Strategies for the Inclusion of People with Disabilities in European Universities: Experiences of a Mobility Programme

Roundtable 2
Good inclusive practices in European Universities. Experiences of INnetCAMPUS and other European Programs

UNIVERSIDAD DE **MURCIA**

July 3, 2018
Antwerpen, Belgium

Erasmus+

The importance of action protocols

Miguel Á. Pérez

Background

Erasmus+ students with special needs

165 213 257 255 336 388 401 *missing data* 404

0.14%

07-08 08-09 09-10 10-11 11-12 12-13 13-14 14-15 15-16 16-17

Year
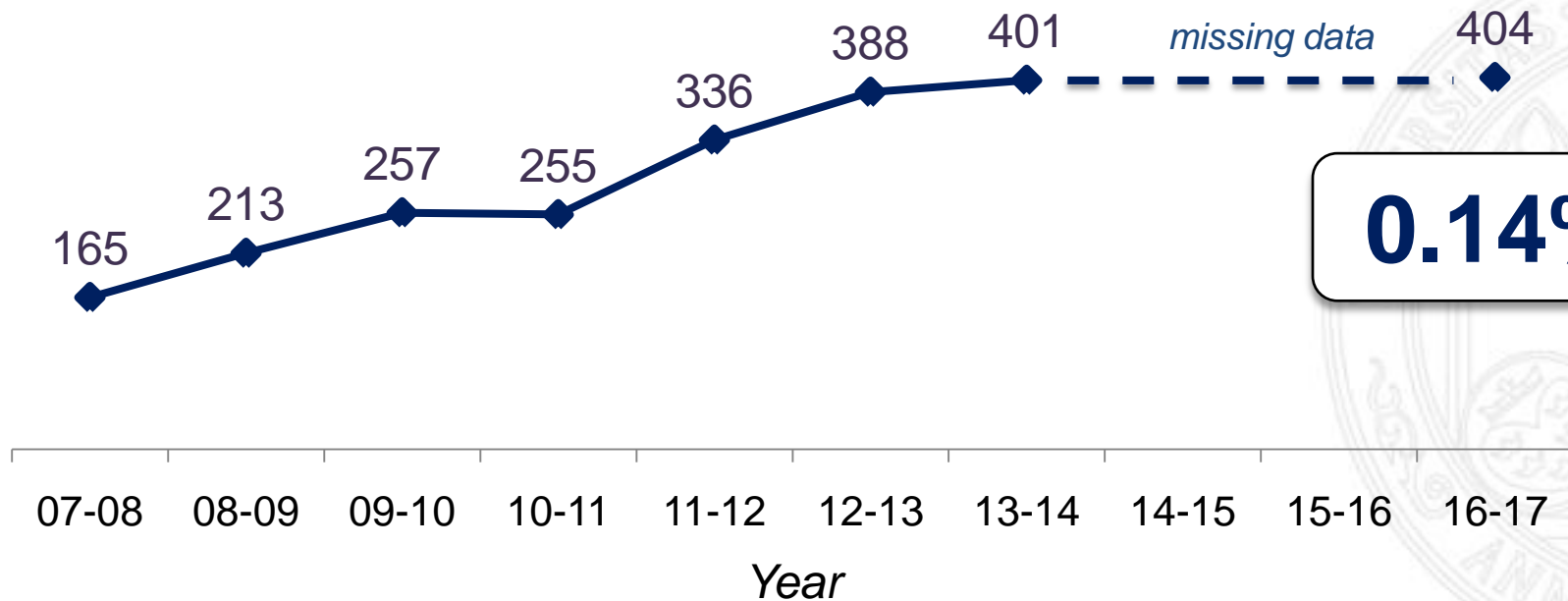
Sources:

• http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/about/statistics_en

• Erasmus+ Mobility of Students with Disability State-of-the-art report on the accessibility of exchange programs for students with visual impairment February 2016, in http://www.euroblind.org/media/ebu-media/soa_final-version.pdf

A clear disadvantage:

Evidence shows that students with low socio-economic background or students with disabilities are less likely to participate in mobility programmes (Hauschildt et al., 2015; King, Findlay and Ahrens, 2010; Souto Otero, 2008), further deepening their already disadvantaged position among their peers.

Source:
European Commission/EACEA/Eurydice, 2016. Mobility Scoreboard: Higher Education Background Report. Eurydice Report. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union.

Possible causes

a) High costs (Insufficient support)

b) Lack of general information on the host centre

c) Uncertainty on adaptations and accessibility

d) Lack of personalised (not only academic) monitoring

e) Others: family overprotection, medical impediments, etc.

Some good practices
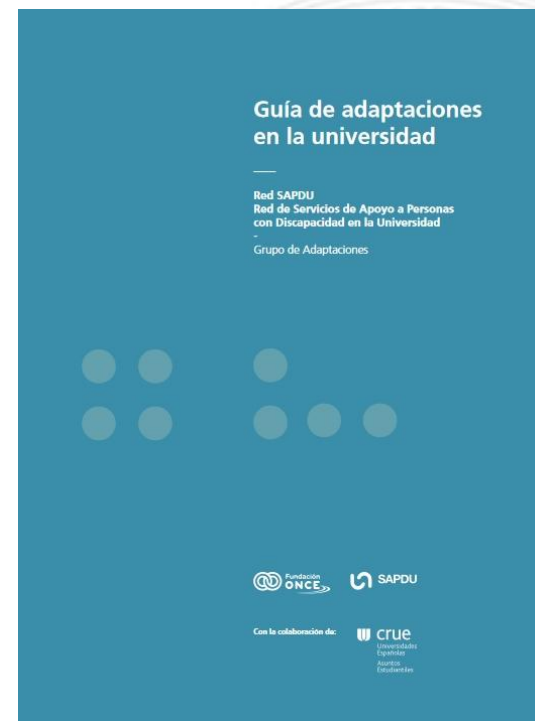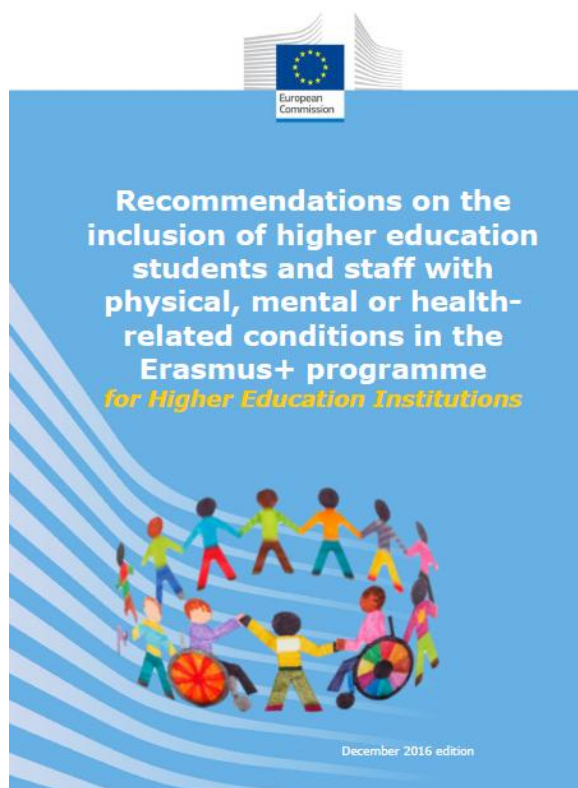
But... If we see the reports from home universities

33 pages report on a specific learning difficulty

– Statements and aims

– Background information

– Effects of disability on study

– Assessment results

– Recommendations

– Supplier details (costs)

– Annexes

VS.

3 lines e-mail on a physical disability

– General description

– "He needs a wheelchair"

MobiAbility project

A European standard on support measures in the EHEA for international students with disabilities

Content

- Key Action 2: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices

- *MobiAbility: A European standard on support measures in the EHEA for international students with disabilities*

- Duration: 36 months

- Applicant (coordinator): University of Murcia

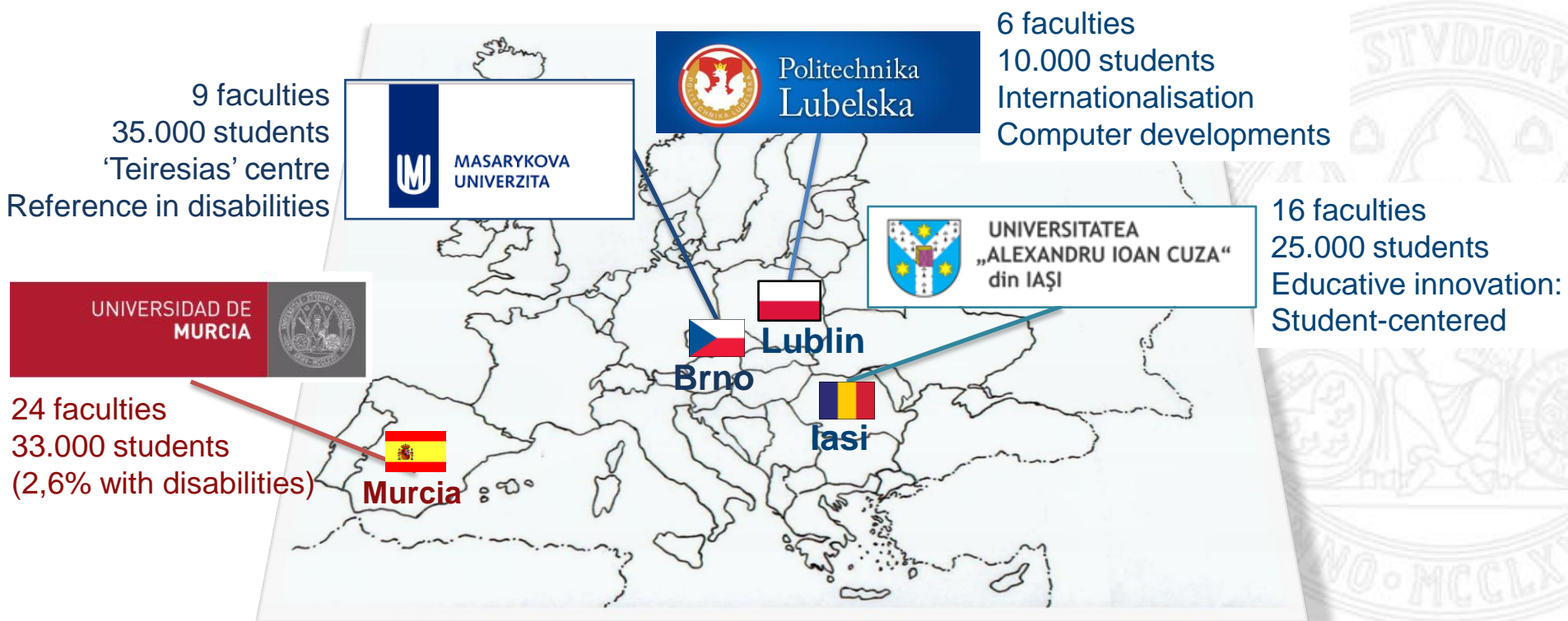# Intellectual outcomes

Intellectual outcome 1: A European standard of measures and reasonable accommodations at academic level for mobility students with disabilities

Intellectual outcome 2: An online and multilingual platform that house a catalog of universities meeting the standard, and some communication tools between attention-to-diversity services for a more personalized monitoring.

Universities

9 faculties
35.000 students
'Teiresias' centre
Reference in disabilities

MASARYKOVA UNIVERZITA

6 faculties
10.000 students
Internationalisation
Computer developments

Politechnika Lubelska

16 faculties
25.000 students
Educative innovation:
Student-centered

UNIVERSITATEA „ALEXANDRU IOAN CUZA" din IAŞI

UNIVERSIDAD DE MURCIA

24 faculties
33.000 students
(2,6% with disabilities)

Murcia

Brno

Lublin

Iasi

Foundations and NGOs

Madrid
Network of 1400 universities
Education and employment

FUNDACIÓN
uni>ersia

Fundación **ONCE**
para la Cooperación e Inclusión Social
de Personas con Discapacidad

Madrid
National and international reference
Education, employment and accessibility

CERMI
Región de Murcia

Murcia
Federation of civil organizations
Individual and collective rights and interest

Partner Institutions organisation

Foto: Universidad de Murcia

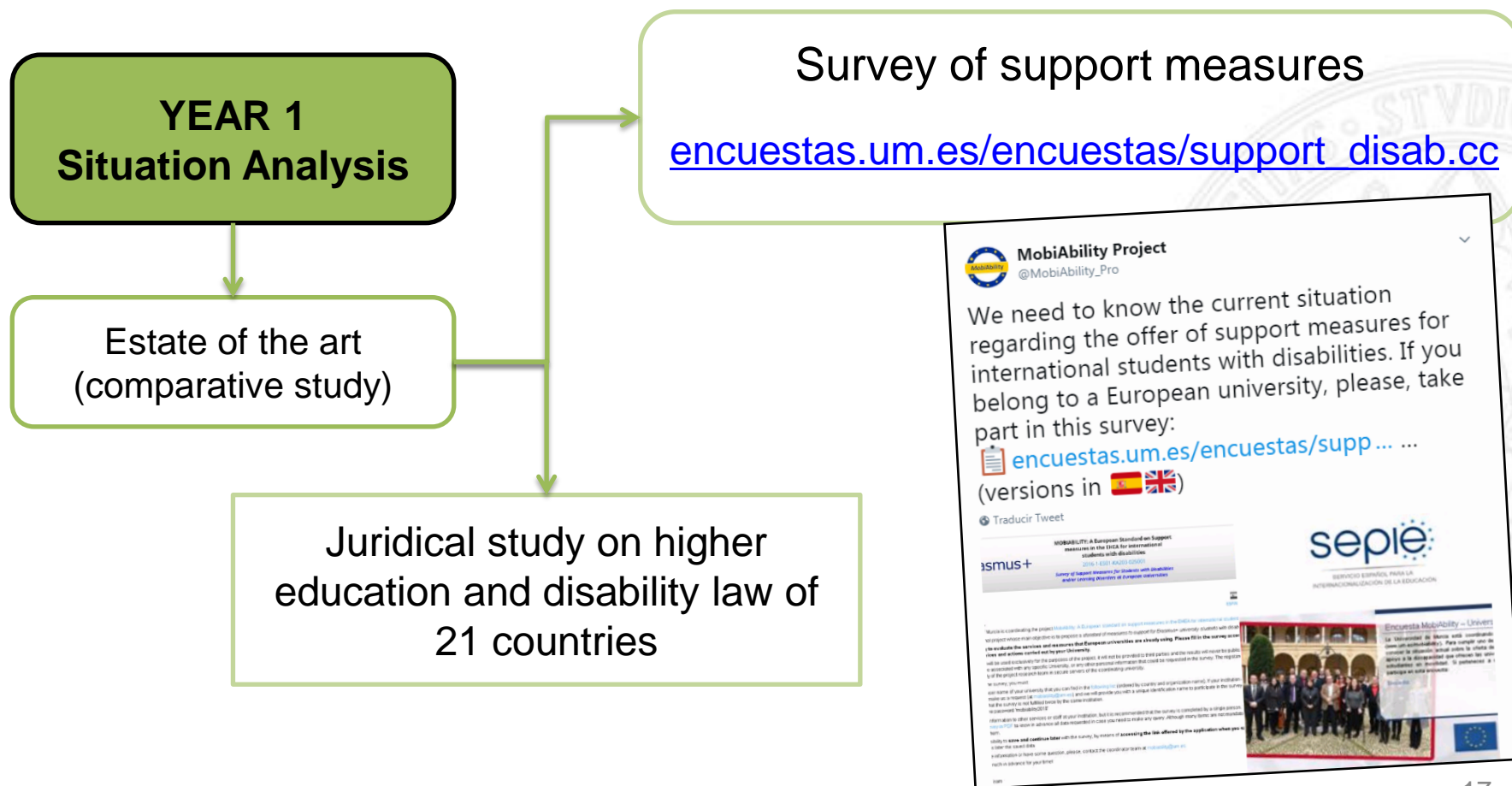# Outcomes

Intellectual outcomes

Intellectual outcome 1: A European standard of measures and reasonable accommodations at academic level for mobility students with disabilities

Intellectual outcome 2: An online and multilingual platform that house a catalog of universities meeting the standard, and some communication tools between attention-to-diversity services for a more personalized monitoring.

Outcomes

O1- Standard of measures

**YEAR 1
Situation Analysis**

Estate of the art
(comparative study)

Juridical study on higher
education and disability law of
21 countries

Survey of support measures

encuestas.um.es/encuestas/support_disab.cc

O1- Standard of measures (a hypothetical example)

Area of interest	Mandatory standard	Recommendations
Access and admission to university	❑Information to new students with disabilities …	❑Welcome programmes …
Staying and mobility in university	❑Bilateral agreement concerning mobility students …	❑Special consideration for expelling causes …
Accessibility to technological, instrumental or information resources	❑Accessible website …	❑Teaching material adapted …
Teaching-learning process: Support, and reasonable accommodations	❑Language Sign Interpreter …	❑Psychological counseling …
Evaluation and exams: Support, and reasonable accommodations.	❑Extra time …	❑No penalty in spelling errors …
Other programs/actions	❑Services of dedicated staff ❑Staff training on disabilities …	❑Adapted residence halls ❑Tertiary studies fees …

Intellectual outcomes

Intellectual outcome 1: A European standard of measures and reasonable accommodations at academic level for mobility students with disabilities

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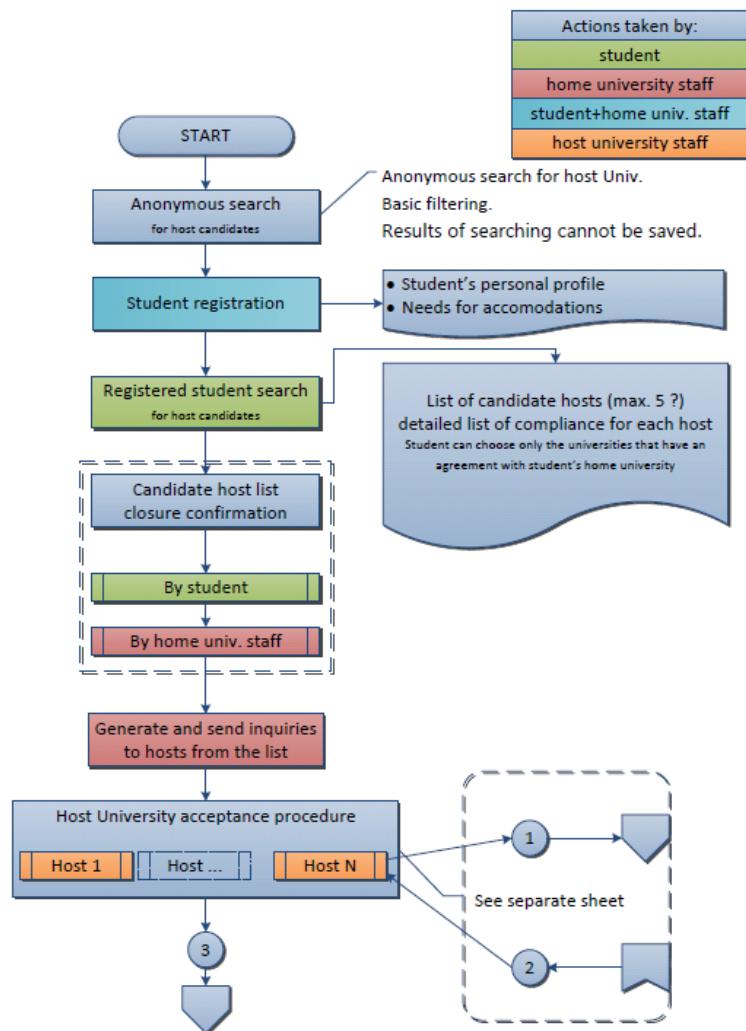
O2- Web platform
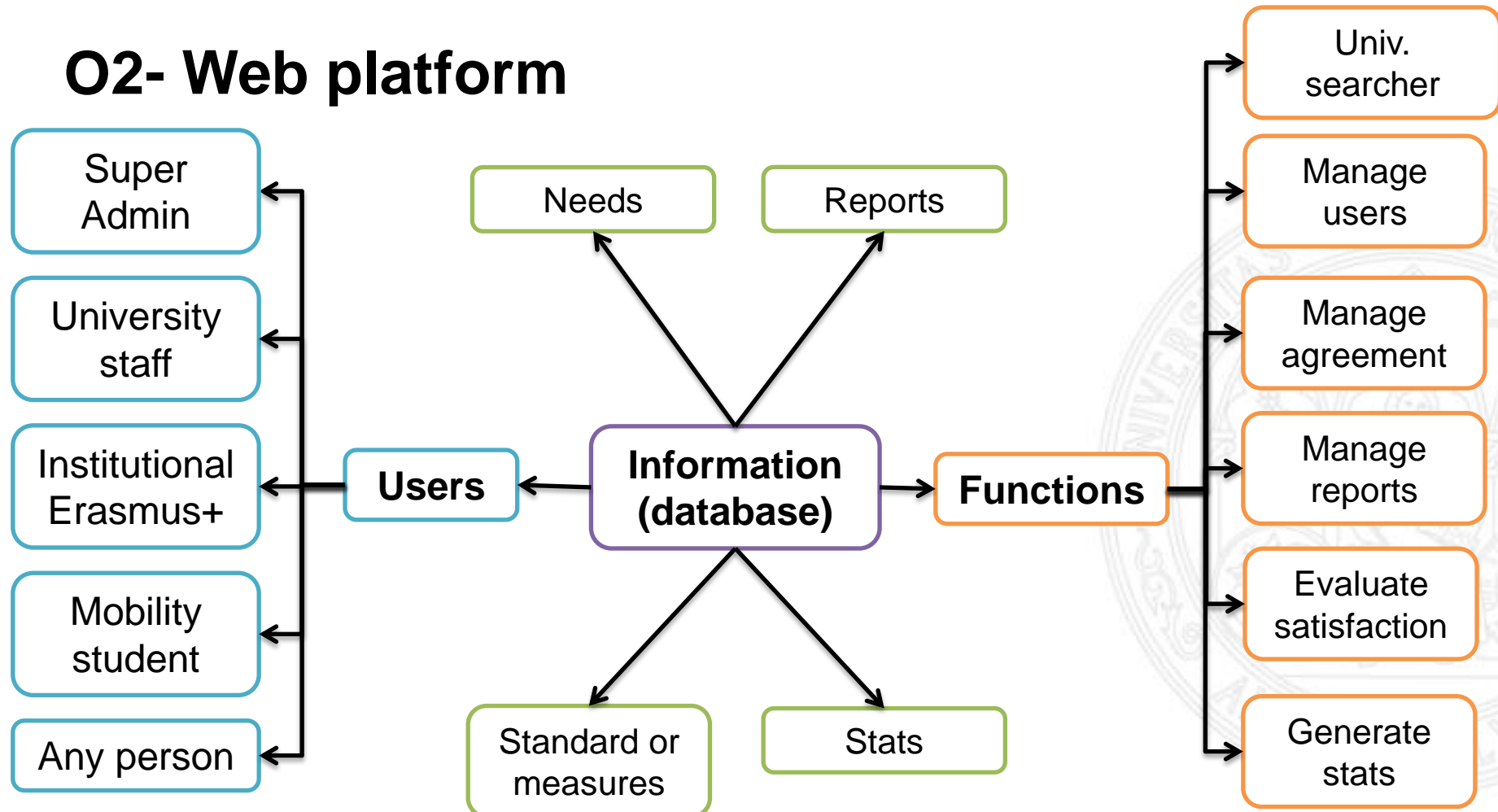
Host University selection → Host University aceptance procedure
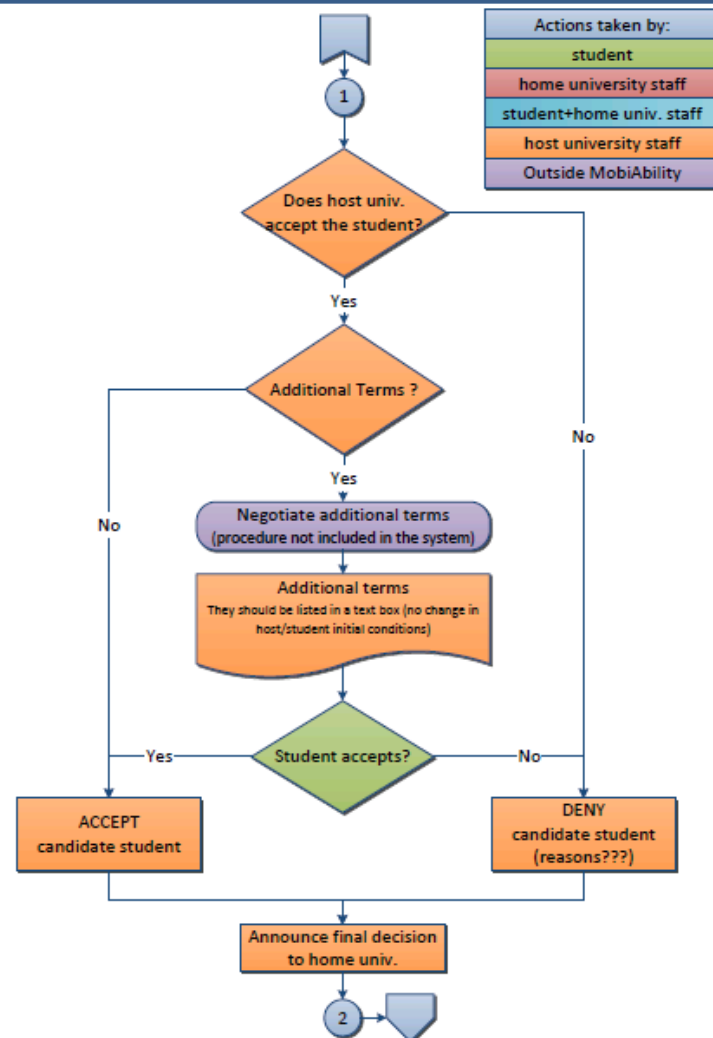
Memorandum preparation → Mobility and mobility assessment
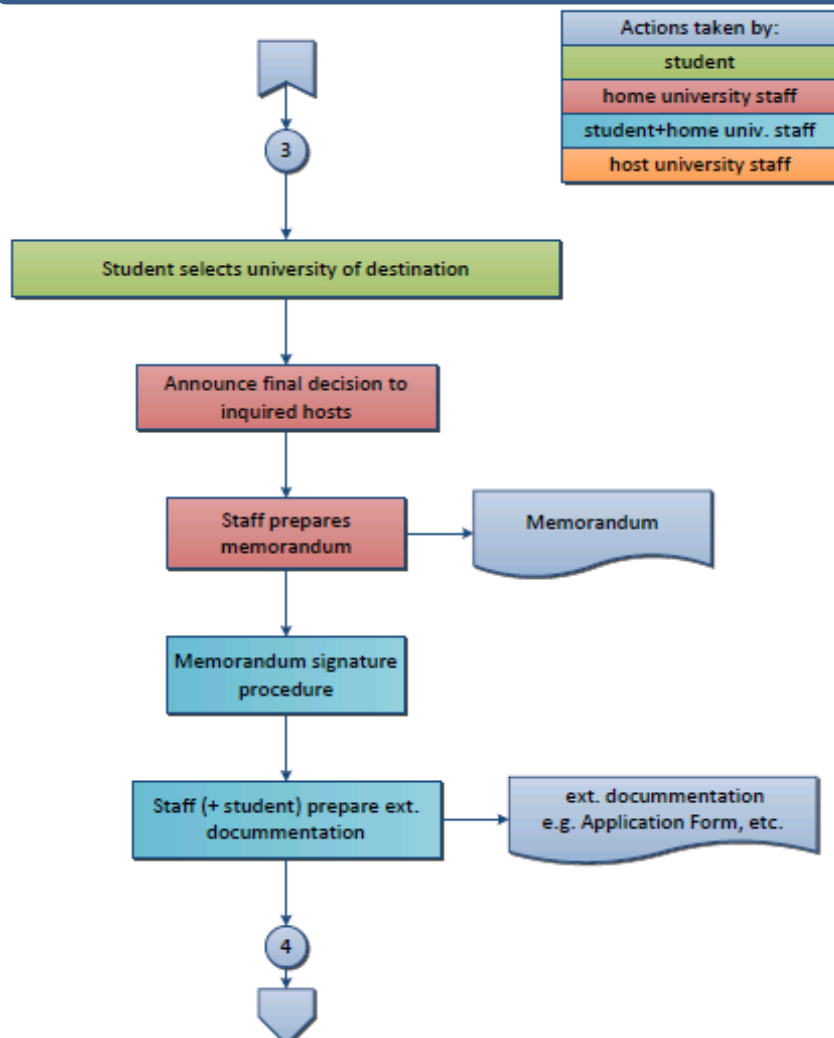
Actions taken by:
- student
- home university staff
- student+home univ. staff
- host university staff

3

Student selects university of destination

Announce final decision to inquired hosts

Staff prepares memorandum → Memorandum

Memorandum signature procedure

Staff (+ student) prepare ext. documentation → ext. documentation e.g. Application Form, etc.

4

Actions taken by:
- student
- home university staff
- student+home univ. staff
- host university staff
- student+host university staff

4

Mobility? — No → **Reasons (by staff)**

Yes

Problems encountered during the mobility and actions taken ←→ **MOBILITY**

Evaluation of the host university

STOP

Outcomes

MULTIPLIER EVENT

- At the University of Murcia, Spain.
- Preliminary results will be presented
- Stakeholders:
  - European policy representatives
  - NA for internationalization
  - Vice Chancellors
  - University staff
  - Students
- Open and participative event
- Confirm attendance: mobiability@um.es

October

24

www.mobiability.eu

mobiability@um.es

@MobiAbility_Pro

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Impact

Transversal benefit

Students with disabilities in the EHEA

Attention-to-diversity Services, International Offices, etc.

Academics staff
Teaching innovation services

Politicians, institutions, social organizations

+1M people

Use of results

- o Public, for free and downloadable
- o Translated to the main European languages (English, Spanish, Italian, German, and French)
- o Sent to European institutions and social organisations

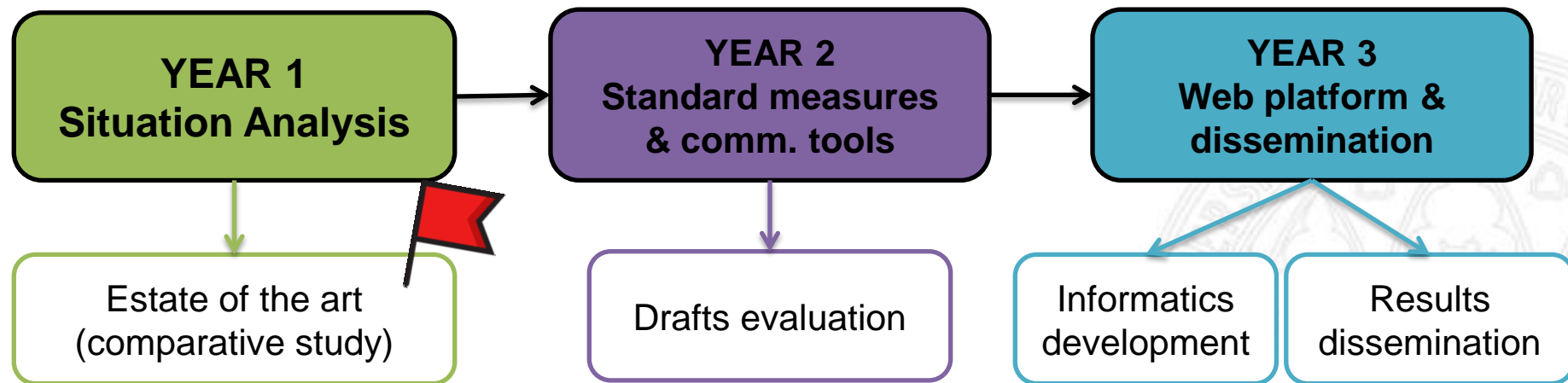# Thank you very much for your attention!

🌐 **www.mobiability.eu**   ✉ **mobiability@um.es**   🐦 **@MobiAbility_Pro**

Foto: María Sánchez. El Periodicum

International students welcome. University of Murcia, 2015

O1- Standard of measures

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┌─────────────────────┐      ┌─────────────────────┐      ┌─────────────────────┐
│      YEAR 1         │ ───▶ │      YEAR 2         │ ───▶ │      YEAR 3         │
│ Situation Analysis  │      │ Standard measures   │      │ Web platform &      │
│                     │      │ & comm. tools       │      │ dissemination       │
└─────────────────────┘      └─────────────────────┘      └─────────────────────┘
          │                           │                     │              │
          ▼                           ▼                     ▼              ▼
┌─────────────────────┐      ┌─────────────────────┐  ┌──────────────┐ ┌──────────────┐
│ Estate of the art   │      │  Drafts evaluation  │  │ Informatics  │ │   Results    │
│ (comparative study) │      │                     │  │ development  │ │ dissemination│
└─────────────────────┘      └─────────────────────┘  └──────────────┘ └──────────────┘
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O2- Web platform

YEAR 1 Situation Analysis	→	YEAR 2 Standard measures & comm. tools	→	YEAR 3 Web platform & dissemination

Estate of the art (comparative study)	Drafts evaluation	Informatics development	Results dissemination

Spain	Fundación ONCE	Technical Commissioner for University
Spain	CERMI	President CERMI-RM
Czech	Masaryk University	Centre for Students with Special Needs
Romania	UAIC	Erasmus office
Poland	Lublin University of Technology	Institute of Computer Science
Belgium	Artesis Plantijn University	Specialist in inclusive education
Portugal	Universidad de Lisboa	Disability support service
Netherland	University of Amsterdam	Internationalization office