



EIT HEI INITIATIVE Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education

Higher Education Accelerating Directed
Learning in Nurturing Entrepreneurship

HEADLINES



Participating partners

University of Burgos
(Lead partner)
SPAIN

Autonomous University of Madrid
SPAIN

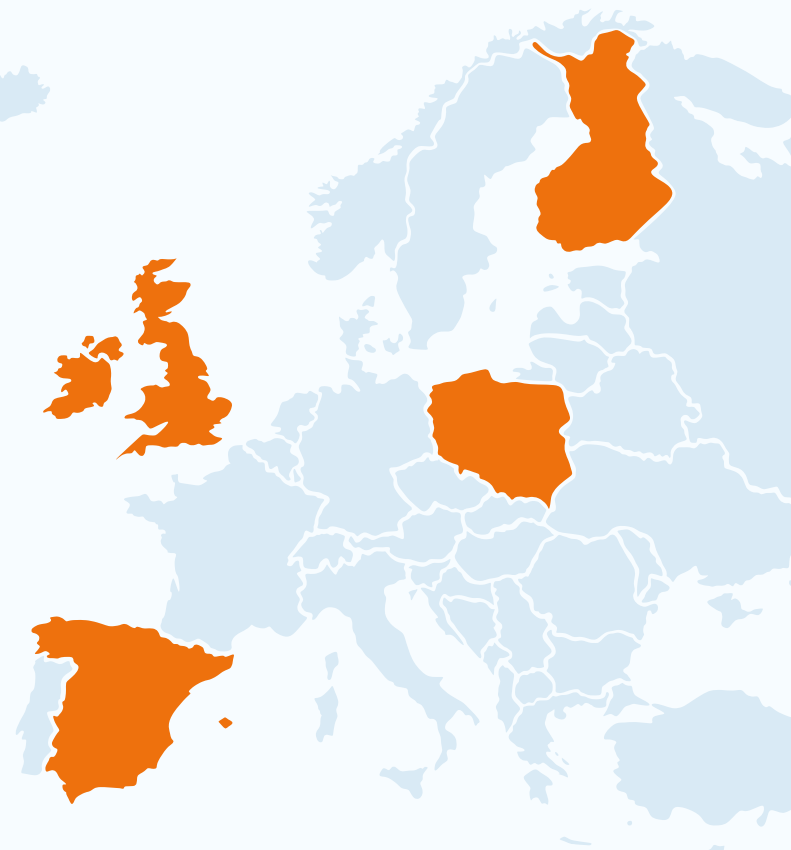
Centria University of
Applied Sciences
FINLAND

IMDEA Food Institute
SPAIN

Mashauri
UNITED KINGDOM

Munster Technological University
IRELAND

Wrocław University of Environmental
and Life Sciences
POLAND



Max. funding Phase 1

€400,000

Max. funding Phase 2

€800,000

Project description

This project will incrementally improve the degree to which entrepreneurship is included within the core ecosystems of partner universities. All resources in universities will be focused on accelerating directed learning in nurturing entrepreneurship. In this way, the consortium universities will become regional engines of growth, contributing to education, leadership, knowledge and innovative thinking.

All project partners are deeply involved in developing and promoting entrepreneurial activity. This project offers the opportunity to work together on sharing research, background experiences, and good practices as well as on developing new shared knowledge and policies on embedding entrepreneurship deeply into the educational system.

These activities will focus on entrepreneurship and innovation for the food and healthcare sectors, as university partners have regional strengths in them. Despite this initial focus, as the project develops, it is envisaged that the lessons learned and good practices recognised will be easily transferable to other sectors.

In the knowledge triangle model, universities contribute to education and research in close partnership with the productive sector. When it comes to education, the project takes into account the motivation of students. It includes specific training on entrepreneurship that provides students with skills to develop innovative businesses or, at least, skills that benefit their employability, while introducing the need for innovation in companies.

Other actions proposed will boost the transfer of technology from research, so that researchers can collaborate in the creation of start-ups based on this technology.

The project has a strong connection with a wide range of knowledge triangle stakeholders in each region and across regions. To help develop innovative businesses with entrepreneurial spirit, the project proposes to base student and university staff training on the collaboration with industry and other stakeholders of the innovation ecosystem. In this way, real needs will be met by entrepreneurs proposing solutions and possible innovative businesses. Adequate training in entrepreneurship, mentoring with industries, continued support of universities, and possible provision of services from stakeholders in the initial stages of the start-ups will increase their success, contributing to industrial competitiveness.

In addition, networking with a greater critical mass of initiatives and entrepreneurs will facilitate matching, while increasing the market for possible business generated.

Pilot Call Timeline



About the EIT's HEI Initiative

The EIT's HEI Initiative: Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education was launched by the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology](#) (EIT) and is led by EIT RawMaterials – one of the EIT's Knowledge and Innovation Communities.

The initiative is part of the EIT's [2021–2027 EIT Strategy](#), and it aims to help higher education institutions to build the capacity to innovate and to teach innovation and entrepreneurship. More specifically, the initiative aims to encourage these institutions to look at their own practices and develop concrete actions to increase their impact on their ecosystems.

In March 2020, the HEI Initiative launched a Pilot Call for Proposals, inviting higher education institutions to design activities that will improve their entrepreneurial and innovation capacity. We are pleased to announce the results of this Pilot Call. To stay updated on the latest developments, visit the initiative website (<https://www.eit-hei.eu/>) and subscribe to our newsletter.