Agreement**
- A joint **degree policy**

In addition, EMDM projects are encouraged to launch an **accreditation process** + explore opportunities offered by the **European Approach for Quality Assurance of Joint Programmes** (if national legislation allows).

Structure of an EMDM project

- **Mono-beneficiary grant agreement: one beneficiary** mobilising a group of other HEIs (aiming at setting up a consortium)
- **Duration** of an EMDM project: **15 months**
- **EU grant** for an EMDM project: a **lump sum contribution of 60 000 Euros** for costs directly linked to the activities necessary to set up the new master programme and other expenditure in so far as relevant for the implementation of the action.

Who can apply and take part in EMDM? How?

In order to be eligible, applicants must be:

- legal entities (public or private bodies);
- higher education institutions (HEIs) established in one of the eligible countries, i.e. an EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme;
- holders of the ECHE certificate (Erasmus Charter for Higer Education)

More information

Detailed information on the **criteria and funding rules**: Erasmus+ Programme Guide

Information on how to apply to annual calls for proposals is provided on the European Commission's Funding & Tender Opportunities portal**:** https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/home

Erasmus Mundus mailbox: EACEA-EPLUS-ERASMUS-MUNDUS@ec.europa.eu

Look at some examples of EMDMs funded since 2021