



**Erasmus Mundus Action 2
Lot 13 (Asia Regional)**

**AREAS Second Call for Applications for the Second
Cohort
15/09/2012**

Update 01/12/2012

**Project coordinated by Politecnico di Torino
www.areas.polito.it**

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1. INTRODUCTION

AREAS (Academic Relations between Europe and ASia) is an Erasmus Mundus Action 2 project funded by the European Commission and organized by a Partnership of some of the most prestigious universities in Europe and these targeted Asian countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, The Philippines, Vietnam.

AREAS is one of the 2 EMA2 projects selected by the European Commission for Lot 13 (Asia Regional) in 2011.

AREAS provides scholarships to nationals of the targeted Asian countries to spend a mobility period in Europe on a wide variety of academic fields at different levels of study (Undergraduate, Master, Doctorate, Post-Doctorate and Staff). The scholarships cover subsistence allowances, travel costs, participation costs (tuition/registration fees..) and insurance costs.

Scholarships are distributed on two cohorts of applicants selected respectively in the year 2012 and 2013 for mobilities starting in the same year. The selection process for the AREAS First Call for applications for the First cohort, opened on 1st November 2011 and closed on 31st January 2012, has been completed. The Partnership has received more than 2.500 applications, of which 1.539 applications closed within the call deadline. 70% of the total available scholarships were awarded within the first call for applications.

AREAS project web site:
www.areas.polito.it

Erasmus Mundus Action 2 program web site:
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/programme/action2_en.php

The AREAS consortium is composed of 20 Partner Universities including 10 Asian Universities and 10 European Universities coordinated by Politecnico di Torino (Italy). The consortium also includes 4 Associated Members.

1.1. Partner Universities

Higher education institutions registered in Asia and in Europe which manage the AREAS project:

ASIAN PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

HCMUT - Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology, Vietnam
HUST - Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Vietnam
NUM - National University of Mongolia, Mongolia
NUOL - National University of Laos, Laos
PUC - The Pannasastra University of Cambodia, Cambodia
PDN - University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
TU - Thammasat University, Thailand
UGM - Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia
UNIKL - Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
VSU - Visayas State University, The Philippines

EUROPEAN PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

POLITO - Politecnico di Torino, Italy
CUL - City University London, England
INP - Institut Polytechnique de Grenoble, France
KTH - Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden
KUL - Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
MU - Masarik University, Czech Republic

UGOE - Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany
 UMINHO - Universidade do Minho, Portugal
 UNITN - University of Trento, Italy
 UPC - Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain

1.2. Associated Members

Associated members may include enterprises, chambers of industry and commerce, local, regional or national public entities as well as research centres, regional institutions of higher education. AREAS Associates contribute to the transfer of knowledge and results as well as the innovation process and assist in the promotion, implementation, evaluation and sustainable development of the project:

ASEAN University Network, Thailand
 Jesuit Refugee Service - Asia Pacific, Thailand
 Ithaca- Information Technology for Humanitarian Assistance, Cooperation and Action, Italy
 STI - National Science Technology and Innovation Policy Office, Thailand

2. SCHOLARSHIPS

2.1. Available Scholarships

AREAS provides scholarships for students, researchers and staff from the Third Countries targeted by the project (Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, The Philippines, Vietnam) in order to study, do research, training or teaching at one of the European Partner Universities.

Scholarships are not available for mobility from Europe to Asia, nor among the Asian countries.

Within this Second Call for applications for the Second Cohort (Second Call), scholarships are available for different mobility types and for durations, depending on the level and type of mobility, as follows:

- TARGET GROUP 1 MASTER, DOCTORATE, POST-DOCTORATE AND STAFF
- TARGET GROUP 2 POST-DOCTORATE
- TARGET GROUP 3 MASTER

Academic Level	N. mobilities	Duration (months)
Masters	9	6 or 22
Doctorate	5	10
Post-Doctorate	7	6 or 10
Staff	7	1
Total	28	

Important:

Target group 1 master candidates can apply exchange mobilities of **6 months** only;

Target group 3 master candidates can apply for **22 months** full degree programmes only.

Selected grantees will receive a monthly subsistence allowance paid by the Partnership for the duration of the mobility period:

Mobility Level	Monthly Subsistence Allowance
Undergraduate	1,000 euro
Master	1,000 euro
Doctorate	1,500 euro
Post-Doctorate	1,800 euro
Staff	2,500 euro

Included in the scholarship, the Partnership will also:

- pay for the grantees' travel costs;
- provide grantees with a high quality individual insurance coverage on health, travel, accident for the duration of the mobility period;
- waive all university fees at the Host Universities. Participants at any level will not be required to pay any fees to the Host Universities. Exchange students will continue paying their fees at their university of origin.

2.2. Types of Mobility and Eligibility

In accordance with the Erasmus Mundus scheme, different scholarships are available for different Target Groups and Mobility Levels and with specific eligibility conditions. Before applying for a scholarship, applicants need to check their eligibility, and the availability of scholarships for their category in this Second Call. Eligibility conditions must be met at the time of application, or at the latest before the start of mobility.

All mobilities selected within this Second Call must begin before **31st December 2013** with the exception of Staff mobilities that can start in any time within the project duration and must end within the project eligibility period.

All applicants must meet the following general eligibility conditions:

Nationality	Must be nationals of the Third Countries targeted by the project: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, The Philippines, Vietnam.
12-month rule	Must not have resided nor have carried out their main activity (studies, work, etc) for more than a total of 12 months over the last five years in any of the eligible European countries at the time of submitting their application to the partnership. This rule does not apply to TG 3 candidates.
Other scholarships	Must not have already benefited from a scholarship for the same type of mobility under an Erasmus Mundus Action 2 project. Must not have already benefited from another scholarship under this project.

Individuals are classified in three target groups:

Target Group	Target Beneficiaries
TARGET GROUP 1	Nationals of the Third Countries targeted by the project ¹ who are registered or working in one of the Universities of these countries that is a member of the partnership.
TARGET GROUP 2	Nationals of the Third Countries targeted by the project who are working in a University of these countries not included in the Partnership, or who have obtained a university degree or equivalent by an institution of these countries.
TARGET GROUP 3	Nationals of the Third Countries targeted by the project who are in particularly vulnerable situations for social or political reasons. AREAS identifies the following specific conditions as belonging to vulnerable groups: - Candidates having a refugee status or asylum beneficiaries (international or according to the national legislation of one of the European recipient countries); - Candidates belonging to an indigenous population targeted by a specific national policy or IDPs (Internally Displaced Persons). Disadvantaged conditions such as economic status or physical disabilities are not conditions for belonging to a vulnerable group. They are taken into consideration as cross-cutting issues under all target groups.

¹ Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, The Philippines, Vietnam.

Five levels of mobility are identified as follows:

Mobility level	Mobility programme	Eligibility conditions
Undergraduate	Attend a first cycle higher education programme, as an exchange student or for a full degree.	Must have obtained a secondary school diploma according to the regulations of the Host University (TG3), or must be currently registered in a Bachelor course in a HEI within the partnership (TG1). TG 1 Undergraduate students must have successfully completed at least one year of studies in their home institution.
Master	Attend a second cycle higher education programme that follows a first degree, as an exchange student or for a full degree.	Must have obtained a Bachelor or other Undergraduate University degree or must have completed 3 years of university studies (TG2, TG3), or must be currently registered in a Masters course in a HEI within the partnership (TG1).
Doctorate	Attend a study and research programme of higher education that follows a higher education degree, as an exchange student or for a full degree.	Must have obtained a Master or other Graduate University degree or equivalent (TG2, TG3), or must be currently registered in a Doctorate course in a HEI within the partnership (TG1).
Post-Doctorate	Carry out a higher education study or research that follows a doctoral degree. Activity can include research, training and/or following highly specialized courses.	Must have obtained a doctorate degree.
Staff	Perform a specific work programme agreed among the Home and Host Universities and the individual staff. Activity can include teaching, research, training or following highly specialized courses.	Must be working as academic or administrative staff at a Higher Education Institution within the partnership (TG1).

Within this Second Call, students (Master, Doctorate) can participate to exchange programmes only, defined as follows:

Programme	Description	Eligible candidates
Exchange	Exchange students are registered at their home university for a degree course and study at the Host University for a part of that same degree. The exchange period can be one or more semesters. Studies done at the Host Universities will be recognized by the home university through the use of ECTS tools (learning agreement, transcripts of records). Exchange students will not normally obtain a diploma from the Host University, but this may be possible if double degree agreements exist between the Home and Host Universities. Exchange students need the approval to participate in the mobility programme by both their home and Host University.	Undergraduate, Master and Doctorate students belonging to Target Group 1

Full degree	Degree students register for a degree course at a European Host University. Degree students completing the program will obtain a degree from the Host university.	Undergraduate, Master and Doctorate students belonging to Target Groups 3
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An online selection guide is provided to assist applicants in checking their Target Group and Mobility Level (MOBILITY TYPE GUIDE, Annex 1)

2.3. Academic Programs

The project offers mobility opportunities in the following study areas as defined by the European Commission:

- 01. Agriculture science
- 02. Architecture, urban and regional planning
- 04. Business Studies, Management Sciences
- 05. Education, Teacher Training
- 06. Engineering, Technology
- 07. Geography, Geology
- 10. Law
- 12. Medical Sciences
- 13. Natural Sciences
- 14. Social Sciences
- 16. Other Areas of Study

A wide range of programmes in different academic fields is offered by the different European partner Universities (Host Universities). The full list of specific courses or programs available at all levels at each partner University is published on the academic programs section on the AREAS web site. Detailed information is provided there for each course or program including course description, specific language and academic requirements for admission, program duration. Links to each university are also provided for further probing.

Only courses or programs listed on the project website are available for applications.

3. APPLICATION

This Second Call will be open from **September 15th 2012 to November 30th 2012.**

All applications must be submitted online through the application system provided on the project web site. No hard copies of the application or of the required documents should be sent or delivered.

3.1. Instructions

Before applying on-line applicants need to:

- Check if they meet the eligibility criteria listed in Types of mobility and Eligibility section of the project web site. Non eligible applications will not be evaluated. The eligibility will be checked on the basis of the documents that applicants uploaded with their application.
- Identify the target group that they belong to and their mobility level. An online Mobility Type (Annex 1) guide is available on the project web site.
- Check the available scholarships within this Second Call and their duration in relation to the target group.
- Choose the Host University and the academic program among the academic programs available at every Host University. Within the application applicants can choose up to 2 programs in 2 different universities. For more information on the different programs visit the Host University's web site or follow the links provided with the program description in the Academic programs section of the project web site.
- Check the language, the academic requirements and the admission conditions at the Host University for the program that chosen.

- Prepare the information on the academic background, as applicants will need to provide it in the application. It is compulsory to provide data on the most recent academic history, e.g.: Home Institution name and location, name of the programme/degree attended, average mark, start and end dates of the program.
- Prepare the compulsory documents that must be uploaded with the application. All documents must be in the pdf or jpg format. All certificates and degrees must be stamped by the issuing institution.

When choosing the academic program, applicants must take care of the following:

- Applicants should consider carefully the study program and be sure to describe in the motivation letter the duration of mobility they are interested in.
- Applicants must meet a minimum set of academic certifications as described below. Applicants may also have to provide additional certifications if required for the chosen program (see the program description in Academic programs section of the project web site).
- The program chosen may last longer than the available scholarships; in no case you will receive a scholarship longer than what is available.
- Students and scholars should only apply for a study field equivalent to their current or previous study program and of which they master the language.

After collecting all the above information, applicants can apply with the online form by clicking on the link published on the Applications section of the project web site. When applying, applicants should be careful of the following issues:

- Complete the form in the English language. Applications fully or partly in other languages will be discarded.
- Provide the personal data as correct and complete as possible. The data that applicants provide (family name, given name, email, etc.) cannot be changed later and will be used in all instances related to the project. The name must match the one on the passport uploaded in the application.
- If applicants apply for more than one University (maximum 2 different Universities), the order chosen does not imply an order of preference.
- Applicants must upload all the required documents and they must be valid and legible. All documents must be in English, or an English translation stamped by the issuing university must also be uploaded. Applications with incomplete, illegible or invalid documents will be discarded.
- After applications have been selected, the Host University may ask selected applicants to send them one original hard copy of the application including all the attachments. Originals for verification and additional documents may be requested by the Host Universities.

For further information applicants can contact the local coordinator at the Home University or the Partnership Coordinator at areas@polito.it

3.2. Required Documents

The following are the compulsory documents that applicants must upload with the application, depending on the Target group (TG) and academic level:

All applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Passport or National Identity Card ▪ Your CV in Europass format ▪ Language certification: what you must upload depends on the requirements of your chosen program (see Academic programs section on the project web site). ▪ Motivation letter (maximum one page): why are you applying, your particular skills and abilities, your academic interests or your work experience, preferred start date and duration of the mobility, students: whether you are interested in an exchange or full degree program, your commitment to return to your country, how the mobility will benefit you and your environment. If you are applying to more than one program, you must upload a separate motivation letter for each university. ▪ Proof of special conditions (if applicable): official document proving disability or
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	economic disadvantage conditions.
TG 1 Undergraduate (Exchange)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic certification: Transcript of records of at least 1 year of university studies, including average mark. ▪ Forwarding letter_ signed and stamped by your Home University's Local Coordinator ▪ Proof of registration: a certificate signed and stamped by the Home University proving that you are currently enrolled in an Undergraduate course program.
TG 3 Undergraduate (Full degree)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Certification: Secondary school Diploma and any additional certification required for your chosen program (see Academic programs of the project web site). ▪ A self declaration stating the total years of school and University you have attended ▪ Official proof of vulnerable conditions (see definition of TG 3). Disadvantaged conditions such as economic status or disabilities are not conditions for belonging to a vulnerable group.
TG 1 Master (Exchange)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Certification: Undergraduate Degree Certificate or Transcript of records of 3 years of university studies including average mark; any additional certification required for your chosen program (see Academic programs section of the project web site). ▪ Forwarding letter_ signed and stamped by your Home University's Local Coordinator ▪ Proof of registration: a certificate signed and stamped by the Home University stating that you are currently enrolled in a Master course program.
TG 2 Master (Full degree)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Certification: Undergraduate Degree Certificate (if existing in your country's university system); Transcript of records of at least 3 years of university studies including average mark; any additional certification required for your chosen program (see Academic programs section of the project web site). ▪ A self declaration stating the total years of school and University you have attended ▪ Letter of recommendation, where possible by a contact person of the Host University you are applying for
TG 3 Master (Full degree)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Certification: Undergraduate Degree Certificate (if existing in your country's university system); Transcript of records of at least 3 years of university studies including average mark; any additional certification required for your chosen program (see Academic programs section of the project web site). ▪ A self declaration stating the total years of school and University you have attended ▪ Official proof of vulnerable conditions (see definition of TG 3). Disadvantaged conditions such as economic status or disabilities are not conditions for belonging to a vulnerable group.
TG 1 Doctorate (Exchange)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Certification: Master Degree Certificate or equivalent; transcript of records of all years of University studies including average mark; any additional certification required for your chosen program (see Academic programs section of the project web site). ▪ Work Plan proposal outlining the research activities that you have agreed to carry out at the Host University, signed by both Home and Host Universities. ▪ Proof of registration: a certificate signed and stamped by the Home University stating that you are currently enrolled in a Doctorate course program.
TG 2 Doctorate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Certification: Master Degree Certificate or equivalent; transcript of records of all years of University studies including average mark; any additional certification

(Full degree)	<p>required for your chosen program (see Academic programs section of the project web site).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work Plan proposal outlining the research activities that you have agreed to carry out at the Host University, signed by the Host University. ▪ Letter of recommendation, where possible by a contact person of the Host university you are applying for
TG 3 Doctorate (Full degree)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Certification: Master Degree Certificate or equivalent; transcript of records of all years of University studies including average mark; any additional certification required for your chosen program (see Academic programs section of the project web site). ▪ Work Plan proposal outlining the research activities that you have agreed to carry out at the Host University, signed by the Host University. ▪ Official proof of vulnerable conditions (see definition of TG 3). Disadvantaged conditions such as economic status or disabilities are not conditions for belonging to a vulnerable group.
TG 1 Post-Doctorate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Certification: Doctorate Degree Certificate; any additional certification required for your chosen program (see Academic programs section of the project web site). ▪ Work Plan proposal outlining the activities that you have agreed to carry out at the Host University, signed by both the Home and Host Universities. ▪ Employment certificate signed and stamped by the Home University, stating that you are working at your Home University.
TG 2 Post-Doctorate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic Certification: Doctorate Degree Certificate; any additional certification required for your chosen program (see Academic programs section of the project web site). ▪ Work Plan proposal outlining the activities that you have agreed to carry out at the Host University, signed by the Host University. ▪ Letter of recommendation, where possible by a contact person of the Host university you are applying for
TG1 Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work Plan proposal outlining the activities that you have agreed to carry out at the Host University, to be signed by the Home and Host Universities. ▪ Employment certificate signed and stamped by the Home University, stating that you are working at your Home University.
All applications	<p>Only in the following exceptional cases you may still apply if you lack some required documents:</p> <p>1) you do not yet hold the required academic certification because you are in a transitional state between two study levels (such as Bachelor and Master or Master and Doctorate);</p> <p>2) you do not have a required language certificate, but you will receive it before the start of mobility.</p> <p>In these cases you must upload a Statement of Commitment declaring your current situation and your commitment to obtain the required certification within the deadline set by the Host University.</p> <p>Important: not all Host Universities will be able to evaluate your application based on the Statement of Commitment. Check with your Host University before applying.</p>

4. SELECTION

After the call is closed, applications are evaluated and selected as follows:

- Closure check: only closed applications are evaluated. Applications not closed are not considered.
- Eligibility check: applications not complying with the eligibility conditions are discarded.
- Evaluation: eligible applications are evaluated by the Host University on the basis of these criteria:
 - Academic relevance verified through transcripts of records, degrees, work plan proposal, or teaching/working experience
 - Language skills, as required for the chosen program
 - Motivation
 - Letters of recommendation (if applicable)
 - Gender balance
 - Special conditions (disability or economic disadvantage)
- If one application includes a choice to more than one University, the choices will be treated as separate and independent applications.
- The Partnership ranks the eligible applications and determines the lists of Selected, Reserve and Non-selected candidates.
- The lists are published on the project web site and all applicants are notified by email of the selection outcomes within three months of the Call closing. The lists are also submitted to the Education Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) of the European Commission.
- Selected candidates are required to accept the scholarship in written within 10 calendar days.
- For every selected candidate that will renounce or not accept within the deadline, the Partnership will nominate a candidate in the reserve list.

All selected grantees having accepted to participate in the project will be required to comply with the local admission requirements at the Host University and will have to follow the standard individual registration procedure at their Host institution.

All grantees will be required to sign a scholarship contract concerning their duties and responsibilities in relation to the scholarship.

Exchange Undergraduate, Master and Doctorate grantees will be required to draft an ECTS Learning Agreement or Work Plan Proposal, to be signed by both Host and Home institution.

5. CHANGES IN THE CALL UPDATE OF 01/12/2012

The AREAS Second Call for Applications for the Second Cohort (15/09/2012) is updated as of 03/12/2012 with the following changes:

5.1. Section 2.1

Open the call to TARGET GROUP 3 candidates for Full Degree mobilities at MASTER level.

5.2. Section 2.2

Added specification of Full Degree programmes.

5.3. Section 3

The closure of the Call for Applications is postponed from November 30th 2012 to February 15th 2013.

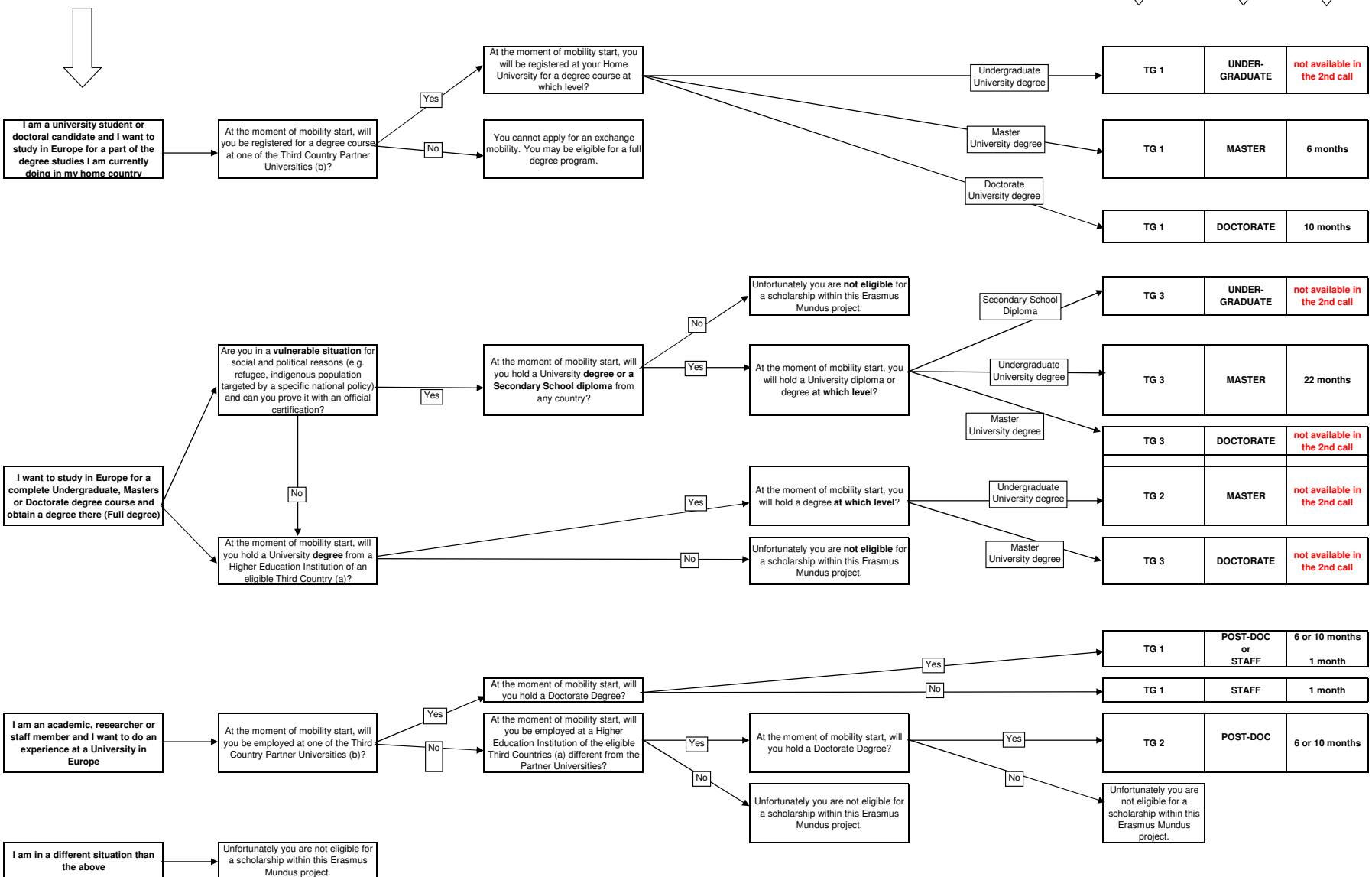
5.4. Annex 1

Updated as per above changes.

All other information included in the AREAS Second Call for Applications for the Second Cohort published on 15/09/2012 remains valid.

NATIONALS OF AN ELIGIBLE NON-EUROPEAN THIRD COUNTRY (a)

WHAT KIND OF MOBILITY WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO?



YOU SHOULD APPLY FOR

TARGET GROUP	ACADEMIC LEVEL	MOBILITY DURATION (MONTHS)
TG 1	UNDER-GRADUATE	not available in the 2nd call
TG 1	MASTER	6 months
TG 1	DOCTORATE	10 months

(a) eligible Third Countries:
Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, The Philippines, Vietnam

(b) Third Country Partner Universities:

HCMUT - Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology, Vietnam
HUST - Hanoi University of Science and Technology, Vietnam

NUM - National University of Mongolia, Mongolia
NUOL - National University of Laos, Laos

PUC - The Pannasastra University of Cambodia, Cambodia

PDN - University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka

TU - Thammasat University, Thailand

UGM - Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia

UNIKL - Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

VSU - Visayas State University, The Philippines