

The Call

Erasmus+ Programme, Key-action 2 Cooperation among organizations and institutions – Alliances for Innovation

Alliances for Innovation aim to strengthen Europe's innovation capacity by boosting innovation through cooperation and flow of knowledge among higher education, vocational education and training (both initial and continuous), and the broader socio-economic environment, including research.

They also aim to boost the provision of new skills and address skills mismatches by designing and creating new curricula for higher education (HE) and vocational education and training (VET), supporting the development of a sense of initiative and entrepreneurial mind-sets in the EU.

These partnerships shall implement a coherent and comprehensive set of **sectoral or cross-sectoral activities**, which should be adaptable to future knowledge developments across the EU. The focus will be on digital skills as they are increasingly important in all job profiles across the entire labour market to boost innovation. Also, the **transition to a circular and greener economy needs to be underpinned** by changes to qualifications and national education and training curricula to meet emerging professional needs for green skills and sustainable development.

LINK for more information: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/programme-guide/part-b/key-action-2/alliances-innovation>.

LOT1 Alliances for Education and Enterprises

Alliances for Education and Enterprises bring together enterprises and both higher education and vocational training providers to work together in partnership. Operating within one economic sector or several different economic sectors, they create reliable and sustainable relations and demonstrate their innovative and transnational character in all aspects. While each partnership must include at least one VET and one higher education organisation, they can address either both or one of these educational fields.

Objectives (in bold are the objectives that the project addresses the most)

- New, innovative and multidisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning: innovation in education design and delivery, teaching methods, assessment techniques, learning environments and/or development of new skills
- **Fostering corporate social responsibility**
- Stimulating a sense of initiative and entrepreneurial attitudes, mind-sets and skills in learners, educational staff and other workers, in line with the Entrepreneurship Competence Framework (EntreComp)
- Improving the quality and relevance of skills developed and certified through education and training systems
- **Facilitating the flow and co-creation of knowledge between higher education and vocational education and training, research, the public sector and the business sector**
- **Building and supporting effective and efficient higher education and vocational education and training systems, which are connected and inclusive, and contribute to innovation.**

Project key features

Duration	Budget	Partners
2 or 3 years	The maximum grant per project (80% of the total budget) is 1.500.000€ for 3 years projects and 1.000.000€ for 2 years projects.	(minimum) 8 from 4 countries, but the partnership must include at least 3 labour market actors and at least 3 education and training providers (VET and/or HEIs), as full partners. At least one HE institution and one VET provider should be involved as full partners.

Deadline for submission 15th September 2022

The Project in brief

The project objectives are

- To generate awareness of the need of using greener and sustainable design approaches for products and services
- To investigate and analyse existing product and service life cycle assessment (LCA) tools in the view of defining success criteria for the development of suitable algorithms for innovative LCA tools
- To develop and test a product and service LCA for SMEs that represent the largest share of companies in Europe
- To create a digital guide for the industry to perform LCA of their products and services
- To design and offer an innovative training programme SME managers, product and service managers, line managers, innovation leaders, etc on product/service life cycle assessment and identification of innovation gaps
- To design and add to existing master’s degrees studies, short learning units/modules on LCA insights
- To promote the lifelong learning and innovation processes at SMEs
- To increase the level of knowledge and readiness of future SME service managers, line managers, and innovation leaders to deal with the complexity of product/service life cycle and its impacts on future sustainability
- To boost the attractiveness of the educational offers of partners organizations

Work Packages (and timeline – next page it is designed for 36M)

<p>WP1 Roadmap for the development of a LCA tool for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises</p> <p>1.1 - Literature review</p> <p>1.2 – International benchmarking of existing tools</p> <p>1.3 – Surveys addressing SMEs managers, product and service managers, line managers, innovation leaders, etc</p> <p>1.4 – Design thinking workshops with SME managers, product and service managers, line managers, innovation leaders, etc</p>	<p>Main outputs</p> <p>1.1 Report on the state of the art, and gaps in LCAs for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises</p>
<p>WP2 Development and testing of a LCA tool for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises</p> <p>2.1 – Requirement listing and analysis</p> <p>2.2 – Development of suitable algorithms for decision and data analysis and of the LCA tool</p> <p>2.3 – Development of the LCA contents</p> <p>2.4 – Development of a digital guide for SME managers, product and service managers, line managers, innovation leaders, etc on product/service life cycle assessment and identification of innovation gaps</p> <p>2.5 - Horizontal testing and improvement with users feedback</p>	<p>Main outputs</p> <p>2.1 LCA tool</p> <p>2.2 LCA digital guide for SMEs</p> <p>2.3 Report on testing and impacts on users (micro, small and medium-sized enterprises)</p>
<p>WP3 Training programme for professionals</p> <p>3.1 – Design of a training programme for professionals (micro, small and medium-sized enterprises managers, product and service managers, line managers, innovation leaders, etc): a Post-graduation or specialization course in blended learning, that will have classes and practical work for the participants that will have to apply the knowledge within their SMEs and present a case study as their final evaluation project</p>	<p>Main outputs</p> <p>3.1 Post graduation or Specialization course on LCA</p> <p>3.2 Report on impact evaluation</p>

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3.2 – Delivering and testing the Post Graduation 3.3 - Impact evaluation	
WP4 Educative assets for HE students and VET students 4.1 - Design and testing of new short-duration learning units or modules and case studies for master's degree courses and VET courses 4.2 – Idealize and organize a students hackathon for the use of LCA tool and identification of innovation in services and products (based on a call for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises to present real problems)	Main outputs 4.1 Catalogue of short duration learning units or modules and case studies for masters courses and 4.2.Hackathon for industrial sustainability and innovation
WP5 Scaling-up the innovative LCA tool 5.1 - Round tables/workshops with business associations and clusters showcasing the LCA tools and with other HE providers 5.2 – Development of the framework for the creation of an LCA label for sustainable products and services 5.3 – Blueprint for using the project outcomes after the project ends	Main outputs 5.1 Roadmap for the adoption of the LCA 5.2 Framework for an LCA label for sustainable products and services 5.3 Memorandum of Understanding with other Higher Education providers for the use of the project results
WP6 Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation	
WP7 Evaluation and Quality Control	
WP8 Project Management	

Consortium

The minimum is 8 partners from 4 countries. We will need:

- 2 or 3 HE providers
- At least 1 VET provider
- 3 SMEs as market representatives

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	Set	Out	Nov	Dez	Jan	Fev	Mar	Abr	Mai	Jun	Jul	Ago	Set	Out	Nov	Dez	Jan	Fev	Mar	Abr	Mai	Jun	Jul	Ago	Set	Out	Nov	Dez	Jan	Fev	Mar	Abr	Mai	Jun	Jul	Ago
	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6	M7	M8	M9	M10	M11	M12	M13	M14	M15	M16	M17	M18	M19	M20	M21	M22	M23	M24	M25	M26	M27	M28	M29	M30	M31	M32	M33	M34	M35	M36
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