



Supporting Alliance for African Mobility

## SAAM LEADERS EVENT IN BILBAO 2023

FINAL STAGE OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING AND CONFERENCE ON THE IMPACT AND FUTURE OF EDUCATIONAL MOBILITY BETWEEN AFRICA AND EUROPE

### What will you find?



Quick recapitulation



Learning journey



Public conference



Quality results



Reminders



Final credits

# 01

## Quick recapitulation

The SAAM pilot project is concluding its 4 years of work. The SAAM Leaders event was held in Bilbao, hosted by the promoter San Viator. The event marked the end of the capacity building that began in Brussels with partners from more than 30 different countries, culminating in a successful public conference to present the lessons learned.



## SAAM LEADERS | BILBAO 2023

SAAM, the pilot project funded by the European Commission to test international mobility for Vocational Training between Africa and Europe, gathered the project partners and experts from more than thirty different countries in the city of Bilbao for the **SAAM Leaders** event **hosted by the promoter San Viator**. This meeting starts to mark the end of this project led by the San Viator (Sopuerta, Bilbao) and Mundus (Zaragoza) and which has already managed to exceed 400 mobilities.

The encounter began with a two-day partners meeting that meant the end of SAAM's capacity building initiated in the seminars in Brussels. On this occasion, programs such as **Capacity building in the field of vocational education and training (VET)** were explained in detail and **several networking sessions** were held to find common interests for future collaboration. The latest advances of the project were also presented: the **intercultural preparation handbook**, the **SAAM Network** - a tool promising to sustain collaboration between the two continents - and the **current state of mobility**.

To put the finishing touch to the SAAM Leaders meeting, a public conference was held. The project is about to conclude its four-year work and it was already a perfect opportunity to present its **results, impact, and future vision** at a public conference held at the Euskalduna Palace in the Basque city on Thursday, November 9, 2023. The **Conference on the impact and future of educational mobility between Africa and Europe: Reflections from the SAAM pilot program** was a success!

[Keep reading and we will tell you everything about it!](#)



Find all the photos of the SAAM Leaders event here!

Click here

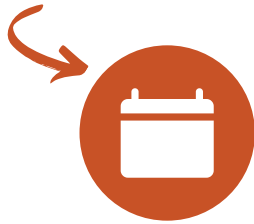


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Join the SAAM Network! 



Check the agenda



Check the web publication



## Why did we call this Seminar 'SAAM Leaders'?



SAAM is piloting for the first time a mobility scheme in the field of **Vocational Education and Training (VET)** connecting **Africa and Europe**. The term '**SAAM Leader**' is chosen to represent the **last step of the Capacity Building** of the leaders who will continue the SAAM action after the project ends. This represents an unprecedented effort. **To be a SAAM leader suggests a shared responsibility for individuals, regardless of their African or European background, to take on leadership roles in sustaining and continuing the SAAM legacy.**

It encompasses the **culmination of experiences and knowledge gained**, serving as a call to action for all involved to contribute to the continuity of the SAAM legacy.

Hence, the aim of this **two-day seminar (plus a public event)** was to familiarize participants with the **tools** developed by SAAM, comprehend the **knowledge** and **capacity-building** accrued over years of project implementation, grasp the landscape SAAM has unveiled, and ultimately step up to **lead the continued SAAM initiatives post-project completion.**



# 02

## Learning journey

In Bilbao we finished the SAAM capacity building. The main objective was to take the final step to become SAAM Leaders. To this end, in the two days of work, all the SAAM tools and the opportunities that already exist to continue working on initiatives once the funding period ends were presented.



TUESDAY, 7TH OF NOVEMBER

## How to become a SAAM Leader? | The SAAM Capacity Building Journey



The goal of the first day was to **recall the knowledge gained during the 4 years of SAAM's capacity building** through: the numerous and diverse **experiences and exchanges** that the project has brought (what they know), gather all that knowledge into **practical and useful tools** for them to continue their work (what they have), and finally, clarify and understand the **groundwork that the SAAM pilot has laid** for collaboration between entities from Europe and Africa in the field of vocational education (where they will play).

### Keynote speaker



- **Ms Vytaute Ezerskiene**  
**Project Officer at EACEA, European Commission**

 **About EACEA (European Education and Culture Executive Agency)**

**Ms Vytaute Ezerskiene** is project officer at the **European Education and Culture Executive Agency of the European Commission** which manages a large part of the European Commission's funding programs in education, culture, audiovisual content, sport, youth, citizenship and humanitarian aid.

In her presentation, in addition to talking about the work of the EACEA, she also spoke about the importance of the impact of **projects like SAAM** and **how crucial it is to guarantee the sustainability of project results**.

**Click in every folder like this to open the presentation displayed in the seminar during each session\***



*The presentations can be found in our common Drive folder: the SAAM Worklab.*

 [saam.global](https://saam.global)

Join the SAAM Network! 

## Presentation session: updates and SAAM materials

### What we have achieved with SAAM

**+80**  
Mobilities of African VET staff to Europe

**+70**  
Mobilities of EU staff to Africa

**198**  
Student mobilities in EU VET centres and EU companies

**+40**  
Expert mobilities to Africa

**+4** years of capacity building of African VET schools to create and run international departments.

**+2** SAAM Seminars in Brussels.

*Around 400 total mobilities*



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## SAAM toolkit presentation and resources available

This Toolkit is a resource guide or manual that compiles SAAM's Capacity Building on internationalization. It include various topics such as:

- Erasmus calls and funding
- International department
- How to get EU funding
- Administrative processes
- Project management
- Networking
- Learning mobility



## Current status of the Erasmus programme in Africa



## Workshop

### Discovering the toolkit

Divided into group, participants worked with the **SAAM toolkit** to organize and present the different topics to the rest of the partners. It was such a great opportunity to share knowledge, deepen de connections and create a fantastic learning atmosphere!



WEDNESDAY, 8TH OF NOVEMBER

How to become a SAAM Leader? | Future calls and networking



The main objective of Wednesday was to present opportunities and lines of financing that are currently open and look for common points between partners for future collaborations.

## Masterclass

### Capacity Building in the field of VET

Capacity building projects are international cooperation projects based on multilateral partnerships between organisations active in the field of VET between organizations from European countries and Third countries.

Read the ppt with the key points here!





## Roundtable of CB VET

### Experiences and tips from project coordinators

Afterwards, we had the pleasure of listening to great experts from the partnership **Mr Ivan Toscano (CNOSFAP), Ms Myrto Siaprdani (AKMI), Ms Sonia Degroote (EVBB), Fr Chris Anso (JOBITECH)**, writers and managers of Capacity building projects in Africa coming from the SAAM lessons learned are and/or working with the partners.



## Networking session

### Next Capacity Building Call for Proposal

A Networking session was held in order to allow the partners to search for new collaborations and synergies for future calls. Each partner chose fields of interest (**entrepreneurship, inclusion, green transition and digitalization**) with coloured stickers.

The session was very productive and several partnerships and project ideas arose from the interactions. Once again, **bear in mind the call for proposal for Capacity Building in the field of VET will be released by the end of November and the deadline for submission will be end of February or beginning of March.**

February-March

August-September

September-November

November-December

**Deadline**  
-  
**proposal submission**

**Results**

**Validation process**

**Gran Agreement signature and project kick-off**

## Presentation session

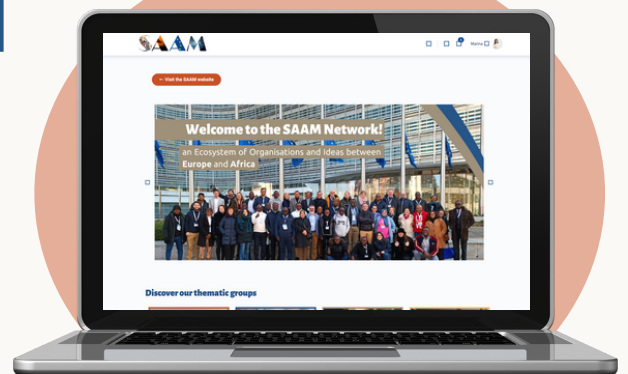
### SAAM Network




Mr Andreu Gutiérrez (SCF) presented the final version of the **SAAM Network**. It is one of the main tools that will guarantee the **sustainability of the project**. The SAAM Network is a community of people, entities and institutions interested in continuing to advance Africa-Europe cooperation and whose interaction will be done from an online platform.

Interesting **connections** can arise in the network, **projects** that need partners can be announced or **events** that may interest the members of each of the groups can be directly proposed. At the moment, the groups are **internationalization, inclusion, green transition and digitalization**.

Join the SAAM Network and share it with your partners and stakeholders!



 [saam.global](https://saam.global)

Join the SAAM Network!





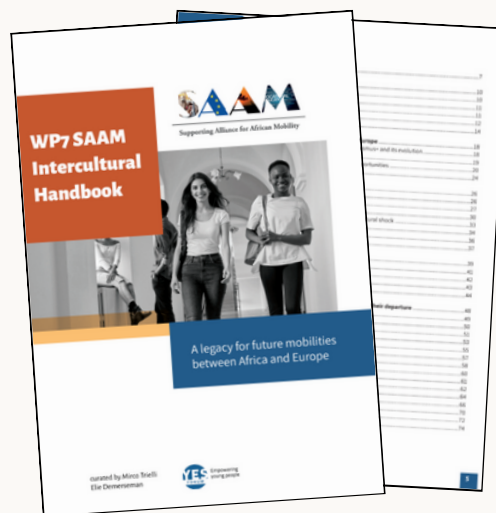
## Intercultural preparation



**Check the handbook presentation!**

Mr Mirco Trielli (YES Forum) present the **Intercultural Preparation Handbook**. YES Forum has edited the writing of this handbook, **a practical manual that summarizes the experience of these months in SAAM**. A text that can be useful, as a starting point, for those who want to repeat the experience in the future or also to be able to reflect on **intercultural issues, identity, how to prevent stereotypes and prejudices, even staying at home**.

- **The role of the tutor**
- **From Erasmus to SAAM**
- **Intercultural learning**
- **Storytelling**
- **Practical activities**



**Read the handbook!** 





# 03

## Public conference

On the 9th of November a public conference was held at the Euskalduna Palace in Bilbao. As the project is about to conclude its four-year work, it was already a perfect opportunity to present its results, impact, and future vision.



THURSDAY, 9TH OF NOVEMBER

Conference on the impact and future of educational mobility between Africa and Europe



During the "Conference on the impact and future of educational mobility between Africa and Europe", experiences and lessons acquired through the SAAM pilot program were presented. **The project promoter and host of the event (San Viator), the coordinating team (Mundus), several project partners, some of the students that are currently experiencing a SAAM mobility in Spain and representatives from Spanish and international educational institutions** took the floor to share their experience with the project and what they hope for the future.

## Official welcome

After a small surprise by some students from San Viator dancing a traditional Basque dance called "**Aurresku**" at the doors of the **Euskalduna Palace**, we had a series of **opening speeches from various institutions**, but also from the promoter and coordinating partners of SAAM:

- Mr Alfredo Garmendia (Head of International at San Viator)
- Mr Quique Miana (CEO at Mundus)
- Fr Kermán López (General Vicar of the Diocese of Bilbao)
- Mr Lucas González Ojeda (Acting Director at European Commission Representation in Spain)





## Keynote speakers

Afterwards we had presentations on internationalization by **SEPIE** and on the VET system in the Basque Country by the **Department of Education of the Basque Government**:

- **Ms María Gomez Ortueta (Head of Unit VET Erasmus+ & Europass at Erasmus+ National Agency, SEPIE)**
- **Mr Rikardo Lamadrid Intxaurreaga (Director of Technology and Advanced Learning at the Department of Education of the Basque Government)**





## SAAM project overview

Afterwards we had the opportunity to hear first-person testimonies from SAAM partners, both **European teachers** who have traveled to Africa to discover the VET system of their peer countries and **African teachers** who have carried out their capacity building in the European centers. Furthermore, since the event coincided with the stay in the Basque Country of groups of students doing their SAAM mobility, **we were able to hear the testimony of a student from Kenya and another from Malawi.**



## Networking session

To end the event, we held a **networking brunch** to finish reflecting on what SAAM has achieved and the future of collaboration.



The Thursday event at **Euskalduna Palace** was a prime opportunity to, for the very first time, showcase alongside our partners the SAAM project and its current outcomes in the country of its origin and coordination, Spain.

This marked the inaugural presentation of SAAM from inception to completion, as recounted through the firsthand experiences of those living it. It served as **a chance to connect with human stories, absorb valuable lessons and insights, and contemplate the future.**

**A future that SAAM is paving the way for, and it is the collective responsibility of us all to play a role in it.**



# 04

## Quality results

Like in all SAAM events, following its celebration, the Quality team distributed a form to assess both the training material and various organizational aspects. Within this segment, you'll find feedback from several participants.







**“SAAM experiences shared and partners networking initiated for the future”**

**“Before the meeting, I was a bit lost regarding the post-SAAM situation, but I realized that there is hope. Meeting new partners shows that there is hope after SAAM”**

**“The topics that were important to me were addressed”**

**“At the public event, the roundtable discussions greatly emphasized spontaneity”**

**“For the networking session, maybe we could have invite more external guests”**

# 05

## Reminders

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**Final meeting  
in Cabo Verde**

**13-15 February 2024**



Get your suitcases ready for the final SAAM meeting in person in Cabo Verde, hosted by EHTCV.

**Required  
documents**

[Click here to access the  
Mobility Guidelines](#)



We are closing the project and that means we need you to send us all the required documents.

If any doubt, you can read our [Mobility Guidelines](#) to check that you have complied with everything.

# 06

## Final credits

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The success of the SAAM Leaders event in Bilbao was a team effort, with experts, partners, the hosting organization and the organizing team all playing vital roles. A huge thank you to everyone involved!

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- **Promoter:** San Viator (Spain)
- **Coordinator :** Mundus (Spain)
- **Hosting organisations:** San Viator (Spain)

- **African partners:**

- Don Bosco Tech Africa (Kenya)
- École Professionnelle Salesienne Saint Jean Bosco (Benin)
- Dom Bosco Training Center Mabubas (Angola)
- Centre Privé de la Formation Professionnelle Don Bosco Dioulasso (Burkina Faso)
- Escola de Hotelaria e Turismo de Cabo Verde (Cabo Verde)
- Centre de Formation Professionnelle Artisanal Rural (Ivory Coast)
- Institut Technique Don Bosco Ebolowa (Cameroon)
- PROCEFFA (Cameroon)
- Don Bosco Boys Town Technical Institute (Kenya)
- Don Bosco Youth Technical Institute (Malawi)
- Centre de Formation Professionnelle de Don Bosco (Senegal)
- WeYouth Organization (Tunisia)
- John Bosco Institute of Technology Onitsha (Nigeria)
- École Professionnel Don Bosco N'Djamena (Chad)
- Centre Père Michel de Bamako (Mali)

- **European partners:**

- San Viator (Spain)
- Mundus (Spain)
- AKMI (Greece)
- EVBB (Belgium)
- EfVET (Belgium)
- YesForum (Germany)
- Tech Don Bosco Spain (Spain)
- Kpedu - Central Ostrobothnia Vocational College (Finland)
- SEPR (France)
- Escola Pia (Spain)
- CPIFP Profesor José Luis Graiño (Spain)
- IKASLAN (Spain)
- CNOS-FAP (Italy)
- ANESPO (Portugal)
- Insignare (Portugal)
- Scuola Centrale di Formazione (Italy)
- CPIFP Corona de Aragón Spain (Spain)

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*THANK YOU!*



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## Supporting Alliance for African Mobility

**#movingtogether**

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