

## Erasmus Policy Statement

### ***Inholland on its intention to implement Erasmus+ after the award of the ECHE***

**Inholland University of Applied Sciences** is located throughout the Randstad region. We offer bachelor's programmes in a wide range of fields: from innovation to business and from technology to media. The main themes for education and practice-based research are **sustainability, health and creativity**. Students and lecturers work on these areas in conjunction with practitioners, authorities and social partners. We challenge students to dare to learn. The university takes a **personal and accessible approach**, operating on the conviction that success and adversity are twin catalysts for professional and personal development, for both lecturers and students. Diversity is our main strength and social inclusion is embedded within the education policy and practices at Inholland. The university fosters sustainability, not only in the field of education but also when it comes to construction and business operations.

Inholland continues to strengthen its international profile. The **Internationalisation Policy Plan** is embedded in the Institutional Strategic Plan 2016-2022 'Learning is being courageous'. The mission statement regarding internationalisation is to educate students in their international and intercultural competences, as well as international orientation, with the aim of preparing them for the intercultural society and labour market. Thus, our internationalisation policy builds on the further implementation of this mission. The key elements of fulfilling this mission are: a. strengthening internationalisation at home, including digital exchange b. stimulating the increase of mobility of students and staff c. developing, setting up and maintaining (strategic) international partnerships d. development of international curricula and, e. further development of European consortia for research.

Furthermore, we put the **Inholland Professional** at the centre of our policy. Future Inholland Professionals will have to be able to work in a fast changing and complex world, with challenges such as globalisation, climate change, robotization and growing inequality. Graduates have to be able to respond fast and adequately to these societal issues. The labour market needs professionals with 21st century skills such as creativity, resourcefulness and intercultural skills. Furthermore, our society needs citizens who are active in their community and civically engaged. Inholland educates Inholland Professionals with a mindset to prepare them for the job market of the future and the global challenges of our world.

This is the framework in which our six faculties have autonomy to formulate their internationalisation ambitions and approach. Based on the professional profiles of the study programmes in the faculty, they determine their focus countries to develop international cooperation with. The main focus in the partnerships remains Europe, enriched by a number of meaningful non-European partnerships. Currently Inholland offers six international English-taught bachelor programmes attracting Dutch and international students, making an international

classroom possible. Most of the degree programmes that are conducted in Dutch also offer English-taught options in order to create an international classroom and an international experience at home.

For Inholland graduates this means that they are able to obtain their international and cross-cultural competencies during their study programme. Accordingly, we remain committed to our ambition to internationalise the curricula, to stimulate and facilitate students to obtain an international learning experience abroad and to stimulate and facilitate lecturers to actively contribute to the further internationalisation of their study programmes and their students. Inholland's internationalisation mission is to offer students a learning environment in which they can obtain the knowledge, skills and attitudes that are needed to be able to operate as a professional in the dynamic, complex and increasingly international and culturally diverse society.

With this statement Inholland confirms the commitment to the **European Education Area**. Our activities contribute to the number of students that spend time abroad to study and learn a language additional to their mother tongue, thus developing a stronger sense of their European identity with diverse cultures.

Being a university in the urban area, activities to promote equal access and **social inclusion** are at the core of our education policy and activities. Inholland's mission statement specifies that diversity is an asset. Our aim is to produce graduates who are adept at dealing with a diverse society in their professional lives. We initiated various initiatives to promote diversity, social inclusion and study success for all students and staff. Our prime objective is to offer high-quality education with a personal touch. Our motto is 'up close and personal'. We focus on individual contact with all students, which helps to establish a sense of connection. In our view, connectedness, social cohesion and a pleasant learning environment are key factors for study success. We treat all of our students equally. Our aim is for all of our students to complete their studies successfully and make a contribution to society. This is how we help emancipate a significant number of young people. As a point of departure, inclusion is embedded in our overall education policy. This also applies to the Erasmus exchange programme and our international students: all information is transparent, we offer support, and all students have an equal opportunity to take part.

### ***Inholland on the Erasmus actions it would like to take part in and how they will be implemented in practice***

For the period 2021-2027 Inholland UAS will take part in the following actions of the Erasmus programme:

- KA1 - The mobility of higher education students and staff
- KA2 - Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices

#### **KA1 - The mobility of higher education students and staff**

Our aim is to offer students a variety of mobility options: study, traineeship but also shorter mobility options such as blended mobility for intensive programmes and individual students. As for staff mobility, we concentrate on teaching and training with an increased focus on identifying more training opportunities such as developing cooperation with businesses and organisations.

The practical implementation of the KA1 is the responsibility of the International Office. In general, the following departments are involved in the implementation:

- The Director of the Centre for Educational Policy and the institutional Erasmus coordinator is responsible for the policy, management, budget coordination and control of the Erasmus programme. The Erasmus coordinator is the first contact person for the Board of Directors, the deans of the faculties and the National Agency and periodically aligns with actors in the process. The Erasmus coordinator is connected to the Inholland-wide internationalisation policy on education, research and profiling. Consultation and monitoring activities always take place in cooperation with the International Office.
- The faculties have autonomy to define their internationalisation strategy in line with the institutional strategy and set goals for their mobility numbers. The international coordinators of the faculties are responsible for the academic guidance of the students and staff before, during and after mobility and the quality of the content of the exchange programmes.
- The International Office (IO) is responsible for the implementation of the programme and the coordination of the work processes. The IO deals with all mobility administration (before, during, after mobility) and safeguards the ECHE principles. The IO offers services to the faculties of the university on various aspects of internationalisation. It stimulates the involvement of study programmes within Erasmus and collaborates closely with the international coordinators of the faculty.

#### Institutional strategy and objectives

By participating in KA1, the following activities will contribute to achieving the objectives of the Inholland institutional strategy:

- Mobility is an important tool to help and support students and teaching staff develop international and cross-cultural competences.
- The incoming student mobility will contribute to a truly international classroom and will support internationalisation at home.
- Collaborative online international learning courses in a blended mobility setting will strengthen internationalization at home.
- Shaping and maintaining (strategic) international partnerships.
- Strengthening business consortia will increase the availability and quality of work placements
- By applying for KA 107 grants in low-income countries, incoming students from disadvantaged backgrounds will have access to mobility opportunities. Within the international classroom, our students develop insights into countries they would be unlikely to have contact with. Mutual understanding and respect will be created.
- Students who need to be internationally and interculturally competent, need teachers and staff who can make that tangible in their education, research and guidance. Gaining international experience by participating in international activities at home and abroad significantly contributes to the further professionalisation of our teaching and administrative staff.

### **KA2 - Partnerships for Cooperation and exchanges of practices**

#### Institutional strategy and objectives

KA2 projects at Inholland are considered as an important instrument for improving the quality of education, enhancing the creativity and innovation of education and stimulating the cooperation and knowledge exchange within (strategic) partner institutions. Within Erasmus+, our participation in KA2

projects has been carried out on a small scale in the field of curriculum development and capacity building. Within the Erasmus programme 2021-2027 Inholland aims to implement more cooperation projects within the faculties.

By participating in KA2 cooperation projects, the following activities will contribute to achieving the objectives of the Inholland institutional strategy:

- Carrying out projects that enhance internationalisation at home with a strong focus on blended/virtual mobility so that all students will obtain international and intercultural competences, also students who cannot go abroad (due to various reasons).
- Carrying out projects that meet the main themes for education and practice-based research and contribute to a sustainable, healthy and creative society.
- Improving the quality of education at Inholland by implementing projects that meet the requirements to educate 'Inholland Professionals', i.e. students who can deal with challenges such as globalisation, climate change, robotization and growing inequality as future professionals, with an important set of instruments (employability skills/21<sup>st</sup> century skills).
- Opening up new innovative ideas for our living labs and implementing those within the curricula.
- Strengthening the cooperation with our (strategic) international partner network within and outside Europa.
- Engage students and staff in projects that contribute to a better and more equal and inclusive approach by implementing capacity building projects.

### ***Inholland on the impact of participation in the Erasmus+ Programme***

According to our internationalisation strategy, the envisaged targets of the Erasmus+ Programme 2021-2027, defined with the six faculties and implemented centrally and within the faculties are:

#### **Targets mobility numbers**

All of our faculties aim to increase the mobility numbers of students and staff per academic year, resulting in the quantitative goal to realize a modest increase of mobility numbers within the Erasmus+ programme 2021-2027. According to the internationalisation ambitions of the faculties we expect an increase in mobility numbers of 15% within the new programme for study and an increase of 25% for work placements and staff mobility.

#### **Targets related to qualitative aspects of the Erasmus+ programme**

- Increased participation within language courses by better promotion of the OLS language courses among students.
- Improve mobility opportunities for students with disabilities and from disadvantaged backgrounds by optimizing the promotion and setting up a social inclusion plan for Erasmus+.
- Increase the number of exchange programmes in order to stimulate all degree programmes to establish reciprocity in mobility flows and to implement international classrooms.
- Fully integrating and recognizing staff mobility into the HRM-cycle, strategic priority areas and annual work plans.
- Improving policy on international strategic partnerships, stimulate effective cooperation with the partner network on different fields of internationalisation such as exchange cooperation, projects, research.
- Setting up more Intensive Programmes and collaborative online international courses together with partner institutions in a blended mobility setting.
- Establishing programmes and activities for civic engagement and active citizenship for incoming students.

- Improvement and alignment of the KA107 processes, and engaging more faculties within this action.
- Cooperating with EER and non-EER partners in KA2 projects with focus on internationalisation at home and capacity building.

### Indicative timeline for achieving the targets

Targets	Timeline academic year
<b>Outgoing Student Mobility</b> Reference 2019-20: 227 Goal: 15% growth in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 227 2022-2023: 235 2023-2024: 240 2024-2025: 248 2025-2026: 256 2026-2027: 261 <b>TOTAL: 1467</b>
<b>Incoming Student Mobility</b> Reference 2019-20: 216 Goal: 15% growth in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 216 2022-2023: 222 2023-2024: 228 2024-2025: 235 2025-2026: 242 2026-2027: 248 <b>TOTAL: 1391</b>
<b>Outgoing work placement</b> Reference 2019-20: 73 Goal: 25% growth in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 73 2022-2023: 78 2023-2024: 82 2024-2025: 85 2025-2026: 88 2026-2027: 91 <b>TOTAL: 497</b>
<b>Outgoing Staff Mobility</b> Reference 2019-20: 57 (22 training, 35 teaching) Goal: 25% growth in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 57 2022-2023: 60 2023-2024: 63 2024-2025: 66 2025-2026: 69 2026-2027: 71 <b>TOTAL: 386</b>
<b>Blended mobility learners</b> Reference 2019-20: 15 Goal: 80 learners in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 30 2022-2023: 40 2023-2024: 50 2024-2025: 60 2025-2026: 70 2026-2027: 80 <b>TOTAL: 330</b>
<b>Linguistic support: use of OLS language courses</b> Reference 2019-20: 217 Goal: 260 students use OLS courses in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 220 2022-2023: 230 2023-2024: 240 2024-2025: 250 2026-2027: 260 <b>TOTAL: 1200</b>
<b>Social inclusion mobility support</b> Reference 2019-20: 0 Goal: 10% growth in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 2% 2022-2023: 4% 2023-2024: 6% 2024-2025: 8% <b>2026-2027: 10%</b>
<b>Number of exchange programmes</b> Reference 2019-20: 39 Goal: 47 exchange programmes in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 41 2022-2023: 42 2023-2024: 44 2024-2025: 46 <b>2026-2027: 47</b>
<b>Recognition of staff mobility, fully embedded</b> Reference 2019-20: 70%	2021-2022: 75% 2022-2023: 80%

Goal: 90% in 2026-2027	2023-2024: 85% 2024-2025: 87% <b>2026-2027: 90%</b>
<b>Quality of Partnerships: involvement of partnerships in internationalisation</b> Reference 2019-20: 75% Goal: 100% in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 80% 2022-2023: 85% 2023-2024: 90% 2024-2025: 95% <b>2026-2027: 100%</b>
<b>Civic engagement activities for incoming students</b> Reference 2019-20: 10% Goal: 90% of incoming students participate in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 25% 2022-2023: 50% 2023-2024: 65% 2024-2025: 80% <b>2026-2027: 90%</b>
<b>Quality of implementation KA107; part of KA103 process</b> Reference 2019-20: 50% Goal: 90% in 2026-2027	2021-2022: 70% 2022-2023: 80% 2023-2024: 90% 2024-2025: 90% <b>2026-2027: 90%</b>
<b>Involvement in KA2 actions</b> Reference 2019-20: 1 Goal: 5 KA2 projects during the Erasmus+ Programme duration	2021-2022: 1 new project 2022-2023: 1 new project 2023-2024: 1 new project 2024-2025: 1 new project 2026-2027: 1 new project <b>TOTAL: 5</b>

*Disclaimer: The abovementioned targets are formulated in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic, they are therefore indicative and may be adjusted at a later stage depending on future effects of the pandemic on our internationalisation activities.*