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EACEA/A3/KH/ (2016) 574319

Prof. Loïc VAILLANT  
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France

**Subject:** Erasmus+: Key Action 1 – Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees (EMJMDs)  
Call for proposals 2016 (EAC/A04/2015)

**Title:** International Master of Science in Infectious Diseases and One Health

**Ref.:** 574319-EPP-1-2016-1-FR-EPPKA1-JMD-MOB  
(Please quote this number in all correspondence)

Dear Prof. Loïc VAILLANT,

You have submitted an application to the Erasmus+ programme, 2016 call for proposals for the Action specified above. The call for proposals closed on 18 February 2016. The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) received **89** eligible applications for this call.

I am writing to inform you about the selection decision taken by the Head of Department of the Executive Agency, acting in her capacity as authorising officer, based on the recommendations of an Evaluation Committee assisted by external experts, who had assessed your application against the award criteria specified in the call for proposals. The selection decision is based on the quality of the proposal, its relative position in comparison with the other proposals submitted and the budget available. Applications were assessed on a scale from 0 to 100 points and were ranked according to merit.

As a result, given the available budget, the funding threshold has been set at **78/100 points**.

I am pleased to inform you that your application has been selected for EU co-funding. It received **95/100 points**. For your information, out of the 89 eligible applications, **27** have been selected for funding, and **3** have been placed in a reserve list.

The list of all selected projects will be published on the following website of the Executive Agency when all applicants have been notified about the selection results:  
[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/selection-results\\_en](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus/selection-results_en)

Attached to this letter you will find an evaluation report based on the opinion of the external experts. Please take into account that most of the evaluation reports were written by non-native speakers. The Executive Agency will not elaborate further on these assessments.

The maximum amount of funding to be awarded to your project is **2.760.000 EUR**, which corresponds to **44 Heading 1 EMJMD scholarships (11 Programme Country + 33 Partner Country)**, **6 Heading 4 EMJMD scholarships** and **6 EDF EMJMD scholarships**.

The process of awarding a grant can only be finalised once the Executive Agency has received and validated the **Bank Account File (BAF)** as requested in Annex 2. The BAF must be submitted within a period of 10 working days from the date of receipt of this letter and be sent to the functional mailbox:  
[EACEA-EPLUS-EMJMD@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EACEA-EPLUS-EMJMD@ec.europa.eu)

In addition, your organisation's data and your **Participant Identification Code (PIC)** need to be validated before the Executive Agency can grant you EU-funding (see Annex 3). In case your organisation holds a validated PIC, the PIC validation process is not relevant for your organisation.

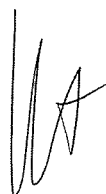
Furthermore, it is very important that you provide us with the link to your EMJMD project website as soon as this is available, so that this link can also be published on the Executive Agency's website. If you have amendments to make to the project description after publication, please let us know via the above-mentioned EMJMD functional mailbox.

The Executive Agency organises a kick-off meeting for newly selected projects every year. We would like to inform you about the organisation of the 2016 EMJMDs Coordinators' meeting, which will take place in Brussels during two consecutive days around mid-November. Your travel and accommodation costs should be covered from the project management lump-sum, subject to the signature of the Grant Agreement. Please note that for organisational reasons we cannot allow the participation of more than two representatives of your project. A full programme of the event and practical information will follow in due time.

This letter does not represent a financial or legal commitment of the Executive Agency. The offer of an award is confirmed only when the legal representative of the Executive Agency signs the Grant Agreement associated with this application.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any further questions.

Yours sincerely,



Klaus HAUPT  
Head of Unit

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Evaluation report – Comments from the external experts who assessed your proposal
- Annex 2: Bank Account file: Financial Identification Form (FIF)
- Annex 3: Information for applicants about PIC validation process (if relevant)

Cc: (by email) Mrs **Stephanie GERMON**  
stephanie.germon@univ-tours.fr

Proposal number:	574319-EPP-1-2016-1-FR-EPPKA1-JMD-MOB574319-EPP-1-2016-1-FR-EPPKA1-JMD-MOB
Proposal title:	International Master of Science in Infectious Diseases and One Health
Applicant organisation:	UNIVERSITE FRANCOIS RABELAIS DE TOURS
Contact person:	Stephanie GERMONS

Award Criteria	Score:	95/100
<b>A.1 Relevance of the project</b>		
<p>The proposal presents a very clear and pertinent EMJMD programme in infectious diseases. The Consortium comprises partners from the EU and several Programme Countries with representation from the public and private sectors. The expertise of the consortium partners in the field of infectious diseases is very well demonstrated and is relevant. Each partner has the skills and expertise necessary for a proper implementation, development, and effective progress of the proposed EMJMD. The Consortium is well balanced in terms of individual competencies and demonstrates a strong level of jointness. Partners will share their own capacities and facilities efficiently. The consortium partners have established long-term collaborations. Close mutual collaborations between academic partners, and among these with other stakeholders, are convincingly demonstrated. There is strong evidence of complementarity in educational programmes among the consortium partners. The knowledge gained in one partner HEI will be deepened during the second semester in another partner HEI. Concrete examples of how some of the associates will contribute to the course are provided. The associates offer multi-disciplinary expertise and support the programme by providing lectures, internships, management skills, promotion and dissemination routes, and sustainability.</p> <p>The programme structure and mobility are clearly outlined and a detailed course structure is attached in an annex. The partners have jointly agreed the rules for mobility and evaluation. Implementation of the EMJMD (e.g. selection of students, teaching activities, defence of the Master thesis) is very clearly and convincingly described. All activities are divided into appropriate work-packages. Organisation of a Summer School between year 1 and year 2 study, dedicated to the acquisition of transferable skills, is welcome. There are 6 months internships and students will be given the choice of applying to both partner HEIs and associate partners to prepare their Masters' thesis.</p> <p>An integrated approach to programme design has been developed through a series of meetings and exchanges to bring together appropriate accredited courses from existing masters' degrees. These courses have then been customised to ensure coherence and coordination. Some concrete examples of how this has been achieved are provided. The exam marks will be registered according to the system in place in each partner HEI. Grading harmonisation will be used to convert each mark for the final award.</p> <p>The management involves shared responsibility and an appropriate distribution of tasks and functions between the partners. A high level of coordination of all phases related to the EMJMD progress will be ensured by the establishment of 5 bodies with different and definitive tasks in the frame of an existing agreement as attached in the Annexes of the proposal.</p> <p>The proposed EMJMD has been tailored in such a way to ensure graduates will have strong professional competences, both practical and theoretical. New professional figures will be created able to face the challenges of epidemiological and therapeutic management of infectious diseases and related disorders, which addresses the main object of the proposal.</p> <p>The proposed programme is based on accredited Master degree awarding programmes in partners' HEIs. These nationally accredited Masters programmes are mutually recognised by the consortium partners. Upon completion of the programme, students will be awarded a joint degree from the three partners, which is a positive feature of the proposal. There is detailed information on national rules of</p>		

partners' countries to obtain the accreditation of the joint Master degree. Students will be registered for the two years of the EMJMD at one partner. At the end of each semester, the local coordinator will send the assessment results to the administrative manager. Each of the three full partners has a different procedure, according to their national rules, to obtain the accreditation of the joint Master degree. These rules are explained and, whilst accreditation has not yet been granted, the programme has been built in close cooperation with the vice-president in charge of the studies at the lead HEI to ensure that the project meets all the requirements for a successful accreditation. An acceptable time scale is given to achieve this accreditation.

With reference to the degree catalogue of the partners, the courses from existing, accredited masters will be shared with the EMJMD, thus the EMJMD programme will draw heavily on nationally recognised degrees included in each HEI catalogue. All relevant accredited degrees are stated in the proposal. These accredited degree-awarding programmes are mutually recognised by the consortium partners. Whilst this is a practical way of setting up the course, the consortium will need to ensure mechanisms to preserve the identity of the Erasmus Mundus Masters and body of students. There is some concern that the course is not entirely designed as a EMJMD, but is rather a collection of existing accredited courses. This may indeed work very well, but it is an important issue which should have been more fully addressed.

The proposal provides an excellent analysis that clearly identifies the needs in the field, and demonstrates how the proposed EMJMD meets such needs. Needs analysis has been provided on the basis of a plethora of relevant data about the past and current situation in infectious diseases, health and related areas. The socioeconomic needs to implement efficient unified policy at a world level to tackle endemic and pandemic infectious diseases are properly discussed. Involvement of partners from Africa, Asia, and South America represents an added value, since these geographical areas have many challenges related to infectious diseases, zoonosis, environmental contamination, and risks for human health. There is a careful analysis of existing academic courses in similar disciplines. The proposed EMJMD compares favourably with these courses and introduces unique, novel elements. Justification of EU financial support for the proposed programme is convincingly demonstrated.

The quality of the academic programme and proposed learning outcomes are very high. A comprehensive programme to train professionals in highly demanding field is proposed. As structured, the EMJMD programme will provide students with strong background knowledge in the disciplines related to its main topic. Students will be taught a reasonable mix of theory and practice and will have the possibility for an in-field internship. The Summer School will be organised with the aim to enhance the knowledge of students in translational issues and commercialisation.

Thus, the EMJMD represents an attractive offer for good quality students from all over the world. The large number of associate partners involved will also be a powerful mean for the dissemination of the EMJMD call. The proposed programme is highly innovative. The innovativeness lies in the multidisciplinary approach of the course and in close contact with multiple professionals in the field of health and environmental sciences (veterinarians, biologists, medical doctors, environmentalists, etc.). The course also provides knowledge about modern therapies against infectious diseases. Therefore, the students will have excellent future career prospects, both in academic and private sectors.

The consortium is composed of well recognised HEIs, which fosters the excellence of the programme. The establishment of a strong and large network between renowned academic and non-academic partners will enhance competitiveness and attractiveness of the European Higher Education Area.

Overall, the applicants provide an excellent response to attractiveness of the course and fully attend to all required aspects with pertinent information and examples.

The EMJMD programme will ensure a high level of internationalisation. The programme involves 3 European HEIs and 34 European and non-European associate partners.

The student mobility is very well described. The academic programme is equally distributed within consortium partners. Students will move from one country to another for one semester and also for their internship. Thus, they will work in a multicultural environment. Additional languages, such as French and Spanish, will be taught to overcome possible drawbacks in students' mobility.

Benefits to staff are mentioned with reference to developing more tightly knit international networks and to discovering new or different teaching techniques. More concrete information on the benefits from staff exchange would have been commendable. Teaching staff will also be actively involved in international mobility, in particular, personnel from Partner Countries and private companies will have the occasion to visit HEIs from the EU to hold courses, seminars and similar activities.



## **B.1 Quality of the project design and implementation**

The proposal fully details how the excellent academic content will be offered. The excellence of the programme lies in its multidisciplinary, global orientation, comprehensive education and training in the area of infectious diseases in humans and animals, supported by the involvement of a large scale of European and non-European associate partners from the industry and public health (African national organisation) sectors, research institutes, and other HEIs.

There is careful attention to the description of the course content. The complete list of modules and courses, and the number of ECTS assigned to them, has been comprehensively detailed. How the EMJMD will provide the students with knowledge and professional skills is convincingly addressed. Teaching approaches are explained and innovative aspects are highlighted. Teaching activities will be conceived to actively involve the students, and an introductory course will provide the basic preparation for the more advanced courses. Several practical lessons and laboratory exercises will also be offered. Although English will be the official language of the Master, two additional language courses (in French and Spanish) will be provided, each with an amount of 3 ECTS. The 6-month internship and thesis preparation in selected research centres, or identified industrial partner organisations, are relevant. Training in general skills will also be offered, which is welcome.

Both internal and external quality assessment procedures are described in great detail, and are of high quality, including substantial, independent external review. Quality assurance strategy has been designed on the basis of the ENQA Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the EHEA. Quality evaluation will be in charge of the University of Barcelona supported by Internal and External Evaluation Committees. External evaluation of the EMJMD programme will be ensured by external participants invited by the consortium. Representatives of students and teaching staff will be members of these committees. Also, former students graduated from the Master will be involved in the external evaluation process to properly take into account the needs and problems arising from students' point of view.

Multiple, good quality tools will be used to monitor the quality of the EMJMD programme. Both committees will periodically draw quality assessment reports that will be presented to the Coordination Office and analysed to decide if corrective measures should be implemented. A Steering Committee will be responsible for any necessary corrective actions; however, how and which corrective mechanisms will be put into place should have been more detailed. How feedback and recommendations will be put into practice should have also been better explained.

The proposal defines precisely how the student mobility will be organised. The mobility track is transparent and is very well planned. The students will be equally distributed within the consortium partners. They will stay at each partner institution for one semester, and for the fourth semester they will go for the internships. This arrangement will result in, at least, three distinct mobility placements in three different countries. How the mobility is instrumental to the course objectives is, however, not so precisely defined, but rationale is given for the choice of mobility (one path per cohort) to foster the cohesion of the cohort and to facilitate their integration in the different countries and universities.

A clear plan for the involvement of scholars and guest lecturers is outlined. Several internationally recognised experts coming from associate partners of the Consortium will be involved as guest lecturers, and scholars will also be invited. A list of names and institutions has already been provided in the proposal. It is clearly stated what kind of experts will be invited to educate and train students during concrete events. For example, lecturers from the Institute of Biochemistry from Bucharest will take charge of the lectures and tutorials on drug design and molecular modelling.

Comprehensive information on the EMJMD programme is available to the students and academic staff prior to course enrolment. The services provided by each HEI are listed and are of the excellent quality. Assistance in the pre-arrival, arrival, and stay phases will be actively provided to the students. Each HEI has its own International Relations Office and a Local Administrative Manager will be appointed to help the students with additional needs. A Local Administrative Manager will act as liaison between students and the administrative departments at their institution. This post will advise and assist students on visa and/or residence permit application process, and will provide them with all relevant information regarding travel, housing and living conditions. Moreover, a EURAXESS Services Centre is at disposal of the academic staff in France and Spain. French and Spanish language courses are integral part of the educational programme. An appropriate insurance scheme has been arranged and will be provided to the students. The proposal (supplemented by information in the annex) clearly outlines the course rules, student rights and obligations. Jointly agreed rules, examination procedures and resit options, internship regulations and the student agreement contents

and the allocation of the scholarship are clarified. All aspects are well described and appropriately managed. The scholarships will be managed by the coordinating HEI.

The overall strategy for the full integration of the students in the multicultural environment of the EMJMD has been described. The proposal describes a range of activities to ensure effective integration and networking within the social and professional environment. The students will be exposed to socio-cultural/economic and professional environment through local events like scientific conferences and meetings promoting academic and industrial partnerships. Specific events organised are very well described. For example, 2 days conference will be organised by Biotechnocentre, where students will have the opportunity to meet experts from biotechnological and other industrial research institutes from the Region Centre-Val de Loire. Moreover, industry partners will be regularly invited to the annual workshops organised by the consortium. The students will defend their master thesis against an audience that also includes representatives from the private sector. Associate partners will participate in the organisation of the Summer School. Mutual networking and integration is also ensured via Buddy programme, welcome events and students and alumni associations. The expected establishment of an Alumni association of graduates from the proposed Master Course will be a reference point for the enrolled students.

The proposed programme is built on the excellent network of academic and non-academic associate partners that are strongly committed to the project. Multiple non-educational actors are actively involved in the programme and will assist in the design, dissemination, promotion, implementation and evaluation of the programme. These come from the private and public sectors, covering a wide geographical area. Letters of intent are given in an annex.

## **B.2 Quality of the project team and the cooperation arrangements**

The Consortium is composed of partners with long standing expertise and reputation for excellence in the field of infectious diseases, microbiology and immunology. Internationally recognised HEIs, renowned national public scientific and technical research institutions, health care providers and leading biopharmaceutical companies are involved in the proposed EMJMD programme. The profile of key members of staff at each centre is very well detailed and is relevant to the academic programme of the EMJMD. A detailed survey of the main research areas has been included, and the personnel involved in the project have a large experience with the implementation and management of joint programmes.

The set of skills and knowledge provided by each partner is complementary and each partner brings a high added value to the proposed EMJMD programme. Most of the HEIs are currently collaborating with leading pharmaceutical companies and, considering the main topic of the proposed Master Course, this represents a clear advantage to the EMJMD.

Partners have also cooperated together in the past in the frame of international academic programmes and these previous experiences are relevant to achieve the proposed EMJMD objectives. The Consortium has been conceived in order to bring together different individual competencies to allow graduates to have a strong background of knowledge in the wide area of infectious diseases and health in general.

The institutional commitment of each partner is convincingly presented. The partners are committed to jointly deliver the EMJMD, and for this purpose, the academic procedures of each HEI have been compared and procedures for accreditation have already been started.

The roles and the tasks of the full and associate partners of the Consortium are comprehensively described and are adequate for the effective implementation and development of the EMJMD. Duties and tasks are equally distributed between consortium partners. The responsibility for each specific task is delegated (the names of the experts responsible for the execution of concrete tasks are indicated). The roles of associate partners are extensive. They are fully involved in the organisation and implementation of the programme.

The management structure and mechanisms are very well defined and are of very good quality. The various bodies encompass all aspects of EMJMD management and the roles and responsibilities of members are clear. Coordination of project activities will be effectively ensured by the establishment of a Coordination Office. Two bodies (a Steering Committee and an Internal Evaluation Committee) comprise representatives of students. The joint procedures for students' application and selection are very clearly described. The students' application and selection process is fair and transparent. Applications will be received by an online procedure through a centralised website containing all relevant information about the new Master Course.

The Selection Committee composed of members of all full consortium partners will organise the

whole process. The Selection Committee is responsible for the students' selection, first by verifying the eligibility criteria, and then by evaluating the key parameters e.g. students' past experience in the field of infectious diseases, their CVs, language skills, motivation, etc. Eligibility (including language skills) and selection criteria are clear and are appropriate. Clear information on how the ranking of candidates will be done is provided.

The assessment of the students' performance is outlined. The partners have adapted their own regulations to establish joint rules for the students' evaluation. Examination procedures are discussed in detail. At the end of each semester, the list of courses will be drawn up with a mark and the number of ECTS credited to each course.

Detailed information on the assessment of the Master's thesis is provided. The proposed requirements for the submission and valuation of the Master's thesis are clearly defined and will ensure fair and transparent treatment. The defence of Master thesis will be jointly organised. Associate partners from industrial sector will participate in the thesis defence, which is welcome.

The proposed budget is well allocated and detailed in the consortium agreement attached in the annexes. Costs have been calculated on key items, like general administrative expenses, tuitions, students' and staff mobility, insurance, equipment, etc. Financial resources are adequate and will be at disposal of each partner, taking into account their needs in terms of "local" expenses. The Steering Committee, comprising one member from each HEI of the Consortium, will meet annually and decide all matters related to budget allocation among the partners.

Complementary funding will be mobilised mainly from the financial resources of consortium partners. All partners will contribute by offering the necessary infrastructures, human resources, materials, scholarships and additional financial support, if actual costs are higher than the EU contribution. In addition, some consortium partners are committed to financially support the programme implementation by providing materials for practical courses, bearing the costs for the course of Biosafety and Biocontainment, and will pay for welcoming guest lecturers (travel and accommodation fees).

### **B.3 Impact and dissemination**

The high-level risk of emerging disease is well illustrated by recent epidemics and the need for highly-skilled staff will grow. Applicants are well aware that problems associated with the large diffusion of several infectious diseases for humans and animals are by far to be solved in a short period of time. The consortium proposes that this EMJMD will place them in a strong position to create a sustainable programme. This argument is supported by a very good five points-action plan that provides some concrete examples of how and where funds can be raised. Efficient plans to secure the mid/long-term sustainability of the Master Course are therefore provided in the proposal. The strategy includes actions towards more worldwide visibility inside and outside the Consortium. Implemented measures are adequate in number and efficiency, and include attracting more funds from public and private organisations, widening the numbers of active and associate partners of the Consortium, the search for sponsors to financially support attendance of students from Partner countries, creation of a network of graduates of the Master, promotion of the Master activities with the support of Health Agencies worldwide. These aims are realistic, taking into account the several public and private organisations already collaborating with the Consortium.

The proposal clearly explains how the EMJMD will impact on each partner institution, and how it will enhance their internationalisation. The level of the discussion and concrete information provided on this aspect is very good. The strength of the proposed programme lies mainly in its internalisation. Multiple partners from 14 countries are involved in the EMJMD programme. The objectives of the proposed programme will only be accomplished with a strong internalisation. The main expected impact at institutional level is the enforcement of the collaborations between academia from EU and outside EU, by an active exchange of academic and non-academic staff. This will increase the overall reputation of each HEI all over the world, and will represent a mean to attract more students, in particular from countries of the targeted regions. The existing and documented links with other academic partners and, in particular, with private companies will be a powerful way to get a high level of internationalisation of the proposed EMJMD programme. To this aim, efficient plans for students and teaching staff mobility are also in place. The proposed EMJMD programme will also be in close interaction with industrial stakeholders and developers of health policies. Guest lecturers from these sectors will be actively involved in teaching and in offering professional multidisciplinary skills to graduates. Strong involvement of private sector, and other stakeholders active in the field, in the educational and training activities is well documented. The strong background knowledge to be



provided to graduates will allow them to efficiently face the challenges offered by the labour market. Full and associate partners have facilities and expertise to cover all the aspect of the “Knowledge Triangle” (higher education, research, and business). Several joint events, such as the summer school and annual workshop, will be organised with the aim to enhance the horizontal skills, including entrepreneurship, innovation and creative thinking. Thus, the offered training will be oriented to develop problem-solving capacities, sense of initiative, and capacity to draw research projects. Among the main objectives of the proposed EMJMD programme is the formation of professionals with multidisciplinary skills in the field of infectious disease and related disciplines, like pharmacology, microbiology, biochemistry, immunology, among others. The internships will be held in the associate partners’ institutions involving both academic and non-academic actors. Such professionalism will increase the students’ employability prospects worldwide in the medical sector, sports organisations, etc. Thus, possibilities of employment are high due to the large involvement of non-academic partners, which are secured (letters of intents provided in the annexes). The proposed EMJMD has a wide international visibility, offering the possibility to attract more public and private organisations interested in the engagement of graduates.

There is good attention to the promotion and dissemination of the EMJMD, using public advertising, internal networks, associate partners, graduate students and social networks. Some examples of dissemination routes are given. The map provided in Annex 6 Appendix 5 gives a clear idea on the implementation of a website dedicated to the Master. Moreover, social networks like LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook, will be used to this aim. Each partner will broadly disseminate and advertise the EMJMD through their local networks. The Alumni association will also play a pivotal role in this context involving students from previous editions.

All materials will be made available to students through appropriate learning platforms. These platforms are password protected so that sensitive and/or copyright materials can be placed there without public exposure. This ensures that enrolled students can obtain maximal exposure to course content. Some of the lectures will be converted into information to become accessible to the general public. The partners have experience of Massive Open Online Courses and it would be possible to develop materials into short MOOCs on infectious diseases. This is a positive aspect, not only because enrolled students will always have teaching material (and possibly all relevant information on modules, courses, internships, and similar) at their disposal, but also because a free consultation by anyone in the world who is interested in attending the Master Course can have at a glance an idea of which is its overall design, the background of knowledge that will be acquired, and the concrete possibility of employability offered by the course. A section of the programme website will also highlight relevant “News” about students, alumni and staff on the programme, and will be used to disseminate information in lay terms. The availability of course material is very well considered, and it does not contain disproportionate limitations.

### **C. Relevance of the project in the targeted region(s)**

The importance of the regions (6, 8, 11) to this EMJMD is very well justified and is very convincing. There is ongoing collaboration and the proposal makes a very good case with respect to the added value to European and regional partners in continuing this cooperation. In all regions, the focus of the EMJMD is extremely important in terms of current and emerging challenges and the provision of skilled professionals. In the Asia region, partners have long-standing signed agreements, a satellite office and collaborative degrees. In the Latin American region, there are long standing collaborations and exchanges of staff. In African and ACP countries, strong links and joint structures have been developed. These links are carefully documented in the proposal with key staff and initiatives clearly identified and explained. The EMJMD will support and extend these co-operations and act as a source of students. Institution and associated network in each region are committed to promote the EMJMD and direct appropriate students to the programme.

Efficient plans to attract the best students from the targeted regions have been described. Applicants are well aware of the urgent needs of professionals in the area of infectious disease in such countries. This will be the main mean to attract students, who will be selected following rigorous criteria. Methods to attract talented students will also be based on an effective financial support for students from partner countries. Strategies include scholarships and dissemination of the EMJMD through contacts and professional networks. Experts in the regions will also provide lectures and seminars and concrete examples are given. The target number of high quality students from each region is stated and the applicants are confident that the projected numbers are reasonable.



The added value to the targeted regions is very well described and is convincingly justified in the proposal. Its added value lies in a strong internalisation and global solution of human and animal health in developing countries.

#### **Overall comments**

This is a very strong proposal. The programme has a high socioeconomic impact. The EMJMD programme is very well-structured and well-conceived, in order to ensure its effective implementation and successful progress of all activities, with a particular reference to teaching activities, student mobility, internationalisation, and links with the private sector. The involvement of multiple non-academic partners participating in educational programme and providing secondments and internships is highly relevant. As designed, the EMJMD programme will provide students with significant and up to date know how in several disciplines related to the main topic of the project, with theoretical and practical approaches. However, the applicants need to ensure that the EMJMD will have a very clear Erasmus Mundus identity and that the students will really feel part of the EM community. More details on staff mobility would also be welcome in stage 1 of the proposal.

The quality of the project design and implementation, and the quality of project team and co-operations, are very clearly and convincingly described with very good supporting, concrete examples and information. Some aspects are excellent and described in an exemplary way. A multidisciplinary approach will provide graduates a strong background of knowledge in the field. The consortium is composed of renowned active players in the field of infectious diseases. Several internationally recognised experts, coming from private and public organisations, will be invited as guest lecturers. Students will be closely followed during the whole duration of the EMJMD programme. Grants for students coming from partner countries will be provided. The Consortium is very well-balanced, and every HEI and non-academic partners will offer skilled personnel and expertise necessary for an effective implementation and development of the EMJMD. Non-academic partners are fully committed to the programme. The EMJMD programme is jointly organised and cooperation mechanisms are effective to ensure its smooth implementation. A high coordination of all the activities will be accomplished under the supervision of several ad hoc committees. Representatives from students, administrative, and teaching staff will be actively involved in the course. Every partner has a well-defined role within the Consortium. The proposed overall budget and costs are well allocated. Long-term strategies for the financial sustainability of the Master Course beyond the period of EU-funding, and the dissemination of its results and outcomes, have been generally well-elaborated and well-planned.

More details on how students' mobility has been tailored towards the objectives of the EMJMD programme should have been provided. In addition, how feedback and recommendations will be put into practice by the Steering Committee should have been better explained.

The proposal provides an effective strategy to attract talented students from partners' countries of the targeted regions. Needs of new professionals in the field of infectious diseases will be the main driving force.