

**MOBAF 2023 CALL FOR PROPOSALS**  
**Info-session 13 March 2023**  
**Questions and Answers**

**1. Is the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme (MOBAF) part of the EU Erasmus+ programme?**

No. MOBAF is an independent programme and is not part of the well-known Erasmus+ programme. Rules and implementing modalities are different.

**2. Which are the requirements regarding the composition of the consortium to apply under MOBAF?**

Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of at least 5 and maximum 7 applicants (beneficiaries), which complies with the following conditions:

- Minimum 4 and maximum 6 HEIs from the following African regions: West Africa, East and Central Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean
- One HEI from one of the EU Member States (EU technical partner)
- Maximum 2 HEIs from the same eligible country in Africa.

Two categories of projects will be selected:

**Sub-regional projects** involving HEIs from at least **four** (4) different countries from **one** of the following African regions: East and central Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean, West Africa.

**Cross-regional projects** involving HEIs from at least **four** (4) different countries representing the **three** following African regions: East and Central Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean, West Africa.

**3. Can Sub-Saharan African institutions be the coordinating university or must it be the European university?**

Only Higher Education Institutions from Sub-Saharan Africa can be coordinator of a MOBAF project. EU HEIs can only act as technical partner.

**4. Are Higher Education Institutions from North-Africa eligible?**

For this first Call, North African HEIs (i.e. from Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Tunisia) cannot participate as applicants (beneficiaries). They can only participate as associated partners and, as such, cannot receive funds from the project.

**5. Are there any restrictions on how many applications a Higher Education Institution can take part in?**

No, there are no such restrictions. However, the same HEI can only act as coordinator in one project selected under this MOBAF 2023 call for proposals.

## **6. Is the participation of European partners compulsory?**

Yes. In order to be eligible, each consortium must include one (and only one) Higher Education Institution from one of the 27 EU Member States, as technical partner. Other European countries and other types of European institutions are not eligible.

## **7. What is the role of the EU technical partner?**

The Higher Education Institution from EU, participating as Technical Partner, is expected to provide advice and active support through knowledge transfer and experience sharing, particularly in the academic, administrative, and financial management of the project and of the mobility scheme. Its role and participation should be clearly defined in the application. Besides participating in the management of the project, in order to foster capacity building, staff of the EU technical partner can also benefit from staff mobility scholarship for a mobility period at one of the African HEIs members of the consortium.

## **8. Do all partners need a Participant Identification code (PIC)?**

Yes, any university willing to participate in your project, needs to be registered in the Portal [Participant Register](#) and have a valid 9-digit PIC.

## **9. How can we check whether an institution has already a PIC ?**

Indeed, it is important to check if there is already a valid PIC for your university before starting to register. You can find a registered organisation via this [link](#) (Participant register search).

## **10. Is this PIC the same as for Erasmus+?**

Yes.

## **11. In addition to universities, can some research or development structures be integrated into the consortium?**

Other organisations (if relevant) might join the project as Associated Partners.

## **12. Would it be an advantage or disadvantage for ongoing/ completed Intra-Africa Project to use the same partners in the new call?**

The new MOBAF is independent from the previous programme. However, submitted proposals are recommended to include countries and applicants (beneficiaries) with different levels of experience in the programme and to involve and build capacity of less experienced applicants (beneficiaries).

Furthermore, each proposal should demonstrate its innovative aspects. Please, refer to the Call for Proposals.

**13. What is the typical project duration?**

48 months.

**14. Is it possible to apply in all fields, including engineering science.**

The 2023 MOBAF call is open to **all themes/subject areas**. Indicatively 40% of the selected projects will address the thematic fields related to environment and climate change. Please refer to the text of the Call for Proposals for further details.

**15. How can I access the selected projects under the previous Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme ?**

The list of the Intra-Africa projects selected under the previous phase (2016-2020) is available at the following link: [https://www.eacea.ec.europa.eu/scholarships/intra-africa-scholarships\\_en](https://www.eacea.ec.europa.eu/scholarships/intra-africa-scholarships_en)

**16. Which costs can be covered through the MOBAF grant?**

The core MOBAF funding mechanism is based on unit contributions (linked to the duration of the mobility flows):

- Scholarship contribution to individuals (students, trainees and staff) to cover costs linked to travel, installation and subsistence.
- Institutional unit contribution to cover part of the costs linked to the implementation of the mobility scheme, such as project management, coordination, communication and dissemination, services to students including insurance coverage, participation costs including tuition fees, research activities and all other costs necessary to successfully implement the mobility plan.
- Contribution for special needs for mobility of scholarship holders with disabilities.

For more details, please refer to the Call for Proposals.

**17. To which extend must African Higher Education Institutions financially contribute to the projects ?**

Note that there is no compulsory co-funding required from the participating HEIs under MOBAF. The EU provides financial support to cover part of the institutional costs and the scholarships for students, trainees and staff. However, institutions are expected to provide the

necessary complementary resources (in-kind or financial) to ensure a proper implementation of the project.

### **18. What kind of mobility is eligible? What is the typical duration of the mobility flows?**

The programme provides support for 3 different types of mobilities:

- Mobility of students (Master and Doctorate): it must take place in the framework of accredited master level courses and doctoral programmes offered by the beneficiaries HEIs from Africa members of the consortium. The student mobility can be of short term, i.e. **credit-seeking mobility** or for a complete course of an academic programme, i.e. **degree-seeking mobility**.
- Mobility of trainees: it entails placement periods (traineeship) in private or public organisations/business actors as part of their academic programme. To be eligible, trainees should be enrolled in a Bachelor/Master/Doctorate programme in one of the beneficiaries HEIs from Africa members of the consortium.
- Staff mobility: it targets staff members working in one of the beneficiaries HEIs members of the consortium (including the EU Technical Partner). Staff mobility can involve academic, administrative, and technical staff and may include teaching assignments, research activities, administrative tasks, attendance in/delivery of training courses, curriculum development activities, technical support etc.

All mobility activities should be hosted at the African Higher Education Institutions involved in a project as applicants (beneficiaries).

Please refer to the text of the Call for Proposals for the mobility durations.

### **19. How can students join the programme?**

The MOBAF call for proposals is only targeting the Higher Education Institutions, which are responsible to set up a consortium and a project proposal to apply for a grant. Students interested to benefit from a MOBAF scholarship, will have to contact directly the selected consortia, which will be responsible for organising the selection procedure and for awarding the scholarships from 2024 on. The selected consortia will put in place in due time a communication strategy and promotion campaign to target their own students (target group 1) and other African students (target group 2).

### **20. Is nationality an issue to become eligible for a scholarship?**

At the time they apply for a scholarship, student and trainee candidates must be national of and resident in an African country. At the time they apply for a scholarship, staff candidates must be staff members working

for one of the beneficiaries HEIs members of the consortium (including the EU Technical Partner).

**21. Can European students receive mobility grants to go to Africa?  
Can African students receive mobility grants to go to Europe?**

No. The Intra-Africa Academic Mobility scheme targets exclusively African students to study in Africa. European students interested to study in Africa or African students interested to study in Europe might be interested to investigate further opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ programme.

**22. Can the project be entirely written in French or must the project be exclusive in English?**

You can submit your proposal in any official EU language (project abstract/summary should however always be in English). For reasons of efficiency, we strongly advise you to use English for the entire application.