

Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)

For ITS Rossellini Europe represents the first step in building closer relations with other HEIs in order to consolidate the Bologna Process and its principles. The Erasmus Plus Programme is the main instrument for student and staff mobility in Europe. The mobility of students and staff is a method to increase knowledge about educational projects and to foster profitable debate. ITS Rossellini will apply and enhance this approach in its relationships with academia and enterprises world-wide.

Partners will be selected on the basis of academic or policy driven reasons such as common educational strategic areas and aims and cooperation specific interests. Collaborations are institutionalized through agreements. Furthermore ITS Rossellini promotes creation and participation in institutional networks.

The main geographical area IST Rossellini is interested in is Europe with particular attention to Spain, France, UK and Germany.

The most important objective for ITS Rossellini is to give as many students as possible the opportunity to benefit from at least one period abroad during their study career. The Erasmus Program is the fundamental tool for applying the above goal and is strongly promoted among students in their short cycle. In order to support the students' personal and professional development for a successful entry into the labour market, ITS Rossellini grants also training and work placements. Students must demonstrate an ability to meet the required learning outcomes, enabling the successful completion of the degree programme and provide a given number of ECTS. Strict procedures will be in place to ensure the quality, approval and allocation of study and training opportunities.

ITS Rossellini actively promotes staff exchanges within the Erasmus Program which is considered as a worthy and institutionally enriching professional experience. Teaching and technical staff mobility and international recruiting actions are targeted to academic and administrative staff in order to enhance their internationalization competence and foster the involvement in the international agenda.

ITS Rossellini will promote also the development of study programmes containing mobility windows open to a wide range of activities abroad aimed to the achievement of well defined learning outcomes and the participation in multilateral projects both at educational and organizational level to enhance the quality of the education.

ITS Rossellini is already part of an extensive network of bilateral and multilateral agreement (please see section "partner" of the web site). ITS Rossellini intends to broaden this network in order to implement international cooperation and participate to EU Programmes, developing Joint Programmes, mobility actions, structural measures and capacity building initiatives.

Internationalization is a priority strategic objective for ITS Rossellini, therefore specific internal funds are always allocated for international programs and activities. Aside from promoting education and research with its own funds, ITS Rossellini coordinates and participates in publicly and privately funded research projects at the regional, national and, soon, international levels aiming at the development of quality of education, employability and professional development. Internal policy levels are involved in the process to foster institutional commitment and to promote a more significant exploitation of results. Internal seminars addressed to Internationalization delegates and study programmes coordinators will be regularly organized. International Office will assist students and staff to draft and submit international projects, to finalize consortium agreements, to verify financial accounting. The aim of this approach is to promote the Erasmus Plus Programme as a fundamental instrument to reach the internationalization objectives of the structures and of the whole

institution.

A specific strategy to increase the international dimension of study programmes, through innovative curriculum review and planning, the international experiences of students and an increasingly diverse and international student body will be implemented in order to promote the creation of KA, strategic partnerships, and international cooperation – including capacity building and horizontal cooperation with third countries institutions. Projects will match with the department and the institutional strategy and will be students and study programmes centered.

Modernisation Agenda is at the basis of ITS Rossellini institutional strategy and it is a necessary prerequisite to enhance the international impact at a global level.

To reach the objective of the 1st priority (attainments levels) new international projects and partnerships will be created to improve the dialogue with other HEIs, orientation services, municipalities, schools, decision makers and companies; identify best practices to reduce drop outs; better inform youngsters on the opportunities offered by HE and on the dedicated services for disadvantaged groups (disability services, loans, grants and fee waivers). A specific effort will be dedicated to connect to migrant communities linking with opportunities arising from international activities.

With reference to the 2nd, 3rd, 4th priorities which are interconnected (Quality/relevance of HE; Mobility and co-operation; Knowledge triangle), international Mobility, under the Erasmus Plus Programme, will have a significant impact on Quality of Education, on Employability and on Professional Development. Study or training mobility periods allow students to get specific knowledge or training in fields not available in their Country, to obtain “soft or transferrable skills” such as autonomy, critical thinking, creativity, etc. and to establish a good relationship with a potential employer. Furthermore high quality placements can result in a significant increase of the employability not only of the trainees but also indirectly of all students of the sending institution. In the end students and staff having had a mobility experience can have access to the European Union labour market which is evidently larger than the national market.

Governance, the last priority, has been recently reformed at ITS Rossellini in order to concentrate expertise and promote internationalization.