



# ERASMUS MUNDUS International MSc of Rural Development (IMRD)

## **Cooperation with Asia**

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# European Consortium Partners

## Main Partners

- Gent University, Belgium (Coordinator)
- Humboldt University Berlin, Germany
- Cordoba University, Spain
- Agrocampus Ouest, France

## Satellite Partners

- Wageningen University, The Netherlands
- Pisa University, Italy
- Agricultural University Nitra, Slovakia

# Cooperation under the Chinese Window

## Chinese Partners

- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences Beijing
- Chinese Agricultural University Beijing
- Nanjing Agricultural University
- Shandong University

# Prerequisites of Cooperation

- Existing partnerships (personal relations)
- English-based Cooperation
- Common Research Interests
- Focus on Third-Country Research Issues with Linkages to EU
- Direct partnerships in EMII

# Cooperation with Asian Partners in EMII

## Asian Partners

- Bangalore Agricultural University
- Chinese Agricultural University Beijing
- Nanjing Agricultural University

# Fostering Cooperation with Third Countries (1)

- The programmes should be well labelled to be attractive and acceptable according to academic standards (e.g. MS in International Rural Development)
- Standard graduation certificates with authorized conversion scale of degree programmes and proper seal and signatures

# IMRD Diploma supplement, needs to have the following ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF THE IMRD / MS(IRD) GRADUATE

Seme ster No & year.	Course title	Course credits	University where studied	Actual grade or mark scored	Converted grade according to Univ of Gent
1					
2....					

Considering the expertise obtained by the Graduate in his/her program, a suitable sub-specialization needs to be coined: Example I. Economics, Outreach & Policy analysis in Rural Development; II. Agricultural Economics, Econometrics, Policy analysis, III. Economics, Organic agriculture, Rural sociology

HUMSoc University of Bam 25/04/2019  
**SEAL, DATE AND SIGNATURE OF THE COORDINATOR**

# Fostering Cooperation with Third Countries (2)

- Double-degree programmes (like ATLANTIS)
- More visiting scholars from Asian countries (on DAAD package)
- Involving Associated Partners (e.g. international organisations, NGOs)
- Increase internship and placement opportunities (e.g. FAO, WTO, GTZ, EU council)
- Creating a common web-based platform for advertising internships and placements

# Fostering Cooperation with Third Countries (3)

- Research on gender issues in rural development for South Asia
- Quota for women students
- Increase practical training components in coursework
- Graduate programme for returnees (like start-up grants for research)
- EU Alumni database as partner search tool, e.g. for FP7

# Mutual Benefits from Cooperation between EU and Asian Countries

- Intensified academic discourse in the globalised world – Improved mutual understanding of issues
- Internationalisation of research – Increased mutual cooperation
- Research on problems of developing countries in Asia (South Asian focus)
- Skills and teaching will be improved in both regions

# Improvement of the IMRD Programme

- Supporting **specific** programmes for **coursework** improves quality, e.g. ERASMUS MUNDUS Master versus the mobility programme of ECW
- Asian quota according to population depending on rural areas and from agricultural universities
- Asian region is quite diverse in terms of national educational standards and access to education of groups of the populations – This calls for a general entrance test (GRE score)

## Concern :

### Number of scholarships for Asia is drastically coming down

- 2004 – 3
- 2005 -15
- 2006 – 18
- 2007 – 26
- 2008 – 10
- 2009 – 5 (back to square 1!)

Asia: the biggest and most diverse continent, with largest proportion of people depending on agriculture:  
Proportion of students from Asia in IMRD is coming down

# Possible Synergies between Education and Research

- Partnership Agreements at Faculty or University levels
- Student and scholar exchange programmes
- National Programmes, e.g. DAAD
- International Programmes, e.g. Marie Curie
- KOWI and DAAD representatives should give presentations to Programme alumnis regarding EU programmes just presented