



EIT HEI INITIATIVE Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education

Creating Holistic Innovation Capacity

CHIC



Participating partners

Norwegian University of Science
and Technology (Lead partner)

NORWAY

City, University of London

UNITED KINGDOM

Nord University

NORWAY

TrønderEnergi

NORWAY

UNIST Tehnološki park

CROATIA

University of Gdańsk

POLAND

University of Split

CROATIA

University of Western Brittany

FRANCE



Max. funding Phase 1

€400,000

Max. funding Phase 2

€800,000

Project description

The Norwegian University of Science and Technology; Nord University; City, University of London; and the University of Split will share their impactful innovation and entrepreneurship capacity-building activities ('Spark*', 'Teaching Entrepreneurial Mindset', 'Engineering Ladder', 'Museum of Entrepreneurship', and 'E3 Initiative') with the other higher education institutions in the consortium. By sharing these unique entrepreneurship and innovation activities, the consortium will contribute to increasing the entrepreneurial and innovation capacity of the higher education sector across Europe and, consequently, boost sustainable economic growth and competitiveness in the EU.

By piloting these activities locally at selected higher education institutions, the consortium can measure and document increase in local entrepreneurship and innovation involvement among students, university staff, and other representatives from the knowledge triangle.

The proposed activities will increase engagement among students and university staff to decrease the limitations of hierarchy. This will also enable the use of students as a resource for impact within university-based innovation and entrepreneurship.

'Spark*': This student-driven peer-to-peer mentoring service will ensure low-threshold encouragement and support for student entrepreneurship based on unique insights from student entrepreneurs.

'Teaching Entrepreneurial Mindset': This two-day workshop will provide educators from all disciplines with the teaching tools necessary to implement entrepreneurial skill set and mindset

development in their courses. This, in turn, will allow educators to encourage creative problem solving and teach students how to become change agents.

'Engineering Ladder': This holistic restructuring of suitable existing courses will increase study programmes' work relevance and industry connection. It will also provide students with project and collaboration experience through problem solving for real stakeholders.

'Museum of Entrepreneurship': This is a digital museum from City, University of London. It compiles stories of entrepreneurs from our local communities into a digital platform, which is available to anyone with an interest in entrepreneurship. The stories are created by the students with the aim to inspire and educate about entrepreneurship.

'E3 Initiative': These workshops by Split University highlight what technology transfer is, the advantages of collaborating, and how technology transfer offices can be an asset. The target audience will gain better understanding and knowledge, which will eventually stimulate integration of the knowledge triangle.

Sharing these activities among the participating partners will enable the institutions to strengthen their local entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystems, as well as the Knowledge and Innovation Communities and EU alliances in which the different consortium members participate.

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.