



3is Project Concludes: Transforming Higher Education in Eastern Africa and Winning Global Recognition

The 3is Project's Transformative Journey in Eastern Africa Concludes with Global Recognition. After two years of transformative collaboration, the Impactful, Inclusive, Integrated Higher Education in Eastern Africa (3is) Project has officially concluded, leaving a lasting legacy across Kenya, Ethiopia, and Somalia. **Launched in December 2023 and supported by Erasmus+**, the 3is Project brought together 11 consortium partners from Eastern Africa and Europe.

Over 24 months, 3is evolved into more than a project. It became a regional movement rooted in equity, resilience, and innovation, ensuring that even the most remote and underrepresented institutions had a voice in shaping the future of higher education.

The results and impact are clearly visible across its three focal regions. **In Kenya**, the project piloted micro-credentials in remote regions, expanding access for learners with fewer opportunities, while strengthening universities' internationalization strategies. **In Ethiopia**, 3is advanced the Inclusion theme, embedding disability inclusion, gender equity, and socio-economic access into institutional frameworks. It also introduced blended learning models and AI-assisted teaching approaches. **In Somalia**, the project fostered academic exchanges, including the Puntland–Girona collaboration, bridging centre-periphery inequalities and strengthening universities as agents of peace and social transformation.

The 3is Project's innovative blend of top-down policy frameworks and bottom-up community co-creation earned international acclaim. In 2025, it was awarded the [Global Education Awards](#) for outstanding contributions to Transformative Pedagogy and Inclusive Education.

Innovating Beyond the Classroom in Fragile Contexts

From the Puntland–Girona Academic Exchange that bridged continents, to the Inclusion theme in Ethiopia embedding equity into everyday practice, the success stories of 3is demonstrate how collaboration can spark lasting change. These initiatives prove that even in fragile and challenging contexts, higher education can pioneer solutions that ripple far beyond the classroom.

Universities now carry forward inclusive education frameworks, internationalization strategies, and community-embedded curricula that will continue to shape policy and practice. Regionally, **the project has seeded networks for cross-border collaboration and harmonization**, while communities benefit from stronger **ties between education and local development**.



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