

Box I: Context and overall objectives.

The Erasmus Mundus Design Measures project EURO-HEPAT-Design was conceived to lay the necessary groundwork to allow for a creation of a novel and internationally relevant master's study programme in the Baltic states in scientific fields of high-energy particle physics and accelerator technologies.

Experimental high-energy particle physics is one of the most complex fields of fundamental blue-skies research and requires a constant stream of young and eager researchers to continue its progress.

In the recent years an especially strong emphasis has been put on increasing the interdisciplinary of training for students wishing to join this field of research.

Particle physics requires strong abilities in a vast array of topics, from understanding of the nature of the quantum field theories governing the laws of our Universe to the technologies behind the grandiose particle accelerators, detectors and data processing infrastructure required for this field of science.

EURO-HEPAT-Design was initiated by five leading Universities in the Baltic states - Riga Technical University, University of Latvia, University of Tartu, Kaunas University of Technology, and Vilnius University.

The project aimed to establish a solid consortium consisting of these five universities, to develop joint mechanisms for the development and implementation of a new master's programme and to create a unique curriculum, which would be a highly attractive training programme for students wishing to specialise in particle physics and particle physics instrumentation.

Box II: Work performed and main achievements.

The first step for this project was the establishment of an official Consortium for its implementation.

Through regular discussions among the representatives of the five universities of the Consortium a viable study programme structure and a curriculum outline were developed.

Students joining the planned programme would enjoy their first semester of study in Latvia, second in Estonia and third in Lithuania.

Following the three taught semesters, the focus would shift solely on the research part of their degree and the students of the planned programme would spend their fourth and last semester of study in the Baltic state of their choice, depending on the research project they have selected.

During the implementation of this project the Consortium had discussion with the coordinators of the training panel of the European Committee for Future Accelerators (ECFA) and arrived at a novel niche curriculum, which would target a clear gap in the training available in Europe.

Thus, through the work of this Consortium, a new proposed master's study programme emerged - the "European Master in particle Physics and Accelerator Technologies for Research and Industry" - EMPATRI.

The culmination of this project was the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the five universities signifying the support for the creation of the EMPATRI study programme in the Baltic states in the near future!

Box III: Results and impacts.

This project has resulted in the formation of a Consortium of five leading universities in the Baltic states with the aim of implementing a novel master's study programme in high-energy particle physics and particle physics instrumentation titled "European Master in particle Physics and Accelerator Technologies for Research and Industry", EMPATRI.

Through this project the Consortium succeeded in:

- establishing a viable study programme structure involving a stay for the students in all three Baltic states;
- developing a novel and relevant curriculum focusing on particle physics and particle physics instrumentation;
- developing and to agree on the joint mechanisms for the proposed master's programme, from the admission and evaluation criteria to the overall governance of the programme.

Finally, the most impactful result of this project has been the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding between the five universities of the Consortium, supporting the development and implementation of the EMPATRI study programme in the Baltic states!

Following the successful completion of this Erasmus Mundus Design Measures project, the Consortium plans to fully implement this study programme in the near future.