



## CLUSTER MEETING ON THE CBHE PROJECTS' IMPACT IN CENTRAL ASIA (CA)

### **Context and Objectives:**

The on-line cluster meeting is being organised jointly by EACEA, EAC and the NEO Uzbekistan in the framework of the CBHE action of the Erasmus + programme.

It aims at bringing together project coordinators and local CBHE project team members and coordinators from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan in order to:

- Discuss the EU funded projects/programmes impact on the CA HE sector in terms of modernisation, accessibility, internationalisation and reform of the HE;
- Gather good practices and project challenges encountered, reflect on the actual needs of the HE sector in CA and on the way the future EU education programme for 2021-2027 could address these needs;
- Discussion on challenges and coping strategies in project management and implementation during the COVID-19 pandemic confinement period;
- Promote networking and provide local/regional visibility to the E+ programme and its funded projects, thereby contributing to maximising their impact;

**Date:** 18-19 or 19-20 November (tbc)

**Location:** On-line event facilitated by NEO Uzbekistan or NEO Kazakhstan (*tbc according to technical capacity to host the on-line event*)

**Methodology and content of the conference:** The cluster meeting will consist of plenary sessions facilitated by DG EAC and EACEA with 4 interactive discussion groups on 2 topics in the morning of Day 1 and 6 interactive discussion groups on 3 topics during the afternoon of Day 1. The participants can choose between one of the two topics in the morning session and one of the three topics in the afternoon session and they have the possibility to follow either English or a Russian speaking group for each topic.

On Day 2 the challenges and coping strategies in project management and implementation during the COVID-19 pandemic confinement period will be discussed during a plenary session.

The objective of the cluster meeting is to determine **the impact and sustainability of project results in the different CA countries and on a regional level**. The workshops and discussions will revolve around the following topics: CBHE projects' impact on HE systems and reforms, regional cooperation, efficiency of curriculum development projects, mobility, modernisation, accessibility, quality and internationalisation of the HEIs in the CA.

Furthermore, the project coordinators can report on the current project management and implementation challenges due to the COVID-19 period and stock can be taken on the different coping strategies.

The Regional Cluster Meeting will also constitute an opportunity to stimulate the analysis and debate on the current Erasmus+ programme and use this to nurture the **future EU education programme**.

**Output:** Report on the conclusions of the workshops of the Cluster Meeting.