



## **CLUSTER MEETING ON THE CBHE PROJECTS' IMPACT IN THE WESTERN BALKANS**

### **Context and Objectives:**

The cluster meeting is being organised by EACEA, EAC and the NEO Albania in the framework of the CBHE action of the Erasmus + programme.

It aims at bringing together local stakeholders from the Higher Education (HE) sector as well as CBHE projects implemented in Western Balkans (WB) in order to:

- Discuss the EU funded projects/programmes impact on the WB HE sectors in terms of regional cooperation, modernisation, accessibility and internationalisation of the HE;
- Provide local/regional visibility to the E+ programme and its funded projects, thereby contributing to maximising their impact;
- Facilitate exchanges of good practice, sharing of knowledge and networking of CBHE projects to enhance their quality, impact and sustainability;
- Reflect on the actual needs of the HE sectors in WB and on the way the future EU education programme for 2021-2027 could address these needs.

**Date:** 22-23 October 2019

**Location:** Royal & Spa Hotel (Durrës, Albania)

**Methodology and content of the conference:** The cluster meeting will adopt a participatory approach and include a complementary mix of plenary sessions (e.g. testimonials from project coordinators), interactive workshops and space for networking. This approach will cover two aspects:

1. **Determine the state of play of the CBHE Programme in WB:** through the exchange of best practices, identification of success stories as well as specific academic (/administrative /legal) constraints and difficulties linked to the implementation of international cooperation projects in WB.
2. **Discuss the impact and sustainability of project results in the HE sector in WB:** workshops and discussions will revolve around the following topics: regional cooperation, HEIs' links with society and business, CBHE projects' impact on HE systems as well as the modernisation, accessibility, quality and internationalisation of the HEIs in the WB.

The Regional Cluster Meeting will also constitute a good opportunity to stimulate the analysis and debate on the current Erasmus+ programme and use this to nurture the **future EU education programme**.

**Output:** Publication on the conclusions of the workshops of the Cluster Meeting