

Participation in Erasmus+

The ITS Sustainable Mobility Foundation considers participation in the key actions KA1, KA2 and KA3 of the Erasmus + program as strategic and a priority, as they respond to the identified needs and in perfect harmony with the internationalization strategy it intends to implement. (see ATTACHMENTS I_NEEDS AND OBJECTIVES).

In detail, it intends to promote and encourage the progressive implementation of outgoing and incoming mobility of students and teachers in order to enhance and perfect personal, professional and interpersonal skills, develop a sense of initiative and entrepreneurship, increase the ability to communicate in a constructive in contexts and environments other than those of origin, favoring the possibilities of job placement, social inclusion, interculturality, multilingualism and belonging to common European values.

The number, albeit small, of mobility achieved over the years through other funding channels has generated an authentic implementation of curricula and professional careers, triggering a virtuous circle. It is believed that the positive effects generated can be enhanced and sustained through the implementation of the internationalization strategy and participation in KA1 actions.

With reference to the KA2 action, it is believed that its implementation will allow the creation of a virtuous network of European excellence from higher education institutions and the labor market in the Transport and Logistics sector. The presence of a synergistic, reliable and structured network will allow the modernization of the institution, the improvement of the training offer in terms of increasing the services offered to students and staff, increasing career and employment opportunities, the innovation of teaching methods and training and the gradual improvement of inclusive and non-discriminatory services.

The aim is to aim to create “ecosystems of skills” that can contribute to regional, economic and social development, innovation and smart specialization strategies.

Finally, by participating in the KA3 action, it is believed that the institution can actively contribute to the activities in support of the reforms of policies related to the higher education sector, promoting itself as a promoter of proposals and initiatives that further bring higher education closer to the world's demands of work. The topics considered relevant with respect to the KA2 and KA3 actions are linked to the following macro-themes: sustainable mobility, smart mobility, transport of people, transport of goods, shipping services, industrial logistics, distribution logistics, integrated logistics (supply chain management, commercial distribution (e-commerce).

Strategy, objectives and impact

In Italy, the Higher Technical Institutes (ITS), established with the Prime Ministerial Decree of 25 January 2008 and which became operational with the MIUR and MLPS decrees of 7 September 2011, offer short-cycle vocational non-university tertiary education. The mission of the ITS Foundations is to promote the dissemination of technical and scientific culture and to support the development of the economy and active labor policies through the training of high-level post-secondary technicians (level 5 EQF) responding to market demand. of work in particular in the production areas most affected by technological innovation and market globalization.

The Sustainable Mobility ITS of Bergamo is a participation foundation founded in 2014 that represents a network of educational institutions, local authorities and public administrations, trade associations, companies, service companies and consultants operating in the Transport and Logistics chain. In the academic year 2021-22 the activated 3 biennial ITS courses of 2,000 hours (Technician for the mobility of people and goods - Shipping, transport and logistics technician - Transport and supply chain management technician), 2 annual IFTS courses (post-diploma specialization) of 1,000 hours and has activated courses in 1st level and 3rd level Apprenticeship (Research Apprenticeship and Higher Education). The number of students attending the ITS courses are 131 and the IFTS courses 42. To date, the employment of ITS graduates is 85% six months after graduation.

In line with the indications of the New Agenda for Higher Education (EU Commission 2017), the ITS Foundation has set among its strategic goals the implementation of interventions that aim to improve:

a) the quality and usability of the training curricula so that they are more responsive to the needs of the market and reduce the existing imbalance between skills required by the production system and skills formed by the educational system, acting not only on the continuous adaptation of technical-professional skills and cultural, but also on the development of soft skills

b) the development of inclusive, cooperative and connected training models based on the centrality of learning, on the circularity of theoretical-practical knowledge, on the enhancement of the "dual" approach (off / on the job training, and of the Life long learning approach (learning to learn and continuous and lifelong training)

c) the dissemination of innovation in training courses and in the organization of the training structure through the implementation of ICT technologies (digitization) and enabling technologies of Industry 4.0 (automation of production processes)

d) mobility, exchanges and international cooperation, organically inserting them in the training curricula. increasing the opportunities for training and / or internships abroad for both students and training staff and ensuring the recognition of training credits and qualifications

e) strengthen the integration between higher education, research centers and businesses at a local and international level to enhance the function of hub of skills that the Foundation can perform in support of the local economy.

Specifically, the objectives that the ITS Foundation intends to pursue through internationalization are:

a) Strengthen the training offer from a European perspective

The experience of international mobility improves students' professional, social, intercultural skills and the level of employability. Being able to experiment in a cultural and working context different from the Italian one allows you to acquire some key competences of European citizenship (interculturality, language skills, social skills) and integrate technical-professional competences and soft skills with knowledge and skills learned in different contexts

b) Develop the skills of the training staff

For training staff at all levels, participating in international mobility projects or the exchange of good practices or wider cooperation (strategic partnerships) represents an important opportunity to update and develop their professional skills and reinforce motivations. To be able to provide quality training, adequate to the challenges of the knowledge society, it is essential to aim for continuous improvement in the design of innovative training courses, in the management of the phases of the training process, in the application of new and more effective methodologies and teaching technologies, in the digitization of administrative and organizational processes relating to the training structure, in the implementation of training quality assurance models. Comparison and learning

c) Create and consolidate partnership networks

For the Foundation it is of primary interest, in addition to increasing the international mobility of students and exchanges between training staff, to create and consolidate networks of international partnerships (with higher education institutions, research centers and single or associated companies to be able to face the challenges of technological change and innovation and contribute to the competitiveness of territorial economic systems and production chains with highly qualified training that meets the actual demands of the production system.

In summary, the ITS Foundation's short and medium-term internationalization strategy envisages a progressive commitment to:

- Strengthen the structure of the International Area;
- Increase the number of mobilities;
- Enhance staff training;
- Create and develop relationships with organizations similar to ITS at a European level;
- Build useful partnerships to carry out international cooperation projects;
- Arrange for a progressive recognition of qualifications and profiles in a reciprocal manner.

The purpose of the Erasmus Charter is to build and develop a structured cooperative network between countries at the forefront of the Transport and Logistics sector both from a training and production point of view. Through the signing of collaboration agreements and strategic partnerships, the aim is to promote and encourage the exchange of good practices, the sharing of innovative tools and the adaptability of training models suited to the needs of both trainees and territories, enhancing excellence and favoring the coexistence of connections.

This desire arose from the joint survey of needs (see Annex 1) and aims to promote and facilitate the mobility of students and teachers and to support synergistic and strategic collaboration with other European countries.

The internationalization strategy of ITS Sustainable Mobility is configured as a path capable of:

- Ensure access to more inclusive, attractive, competitive and non-competitive education discriminatory;
- Encourage the improvement of learning performance and prospects for student career;
- Support the adoption and testing of innovative training methodologies;
- Promote the exchange of good practices between training and entrepreneurial realities in the sector;
- Promote the modernization of training courses;
- Contribute to the development of an international network of state-of-the-art training institutions in Transport and Logistics sector;
- Create interconnections between formal, non-formal education, higher education and job market.

Based on these objectives the partners will be identified. The push is towards making contact with training and entrepreneurial realities that operate in the reference sectors of the various courses provided, in order to allow students to attend courses, carry out internships, internships and project work abroad. Since 2014, the ITS Sustainable Mobility Foundation has involved companies not only at a territorial and regional level, but has begun to collaborate with production companies in the sector also at a European level, starting with the foreign branches of the entrepreneurial realities with which it already collaborates. Over the years, through other funding channels, outgoing mobility has been created which allowed students to carry out professional internships lasting one month and teachers to take part in continuous learning paths in job shadowing lasting one week.

The expected results from participation in the program are:

- Strengthening of technical-professional skills;
- Improvement of language skills in foreign languages;
- Enhancement of digital skills;
- Strengthening of interpersonal skills and meta-competence learning to learn;
- Strengthening of intercultural awareness, of the sense of European identity and belonging to common values;
- Increased sense of initiative, entrepreneurship and the ability to operate in an international environment;
- Use of good practices of synergy between higher education and the labor market;
- Guarantee of recognition of skills acquired abroad;
- Progressive endowment and improvement of processes for the recognition of educational credits and transparency of qualifications and qualifications.

The impacts of participation in the program can be noted:

With reference to the KA action:

For students:

- improvement of learning performance and professional and technical skills related to the Transport and Logistics sector;
- improvement of employability and career prospects;
- strengthening of intercultural competences;

For the participating institution:

- strengthening the ability to ensure the employability of learners, with a view to interconnection between the higher education system and the world of work;

- strengthening of the ability to guarantee the long-term sustainability of its activities and mobility;
- strengthening of the ability to operate at European level;
- strengthening of the ability to use systems for validating the skills of internship experiences;
- strengthening of the capacity of trade associations to operate at European level;
- strengthening the capacities of internal staff to manage projects at European level;
- strengthening of the ability to offer training programs more attractive to students;
- strengthening the ability to organize long-term internships that strengthen the employability of young people.

b) with reference to action KA2:

- strengthening the capacities of internal staff to manage projects at European level;
- creation of a virtuous network of European excellence in the logistics sector;
- strengthening of the ability to offer training programs more attractive to students;
- increase in the degree of accessibility and inclusiveness of the institution;
- Promotion of the sustainability of the activities related to the KA2 action;
- Share CVs and personnel searches, also through ad hoc portals and mailing lists;
- Making the innovative structures and facilities managed by the partners available to the target groups to carry out continuous training activities;
- Supporting sustainability with the return and dissemination of the results achieved.

indicators

The indicators useful for monitoring the actual achievement of the expected results can be identified.

With reference to the KA1 action in the following:

For students:

- No. of students who improve their technical professional skills. Expected value: 20%);
- No. of students who improve the judgments of behavior and soft skills. Expected value: 50%);
- No. of students improving their linguistic competence. Expected value: 50%);
- No. of mobility achieved by students enrolled in ITS, with fewer opportunities (social inclusion) - Expected value: 10%)
- No. of CV acts in English - Expected value 90%
- No. of job selection interviews, conducted in English - Expected value 30%

For trainers:

- No. of teachers who introduce new teaching techniques within teaching. Expected value: 20%);
- No. of teachers who include in the curriculum a comparative section linked to educational practices and / or work in another European country. Expected value: 20%);

For the participating institution:

- No. of students attending ITS, involved in the mobility - Expected value: 50%)
- No. of new European collaborations activated. Expected value: 15%)
- No. of students attending ITS who participate in a long-term internship. Expected value: 10%).
- No. of teaching units with innovative skills included within the training curricula. Expected value: 50%).

With reference to the KA2 action, they can be found in:

- No. of strategic partnerships signed with higher education institutions in the transport and logistics sector. Expected value: 20%);
- No. of training services - Expected value 20%
- No. of inclusion services - Expected value 10%
- No. of publications on the website, n. views on social media channels, n. dissemination events carried out. Expected value: 15%).