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National Erasmus+ Office in Uzbekistan

TERMS OF REFERENCE

National Impact Study (NIS) on Erasmus+ Programme in Uzbekistan

Erasmus+ projects funded within 6 Calls 2021–2026

1. Contracting Authority – Who We Are

The **National Erasmus+ Office (NEO) in Uzbekistan** operates within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. The National Erasmus+ Offices (NEOs) in 23 Partner Countries assist the European Commission, the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), and the Partner Country authorities concerned in the implementation of the Erasmus+ Programme. The NEO closely follows policy developments in the Partner Country, particularly in the field of higher education, and supports alignment with Erasmus+ priorities. Under the Erasmus+ Programme, the mandate of the National Erasmus+ Offices covers all supporting, promotion and dissemination activities related to Erasmus+ higher education actions open to cooperation with Partner Countries.

In Uzbekistan, the NEO:

- Promotes Erasmus+ opportunities to higher education institutions and stakeholders.
- Supports potential applicants and beneficiaries.
- Disseminates project results and good practices.
- Facilitates dialogue between national authorities and EU institutions.
- Contributes to higher education reform discussions.

In complementarity with the Delegation of the European Union to Uzbekistan, the National Erasmus+ Office serves as a focal point in the country for:

- Higher education institutions
- Ministries and public authorities
- Academic staff and students
- Potential applicants and beneficiaries
- Other stakeholders.

The NEO acts as the primary national contact regarding the European Commission and EACEA activities and programmes in the field of higher education.

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In line with this mandate, the NEO launches this call for proposals to conduct a comprehensive National Impact Study on Erasmus+ projects implemented in Uzbekistan under Call 2021–2026.

2. Background

Central Asian countries, including Uzbekistan, participate in the Erasmus+ Programme (2021–2027) and is eligible for only:

- Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE)
- International Credit Mobility (ICM)
- Jean Monnet Actions (JMA)
- Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees (EMJM) and Erasmus Mundus Design Measures (EMDM).

Since 2021, participation of local institutions and individuals has significantly expanded across all these actions.

The National Impact Study (NIS) shall assess:

- The systemic impact of Erasmus+ projects
- Institutional transformation
- Individual-level benefits
- Sustainability and multiplier effects
- Contribution to national higher education reforms
- Regional cooperation.

All Erasmus+ projects involving Uzbekistan under Calls 2021–2026 must be reviewed.

3. Objective of the Assignment

To conduct a comprehensive National Impact Study evaluating the structural, institutional, and individual impact of Erasmus+ projects (2021–2026) in Uzbekistan.

4. Scope of Work

The Contractor shall:

4.1 Comprehensive Project Review:

Review and analyse all Erasmus+ projects within Call 2021-2026 involving Uzbekistan under all eligible directions.

4.2 Multi-Level Impact Assessment

Assess impact at:

- National / policy level
- Institutional level
- Individual level (staff, students, alumni)
- Internationalisation level
- Facility modernisation
- Regional level

4.3 Data Analysis

The Contractor must demonstrate capacity to:

- Analyse large datasets (project databases, mobility statistics, EACEA data)
- Conduct quantitative and qualitative data triangulation
- Conduct in-person and virtual interviews
- Produce statistical and comparative analysis
- Visualise findings in charts and infographics.

Strong experience working with large and complex datasets is mandatory.

4.4 Field Work and Travel

The assignment may include travel to a selected region of Uzbekistan for:

- Interviews with project teams
- Institutional case studies
- Focus group discussions
- Facility review.

The contractor will be accompanied by a NEO Project Manager. Travel costs will be covered by NEO.

5. Methodology

The Contractor shall propose a robust mixed-method approach including:

- Desk research
- Big data/statistical analysis
- Online and offline surveys
- Structured interviews with projects and stakeholders (Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation- MHESI, line ministries, non-academic partners)
- Institutional case studies
- Field visit

The methodology must be clearly described in the Technical Proposal.

6. Deliverables

6.1 National Impact Study Book

- Language: English
- 120–150 pages
- Professionally edited and designed
- Digital and print-ready format

6.2 PowerPoint Presentation

- English version
- Uzbek version
- 25–30 slides
- Data-driven and visually strong

6.3 Poster (Infographic)

- English version
- Uzbek version
- A1 printable + high-resolution digital format

All deliverables must be submitted in editable formats.

7. Duration of Assignment

Contract duration: 3 months (July 1- September 31)

Indicative timeline:

- Month 1 – Methodology, desk research, interviews, field visits
- Month 2 – Data collection, interviews
- Month 3 – Analysis, drafting, validation, finalisation.

8. Team Composition

Applications may be submitted by:

- An individual expert; or
- A team of two experts.

For team applications:

- Clear division of responsibilities must be described;
- One expert must be designated as Team Leader.

9. Required Qualifications and Experience

The selected expert(s) must demonstrate:

Mandatory Requirements:

- Proven experience in higher education policy analysis
- Experience in conducting impact evaluations
- Demonstrated capacity to analyse large datasets
- Experience in drafting analytical reports in English
- Strong analytical and methodological skills

Additional Assets:

- Experience in Central Asia;
- Experience with statistical software or data analysis tools;
- Experience in producing professional publications.

10. Application Procedure

Interested candidates must submit the following documents:

10.1 Technical Proposal

Including:

- Understanding of the assignment
- Proposed methodology
- Work plan for 3 months
- Description of team composition and division of roles (if applicable).

10.2 Updated CV(s)

- Clearly indicating relevant experience
- Highlighting previous similar assignments
- Including publications or impact studies conducted.

10.3 Evidence of Relevant Experience

Applicants must include:

- Description of at least 2–3 previous relevant assignments;
- References or links to previous reports (if available).

10.4 Financial Proposal

Compensation for the contract is €4,000 (brutto). This amount is a lump-sum contract covering all costs related to the completion of the assignment and delivery of:

- 6.1 National Impact Study Book (English)
- 6.2 PowerPoint Presentation (English and Uzbek)
- 6.3 Poster (English and Uzbek)

The budget shall include data collection costs, communication costs, design and layout services, and any other expenses necessary to complete the assignment.

No additional payments beyond the agreed lump sum will be made.

12. Submission

Applications must be submitted by 30 March 2026

To:

coordinator@erasmusplus.uz and neo.bonuabdusalomova@gmail.com and
neo@erasmusplus.uz

Subject line:

Application – Erasmus+ National Impact Study 2021–2026

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.