



ERASMUS+

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

1.1 Erasmus activities included in our EPS

In this section, you need to tick the Erasmus activities covered by your Erasmus Policy Statement. Please select those activities that your HEI intends to implement during the entire duration of the Programme.

Erasmus Key Action 1 (KA1) - Learning mobility:

The mobility of higher education students and staff

Erasmus Key Action 2 (KA2) - Cooperation among organisations and institutions:

Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices

Partnerships for Excellence – European Universities

Partnerships for Excellence - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

Partnerships for Innovation

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3):

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3) - Support to policy development and cooperation:

1.2 Erasmus Policy statement (EPS): our strategy

Your Erasmus Policy Statement should reflect how you intended to implement Erasmus after the award of the ECHE. Should you wish to add additional activities in the future, you will need to amend your Erasmus Policy Statement and inform your Erasmus National Agency.

What would you like to achieve by participating in the Erasmus Programme? How does your participation in the Erasmus Programme fit into your institutional internationalisation and modernisation strategy?

(Please reflect on the objectives of your participation. Please explain how you expect the participation in Erasmus to contribute towards modernising your institution, as well as on the goal of building a European Education Area¹ and explain the policy objectives you intend to pursue).

In this context of economic globalization and a knowledge-based society, participation in international programs such as Erasmus+, is essential in order to make progress in the internationalization and modernization of the institution.

IES Xabier Zubiri Manteo BHI is a non-university educational institution with more than 15 years of experience in EU Lifelong Learning programs. It has an ambitious internationalisation project that fosters teacher-student Learning relationships with counterpart institutions and companies in Europe with the aim of creating a professional learning community and offering employment in a European environment.

The internationalization strategy of the IES Xabier Zubiri Manteo BHI is ready for the new Erasmus+ 2021-2027 program. We intend to submit projects on both Erasmus KA1 and KA2. Therefore, our main challenges are to look for European partners, share experiences, student and teacher mobility, receive European teachers and trainees, creating networks and, ultimately, contributing to the creation of the European area and further integration in Europe.

Internationalization, modernization and continuous improvement of teaching are fundamental axes of IES Xabier Zubiri Manteo BHI's strategic plan, following the guidelines set out in the Fifth Basque Vocational Training Plan.

The IES Xabier Zubiri Manteo's vocational training is immersed in a process of transformation in which Challenge Based Learning Methodology is one of its main pillars. It leads to a learning process that promotes the development of technical, personal, digital and communication skills as well as creativity, teamwork, initiative, etc. Maintain direct contact with companies and industrial network is another of the institution's priorities.

Participation in the ERASMUS+ program occupies an important place in the Educational Plan of the Centre, with the following challenges for the new stage 2021-2027:

1-Advance to multilingual vocational training by encouraging multilingualism among students and teachers in all professional families, through subsidized training programmes in English and other foreign languages.

2-Continue to promote and support international learning or professional experiences of students, teachers and staff in another country with the aim of contributing to their employability and the competitiveness of our companies

3- Strengthen the openness towards other countries by attracting students who want to do their internship in Basque companies and teachers in training or teaching. Foreign students and teachers enrich the international experience of our own students and teachers and help them develop linguistic and intercultural skills.

4-Develop international cooperation between counterpart institutions and companies related to vocational training in other European countries by creating partnerships. This allows our trainees to carry out professional internships in international enterprise networks. We intend to consolidate and expand bilateral training exchanges in the workplace

5- Expand influence and participation in international forums and networks with VET institutions, universities and companies from all over Europe so that our teaching staff are constantly updated from a technical, pedagogical and competency point of view (European projects).

6- Ensure inclusive vocational training committed to sustainable development. In order to welcome and respond equitably to all the diversity present in students: whether of social, religious, family, cultural, sexual, gender, capacity or any other origin, appropriate educational actions are designed for their integral development and promote their well-being and social participation. On the other hand, we consider education as an essential strategy for achieving social, environmental and economic sustainability. That is why the institution promotes sustainable development goals as cross-cutting issues and supports innovation and partnerships with internal and external partners for sustainable development solutions.

Please reflect on the Erasmus actions you would like to take part in and explain how they will be implemented in practice at your institution. Please explain how your institution's participation in these actions will contribute to achieving the objectives of your institutional strategy.

The IES Xabier Zubiri Manteo BHI internationalization strategy is ready for the new Erasmus 2021-2027 program. We aim to renew the Erasmus ECHE Charter and, therefore, be empowered to present projects in all European lines, both KA1 (Learning mobility), as well as KA2 (Partnerships and Cooperation Projects).

The actions we would like to participate in are:

1.-Student mobility for traineeships in foreign companies. It brings added value to students in terms of developing specific work skills and even greater knowledge of the language, culture and working environment of the foreign country, thus enhancing their employability.

2.-Staff mobility for training abroad. It provides an opportunity to acquire new skills and attitudes necessary to consolidate the transformation of vocational education and training and to respond to the needs of students and staff. It also allows us to formalize agreements with different institutions.

3.- Development of joint projects with foreign partners for innovation and exchange of experiences and good practices. It allows to promote relationships with peer centres, universities and companies in other countries and to create networks that allow solutions to different needs through the transfer of knowledge and /or project results.

IES Xabier Zubiri Manteo BHI, through its internationalization team, and with the intention of providing support to all those people in our educational community who wish to participate in an international project, is committed to:

- Provide information and training to the educational community. International project calls are disseminated on the web, social networks, and by email, and informative seminars are given for all those interested in applying for them.
- Offer advice and support in the preparation of staff and student mobility and in cooperation projects.
- Attend courses and presentations on Erasmus +KA2 projects organized by Tknika - Basque Country VET Innovation Centre - to learn from others experiences and improve our own skills and knowledge in this field.

The coordinators of the internationalization team encourage the participation of the teaching team in specific innovation VET projects, providing full support from the start to the end of the project implementation. They also advise on the search for partners and opportunities, provide support in preparing applications, collaborate in the integral management of projects throughout their lives and organize training actions in connection to new European and international funding calls and the preparation of successful proposals.

What is the envisaged impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on your institution? Please reflect on targets, as well as qualitative and quantitative indicators in monitoring this impact (such as mobility targets for student/staff mobility, quality of the implementation, support for participants on mobility, increased involvement in cooperation projects (under the KA2 action), sustainability/long-term impact of projects etc.) You are encouraged to offer an indicative timeline for achieving the targets related to the Erasmus+ actions.

By carrying out training internship and staff training on a European country, the school offers a unique opportunity to acquire high qualification and skills, not only professionals in a different production environment but also the necessary motivation for their integration into EU member countries as committed citizens.

Participation in the Erasmus+ program allows to:

1.-Promote students and staff skills development. Students and teachers involved in these activities will improve their skills in professional, linguistic and digital fields, as well as leadership and interpersonal relationships. In particular, students will train to work as a team and learn to feel and act as European citizens. It also enables them to develop adaptability, self-management and new skills, with the aim of improving the employability skills of students in the areas of information technology, tourism, commerce and administration and finance.

2.-Involve students and staff in new learning environments. Students and staff are able to learn new methodologies applied to the classroom, professional requirements needed in different countries and the way enterprises work and are connected with VET Schools. In addition, it allows to get new contacts and collaboration with foreign institutions and companies.

3.- Promote the values of integration, tolerance and solidarity. The aim of the participation in mobility and cooperation programs is to prepare students and staff to understand and accept different cultures and moral

and religious values. Students and staff must be aware of the need to understand the current labour market with an open and comprehensive vision, understanding the countries nearby as part of their future projections.

4.-Encourage students and staff to face professional future. One of the most important aspects of our higher education system is its connections with the labour market. We strongly believe that carrying out student and staff mobility will increase the effectiveness of our work and the reality of our school development, making us more efficient, encouraging our students to face their professional future.

5.-Build an inclusive and connected VET educational system. The participation in the Erasmus+ program offers the chance to create relationships between companies and VET institutions and expose our differences and similarities. This will give our school a broader view of other realities so that these experiences can help us improve our own practice.

The internationalization team conduct the program and projects evaluation based on the following indicators of achievement:

- Quantitative: number of participants and their growth, skills gained by participants, number of students and teachers received, number of partners abroad, contacts with companies abroad, number of countries and number of projects.
- Quantitative: feedback from students/staff, feedback from participants and partners from satisfaction surveys, interest shown by students and teachers in the program prior to the Erasmus+ information days, staff who show interest in collaborating and taking part in international projects.

We also analyse project development process through statistics and provide general comments on projects, highlighting strengths and weaknesses, and possible improvements.