ERASMUS MUNDUS EXTERNAL COOPERATION WINDOW (EM ECW)
PROJECT FACT SHEET

Call for Proposals: EACEA/35/08-L20 (Honduras, Guatamala, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Mexico)

Coordinating Institution:

University of Groningen- Netherlands

Members of the partnership:

- Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras- Honduras
- Universidad Pedagógica Nacional Francisco Morazán- Honduras
- Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala- Guatemala
- Universidad Rafael Landívar- Guatemala
- Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua - UNAN – Managua- Nicaragua
- Universidad Nacional Autónoma de León - UNAN – León- Nicaragua
- Universidad de El Salvador- El Salvador
- Universidad Centroamericana José Simeón Cañas- El Salvador
- Universidad Autónoma de Chiapas- Mexico
- Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla- Mexico
- Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Hidalgo- Mexico
- Universidad de Guadalajara- Mexico
- Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México- Mexico
- Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille 1- France
- Technische Universität München- Germany
- Università degli Studi di Padova - Italy
- Universidade do Porto- Portugal
- Universidad de Deusto- Spain
- Universidad Autónoma de Madrid- Spain

Associates:

- Universidad Veracruzana- Mexico
- Universidad Iberoamericana- Mexico
- Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana- Mexico
- Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León- Mexico
- Universidad Autónoma de Baja California- Mexico
- Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey- Mexico
- Universidad Tecnológica Centroamericana- Honduras
- Universidad del Valle de Guatemala- Guatemala
- Universidad Politécnica de Nicaragua- Nicaragua
- Universidad de las Regiones Autónomas de la Costa Caribe Nicaragüense- Nicaragua
- Universidad Dr. José Matías Delgado- El Salvador
- Consejo Nacional de Universidades- Nicaragua
- Consejo Superior Universitario Centroamericano- Guatemala
- Consejo de Enseñanza Privada Superior - Guatemala
- Asociación Nacional de Universidades e Instituciones de Educación - Mexico
- Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya- Spain
- Uniwersytet Jagielloński w Krakowie- Poland

Project Objectives:

The main objective of the project is to establish long standing cooperation of 13 key universities from Mexico and Central American countries, that is El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua and 7 high level universities from EU Countries, that is France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. The cooperation should be instrumental to contribute to the identified country needs and constraints, in particular social cohesion and sustainable development. Key words in this respect are:
employability and citizenship. Objectives derived from the main aim are: 1) development of a strong international network of universities; 2) interuniversity and transnational cooperation within the region; 3) to develop human capital through a cohort of people who have studied in institutions of different European countries and are able to work in different languages and cultures; 4) an intense period of internalization, particularly for a number of universities, among them located in least developed areas; 5) attainment of levels of internationalization in a significant number of universities and organisations, including associate partners; 6) further development of systems of recognition; 7) attainment of methods of social commitment and development of the social dimension as part of the mission of universities -both EU and LA. 8) development of a number of joint degrees, particularly at master level; 9) development of international cooperation at Doctoral School level. The relevance of incorporating the academics and researchers into specific lines of research and training them in research abilities could be one of the actions with the highest impact.

**Brief description:**

Promoting and enhancing cooperation between universities from El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico and Nicaragua and European universities is the main purpose of this project. This aim will be realized through student and staff mobility. Mobility of students and young researchers involves all levels: bachelors, masters, doctorate and post-doctoral studies. A total mobility of 152 persons - 80% Latin Americans - is scheduled during the 48 months running period of the project: 122 students and scholars from Mexico and Central American countries to Europe and 30 students and scholars from Europe to Latin America.

Another objective is to promote and enhance recognition of periods of studies as well as qualifications. The project should have an impact on the main academic fields identified, through cooperation not only in the field of education but also in the field of research. The development of joint degrees – in particular at master level – and international doctoral schools in three of the priority areas should reflect that the universities involved in this project are looking for a sustainable relationship.

Special emphasis is laid on cooperation with less favoured areas in the countries involved, which should result in advancing the quality of universities in those regions. This is underpinned with a clear policy for equal opportunities, assuring gender balance and preventing brain-drain. The project should also contribute to the social cohesion of the Mexican and Central American societies involved by offering education to vulnerable groups and by raising awareness among European universities about the importance of the social dimension in higher education.

The project is based on a Partnership of 13 Latin American universities and 7 European universities. 17 universities and organisations will act as associate partners. The universities have been selected on the basis of a set of criteria: academic excellence, profile, identified academic priority areas and geographical spread both in Mexico/Central America and in Europe. From the 13 LA universities five are located in Mexico. Three of those Mexican universities belong to less favoured zones (BUAP, UNACH and UAEH) and the other two (UNAM and UdG) are among the largest, most prestigious and oldest universities in the country. In the case of the other LA countries, two universities were identified in each case. The universities chosen are the most representative, traditional, and prestigious in the higher education system. Of the thirteen universities selected, seven belong to the Network of Macro-Universities (BUAP, UNAM, UdG, UNAN-Managua, UES; USCG and UNAH). A balance was made between Mexico's participation (with five institutions) and that of the other countries of Central America. Given the size of the Mexican higher education system it was considered appropriate to include five institutions geographically distributed and respecting the criteria of less favoured zones (three universities) and wide coverage of matriculation (the UNAM and the UdG). All universities involved train large number of students from less prosperous backgrounds.

The project is coordinated by the Mexican Studies Centre of the University of Groningen in the Netherlands.
### Number of Individual Mobility Activities foreseen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Mobility</th>
<th>Europeans</th>
<th>Ctry code</th>
<th>Third-Country nationals</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Target Group 1</td>
<td>Target Group 1</td>
<td>Target Group 2</td>
<td>Target Group 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduates</td>
<td>11 HN GT NI SV MX</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>6 HN GT NI SV MX</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctorates</td>
<td>7 HN GT NI SV MX</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-doctorates</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>14</td>
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<td>Teaching staff</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
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