



The EU Approach to Transatlantic Cooperation in Higher Education

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1995-2005 Agreements with the U.S. and with Canada

- ✓ **Concrete support to EU/US and EU/CND partnerships of HE and VET institutions**
- ✓ **Promotion of joint study programmes and student exchanges across the Atlantic**
- ✓ **Typically one semester mobility**
- ✓ **Recognition of study abroad**



1995-2005 Agreements (2)

- ✓ Min 3 EU + 3 US/CND institutions per project
- ✓ Annual bgt: EU/US 2 m€, EU/CAN 0,7 m€
- ✓ Funding of up to 150.000€ to the 3 EU institutions for a 3-year project
- ✓ Equivalent funding from US and CND
- ✓ EU/US: 114 consortia, 700 institutions, over 4000 students exchanged
- ✓ EU/CND: 65 consortia, 350 institutions, over 2000 students exchanged



Programme Objectives (1)

- To improve quality of human resources development
 - ✓ Cooperation between equals
 - ✓ Modernisation of curricula and teaching methods
 - ✓ More comparability, transparency and recognition
- To make EU HE institutions more attractive and competitive



Programme Objectives (2)

- To equip exchanges students with international and cross-cultural skills required by the transatlantic market place
- To promote mutual understanding between US, US and CND people
 - For Students, Faculty & Staff
 - Languages, Cultures, Institutions



The new EU/US cooperation programme 2006-2013

- Objectives unchanged: quality, mutual understanding, joint study programmes, student and faculty mobility
- ATLANTIS
 - NEW Transatlantic Degrees action
 - Excellence mobility projects
 - Policy oriented measures
- Schuman-Fulbright individual mobility grants



Transatlantic Degree Consortia Projects

- Joint study programme involving at least 2 EU HE institutions located in 2 different member states and at least 1 US institution
- Joint or double degrees awarded at least by 1 EU and 1 US institution
- For 2006 call for proposals focus on undergraduate level (1st cycle)



Transatlantic Degrees - key components

- Joint study programme
- Student mobility
- Faculty mobility
- Language and cultural training
- Evaluation
- Dissemination

Joint Study Programme



- Common programme of study jointly developed and/or approved by partner institutions
- Typically a 4-year duration (bachelor)
- Shared admission standards
- Recognition of courses and exams taken at partner institutions
- All students study in at least 2 EU and 1 US institutions
- Leading to award of a recognised joint or double degree

Student Mobility

Directorate-General for Education and Culture



- At least one full academic year on the other side of the Atlantic
- Plus a period of study in a second EU institutions in a different country worth 20 ECTS
- Tuition and fees recommended to be due only to the home institution
- Agreement on award of academic credits earned abroad



Faculty Mobility

- Teaching or research assignments in the US institutions
- Managing the joint study programme
- Support for 1 to 8-week mobility



Language and Cultural training

- Use of two EU languages
- Courses not necessarily in the national language
- If courses are in English in a non-English speaking country then separate training on local language
- Cultural preparation and pre-departure briefings



Evaluation and Dissemination

- evaluation plan
- possibly independent experts
- strategies for sustainability
- dissemination of the projects' results
- funding linked to performance



Policy Oriented Measures

- Two-year duration
- Flexibility in the type of activities
- Studies, seminars, benchmarking
- Added value for Transatlantic cooperation in education and training



Funding for Transatlantic Degrees

- Projects are selected and receive funding for four years
- Maximum overall funding of € 696,000 for the EU partner institutions of 4-year project
- Similar funding for the US institution(s) from FIPSE
- No specific co-financing is required: use of flat rates and individual mobility grants



Funding for Transatlantic Degrees (2)

- ✓ Mobility Grants to EU students
 - Maximum of 576,000 € for a 4-year projects
 - 1,200 € per month spent in the US
 - Min 1 academic year in the US: 12,000 €
 - Max 2 academic years in the US: 24,000 €
 - At least 6 EU mobile students per year



Funding for Transatlantic Degrees (3)

- ✓ **Mobility Grants to EU faculty**
 - **Maximum of 60,000 € for a 4-year projects**
 - **1,000 € mobility grant per week spent in the US**
 - **plus a fixed amount of 1,000 € for travel**
 - **Minimum 1 week, maximum 8 weeks**



Funding for Transatlantic Degrees (4)

- ✓ **Flat rate funding to the partner institutions**
 - **Maximum of 60,000 € for a 4-year projects**
 - **Calculated as 7,500 € per institution per year**



Funding for Policy Oriented Measures

- **Projects are selected and receive funding for 2 years**
- **Up to 75% of total project cost for EU partners**
- **Maximum € 50,000 for EU partners and \$ 50,000 for US partners**
- **Partners to cover at least 25% of project cost**



Conclusions

- **EU committed to long cooperation with the US and with Canada in HE and VET**
- **Three main tools will be used:**
 - **ambitious Transatlantic Degrees (already operational with the US)**
 - **short term mobility projects (Erasmus-like)**
 - **policy oriented measures**
- **Potential is huge, budget availability from the two sides as a challenge**

More Information

http://europa.eu.int/comm/education/programmes/eu-usa/index_en.html