Erasmus+
Capacity Building in Higher Education

Region 9 – Sub-Saharan Africa

European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)

Purpose of the action

Focus on the needs

of the third countries not associated to the E+ programme

Targeting priorities

of the third countries not associated to the E+ programme and matching them with the EU priorities

Maximising benefit

of third countries not associated to the E+ Programme

European Commission

Regions

Western Balkans (Region 1)	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro
Neighbourhood East (Region 2)	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Territory of Ukraine as recognised by international law
South-Mediterranean countries (Region 3)	Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia
Asia (Region 5)	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, DPR Korea, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam
Central Asia (Region 6)	Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
Middle East (Region 7)	Iran, Iraq, Yemen
Pacific (Region 8)	Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
Sub-Saharan Africa (Region 9)	Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Congo - Democratic Republic of the, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Latin America (Region 10)	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela
Caribbean (Region 11)	Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago

Features

Three strands	• targeted support
Regional Priorities	• overarching & sub-priorities
Budget type	• lump sum II
Publication/ application system	• FTOP

European Commission

Three types of CBHE projects

National projects	Multi-country regional projects	Multi-country cross-regional projects
HEIs from one third country not associated to the Erasmus+ Programme	HEIs from several countries not associated to the Erasmus+ Programme from one Region	HEIs from countries not associated to the Erasmus+ Programme belonging to several Regions

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Three Strands:

Strand 1: Fostering access to cooperation in Higher Education

- Projects can last 24 or 36 months
- Funding between EUR 200.000 and EUR 400.000 per project

Strand 2: Partnerships for transformation in higher education

- Projects can last 24 or 36 months
- Funding between EUR 400.000 and EUR 800.000 per project

Strand 3: Structural reform projects

- Projects can last 36 or 48 months
- Funding between EUR 600.000 and EUR 1.000.000 per project
- Involvement of the Ministry

European Commission

Strand 1. Fostering access to cooperation in Higher Education

Target groups

- HEIs from least developed countries
- HEIs located in remote regions
- Newcomers or less experienced
- Individuals with fewer opportunities.

Enhance management or administrative capacities

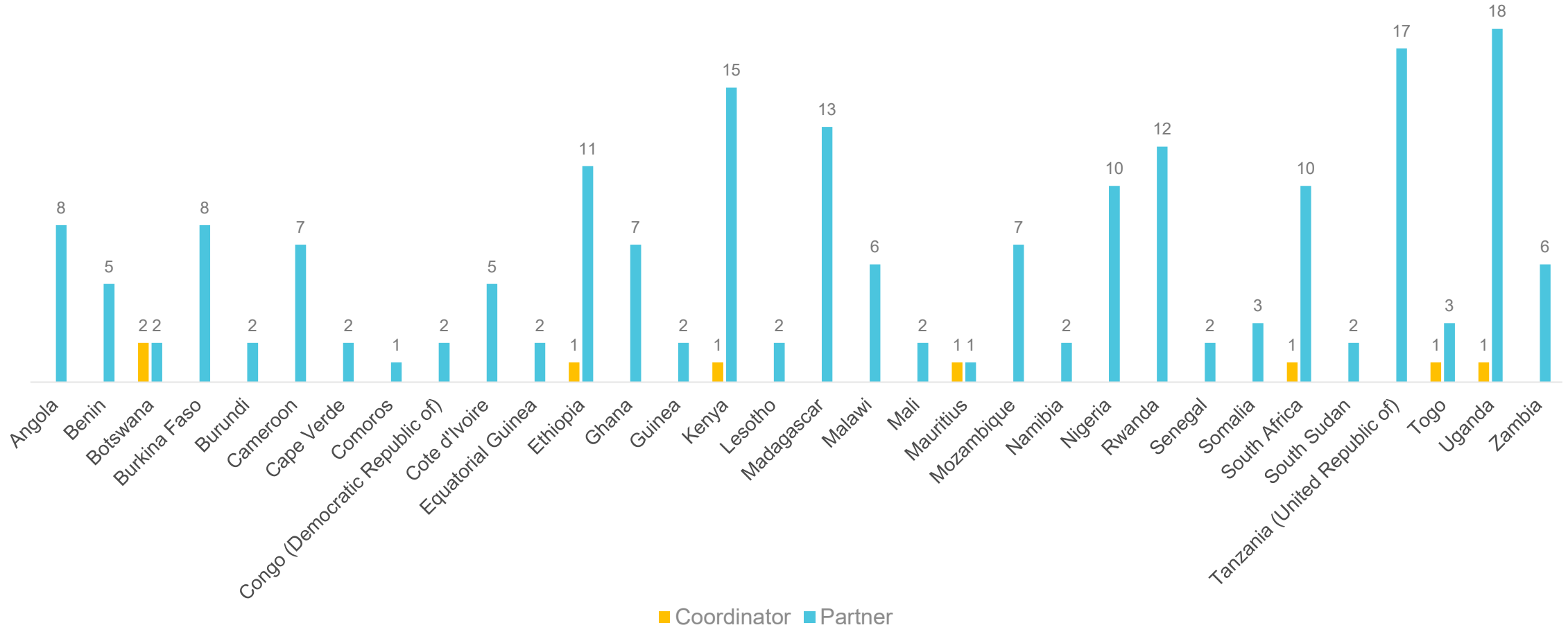
- Reforming and modernising university governance
- International Relation Offices
- Quality Assurance
- Capacity (mobility, evaluation, planning, etc.)

Ensure high quality and relevant education

- modules or **study programmes**, technical or professional orientations of programmes
- developing capacities **for postgraduate student and academic staff** as well as promoting postgraduate students and/or staff mobility;
- implementing **training courses for HEI staff**
- Increasing the **accessibility** of individuals with fewer opportunities

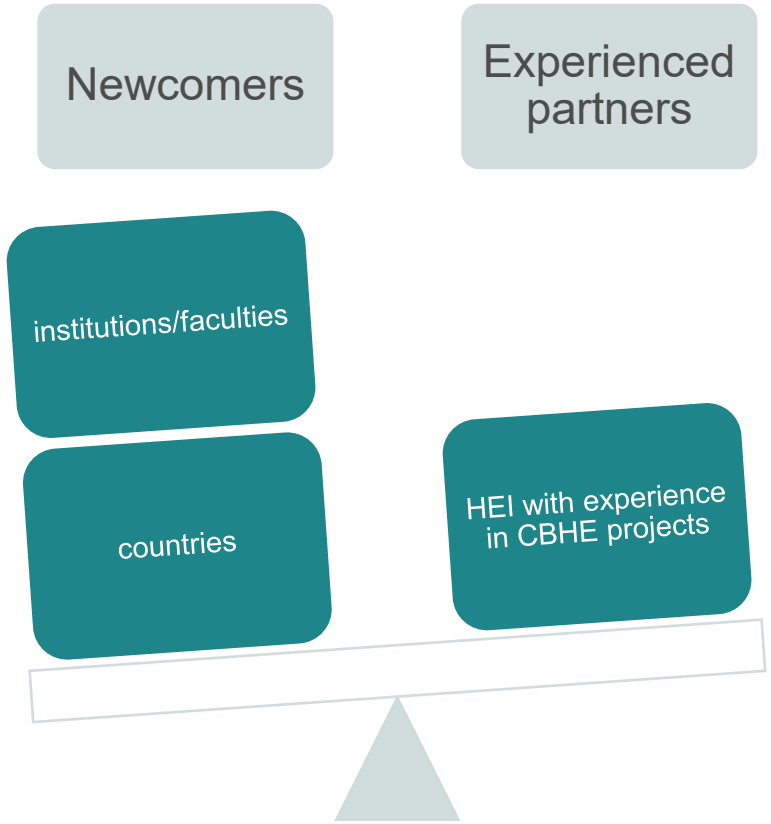
European Commission

Region 9 in 2022 selection - Coordinator and Partner involvement



European Commission

Strand 1. Fostering access to cooperation in Higher Education



Countries with no previous participation in CBHE projects:

- *Central African Republic*
- *Chad*
- *Congo*
- *Djibouti*
- *Eritrea*
- *Eswatini*
- *Gabon*
- *Gambia*
- *Guinea-Bissau*
- *Liberia*
- *Mauritania*
- *Niger*
- *Sao Tome and Principe*
- *Seychelles*
- *Sierra Leone*
- *Sudan*
- *Zimbabwe*

European Commission

Strand 2. Partnerships for transformation in HE

Target groups

- HEIs
- Local actors with a link to industry and business sectors
- Individuals: students, staff, learners in general
- Bodies responsible for HE at local and national level

Innovation in higher education

- **Design of innovative curricula**
- **Innovative learning and teaching methods**
- Active **engagement with the business world and with research**

Promoting reforms of HEIs

- Introduction of Bologna type reforms at institutional level
- Reform of governance and management systems and structures at institutional level

European Commission

Strand 3. Structural reform projects

Promoting reforms and innovation of HE system

Target groups

- HEIs
- **National Ministry for higher education (HE)**
- Research institutions
- Other relevant authorities and stakeholders in the field of HE

Mutual learning between public authorities of the countries involved	Promote inclusive Higher Education systems	Increase capacities of bodies in charge of Higher Education	Identify synergies with ongoing EU initiatives
Foster national ownership	Efficient and effective policy making	Foster common regional strategies in Higher Education	Introduction of funding mechanisms

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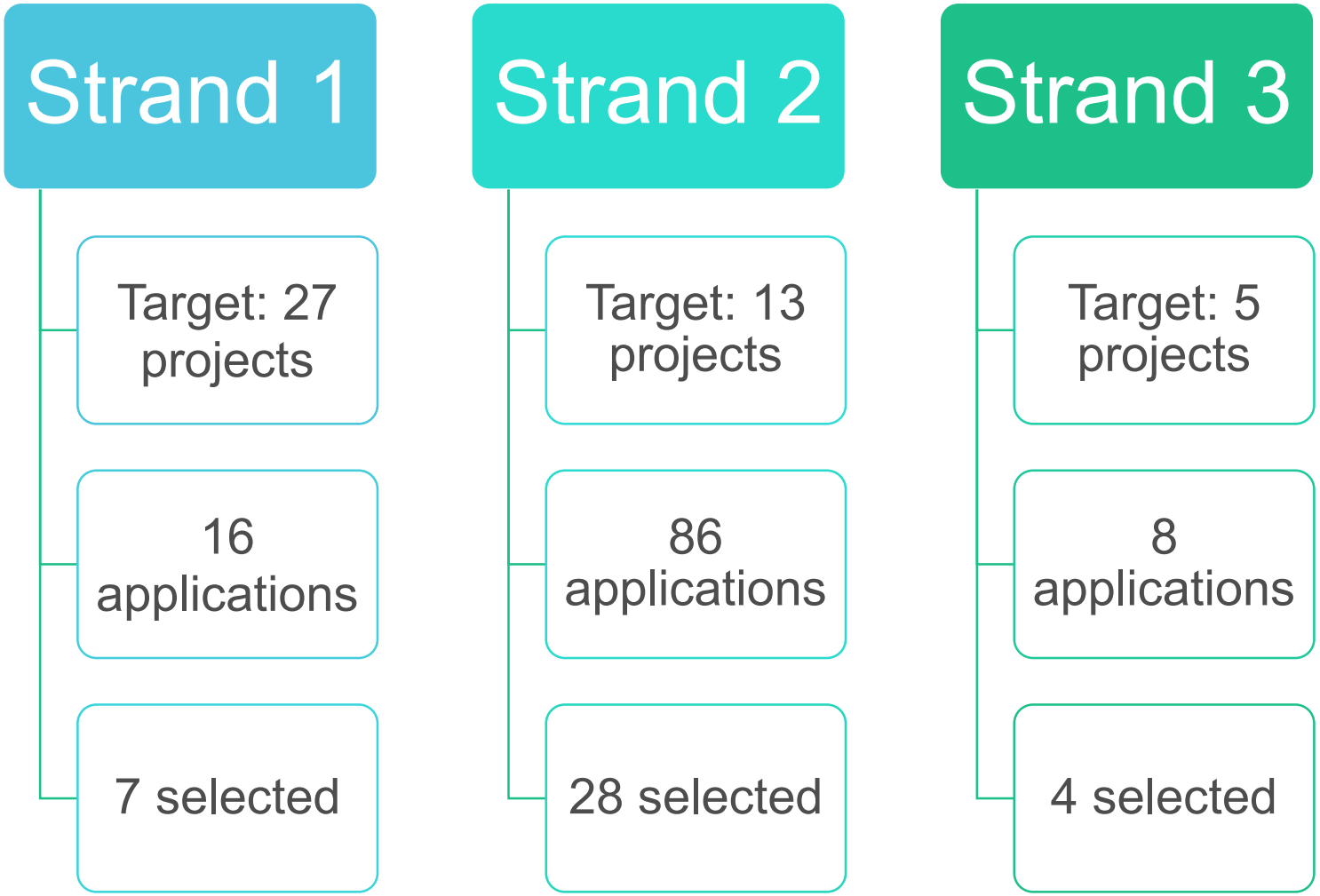
Region 9 applications v/s selected (2022 CfP)



Region 9 Budget available (2023 CfP)

Total:
EUR 28.360.063
47 projects

Strand 1	Strand 2	Strand 3
EUR 11.344.025	EUR 11.344.025	EUR 5.672.013
28 projects	14 projects	5 projects

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Overarching priorities

All priorities are eligible for Region 9 - Sub-Saharan Africa

Green deal

Digital transformation

Integration of migrants

Governance, peace, security and human development

Sustainable growth and jobs

European Commission

Overarching priorities – example of topics

Green Deal	Digital transformation	Integration of migrants	Governance, peace, security and human development	Sustainable growth and jobs
• environment • ecosystems and biodiversity • forestry • sustainable agri-food systems • climate resilience & disaster risk reduction • energy • biodiversity, land, water, oceans & forests • …	• digital transition • information technology engineer • business process analysis • artificial intelligence • process automation/robotic • big data analytics • data and digital security • ...	• academic mobility facilities • social sciences • equity, diversity, and inclusion • human rights • global governance and diplomacy • …	• health: access to vaccines, medicines & health technology products • skills development • public policy • poverty studies • political economy • security and strategic studies • peace and conflict • …	• transport • entrepreneurship • African economic integration & diversification • social, ecological, and economic studies • sustainable finance for sustainable transitions • sustainability studies • social equity • economic governance • knowledge economy • …

Overarching priorities – example of projects

- HOST-EG - Fostering sustainable growth and employment by building higher education capacities in hospitality and tourism management in Equatorial Guinea

Sustainable growth and jobs

- DigiGrad Africa - Internationalisation and Digitalisation of Graduate Training and Research for the Attainment of African Regional and Global Development Goals

Digital transformation

- CHAIN - Cooperation for Holistic Agriculture Innovation Nests in Sub-Saharan Africa

Green Deal

- ANSWER- Advance iNclusion for Students With disabilities on higher Education in Rwanda

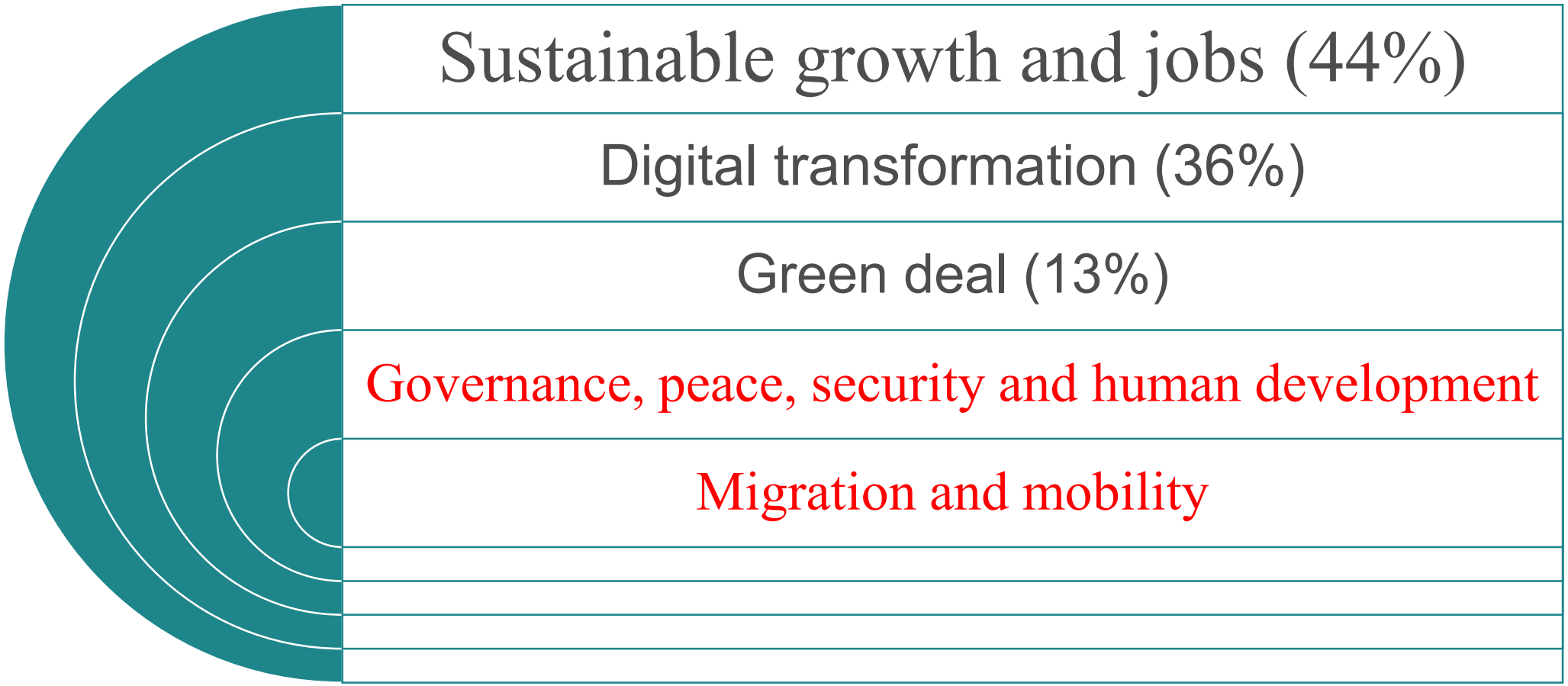
Integration of migrants

- eMAMA - Developing Post Graduate Training Programme for Maternal Mental Health in Sub-Saharan Africa

Governance, peace, security and human development

European Commission

Region 9 in 2022 applications (national&regional)



Eligibility criteria

European Commission

Region 9 in 2022 applications

DISQUALIFIED

~18% ineligible applications

Eligible countries for CBHE projects

- **EU Member States**
  - Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden (27)

- **Third countries associated to the Programme**
  - Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein; Republic of North Macedonia, Republic of Turkey and Republic of Serbia (6)

- **Third countries NOT associated to the Programme**
  - Divided along different regions as defined by the Programme Guide 2023

Who can apply?

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)

Organisations of HEIs

(+ Strand 3 only): recognised national or international rector, teacher or student organisations

established in an EU Member State, in a third country associated to the Programme or in eligible third countries not associated to the Programme

The coordinator applies **on behalf** of **all participating organisations** involved in the consortium**.**

Specific eligibility criteria are dependent on the **Region**, **Type** and **Strand** of CBHE projects and should be looked up in detail in the **Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2023!**

European Commission

Eligibility criteria in detail: Strand 1 + 2

Strand	Geographical coverage of consortium	Institutional coverage of consortium
Strand 1	• at least 2 EU Member States or third countries associated to the Programme; • at least 1 eligible third country not associated to the Programme;	• at least 1 HEI from each participating EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme; • at least 2 HEIs from each participating third countries not associated to the Programme
Strand 2		
The number of applicants from third countries not associated to the Programme must be **equal or higher** than the number of applicants from EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme.		

Eligibility criteria in detail: Strand 3

Strand	Geographical coverage of consortium	Institutional coverage of consortium
Strand 3	• at least 2 EU Member States or third countries associated to the Programme; • at least 1 eligible third country not associated to the Programme.	• at least 1 HEI from each participating EU Member State or third country associated to the Programme; • at least 2 HEIs from each participating third country not associated to the Programme; • national competent authority (e.g. Ministry) responsible for higher education in each of the eligible third countries not associated to the Programme.
The number of applicants from third countries not associated to the Programme must be **equal or higher** than the number of applicants from EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme.		

Eligibility criteria in detail: All strands

- Associations, public or private organisations, including their affiliated entities (if any), active in the labour market or in the fields of education, training and youth located in an EU Member State, in a third country associated to the Programme or eligible third countries not associated to the Programme, may also participate, but not as coordinator **may participate, but not as coordinators**.

- HEIs in EU Member States and eligible third countries associated to the Programme must hold a valid **Erasmus Charter for Higher Education** (ECHE).

- The HEIs, established in eligible third countries not associated to the Programme, and recognised as such by the competent authorities, have to offer **full study programmes leading to higher education degrees and recognised diplomas at tertiary education qualifications level.**

Specific requirements for Region 9 – Sub-Saharan Africa

- ✓For all Strands, priority will be given to the **least developed countries**;
- ✓a special emphasis shall also be put on **migration priority countries** and on **regional projects** involving HEIs from several countries.
- ✓No country can obtain more than 8% of the funding foreseen for the Region.

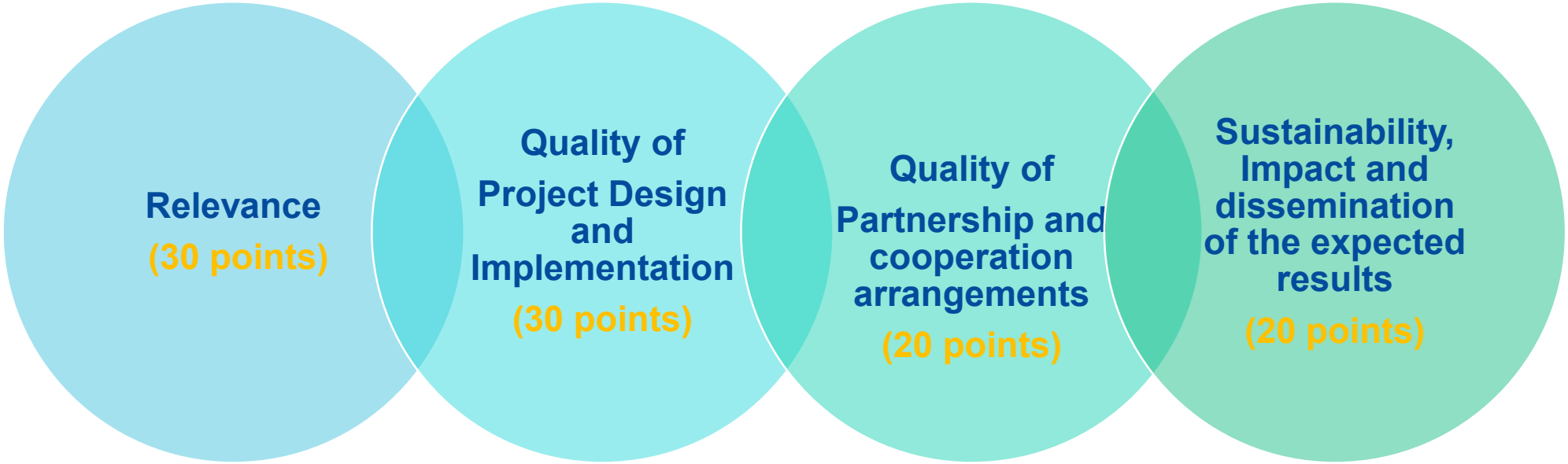
Lessons learned from 2022 selection

Recurrent weaknesses:	insufficient needs analysis
	lack of coherence between budget and activities
	missing milestones
	management structure and mechanism very general and similar in most proposals
	weak dissemination strategy
	priorities of countries/regions chosen not matching with EU overarching priorities
	commitment of Ministry not obvious from application (Strand 3)
	good ideas – bad proposal writing quality
	terminology not understood (innovation, digitalisation, EU added value)

Award criteria

European Commission

Award criteria



- Proposals must score **at least 60/100 points** in total to be selected
- **At least half of the maximum points** for each award criterion.
- In case of equal score, priority to proposals scoring highest under **"Relevance of the project"** and then "**Sustainability, impact and dissemination of the expected results**".

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Application package

Part A - Administrative Forms

- Contains general information about the project, data on the applicant organisation and contact persons

Part B – Technical description & annexes

- Contains the narrative part of the project, the work packages, milestones & deliverables. Detailed budget table is an annex of Part B

Part C – Administrative forms

- Tick boxes related to the proposal's general objective(s) and indicators specific to the CBHE action (N° of impacted students, N° of new study programmes, N° of involved/trained staff, etc.)

✓ Complete Parts A & C directly on the Portal

✓ Prepare Part B in advance and upload it together with the mandatory annexes

Award criteria

Relevance of the project

Purpose

- Relevant to objectives and activities of CBHE and specificities of the Strand,
- Adequate response to current needs of the target country(ies) or Region(s) and of the target groups,
- The extent to which the proposal addresses the EU overarching priorities.

Objectives

- Based on a sound needs analysis; clearly defined, specific, measurable, achievable, realistic,
- They address issues relevant to the participating organisations and development strategies for higher education in the eligible third countries not associated to the programme.

Link to EU policy and initiatives

- The proposal takes into account and enhances complementarity/synergies with other interventions funded by the EU and other entities.

EU added value

- The proposal demonstrates that similar results could not be achieved without the cooperation of HEIs from the EU Mem.

Award criteria

Relevance of the project

- Lack of an appropriate needs analysis adapted to the features of the project
- Target groups or beneficiaries have not been precisely identified

Award criteria

Quality of the project design and implementation

Coherence

- Consistency between project objectives, methodology, activities and the budget proposed,
- Coherent and comprehensive set of appropriate activities to meet the identified needs and the expected results.

Methodology

- The logic of the intervention is of good quality, planned outputs and outcomes are coherent and feasible, and key assumptions and risks have been clearly identified. LFM is sound and adequate.

Work plan

- Quality and effectiveness of the work plan are in line with their objectives and the deliverables,
- the relation between the resources and the expected results is adequate and the work plan is realistic, with well-defined activities, time-lines, clear deliverables and milestones.

Budget

- Cost efficiency and appropriate financial resources for a successful implementation of the project,
- The estimated budget is neither overestimated nor underestimated.

Quality control

- Control measures (continuous quality evaluation, peer reviews, benchmarking activities, mitigating actions etc.) and quality indicators ensure a project implementation of high quality.

Environmental sustainability

- The project is designed in an eco-friendly way.

Award criteria

Quality of the project design and implementation

- Preparation phase is too long
- Lack of consistency between the different parts of the proposal
- Costs effectiveness of the proposal is not ensured
- Unbalanced distribution of budget

Award criteria

Quality of the partnership and the cooperation arrangements

Composition

- Appropriate mix of organisations with the necessary competences relevant to the objectives of the proposal and to the specificities of the Strand,
- most appropriate and diverse range of non-academic partners.

Management

- Solid arrangements are foreseen,
- Timelines, governance structures, collaboration arrangements and responsibilities well defined and realistic

Tasks

- Roles and tasks are assigned on the basis of the specific know-how, profiles and experience of each partner.

Collaboration

- Effective mechanisms to ensure efficient collaboration, communication and conflict resolution between the partner organisations and any other relevant stakeholders.

Commitment

- The contribution from the project partners is significant, pertinent and complementary,
- the proposal demonstrates the partners' involvement, commitment and ownership of the project's specific objectives and results, in particular from the third countries not associated to the programme.

Award criteria

Quality of the partnership and the cooperation arrangements

- The proposal includes staff that will not participate in the project
- Unbalanced distribution of responsibilities among the partners

Award criteria

Sustainability, impact and dissemination of the expected results

Exploitation

- How the outcomes of the project will be used by the partners and other stakeholders; how multiplier effects will be ensured and it provides means to measure exploitation within the project funding time and after.

Dissemination

- Clear and efficient plan for the dissemination of results, appropriate activities and their timing, tools and channels to be spread effectively to all relevant stakeholders and non-participating audience, reaching out and attracting relevant stakeholders to the outcomes within and after the project's funding time.

Impact

- Tangible impact on its target groups and relevant stakeholders at local, national or regional level,
- Measures, goals and indicators to monitor progress and assess the expected impact at individual, institutional and systemic level.

Open access

- Materials, documents and media produced freely available and promoted through open licenses and without disproportionate limitations.

Sustainability

- How the project results will be sustained financially and institutionally and how the local ownership will be ensured.

Impact and sustainability

IMPACT	Concrete benefits to the target groups at various levels (faculty / institutional, local, regional, national) / beneficial changes brought by the project during its lifecycle and after its completion
DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION	• Dissemination: Activities / measures aimed at spreading information about the project / raising awareness / making the project result **visible** beyond the circle of direct participants • Exploitation: Activities / measures aimed at mainstreaming and make the project results **used** beyond the circle of direct beneficiaries Both increase the project impact and contribute to its sustainability
SUSTAINABILITY	Activities / measures ensuring that the results of the project will last beyond the project lifetime

Award criteria

Sustainability, impact and dissemination of the expected results

- Involve the relevant stakeholders
- Address sustainability since the beginning

What to consider when writing a CBHE proposal?

European Commission

What is a succesful proposal ?

It is not just **succeeding in being selected, but in delivering the expected results**

Smooth implementation highly depends on the amount of time you invest in the preparation!

European Commission

As an applicant interested in CBHE, what should I start with?

At first, you need a concrete **project idea** addressing a **specific need**

Once the idea is defined, **start locally** in your institution consulting colleagues and departments with experience in international projects

Find the **right partners** for establishing an international partnership based on trust and shared objectives

Read the entire CBHE **documentation** available

Consult the **Erasmus+ National Agencies**, **National Erasmus+ Offices, Erasmus+ National Focal Points, EU Delegations** on the specificities of their Countries

A competitive application...

- ✓ demonstrates that the **combination of all its elements** will produce **concrete and sustainable results** for the benefit of all the parties concerned
- ✓ has been **prepared and agreed jointly** by all **consortium partners**
- ✓ has received the **full institutional commitment** and support of **all consortium partners**
- ✓ is **ready to start** immediately after the selection decision

KEY WORDS for a competitive application

Coherent in its entirety

- avoid contradictions; avoid "patchwork"

Concrete

- use examples, justify your statements, bring evidence

Clear

- follow the questions and answer them in the right order

Simple language

- also complex subjects can be explained in a plain language. Keep most sentences 10-15 words long.

Explicit

- do not take anything for granted; do not assume experts will always understand; avoid abbreviations or explain them the 1st time

Rigorous

- the application is the basis on which your project will be implemented; it is also the cornerstone of your partnership commitment

Focused

- stick to what is asked

Complete

- ensure you have followed all the instructions and that the proposal fulfils all the mandatory requirements

Timeline

European Commission

Erasmus+ CBHE Promotion activities

Infoday Erasmus+ international dimension: Focus on newcomers	• 25 November 2022
Regional Infoday targeting Latin America and Caribbean	• 29 November 2022
Regional Infoday targeting Sub-Saharan Africa	• 1 December 2022
General CBHE Infoday	• 9 December 2022

Events (europa.eu)

European Commission