

16 - 19 September 2026

TCA

Music Across Borders:

Building Sustainable Partnerships in Higher Music Education

"Giuseppe Verdi" Conservatoire

Milan (IT)



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KEY ACTION 2
Cooperation projects in Higher education

KA220-HED

Valeria Biggi

INDIRE Italian Erasmus+ National Agency



KEY ACTION 2

Cooperation projects managed by the National Agencies

Cooperation Partnerships: they aim to help organizations and higher education institutions enhance the quality and relevance of their activities, strengthen partner networks, and improve their ability to work collaboratively on a transnational level. These partnerships support the internationalization of activities by facilitating the exchange and development of new practices and methods, as well as the sharing and comparing ideas.

- *Decentralised action*

Erasmus+ Priorities	<i>At least</i> one horizontal priority and/or one Higher Education-specific priority.
Partnership	<u>Minimum</u> of n. 3 organisations from three different Programme Countries. <u>Participating countries:</u> <u>Member States</u> and <u>Associated countries</u> to the Programme + UK (2027) and soon Switzerland will also participate as full partners. Third countries not associated to the Programme: only as associated partner (no budget)
Duration	12–36 months
Budget	Lump-sum grant of €120,000; €250,000 or €400,000
Activities	Project meetings, development of project outputs, training/learning activities, piloting, dissemination and evaluation, monitoring....
Expected Results (!)	Innovation, reusable outputs, institutional strengthening and international cooperation
Impact (!)	At individual, institutional, national and European levels; make changes within & for the target group
Sustainability (!)	Continued use and exploitation of project results beyond the funding period, the project's capacity to generate systemic collaboration

KEY PROJECT FEATURES

NEW!!!!
UK (2027) & SWITZERLAND (IN THE PIPELINE) as full partner

Horizontal Priorities (2026)

Inclusion and
diversity;

Environment and fight
against climate
change;

Digital transformation
through development
of digital readiness;

Civic engagement and
participation.

Specific Priorities for Higher Education (**2026**)

**In line with the
Union of Skills:**

Promoting Innovation in Higher
Education

Digital and green transition;

Participation of women in STEM

Internationalization and Collaboration

Erasmus+ stands with Ukraine: a particular
focus will be given to projects aiming at
addressing the consequences of the Russian
invasion of Ukraine in the Education and
Training sectors



BUILDING A PROJECT

Needs

Objectives

Activities

Outputs

Outcomes (changes for the target groups)

Impact (systemic change)

OR the process can also be developed in reverse, starting from the expected impact

COMPLETE THE TABLE FOR YOUR PROJECT.

Indicator(s)

The aim of outcome indicators is to measure what you actually wish to measure, which is not the number of meetings but their effect.

How will you measure it?

Analysis of reports, focus group interviews, semi-structured interview, individual evaluation (e.g. SurveyMonkey), observations, storytelling.



Outcome	Outcome indicator(s)	How will you measure it?	When will you measure it?

Maximum
score: 100
points

CRITERION

1. Relevance (25)

Is the problem real and well evidenced? Does the project address Erasmus+ priorities? Are the objectives clear and coherent? What is the project's European added value?

2. Quality of Project Design and Implementation (30)

Are the activities consistent with the objectives? Are the Work Packages well structured? Is the work plan realistic? Are the deliverables appropriate? Are quality assurance, monitoring and risk management procedures in place? Is the budget proportionate?

3. Quality of the Partnership and Cooperation Arrangements (20)

Do the partners have complementary expertise? Are roles and responsibilities clearly defined? Is the governance structure effective? Is the workload fairly distributed? Are the relevant stakeholders adequately involved?

4. Impact (25)

Is the expected impact credible and measurable? Will the project results be used beyond the project's lifetime? Is there an effective dissemination strategy? Have indicators and target groups been clearly identified?

The same consortium of partners can submit only one application and to one Agency per deadline

APPLICATION FORM AND FINAL REPORT EVALUATION

APPLICATION
FORM
EVALUATION

EXPERT EVALUATION

FINAL REPORT
EVALUATION

EXPERT EVALUATION



SELF- EVALUATION

MINIMUM TRESHOLD: 70/100

Typical Work Package Structure

Work Package	Purpose	Typical Deliverables
WP1 – Project Management	Ensure the effective management and implementation of the project.	Project Management Handbook, Quality Assurance Plan, Risk Register, technical and financial reports.
WP2 – Research & Needs Analysis	Analyse the context and identify the needs of the target groups.	Needs Analysis Report, Benchmark Report, Competence Framework.
WP3 – Development	Develop the project's innovative solutions and outputs.	Curriculum, Toolkit, Digital Platform, Manuals, Guidelines.
WP4 – Pilot & Validation	Pilot, test and validate the developed outputs.	Pilot Reports, Evaluation Report, Revised Outputs.
WP5 – Dissemination & Sustainability	Disseminate project results and ensure their long-term sustainability.	Communication Plan, dissemination events, project website, policy recommendations, Sustainability Plan.

WP1 is a cross-cutting Work Package focusing on project management and quality assurance;

WP2–WP5 follow the project lifecycle: analyse → develop and pilot → disseminate, ensuring that the project results generate sustainable and long-lasting impact

COOPERATION PARTNERSHIPS PROJECTS BUDGET STRUCTURE

Action	Single lumpsum
Cooperation Partnerships	120.000 EUR
	250.000 EUR
	400.000 EUR



Italian participation in Erasmus+ Higher education field

Cooperation Partnerships - last statistics:

Call Year	Action Type	Received Projects	Awarded Projects	Awarded/Received (%)	Awarded Grants (€)
2025	KA220 - Cooperation partnerships	166	20	12%	6,8M €
2026	KA220 - Cooperation partnerships	219	16	7,3%	5,8M €

WHERE TO FIND ALL THE USEFUL INFORMATION

Coming soon!

- **Call for proposal 2027**
- **Programme Guide 2027**
- **Handbook on the Lump Sum 2027**

<https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-programme-guide>



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MUSIC CAN
HELP
COOPERATING
IN E+

MUSIC IS IN THE AIR!

STAY TUNED!
THE 2027
PROGRAMME
GUIDE IS
COMING OUT

RULES ARE
EASIER

**CONSERVATORIES OF MUSIC
JOIN THE HE COOPERATION PARTNERHIPS!!**

**More than 20 Conservatories & Academy of music
have been engaged in the Cooperation partnerships
in HE in 2021-2026**

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THANK YOU!

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