# Partner Country: Kyrgyz Republic Kyrgyz National University (KNU) named after J.Balasagyna

#### OID Number:....

Relevance of the strategy (Present your planned project with this region and explain how it is related to the internationalisation strategy of all the higher education institutions involved.

You may refer to the specific type(s) of mobility that you plan to organise, the subject areas, as well as any other specific element about the expected cooperation arrangements with international partners in this region that you could not describe appropriately in the "Project management" section.

Detail your previous experience of cooperation with higher education institutions in these Third countries not associated to the Programme, if any. Explain how you expect that this project will contribute to new cooperation in education and/or research in the region.)

## Relevance of the Strategy

The Kyrgyz National University named after J. Balasagyn (KNU) is actively working to strengthen international cooperation in education and research, fully aligning with the internationalization strategy of all participating higher education institutions. Our proposed project focuses on enhancing academic mobility, knowledge exchange, and the implementation of joint educational and research initiatives with international partners in the region.

## Planned Mobility and Subject Areas

We plan to organize the following types of academic mobility:

- 1. Short-term educational exchanges for students, faculty, and administrative staff.
- 2. Long-term internships and dual degree programs, particularly in areas such as international relations, sustainable development, information technology, cultural studies, and philology.

Special attention in this project is given to the Faculty of International Relations and the Faculty of Kyrgyz Philology, where Turkish is studied as a second foreign language. This provides unique opportunities for integrating our students and faculty into the international educational community, especially in cooperation with universities in Turkey and other Turkic states. The study of Turkish not only enhances the linguistic competence of our students but also deepens their understanding of cultural and historical ties, fostering intercultural dialogue.

## Cooperation and Previous Experience

KNU has extensive experience collaborating with higher education institutions in Central Asia, Russia, Turkey, as well as Europe and Asia. We have participated in joint projects under Erasmus+, Tempus, and other international programs. These partnerships have involved

educational exchanges, joint research, and participation in conferences, strengthening academic mobility and fostering long-term connections.

Expected Results and Contribution to Regional Cooperation

Our project is expected to achieve the following goals:

- 1. Deepening academic connections and creating a robust network between universities.
- 2. Developing joint research initiatives aimed at addressing pressing social, economic, and environmental challenges in the region.
- 3. Increasing access to international education for students and faculty from Kyrgyzstan.

Strengthening the role of the Turkish language in the university's educational programs will be a key aspect of this cooperation. We believe this project will not only expand opportunities for academic mobility but also deepen cultural, linguistic, and educational ties between Kyrgyzstan and its international partners, contributing to the creation of an integrated educational space.

Quality of project design and cooperation arrangements (We would like you to present the cooperation arrangements that will be put in place for all the activities of the project:

Describe how the responsibilities, roles and tasks will be divided between you and your partners as receiving/sending institutions throughout the project and how it will be defined in the Inter-institutional Agreements.

Refer to the arrangements and measures that you foresee for the different phases of the mobility project, including:

selection of participants,

the support provided to participants before, during and after the mobility period, measures to ensure full recognition for all participants (students and staff), by your institution and your partners,

and procedures for debriefing participants after mobility.

When you refer to outreach and selection strategies, please highlight specific measures to ensure participation of those with fewer opportunities (in accordance with the Inclusion and Diversity Strategy).

Describe how the proposal respects and promotes shared EU values.

Quality of Project Design and Cooperation Arrangements

The Jusup Balasagyn Kyrgyz National University (KNU) is committed to ensuring a high standard of project design and effective collaboration throughout all stages of the mobility project. Our approach is based on a clear distribution of responsibilities, inclusivity, and the promotion of shared European Union values.

Division of Responsibilities, Roles, and Tasks

KNU and its partner institutions will closely collaborate to ensure the successful implementation of the project:

1. Receiving institutions will be responsible for the adaptation of participants in the host environment, organizing educational or professional programs, and cultural activities.

- 2. Sending institutions will handle the selection of participants, preliminary preparation, and assistance in recognizing the outcomes of mobility.
- 3. The responsibilities of each party will be formalized in Inter-institutional Agreements, which will detail the duties of both sides, quality standards, timelines for task completion, and measures for monitoring and evaluation.

**Mobility Stages and Planned Measures** 

## 1. Selection of Participants

- We will conduct a transparent and competitive selection process based on academic performance, motivation, and language skills.
- Special attention will be given to ensuring equal access for individuals with fewer opportunities, including students from rural areas, students with disabilities, and representatives of socially vulnerable groups.
- 2. Support Before, During, and After Mobility
- Before Mobility: Participants will undergo orientation training, including cultural adaptation, language preparation, and an introduction to the host country's legal framework.
- During Mobility: Participants will receive continuous support from coordinators on both sides, including consultations, assistance with practical issues, and engagement in educational activities.
- After Mobility: Activities will be organized for sharing experiences, such as presentations, reports, and participation in conferences.
- 3. Recognition of Participants' Achievements
- Program participants will receive official recognition of their academic and professional accomplishments through certificates, academic transcripts, and agreements on credit transfers (ECTS).
- Inter-institutional Agreements will ensure mutual recognition of educational outcomes between KNU and its partners.
- 4. Debriefing After Mobility
- Upon completion of the mobility, participants will take part in surveys aimed at evaluating their experience and the program's outcomes.
- Feedback will be used to enhance future programs, and participants will be encouraged to provide recommendations for new initiatives.

Inclusive Strategies and Promotion of EU Values

KNU places great importance on the Inclusion and Diversity Strategy. We will:

- Provide financial and logistical support to participants with fewer opportunities.
- Promote cultural diversity and tolerance through educational and cultural activities.
- Foster gender equality and access to education for all groups.

Our project will promote EU values, including academic freedom, inclusivity, equality, tolerance, and respect for cultural diversity. We believe this initiative will strengthen

international cooperation, expand educational opportunities, and enhance cultural exchange between Kyrgyzstan and the international community.

Impact and dissemination (Explain the desired impact of the mobility project on participants, beneficiaries, international partners and at local, regional and national levels. Describe the measures which will be taken in your cooperation with this region to disseminate the results of the mobility project at faculty and institution levels, and beyond where applicable. Pay special attention to the Third countries not associated to the Programme.)

## Impact and Dissemination

The mobility project aims to create a lasting and positive impact on participants, beneficiaries, international partners, and at local, regional, and national levels. By fostering academic and cultural exchange, the project will not only enhance the participants' skills and competencies but also strengthen long-term relationships between institutions across the regions.

## Impact on Participants and Beneficiaries:

For the students and staff directly involved in the mobility project, the desired impact includes improved academic knowledge, enhanced professional skills, and increased cultural awareness. Participants will have the opportunity to study or work abroad, gaining firsthand experience in international academic and professional environments. This will help them become more competitive on the global job market, while also promoting a sense of global citizenship and cross-cultural understanding.

#### Impact on International Partners:

For our international partners, the mobility project will deepen collaboration, foster knowledge exchange, and enhance joint research initiatives. The partnerships between Kyrgyzstan and countries from the Programme, as well as third countries, will be solidified through mutual academic cooperation, which could lead to new agreements and long-term partnerships.

## Impact at Local, Regional, and National Levels:

At the local level, the project will have a direct impact on the academic community, increasing the international visibility of our institution. This will contribute to the regional development by encouraging students and staff from surrounding areas to participate in mobility programs. On a national level, the project will support the broader education sector by promoting the value of international cooperation, increasing the quality of education, and fostering international relations.

#### **Dissemination Measures:**

The results of the mobility project will be disseminated through various channels to ensure that they reach the faculty, institution, and beyond:

- 1.At Faculty and Institutional Levels—Regular workshops, seminars, and presentations will be held to share the experiences and knowledge gained during the mobility period. These activities will involve faculty members, students, and administrative staff.
- 2.Broader Dissemination Information about the outcomes of the project will be shared via the university's website, newsletters, and social media platforms. We will also organize public events, such as conferences or discussion panels, to disseminate key findings to a wider audience, including other academic institutions, policy makers, and the local community.
- 3.Special Focus on Third Countries—For third countries not associated with the Programme, we will focus on raising awareness and disseminating the project's impact through online platforms, collaborations with local NGOs, and academic networks. We will invite representatives from these countries to participate in dissemination events and share the project results, ensuring that the impact extends beyond Programme-associated countries.

In this way, the project will not only benefit the direct participants but also contribute to strengthening the wider educational and cultural exchange network, fostering new partnerships, and promoting the values of international cooperation.