

**Title of partnership:**

**ENVERA – MESPOM: Environmental Education and Research Alliance**

**Masters Course running the Partnership:**

MESPOM, Environmental Science, Policy and Management

**Duration:** 3 years

**Summary description:**

The main aim of the Environmental Education and Research Alliance (ENVERA) Partnership is to foster an international excellence and mobility network for postgraduate environmental education and research. ENVERA will support the MESPOM Erasmus Mundus course (<http://www.mespom.org/>) by ensuring that its students and faculty develop and apply globally relevant skills and knowledge for solving environmental problems in diverse international contexts. More broadly, ENVERA aims to stimulate a global network of excellence for post-graduate environmental education and research. Such a network, with its hub in Europe, will not only facilitate student and faculty mobility, but will also contribute to harmonisation and quality enhancement of post-graduate environmental education worldwide based on the Bologna process. This will eventually contribute to enhancing the visibility and global relevance of European higher education.

The ENVERA Partnership will last for 3 years and involve, in addition to the four MESPOM partners (Lund University, Central European University, the University of the Aegean and the University of Manchester), leaders in environmental education and research from several global regions: Eastern Europe, South-East Asia, North America, and Australia. The third country institutions involved in the Partnership include: University of Melbourne (Australia), Belarus National Technical University, University of Saskatchewan (Canada), Shandong University (China), D. Mendeleev University of Chemical Technology (Russia), National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" (Ukraine), Middlebury College in consortium with the University of Vermont (USA).

The geographic and disciplinary diversity of ENVERA partners corresponds to the interdisciplinary, global and social context-dependent nature of contemporary environmental challenges. It ensures that MESPOM European students and faculty will have a wide choice of possibilities for learning, teaching and research according to their interests.

The MESPOM European students will spend one or two months of their research (4th) Semester in ENVERA partner universities, conducting supervised research activities leading to their Masters' thesis and receiving research training. This will be credited as 6 (1 month) or 12 (2 months) ECTS credits being equivalent to research activities and training that they would otherwise receive at MESPOM Consortium partners. All EU MESPOM students who have successfully completed the taught programme (Semesters 1-3) will be eligible for participation in the mobility scheme, which will be able to accommodate all or most of such students. This means that six EU MESPOM students will participate in Year 1 and eight - in Years 2 and 3. Allocation of students to partner institutions will be based on their academic interests, past academic performance, language mobility, areas of expertise and capacity of ENVERA partners.

MESPOM faculty will participate in teaching and research on a variety of environmental topics in partner universities. It is envisioned that 8 MESPOM faculty will participate in the mobility scheme in Year 1, 9 - in Year 2 and 10 - in Year 3. The duration of their visits will be from one to three months. The faculty

closely involved in delivering the MESPOM course and requested by partner universities will be given priority in participation in the mobility scheme. The primary language of ENVERA partnership will be English (the language of the MESPOM course), whereas the possibility of using other languages (notably Russian and Chinese) will also be present.

In addition to outgoing mobility of MESPOM students and scholars, the ENVERA partnership will include two-way exchanges of teachers and students between the partners as well as regular meetings (based at the CEU Summer University and the Curriculum Resource Centre) of junior and senior faculty from Partner institutions which will form a discussion, knowledge exchange and training platform for developing post-graduate environmental education worldwide.

#### **European Partners:**

- 1) SE - Lund University
- 2) HU - Central European University
- 3) EL - University of the Aegean
- 4) UK - University of Manchester

#### **Third-Countries Partner Institutions:**

- 1) University of Melbourne (Australia)
- 2) Belarus National Technical University (Belarus)
- 3) University of Saskatchewan (Canada)
- 4) Shandong University (China)
- 5) D. Mendeleev University of Chemical Technology (Russia)
- 6) National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" (Ukraine)
- 7) Middlebury College & University of Vermont (USA)

#### **Contact:**

Dr. CHERP, Aleg  
<http://www.mespom.org>  
Central European University  
Nador u. 9  
H - 1051 Budapest

#### **Grant**

305.600 € (45.000 € partnership + 260.600 € scholarships)