

Key Action: Learning Mobility of Individuals
Action Type: Higher education student and staff mobility between Programme and Partner Countries

Project Title

Project for higher education student and staff mobility between Programme Countries and Partner Countries

Project Coordinator

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Project Information

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Project Summary

When the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility project (technically known as KA107) was granted to the University of Cordoba (UCO) in 2016 call, it was clear to all the people involved in its management and implementation that it meant a big step forward. First of all, the new project had almost doubled its budget: from 95.790 euros granted in the 2015 call, the University of Cordoba got 159.090 in 2016. Besides, the number of countries grew from two (Belarus and Morocco) to four and new countries (Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Ghana) and, consequently, lead to an important growth of the total numbers of mobilities: from 18 to 34. It is important to highlight that we did not include Belarus and Morocco again in 2016 proposal because mobilities granted to these two countries in 2015 call were still being implemented, though they were both again and successfully included in the project proposals submitted in 2017 and 2018.

The implementation of the new project, which had to be combined with the finalization of the previous one, posed new challenges to the University of Cordoba. And this is meant not only from a quantitative point of view, since a bigger number of mobilities obviously makes its implementation more difficult, but also from a qualitative one. We had therefore to make some decisions in order to improve the organisation and management of the project:

- Different proceedings were established to be applied to all the mobilities of the same kind (staff or students, incoming or outgoing) and many decisions regarding the duration of stays, percentage and method of payment, etc., were made.
- Drafts were prepared and sent to all partners in order to be used at the different stages of the procedure (for instance, a draft for the grant award decision, to make sure that the selection process had been transparent, public and based on academic and objective merits).

The institutions in partner countries selected for this Project had previously been UCO partners, either as a result of an ongoing bilateral exchange agreement, or within a consortium in the framework of other European programmes such as Tempus. This has really been a crucial point for the success of the project, since the participating institutions knew each other well and were reliable partners. It is important to highlight that the success of such a complicated project (as KA107 projects usually are) depends, to some extent, on a fluent communication between both sides involved, as well as on mutual trust and responsibility. For instance, the University of Cordoba had a bilateral agreement with Eurasian National University (NSUEM) since 2012 and with Ural Federal University (UrFU) since 2013, which had resulted in a total of 27 mobilities previous to our Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility projects. On the other hand, the UCO had lead some Tempus projects in the past, in which Novosibirsk State University of Economics and Management (NSUEM) or Kyrgyz Russian-Slavic University (KRSU) were involved as partners.

The International Credit Mobility project 2016-1-ES01-KA107-023819, in which 25 mobilities of students for studies (SMS) and 17 staff mobilities (15 STA and 2 STT) were carried out, has met the quantitative and qualitative objectives set in the proposal for these four partner countries.

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