

Erasmus Mundus Programme Guide What's new in the December 2012 edition?

The Programme Guide dated December 2012 adds a number of changes or clarifications to the previous edition (December 2011).

These new elements are valid for proposals to be submitted for the 2013 selection (Call for Proposals EACEA/38/12, deadline 15 April 2013).

Particularly if you intend re-submitting a proposal from a previous selection round, bear in mind that your proposal should be in line with these new provisions.

New element / clarification	Section
<p>As from 01 July 2013, Croatia should become the 28th Member State of the European Union. In this context Croatian Higher Education Institutions and Organisations will be considered as "European Institutions" and will be eligible to apply as applicants to the current Call for Proposal provided that unforeseen events will not delay the accession calendar beyond the Call for proposals award decision. Croatian students will be considered as "European Individuals" and will be eligible to benefit from an EM scholarship as from academic year 2013/14.</p> <p>As from 01 January 2013, a new Financial Regulation (FR No. 966/2012 of 25 October 2012) on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union will enter into force. It will apply to all grant agreements signed from 2013 onwards for the 3 Actions under the Erasmus Mundus Programme (i.e. including Action 1 specific grant agreements). Its main provisions and changes compared to the previous FR have been incorporated in the present Programme Guide December 2012 edition.</p>	
COMMON ELEMENTS APPLICABLE TO ALL ACTIONS	
<p>NEW! Target deadlines for both selection and grant agreement signature have been indicated (respectively 6 and 3 months)</p>	3.1 <i>m) and n)</i>
<p>NEW! Some references, criteria and conditions were updated to be fully in line with the new FR, particularly with respect to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - numbering of the new FR's articles has been referred to regarding exclusion criteria - grants up to 60 000 EUR i.e. low value grants benefit from simplified/lighter conditions for grant application and implementation - interests on prefinancing(s) do not need to be reimbursed anymore to the Agency/EU - definition of no-profit rule more favourable to beneficiary(ies) of an EU grant (the rule remains only applicable to budget based grants) - payment by the Agency of the first-prefinancing and 	3.2 Exclusion criteria 3.3 Selection criteria 3.4 Financial conditions 4.5 Action 1 EMMC / 5.5 Action 1 EMJD / 6.4 Action 2 / 7.6 Action 3 Contractual conditions <i>Payment of the</i>

	second/third prefinancing(s) to be made before respectively 30 and 60 days	<i>grant</i>
NEW!	Clarification on the mandatory publication by the Agency of information on the grants awarded unless the Agency agrees to forgo such publicity upon a substantiated request by the beneficiary Requirement that beneficiaries give prominence to the name and logo of the EC/Agency in their communications or publications Update of the section related to Data protection	3.5 Contractual conditions <i>Information on the grant awarded</i> <i>Publicity</i> <i>Data protection</i>
ACTION 1		
There is no selection of Action 1 projects under the 2013 Call (EACEA 38/12).		
ACTION 2		
NEW!	The number of selected proposals coordinated by the same EU HEI in principle will be limited to a maximum of two.	6.1.2. <i>Eligibility Criteria</i>
NEW!	Under Strand 1 and Strand 2, the duration of Target Group I Master mobility (where eligible) can last up to 24 months, also for Europeans going to third countries, but it must be limited and properly justified.	6.1.2b (Strand 1) and 6.2.2b (Strand 2) <i>Eligible activities (Duration)</i> 6.3 <i>Financial Conditions (table)</i>
NEW!	Under Strand 1 and Strand 2 - in addition to the overall quality of the proposals that will be assessed against a set of award criteria - the Evaluation Committee will consider, if applicable, additional elements such as the geographical coverage of EU and third countries as well as the past or ongoing performance of the partnership within Action 2.	6.1.3 (Strand 1) and 6.2.3 (Strand 2) <i>Award Criteria</i>
NEW!	Under Strand 1 award criteria related to the <i>Relevance</i> of the proposals, applicants are expected to show how their proposal will contribute to strengthen the management capacity of third-country HEIs, especially in those with limited or no experience in Action 2.	6.1.3 <i>Award Criteria (Relevance)</i>
NEW!	Under Strand 2 award criteria related to the <i>Relevance</i> of the proposals, applicants are expected to show how their proposal will contribute to strengthen the exchange of good practice and innovation in the relevant fields of study, especially in HEIs with limited or no experience in Action 2.	6.2.3 <i>Award Criteria (Relevance)</i>
NEW!	Under Strand 1 and Strand 2 award criteria related to the <i>Partnership composition and cooperation mechanisms</i> , partnerships are invited to involve EU and third-country HEIs with limited or no experience in Action 2.	6.1.3 (Strand 1) and 6.2.3 (Strand 2) <i>Award Criteria (Partnership composition and cooperation mechanisms)</i>
NEW!	Under STRAND2, Mobility for Target Group II is also allowed. Priority should be given to mobility under Target Group I.	6.2.2b <i>Eligible activities (Individual Mobility)</i>
NEW!	Partnerships may claim participation costs for 6.000 EUR per student for a mobility period corresponding to two academic years (minimum of 18 months) and 9.000 EUR per student	6.3 <i>Financial Conditions Participation Costs</i>

	for a mobility period corresponding to three academic years (minimum of 27 months).	<i>(footnote)</i>
ACTION 3		
NEW!	No external audit report is required anymore when the grant application is over 300 000 EUR	7.3 Selection criteria <i>Financial capacity</i>
NEW!	Under the new FR, low value grants (i.e. up to 60 000 EUR) benefit from simplified/lighter selection criteria, and contractual conditions with respect to the no-profit rule and the provision of a guarantee prior to receiving a pre-financing payment	7.3 Selection criteria <i>Operational capacity</i> <i>Financial capacity</i> 7.6 Contractual conditions <i>Payment of the grant</i> <i>Guarantee</i>
NEW!	More details regarding the co-financing (own resources or from third-parties) provided to complement the EU grant are requested	7.5 Financial conditions <i>General principles</i>
NEW!	Non-deductible VAT is an eligible cost unless it is related to activities of the public authorities in the Member States	7.5 Financial conditions <i>Eligibility of costs</i>
NEW!	New requirement to submit a "Report of factual findings on the final financial report" in support of the request for final payment	7.6 Contractual conditions <i>Payment of the grant</i>
NEW!	When a guarantee must be provided by (a) beneficiary(ies), it can be replaced by a joint and several guarantees by a third party	7.6 Contractual conditions <i>Guarantee</i>
NEW!	Conditions governing competitive tendering procedures in relation to sub-contracting and award of procurement contracts are clarified	7.6 Contractual conditions <i>Sub-contracting and award of procurement contracts</i>