Erasmus Policy Statement

Together with employability and innovation, internationalisation is one of the three strategic pillars of Nazaret for 2013-2016.

Nazaret has been sending students to carry out their internships in European counties since 2002, and so far, more than 100 students have benefitted from this experience. Students have had the opportunity to gain additional skills through study or training abroad, and as a result, this encourages cross-border co-operation and boosts higher education performance and enhances employability. As a consequence of this, we have developed a close relationship with a wide net of companies in Europe and Nazaret now aims to create its own mobility program to increase the number and quality of the traineeships in the near future. Nazaret has also funded staff visits to European countries including Finland, Sweden, Germany, and France for staff members and has hosted staff from other European VET institutions from the Netherlands, Estonia, Finland, France and Germany thus strengthening the links between education, research and business to promote excellence and innovation.

Nazaret has recently strengthened the internationalization team and has taken steps in contacting international institutions for further projects to create knowledge alliances and strategic partnerships in the near future. We have also submitted 3 Leonardo Da Vinci projects in 2013 (2 TOIs and 1 Partnership; all as partners).

To achieve the goals of our strategy for internationalization, Nazaret will take part in a greater range of cooperation projects to achieve strategic partnerships and take part in knowledge alliances and will intensify student and staff mobility.

a) For students’ work placement mobility we choose our partners depending on the profile of the student (business, commerce, or social studies) and the company’s capability to provide traineeships that will boost the student’s capabilities in order to enhance employability. It is essential that companies taking part in the program can guarantee the level of support and mentoring needed by outgoing students. High quality companies are being targeted to ensure the student acquires good practices from excellent companies based in Europe. We chose partners for coordination projects who are working with objectives that are in line with the strategies of Nazaret, mainly innovation in education and training (including prevention of
low achievers becoming “drop-outs”), employability and internationalization. We also take into account the partner’s profile, aiming at companies and institutions with high quality expertise and experience in international projects.

b) As mentioned before we are currently in contact with partners in Europe, mainly France, Germany, Finland, Netherlands, Sweden and UK. We are also working to extend our net of contacts through Basque companies which have a wide base of branches all over the world.

c) Our main objective group for mobility is for short cycle second year students for internships. We are aiming to offer between 15-20% of our students the opportunity to have their internship abroad. Another objective is to start receiving incoming mobility students for traineeships and to trial both incoming and outgoing mobility for study. We are also working to create a program for newly qualified graduates, providing more opportunities for students to gain additional skills through study or training abroad, and to encourage cross-border co-operation to boost higher education performance. We are also going to program short experiences for staff mobility by teaching or receiving training in European countries both through Leonardo programs and programs funded by the school.

d) Our Institution is currently studying the possibility of implementing double/joint VET degrees with partners in France and Germany