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(Announcements)

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

CALL FOR PROPOSALS — EACEA/05/2017

Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme

(2017/C 29/15)

1. Objectives and description

The overall objective of the programme is to promote sustainable development and ultimately contribute to poverty reduction by increasing the availability of trained and highly qualified professional manpower in Africa.

The programme's specific objective is to improve the skills and competences of students and staff through enhanced intra-African mobility. Strengthening cooperation between Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Africa will increase access to quality education and will encourage and enable African students to undertake postgraduate studies in the African continent. Furthermore, mobility of staff (academic and administrative) will enhance the international cooperation capacity of HEIs in Africa.

More specifically the programme aims to:

- (a) contribute to the improvement of the quality of higher education through the promotion of internationalisation and harmonisation of programmes and curricula within participating institutions;
- (b) enable students, academics and staff to benefit linguistically, culturally and professionally from the experience gained in the context of mobility to another African country.

2. Eligible applicants and partnership composition

The partnership must be constituted of minimum four and maximum six African HEIs as partners (including the applicant) and one technical partner from the EU.

Eligible applicants and partners are HEIs registered in Africa that provide courses at postgraduate level (master level and/or doctorate degree) of higher education leading to a qualification recognized by the competent authorities in their own country. Only HEIs accredited by relevant national authorities in Africa are eligible. Branches of HEIs from outside Africa are not eligible.

The technical partner has to be a HEI from one of the EU Member States having been awarded an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education.

3. Eligible activities and duration

The project will entail the organisation and implementation of student and staff mobility in high quality master and doctoral programmes, as well as the provision of education/training and other services to foreign students and teaching/training and research assignments and other services to staff from the countries covered by the project. Mobility must only take place in one of the eligible countries covered by this Call for proposals.

The duration of the project must be 60 months.

4. Award criteria

All applications will undergo assessments by external experts according to the three award criteria listed below:

| Criteria | Points |
|---|--------|
| 1. Relevance | 20 |
| 2. Quality | 70 |
| 2.1. Academic quality | 15 |
| 2.2. Partnership composition and cooperation mechanisms | 15 |
| 2.3. Organisation and implementation of the mobility | 20 |
| 2.4. Students'/staff facilities and follow-up | 10 |
| 2.5. Gender balance | 10 |
| 3. Sustainability | 10 |
| Total | 100 |

To be considered for funding, proposals must score at least 50 points out of a total of 100.

5. Budget and grant amounts

The overall indicative amount made available under this Call for proposals is estimated at EUR 9 900 000 and should allow around 350 mobility flows.

Each grant will amount to between EUR 1 000 000 (minimum grant size) and EUR 1 400 000 (maximum grant size).

The EU grant is based on the application of lump-sums for the organisation of mobility and unit costs for the implementation of mobility.

6. Submission of proposals and deadline

The submission deadline for the Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme is **2 May 2017 at 12.00 (noon)**, Central European Time.

Grant applications must be submitted using the electronic form (eForm) and its annexes specifically designed for this purpose, which will be available on the website of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/intra-africa/funding/intra-africa-academic-mobility-scheme-2017_en).

Only the electronic submission (eForm including annexes) will be considered as the formal valid application.

Additionally, applicants must send by email a copy of their application (eForm including annexes), clearly indicating the project registration number received when submitting the eForm, to the following mailbox: EACEA-IntraAfrica-IntraACP@ec.europa.eu

Only applications submitted by the deadline and in accordance with the requirements specified in the Call for proposals will be accepted. Applications submitted by email only will not be accepted.

7. Full information

The Call for proposals Guidelines as well as all relevant information and documents for the submission of proposals under the present Call are available on website of the Agency: https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/intra-africa/funding/intra-africa-academic-mobility-scheme-2017_en