

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS: OPPORTUNITY OR DANGER TO  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN  
COUNTRIES**

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# SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

- Research/education related
  - Erasmus Mundus, Marie-Curie Research Fellowship Programme etc.
  - Goals:
    - Research/education on different Universities
    - Knowledge exchange, networking
- Work related
  - Work and Travel, Internship programmes
  - Goals:
    - Gaining work experience
    - Knowledge exchange, networking
- Mostly related to Universities and companies from high-developed countries

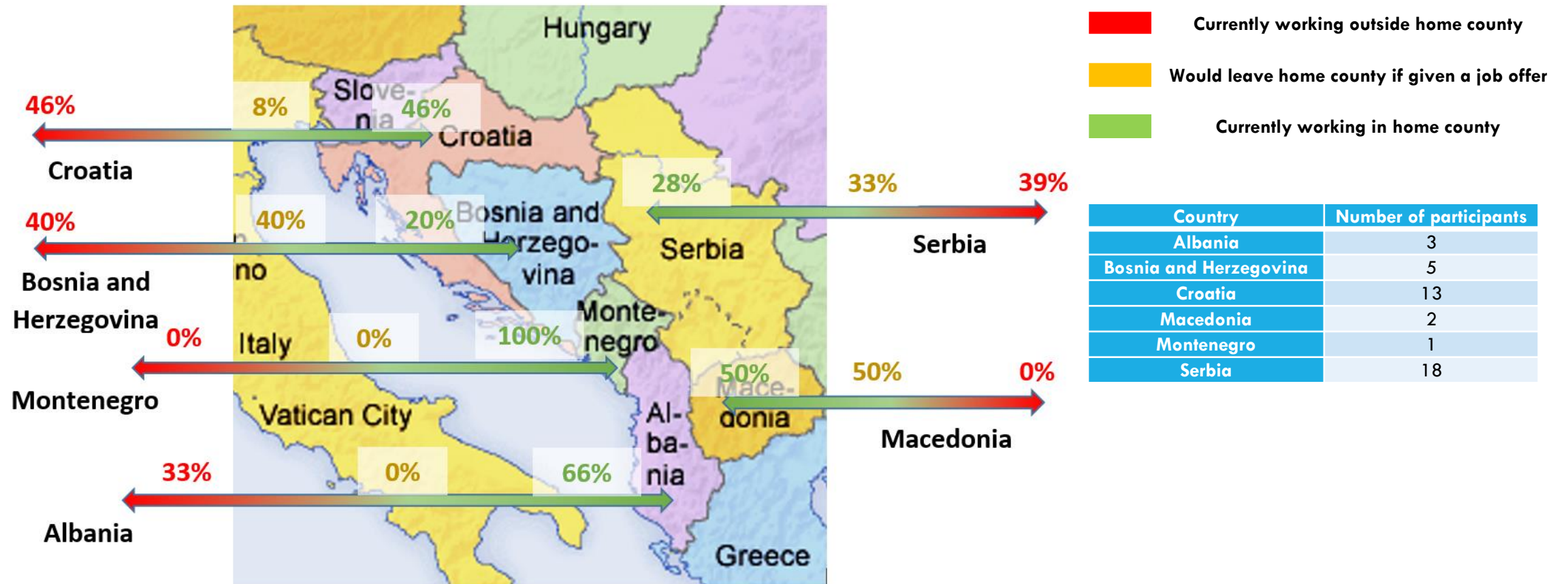
# EXAMPLE: INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

- Dedicated to South East European countries
- 60 scholarship holders per year
- 4-6 months of internship in a company located in a highly-developed EU county
- For young professionals with an university degree and good grades
- Financed by hosting country
- Goals:
  - Gaining a first working experience
  - With this experience a scholarship holder should help the economy of his/hers home country though utilisation of gained knowledge and professional network
  - Learning about the culture and language of the host country

# EXAMPLE: INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

- Positive aspects
  - Gaining working experience
  - Knowledge and working culture exchange, increased language skills
  - Enhanced professional network (between professionals in the host country and SEE Countries)
- Negative aspects
  - 'Brain drain' effect
    - Scholarship holder often get a job offer from a hosting company after the scholarship has ended

# EXAMPLE: INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME



Country	Number of participants
Albania	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5
Croatia	13
Macedonia	2
Montenegro	1
Serbia	18

# EXAMPLE: RESEARCH GRANT

- Dedicated to East and South East European countries
- 50 scholarship holders per year
- 6-12 months of environment protection based research at a University or an scientific institution located in a highly-developed EU county
- For young professionals and scientists with an university degree and good grades
- Financed by hosting country
- Goals:
  - Environment protection through research projects
  - Knowledge and working experience exchange
  - Learning about the culture and language of the host country

# EXAMPLE: RESEARCH GRANT

- Positive aspects
  - Knowledge exchange
  - Scientific networking
  - Experience of working at different University/Scientific institution
  - Improved language skills
- Negative aspects
  - 'Brain drain' effect (highly educated young professionals)

# EXAMPLE: RESEARCH GRANT



- █ Currently working outside home county
- █ Would leave home county if given a job offer
- █ Currently working in home county

Country	Number of participants
Croatia	1
Macedonia	1
Serbia	6



# CONCLUSION

- Scholarships and grants for professional development outside home county
  - Enhanced knowledge through knowledge exchange
  - Enhanced professional network
  - Enhanced language and culture skills
  - **BIG POTENTIAL FOR SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES (IF UTILISED IN A RIGHT WAY)**
  
- What is the purpose of having and training highly educated and skilled professionals if they will not utilise their knowledge and skills in their own country?!
  - Education and training costs are mostly left to home countries