



ERASMUS+

Proposal Template

Administrative Forms (Part A)
Project Technical Description (Part B)

Erasmus: Key action 1: Erasmus Charter for Higher Education

EACEA-03-2020 ECHE-LP-2020

Version 1.1
4 March 2020





ERASMUS+

PROPOSAL (PART B)

Erasmus: Key action 1: Erasmus Charter for Higher Education

EACEA-03-2020 ECHE-LP-2020

IMPORTANT NOTICE


Applications must be submitted via the Funding & Tenders Portal Submission Service before the call deadline.

Applicants must use this template for their applications (designed to highlight important aspects and facilitate the assessment against the evaluation criteria).

Character and page limits:

- page limit **20** pages
- supporting documents can be provided as an annex and do not count towards the page limit
- minimum font size — Arial 8 points
- page size: A4
- margins (top, bottom, left and right): at least 15 mm (not including headers & footers).

Please abide by the formatting rules. They are not a target! Keep your text as concise as possible. Do not use hyperlinks to show information that is an essential part of your proposal.

 If you attempt to upload an application that exceeds the specified limit, you will receive an automatic warning asking you to shorten and re-upload your application. After you have submitted it, any excess pages will be made invisible and thus disregarded by the evaluators.

HISTORY OF CHANGES

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	11.02.2020	Initial version
1.1	04.03.2020	Changes in page 10, 1st box after the Erasmus Policy Declaration

COVER PAGE

Part B of the proposal must be filled out by the participants in WORD, assembled and uploaded as PDF in the Funding & Tenders Portal Submission System. The template to use is available there.

Note: Please take due account of the objectives and Charter's principles to be awarded with the Charter under the call (see Call document). Pay particular attention to the award criteria; they explain how the proposal will be evaluated.

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COMMITMENT TO THE ERASMUS CHARTER PRINCIPLES

Declaration

I, undersigned, declare that if my institution is awarded with an Erasmus Charter for Higher Education, my institution will undertake to:

- Respect in full the principles of non-discrimination, transparency and inclusion set out in the Programme.
- Ensure equal and equitable access and opportunities to current and prospective participants from all backgrounds, paying particular attention to the inclusion of those with fewer opportunities.
- Ensure full automatic recognition of all credits (based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System – ECTS) gained for learning outcomes satisfactorily achieved during a period of study/training abroad, including during blended mobility.
- Charge no fees, in the case of credit mobility, to incoming mobile students for tuition, registration, examinations or access to laboratory and library facilities.
- Ensure the quality of the mobility activities and of the cooperation projects throughout the application and implementation phases.
- Implement the priorities of the Programme:
 - By undertaking the necessary steps to implement digital mobility management in line with the technical standards of the European Student Card Initiative.
 - By promoting environmentally friendly practices in all activities related to the Programme.
 - By encouraging the participation of individuals with fewer opportunities in the Programme.
 - By promoting civic engagement and encouraging students and staff to get involved as active citizens before, during and after their participation in a mobility or project.

WHEN PARTICIPATING IN MOBILITY ACTIVITIES

Before mobility

- Ensure that selection procedures for mobility activities are fair, transparent, coherent and documented.
- Publish and regularly update the course catalogue on the website of the Institution well in advance of the mobility periods, so as to be transparent to all parties and allow mobile students to make well-informed choices about the courses they will follow.
- Publish and regularly update information on the grading system used and grade distribution tables for all study programmes. Ensure that students receive clear and transparent information on recognition and grade conversion procedures.
- Carry out mobility for the purpose of studying and teaching only within the framework of prior agreements between institutions. These agreements establish the respective

roles and responsibilities of the different parties, as well as their commitment to shared quality criteria in the selection, preparation, reception, support and integration of mobile participants.

- Ensure that outgoing mobile participants are well prepared for their activities abroad, including blended mobility, by undertaking activities to achieve the necessary level of linguistic proficiency and develop their intercultural competences.
- Ensure that student and staff mobility is based on a learning agreement for students and a mobility agreement for staff validated in advance between the sending and receiving institutions or enterprises and the mobile participants.
- Provide active support to incoming mobile participants throughout the process of finding accommodation.
- Provide assistance related to obtaining visas, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants.
- Provide assistance related to obtaining insurance, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants.
- Ensure that students are aware of their rights and obligations as defined in the Erasmus Student Charter.

During mobility

- Ensure equal academic treatment and the quality of services for incoming students.
- Promote measures that ensure the safety of outgoing and incoming mobile participants.
- Integrate incoming mobile participants into the wider student community and in the Institution's everyday life. Encourage them to act as ambassadors of the programme and share their mobility experience.
- Provide appropriate mentoring and support arrangements for mobile participants, including for those pursuing blended mobility.
- Provide appropriate language support to incoming mobile participants.

After mobility

- Provide incoming mobile students and their sending institutions with transcripts of records containing a full, accurate and timely record of their achievements at the end of their mobility period.
- Ensure that all ECTS credits gained for learning outcomes satisfactorily achieved during a period of study/training abroad, including during blended mobility are fully and automatically recognised as agreed in the learning agreement and confirmed by the transcript of records/traineeship certificate. They shall be transferred without delay into the student's records, shall be counted towards the student's degree without any additional work or assessment of the student and shall be traceable in the student's transcript of records and the Diploma Supplement.
- Ensure the inclusion of satisfactorily completed study and/or traineeship mobility activities in the final record of student achievements (the Diploma Supplement).
- Encourage and support mobile participants upon return to act as ambassadors of the

programme, promote the benefits of mobility and actively engage in building alumni communities.

- Ensure that staff is given recognition for their teaching and training activities undertaken during the mobility period, based on a mobility agreement and in line with the institutional strategy.

WHEN PARTICIPATING IN EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PROJECTS

- Ensure that cooperation activities contribute towards the fulfilment of the institutional strategy.
- Promote the opportunities offered by the cooperation projects and provide relevant support to staff and students interested in participating in these activities throughout the application and implementation phase.
- Ensure that cooperation activities lead to sustainable outcomes and that their impact benefits all partners.
- Encourage peer-learning activities and exploit the results of the projects in a way that will maximise their impact on individuals, other participating institutions and the wider academic community.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

- Ensure that the long-term institutional strategy and its relevance to the objectives and priorities of the Programme are described in the Erasmus Policy Statement.
- Ensure that the principles of the Charter are well communicated and are applied by staff at all levels of the Institution.
- Make use of the “ECHE guidelines” and of the “ECHE self-assessment” to ensure the full implementation of the principles of this Charter.
- Regularly promote activities supported by the Programme, along with their results.
- Display this Charter and the related Erasmus Policy Statement prominently on the Institution's website and on all other relevant channels.

On behalf of the Institution, I acknowledge that the implementation of the Charter will be monitored by the Erasmus National Agencies and that a violation of the above principles and commitments may lead to its withdrawal by the European Commission.

On behalf of the institution, I commit to publishing the Erasmus Policy Statement on the institution website.

Legal representative of the institution: Prof. Dr. Ir. Louise O. Fresco

Signature of the legal representative

Signature of the legal representative

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'S' shape with a horizontal line crossing it.

d.d. 25 May 2020

In the following sections of the application form, you will need to explain how your institution will fulfil the ECHE principles if the Charter is awarded. You are encouraged to consult the [ECHE Guidelines](#) for support in completing this application.

Please note that your Erasmus+ National Agency will monitor your Erasmus Policy Statement and your answers to the questions given in the application. The Erasmus+ National Agency reserves the right to request more information on your activities and propose supplementary measures, for the purposes of monitoring and implementing the Charter principles by your institution.

1. ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT (EPS)

1.1 Erasmus activities included in your EPS

In this section, you need to tick the Erasmus activities covered by your Erasmus Policy Statement. Please select those activities that your HEI intends to implement during the entire duration of the Programme.

Erasmus Key Action 1 (KA1) - Learning mobility:

The mobility of higher education students and staff ☒

Erasmus Key Action 2 (KA2) - Cooperation among organisations and institutions:

Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices ☒

Partnerships for Excellence – European Universities ☒

Partnerships for Excellence - Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees ☒

Partnerships for Innovation ☒

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3):

Erasmus Key Action 3 (KA3) - Support to policy development and cooperation: ☒

1.2 Erasmus Policy statement (EPS): your strategy

Your Erasmus Policy Statement should reflect how you intended to implement Erasmus after the award of the ECHE. Should you wish to add additional activities in the future, you will need to amend your Erasmus Policy Statement and inform your Erasmus National Agency.

What would you like to achieve by participating in the Erasmus Programme? How does your participation in the Erasmus Programme fit into your institutional internationalisation and modernisation strategy?

(Please reflect on the objectives of your participation. Please explain how you expect the participation in Erasmus to contribute towards modernising your institution, as well as on the

goal of building a European Education Area¹ and explain the policy objectives you intend to pursue).

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

International Education Vision

Wageningen University (WU) is part of Wageningen University and Research (WUR). In our strategic plan the following ambition is described for the period 2019-2022: *Wageningen University & Research is a globally leading university and research organisation in the fields of agriculture, healthy food and the living environment. We continue to explore the potential of nature to improve the quality of life. Rooted in the Netherlands, we collaborate with academic partners, companies, public agencies and NGOs worldwide on the global, regional and local challenges and transitions. WUR provides the highest quality knowledge, education and research to address these challenges and to design and accelerate required transitions. In doing so, we take our responsibility to develop innovative technological, social and nature-based solutions that help build bio-circular agri-food systems. These solutions also contribute to protect nature, enhance biodiverse ecosystems and support liveable urban and rural communities.*

WU is internationally renowned, proven by national and international rankings. In 2018 WU received the Certificate for Quality of Internationalisation from the European Consortium for Accreditation. In the assessment report the accreditation panel stated that they “visited a truly international university, where internationalisation is a cross-cutting principle with overarching relevance for the achievement of the university’s goals. As a result, internationalisation goals and objectives are neatly aligned with the overall mission and vision of the university”.

We strive to remain a major global player in our domain, with an internationally recognised position and profile. Over the last number of years WU focussed on further integration of internationalisation in all its processes and elements. One of the core examples is the internationalisation in education aimed at educating students to become globally successful professionals with a multidisciplinary focus and a culturally inclusive mindset. This approach is not limited to students but implemented organisation wide.

At WU we educate students to become professionals who globally contribute to sustainable solutions to complex scientific and societal challenges in a changing world. Students contribute to addressing challenges in our domain, “healthy food and living environment”, through their up-to-date scientific qualifications; multidisciplinary thinking; leading role in (corporate social) sustainability; international and multicultural orientation; and skill sets. Our graduates are open minded, critical and investigative thought leaders, who contribute to important transitions and operate all over the world. Many of our graduates in the Netherlands are working in an internationally oriented working environment. To remain at the forefront in higher education, we need to adapt to the changing demands in our domain at local and global scale, and to the interests of national and international students and professionals.

We prepare all our students for work and life in an international, intercultural and multi-stakeholder environment by offering education in an international classroom. WU offers education in the international classroom in order to train students in dealing with diversity in nationalities, cultures and perspectives.

We ensure a high quality of the international classroom by:

- 1) developing and implementing didactical evidence-based teaching methods for the international classroom;
- 2) ensuring a diverse and balanced student population of different nationalities;
- 3) building a diverse and qualified national and international group of teaching staff;
- 4) creating an inclusive student community and culture; and
- 5) ensuring student have the required language proficiency.

These are the characteristics but also the indicators to ensure the quality of our international classroom and our education taught in English.

Ambitions:

For the coming years we aim to further strengthen and sustain internationalisation as one of the keys to our high quality education by continuing to develop and enhance:

- 1) an up-to-date international relevant portfolio of courses and programmes;
- 2) our strong international learning environment;
- 3) collaborations with other universities.

Up-to-date international relevant portfolio of courses and programmes

The overall vision of Wageningen University is that a truly international university should be characterised by education that focuses on relevant international themes and learning outcomes that enable graduates to be impactful

¹ For more information on the priorities of the European Education Area, such as recognition, digital skills, common values and inclusive education, please consult the following website:
https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-education-area_en

professionals in international and intercultural environments in our global domain. We train our students to work with the complexity of the global developments in our domain that know no national borders. Students are equipped to contribute to the global Sustainable Development Goals. In the coming years we further develop our portfolio (ecosystem) of courses and programmes for national and international students and professionals to keep it up-to-date but also improve the match between their needs, the developments in our domain, the developments nationally, the developments within Europe, global developments and our education.

The Erasmus+ programme can facilitate this ambition by developing joint programmes, international projects, student and staff exchange. This will give us the opportunity to learn from our partners and their expertise in order to improve our own programmes.

Strong international learning environment;

We believe students learn best in a rich international learning environment, with real-life, authentic and international learning experiences to apply what they have learned. Learning within real-world cases is instrumental for developing a critical and responsible attitude, multi/interdisciplinary cooperation and the ability to deal with diverse local and international societal stakeholders and influences. At WU we offer an international learning environment in which students from different backgrounds work on real-life cases. It is our ambition to further increase the quality of our international learning environment, by continuously strengthening the international classroom and increasing international experiences.

Due to the opportunities of the Erasmus programme for student and staff exchange, we can improve our international classroom and increase the number of international experiences. We can also improve our learning environment by learning from our partners and joint activities.

Collaborations with other universities.

Wageningen University & Research provides high quality knowledge, education and research to address global challenges, and to design and accelerate the necessary transitions. However, we cannot do this alone. We need partners – both our current and new ones – to tackle and resolve these critical global challenges. In the coming years, we will evaluate the results of our partnership, update our strategic goals for our partnership related to education and if necessary look for new partners.

For every partnership, the goal we want to accomplish should be very clear in order to decide on the best form and the best way of collaborating together.

Below we sum up the (Erasmus+ and other) collaborations we would like to invest in, and the goals that we intend to accomplish. The education offered, shared or developed together can be either virtually, on-campus or a combination.

- (Erasmus+) Student exchange: to facilitate our international classroom and for mobile and non-mobile students to get an international experience. Contribute to acquiring the desired international learning outcomes, provide access to state of the art knowledge and expertise both for incoming and outgoing students
- (Erasmus+) Staff exchange: staff mobility will be stimulated in the coming years in order for staff to gain more international experience and knowledge and to improve the quality of education.
- Joined programmes (for example Erasmus+ Mundus Joint Master Degrees): create new interdisciplinary or global programmes (joint or double degree or online programmes) offering added value in comparison to programmes offered by a single institute. The programmes should match the needs and demands of our global domain, potential students, labour market and society.
- Developing courses, resources or projects together: bringing together complementary expertise and knowledge to develop new courses that benefit both the institutes and their students and to improve the quality of education. For example in Erasmus+ Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices, Partnerships for Excellence, European Universities, or Erasmus+ Partnerships for Innovation.
- Capacity building projects: Offering education, sharing expertise, doing student projects together or educating their students focused on capacity building of the country of the partner and when possible targeting specific (societal) issues in the country. Together with the local partner lecturers and students can find answers for the problems they face.
- Learn from each other: exchange complementary knowledge to learn from each other, for professionalisation purposes of staff and education. Also staff exchange programmes is an opportunity for this purpose. For example in Erasmus Staff Exchange, Erasmus+ Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices, Partnerships for Excellence, European Universities, or Erasmus+ Partnerships for Innovation.

For every collaboration, we would like to find the most suitable partners in order to maximize impact with our education world-wide. We look for the most suitable partner in a specific region or within specific disciplines. This can be within the Erasmus+ programme, but also outside of the Erasmus programme. All collaborations need to contribute to the WU vision and will be managed accordingly.

These activities contribute to the aim of the European Education Area; to enhance learning mobility and educational opportunities in the EU, empower young people, in particular by encouraging them to participate in civic and democratic life and harness the potential of culture for social progress and economic growth in Europe. By participating in the Erasmus programme in Ka1, Ka2 and Ka3, and executing our internationalisation strategy, WU

contributes to the European Education Area policy objectives: to make mobility a reality for all, to support teachers, to improve language learning and to create a network of European universities.

Our participation in the Erasmus+ programme is very much supporting our institutional internationalisation and modernisation strategy. We have been actively involved in the Erasmus programme for many years and most of the principles are already implemented. We have a correct use of Learning Agreements and full automatic recognition of credits and recognition of grades in the transcripts of records. We use grading tables and continuously update the course catalogue, which is according the rules of the ECTS Users' guide. We ensure full and equitable access to participants from all backgrounds, paying particular attention to those with fewer opportunities. We are putting measures in place to implement the European Student Card Initiative and are promoting the programme's Erasmus+ mobile App to students. We are already promoting environmentally friendly practices and civic engagement and active citizenship to all our students and staff. Both before, during and after the mobility. Examples can be found in our recently updated corporate travel policy, our environmental reports and sustainability measures which led to three consecutive first rankings in the Greenmetric University Ranking.

Please reflect on the Erasmus actions you would like to take part in and explain how they will be implemented in practice at your institution. Please explain how your institution's participation in these actions will contribute to achieving the objectives of your institutional strategy.

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

By participating in Erasmus Ka1, Ka2 and Ka3 activities we are facilitating our internationalisation strategy by the following collaborations:

- (Erasmus+) Student exchange: to facilitate our international classroom and for students to get an international experience. Contribute to acquiring the desired international learning outcomes, provide access to state of the art knowledge and expertise both for incoming and outgoing students
 - Goal: to increase student exchange of outgoing WU students and incoming international students
 - Implementation: improve our exchange strategy, recruitment efforts and Erasmus procedures
- (Erasmus+) Staff exchange: staff mobility will be stimulated in the coming years in order for staff to gain more international experience and knowledge which will enable them to improve our education.
 - Goal: increase in staff mobility
 - Implementation: create a joint expertise working group how to increase staff exchange gradually. Improve our procedures and promotion of the Erasmus staff exchange programme.
- Joint programmes (for example Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees): create new interdisciplinary or global programmes (joint or double degree or online programmes) offering added value in comparison to programmes offered by a single institute. The programmes should match the needs and demands of our global domain, potential students, labour market and society.
 - Goal: Increase our involvement in joint programmes.
 - Implementation: develop a strategy on joint programmes, a WU joint programme guide and discussions with current joint programme coordinators to create a learning curve in the joint programmes.
- Developing courses, resources or projects together: bringing together complementary expertise and knowledge to develop new courses that benefit both the institutes and their students. For example in Erasmus Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices, Partnerships for Excellence – European Universities, or Erasmus Partnerships for Innovation.
 - Goal: participation in joint projects
 - Implementation: the opportunities within the Erasmus programme will be integrated in the implementation of the International Education Vision and discussed with relevant stakeholders and partners.
- Capacity building projects: Offering education, sharing expertise, doing student projects together or educating their students focused on capacity building of the country of the partner and when possible targeting specific (societal) issues in the country. Together with the local partner lecturers and students can find answers for the problems they face.
 - Goal: participation in joint projects
 - Implementation: the opportunities within the Erasmus+ programme will be integrated in the implementation of the International Education Vision and discussed with relevant stakeholders and partners.
- Learn from each other: exchange complementary knowledge to learn from each other, for professionalisation purposes of staff and education. Also staff exchange programmes is an opportunity for this purpose.
 - Goal: share experiences and learn from others by sharing experiences within WU and with other partners in joint projects like for example in Erasmus+ Staff Exchange, Erasmus Partnerships for

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 	<p>Cooperation and exchanges of practices , Partnerships for Excellence, European Universities, or Erasmus Partnerships for Innovation.</p> <p>Implementation: share the opportunities of the Erasmus programme with relevant stakeholders and share experiences of projects and activities within the organization to create a learning loop.</p>

What is the envisaged impact of your participation in the Erasmus+ Programme on your institution?

Please reflect on targets, as well as qualitative and quantitative indicators in monitoring this impact (such as mobility targets for student/staff mobility, quality of the implementation, support for participants on mobility, increased involvement in cooperation projects (under the KA2 action), sustainability/long-term impact of projects etc.) You are encouraged to offer an indicative timeline for achieving the targets related to the Erasmus+ actions.

Original language (and translation into EN, FR or DE if the EPS is not in one of these languages)

The envisaged impact of the participation of WU in the Erasmus+ programme is that it facilitates us to implement our strategy and reach our goals and to remain a globally leading university and research organisation in the fields of agriculture, healthy food and the living environment. That our quality of education will be improved and that our students and staff develop as professionals who globally contribute to sustainable solutions for complex scientific and societal challenges in a changing world.

WU is currently developing scenario's on how to realise these ambitions regarding the current Covid-19 pandemic.

To monitor this impact of our goals, we will evaluate regularly the activities in which we participated on a qualitative and quantitative base in our regular Plan Do Check Act Cycle of our organisation, by the Erasmus+ evaluation reports and in discussions with participants of the Erasmus+ programme. Based on the evaluations we define yearly targets for the activities to come, and which Erasmus+ calls to pursue.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

2.1 Implementation of the new principles

Please explain the measures taken in your institution to respect the principles of non-discrimination, transparency and inclusion of students and staff. Describe how your institution ensures full and equitable access to participants from all backgrounds, paying particular attention to the inclusion of those with fewer opportunities.

At Wageningen University & Research, we believe that an inclusive culture contributes to better research and education. We welcome international students and staff, facilitating and encouraging them to become part of the international WUR community. We strive for equality and inclusion for all segments of Dutch society, short-term international guests, and long-term employees of non-Dutch origin. We at WUR are therefore building an inclusive organisation where everyone feels safe and welcome.

The contributions in education by students and staff of all nationalities and backgrounds has a major added value. It is our ambition to increase the awareness and appreciation of the great potential and benefits of the diverse WU community.

Integration of international students and staff is stimulated through different programmes, activities and by providing facilities and services, like the Expat Centre, international lounge at the campus, the One World Week, introduction activities for students in mixed groups and housing facilities (programme is called Internationalisation@home). In addition to the events, we facilitate a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere by using English in all our communications, offering multicultural food and by providing essential administrative and practical support. WU also advocates for sufficient suitable housing for all students, with special care for the needs of international students and for inclusive activities in the municipality.

We will increase the use and proficiency of English within our organisation and encourage a proficient level of Dutch for non-native staff and students. International staff and students can do free Dutch language courses at the language centre of the university. In the coming four years special attention will be given to integrating new non-native students and staff into Dutch society.

When (Erasmus+) participants encounter problems during their studies that they cannot entirely solve on their own, there are study advisors, student deans, student psychologists and confidential advisers who can help them. Students with functional disabilities, can appeal to the student deans, psychologists and study advisors for study guidance. In addition, a student doctor is available for select cases. They can get modifications on engaging in education and taking exams and they can apply for financial student support (FOS). For students and staff we organize gender and inclusion workshops. Flexible learning paths and diversity in programmes and courses serve the different levels, paces and interests of individual students and professionals.

The international classroom requires a diverse group of students. We want to make sure there are students from different regions, including developing and emerging countries. We support this by our own fellowship programme and a foundation and through co-funding several donor organizations. Selecting Erasmus+ students, recruiting and facilitating more students from these regions, for example through Ka107, will be a major goal for the coming years. We also welcome refugees to study at WU in collaboration with UAF, and it is our ambition to increase the number of refugees that can do courses at our university and be part of the international classroom.

We closely monitor the composition of classes annually. When the international student ratio differs from our ideal we change the selection processes for the programme. Every five years the ratio needs to be evaluated to test whether it is still the ideal composition to realise the didactical concepts for the international classroom.

Please explain what measures your institution will put in place to implement the European Student Card Initiative, and promote the use of the programme's Erasmus+ mobile App to students. Please refer to the timeline indicated on the European Student Card Initiative website².

WU will do its best to implement the Erasmus Without Papers, the Erasmus+ mobile app and European Student Card initiative according to the timeline mentioned at the European Student Card Initiative Website. In the Netherlands there is at this moment also a EduID initiative of SURF. SURF wants students to be able to log in easily and securely with eduID - during and after their studies - to any educational institution in the Netherlands in the future. Therefore they are developing a secure and reliable architecture in close consultation with the institutions and key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, and Studielink. WU is also involved in this initiative.

² https://ec.europa.eu/education/education-in-the-eu/european-student-card-initiative_en

Please explain how your institutions will implement and promote environmentally friendly practices in the context of the Erasmus+ programme.

Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) are important precepts for Wageningen University & Research and are incorporated in our strategy. They are expressed in our mission, 'To explore the potential of nature to improve the quality of life,' and in our ambition to take a leading role in the area of sustainable operational management. In short, Wageningen stands for sustainability. Wageningen University & Research has been the greenest and most sustainable university in the world according to the GreenMetric ranking by Universities Indonesia (UI), for the past three years.

This focus on sustainability is visible in different outings. [Green Office Wageningen \(instagram\)](#) (an initiative by students, open for Erasmus students) lets us keep a sharp focus by posing critical questions about sustainability. Some of the activities are: the [Green Teacher Award](#), [Meatless Monday](#) in the restaurants of Wageningen Campus and [GreenMatch](#) for sustainable study subjects for students. Each year Green Office organizes the [Seriously Sustainable Week](#). Other sustainability actions are related to travel policies and Co2 reduction.

Besides these activities WUR introduced the 'Green Man'. The 'Green Man' has become quite a familiar sight on the Wageningen University & Research Campus. This green man wants to show everyone in a light-hearted way what Wageningen University & Research is actually doing about sustainability. The mission of the Green Man is to raise as much awareness about sustainability as possible, also among our own employees and students. He achieves this by making film clips, by means of fun activities during the introduction days and by attending days like Sustainability Day.

Sustainability is included in all study programmes, so also in the courses for Erasmus+ students. Sustainability is either integrated into the learning outcomes, or more implicitly mentioned using related words or topics such as ethics or the balance.

In our organisation wide travel policy for (Erasmus+) staff and students is the responsibility mentioned of WUR for sustainable travel: only if it is truly necessary and with as little harm to the environment as possible.

Travel, specifically air travel, is damaging to the environment due to the emission of greenhouse gases. WUR expects its employees and students to be selective when taking trips and:

1. to limit business or study trips through methods such as increased use of video conferencing;
2. to take the train more often within Europe to get to destinations that are easy to reach by train (e.g. Brussels, Paris, Frankfurt);
3. to use public transport as much as possible (instead of private transport).

Please explain how you will promote civic engagement and active citizenship amongst your outgoing and incoming students before, after and during mobility.

In our strategic plan we have defined that Wageningen University & Research helps in setting and achieving national, European and global agendas on comprehensive challenges and transitions. Fostering societal dialogues, citizens, NGOs, companies, policy-makers and politicians hold strong opinions and ideas about developments and innovations in agriculture, food, health, nature conservation and environment. Developments, innovations and suggested solutions in our domain are complex and often come with challenging trade-offs between different goals and interests. As an independent and leading knowledge institution, Wageningen University & Research fosters societal dialogues by providing an open platform to exchange and to discuss knowledge, opinions, ideas and future scenarios about these crucial developments. A Dialogue Centre will be created before 2023 on our campus to stimulate and increase societal dialogues. We also aim for a constructive dialogue and collaboration with the municipality of Wageningen and its citizens to jointly deal with societal issues in the city and to develop Wageningen into a living lab for innovative solutions. (Erasmus+) Students are invited to participate in these activities.

Besides these activities we are also developing Society Based Education; real life cases and assignments from external commissioners (companies, governments, civil society) to courses and other educational settings. For example in our Academic Consultancy Training courses, Student Challenges and Real life learning as pedagogical method. This is accessible for all our students, so also our Erasmus+ participants before, during or after their mobility.

Other opportunities for Erasmus+ students are to participate in Studium Generale activities or activities for the Science Shop. Wageningen University & Research Science Shop supports non-profit organizations by implementing research projects with a potential societal impact in the fields of nutrition and health, sustainable agriculture, water management, environmental quality, and processes of social change. On the webpage for Erasmus+ students, they are informed about community services and other extra-curricular activities.

2.2 When participating in Mobility Activities - After mobility

Please demonstrate your commitment to implement full automatic recognition in your Higher Education Institution.

Please describe the concrete steps you will take to ensure the full automatic recognition of all credits gained for learning outcomes achieved during a mobility period abroad/ a blended mobility, according to the Council Recommendation on Automatic Mutual Recognition³.

In the previous years we scored a full 100% on recognition. All credits approved in the Learning Agreement and achieved at our partner universities are acknowledged by Wageningen University and transferred into the students' study programme. Grades are transferred via a standardized procedure including a form called Academic Recognition Form. The exchange office is responsible to send the transcripts of records together with the Academic Recognition Form to the examination boards who transfer the grades with the help of grading tables from the host universities. After the recognition the exchange office receives a confirmation of the acknowledgement of the grades and ECTS. For the coming Erasmus+ period we will investigate the possibilities to integrate this in the Erasmus Without Papers procedures.

Please describe your institution's measures to support, promote and recognise staff mobility:

For staff exchange our numbers of exchange are higher than the records of the Erasmus+ staff exchange showed for the last couple of years. We suspect that many of the staff are unaware of the Erasmus+ possibilities and procedures and are using research or other project budgets to support their travel. For the coming years we gradually want to increase our Erasmus+ staff exchange participation, in order for staff to gain more international experience and knowledge. Most researchers already go abroad for research and in some cases combined with education. For the increasing group of staff primarily focused on education, we will stimulate and facilitate them to go abroad through an exchange programme, educational sabbatical or other temporary placements at other universities. We want to see an increase of the staff exchange in the coming five years. Feasibility is a precondition. We need to take into account the high workload, the high number of vacancies and the tight job market, when stimulating staff mobility. Exchange programmes are therefore the preferred option of staff exchange. We will establish a working group to define an implementation plan how to improve our staff exchange procedures, gradually increase the numbers of Erasmus+ staff exchange and improve the recognition of their mobility.

2.3 For the Purposes of Visibility

Please provide the web link where you will host the Erasmus Policy statement in the future. Please reflect on how you plan to regularly promote the activities supported by the Programme.

Our Erasmus+ policy statements and the charter are published on our website. <https://www.WU.nl/en/Education-Programmes/Study-Abroad-and-Exchange-Students.htm>

The programme will be promoted during the general annual introduction programme when students just start with their studies. We have an interactive world map, on which you can click and find information and student reports about all the universities connected to Wageningen University. Incoming and outgoing students proudly represented their home/host universities at our study abroad fair to promote student exchange. Returning students share their experiences at a welcome back event. For staff exchange we will create a new promotion plan. All our other activities related to the Erasmus+ programme will be promoted during the project activities.

Please describe how you will ensure that the principles of this Charter will be well communicated and applied by staff at all levels of the institution.

Most of the principles of the Erasmus+ programme are already incorporated in our procedures, in our Strategic plan, internationalisation strategy or other policy documents which are communicated, implemented and monitored in different levels of our organization. For a few new Erasmus+ principles that are currently not yet included in our regular strategies, there will be discussions with the persons responsible for them. They will be incorporated in new strategy if possible. This process to implement the new principles will be monitored by the Education and Student Affairs department of WU.

³ The text of the Council Recommendation on Automatic Mutual Recognition may be found at: [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1568891859235&uri=CELEX:32018H1210\(01\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1568891859235&uri=CELEX:32018H1210(01))