

EUT+

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Deliverable 100

D8.1a joint activities report / Projects to support and grow EUT+

Del. Rel. No 8.1

WP 8

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Livrable 100

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WP 8

Description : Rapport sur les activités communes / Projets pour soutenir et développer EUT+



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1. Introduction

“Projects to support and grow EUT+” focuses on creating a common and coordinated strategy for European (and other) project applications, as to reinforce the initiative through different funding streams and growing the activities under the scope of EUT+. EUT+’s sustainability and the continuation of the initiative for further integration are the main objectives of this task. After the initial three-years phase, which will lead EUT+ closer to a confederal structure, the objective will be to move towards a more integrated model. In parallel to this initiative almost all partners already have established cross linked project proposals that correspond to our vision and mission statement. Corresponding projects will be aiming to tackle issues of each Work Package to grow and amplify the impacts, as well as to speed up implementation. Programmes that will be primarily observed for the corresponding projects include: Erasmus+, Horizon Europe, Interreg regional instruments, European AID tenders, World Bank and European Investment Bank initiatives, regional and national instruments. Common initial target is set at 8 common projects per year, with each EUT+ partner institutions leading one of these annual proposals.

Team members of Task 8.1 have laid out the objectives and services that will be provided to the EUT+:

- Strategic and specific information on current and future EU R&D&I initiatives (announcement of calls, news and events).
- Counselling on EU funding opportunities through direct contact with interested researchers.
- Training in demanded areas (seminars, workshops), RRI (Ethic, Gender Issues, Communication and Open Access among others) and courses oriented to improve the Impact Sections and the management of the projects (technical and financial). All of these actions are part of the Skills Training for Staff and Career development in EUT+, which special emphasis in developing the project collaborators and activity leaders of the future.
- Supporting student and researcher transnational mobility and scholarships (including non-EU).
- Assistance in finding partners.



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- Technical and administrative support for proposal preparation, agreement negotiation and signature, financial and project management and reporting.

2. Overview of EUT+ project applications 2019-2021 (developed and submitted)

WP affected	WP2	WP3	WP4	WP6	WP7
Project application details	<p>1. COST network application on gender equality</p> <p>2. EIT-HEI innovate action on supporting entrepreneurship</p> <p>3. EQUATION H2020 project proposal on gender equality</p> <p>4. GREENWORAL proposal under KA220 call</p> <p>5. AIIPIMC Erasmus+ sports section project about e-sports</p>	<p>1. TELECI+ KA220 application for enhancing e-learning</p> <p>2. CRILEX KA220 application for intensive learning experience</p>	<p>1. PAMH H2020 COVID19 response application</p> <p>2. EUT EXTRAS SWAFS 33 for the support to the science</p> <p>3. ETHIC-O KA220 application for ethics and ecology</p> <p>4. AesTheTiC o KA220 application for Aesthetics</p>	<p>1. LUDEIA KA220 application for interoperability of IT systems and common language</p>	<p>1. STREAM Capacity building in higher education with Algeria, Egypt and Jordan</p> <p>2. B+NESDG Capacity building in higher education with Bhutan and Nepal</p>

RED – not selected for funding

GREEN – selected for funding

ORGANGE – evaluation results pending

Overall SUCCESS rate: 8 out of 14 projects approved (57%).

Overall budget applied for: approximately 15.5 million EUR.

Overall budget approved: approximately 6.5 million EUR.

3. Approved supporting projects with full EUT+ representation (year one 2020/2021)

AesTheTiCo

Description:

Aesthetics and Ecology in Technological Education - KA220-HED-6C8E852E

AesthetiCo aims to expand the notion of aesthetics within tradition engineering and product design curricula to include understandings from contemporary theories of aesthetics. Aesthetics is here understood in contemporary art and critical studies as an expanded of aesthesis beyond the aesthetic object to include modes of aesthesis which are sharing sensibilities and one could argue sharing responsibilities. The project is therefore promoting the integration of arts, creative arts and humanities, into Design and Engineering. There is also the exchange between arts with engineering science, where the technologists take part in a transfer of knowledge to the field of creative and performing arts. Cultural production is dependent on modes of technical and technological development which are beyond the remit of the traditional arts curriculum, for example in music or media arts.

Coordinator: TUDublin

Call: Erasmus+ - Cooperation partnerships in higher education

Duration: 36 months

Starting Date: 1st November, 2021

Budget: 380 330€

Supported WP: 4

EthiCo

Description:

Ethics and Ecology in Technological Education - 2020-1-IE02-KA203-000762

Our objective is to design innovative, ethico-ecological education methods which are transferable to different disciplines in the Technological University, from Arts, Humanities and Social Science to design to Engineering and the Environmental sciences. This is accompanied by the development of an expanded understanding of technology, technology not simply as an application of science but techne as the mode through which we become human. In the long term, our objective is to transform technical or technological education to make it more sustainable for the individual and for society.

Coordinator: TUDublin

Call: Erasmus+ - Cooperation partnerships in higher education

Duration: 36 months

Starting Date: 1st September, 2020

Budget: 429 195€

Supported WP: 4

Ludeia

Description:

Universal language for academic description and information exchange -
2020-1-FR01-KA203-080659

Curricula in higher education are becoming less and less linear, due to the continuous increase in international mobility, new audiences that need to be integrated and the recognition of non-formal learning. What used to be minor in higher education will become mainstream. Moreover, within the framework of the "European universities" initiatives, complex training structures proposing choices of courses and campuses will require efficient management. Today, universities' information systems are struggling to manage this complexity in terms of information exchange.

When rethinking pedagogy to put the student at the center of the learning process, a need appeared crucial to us: building the foundations of a standard of "universal description" of



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academic and education information. Rather than a unified global information system, we will be experimenting the construction of a "pre-standard", allowing current local information systems (IS) secure and encrypted data exchanges thanks to standardization of data formats and the implementation of inter-IS connector devices. As a result, the local ISs will communicate via a micro-service library in interconnection. This decentralised system allows the metamodelling of curricula (by data ingestion) and thus offers great technical flexibility allowing strong support for diversity and pedagogical evolutions. In this way, information systems will be able to interoperate in a fluid manner with connector networks that ensure redundancy of information in real time. Moreover, the European student card will be usefully used as an identifier, providing students access to their own information (results, courses, etc.) and to academic information from other universities (teaching guide, etc.), from anywhere. When necessary, he will also be able to give controlled access to his information (departure or return from inter-university mobility, the internship company or future recruiter). In addition, our pre-standard is designed to encourage the development of more suitable offers by capitalizing on learning analytics.

Coordinator: University of Technology of Troyes

Call: Erasmus+ - Cooperation partnerships in higher education

Duration: 36 months

Starting Date: 1st September, 2020

Budget: 445 921€

Supported WP: 6

Inno - EUt+

Description:

Innovate European University of Technology - Proposal 377

The Innovative European University of Technology (Inno-EUt+) is an HEI Initiative project aiming to enhance the innovation and entrepreneurial capacity of a new European University Alliance, the European University of Technology (EUt+). The partners of the alliance are already committed to a gradual integration of educational and research



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activities, co-creating opportunities for their staff and student body across all the campuses of the alliance. EUT+ is about the future and “puts human first”, recognising the roots of their constituents and join forces while with great consideration on inclusion, multilingualism and multiculturalism aspects. Together with our non-HEI partners, the Water Alliance (NL) and Chrysalis LEAP (CY), we span across all corners and the heartland of Europe and we create a strong Knowledge Triangle in order to grow our staff and students and transform both our HEIs and our Alliance.

Coordinator: Cyprus University of Technology

Call: EIT HEI Initiative - Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education

Duration: 1st phase: 6 months, 2nd phase: 18 months

Starting Date: 1st July, 2021

Budget: 1st phase: 400 000€, 2nd phase: 800 000€

Supported WP: 2

EUt EXTRAS

Description:

EXperimentation to Transform Research Activities and Steering - 101035812

The ambition of EUt+ project EXperimentation to Transform Research Activities and Steering (EUt EXTRAS) is to support the emergence of intercampus knowledge-creating teams across our institutions, across disciplines, and across types of activities, towards a new approach of the environment and of steering and execution of research. It will be a test bed to establish a common roadmap for research and innovation at the EUt+ level by 2030 to validate a solid methodology of institutional transformation fully integrating the challenges of European technology development. We want to co-construct a pilot experimentation to achieve a critical mass in research that is flexible, decentralised and collaborative, to support the institutional transformation necessary for Europe’s industrial renewal. This entails opening up new career opportunities for the fluidity of ideas and knowledge (both within the university and with the private sector, and the other way around), and avoiding the brain drain often associated with such endeavors. Since its



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beginnings, EUt+ has emphasized the importance of involving the local communities: universities of Technology should have a direct impact on local economic structures by providing educational opportunities to underrepresented groups, and know-how to local companies. We will develop human capital to steer Europe towards a new path of excellence, do science and create technology with and for society, connect technological research with its peripheral environment, conduct series of internal and external analyses for an informed decision-making, create commons in terms of resources and infrastructure, and - importantly - develop, document, and disseminate an assessment methodology with a strong participatory and bottom-up approach. As the EUt+ motto reminds us, we always Think Human First.

Coordinator: University of Technology of Troyes

Call: H2020 - Swafs33 - Support for the Research and Innovation Dimension of European Universities

Duration: 36 months

Starting Date: 1st September, 2021

Budget: 1 999 996€

Supported WP's: 2, 4, 5, 6, 8

4. Approved supporting projects with partial EUt+ representation (year one 2020/2021)

STREAM

University Student Capacity Building: Towards Readiness for Sustainable Development-Oriented Regional Job Market - 618537-EPP-1-2020-1-LV-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Description: In the MENA region the unemployment rate among HE graduates is among the highest in the world as a direct result of the mismatch between education outcomes and expectations of the labor market. With the fast-evolving pattern of the market-needs as a result of revolutionary technologies such as Industry 4.0, AI, robotics and machine learning,



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a new shift in human resource requirements map is at hand leaving HEIs with an inevitable time-pressing challenge to adjust the learning processes to yield particular competencies that expand way beyond the technical knowledge that has been the focus for many decades. It is thus the aim of this project to develop a generation of globally-exposed HE graduates, equipped with essential character, social and cognitive skills blended with academic competencies, with a higher degree of readiness for the fast-evolving community and job market, and who are capable of integrating effectively in multicultural, diverse eco-system. Hence, Competence-tailored Student Journey Map that blends academic and academic-complimentary competencies during the student lifetime is introduced. A pilot set of competence-tailored 35 short- and 10 long-term extracurricular activities and “quests” are designed and programmed into the LMS & SIS of partner HEIs, along with 35 courses (120 ECTS) in Engineering and ICT restructured to align with SDGs in competency-based format, targeting the full envisioned picture of the future “Global Citizen” possessing competencies that were clearly identified via an exhaustive gap analysis developed at the beginning of the project. A target of at least 60 students at each of the 7 partner HEIs in Egypt, Jordan and Algeria is planned. Student-Stakeholders Engagement Portal, where employers and students share their profiles and where both have open arena to engage in internships, summer jobs, capacity building programs is essential in the proposed integrative (academic/extracurricular/industry engagement) approach.

Call: Erasmus+ KA2 Capacity Building in Higher Education call of 2020

Coordinator: Riga Technical University

Duration: 36 months

Starting Date: 15th of November, 2020

Budget: 998 080 EUR

Supported WP's: 7

EUT+ partners included: RTU, UPCT

B+NESDG

Bhutan+Nepal Higher Education for accomplishing the Sustainable Development Goals - 17363-EPP-1-2020-1-ES-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Description: In an increasingly globalised world, the principles of sustainable development have become the central values of a vulnerable and extremely endangered environment and humanity. The Agenda 2030 has declared sustainable development to be the joint objective of the 17 SDGs. The Agenda links this fundamental principle to the universal human rights and to the learning objective of global citizenship.

B+NESDG project is aimed to contribute to increasing the quality of tertiary education through a capacity-building holistic approach of 6 Higher Education Institutions on Sustainable Development (SD) to facilitate the accomplishment of relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Bhutan and Nepal, modernising partnership HEIs to be more internationally recognised and competitive. The framework developed within B+NESDG project will serve as a guide for Nepal and Bhutan to conceptualize and ensure that education is integral to any strategy and to create a resilient generation that will advocate for action and the attainment of the SDGs in a holistic way.

Call: Erasmus+ KA2 Capacity Building in Higher Education call of 2020

Coordinator: Universidad Politécnica de Cartagena

Duration: 36 months

Starting Date: 15th of November, 2020

Budget: 965 953 EUR

Supported WP's: 7

EU+ partners included: UPCT, RTU

GREENWORAL

Green and sustainable entrepreneurship focused on rural women

Description: The objective of this project is to provide the tools and resources to accompany the creation of new green projects in rural areas by adult women and thus promote entrepreneurial and innovative activities, beneficial for the environment with the



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use of ICTs and with financial profitability for rural women. Thus, a training adapted and individualized to the nature of the project of the participant will be developed. This process will be supported by the participating entities, partners of the project, project incubators and sustainable entrepreneurship mentors in different sectors: special employment centers, social inclusion, services, training, education.

Call: KA220 strategic partnerships

Duration: 36 months

Starting Date: 2021/2022

Budget: To be announced

Supported WP's: 2

EU+ partners involved: CUT, RTU, UPCT, TUD

5. Unsuccessful applications (first year 2020/2021)

1. EQUATION: Equalizing decision making, participation in studies and research by implementing gender equality plans in research performing institutions.

Description: EQUATION aims at establishing sustainable structures for gender equality in seven European research performing higher education institutions (HEIs) in STEM, specifically engineering. In the EQUATION-project seven Gender Equality Plans (GEPs) will be developed and implemented in order to drive institutional change in the respective HEIs. The GEPs aim at reducing gender segregation and gender inequalities as well as integrating gender dimension in teaching, curricula and research content. The different context of the consortium members (from Nordic, Continental, Eastern and Southern countries) with regard to national and institutional gender equality policies and practices provides an excellent foundation for exchange, mutual learning and transfer of knowledge. Sustainability of the GEPs will be fostered/supported by a coherent methodology — regarding the development, implementation as well as monitoring and evaluation of the GEPs — based on the GEAR-tool developed by the European Commission and EIGE. Accordingly, strong emphasis is placed on participation of the most important stakeholders,

including the highest management level and the middle management in the GEP-set-up and implementation. The process of GEP development and implementation as well as its

monitoring is accompanied by two supporting partners. HEIs not only aim at establishing sustainable structures for gender equality in their institution, they also aim at initiating an institutional and national gender equality discourse to increase awareness and commitment. The latter will be supported by strong reference of the GEPs to the respective national legislative and policy frameworks as well as intensive dissemination activities with national authorities, policy makers and the research community to facilitate gender equality in research and innovation and to strengthen the gender dimension in in STEM-content.

Participants from the EU+ consortium: RTU, UTT, UTCN. Total budget: 2,990,553.25 EUR. Result: Total score: 12.50 (Threshold: 10), put into reserve list.

2. PAMH: Public Adherence and Mental Health.

Description: Public Adherence to behavioural guidelines and the impact of mental Health (PaMh) is a 36 month project across 9 countries which will focus on producing policy guidelines in relation to adherence and compliance to public health guidelines. The consortium represents a wide range of national responses to COVID-19 from Ireland, UK, France, Spain, Germany, Latvia, Bulgaria, Romania, Cyprus and the project builds on an existing network of the European University of Technology alliance and brings together leading researchers to rapidly respond to the need for future proofing of adherence to behavioural guidelines. PaMh proposes a threefold ethical framework of analysis, the individual (self -worth, self- esteem), the collective (solicitude. friendship) and thirdly, the institutional legislative framework (Just Institutions). This framework is known as 'little ethics' (Ricoeur, 1992). The multi-level analysis of hard and soft will be carried out in relation to a cross thematic analysis of adherence, health inequalities and disinformation. The project will build on existing data already available in the EU zone and will utilise innovative mixed methodologies including a policy delphi and data analytics. Recognising that people's lived experiences and perspectives are shaped by multiple factors an intersectional analysis will be conducted at each level. PaMh will propose that the different elements of the ethical framework is accompanied by the analysis of different forms of power, soft power and hard power, beginning with internalisation of biopolitics in the individual's responsibility (self-worth) to the collective biopolitics of the local community (friendship) and thirdly, a transition from soft power of the collectivist to the hard power of legislation and institutional power (Just Institutions). The outcomes of the PaMh will be the development of a European policy on adherence to public health guidelines with focus on health inequalities and mis/disinformation.

Participants from the EU+ consortium: all partners. Total budget: 5,434,970 EUR. Result: Total score: 12.50 (Threshold: 12), put into reserve list.

3. TELECI: Improving quality of e-learning offered to students in EU engineering education.

Description: CONTEXT - Due to the widespread of COVID-19 Higher Education Institutions across Europe, following local requirements have been experiencing a massive migration: from

traditional in-class, face-to-face education to online, distance education. This massive, disruptive shift to move all already existing courses to online space in a matter of days has revealed many underlying issues and challenges for teachers (who sometimes lack online teaching experience, early preparation, or simply - support from technological teams) - especially when implementing practice-based courses in the digital space. NEED - With e-learning courses, educators are usually only able to see when a student is logging in and logging out of the course and it is not possible to see if one was actually listening and actively participating in the course. Thus, there is a visible gap in HE e-learning practices - that will allow educators to create more approachable and inclusive distance learning that would allow a transformation of students from passive observers to active thinkers. OBJECTIVES - E-learning and distance education and its improvement have never been more in the centre of attention as it is during the current global pandemic of COVID-19. These challenging times are giving us a unique opportunity to make online courses better (and as we always “Thinking human first” as EUT+ consortium) more accessible and tailored to students’ needs and abilities. Therefore, by putting the TELECI method into a mass pilot and building up an inclusive e-learning approach (that together will create TELECI+ approach), our main objective is to design a “better practice” - a benchmark for e-learning practices in Europe. Following objectives would be also to exchange of knowledge and practices during the implementation of the approach in different partner institutions - that will allow us to tackle any other challenges, gaps and mismatches in distance learning.

Participants from the EUT+ consortium: all partners. Total budget: 224.535,00 EUR. Result: disqualified for more than one project with the same consortium under the KA220 call.

4. CRILEX. Description: The T-shape model requires adjustments of the educational methods both in online and offline environments. There is a vast amount of literature that can be reviewed and case studies that can be observed in order to find the necessary improvements, based on the IO2 T1 needs analysis for the intensive training. The CRILEX consortium has identified core proposition for the education methods that will be updated after profound literature review - deep learning, flipped learning, problem-based learning, mentoring, research based learning and active learning. These methods will be adjusted for the identified disciplines, study levels, group sizes and infrastructure that is available. Pedagogical and didactical improvements correspond to the challenges that are brought forward due to the COVID-19 crisis, which challenges traditional offline teaching and learning methods, putting virtual collaboration in the absolute foreground and transforming it into one of the key competences. Each project partner has a certain area of competences that will be merged together to establish appropriate methodological framework that would suite both teachers and students.

6. Pending applications (first year 2020/2021)

All_e-mPIC project proposal. Towards 5 WPs, a budget of 400.000 € (lump-sum system) and with a duration of 36 months, the intervention will be focused on 3 pillars:

- organization of a tournament of e-sports between all EUT+ campuses;
- the use of virtual reality in sports as a tool to promote inclusiveness and diversity
- the organization of EUT+ All_e-mPIC (read "Olympic") week that will host the EUT+ LAN Party, the final of EUT+ e-sports tournament and a series of conferences about inclusiveness towards sport.

7. Vision of the second year

For the second year of the initiative 2021/2022 - 8.1. team members aims at developing and providing support and assistance in terms of additional projects in the following directions:

- 1) Assistance for match making of relevant experts (from faculties) for Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe project proposals. Each institution has nominated a person responsible for the implementation of this task.
- 2) Support for administration of existing projects and centralized reporting. Framework will be established on how joint EUT+ projects will be maintained and administered upon approval.
- 3) Emphasis and additional efforts will be directed towards supporting those work packages that has received less projects and needs more support.
- 4) Synergies will be encouraged among work packages to establish more opportunities for supporting projects to be developed.

Some of the priorities of the second year: joint KA171 application for the global outreach, supporting Capacity Building in Higher Education projects with the relevant regions (supporting Task 7.3). Convergence with WP4 in terms of supporting scientific projects.

8. Limitations and barriers

First year of the initiative has brought practical knowledge about some of the limiting factors that will not allow EUT+ to grow and be fully sustainable, namely there are two issues:

- 1) Limitation of the Erasmus+ programme with regards to KA220 project applications. The programme limits one consortium to apply to more than one National Agency with one project proposal. For a rapidly growing alliance like EUT+, this is an alarming and limiting factor.

2) Decentralized activities that correspond to mobilities (KA131 and KA171), have bilateral architecture to them that do not allow EUT+ to fully harmonize and integrate mobility procedures.

Conclusion

First year of supporting projects for EUT+ initiative has returned 8 joint projects which is in line with the planned support at the inception of the initiative. Operational and effective teams have been established under WP8 Task 8.1 that has a helicopter view on the supporting project and parallel initiatives. Overall success rate has been 57% which can be increased in the future. Statistics per institution in terms of proposal coordination:

1. UTT - 2 projects
2. UTCN - 0 projects
3. UPCT - 3 projects
4. TUDublin - 3 projects
5. H_DA - 0 projects
6. CUT - 1 project
7. TUS - 1 project
8. RTU - 4 projects

In second year T8.1 is about to describe and make a case studies about the framework limitations for the joint project proposals, build capacities for all partners to work and develop more projects as well as work on the structural and strategic issues. Roles and responsibilities of partners stays horizontal and in line with the original project proposal.