**Internationalisation of HE extended
by a Virtual Erasmus Programme
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What does intenational networked education bring to HE?

Through collaboration, HEIs can offer their students:

- high-quality courses with a broader range of content
- international course offers with extended expertise
- international learning experience
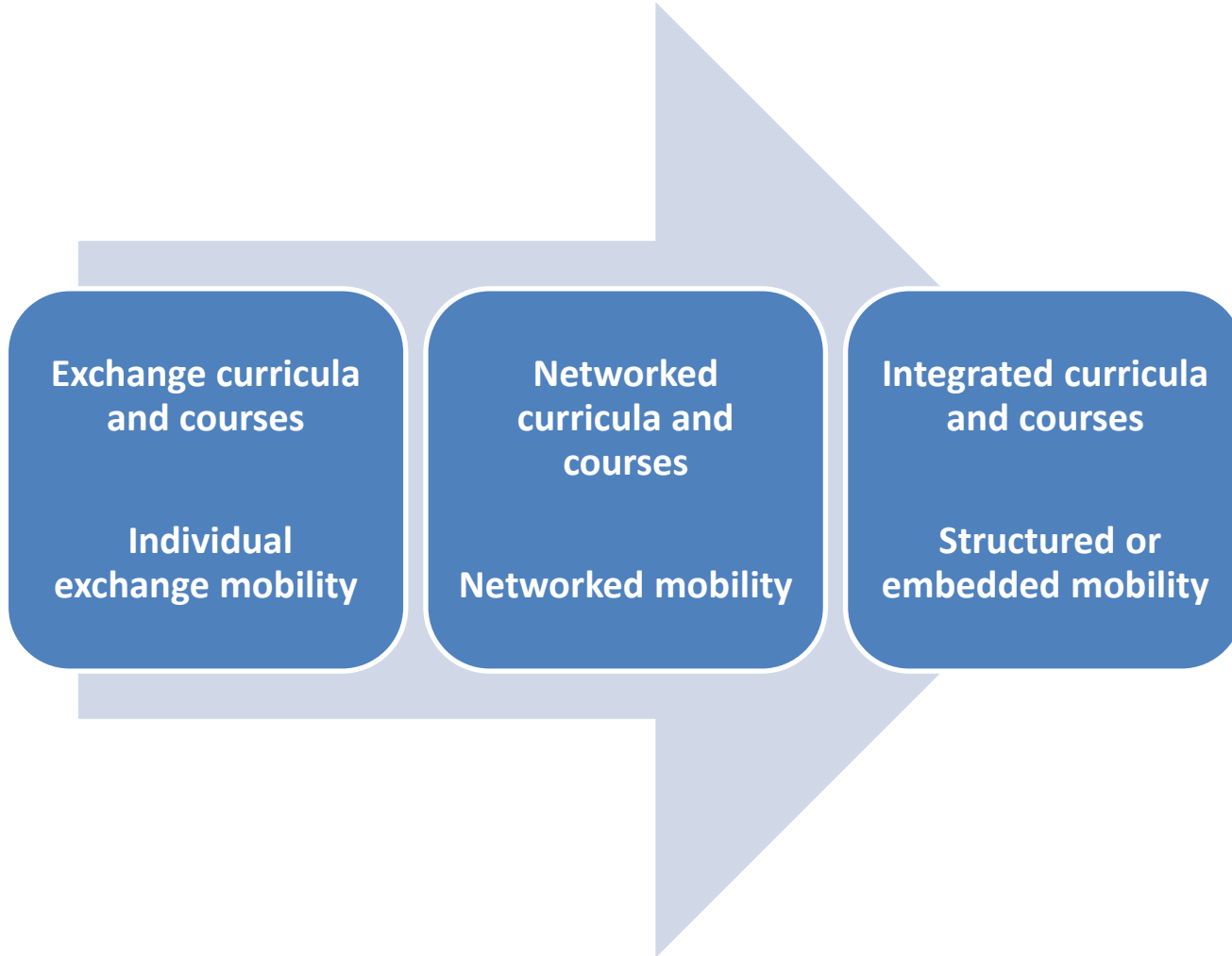- more flexible programmes

3 types of mobility:

1.   Individual exchange mobility: Individuals mobility (Erasmus)

2.   Networked mobility: Groups of students. Different courses at different locations. Go and come back. Degree from your own university. Not joined, limited partnership.

3.   Embedded or integrated mobility: Joint degree   courses. Requirement that all partners own the course, managed

        by one consortium. Examinations by the consortium. Multicampus course at different locations.

General Model

NETWORKED CURRICULUM (NetCu)

NetCu

| Home | Project | Meetings | Documents | Partnership | Contact |

Networked Curriculum Mapping

Free Technology Academy

European Virtual Seminar

Climate change E-learning

Statistics and Research

BSc Wirtschaftswissenschaft

Double degree program in

Med Net'U Project

Digital Library Learning

Course Film & Literature

Climate change E-learning

type: Blended/Fully Online

Lived Experience of Climate Change E-Learning

The Lived experience of climate change: interdisciplinary e-module development and virtual mobility project concerns education and lifelong learning in relation to climate change. Through collaboration between nine participating institutions, designing innovative teaching modules and a virtual learning space, it aims to create a European community of scholars, students and citizens who collectively make a major contribution to the United Nations decade on education for sustainable development.

Key aspects

When involved in the design of a new networked curriculum the following aspects need consideration and agreement

Design of the contents	Shared technological platform
Co-production of contents	Language of the learning contents
Management aspects (division of roles)	Language of the learning environment
Administrative aspects	Accreditation procedure
Financial aspects	Mobility of students and professors
Complementarity of content	Use of interactive tools for students and profs.
Community	QA process
Technological infrastructure	Involvement of stakeholders

- **The NetCu Handbook and Guidelines**

- **The NetCu Compendium of Showcases**

- **The NetCu Toolbox**

http://www.networkedcurricula.eu/

NetCu Handbook

Guidelines for organising networked curricula

NetCu

Education and Culture DG
Lifelong Learning Programme

EADTU

Virtual mobility within networked curricula

Create <u>**proximity and involvement**</u> of <u>**potentially all**</u> by

- New media, internet, social software, wiki-like software;
- Increased accessibility, interactivity, flexibility, personalisation,
- Synchronous and asynchronous solutions;
- Multi-campus education;

What is Virtual mobility?

Virtual mobility stands for a set of ICT supported activities, organized at institutional level, that realize or facilitate international, collaborative experiences in a context of teaching and/or learning.

VM vs. DE: university-university contracts

Pre-assessed quality and coherent to home university offerings

The concept of Virtual Mobility offers

International experience

- **Virtual mobility** offers all students the possibility of **sampling a course** from **another university in another European country** in order to learn or to construct new content in an international setting and to develop **intercultural skills**.

Academic enrichment

- Students will have the opportunity to open a window on **a different academic content and approach, comparative view, a different culture, and to meet students from different countries** through virtual forums and meeting rooms.

Impact of VE

Personal

Competencies:

- obtain additional skills for international on-line cooperation anticipating on the new working environment of international cooperation, communication, exchange of expertise and management

- **Contribute** to international experience: interact with students and staff of other cultures and in other languages

- Digital literacy: learn to work with **latest educational multi media**

- Enrol to **several universities** of interest

- **Specialise and individualise** student study portfolios

- More **control of study programme** by flexible solutions

Impact of VE

Institutional

- **Academic cooperation** models between universities: <u>share staff and expertise</u>
- Sharing courses offers time for **research and expertise building**
- **Academic enrichment** by sharing course programs: **extend academic offerings** by more than 1 university
- **New forms of university cooperation** between traditional and Open universities: new and more <u>flexible experience of learning</u>
- **Increased flexibilisation and accessibility,** attracting new target groups

Impact of VE

Policy level: contributing to the EU-policy lines E&T 2020 and EU 2020

- **Opening up mobility** for potentially all students (non-discriminating)
- Contributing to a **more transparent** offer of programs with **increased quality** by course catalogue
- **Not limited in time of studying**: Internships combined with Virtual Mobility or replaced by Virtual Internships
- **Time and cost-effective mobility** extending current mobility schemes or new target groups
- "**Green mobility**"

Specific Benefits of Virtual Mobility

It can engage all students in a classroom, as there are no physical barriers for trans-border education. More students are involved, if not all in a class.

It is flexible, as it can be applied just in time, even asynchronously, from any place and within smaller presonalised learning spaces and communities

Multiple universities and different countries/continents can be engaged simultaneously

Students for any reason not involved in physical mobility, can be involved in virtual mobility

Part-time and employed students, mature students and students with special needs can participate conveniently, as the learning material is conceived for independent, but supported self-study

It is very cost-effective for the student and it contributes to the "green campus"

VE: building a new mobility scheme in line with the current Erasmus Programma

In the current Erasmus Programme there are four
key documents that are essential to any exchange:
1. The Course Catalogue
2. Student Application Form
3. Learning Agreement
4. Transcript of Records
5. Institutional agreement (VE additional document)

Institutional agreement

The Institutional Agreement lists the courses the institutions have agreed to accept from another institution as part of their Virtual Exchange mobility scheme.

Specific **terms and conditions** referred to in the **Virtual Exchange institutional agreement** are listed in **11 paragraphs**:

§1 The modules are at least 5 ECTS credits.

§2 Full recognition of the module guaranteed

§3 International collaboration will be integral part

§4 Both institutions as well as the student will sign a Learning Agreement.

§5 The **examination** of the module will take place in the country in which the home institution of the Virtual Exchange student is based.

VE: Terms and conditions (continued)

§6 Virtual Exchange students who wish to participate in face-to face activities will have access.

§7 The examination will be done in the original language of the module or an alternative **language**

§8 **Quality Assurance**

§9 Maximum number of students per module

§10 Fee waiver to Virtual Erasmus students.

§11 Staff mobility as part of Virtual Erasmus will include a physical stay at the partner institution, incorporating a teaching task.

- Erasmus mobility: **achieving 20% objective by 2020**

- Virtual mobility for study: **addressing potentially all students, respecting fully the Erasmus mobility framework, including joint courses/seminars and networked curricula**

- Blended mobility: blended business model; **prepare and extend Physical Erasmus, additional services new ways of working**

- Virtual mobility for apprenticeships: virtually in-company tasks for students; **include in-business placements**

Conclusion: adapted business models and European support for Virtual Erasmus will give a wider an deeper breath to the Erasmus programme.

CREATING A VIRTUAL ERASMUS PROGRAMME

a) **Distance education**: universities charge the regular costs to the students; based on university – student agreement. <u>Therefore not a mobility scheme between universities.</u>

Anticipated future model:
b) **Virtual Erasmus model**: universities give a fee waiver to the foreign students, except for study material and receive funding for their additional costs; based on university – university agreement. <u>Formalised and fully mainstreamed virtual Erasmus programme next to running physical Erasmus programme.</u>

Thank you!

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