

# Experience Sharing Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education

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**Central European Joint Info Day**  
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# Content of today's presentation

- Short introduction to FH JOANNEUM & its experience in Erasmus+
- Ideation & matching it with Erasmus+ priorities
- Consortium formation & involvement of major stakeholders
- Content of the proposal & work packages
- Consortium management
- Covid-19 experiences

# FH JOANNEUM & Erasmus+ experience

# FH JOANNEUM



- Leading University of Applied Sciences
- 49 degree programmes
- More than 4.000 Students, >600 staff
- More than 260 partner universities in countries all over the world – global business programme
- Collaboration with industry in the center – combine research and industry in teaching and R&D
- Centers of excellence for automotive engineering, aviation, (international) project management, ...
- R&D activities – currently around 270 ongoing projects

# Center of Excellence @ Institute of International Management

- Research unit focusing on (international) project management, entrepreneurship, innovation management, business development and marketing
- Combines expertise of lectures and researchers
- 16 years of experience in funded and contractual R&D
- 15 Staff plus student support
- 21 currently ongoing EU projects
- 6 nationally funded and consulting projects
- Submission of a large number project applications every year in all relevant calls

# Erasmus+ experience

- Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education
- Erasmus+ Knowledge Alliance
- Erasmus+ Collaborative Partnerships in Sport
- Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships
- Erasmus+ KA3 - Support for Policy Reform Centers of Vocational Excellence

## Region/Country experience

Asia – China, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, Bhutan, Nepal, India & Sri Lanka

Latin America – Argentina, Brasil, Peru, Mexico & Peru

Central Asia – Kasachstan, Turkmenistan & Uzbekistan

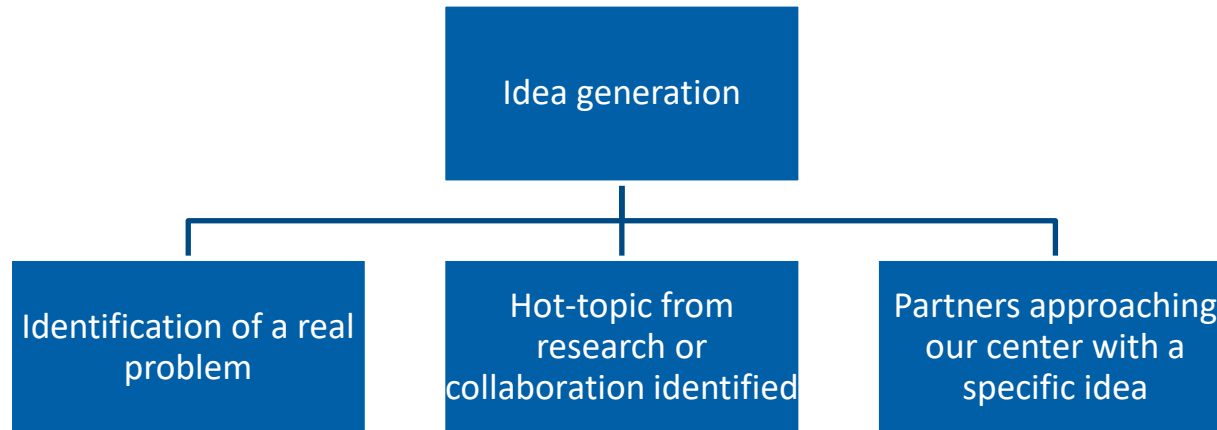
Eastern Europe – Albania, Bosnia, Montenegro, Mazedonia & Kosovo

Coordinator & partner experience

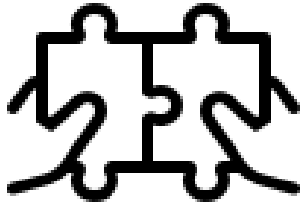
# Ideation & matching with Erasmus+ priorities



# Ideation on 3 levels



# Not every idea is a match for Erasmus+ CBHE



- Erasmus+ CBHE priorities MUST be checked before working on an idea for a CBHE proposal
- If you have a good idea which does not match with the priorities, modify your idea always considering the benefits/impact not only for the programme but also for the partners
- If the idea is not “real”, then you will have troubles with the implementation

## What makes an idea, a good idea?

- Be precise
- Be different and innovative
- Tackle a real need
- Value creation - think about the main benefits for all your target groups – are they real?
- Be passionate about the topic
- Create something tangible to create sustainable change
- Be realistic - keep in mind that you cannot change the world (scalability) BUT you can create a positive impact on a regional level and educate rethinking
- Success rates for proposal per region



# Consortium formation & involvement of major stakeholders

# Consortium formation (1)



- Identify suitable partners – country/location, specialisation, reputation/previous experience in projects, ...
  - Mobilities can help to get in touch with possible partners
  - Check beneficiary spaces for possible partners
- Clear and transparent communication is key
- Expectation management important
- Send partner information templates early to check the quality of information delivered

## Consortium formation & major stakeholders (2)

- Incorporate higher education partners from EU and your target region
  - At least two EU partners – never worked with more than 3 EU partners
  - At least two HEI partner from third countries
  - Always worked with multi-country projects e.g. Thailand and Vietnam – keep cultural differences mind although countries are close to each other
  - Include HEI management, companies and policy makers from the beginning on – third countries in focus
  - Focus on student integration as well



# Consortium formation & major stakeholders (3)



Work on developing a team spirit from the first moment on – coordinator is the link between all consortium members and major stakeholders



# Content of the proposal & development of work packages



# Content development for the proposal (1)

- Make yourself familiar with the templates provided by EACEA
- Follow the instructions given in the programme guide – make sure you cover everything
- !! Get in touch with your national agency to get some support/input!!
- Work together with your partners – they know their country and current status-quo best
- Prepare templates for content development support and be clear in what you need



## Content development for the proposal (2)



- Present your idea in a specific manner
- Focus on reliable sources for content development
- Be realistic in terms of planning – you only have limited resources
- Make sure you create tangible and valuable outcomes for diverse target groups connected to the project
- Think about introducing “national coordinators” to ease content development

# Work packages

- Create work packages that are sequential timewise and self-contained
- Always include work packages – dissemination & exploitation, quality assurance and project management
- Make sure EU & partners from third countries lead work packages according to expertise
- Check with partners if they are happy to lead work packages – never just allocate WP leads
- PM work package always with coordinator and if in place “national coordinators”

# Implementation of work packages

- Coordinator always is the control partner in each of the work packages – work closely with each WP lead to ensure timely implementation
- Be prepared as a coordinator to take over tasks & give instructions in the project – often partners only show commitment once it is coming from the coordinator
- Creation of high quality outputs with relevance for major stakeholder in the center of attention – refer to the expertise of partners

# Consortium management

# Consortium management (1)

- Be aware of different working styles and cultures (hierarchies, ...)
- Be flexible and polite
- If you are working with multi-country projects – make sure partners mix with each other
- Coordinator as main contact point for all partners
- Make sure that you create a team spirit and allow all partners to be part of the team equally

## Consortium management (2)

- Make sure you work with an online project management tool – stick with it and only use this one for communication
  - Partners need to get used to it
- Motivate partners on a continuous basis and talk to each one of them individually regularly

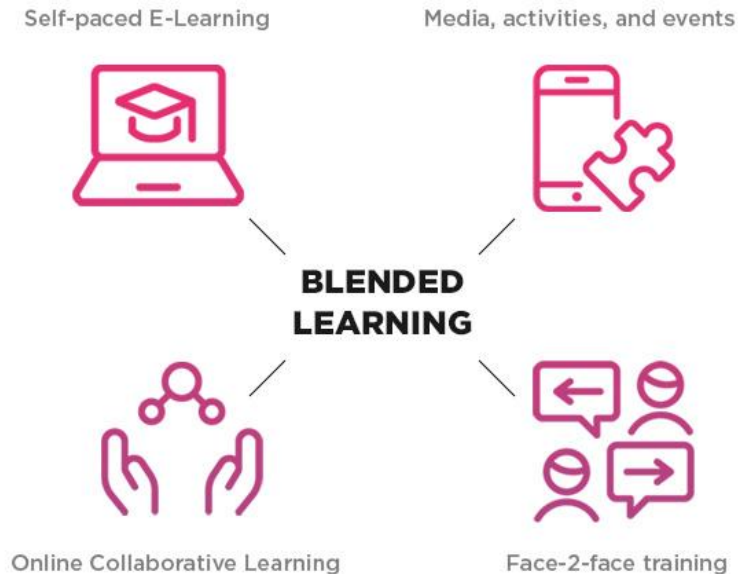
# Covid-19 experiences



## Covid-19 experiences

- Personal communication cannot be substituted by online
- Several cultures only build up trust and commitment once personal meetings happened
- Often tricky to get connected to partners and create involvement from everyone
- Still, several tasks such as PM meetings and internal coordination meetings for WPs can easily be done online

# Covid-19 - Blended learning as a game changer



# Covid-19 experiences

- Be flexible and re-think your workplan on a regular basis
- Think about starting with tasks earlier than planned such as equipment purchase

**For more info/questions please  
get in touch with me:**

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