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Innovation, Digital Education and International Cooperation
International Cooperation

Cooperation with African education institutions

Erasmus+ funded projects related to agriculture or similar fields in Higher Education (HE) and Vocational Education and Training (VET)

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1. INTRODUCTION

The 5th African Union – European Union (AU-EU) Agriculture Ministerial Conference which will take place on 30 June 2023 in Rome highlights the importance of AU-EU relations and the need for cooperation to tackle shared challenges and priorities as partners. The agricultural sector faces many challenges in both continents but is also well placed to offer opportunities for innovation and for improving people's quality of life. These challenges often have implications for other sectors, such as education, infrastructure, and security, and therefore require well-coordinated and multi-sectoral solutions.

Erasmus+ is the EU programme in the fields of education, training, youth and sport. These fields are key areas that support citizens in their personal and professional development. High quality, inclusive education and training equip young people and participants of all ages with qualifications and skills needed for their meaningful participation in society and successful access to the labour market. Education and training in the field of agriculture are necessary to tackle challenges faced in this sector and to harness new opportunities.

Erasmus+ includes a **strong international dimension** (i.e., involving third countries not associated to the Programme) in mobility, cooperation, and policy dialogue activities. It supports European organisations in addressing changes brought about by globalisation, climate change and the digital transition through notably an intensification of international mobility and cooperation with third countries and strengthens the role of the European Union as a global actor. It enhances societal links through mobility, exchanges, capacity building and joint initiatives, nurturing human development, employability, entrepreneurship, active participation and ensuring regular channels for people-to-people cooperation by promoting values, principles, and interests around common priorities.

In addition to an overall, increased budget for the programme of EUR 26.2 billion for seven years, EUR 2.2 billion are reserved for international cooperation with non-European countries. The biggest increase goes to sub-Saharan Africa (from EUR 160 million in the previous Erasmus+ programme to EUR 570 million for the period 2021-2027). This amount is complemented by a share of the budget allocated to Southern Mediterranean countries which remain stable (€335 million over 7 years, of which an estimated €220 million will benefit North African countries).

Facilitating and supporting international cooperation between organisations in the fields of education and training is essential to empowering people with key competences in agriculture. It facilitates the circulation of ideas and the transmission of best practices and expertise.

The Erasmus+ programme is supporting two main types of projects:

- Support to mobility of staff and students in higher education: via the International Credit Mobility Action and the Erasmus Mundus scholarships
- Cooperation between European and African organisations and institutions in higher education and Vocational Education and Training: via Capacity Building projects and Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters and Design Measures.

- [International Credit Mobility](#) (ICM) supports the mobility of individuals in HEI, between Programme countries and Partner countries. Through ICM, European HEIs can set up mobility agreements with partners around the world to send and receive students and staff.
- [Erasmus Mundus action](#) aims at fostering excellence and world-wide internationalisation of higher education institutions via study programme called “Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree” (EMJMD) – at master course level – jointly delivered and jointly recognised by higher education institutions established in the EU and open to institutions in other countries of the world. They involve at least three HEI from three different countries, of which at least two must be EU Member States and third countries associated to the Programme. By supporting these jointly recognised Master degrees, the EU aims at fostering excellence and internationalisation of the participating institutions. There are also scholarships for students to take part in these prestigious programmes; the masters themselves offer them to the best-ranked applicants worldwide. Scholarships cover the cost of a student’s participation in the programme, travel, and a living allowance.
- [Capacity Building](#) (CBHE) projects in the field of higher education support international cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships between organisations active in higher education field in EU Member States or third countries associated to the programme and third countries not associated to the programme. They aim to support the relevance, quality, modernisation, and accessibility and of higher education in third countries not associated to the programme as a driver of socio-economic development.
- [Capacity Building projects in the field of Vocational Education and Training \(VET\)](#) supports international cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships between organisations active in the field of VET in EU Member States, third countries associated to the programme and third countries not associated to the programme. They aim to support the relevance, accessibility, and responsiveness of VET institutions and systems in third countries not associated to the programme, as a driver of sustainable socio-economic development.

To highlight education and training initiatives in the fields related to agriculture where European and African are collaborating, we will first highlight selected projects in higher education, namely those under the Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) action, as well as Erasmus Mundus action and International Credit Mobility. Secondly, we will highlight projects in the field of Vocation Education and Training (VET) and beyond Erasmus+ pilot projects in the same field.

2. ERASMUS+ SELECTED PROJECTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION RELATED TO AGRICULTURE

2.1. Funded projects in Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) related to agriculture

2.1.1. CLICHA – Climate Change in Agriculture:

a. Project description



CLICHA – Climate Change in Agriculture – project is coordinated by the Agricultural University of Athens between 2017 and 2021. This project was designed upon a national priority of Tunisia (Environmental protection), which is also a regional priority for the southern neighbouring area.

The strategic objective of EU-Tunisia relations involves supporting sustainable development, reducing social and regional inequalities, and improving the population's standard of living. As revealed from the evaluation of the EU-Tunisia cooperation (2014), the partnership is based, for agriculture, on facilitating the transition towards a more sustainable sector and being able to ensure the food security of the Tunisians through several projects. PAPS-Eau, LACTIMED and SERVAGRI are examples of such EU-funded projects aiming at improving capacity building of Tunisian agriculture.

These initiatives, however, cannot effectively meet the CC challenge and stimulate sustainable agriculture without a strong focus in education. The graduates of the Tunisian agricultural HEIs need to have a good grasp of the CC issues, including mitigation and adaptation strategies, if e.g. they are going to advise the local communities appropriately. To improve this situation, the Tunisian HEIs wish to benefit from the experience of the EU HEIs in order to modernise the courses in such a way that all their students will be equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to tackle this challenge and its interpretation in the specific local conditions.

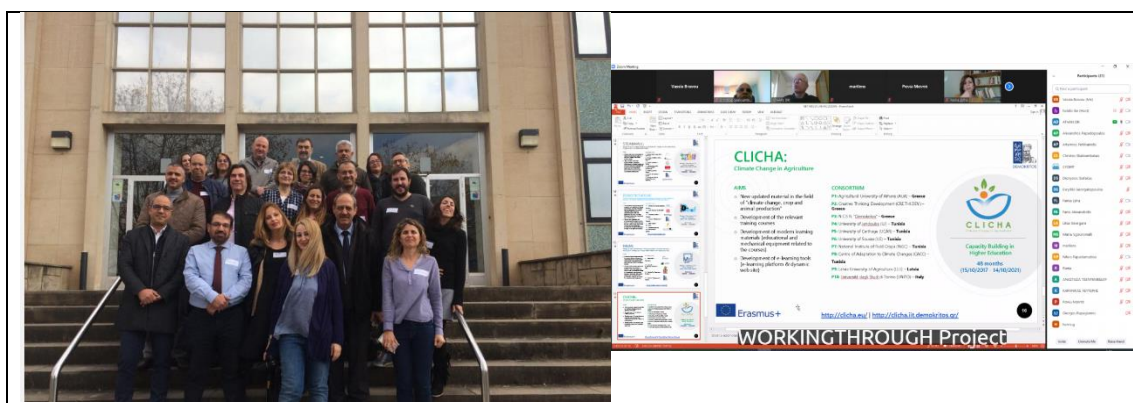
The wider objective of this project is to create qualified scientists who will contribute to the development of environmentally friendly and sustainable agriculture and will be readily absorbed by the labour market. These scientists could become the transformation factor for the whole society towards a more sustainable way of farming, production, consuming and living.

b. Expected impact of the project

▪ Impact on teaching/academic staff

- EU HEI benefitted from the cooperation & brainstorming during the preparation of the educational material and the courses, and they will develop cognitive content that could be useful in their lectures at their HEIs.
- Tunisian HEIs will broaden their horizons & increase their capacity to pass on knowledge, experience, and novel learning methodologies by receiving a modern, attractive and full package of educational material, structured courses, media, ICT tools and cognitive content about Climate Change in Agriculture. Furthermore, they will be trained in ICT technologies and acquire useful skills and tools for their work.
- Technical staff of the Tunisian HEIs will benefit from access to the newly acquired equipment and methodologies.

- **Technical staff of the Tunisian HEIs will benefit from access to the newly acquired equipment and methodologies.**
- **Administrative staff of HEIs through expanding their expertise in running/ supporting EU projects**
- **Impact on Tunisian students**
 - attend modernized courses on CC, its effects on animal and crop production, and the possible measures to be taken. It will be a question of evaluating the appropriateness of integrating in the cognitive aspects the good practices for the adaptation of the agriculture to the CC, in particular soil and water conservation practices, sustainable groundwater use, innovative technologies of irrigation to improve agriculture resilience.
 - practice on the new equipment, gaining thus a lot in terms of theoretical and field knowledge.
 - be lectured by EU Academics & participate in specialized Business fora, enriching their education and experiences, and promoting their access to the professional and work placement.



c. Consortium of the project

Agricultural University of Athens (coordinator); CRE.THI.DEV; N.C.S.R. “Demokritos”; University of Jendouba; University of Carthage; University of Sousse; Tunisian National Institute of Field Crops; Tunisian Centre of Adaptation to Climate Changes; Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies; University of Turin.

d. Project details:

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/586273-EPP-1-2017-1-EL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP>

2.1.2. FoSaMed – Enhancing Food Safety in the Mediterranean

a. Project description

FoSaMed brings together Moroccan higher education institutions and European partners promoting inclusive education through curriculum development and teacher education on food safety. The main goal of the project is the implementation of a new joint Master’s programme on food safety.

The project aims to develop new approaches and methodologies and to promote wider participation in higher education. Such participation enhances social inclusion through economic, social and civil means. From an occupational perspective, participation in higher education can be understood as enabling a transformation of identity and socio-economic status through the transitional occupation of student, to become a worker and a professional.



fosamed.eu

The objectives of the FoSaMed project include to qualify Moroccan academics for modern and innovative teaching methodologies, to support Moroccan HEIs in designing a Master Programme on food safety associated to the recovery and promotion of the traditional Mediterranean diet and to short food supply chains, and to contribute to inclusive higher education, which integrates underprivileged groups, such as women, rural populations and refugees and gives them equal access to knowledge and the opportunities it brings.

b. Project expected results:

The main result of the FoSaMed project is the creation of a new Master's degree on food safety which will start in October 2023 (application will open in September 2023). Master students will be taught advanced and integrated multidisciplinary approaches and methodologies and will be expected to be able to further develop their knowledge, as well as problem-solving directed skills.

The new Master has a modular structure and is implemented in the four Moroccan partner universities, each of them being responsible for specific modules in the second year. Each of the four Moroccan HEI partners is equipped with modern food safety labs to ensure hand-on sessions and practical activities. In order to grant to the country a higher coverage of skills, each University specializes in one field and the labs are equipped along with this specialization. These new food safety labs will be intensively used both for teaching and learning (by teachers and students), as well as for research and possible extension activities and services to the local communities (by researchers).

The teaching units have been established considering the national needs of Morocco in the field of food safety, including scientific research and the training of qualified professionals capable of strengthening the agri-food sector. The teaching of fundamental concepts is accompanied by the learning of methodological tools, laboratory training, the presentation of current research issues and applications in the chosen specialities.

c. Consortium of the project:

University of Évora (UEVORA – Coordinator); Hassan II Institute of Agronomy and Veterinary Medicine (IAV); the National School of Agriculture of Meknès (ENA); Ibn Tofail University (IBN); Mohammed I University (UMP); University of Barcelona (UB); Mediterranean Universities Union (UNIMED).

d. Projects details:

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/618518-EPP-1-2020-1-PT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP>

2.1.3. Other relevant projects:

Project title	Selection year	Project description	Participant Countries	Project Card
Interuniversity learning in Higher Education on Advanced land management-Egyptian Country (ILHAMEC)	2015	ILHAMEC intends to develop a postgraduate Master on Sustainable Land Management (SLM) within the curricula of four Egyptian universities supported by three EU ones adopting the strategy to first train teachers. During its lifetime, the consortium envisages to reach many results such as: studies, surveys, access to open digital contents, web learning tools, teachers training materials, an educational web-based simulation game on SLM, educational innovative video-lessons, new Master curricula, workshops, and seminars.	Egypt, Greece, Italy, United Kingdom	https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/561827-EPP-1-2015-1-IT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
Défis sociétaux et gouvernance des universités AFRicaines : le cas ALiments au Maroc, en République Démocratique du Congo et au Sénégal (DAFRALI)	2016	DAFRALI reinforces the capacity of 8 Higher Education Institutions (HEI) in Morocco, Congo-Kinshasa, and Senegal in terms of governance and strategy applied to food safety and food security.	Belgium, Democratic Republic of Congo (RDC), France, Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Senegal	https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/573791-EPP-1-2016-1-BE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
Developing a MSc. Programme in Climate Change, Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security (CCSAFS)	2016	CCSAFS helps to overcome the threats to agriculture and food security in a changing climate, exploring new ways of helping vulnerable rural communities to compact hunger and adjust to local, regional, and global changes in climate.	Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Jordan	https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/573881-EPP-1-2016-1-EL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Master in Agricultural and hYdrological Approaches to a better sustainable development (MAYA)	2017	MAYA enhances capacity building in Higher Education ensuring high quality educational curricula that meets professionals, employers, and socio-economic needs of Tunisia during a timeframe of 42 months, from 15th October 2017 to 14th April 2021. MAYA aimed at increasing the professionalism of young students by supporting the development of a new postgraduate Master on integrated water and agriculture management (IWAM) in the three involved Tunisian universities.	Greece, Italy, Spain, Tunisia	https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/586170-EPP-1-2017-1-IT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
A Global Network for Agricultural Sciences and Viniviticulture: Internationalising through Joint Programmes (VITAGLOBAL)	2018	VITAGLOBAL brings together university partners and networks from diverse regions interested in contributing to local development by building joint study programmes in agricultural science and, specifically, viti-viniculture, which are of strategic economic importance to their countries and regions.	Argentina, Chile, France, Georgia, Italy, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Uruguay	https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/598507-EPP-1-2018-1-ES-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
New Curricula in Precision Agriculture using GIS technologies and sensing data (CUPAGIS)	2018	CUPAGIS modernizes curricula in precision agriculture using new technologies in physical sciences, such as Geographic Information System/GIS, big data, remote sensing. This will be achieved by analysing and updating existing curricula according to educational needs and developing new certified curricula.	Algeria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Estonia, Germany	https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/597962-EPP-1-2018-1-EE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
Steering Migration through Sustainable Development: Euro-Egyptian Program for Agriculture and Rural Development	2018	The challenge to be addressed in this project is reducing the number of people seeking to leave the countryside or their countries due to the lack of attractive prospects. In Egypt, agriculture and rural regions clearly remain a source of resilience for	Cyprus, Egypt, Germany, Sweden	https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/598888-EPP-1-2018-1-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

		many families in the face of economic shocks. This project supports the Egyptian rural community with the necessary qualified graduates and university expertise to improve agricultural productivity, enable more sustainable food production, develop the poor villages, enhance farmers' income and their living conditions to prevent migration to cities or abroad.		
Internal quality assurance system for agriculture and biosystem engineering related HEI of Algeria	2018	The main objective of this project is to enhance the management, governance, and innovation capacities, as well as the internationalization of HEIs. Project is national joint project. Three Algerian HEI's in the field of agriculture and biosystems engineering, as beneficiary partners, in collaboration with partners from Lithuania and Estonia to work on offering new institutional capacity in internal quality assurance system (IQAS) within recipient HEI.	Algeria, Estonia, Lithuania	https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/598176-EPP-1-2018-1-LT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
Sustainable Resource Management Programme to solve Desert-ed Challenges	2019	This project develops an interdisciplinary study program, offering MSc and advanced diplomas in Sustainable Resources Management. It will focus on crosscutting issues, employ the latest learning methodologies, and address technical as well as social and skills, required to implement sustainable technical solution to the challenges in food production and processing.	Egypt, Germany, Greece, Italy, Spain	https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/610439-EPP-1-2019-1-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

2.2. Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (EMJM) projects related to agriculture

As mentioned above, the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree (EMJMD) is an innovative and highly competitive programme supported by the EU, where universities in Europe and in other world countries and regions cooperate to issue a joint Master's degree. African universities can be full partners, associated partners or since recently applicant. Students of the EMJMD programme spend each semester on mobility in a different partner university. Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters programmes are distinguished by their academic excellence and by their high level of integration.

Applications for joint Master's degree scholarships are open to eligible students from all over the world, including African students. Below you can find a list of EMJMD past, or current programmes related to agriculture where African institutions are associated.

2.2.1. Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems (TROPIMUNDO)

- **Description of the programme:**

TROPIMUNDO is the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in Tropical Biodiversity and Ecosystems, and is the first and only MSc program (120 ECTS) that integrates the knowledge and skills related to the above field of study, while organizing 2 full semesters abroad, one of which is located in the tropics. TROPIMUNDO is unique in incorporating theoretical courses and a significant field course in the tropics in Guadeloupe, Cameroon, Madagascar, Malaysia, and Hong Kong. It also brings together European expert higher education institutes from Belgium, France, and Italy with long-standing worldwide expertise in tropical rainforests and woodlands and in coastal ecosystems. African institutions from Cameroon, Kenya and Madagascar are associated to the programme.

- **Selection year:** 2019

- **Consortium :**

Université Libre de Bruxelles - ULB (Belgium) ; Vrije Universiteit Brussel - VUB (Belgium) ; Sorbonne Université - SU (France) Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle - MNHN (France), Università degli Studi di Firenze - UNIFI (Italy), Université de Guyane - UdG (French Guyana, France), Université des Antilles - Uda (Guadeloupe, France) ; **Université de Dschang - UDsch (Cameroon) ; Technical University of Mombasa - TUM (Kenya) ; Université d'Antananarivo - UNIVANTA (Madagascar) ; Université de La Réunion - UNIRé (France) ; University of Ruhuna - RUH (Sri Lanka) ; Universiti Malaysia Terengganu - UMT (Malaysia)**

- Project card: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/610581-EPP-1-2019-1-BE-EPPKA1-JMD-MOB>

2.2.2. European Master's programme in Agricultural, Food and Environmental Policy Analysis (AFEP)

- **Description of the programme:**

The Master's programme in Agricultural, Food and Environmental Policy Analysis (AFEPA+) aims at providing a high-quality education in designing and assessing public policies targeted to the agricultural and food sector as well as the rural environment to excellent students from all over the world. This Master's programme responds to the increasing need to better understand and anticipate the various and often complex socio-economic and environmental effects of these policies either in a functioning market economy as in the European Union or in economies in a development or transition phase world-wide. 17 African universities from the African Economic Research Consortium are associated to the programme.

- **Selection year:** 2019
- **Consortium:** The AFEPA+ Master's programme is jointly organized by four main European partner universities: the Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität Bonn (U Bonn) in Germany, the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL) in Belgium, the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) in Sweden, and the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (UCSC) in Milano, Italy
- **Associated partners outside the EU:** The partnership also includes three associated partner universities: the Pontificia Universidad Católica (PUC) in Chile, the University of Alberta (UAlberta) in Canada and the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) in Spain, as well as a consortium of **17 African universities, African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)**
- **Project card:**
<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/599274-EPP-1-2018-1-DE-EPPKA1-JMD-MOB>

2.2.3. *European Master Degree in Plant Health in Sustainable Cropping Systems (PlantHealth)*

- **Description of the programme:**

The Joint Master degree PlantHealth “Plant Health in Sustainable Cropping Systems” is proposed by four European countries (France, Germany, Italy and Spain) and represents a fully integrated, globally competitive programme with the objective to educate students to be able to master new developments and technologies in plant health management. In view of the constantly decreasing land available for agricultural food production and the increasing world population yield stabilization and increase must be ensured, which will only be possible with an inventive plant health management which, while protecting the environment, reducing emissions and biodiversity loss, will secure crop production. Academic partners from Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, South African and Senegal are associated to this programme.
- **EU HEIs partners of the programme:**

The consortium includes 6 HEIs (Montpellier SupAgro, Agrocampus Ouest, AgroParis Tech, University of Göttingen, University of Padova and Universitat Politècnica de València)
- **Academic partners from Africa:**

Ecole Nationale Supérieure Agronomique (ENSA) – Algiers (Algeria); Saad Dahlab University of Blida 1 (Algeria); University of Nairobi – School of

Biological Sciences (Kenya); Ecole Nationale d'Agriculture de Meknes (Morocco); Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (Morocco); Université Cheikh Anta DIOP – Département de Biologie Végétale, Faculté des Sciences et Techniques (Senegal); North-West University (Noordwes-Universiteit) (South Africa); Institut Supérieur Agronomique de Chott-Mariem (Tunisia); National Agronomic Institute of Tunisia (Tunisia)

- **Project card:**

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/projects/search/details/599331-EPP-1-2018-1-ES-EPPKA1-JMD-MOB>

2.3. International Credit Mobility (ICM)

As mentioned earlier, international credit mobility (ICM) supports the short-term mobility of individuals in higher education institutions. Several bilateral partnerships exist between European and African universities specialized in **agriculture** planning to organize mobility flows for their students and staff. Below, you can find an indicative list of 3-year projects which have been selected in 2022 and others funded under the previous Erasmus+ programme (2014-2020).

Beyond these mobility projects involving **higher education institutions providing education/training in agriculture or related fields**, there are also other partnerships linking departments of agriculture of more generalist universities. The list below is indicative to show the potential of this action to organize exchanges of students (for studies or traineeships) and staff (for training or teaching).

European Higher Education Institution (Country)	African Higher Education Institution (Country)
Université de Liège (Belgium)	Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (Morocco)
University of Applied Sciences in West-Flanders (Belgium)	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (Kenya)
UC Leuven (Belgium)	Université Nationale d'Agriculture (Benin)
Mendelova University in Brno (Czech Republic)	Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta (Nigeria)
Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague (Czech Republic)	Faculty of Agronomy – University Abdou Moumouni (Niger)
Freiberg University of Mining and Technology (Germany)	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (Kenya)
University of Kassel (Germany)	École Nationale d'Agriculture de Meknès (Morocco)
University of Kassel (Germany)	Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (Morocco)

University of Kassel (Germany)	Institut National Agronomique de Tunisie (Tunisia)
Carinthia University of Applied Sciences (Austria)	Sokoine University of Agriculture (Tanzania)
University of Szeged (Hungary)	École Nationale Supérieure Agronomique (Algeria)
University of Szeged (Hungary)	École Nationale d'Agriculture de Meknès (Morocco)
University of Szeged (Hungary)	Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (Morocco)
University of Szeged (Hungary)	Institut National Agronomique de Tunisie (Tunisia)
Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava (Slovakia)	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (Kenya)

3. ERASMUS+ SELECTED PROJECTS IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) RELATED TO AGRICULTURE

3.1. Selected projects in Capacity Building in VET

This is a new Action under Erasmus+ (launched in 2022). The projects mentioned below have been selected through the 2022 call and have begun activity at the beginning of 2023.

3.1.1. Smart Entrepreneurial Education and training for Digital Farming in Africa (SEED4AFRICA)

a. Description of the project:

The project aims to enhance the professional profile of African VET teachers and trainers in the field of agriculture and rural development by offering online, face to face and work-based learning opportunities. To do so, SEED4AFRICA supports the establishment of an international network of VET – Vocational Education and Training – providers in three different countries (Italy, Belgium, and Spain) and four **Sub-Saharan countries** (Nigeria, Benin, Kenya and South Africa) with the potential to furtherly extend within the EU, as well as in the whole southern African region.

Project activities promotes the enhancement of VET quality and attractiveness, with a specific focus on smart, digital and sustainable farming, by:

- adapting and transferring the results of three good practices financed by the Erasmus+ programme for the design of innovative training approaches and materials in agricultural education, namely: SEED - Smart Entrepreneurial Education and training in Digital farming; PONICS VET - Hydroponics Agricultural Technician; LiveAdapt - Solutions for the adaptation of Extensive Livestock to Climate Change.
- enhancing communication and cooperation among VET providers, at local and international level, exchanging good practices, initiatives and tools, also with the organization of job shadowing and technical visits for African VET teachers and technical staff in the schools of the ENNE National Networks represented in the project.
- innovating the provision of VET programmes encouraging the collaboration between educational institutions, public authorities and private companies, especially through the conduction of contest-based initiatives, such as hackathons and innovation bootcamps, where mixed teams of VET students and Agriculture stakeholders will co-design digital and entrepreneurial solutions for societal challenges linked to the Sustainable Development Goals of the Agenda 2030.

b. Consortium of the project:

Azienda Vivaistica Regionale Umbraflor (coordinator - Italy); European Grants International Academy (Italy); Innogestiona Ambiental (Spain); Farm Tech Society (Belgium);

Learning Academy Worldwide (South Africa); Université Nationale d'Agriculture (Benin); Institut National des Recherches Agricoles (Benin); Don Bosco Tech Africa (Kenya); Michael Okpara University of Agriculture Umudike (Nigeria).

c. Selection year: 2022

d. Project details:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43353764/101092505/ERASMUS2027>

3.1.2. Center of Vocational Excellence for Climate Smart Agriculture in South Africa

a. Description of the project:

Climate-smart technology supports food security and a sustainable environment. It is an answer to the effects of climate change which make agricultural development in Africa more challenging than ever before. Climate-smart production depends on technology transformation and a modern skilled workforce. The proposed CoVE SA project is implemented in South Africa (SA). It is a joint initiative of 2 SA TVET schools, 2 EU and 1 SA academic partners, and 1 SA private partner. It gets full support from key public and private stakeholders. The project will educate TVET students to become the responsive, digitally skilled, and sustainable-oriented sector professionals that South Africa's future greatly needs. The aim of the project is to integrate Vocational Excellence in the climate-smart horti/agriculture sector, thereby ensuring high quality skills and competences that lead to quality jobs and careers, meeting the needs of an innovative, inclusive, and sustainable rural economy.

b. Consortium of the project:

Maastricht University (Netherlands); Mendel University in Brno (Czechia); Stellenbosch University (South Africa); Bolland TVET College (South Africa); AGRICOLLEGES International (South Africa); West Coast College (South Africa)

c. Selection year : 2022

Maastricht University (Netherlands); Mendel University in Brno (Czechia); Stellenbosch University (South Africa); Bolland TVET College (South Africa); AGRICOLLEGES International (South Africa); West Coast College (South Africa)

d. Project details:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43353764/101092433/ERASMUS2027>

3.2. Pilot projects in VET

While not supported through the Erasmus+, the 2 VET pilot projects presented below have been selected in 2019 to test cooperation in Vocational Education and Training with African partners. They both have an agricultural dimension.

3.2.1. SAAM



SAAM (Supporting Alliance for African Mobility) is an AU-EU funded project to pilot the action of educational mobility of students and professionals in the field of VET between Africa and Europe. The pilot project is involved in three different fields: agriculture, hospitality/tourism and engineering/manufacturing. The objective of the project is to:

- pilot an action of educational mobility between Africa and Europe
- learn, improve knowledge, exchange methodologies and good practices to nourish VET systems in Africa and Europe
- bring both VET systems closer for future projects and mobilities

SAAM (Afrikaans word meaning “Together”) is a partnership coordinating 32 VET organizations across 8 EU Member States (Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, and Spain) and **17 African countries** (Angola, Benin, Cabo Verde, Eritrea, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, Chad, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Gabon). This outstanding partnership gathers a huge network of VET providers, NGOs, and European “umbrella” organizations in the sector of VET and Youth.

Further information about the project is available here: <https://saam.global/>

3.2.2. OVERSTEP



OVERSTEP is a joint alliance to develop mobility scheme and share best practices between African and European VET systems. The project aims to improve the professional development of teachers and managers, the skills and employability of learners and the relevance and quality of teaching and learning in vocational education and training in Africa. Areas covered by the project are food processing, agriculture/forestry/fishery, and veterinary and

tourism/hotel services.

One of the planned activities of the project is to organize mobility for African and European School Staff to undertake 15-day job shadowing experience at European VET/School/training providers in European for African participants and 15-days job shadowing experience at African VET/School/training for African participants. Moreover, around 200 African learners (100 students and 100 recent graduates) are expected to undertake “on the job” training experience in European companies in Italy, France, Malta, and Spain operating in the sectors of Tourism and Hotel services, Agriculture and Food Processing.

OVERSTEP is a partnership involving VET organizations across 4 EU Member States (Italy, France, Malta and Spain) and 10 African countries (Benin, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Gabon, Kenya, Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia).

Further information about this project is available here: <https://www.overstep.eu/>