

ERASMUS

BUDGET PLANNING

VS.

THE CONTINUES CHANGING WISHES OF THE
BENEFICIARIES'



UNIVERSITATEA BABEŞ-BOLYAI
TRADIȚIE ȘI EXCELENȚĂ

Why this topic?

In a perfect mobility scheme the university makes a budget, based on which it is established how much it is need for the implementation of the mobilities:

Milestones:

- Budget planning for the application;
- Budget planning for the selection which happens before the final budget is approved by the National Agency;
- Budget planning after the selection;
- Budget planning after the budget is approved by National Agency;
- Budget planning after the first mobility;
- Budget planning at intermediary report;
- Budget final version at the final report;

- The increasing number of beneficiaries in the ERASMUS+ program is an objective set not just at the European and National level, but also to university level, being an important indicator in institutional evaluation.
- The ERASMUS offices are facing the increasing number of mobilities, an increasing number of papers and reports that must be filled in, while the quality of promoting the program, its results and the quality of beneficiary's services must be also increased taking into consideration the European standards.
- Budget planning is an everyday challenge for the ERASMUS offices taking into consideration the continue changes in student and academics mobility details which affects continuously the way we manage the European funds.



Babeş-Bolyai University registered an increasing number of mobilities taking into consideration the beneficiaries demands and availability of the funds.

In 2013/2014 the university registered:

- 312 outgoing Erasmus students mobility;
- 121 outgoing Erasmus student internships;
- 101 outgoing Erasmus teaching mobilities;
- 230 incoming Erasmus student mobilities;
- 86 outgoing Erasmus staff training mobilities;

and 7 Erasmus Mundus projects in implementation;

Challenges for the Erasmus+

- The Erasmus office have to deal with two parallel programs which have different implementation issues (in Romania just 35% of the universities applied for Erasmus with partner countries);
- Most universities in Europe have one office for Erasmus Mundus Program and another one for the Erasmus;
- The new program calculates the scholarship based on the number of days, which creates differences from the mobility planning costs to the final validation;



Elements that influence the budget

- beneficiaries withdrawals;
- beneficiaries expectations regarding the length of the mobility:
 - some of them want to prolong their stay;
 - other to ask to reduce the mobility from different reasons;
- The mobility is validated now based on the exact days spent by the beneficiary abroad;
- Some universities ask the incoming students to arrive with one week earlier for orientation week, but they do not mention this in the final certificate, (period that cannot be validated financial point of view);



Eramus+ with partner countries

- The university will be responsible if a mobility cannot be validated;
- Payments that will be made to students and teachers bank accounts outside European Union;
- Bank commission for all these payments;
- The risk of making a payment without the mobility to be fulfilled;
- Some universities are now eligible to use European funds in Erasmus+, being their first implementation process;
- The National agencies were not involved in the Erasmus Mundus implementation process;



What to do?

- Beneficiaries have to understand better how the withdrawal from the mobility affects the budget and the program (both students and teachers);
- The universities need to have experts from both Erasmus Mundus and Erasmus offices to plan the first year mobility scheme;
- A risk plan must be made in order to predict as much possible the future problems and to have a clear strategy to prevent them;
- A training should be carried on with universities from the partner countries, because they do not have a National Agency to refer to;



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