Flexible offers of student mobility within the framework of the ERASMUS+ project

KINESIS

Prof. Dr. Andrea Heilmann
The aim of an ERASMUS+ project was to link student mobility in the framework of internships with a current cross-European topic - "Strategies against the shrinking of rural regions". The students are thus part of a wider project with significant input in the European regions. A variety of internships, usually lasting three months, have been developed, which also allow students to work in international and interdisciplinary teams. The students are accompanied and networked before and after the internship. If the internships are part of the degree programme, recognition is possible through the corresponding examination (e.g. internship report). In the course of the project, it became apparent that the hurdles for a stay abroad of several months are too high for many students. In this case, further teaching formats, such as team or practical projects with shorter stays abroad, were integrated into the project. Here, phases at the sending universities and stays abroad were combined. The performance is then assessed as an overall performance by the supervising university lecturers and is part of the study programme with ECTS.
AGENDA

1. Introduction
2. The KiNESIS Project
3. Results and Lessons Learned
4. Conclusion
Aim is to link student mobility in the framework of internships with a current cross-European topic - "Strategies against the shrinking of rural regions".

Requirement of students

Requirement of shrinking regions

https://creazilla.com

https://pixabay.com/

NGO, SMEs, Municipalities, Associated Partners
The KINESIS Project

The **KiNESIS** project aims are:

I. **revitalising depopulated areas** by stimulating entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial skills;

II. **creating local living laboratories**, shared at European level, in which the exchange of knowledge, best practices, experiences can help promote social inclusion and entrepreneurial development;

III. **experimenting new, innovative and multidisciplinary approaches in teaching and learning**;

IV. **facilitating the exchange, flow and co-creation of knowledge** at a local and global level.
The KINESIS Project

The KINESIS workpackages:

1. Coordination and Management

2. Preparation, logistics planning, study and launch of traineeships

3. Co-participation tables and Living labs

4. Start of the program with traineeships, events, conferences and round tables

5. Dissemination, promotion and communication

6. Monitoring, quality management and evaluation

https://www.kinesis-network.eu/homesite/533/1/internship-plan-for-germany.html
The KINESIS Project Traineeships

- Additional to curricula 3-6 month
- Part of curricula (with assignments)
- One Semester up to 6 month
- Part of a module 2-6 weeks abroad + at home

- 28 trainees moving from one institution to another (10/2023)
- 1,898 days of mobility. 67.2 days per student involved (st. dev= 56.2)
- Longest mobility: 179 days, Shortest mobilities: 4 days
The KINESIS Project Traineeships

STUDENTS SENT OUT (10/2023) [Giuseppe Lucio Gaeta, 2023]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Average Stay (days)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tallin University (Estonia)</td>
<td>60,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Naples L'Orientale (Italy)</td>
<td>80,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average University of Navarra (Spain)</td>
<td>100,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harz University of Applied Sciences (Germany)</td>
<td>120,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanze University of Applied Science (Netherlands)</td>
<td>140,0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

N. of students sent out
The KINESIS Project Traineeships

STUDENTS HOSTED (10/2023) [Giuseppe Lucio Gaeta, 2023]
The KINESIS Project Traineeships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Themes</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cultural heritage</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural heritage / local branding</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural heritage / Infrastructure</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation / Migration</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local branding</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local branding / Agrifood</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local branding / Cultural heritage</td>
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<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local development</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Migration</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
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<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability / Tourism</td>
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<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Eyeballed analysis of titles and abstracts [Giuseppe Lucio Gaeta, 2023]
The KINESIS Project Traineeships

Development of different types of Co-Working Spaces in Wernigerode

Team work, one semester, 2 weeks in Wernigerode

Analysis of the differences in utilisation of historic buildings in rural areas (Groningen and Harz Region) to improve the liveability

Team work, one semester, 3 weeks in Groningen
The KINESIS Project Traineeships

Create new activities for Via Romea

One student, 3 month in Wernigerode

https://www.viaromea.de/

Reduce the acoustic, odour and visual impact of the paper factory in Rocaforte, Spain

One student, 3 month in Rocaforte
Results: Students evaluation

Questionnaire

• Before:
  • quality and availability of information, process, …

• During:
  • Quality explanation of assignment; quality of assignment; work on assignment as a team; work on assignment: facilities and time, preparation at home, …

• After:
  • contribution to the study, satisfaction with the process, the support and quality of assignment
Conclusion

Internship: students' perspective

• The majority of students are satisfied with the preparation for their internship.
• Preparation for the task on site can be improved.
• The requirements for the assignment should be clearly communicated.
• The majority report an important contribution to their studies and personal development (qualitative).
Conclusion

Internship: organization

• Modules that are suitable must be identified and the requirements for assignments compared.
• The duration of the internship must be tailored to the modules and their assignments.
• Support over the entire duration on site and in the sending organization is required.
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