

Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

The fact that the Sociedad Cooperativa Madrileña Teide-Hease (SCMTH) is a Vocational Education and Training Organisation which holds the European Seal of Excellence 400+ points compels us both to work hard on becoming a more leader in the field of Vocational Training and to foster excellence and innovation in the teaching process.

Nowadays, labour market is not only demanding employees who have solid and broadly-based knowledge, but also it is demanding more and more dynamic professional profiles good at multitasking and who have received international training.

Therefore, we strongly believe that we must devote our efforts to the modernisation and internalisation of our educational programmes.

In general terms, our organisation is open to make agreements with any European partner whose it is chosen in accordance with our educational programmes: Administration and Finance, Sales and Marketing Management, Web Design, Programming, Management Information Systems, Travel Agencies and Event Management, Childhood Education and Building Projects...

We are working throughout several social networks (Facebook, E-Twinning, LinkedIn, Tuenti, Twitter, etc.) to contact both European VET organisations and other companies that are searching for the establishment of Erasmus mobility agreements related to our educational programmes.

At present time the SCMTH has Erasmus mobility agreements for the Key Action 1 with four organisations in three different countries of the European Union (Czech Republic, Italy and Germany). Furthermore, our school is part of a consortium of 8 different organisations in the European Union (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Romania and Turkey) waiting for our project's approval, which is related to Key Action 2, to be executed in order to work on innovative resources in social entrepreneurship networking for employment.

According to the regulations governing vocational schools, it is considered that the possibility of credit recognition by attending workplace training module throughout the European territory. Thus, the Erasmus programme will allow our organisation to be partakers of our students' personal and professional development thanks to the experience gained in this project.

The **main objectives** to be achieved by working on this project are the following ones:

- To strengthen and enhance cooperation among European organisations to provide high-quality education, training and research and to improve the quality and attractiveness of Vocational Education and Training.

- To find new ways to internationalise our education and training systems to make a smarter, more sustainable and inclusive economy.

- To promote lifelong learning, vocational education and further education in order to support the adaption and modernisation of education, training and employment policies.

- To participate in improving personal, linguistic, cultural and professional development and knowledge by giving our students and staff the opportunity to work in an international environment within the European Union and in so doing so to make them have easier access a more and more competitive labour market.

- To acquire new knowledge throughout the fostering of skills such as autonomy, responsibility and business initiative to face daily situations.

- To encourage the creation of a cohesive European society through the development of the professional and personal competences in order to foster both social and cultural inclusion to avoid discrimination.

The **specific objectives** of our mobility activities that have been thought are the following ones:

1. Students:

- To participate in our students' professional and personal development to complete their studies as qualified professionals with the ability of being able to work in multicultural environments.

- To give our students the opportunity to know European labour markets and to integrate them in different social and cultural contexts to face daily situations contributing in this way to the development of skills such as autonomy, responsibility, sense of independence, accountability, personal and professional initiative due to their experience abroad.

- To develop students' linguistic and cultural knowledge to contribute to strengthen social cohesion within the European Union and likewise to avoid discrimination.

- To make our students more competitive so as to make them easier access labour market.

2. Teaching staff:

- To get first-hand knowledge of international organisations and get to know how vocational and training systems work in order to work on the modernisation and internationalization of our organisation.
- To motivate our teaching staff by providing them with a new experience abroad to get to know both European teaching methods and labour markets.
- To improve and enhance cooperation within the labour market between our school and other partners within the European Union.

Institution's strategy for the organization and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme.

European and international cooperation projects are part of our organisation's main global strategies in order to modernise and internationalise the SMCTH.

As it was mentioned above, our chosen partners are those that work in accordance with our educational programmes in Higher Education and the sectors they belong to in order to ensure viability. Those sectors that are mainly dedicated to the fields of Administration and Finance, Sales and Marketing Management, Web Design, Programming, Management Information Systems, Travel Agencies and Event Management, Childhood Education and Building Projects..

In fact, as it was said above, at the present moment, our school has Erasmus agreements for the Key Action 1 and Key Action 2 respectively.

The first one, Key Action 1, consists of agreements with four organisations set in the three European countries (Czech Republic, Italy and Germany) that are mainly concerned on increasing students' international employment opportunities and strengthening linguistic and cultural skills. The second one, Key Action 2, consists of a cooperation consortium of 8 different partners in the European Union (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Romania and Turkey) in order to promote innovation and sense of entrepreneurial spirit within the EU by working on innovative resources in social entrepreneurship networking for employment.

Finally, we have thought of the need of informing and promoting our projects by holding events and seminars and throughout different social networks (Facebook, Tuenti, Twitter, E-Twinning, LinkedIn, etc.) and our school's website (www.teideformacion.com). So, best practices and results obtained from this project will be made available on our school's means in order to recognise its benefits trying to strengthen our spirit of innovation and constant improvement within the European Union.

Impact of the Programme on the modernisation of your institution (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda*) in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve.

1.To increase the number of students making Higher Education more attractive, modern and international.

Learning motivation is always related to the ability of knowing how to use the knowledge that students have gained so far in real projects. In this way, students will be provided with some competences that enable them not only to handle situations in international labour markets but also to face day-in-day situations. Thus, they will have better opportunities in the labour market access.

2.To improve the quality of Higher Education by making European degrees have greater international prestige.

Holding the European Seal of Excellence 400+ points, excellence has always been one of our signs of identity. By working at participating in European projects we think that our students and staff will obtain both a global vision that will open their minds and a feeling of belonging to Europe beyond borders.

Therefore, the better of quality of our educational programmes, the better abilities our students obtain. In this way, we think that the Erasmus programme is a key element to strengthen social cohesion within the European Union that should serve as an engine of our local, regional, national and international development.

3.To establish mobility programmes as a key element in the training on our students.

The practical impact of mobility programmes in the SCMTH is to improve the education among participants by developing participants' linguistic and cultural knowledge, improving their academic records, raising their levels of flexibility and adaptation in different situations, widening opportunities in labour market access and opening their minds what will contribute to lifelong learning.

Moreover, cooperation projects with other organisations will create a continuous contact. Such contacts will both contribute to strengthen our ties with different countries within European Union and foster cooperation in order to spread good practices among all its members.

4.To boost research and promote innovation within our school. At present, we are part of a consortium of 8 different partners (Key Action 2) in the European Union (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Romania and Turkey) in order to boost research and promote innovation within the EU by working on innovative resources in social entrepreneurship networking for employment. This is just the beginning of the way of detecting new possibilities that allows us to adapt them in our school.

5.Efficiency and effectiveness on management have always been one of our signs of identity and the immersion of the SCMTH in the Erasmus+ programmes will foster these signs by giving them a more international character.