

21st EUA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday 11 April 2019
10.00-13.00

EUA BUDGETS 2019/2020: EXPLANATORY NOTE

For approval

Overview

1. EUA's 2019 budget draft amounts to €4.993.000. The projection for 2020 is €4.929.000 which reflect a balanced budget. This year's budget shows a small decrease of €244,000 compared to the final 2018 budget that amounts to €5.173.000.
2. The final result for 2019 is expected to show a slight budget deficit of €162.900. The small estimated deficit is covered by the project reserves established in 2016 resulting from budget surpluses incurred in the past three years. It was possible to establish this reserve due to the full repayment of outstanding project and membership dues over the last three years. These funds were assigned to a special project reserve, decided upon by the GA in 2016. At this time the GA agreed to develop a major initiative on teaching and learning, as a topic of major importance for universities and policy makers Europe-wide. This initiative has been a major success, with two major events organized, one in 2018 and another in February 2019. In addition, as there are far fewer EU funding opportunities open to European associations than in past years, EUA is also developing its own initiative on diversity in European higher education, using resources drawn from the funds mentioned above. In this way the association hopes to increase its chances of receiving additional funding from the European Commission for this key topic.
3. The 2019 budget is based on the assumption that overall membership numbers remain stable, and also that we reach our target of 96,5% fee collection rate. This has been the case for the past three years. Detailed information on membership (new members, resignations, exclusions, mergers) is provided in a separate document.

Income

4. Membership revenue invoiced for 2019 amounts to €3.837.000, compared to €3.793.000 in 2018. The difference is explained by an increase in the basic membership fee of 1.5%, corresponding to the inflation rate in the Euro zone, as approved by the EUA General Assembly. The total number of EUA members is similar to that of 2018. The 2019 membership revenue represents 76.85% of EUA income. The initial estimation for 2020 is €4.077.000 which includes an increase of 5.8% compare to the 2019 budget. The increase is mainly the result of the recalculation of fee levels following on from the regular update of basic membership data (i.e. student numbers, GNP per capita), as well as the result of the estimated inflation rate for the Euro zone in 2020.
5. Projected project revenue for 2019 amounts in total to €1.066.000 (compared to € 1.210.000 in 2018) of which €129.000 comes from EC projects (which is lower than the amount received from the EC in 2018, which amounted to €395.000, as well as €181,000 from IEP (compared to € 358.000), and €686.000 mainly from participation, as partners, in projects managed by EUA members (2018 figure being € 457.000).

Expenses

6. Project expenses: EC projects and IEP expenses are lower than 2018 budget and other project expenses¹ (€1.002.000) higher than 2018 budget (€871.000€) which is in line with projects income.
7. Salaries: The overall salary budget for 2019 amounts to € 3.786.000, with a slight increase estimated for 2020 (€ 3.841.000). The 2018 figure was € 3.822.000. EUA presently employs 43 persons on permanent contracts and 9 persons contracted as experts on specific projects.
8. Office, travel and meeting costs: Estimated annual office costs and administrative costs are similar to 2018 budget.

Brussels, April 2019

¹ EUA Events (QA Forum, T&L Forum, Annual Conference) – Participation in projects run by EUA members (HERE2, TRUNAK, YEBO!, TanDEM, DEQAR, AR-net, FAIRsFAIR) – Other activities (Open Science Research, T&L Initiative, INVITED)