

Infosheet on Erasmus+ Key Action 2 Alliances for Innovation – Lot 1 Alliances for Education and Business Call 2024

What is Erasmus+?

Erasmus+ is the European Union's education, training, youth and sport programme. In 2014, Erasmus+ brought together the EU programmes for lifelong learning, youth and sport as well as the European cooperation programmes in the field of higher education. In 2021, the new programme generation, which runs until 2027, was launched.

Erasmus+ comprises three Key Actions (KA). Key Action 2 supports cooperation projects in higher education, including the Alliances for Innovation.

What are E+ KA 2 Alliances for Innovation?

Alliances for Innovation are cooperation projects between companies, universities, vocational education and training institutions (VET) and other institutions.

They promote *innovation* in education, research and business as well as new *skills*, in particular digital skills, initiative and entrepreneurship. The alliances contribute to the development of new curricula and (training) methods at universities and in education and training institutions. Their aim is to overcome social and economic challenges such as climate change, demographic change, digitization, etc.

Transnational cooperation projects by consortia of public or private organisations that strengthen Europe's innovation capacities are funded. Institutions from partner countries¹ can be project partners.

The Erasmus+ Alliances for Innovation are divided into the funding lines **Lot 1: Alliances for Education and Enterprises** and Lot 2: Alliances for sectoral cooperation on Skills². Due to its higher relevance for potential applicants of the TU Berlin, this information sheet concentrates on Lot 1.

What can be funded?

Alliances for Education and Enterprises must implement at least one of the following activities:

- Boosting innovation

¹ The Erasmus+ programme distinguishes between EU Member States and countries associated with the programme ("Programme Countries") as well as countries not associated with the Programme ("Partner Countries"). Since the Call 2022, the Programme Guide no longer uses the abbreviations "Programme Countries" or "Partner Countries". However, we continue to use them here. In addition to the EU member states, the programme countries include the associated countries Iceland, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia and Turkey. Further information can also be found on pages 35 – 37 of the Erasmus+ Programme Guide 2024.

² Lot 2: Alliances for Sectoral Cooperation on Skills *in brief*: One of the aims is to improve the skills and the retraining of the workforce. These are larger, clearly strategically oriented and more structured projects with – compared to Lot 1 – more defined specifications, including specified economic sectors, the funding of only 1 project per sector, the implementation of the EU "Pact for Skills". For more information, see: Programme Guide p. 306 und 311.

e.g. through joint development and implementation of new learning and teaching methods, training programmes and activities with and in companies, development and testing of solutions for urgent social requirements that are not taken into account by the market.

- Developing a sense of initiative and entrepreneurial mind-sets, competences and skills
e.g. through the development of new teaching methods and learning tools on transversal competences in higher education and vocational training programmes, learning methods for practical experience and application of initiative and entrepreneurial competences.
- Stimulating the flow and exchange of knowledge between higher education, VET, enterprises and research
e.g. through the development of inclusive and networked higher education, vocational education and training systems and companies, cross-border recognition and certifications, subject-related activities.
- Identifying resilience-related, market needs and emerging professions
e.g. by identifying the skills needed in the public sector to meet societal challenges (e.g. climate change, health), improving the ability to adapt to the needs of the labour market.

Consortium

At least 8 applicants (beneficiaries, not affiliated entities) from at least 4 different Programme Countries.

- ➔ At least 3 labour market actors (enterprises, companies, intermediary organisations, such as chambers trade unions etc.) and
- ➔ At least 3 partners from education and training institutions (VET and HEI).
 - At least one university and
 - At least one VET provider

Any type of public or private organisation based in a Programme Country is entitled to apply, e.g.

- Universities
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) institutions and networks of education and training institutions
- Small, medium-sized and large companies (also social enterprises)
- Research institutions
- Non-governmental organisations
- Public bodies at local, regional or national level
- Employment agencies

Duration of the project: 24 or 36 months (extensions are possible if duly justified and through an amendment)

Financial support

Projects apply for lump sum funding. This lump sum funding must cover the expected costs of the project implementation. The funding amounts range from a maximum of 1 million euros for two-year projects to a maximum of 1.5 million euros for three-year projects. The lump sum is determined on the basis of the budget plan submitted by the applicant, and its maximum is 80% of the requested budget.

A template provided with the application form must be used for the budget plan.

Eligible are staff costs, travel and residence expenses, equipment and subcontracting costs and other costs (such as dissemination of information, publication or translation).

Please note the financing rules in the program guide (p.424 ff of the English version) as well as the documents in the [Funding & Tenders Portal](#).

Award criteria

- Relevance of the project (maximum score points 25/ min. 13)
- Quality of the project design and implementation (max. 30 points/ min. 16)
- Quality of the project team and cooperation arrangements (max. 25 points/ min. 13)
- Impact and dissemination (max. 20 points/ min. 11)

To be considered for funding, proposals must score at least 70 points and more than 50% of the possible points for each of the four award criteria.

Projects are selected by the European Commission. It first checks the formal eligibility of the applications. The eligible applications are evaluated by two independent reviewers on the basis of the above-mentioned criteria. At the end of the evaluation process, the Commission decides for which projects the grant should be awarded. The following are decisive:

- the ranking proposed from the expert opinions, and
- the budget available for each action.

Application deadline

7 March 2024 (17:00 Brussels Time)

The application must be submitted online via the EU Application Portal [\(Funding & Tenders Portal\)](#)

Declaration of Honour/ Mandate: How to receive the President's signature

Declarations of Honour (DoH) and Mandates must be signed by TU Berlin's legal representative, the President. A DoH is only required once the grant agreement has been accepted, i.e. after selection. Mandates are also not mandatory when submitting an application.

IMPORTANT: The President's signature under DoH/Mandates is obtained exclusively via INT IP.

A condition for the President's signature is an ePA replacement form submitted via long-track, including all necessary approvals and attachments. Please note the signature procedure of your faculty/institution and plan sufficient time for this. Before submitting the ePA, please make sure to familiarize yourself with the [information sheet on TU Berlins internal application procedure](#), where you can find all the required content.

Please send the prepared DoH/Mandate and the ePA replacement form to the International Projects Office in good time. We need at least 14 days to check the documents and obtain the President's signature.

Further information

[EU Funding and Tenders Portal \(Call for Proposals, Conditions, Documents, Partner Search\)](#)

[Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#)
[Erasmus+ Project Results Platform](#)

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If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.