



UNIVERSITÀ  
POLITECNICA  
DELLE MARCHE

**S.UN.B.E.A.M.**

**Structured UNiversity mobility between the Balkans and  
Europe for the Adriatic-ionian Macroregion**

**Silvia Mangialardo**  
**Università Politecnica delle Marche**

**SUNBEAM Final Conference**

**Ancona, Italy**

**20 September 2018**



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# **SUNBEAM is an Erasmus Mundus – Action 2 project**

## **Call EACEA/18/13**

### **Geographic lot → Western Balkans**

**Total Grant: € 2.996.125**



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Mundus**



# Partnership composition

**Coordinator**



**Università Politecnica delle Marche**

**Joint Coordinator**



**“Dzemal Bijedic” University of Mostar**

## **Albania**

**Agricultural University of Tirana**  
**“Aleksander Xhuvani” University of Elbasan**

## **Bosnia-Herzegovina**

**University of Banja Luka**  
**University of Sarajevo**  
**University of Tuzla**

## **Croatia**

**University of Split**  
**University of Zadar**

## **Greece**

**University of Ioannina**

## **Kosovo**

**Riinvest College**

## **Italy**

**Università degli Studi di Urbino “Carlo Bo”**  
**Università degli Studi di Bologna**  
**Università Ca’ Foscari Venezia**

## **Montenegro**

**University of Montenegro**  
**University Mediterranean Podgorica**

## **Serbia**

**University of Novi Sad**  
**University of Arts in Belgrade**

## **Slovenia**

**University of Primorska**  
**University of Ljubljana**



## Associate partners

**Uniadrion**

- Association of Universities of the Adriatic-Ionian area

**Forum AIC**

- Forum of the Adriatic-Ionian Chambers of Commerce

**FAIC**

- Forum of the Adriatic-Ionian Cities

**AII**

- Permanent Secretariat of the Adriatic-Ionian Initiative

**AIESEC**

- International association of students

**C.A.S.E.**

- Centro Alti Studi Europei – Centre for High European Studies



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**Erasmus Mundus Action 2** aimed to promote European higher education, to help to improve and enhance the career prospects of students and to promote intercultural understanding through cooperation with third countries.

Projects involving **mobility** at all levels of higher education for **students** (undergraduate, master, doctoral and post-doctoral) and for **staff** (academic and administrative)





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# Erasmus Mundus specific objectives

The implementation of the Erasmus Mundus programme was supposed to contribute fully to promoting the **horizontal policies of the European Union**, in particular by:

- Fostering culture, knowledge and skills for peaceful and sustainable development in a Europe of diversity;
- Promoting awareness of the importance of cultural and linguistic diversity within Europe, as well of the need to combat racism and xenophobia and promoting intercultural education;
- Promoting the development of third-countries.



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# SUNBEAM = mobility project

## Students

- ✓ **Undergraduate** (6 to 10 months)
- ✓ **Master** (6 to 24 months)
- ✓ **PhD** (6 to 36 months)
- ✓ **Post-doc** (6 to 10 months)

## Staff

- ✓ **Academic** (1 month)
- ✓ **Administrative** (1 month)



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# Timetable for implementation of SUNBEAM activities

➤ Start of the project → **15 July 2014**

➤ Start of mobilities:

First cohort → September 2015 – 31 December 2015

Second cohort → September 2016 – 31 December 2016

Third cohort → September 2017 – 31 December 2017



➤ End of the project → **14 January 2019**



# Implementation of the dedicated website: [www.sunbeam.univpm.it](http://www.sunbeam.univpm.it)



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HOME PARTNERS OUR SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION FAQ  
CONTACTS MACRO REGION APPLY NOW FIELDS OF STUDY DOWNLOAD

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Welcome to apply for fully funded scholarships within the Erasmus Mundus SUNBEAM Scholarship Programme!

**ABOUT ERASMUS MUNDUS:**

The Erasmus Mundus programme's overall aim is to promote European higher education, to help improve and enhance the career prospects of students and to promote intercultural understanding through cooperation with third countries, in accordance with EU external policy objectives in order to contribute to the sustainable development of third countries in the field of higher education.



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# SUNBEAM applications

Call	Applications submitted	Selected candidates
1st call	796	117
2nd call	242	71
3rd call	21	11
<b>Tot.</b>	<b>1.059</b>	<b>199</b>



## Distribution of mobilities per country of origin

Country	1° call	2° call	3° call	Tot	Perc
Serbia	31	18	4	53	27%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	19	18	1	38	19%
Montenegro	13	11	3	27	14%
Italy	17	5	1	23	11%
Albania	10	7	2	19	9%
Croatia	13	6		19	9%
Kosovo	8	5		13	7%
Slovenia	6	1		7	4%
<b>Tot</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>199</b>	



# Distribution per mobility level

Type of mobility	1° call	2° call	3° call	Tot	Perc%
Undergraduate	30	23		53	27%
Master (full/exchange)	34	25		59	29%
Doctorate (full/exchange)	14	10		24	12%
Post-Doctorate	7	10	11	28	14%
Staff	32	3		35	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>199</b>	



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# **SUNBEAM third call for scholarships**

**Mobility type → Post-doc**

**Number of mobilities → 8 to 10**

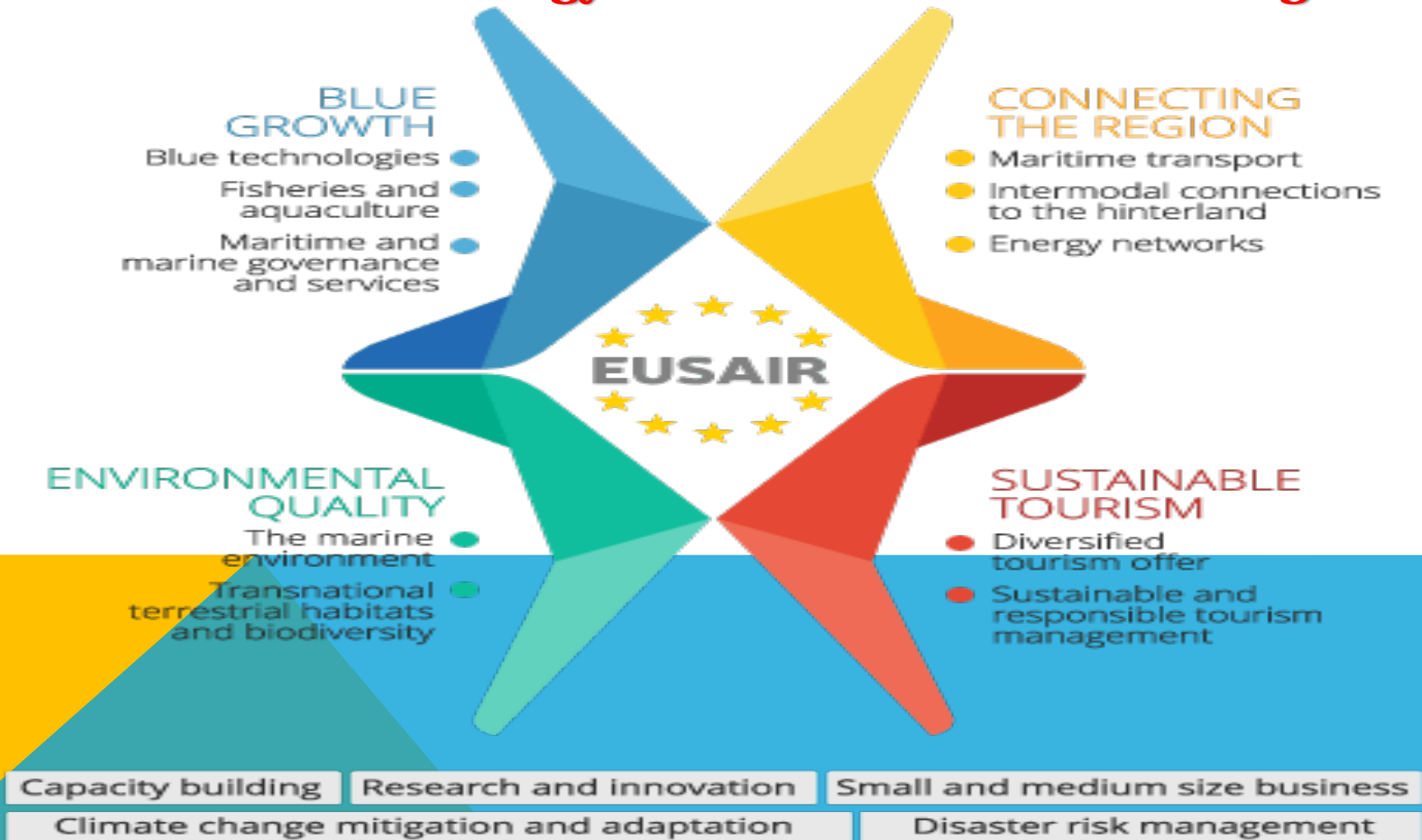
**Special requirement → Experts in  
topics related to the Adriatic-Ionian  
Region and EUSAIR**



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## The third call was designed specifically on the 4 pillars of EUSAIR – EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region





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## Main features of the third-call for post-doc mobilities:

- ✓ **Research topic** → as close as possible to the EUSAIR pillars and possibly transversal (**Environment?**)
- ✓ **During the mobility** → the candidates are required to work together under the supervision of a coordinator
- ✓ **Outcomes** → two/three projects to be submitted either in the framework of an existing funding programme or directly to the European Commission



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## **11 Post-Doc candidates selected**

### **10 out of 11 mobilities from WB to EU countries**

<b>Post Doc</b>	<b>Home University</b>	<b>Host University</b>	<b>Research field</b>
1	Univ. of Montenegro	University of Split	<b>Tourism</b>
2	Univ. Mediterranean of Montenegro	University of Ljubljana	<b>Business Studies</b>
3	Univ. of Novi Sad	University of Split	<b>Mechanical Engineering</b>
4	Univ. of Novi Sad	University of Split	<b>Business Studies</b>
5	Agricultural Univ. of Tirana	Univ. Politecnica delle Marche	<b>Business Studies</b>
6	Univ. Mediterranean of Montenegro	Univ. Politecnica delle Marche	<b>Economics</b>
7	Polytechnic Univ. of Tirana	Univ. Politecnica delle Marche	<b>Natural Sciences</b>
8	Univ. of Novi Sad	University of Split	<b>Tourism</b>
9	Univ. of East Sarajevo	University of Split	<b>Tourism</b>
10	Not affiliated with a University	Univ. Cá Foscari Venezia	<b>Economics</b>
11	Not affiliated with a University	Univ. of Novi Sad	<b>Tourism</b>





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## **OBJECTIVES**

### **of the SUNBEAM project**

**In 2013 the project was developed in respect of the important, strategic events occurring in the Adriatic-Ionian area**



**creation of the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-region**



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# Main objectives (1)

Enhancement of academic cooperation among HEIs in the Western Balkans with the purpose of creating a

**network of relations**

representing the academic and cultural infrastructure of the Adriatic-Ionian Macro-region



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# Main objectives (2)

**Creation of a  
platform for sharing common educational paths  
to implement joint programmes for the  
awarding of joint titles among HEIs in the  
Adriatic-Ionian area**



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# Main objectives (3)

Exchange of expertise and identification of research areas of common interest to create an adequate scientific background for the Adriatic-ionian Macro-region



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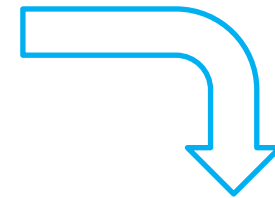
**The Adriatic-Ionian Macro-Region lies at the basis of the project and influenced the definition of its objectives**





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**Most of SUNBEAM partners (17 out of 20) are also members of the UNIADRION association**



**SUNBEAM is strictly connected with the reinforcement and revitalization of the UNIADRION association**



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## How did SUNBEAM originate?

- An invitation was sent to all UNIADRION members to join the project;
- Thanks to the long-lasting cooperation, the partnership was built in a short time and with the active participation of all the members of the network;
- The Joint Coordinator was identified with the collaboration of the network members.





## Partners' expectations in joining SUNBEAM

- ✓ Internationalization → SUNBEAM was seen as an opportunity to improve the institutional level of internationalization
- ✓ Visibility → contribution to increase the visibility of the institutions and a better reputation and image in the area
- ✓ Management of international mobility → partners that had limited experience with organized outgoing and incoming mobility saw in the project an opportunity to strengthen their management capacity at institutional level and in the organization of the IRO
- ✓ Cooperation between EU and the Western Balkans → most partners consider the collaboration with institutions belonging to the Adriatic-ionian area an excellent opportunity for their own development





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# Outcomes of the mobilities

- ✓ Joint publications
- ✓ Agreements for further collaborations
- ✓ Establishment of academic contacts for future activities
- ✓ Establishment of scientific networks
- ✓ Development of soft skills
- ✓ Knowledge transfer and exchange of expertise



more outcomes...





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# Outcomes of the mobilities

- ✓ Plans for double degrees and summer schools
- ✓ Production of new course materials and syllabuses for the development of similar programmes
- ✓ Knowledge of ethnic minorities
- ✓ Joint organization of conferences
- ✓ Joint PhDs



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## Examples of best practice

As a result of the mobility of Prof. Lenci (Università Politecnica delle Marche) at University of Novi Sad and the collaboration with Prof. Kovacic the following 2 joint research project applications were submitted under different programmes:

1



**Type of action: COST Action**

**Proposal Reference: OC-2016-2-21241**

**Title: Nonlinear Oscillators: From cross-phenomenological mapping to multi-functional applications**

**Acronym: NOLINOS**

**Type of action: MSCA-ITN-ETN**

(European Training Networks)

**Proposal number: 765642**

**Title: Nonlinear Dynamics and Control for Advanced Engineering Design**

**Acronym: NODYCAD**



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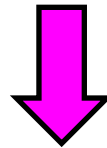
# Example of best practices

**student Sara Hoxhiq**

**Type of mobility** → undergraduate  
(exchange + final exam)

**Home University** → Agricultural  
University of Tirana

**Host University** → Università  
Politecnica delle Marche



2

**Double Degree in Business Administration issued by  
Home and Host University**

(as per the Double-Degree inter-institutional agreement  
between the two Universities)



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3



# Example of best practices from 3° call

**Mirjana Cizmovic**

**Type of mobility** → Post Doc

**Home University** → University Mediterranean of Montenegro

**Host University** → Università Politecnica delle Marche

**Research topic** → Assessment of conditions and potentials for the adoption of sustainable innovations in tourism enterprises in the Adriatic-Ionian Macroregion



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4



# Example of best practices from 3<sup>o</sup> call

## Boban Melović

**Type of mobility** → Post Doc

**Home University** → University of Montenegro

**Host University** → University of Split



cooperation with Prof. Šerić (University of Split) resulted in the scientific book on: *“Benchmarking in Tourism: Potential for Tourism Development in Montenegro, Lessons from Croatia”* whose publication is planned in 2019



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# Example of best practices from 3° call

## Vesna Prorok

**Type of mobility** → Post Doc

**Home University** → University of East Sarajevo

**Host University** → University of Split



**Research topic** → development of quantitative instruments in an effort to help decision-makers in improving the performance of the tourism sector in the Western Balkan countries that will result in the publication of scientific papers in the next 2 years.



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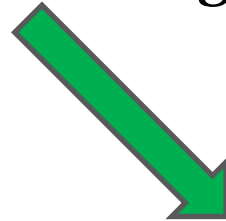
6



# Example of best practices from 3° call

**Boban Melović**

University of Montenegro



**Vesna Prorok**

University of East Sarajevo



During their mobility at University of Split **Boban Melović** and **Vesna Prorok** started working on a joint research on the topic *“Perception and attitudes of the youth on consuming organic products in Montenegro”*. The essay of this research is due to be published by the end of this year.





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# The future after SUNBEAM...



**(2014-2020)**



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# Mobility programmes in the Adriatic-Ionian area:

- **Erasmus Mundus S.UN.B.E.A.M.**
- **Erasmus+ Key Action 103**  
(mobility between EU Countries)
- **Erasmus+ Key Action 107**  
(mobility between EU and non EU  
Countries)

**Bilateral  
actions**



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# The Erasmus+ programme offers more than bilateral mobility:

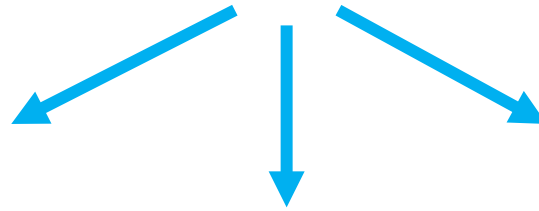
- **Joint Master Degrees**
- **Strategic partnerships** (joint initiatives promoting cooperation, peer learning and exchanges of experience at European level)
- **Knowledge alliances** (transnational, structured and result-driven projects, notably between higher education and business)
- **Capacity building in the field of higher education** (transnational cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships, primarily between higher education institutions from EU and eligible non EU Countries)



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# **New programmes and funds should be available soon for cooperation in the higher education sector of the Adriatic-Ionian area**



**Berlin Process  
(Trieste Declaration)**

**New Erasmus  
Programme  
(2021-2028)**

**New Programmes  
and Initiatives  
(eg. AI-NURECC)**



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# **Partnership meeting 21 September 2018**



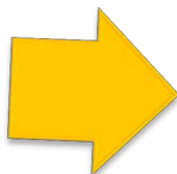
**Brainstorming for future projects**



**SUNBEAM to be continued....**



**Contact  
details**



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**Thank you!**



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# Quality Assurance Committee

- **"Džemal Bijedić" University of Mostar** (Bosnia-Herzegovina)
- **University of Banja Luka** (Bosnia-Herzegovina)
- **University of Ioannina** (Greece)
- **University of Urbino «Carlo Bo»** (Italy)
- **University of Montenegro** (Montenegro)