

Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

Our Institution is a Higher Education Institution which offers Intermediate and High vocational training courses (short cycles). We have as one of the most important strategic goals the internationalisation of our activities from now to the academic year 2020-2021, mainly focused on students and staff mobility. Therefore, a mobility programmes coordinator has been appointed by our institution to work, with the full support from management and the headmaster and the commitment of all the staff, in the firm objective of undertaking and developing an international strategy to provide students and staff the chance of benefiting from mobility programmes, contributing in this way to the European Union's modernisation and internationalisation agenda in higher education.

To start with this internationalisation, our institution has received during the current academic year an incoming teacher through the Eurodyssey programme to strengthen the use of English during the classes in our "Pre-School Education" high short cycle and we have recently signed an agreement with "FUNDACIÓ PRIVADA BCN FORMACIÓ PROFESSIONAL" (Traineeship consortium of the City council of Barcelona") to take part next year, as a sending organisation, in a mobility project for recent graduates (Intermediate short cycles) from VET schools coordinated by this institution within the framework of the Erasmus + programme (current call).

From this starting point, we would like to be able to give continuity to this project and measures (now only focused on Intermediate VET short cycles) obtaining the ERASMUS CHARTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION as a key to be able to undertake also mobility programmes in the high vocational training courses taught at our institution (Higher Education short cycles): Social Integration, Computer Systems in Networks Management (IT), Multi-platform Applications Development (IT) and Pre-school Education.

Firstly, our Higher Education Institution has the objective of participating in activities related to ERASMUS Key Action 1: "Learning Mobility for Individuals", mainly giving our students the opportunity of realising traineeships abroad but also allowing teachers to participate in mobility training activities. Our institution has established as an objective for the academic year 2020-2021 that at least a five per cent of students at our Higher Education Institution can develop traineeships abroad as a part of their studies, comprising the four high vocational trainings (short cycles) mentioned above.

In order to achieve this objective we will work with the support of "Departament d'Ensenyament de la Generalitat de Catalunya" (Regional Ministry of Education), the previously mentioned "FUNDACIÓ PRIVADA BCN FORMACIÓ PROFESSIONAL" and UCOC (Association of official vocational training high schools which offer e-learning short cycles, of which our

institution is member) in order to find partners which fit with our needs, mainly enterprises in the professional sectors of Information Technology, Social Integration and Pre-School education where our students can get a workplacement for their traineeships. Specially we are interested in enterprises of these professional sectors located in English speaking countries, since apart from the compulsory Professional Module of "Technical English" all students must study as a part of their Intermediate Vocational training short cycles, we strongly promote the study of English as a common international language among all our students at our institution, including higher education, promoting and organising specific free courses for the obtaining of B-1 and B-2 certificates (according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages) and teaching contents in English in at least one Professional Module of all shortcycles.

In addition, we are also absolutely open not only to participate in mobility projects for students' traineeships or studies and teachers' training activities abroad, but also in mobility projects with other Higher Education Institutions which involved receiving incoming students or teachers, once we have enough experience to manage these activities.

The international strategy described above has been included this current academic year in the strategic plan of the Institution, so its development and execution, achievement of objectives and possible corrections to be done, will be annually assessed by the headmaster and the mobility coordinator at our institution, following the usual procedure for all developing projects according to our quality management system (ISO 9001 Certification).

We do not have much previous experience in mobility, for this reason we have planned to start firstly implementing international cooperation projects within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme, once we obtain the ERASMUS CHARTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION, participating as a sending organisation of developing international cooperation projects of consortiums coordinated by other institutions with which we usually cooperate in other different projects:

- FUNDACIÓ PRIVADA BCN FORMACIÓ PROFESSIONAL (Traineeship consortium of the City council of Barcelona): As mentioned above, we have recently signed an agreement with this institution to become part of this consortium next year and to take part, as a sending organisation, in a mobility project for recent graduates from VET schools within the framework of the Erasmus + programme. By obtaining the ECHE we could also participate in the next call in the Higher Education project which this institution coordinates every academic year for both, students and teachers.

- UCOC (Association of official vocational training high schools which offer e-learning short cycles): We are members of this association which has recently presented a common mobility project within the framework of the Erasmus + programme in the recent call (taking part only

the members which were in possession of the ECHE previously), so in case we got the ECHE we could also take part in this project in the next call.

During the following years, once we have gained enough experience, we have planned to participate also in projects coordinated by "Departament d'Ensenyament de la Generalitat de Catalunya" (Regional Ministry of Education) and to develop our own project in order to be able to manage exchange programmes with other Higher Education Institutions involving students, teachers and general staff.

Since our institution has the firm objective of internationalizing its activities , by promoting and implementing mobility programmes among both, our staff and students (according to Erasmus Key Action 1: student and staff mobility) , we undertake to contribute to the European Union's modernisation and internationalisation agenda in higher education, taking as a starting point its 5 priorities:

-Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and resarchers Europe needs.

-Improving the quality and relevance of higher education

-Strenghtening quality through mobilty and cross-border cooperation.

-Linking higher education and bussiness for excellence and regional development.

-Improving governance and funding.

Participating in the ERASMUS + programme, we expect to improve the quality of our short cycles by offering our students the chance of benefiting from the experience of traineeships abroad, which supposes an important qualitative leap forward in their academic and professional training, contributing at the same time at the increasing attainment levels and the improving of quality of higher education, priorities of ERASMUS + Programme. Moreover, we expect to make increase among our students the awareness of mobility as a way to improve their skills, competences and experience and also as a real opportunity to start developing a career in the current global labor market. In addition, we also expect the participation in the programme helps our higher education institution to provide students an extra motivation which encourages them to get a good linguistic proficiency in English , making increase the number of students at our institution who take part in the courses we organise every course in order to help them obtaining the B-1 and B-2 certificates, according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

Apart from this expected impact of our participation in the ERASMUS + programme on the institution's students, we also expect it has a positive effect on all the staff, since the chance to take part in mobility training activities or to receive incoming participants would be also a great opportunity for teachers to learn new learning methodologies and exchange experiences and good practice in the different fields and short cycles taught at our institution (IT, Social Integration and Pre-school Education).