

Our project:

ERASMUS MUNDUS ACTION 2 lot 13 EUPHRATES

EUPHRATES Project emerges as a proposal with a wide geographical scope, covering 9 states of Europe and 11 institutions from different parts of the Indian Country. This consortium will join efforts in order to enhance cooperation for fostering excellence in training and research, promoting exchange of students and researchers from India to the European Union. The Universidade de Santiago de Compostela will coordinate this proposal supported by the joint-coordinating Institution Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University.

Erasmus Mundus is a cooperation and mobility programme in the field of higher education that aims to enhance the quality of European higher education and to promote dialogue and understanding between people and cultures through cooperation with Third-Countries. In addition, it contributes to the development of human resources and the international cooperation capacity of Higher education institutions in Third Countries by increasing mobility between the European Union and these countries. The Erasmus Mundus programme provides support to **higher education institutions** that wish to implement joint programmes at postgraduate level (Action 1) or to set-up inter-institutional cooperation partnerships between universities from Europe and targeted Third-Countries (Action 2).

EUPHRATES project promotes 140 flows of students and staff (from India to the European Country) in a collaborative framework which includes a representation of 12 Universities in India and 12 in Europe (Spain, Ireland, Poland, Germany, Lithuania, France, Greece, Slovenia, Portugal).

12 European Higher Education Institutes, viz.,

- Universidade de Santiago de Compostela (Partnership Coordinator)
- University of Perpignan, France
- Freie Universitat Berlin, Germany
- Technological Educational Institute of Patras, Greece
- University of College Dublin, National University of Ireland, Ireland
- Vilnius University, Lithuania
- Warsaw University of Life Science, Poland
- Universidade do Porto, Portugal
- University of Maribor, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Slovenia
- CGU, Spain
- Fundacion Casa de la India, Spain
- Portal University, S.A., Spain

and 12 other Indian Institutes, viz.,

- Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Mumbai
- NIT Warangal
- Doon University, Dehradun
- Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad
- Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati
- Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology University, Bhubaneswar
- Central University of Orissa, Koraput
- Pravara Institute of Medical Sciences Deemed University, Loni
- University of Pune

- Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwadan, Nanded
- Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda
- Pravara Rural Education Society, Loni

With the great effort of the then Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Surabhi Banerjee, Central University of Orissa entered into an MoU in Dec 2013. The then Registrar, Prof. A. K. Mishra had signed the MoU in Natural Sciences on December 2, 2013. It is a wonderful and great opportunity for the faculty and students of our University under Target Group 1 and Target Group 3 (TG1 and TG3) and also for socially deprived sections (SC, ST and OBC) of any institute in India. Under Target Group 2 (TG2) for carving new and additional feathers in their academic cap.

| Target Group 1 | | | Target Group 2 | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------|----------------|------------------|-----------|
| Academic Level | Number of Grants | Months | Academic Level | Number of Grants | Months |
| Bachelor | 7 | 10 months | Master | 8 | 18 months |
| Master | 4 | 10 months | PHD | 5 | 12 months |
| PHD | 11 | 22 months | Post doc | 2 | 10 months |
| Post doc | 3 | 6 months | Staff | 2 | 1 month |
| Staff | 8 | 1 month | | | |

| Target Group 3 | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------|
| Academic Level | Number of Grants | Months |
| Bachelor | 9 | 10 months |
| Master | 8 | 10 months |
| PHD | 2 | 22 months |
| Post doc | 2 | 10 months |

Central University of Orissa is a member of the European Union for Promotion of Health through Research, Applied Technology, Education and Science (EUPHRATES) in India Project which offers 140 scholarships for mobilities to Europe. This is a unique opportunity for faculties and students to carry out studies (Undergraduates, Master, PhD and Post Doc between 1 semester and a full programme), research or teaching abroad. The scholarship covers subsistence (1000 EUR to 2500 EUR/month), travel costs and insurance. The programme tenure is from 15th July, 2013 to 15th July 2017.

Amount of the grant:

EUPHRATES includes travel and insurance costs and a monthly allowance of:

- 1.000€ for Undergraduate
- 1.000€ for Master
- 1.500€ for Doctorate
- 1.800€ for Post-doctorate
- 2.500€ for Academic Staff

Note: For knowing the courses, academic and research avenues, help zones, guidance and modus operandi and application protocols, details of financial support, etc. please see the website: www.usc.es/euphrates/

In continuation to this MOU with University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain, a kick-off meeting was organized by **B.R. Ambedkar Marathwada University on 31st October and 2nd November, 2013** to discuss on the issues related to call of the first selection of students for the mobility programme, finalization of logo for EUPHRATES programme, criteria of selection of candidates and finalization of

the dates for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd cohorts. **It was decided that the first cohort call has been given on 30th January, 2014.** About 2 students had appeared and one student is selected in the panel list. It was discussed that the students will be free to choose their own degree for which they want to apply and also the institutions of their own choice.

Thereafter, to cater the information among the students of Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation of National Resources, Central University of Orissa, Koraput, some meetings were organised with the students of this Centre by the Coordinator. From 11th November 2013 to January 24th, 2014, instructions on filling up of the application form for Cohort 1, its future prospects and also the pros and cons were explained to the students on the following dates (15.11.13; 20.11.13; 04.12.13; 10.01.14; 15.01.14 and 21.01.14). In such type of dissemination activity, publication on official website of Central University of Orissa was done on 2nd week of Jan, 2014 for inviting applications from the students.

Dr. K. Banerjee, Coordinator of the Project **received a Grant of Euros 2985 on August 27th, 2014** for undertaking the EUPHRATES PROJECT under Erasmus Mundus Programme from University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain.

Based on the above data, a review meeting for verifying the progress of the project was organized on Nov 27th and 28th at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Marathwada University in consultation with the International Office Director of Spain. The expenditures are yet unknown and they will be submitted later on. The opening of the **second cohort is opened on 24th November (24/11/2014 to 11/01/2015)** and applications from staffs and students are expected for. It has been proposed that Centre for Mathematics will be included under Natural Sciences in this Cohort to increase the number of applicants and also as that is the other pure Science Department in the University.



(Dr. Kakoli Banerjee)