
Section 1: Institution's International (EU and non-EU) strategy including Partner Selection, Geographical areas and objectives and target groups of your mobility activities (with regard to staff and students in first, second and third cycles, including study and training, and short cycles)

DIT's Internationalisation Strategy has 3 main objectives.

1. To internationalise the educational, cultural and social experience of all students and colleagues so as to provide relevant and concrete contributions to learning, teaching, research and enterprise.
2. To give DIT strong, focused and sustainable international outreach through long-term strategic partnerships with high quality institutions.
3. To promote DIT's international influence, reputation and visibility through engagement with international government and non-governmental organisations.

The DIT Strategic Plan 2011-2014 states: 'DIT is committed to ... embracing the... challenges and opportunities, including institutional collaboration, widening participation, growing community engagement and the enhancement of the internationalisation agenda within the Institute'. DIT recognizes that the Erasmus and other exchange/ joint programmes are an essential component of integrating an internationalisation plan into the overall ethos of DIT.

Partners are selected using the following criteria: Academic compatibility and quality of the proposed partner institution; 'on the ground' support services in the host enterprise/institution to include linguistic opportunities for mobile staff and students; Student /Staff preferred destinations and locations. Partner reviews are carried out at the end of each agreements term to assess student/staff experiences and also to review possible changes that may affect mobility going forward.

DIT has industry and inter-institutional partnerships across the World, including EU/EEA, North America, South America, North Africa, Russia, Central Asia and Australasia. These partnerships allow not only for student/ staff exchange mobility but also for joint international degree programmes (e.g. EU-US Atlantis programme MSc Sustainability, Technology and Innovation held in conjunction with Purdue University and Universitat de Catalunya). DIT is also partnered in three Erasmus Mundus programmes, IMEC , FIPDES and SEFOTECHNUT, and has joint research collaborations in India, China and Brazil. An increasing part of our international activity going forward is in the realm of social responsibility through governmental and NGO initiatives in the developing world.

DIT is also involved in the European Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Education Network (EC2E2N).

The most notable development of 2013 was the opening of the DIT office in the city of Haikou on Hainan Island, to the south of mainland China. This is part of a process to increase DIT's international reach by delivering programmes off-shore in line with government strategy.

The Institute's main objective for 2014 - 2020 is to continue to promote a greater awareness of and increased participation in all international activities; to ensure balanced inward and outward student

mobility and to provide an efficient, comprehensive service to mobile staff/ students. Priorities going forward include:

Promote greater awareness of student mobility to academic staff and students in order to increase the number of DIT staff/students participating in the programme. To encourage academic staff to identify a suitable semester within first cycle/second cycle programmes for a study/work placement abroad and to encourage the introduction of compulsory study/work placement abroad within these programmes.

To set up regular meetings workshops and presentations with academic staff in order to disseminate information and encourage further participation in all aspects of the international mobility. To incorporate new Medias into the promotion

and administration of international mobility options to staff/students and also to allow for easier access for completion of requirements. To ensure that administrative and academic staff are aware of changes within the field of International

education by maintaining regular contact with partner institutions through monitoring visits and attendance by staff at conferences and training programmes.

DIT is an equal opportunities institution and has set out policies in this area for both staff and students, and is committed to ensuring that those with special needs are able to access and participate fully in college life. The Disability Service provides a range of support services for these students.

DIT Access and Civic Engagement Office co-ordinates programmes to facilitate access to third level for students from socio-economically disadvantaged areas, and foundation programmes for international and mature students.

For the purpose of staff mobility the DIT adopts a transparent application and award system. All Academic and Non-Academic staff are encouraged to participate so as to research new and better methodologies and work practices that can then be subsequently and where appropriate implemented into the DIT. As new markets are targeted dedicated trips with academic and non-academic staff are undertaken to visit potential partners so as to ascertain and review the possibility for growth. Under Erasmus we promote the availability of the grant opportunities through both electronic and print materials.

We also allocate other funds for this purpose, to allow for full participation even if the all other grants have been awarded. The DIT is striving to make this mobility a more streamlined process through the use of new software's and media's. This includes an online application system for initial enquiry, online resources detailing opportunities and upon award individual pre-departure meetings to include flight booking as well as advise on all requirements under the mobility. Complete applications are assessed by a specially set up committee that has representatives on it from each College to allow for impartial awards process. Closing dates for applications are set for the purposes of committee meetings, however applications continue to be accepted up until all available grants

and funding have been awarded. DIT is also actively encouraging participants to invite representatives from enterprises to speak with students as part of their programme to provide a 'real life' aspect to the learning of all.

Section 2: Expected impact of your participation in the Programme on the modernisation of your institution (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda*) in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve.

1: Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs

DIT will grow the programme with further promotion of the staff and student mobility programmes. New areas for promotion are continually being tested and reviewed, and inputs from students and staff in relation to this are vital. With regards to this, some programmes have introduced mandatory mobility, not only for study but for work placements. This is proving successful as new students to these programmes are preparing for their mobility from year one, and so successful completion is more attainable. Further work will be done in conjunction with the DIT Schools Liaison Officer to bring Erasmus to those who are yet to enter Higher Education so as to inform future entrants to the DIT of exchange possibilities.

2: Improving the quality and relevance of higher education

The DIT will continue to work with partners on Double/Joint degrees in relation to improving the quality and relevance of higher education. DIT is committed to grow current Joint Degrees/Erasmus Mundus programmes already involved with. Three new joint degree programmes have been put forward for approval, and further significant growth is expected.

3: Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border co-operation

The DIT strive to ensure a quality study/work placement mobility for students, both incoming and outgoing. This can only be achieved where students are not only adequately supported at home but also by the host institution/enterprise. DIT has implemented Pre-departure meetings for the Mundus programmes where a representative visits the partner institutions to provide advice and guidance to the incoming students on studying and living in Dublin. This will be grown further over the course of 2014-2020. DIT will continue to provide Information session & Pre-departure meetings to all outgoing students.

4: Making the knowledge triangle work: Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development

The DIT works closely with enterprise and industry to provide students with the relevant tools and experiences required of them. DIT will to continue to do this with further representatives being invited to speak not only with students but with staff.

Only by working with these partners can DIT continue to provide strong graduates for not only Europe but across the globe.



Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)



The opportunity presented through staff mobility is also vital in ensuring that staff can keep up to date in relation to the developments within their fields whether it is for academic or non-academic purposes and the DIT is committed to providing this to any and all staff.

5: Improving governance and funding

DIT will award grants to staff and students as determined by the National Agency and in a fair and transparent manner. Current committees for the programme will be maintained and where necessary modified. It will ensure that Erasmus+ meets the requirements of all students and staff.