



# Erasmus+ Master Loan Scheme

Expanding EU support for cross-border learning

European Commission – Higher Education Policy Team



## Erasmus+ Master Loans - rationale

- to support the development of high level skills (at master's level) in Europe through student mobility
- by encouraging banks (through EU's guarantee) to lend on favourable terms to mobile Master students
- 200,000 students to benefit > large potential, but limited funding available, esp. at Master's level
- 500m€ EU investment (3.5% of the Erasmus+ programme - 2014-20), resulting in >3bn€ in student loans for mobility



# Who is it for?

- Students who want to do a **full Master degree in another Erasmus+ programme country**
- for 1-year ( $\leq 12,000\text{€}$ ) or 2-year ( $\leq 18,000\text{€}$ ) Master's programmes
- **Mobile** - different country than that of residence and of where Bachelor completed
- at an institution with the **Erasmus Charter** for HE
- Living and/or tuition costs

## What are the conditions?

- Loan not grant
- But at more affordable terms than most regular/student loans:
  - No collateral (or parental guarantee)
  - Lower interest rate (than market)
  - Grace period before repayment (1 year)
  - Payment holiday (min. 1 year)
  - No discrimination (nationality, study field, ...)
  - Insurance against death/disability
    - ... as a minimum
- Possible to combine with other finance, incl. Erasmus grant (during Master's programme)





# State of Implementation

- Call for expressions of interest published by EIF on 13/2/2015 (rolling, until June 2020)
- 1<sup>st</sup> bank to be signed up in June 2015
- **Effective launch** of the ER+ loan scheme: gradual roll-out to more countries (& students): objective (& incentives) to have 1 bank / PC
- EC intends to **work closely with NAs/NAUs** (info & communication) before & after banks signed up in PC



# Monitoring and Evaluation

- Regular consultation & monitoring with EIF: delegated, but **shared management**.
- **Progress monitoring** continuous + annual report
  - numbers of students supported (profile & characteristics: SES, study subject, country of origin & destination, ...)
  - volume of lending - debt and default levels
- **Evaluation** as part of Erasmus+ mid-term evaluation (2017) to examine the effectiveness of the Facility, incl. an assessment of effects beneficiaries and HEI systems
  - Beneficiary survey
  - Perspectives of Member States and stakeholders



# Info

[http://ec.europa.eu/education/opportunities/higher-education/masters-loans\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/education/opportunities/higher-education/masters-loans_en.htm)

[http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/news/2015/0611-eplus-master-loan\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/news/2015/0611-eplus-master-loan_en.htm)



**Thank you**