



EIT HEI INITIATIVE Innovation Capacity Building for Higher Education

Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the
Domains of Digital Transformation, Circular
Economy and Sustainable Development

PROMETHEUS



Participating partners

University of the Aegean
– Research Unit (Lead partner)
GREECE

Crowdpolicy
GREECE

European Regional Framework
for Cooperation
GREECE

National Research and Development
Institute for Food Bioresources
ROMANIA

Sapienza University of Rome
ITALY

Ss. Cyril and Methodius University
in Skopje
NORTH MACEDONIA

University of Patras
GREECE

University of Twente
NETHERLANDS

Max. funding Phase 1

€400,000

Max. funding Phase 2

€800,000

Project description

PROMETHEUS is an initiative of five higher education institutions (HEIs) and three research centres and enterprises. It aims to develop and share their innovation and entrepreneurship support capabilities in the area of digital transformation related to circular economy, climate change and sustainable development.

The objectives relate to fostering institutional engagement and change, and to developing innovative services for innovation and entrepreneurship. They are as follows:

- develop impact-driven partnerships between HEIs, research organisations, and business;
- develop high-quality education programmes in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship in a circular economy;
- develop support tools and services in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship.

More specifically, the project aims to reach the following targets:

- enhance the services provided to students and faculty to assist them in entrepreneurship and innovation activities;
- develop multi-disciplinary facilities and structures to foster innovation;
- collaborate with EIT Digital and EIT InnoEnergy, as well as with EIT Climate-KIC and EIT Manufacturing;
- create structures and conditions for innovation-driven research in the collaborating HEIs;
- develop and use idea creation and assessment structures in the areas of digital transformation and circular economy;
- enhance the innovation and entrepreneurial teaching curricula using both formal and informal education;
- develop innovation and entrepreneurial training programmes and mentoring schemes for staff and students.

Based on the above objectives, PROMETHEUS relates to six actions of the HEI Initiative Pilot Call for Proposals:

- 'Enhance the scale and scope of student engagement activities';
- 'Infrastructure development';
- 'Establish new collaborations with external partners';
- 'Collaborate with the EIT Knowledge and Innovation Communities';
- 'Develop structures and conditions for people to create start-ups';
- 'Develop or improve innovation and entrepreneurial curricula.'

PROMETHEUS also relates to five dimensions of the HEInnovate methodology:

- 'Entrepreneurial teaching and learning';
- 'Preparing and supporting entrepreneurs';
- 'Knowledge exchange and collaboration';
- 'The internationalised institution';
- 'Measuring impact'.

With a total duration of two years and overall funding of €1.2 million, PROMETHEUS will ensure uptake and sustainability through:

- engaging associated partners from different countries and sectors, filling all the roles of the entrepreneurial education value chain;
- establishing a worldwide network of collaborating universities, businesses, research organisations, governmental bodies, non-government organisations, and other social partners;
- disseminating information via digital channels and targeted campaigns;
- monitoring and evaluating project performance, and developing further sustainability and transferability plans;
- engaging students at the participating universities in all project phases.

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.