



The Impactful, Inclusive, Integrated Higher Education in Eastern Africa project champions regional collaboration for Higher Education innovation

From Puntland to Addis Ababa, the 3is project deepens partnerships and fosters innovative solutions to empower higher education institutions in traditionally underrepresented areas.

The 3is project's mission to foster transformative change in higher education took a significant step forward with a series of high-impact engagements in May 2025. Beginning in Puntland, Somalia, from May 11 to 18, a dedicated delegation comprising representatives from the [University of Girona \(UdG\)](#), [Kenyatta University](#), and [Youthmakers Hub \(YMH\)](#) visited [Puntland State University \(PSU\)](#). This strategic mission aimed to forge deeper institutional partnerships and promote regional collaboration, with discussions covering joint degree programs and Erasmus+ partnerships. Tailored training sessions equipped faculty and staff with the tools for EU project engagement, proposal development, and international cooperation. Beyond the university walls, the team explored community-driven innovation at [KAALO Aid & Development](#) and the [Peace and Development Research Center \(PDRC\)](#). A dynamic mentorship session brought together over 20 students and recent graduates to learn about EU scholarships, youth mobility programs, and international opportunities, concluding with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between PSU and UdG that paves the way for ongoing collaboration in research, innovation, and capacity building.

Building on this momentum, representatives of the 3is project took part in the **Regional Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting and Contact-Making Seminar 2025** on May 20-21, 2025, at [Addis Ababa University](#) in Ethiopia. This hybrid event brought together over 150 in-person and online participants from Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe, including university representatives, NGOs, government ministries, and youth networks. Organized by the [European Commission's Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture \(DG EAC\)](#), the [European Education and Culture Executive Agency \(EACEA\)](#), and the National Erasmus+ Office of Ethiopia, the seminar focused on strategic alignment, networking, and future collaborations in higher education and vocational training. For the 3is project, it was an invaluable opportunity to forge new partnerships with universities across Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe, engage in discussions with National Erasmus+ Focal Points of Ethiopia and [EURAXESS Africa](#), and share knowledge to integrate outcomes at national and continental levels.

Concluding this series of engagements, the 3is project also participated in the **Erasmus+ CBHE Cluster Meeting** on May 22, 2025, at the [Delegation of the European Union to Ethiopia](#). This in-person gathering brought together representatives from across Ethiopia to exchange experiences, reflect on challenges and impact, and explore pathways to strengthen collaboration and sustainability of results in higher education. For the 3is



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project, the meeting enhanced visibility and advocacy, created new opportunities for networking with project representatives from Ethiopia, and laid the groundwork for future collaborations under the Erasmus+ CBHE framework. Dialogues with EACEA policy officers and advisors, as well as shared best practices in digital tools and sustainability, provided crucial insights to refine the project's implementation.

These engagements have not only fostered new collaborations but also deepened the understanding of shared challenges and possibilities for higher education in the region. By building connections across borders and listening to local voices, the 3is project is paving the way for a more inclusive, resilient, and impactful academic future.



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