INTERREG EUROPE

**A smarter Europe**

**Research&Innovation capacities, uptake of advanced technologies**

**“Social Competences for Research and Innovation Infrastructure” -SCORE[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Many High Education Institutions (HEI) own a sophisticated and state-of-art Research and Innovation Infrastructure (RII). Although they have great potential, their contribution to regional economic and innovative development is far from ideal. It is partly connected with a lack of adequate skills and competences of RII’ personal, who isn’t proactive enough in searching for cooperation possibilities.

HEIs RII with its infrastructure is a key factor to regional innovativeness, but without trained staff in scope of social skills boosting creation of partnerships and the integration of organisations, companies, universities, clients and users are hindered. Well-trained and prone to networking staff is key to building synergies and a part of milieu prepared to uptake of advanced technologies.

**SCORE** project aims at diagnosing and boosting the competences of RII staff as key stakeholders for

regional and international RD&Innovation development. Fostering not only technical but foremost HEI-personnel’s:

social skills,

open attitude,

proficiency in international environment,

entrepreneurial mind-set,

and management skills benefit with using HEI’s RII and their full potential and thus increasing the economic growth of regions.

Impacts:

Creating conditions for boosting regional economy and facilitating regional and cross regional collaborations;

Promote education, life-long learning and training, outreach and knowledge dissemination;

Provide scientific support to public policies (creating new tools for supporting innovation);

Provide high quality scientific data and associated services;

Social responsibility.

**SCORE** project addresses the challenge to enhance HEI RII employees’ competences as a basis for successful cooperation between HEI and business and an accelerator of entrepreneurship discovery process (EDP) which is an inclusive and interactive bottom-up process in which participants from different environments (policy, business, academia, etc) are discovering potential new activities and opportunities that emerge through this interaction.

Thus, **SCORE** partners look at practices and possibilities of enhancing competences of HEIs RII staff in a favour of regional innovation development, removing barriers of cooperation and communication among scientist, brokers, entrepreneurs to enrich their cross-institutional and cross-sectoral collaboration.

RII responding to the regional needs and demand using co-creation methods, demand and user-driven, open innovation approaches to solve regional societal challenges.

…… policy learning events will be organized: …… Study Visits back-to-back with ……… Interregional Thematic Workshops and …… Peer Reviews and ……… regional Stakeholder group meetings. Thorough regional diagnosis in partner regions will be conducted identifying existing good practices for improve social capacities. Partners estimate that at least …… good practices will be analysed and at least 210 people will increase their professional capacities.

**SCORE:**

**What are the objectives?**

* to improve of regional RDI ecosystem
* to increase RI capacities
* enhancing uptake of advanced technologies
* increasing social capital for networking

**What do we need to do?**

* Analyse social capital of HEI RII’s personal (but also supporting staff - TTO’s, Career Bureau, Infrastructure’s Office) - Look at the differences of staff’s competencies in Research and Innovation Infrastructure between partners;
* Diagnose what type of competences are crucial to boost international and economic cooperation;
* Diagnose the education system (HEI, vocational training, LLL institutes) in scope of training the future RII’s staff (including PhD students);
* Analyse factors for effective ecosystem;
* Analyse of barriers;
* Improving education & networking processes;
* Rising awareness about smart specialisation in HEIs;
* Use the method: Process in six steps: Analysis, governance, vision, priorities, policy mix and evaluation);
* Identification of the talents and support them;
* Improve policy instruments.

**Why do we need to do?**

The need for the project stems from diagnosed barriers:

**1. Lack of social and business competencies of innovation ecosystem participants (RII’s and supporting staff);**

* a gap between research, business, organizations especially in social competencies;
* lack of diagnosis of key competencies of innovation support staff;
* lack of diagnosis of key competencies of the staff dealing with the innovation infrastructure;
* too low level of personal skills (open attitude, entrepreneurial mindset, networking abilities);
* too low number of joint research projects;
* too little knowledge of the implementation of particular processes related to interdisciplinary cooperation.

**2. Too low level of internationalisation**

* too low level of internationalisation of education and research;
* too low level of commercialization of knowledge domestic and abroad;
* too low number of international projects;
* too low level of adjustment of the university to functioning in the global conditions;
* administrative areas of the university do not sufficiently support the effectiveness of internationalisation; development in both teaching and research - lack of motivation;
* ineffectively used potential in international cooperation.

**3. Culture of disengagement**

* anti-engagement atmosphere within research institutions;
* no career development for public engagement (understood e.g. as a willingness to make massive experiments in which some of data is collected by citizens);
* public engagement not viewed as part of a research career (but yet it can be seen as a profitable way to networking);
* researchers not engaging due to ‘lack of time’: those that engage are forced to stop;
* no system for public engagement assessment.

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We need to know what policy connected with description and questions will be taken into the project.

1. Basing on experience gained in InnoHEIs project and “Skills for innovation” policy brief. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)