



## - Mobility indicators -

### SEA-EU mobility trends

Update for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic years

#### Introduction

##### **Context:**

The SEA-EU community counts around 120 000 students and 12 000 staff. The alliance plans to have 50% of the community in mobility, either virtual, physical or blended, in 10 years. The 3-year objective of the SEA- EU pilot phase was that at least 5% of the teaching staff and 5% of the non-teaching staff (around 600 persons) should have gone on mobility in the partner universities, in order to facilitate mutual knowledge and support the development of virtual mobility for students. Each institution was also supposed to develop 2 Short-term student mobilities.

These initial objectives have obviously been strongly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and influenced all types of mobility from march 2020, only 6 months after the beginning of the project. The unprecedented situation has put a stop to the development dynamics of all the mobilities of the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 academic years. Furthermore, the staff weeks and the inter-knowledge between the teaching teams in particular, were supposed to facilitate and increase student mobility. It is likely to have an impact on the initial objectives in the longer term.

##### **The Mobility Indicators Report:**

A [first document](#) has been established at the very beginning of the alliance, aiming to identify the main mobility trends within the alliance prior any pro-active activities to develop them, based on the Mobility Tool Extractions of 2018-2019. The objective was to be able to track the evolution of outgoing and incoming mobility among the consortium's universities jointly and distributed by university and by group (students, academic staff, non-academic staff).

The considered mobility numbers are the one funded by regular KA103, which means that the SEA-EU budget funded mobilities are not taken into account. The idea is to follow the evolution of regular mobilities, not the new action to be created in a project-based approach.

The document was meant to be updated every year. However, COVID has impacted the choices, numbers and possibilities of mobility; this bias doesn't allow a relevant analysis of the evolution of mobilities. It has been decided to update the document with the figures of the two following academic years, 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

#### Methodology

The report follows the similar methodology used for the first report; the reference data collected are for the university year 2019-2020 and 2020-2021.

Each university has provided two types of information to set up these indicators:

**(1) Mobility Tool extraction.** 'Mobility Tool' is an online tool commonly used to reference Erasmus + mobility funded under KA103 scheme. This tool collects many information about mobility

and persons in mobility. It has been identified as a shared tool used within all SEA-EU universities, allowing comparison between reliable data. Partners have agreed to collect and share the following items:

-> Regarding students:

- Year of mobility
- University of Origin
- University of Destination
- Level of studies
- Field of studies
- Gender
- Type of activity (training or internship, teaching or non-teaching)
- Duration of mobility
- Names: the extraction has been anonymised before exchanging information between universities to comply with GDPR. The analysis actually considers the number of anonymised lines, and not the names themselves

-> Regarding staff:

- Year of mobility
- University of Origin
- University of Destination
- Gender
- Type of activity
- Duration of mobility
- Names: the extraction has been anonymised before exchanging information between universities to comply with GDPR. The analysis actually considers the number of anonymized lines, and not the names themselves

**(2) Comparison with internal figures of the overall mobility**, in order to compare SEA-EU mobilities to the overall level of mobility, regardless the destination in Europe. Not all the partner universities have an overview of incoming mobility, which is sometimes managed at the faculty level.

### **Methodological limits**

- **COVID:** Mobility numbers, especially in 2019-2020 were affected by the pandemic, with force majeure cases leading to less credits recognition. We have tried to avoid meaningless inter-annual comparisons.
- **Internships (SMP) mobility:** For this year again, and more particularly because of low numbers, only have been considered the Internships done in the cities of partner universities. Names of cities stand for internships realized on the territory, names of universities stand for internships realized within a SEA-EU university. Analysing internship mobility data would make more sense for SEA-EU to reference this SMP mobility in the surrounding territory; a homogenous and preciser definition of the activity basin is still to be set up
- **PhD mobility:** The current indicators doesn't include PhD mobility due to disparities among SEA-EU partners regarding the status of PhDs - sometimes considered as student, sometimes staff, or also both- and so no PhD students appeared in Mobility Tool.

- **Overall mobility and comparisons:** During the first indicator data collection and the second one, it appeared that at first CAU didn't include the "regular" SEA-EU mobilities (i.e the mobility taking place in the frame of pre-existing agreements, for example in languages or medicine). These figures are now included in the update, which makes it more accurate, but introduces a bias in the comparison.

## Glossary

- **Types of mobility:**

**SMS:** Students Mobility for Studies (at least three months)

**SMP:** Students Mobility for Placement (at least two months)

**STA:** Staff teaching mobility (at least 8 teaching hours for 5 days, and 1.6 hour per extra day)

**STT:** Staff training mobility (at least 2 days, with a precise planning of activities)

- **Level of studies/ Field of studies:** The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) is a framework for organizing information on education maintained by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The ISCED classification is used as a basis in Mobility Tool.

- **Universities:**

CAU: University of Kiel

UBO: Université de Bretagne Occidentale

UCA: University of Cadix

UG: University of Gdansk

UM: University of Malta

UNIST: University of Split

## Results on Staff mobility

The staff mobility figures for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 are very low, as staff mobility have been for the most part postponed. 28 staff mobilities took place in 2019 and 37 staff mobilities in 2020 (38 and 44 if we consider the "force majeure" cancelled mobilities). There is a clear predominance of non-teaching mobilities taking place for the two years.

The low figures for these two academic years are clearly not representative of any normal situation and do neither reflect the development of the cooperation dynamic among the alliance.

ACADEMIC YEAR	TYPE OF MOBILITY		
	STA	STT	TOTAL
2019-2020	3	25	28
2020-2021	2	35	37
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>65</b>

## 2019-2020

Hosting University											
Sending university	UCA	UNIST	UG	UBO	UM	CAU	TOTAL nb SEA-EU Mobility	Total nb Erasmus mobility	% SEA-EU mobility	Total nb staff	% staff in mobility
CAU	3						3	78	3,85%	3791	0,08%
HE-STT-P	3						3				
UNIST	2		3	9			14	106	13,21%	1701	0,82%
HE-STA-P				1			1				
HE-STT-P	2		3	8			13				
UCA		1	3	1	3	1	9	30	30,00%	2581	0,35%
HE-STA-P			2				2				
HE-STT-P		1	1	1	3	1	7				
UG				2			2	58	3,45%	3096	0,06%
HE-STT-P				2			2				
UBO							0	18	0,00%	2332	0,00%
UM							0	58	0,00%	3096	0,00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>13,08%</b>	<b>16597</b>	<b>0,17%</b>

## 2020-2021

Hosting University											
Sending University	UCA	UNIST	UG	UBO	UM	CAU	TOTAL nb SEA-EU Mobility	Total nb Erasmus mobility	% SEA-EU mobility	Total nb staff	% staff in mobility
CAU	1	3		2			6	58	10,34%	3833	0,16%
HE-STT-P	1	3		2			6				
UNIST	6			1	2		9	59	15,25%	1730	0,52%
HE-STT-P	6			1	2		9				
UCA		5	2				7	7	100,00%	2647	0,26%
HE-STT-P		5	2				7				
UG		5			5		10	26	38,46%	4715	0,21%
HE-STA-P		2					2				
HE-STT-P		3			5		8				
UBO	5						5	21	23,81%	2114	0,24%
HE-STT-P	5						5				
UM							0	1	0,00%	3010	0,00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>		<b>37</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>21,51%</b>	<b>18049</b>	<b>0,20%</b>

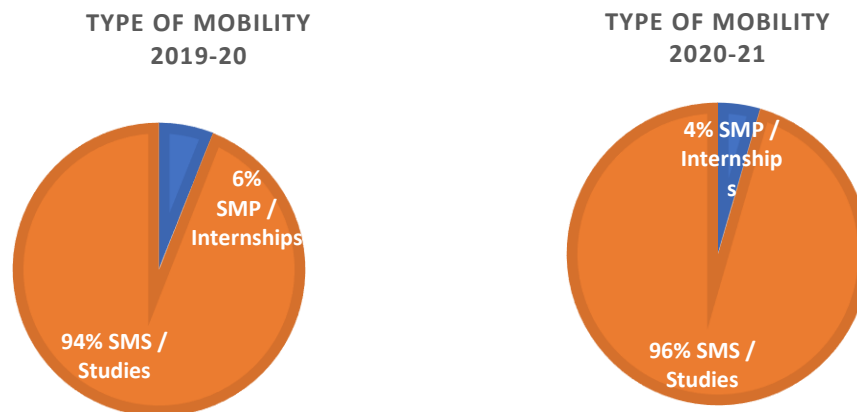
For 2020-2021, the SEA-EU mobility represent only 37 persons, i.e. 0.20% of the staff at the alliance scale. The staff mobilities among SEA-EU universities represent one in 5 mobilities (21.39%) of the overall Erasmus staff mobility with UNIST and UCA as the two first destination choices for mobility.

The intra-alliance mobility was only around 6% in 2018-2019. This figure shows that despite COVID the proactive activities to foster intra-alliance activities are effective.

## Results on Students mobility

**Type of mobility:** In 2019-20, 51 students moved towards another SEA-EU university or city, 47 for studies and 3 for an internship mobility. In 2020-2021, these figures almost doubled with 89 mobilities, 85 for studies and 4 for internships. It is worth noticing that for 2020-21, this figures only account for the mobility who took place. If we include the number of mobilities who were actually planned, but then cancelled due to the sanitary situation, the number of mobilities reaches 117. This shows a clear positive evolution compared to the figures of the year prior to the beginning of the alliance (66 mobilities).

Regarding the balance between studies and internships mobilities, there is a clear predominance of studies mobilities (more than 90%) whereas the trend was closer to 80% in 2018-19. This can again be explained by the lockdown from march 2020 and the cancellation of internships that mostly take part at the end of the academic year. As for 2020-21, the uncertainty of the sanitary situation led many students to carry out their internships in their home country and not abroad.

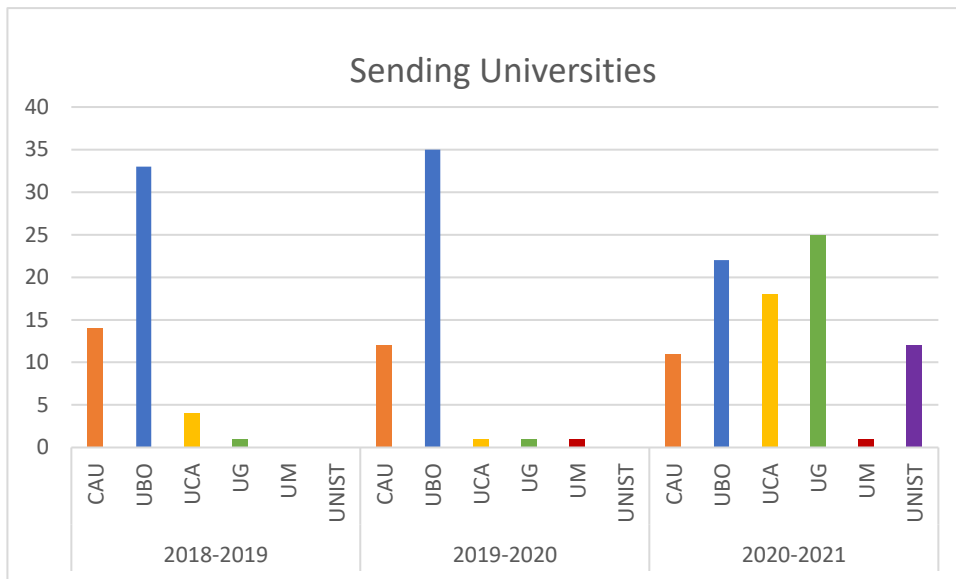


### Gender balance

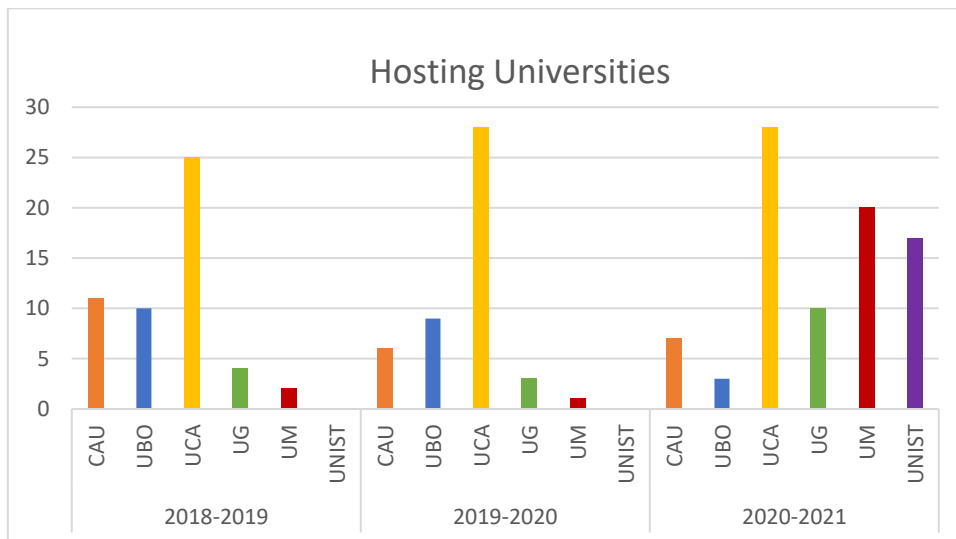
For both 2019-20 and 2020-21, the percentage of male and female students in mobility were respectively 35 and 65%. There is a slight evolution in the gender distribution among students in mobility stated in 2018-2019 (74% female and 26% male).

### Studies mobility

**Sending universities :** In 2019-20, UBO remains the most important provider of students to the alliance (especially towards UCA and CAU, traditional partners). The unbalanced trend was the same between 2018-19 and 2019-20, but a real twist occurs in 2020-21 where UG becomes the most important sending organisation and UCA and UNIST also start to send students to the alliance, despite the sanitary situation. This notable evolution in favour of SEA-EU destinations happened whereas the situation was quite uncertain (e.g. in CAU, in 2020-21, additionally to the 11 mobilities, 28 have been planned towards the SEA-EU alliance but finally cancelled). This is thus promising for the academic years to come.



**Hosting universities:** UCA remains the most attractive city of the alliance, welcoming around one third of the students in mobility. The situation became more balanced in 2020-21, with UM and UNIST becoming the second and third most attractive universities of the alliance. UNIST and UM have benefited from the launch of the alliance and of the inter-institutional agreement signed at the alliance level. As an example, UM attracts 11 students from UG in 2020-21 (0 in 2018-2019), UNIST also hosted 6 UBO students, 4 UCA students and 7 UG students in 2020-2021.



**SEA-EU destination versus other Erasmus destination**

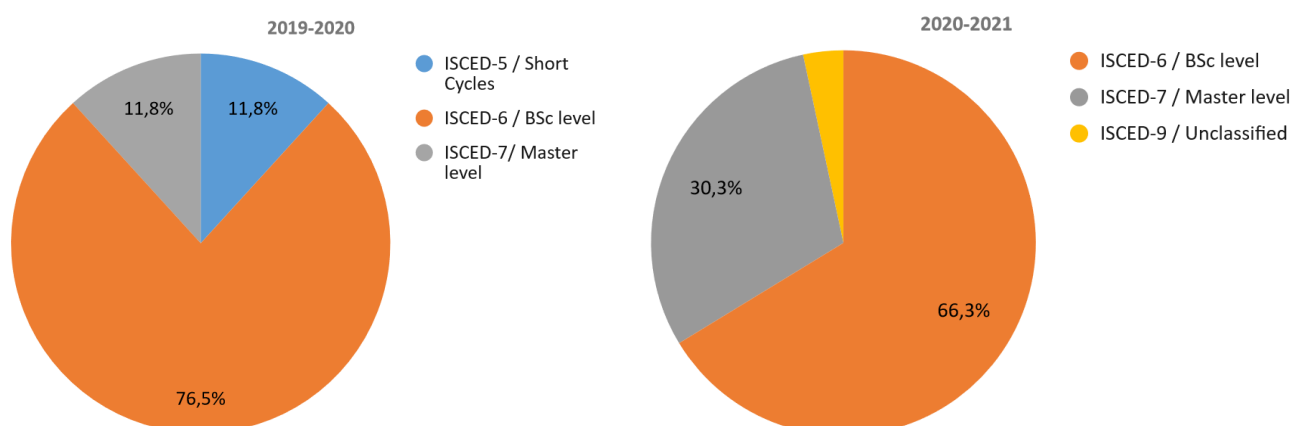
The 47 mobilities of 2019-20 represent an average of 2.71% of the overall SMS outgoing mobility at the alliance scale, while the 85 mobilities of 2020-21 represent an average of 7.2%, underlining a very notable evolution in one year. The most important evolution of the SEA-EU mobility ratio in the overall Erasmus SMS mobility concerns UCA (from 0.2% to 7.4%), UNIST (0% to 6.6%), and UG (0.4% to 22.9%)

2019-20	Hosting University										
Sending university	CAU	UBO	UCA	UG	UM	UNIST	SEA-EU	Outgoing SMS	% SEA-EU	Total of students	% students in mobility
CAU		8	3	1			12	272	4,4%	27066	1,0%
UBO	6		24	2			32	262	12,2%	22851	1,1%
UCA		1					1	505	0,2%	20964	2,4%
UG					1		1	221	0,5%	21183	1,0%
UM			1				1	280	0,4%	10805	2,6%
UNIST							0	194	0,0%	18190	1,1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1734</b>	<b>2,7%</b>	<b>121059</b>	<b>1,4%</b>

2020-21	Hosting University										
Sending university	CAU	UBO	UCA	UG	UM	UNIST	SEA-EU Total	Outgoing SMS	% SEA-EU	Total of students	% students in mobility
CAU		3	5	1	2		11	348	3,2%	27792	1,3%
UBO	4		12			6	22	259	8,5%	23217	1,1%
UCA	1			9	4	4	18	243	7,4%	21965	1,1%
UG	1		6		11	7	25	109	22,9%	21844	0,5%
UM							0	84	0,0%	11144	0,8%
UNIST	1		5		3		9	136	6,6%	18054	0,8%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>1179</b>	<b>7,2%</b>	<b>124016</b>	<b>1,0%</b>

**Level of studies:** In 2018-2019, 84% of students' mobilities took place at the Bachelor level. In 2019-2020, if we include the short-cycle figures to the BSc's figures, we reach similar numbers. There is a slight evolution towards more Masters level mobilities (30.3 %) in 2020-21. This could again be interpreted in the light of the COVID context, where older students were more comfortable planning mobility abroad than undergraduate students, or having less flexibility for postponing it.



### Field of studies

In 2018-2019, 46% of the mobilities were composed of students in languages. The trend is quite similar the following year, with 48% of students in the field of "Art and Humanities", most of them languages.

In 2020-21, the “Art and Humanities” students represent only 24.7% of the mobilities, and there is an important increase in the field of Business and Administration, Natural Sciences and Health and Welfare. The range of disciplines involved has widened (9 in 2020-21 vs 7 in 2019-20) and the distribution between fields of study is more balanced, with 2 more fields concerned by SEA-EU mobility. This is a positive signal that SEA-EU has started to spread among all the faculties.

### **Internship mobilities (SMP):**

The very small number of internships carried out in both 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 (respectively 3 and 4) does not allow any relevant analysis.

## **Main conclusions and avenues for improvement**

### **A/ on the indicators themselves**

This second round of data collection has allowed to identify new aspects to improve. However, the Mobility Tool data remains the most accurate one to compare to measure mobility evolution within the alliance. It is highly important that each university provide the whole extraction of Mobility tool table (and not only the SEA-EU destinations) to ensure a more homogeneous treatment of the information, especially regarding the internships (SMP) mobilities.

In addition, there is still a need for further definition on how to consider Students Internship mobility as a SEA-EU mobility, and an harmonisation work how to registered PhD within Mobility Tool.

### **B/ on the SEA-EU mobility dynamic**

Despite the sanitary situation and some very low number of mobilities, there is a clear positive evolution in the mobilities among the alliance, especially if we consider the part of SEA-EU mobilities in the total Erasmus + mobilities.

The development of staff weeks (postponed) is likely to contribute to this positive trend for the following years.

The very positive evolution of mobility (especially students mobility) in universities with no pre-existing agreements and the diversification of the fields of studies are also a good and encouraging indication on the progression potential of mobility in a normal context.

*For any question or request, please contact at UBO - [gwenaelle.goyat@univ-brest.fr](mailto:gwenaelle.goyat@univ-brest.fr)*