



Priority sector: Human and Social Development

EEA GRANTS 2009-14

The EEA Financial Mechanism shall contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the European Economic Area, and to strengthening the bilateral relations between the EEA EFTA States – Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway – and the Beneficiary States. The programme area shall contribute to these two overall objectives.

Scholarships

Objective

Enhanced human capital and knowledge base in the Beneficiary States

Expected outcomes

- Increased higher education student and staff mobility between Beneficiary and EEA EFTA States
- Increased and strengthened institutional cooperation at all levels of the education sector (school education, higher education, vocational training/education and adult education) between Beneficiary and EEA EFTA States
- Increased mobility of education sector staff at all levels of education between Beneficiary and EEA EFTA States



Relevance of support

Cooperation within the fields of education and research is an objective shared by all European countries. The significance of transnational cooperation has been highlighted by Ministers in charge of education and research in the EU and the EEA EFTA States as part of the Bologna Process and the development of the European Higher Education Area, the development of the European Research Area as well as the Lisbon Strategy and the European Strategic Framework for Cooperation in Education and Training 2020.

Internationalisation remains an important aim for higher education institutions in Europe and is promoted by educational authorities worldwide.

Despite political objectives of increased international student mobility, many European countries are witnessing a decline in student mobility.

The current financial crisis has made access to scholarship funding even more important both for individual applicants and for European educational and research institutions.

Suggested activities

- Individual mobility for higher education students and staff
- Individual mobility of academic and administrative staff at all levels of the education sector
- Inter-institutional cooperation projects at all levels of the education sector, including the transfer of innovation and knowledge

Reduce economic and social disparities
Strengthen bilateral relations