

EU-Africa cooperation through Erasmus+

What is Erasmus+ ?

Erasmus+ is the European Union (EU) programme for education, training, youth and sport for the period 2014-2020. Erasmus+ funds academic and youth mobility and cooperation between Europe and other regions in the world, including Africa.

Erasmus+ supports activities that are closely matched with the EU's priorities for policy cooperation with the continent.

African countries can take part in Erasmus+ as Partner Countries in four types of projects in the higher education sector, and in youth cooperation projects.

Student and staff mobility, 2015-2017

In 2017, we celebrated 30 years since the first students moved between European universities in the Erasmus programme. With Erasmus+ this type of short-term mobility for students, researchers, and staff has also been extended to cooperation beyond Europe allowing students to study in a foreign university for 3-12 months and obtain credits which are then recognised at the sending institution as part of their degree. A grant for staff mobility is also possible for 5-60 days.

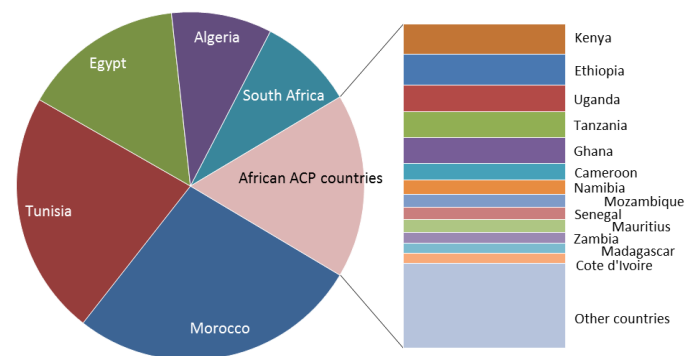
Under this action, European institutions form bilateral partnerships with universities in Africa.



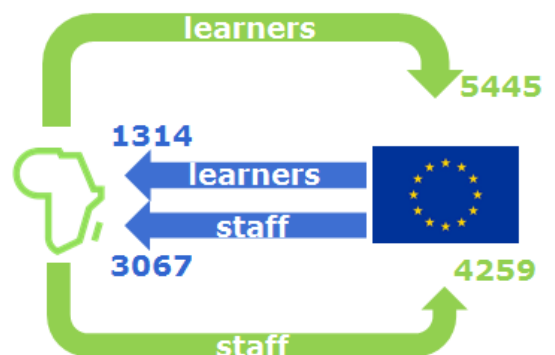
African countries are covered by three different regional budgets- the Southern Mediterranean, covering five Maghreb countries, a single-country budget for South Africa and a budget for the African countries that are part of the ACP group of

countries (see map). Together they comprise **almost 14.5 % of the worldwide budget** which has so far has established 770 projects for partnerships that organise **mobility for over 9,700 African students, researchers, and staff.**

Africa - mobility per country:



Erasmus+ student and staff mobility between Europe and Africa: 770 projects, over 14 000 people moving



Did you know...?

The Joint Communication on a renewed impetus for the Africa-EU partnership proposes to reinforce the African chapter of the Erasmus+ Students and Alumni Association

The University of Limerick, Ireland has a mobility agreement with the University of Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. As part of this agreement the two universities exchange students and staff from their respective music schools, the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, and the Yared School of Music.

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees (EMJMDs) award full-degree scholarships to Master students from around the world covering tuition, travel, and a living allowance. The programmes last from one to two years during which students study in at least two different European countries. Upon graduation, they are awarded a joint or double degree, or multiple degrees.

Students can apply to these programmes even if the university where they studied is not involved in any of them. They have to look for the available programmes in the EMJMD Catalogue and apply directly to the programme coordinator: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/library/emjmd-catalogue_en

African institutions can also be part of the consortia that deliver these programmes, as Full Partners, which means they officially

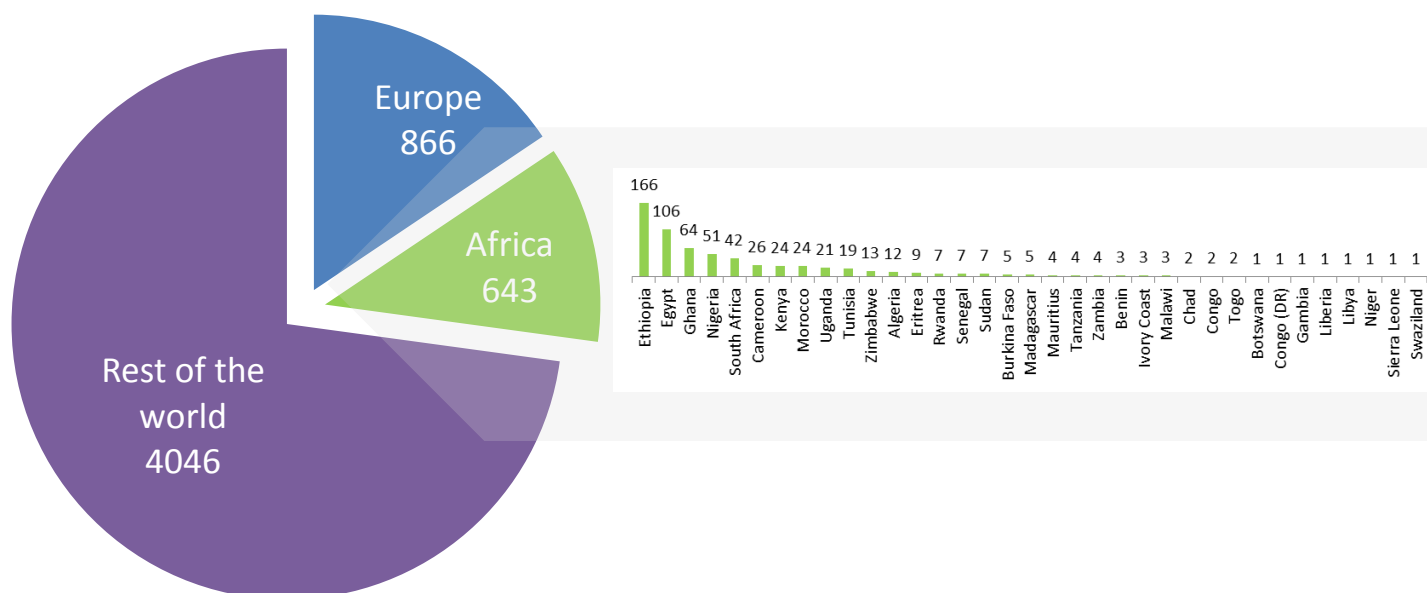
award degrees, or as Associated Partners, where they participate in the programme in some kind of capacity, but do not award the actual joint degree.

African partners

From 2014 to 2017, **62 institutions** from Africa were involved in **35 of the 108 selected EMJMDs**. Of these, 56 African institutions took part as associated partners in 29 of the EMJMDs, and 12 African universities as full partners in nine of the projects.

Countries with the highest rate of participation in EMJMD programmes were South Africa, Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt. Top participating institutions were: the Stellenbosch University (South Africa), involved in a total of five EMJMDs, as well as the University Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar (Senegal) and University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa) – each of them involved in three EMJMDs.

Erasmus Mundus scholarships awarded, 2014-2017



Extended Sustainable Territorial Development - ESTEDE

ESTEDE bundles together European expertise from Italian, Belgian and French universities in different aspects of sustainable territorial development to train practitioners and administrators. Recognising the specific challenges Africa faces in this domain – such as migration and water management and land-grabbing - the current second edition of the programme includes partners from universities in three major African cities - Cairo, Ouagadougou and Johannesburg.

Each year the EU funds 15-20 full scholarships: in 2017 this intake included students from Cameroon, Morocco, Egypt, Ethiopia and Tunisia as well as Europe, Asia and the Americas.

Erasmus Mundus Africa, 2014-2017



643 scholarships for African masters students



62 organisations from Africa involved

European Master in Migration and Intercultural Relations - EMMIR

The consortium consists of 7 universities in Germany, the Czech Republic, Norway, Slovenia, South Africa, Sudan and Uganda. The programme combines expertise in migration studies with intersecting fields, such as gender studies, cultural studies, education and development studies.

The programme, unique in combining the expertise of African and European universities, strongly encourages students to critically evaluate and to enrich existing knowledge, concepts, theories and terminologies.

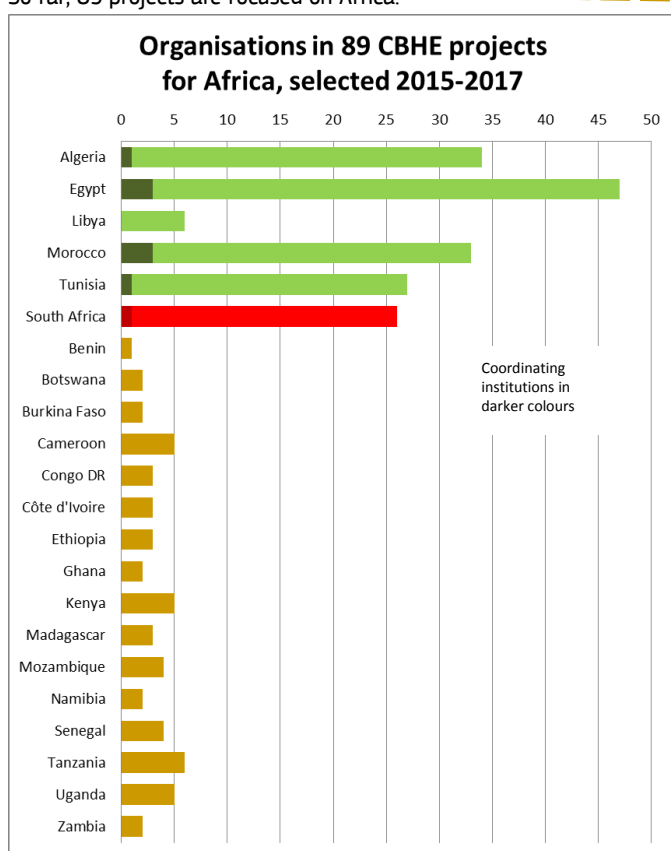
In the fourth semester of study, students attend the partner university of their choice, among which the Mbarara University of Science and Technology (Uganda) and the Ahfad University for Women (Sudan).

Capacity Building in Higher Education

There are two types of Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) projects, which all last from two to three years. Joint projects are aimed at modernising and reforming higher education institutions, developing new curricula, improving governance, and building relationships between higher education institutions and enterprises. Structural projects can also tackle policy topics and issues, preparing the ground for higher education reform, in cooperation with national authorities.

Capacity building projects can be addressed to a group of ACP African Countries or to a single country and they can also be cross-regional and include partners for example from Northern Africa or South Africa. Before 2014, the EU supported regional programmes with similar aims including Edulink for ACP countries.

So far, 89 projects are focused on Africa:



Master Ressources en Eau et Risques Environnementaux dans les Métropoles Africaines

MAREMA is developing a common degree programme to be offered in Benin, Cameroon and Ivory Coast that trains graduates to better address technical and scientific challenges for water resources management and environmental risks in large African cities. Universities from these countries and from France, Belgium and Spain are working together on new scientific tools, a multi-disciplinary approach, problem-solving based learning, research training and development of MOOCs to produce a programme that matches the needs of the labour market.

Capacity-building projects for higher education in Africa 2014-2017



89 projects



218 organisations

Did you know...?

Erasmus+ Capacity Building projects can contribute to jobs and sustainable development by better linking higher education, innovation and research.

Jean Monnet Activities

Jean Monnet (JM) activities aim to develop EU studies worldwide. For over 25 years they have been supporting Modules, Chairs, and Centres of Excellence to promote excellence in teaching and research on the European integration process at higher education level. The programme also supports policy debate with the academic world and a number of associations in the domain of EU studies.

5 Jean Monnet projects are African, managed by institutions from South Africa and Morocco: a Jean Monnet Module, a Jean Monnet Chair, and three Jean Monnet projects.

European Union - Africa Relations in a Changing Global Order 'ERGO'

'ERGO' explores how EU-Africa relations can best be understood today in light of a changing global order, highlighting innovations and challenges, and how the partnership can be updated in key areas such as security, trade, migration, development climate change.

A particular focus of the 2-year Project is placed on engaging 'African voices' - hitherto the least present voices in the debate on EU-Africa relations. International workshops and a conference will bring together academics, students, policy makers, practitioners, stakeholders and other members of civil society from across the continent and beyond. The key outputs will be a book and a series of policy briefs.

Capacity Building in the Field of Youth

Capacity Building projects in the Field of Youth cover a range of activities that encourage cooperation between organisations active in youth empowerment, education of youth, youth training, and other relevant socioeconomic sectors in Programme and Partner Countries from different regions of the world. The projects aim to recognize and improve youth work, non-formal learning, and volunteering, and consequently link this to education systems and the labour market.

During the selection periods between 2014 and 2017, **136 projects in Africa** have been approved. 32 African countries are covered from Benin to Zimbabwe. 6 650 young people and youth workers from European and African countries are involved. Projects are varied in subject-matter, ranging from topics like **human rights to inter-cultural dialogue, gender equality, migration, rural entrepreneurship**.

Did you know...?

Tuning has also brought the students' voice into the harmonisation process, with tasks assigned and a place in the group discussions.. This is an important way of working towards a higher education system that is looking to see how best to serve countries' needs for socio-economic growth.

Did you know...?

The Joint Communication on a renewed impetus for the Africa-EU partnership proposes a Youth Empowerment programme building on Erasmus+ to develop the capacities of youth organisations and promote mobility between young people in Africa and Europe.

Youth Capacity Building projects for Africa countries, 2014-2017



136 projects



209 organizations

from African countries

Youth Empowerment through Social Entrepreneurship "We Care" (YES, WE CARE)

African partners: 'Youth volunteers for community development' Kenya, 'Never again Rwanda' Rwanda, 'Let us save Uganda', Uganda

The project YES, WE CARE aims at empowering young people from Europe and Africa to embrace the opportunities of social entrepreneurship and to make a benefit from it by boosting an impact in their communities and in the same time, creating jobs for themselves and thereby, contributing to the solution of the youth unemployment in the countries.

The project intends to inspire youth to build up their network and be engaged in entrepreneurial activities around certain societal issues, caring for the homeless, sick or elderly, becoming aware about preserving the nature or helping vulnerable groups.

Joint Africa-EU higher education harmonisation initiatives

Two interlinked initiatives, the Harmonisation and Tuning initiative (Tuning Africa), involving 107 universities across 42 African countries, regional bodies and students, and Harmonisation, Quality and Accreditation (HAQAA) are examples of the excellent collaboration of the EU and the AU in the field of higher education.

Tuning Africa is a collaborative process reviewing through consultation with students, academics, graduates and the labour market, the competences and skills that are required for a given discipline and revising study programmes. HAQAA is supporting the Pan African Quality Assurance and Accreditation Framework and in particular the development of continent standards and guidelines for quality assurance in higher education, capacity building in the regional and national bodies in charge of higher education and building up expertise in the field of institutional evaluation and quality.

More information:

Erasmus+ website:

http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/node_en

Erasmus+ projects & results:

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/>

Erasmus+ funding opportunities:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/funding_en

Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association:

www.em-a.eu

Study in Europe:

<http://ec.europa.eu/education/study-in-europe/>

Joint Africa-EU Strategy:

<http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/en/about-us/what-partnership>

Joint Communication for a renewed impetus of the Africa-EU Partnership:

http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-17-1189_en.htm

Tuning Africa:

<http://tuningafrica.org/en/>

HAQAA:

<https://haqaa.aau.org/>