Strategic Development and Collaboration Initiatives in E³UDRES²: Insights from Work Packages

E³UDRES² Work Package 2: Crafting a Robust Research and Innovation Agenda

Aligning Vision, Addressing Challenges, and Fostering Interdisciplinary Excellence

Work Package 2 will develop a multi-institutional research and innovation (R&I) agenda to strengthen the R&I capacity of the E³UDRES² alliance. This R&I agenda will not only focus on the research topics itself, but also on how the improvement of framework conditions for research within the E³UDRES² alliance can positively influence the research and innovation capacities of the alliance. In the first year of the project, Work Package 2 has identified relevant strategic policy documents on European and international level and checked them against the E³UDRES² alliance vision and activities. The outcome of this is that the E³UDRES² is already quite well aligned with recommendations of relevant policy documents.

However, as the alliance is a rather small alliance it is not possible to cover all challenges and topics mentioned in the EU missions (e.g. there is a lack of competences in medicine). Nevertheless, the high interdisciplinary approach opens up the opportunity to work on various topics and challenges.

One core activity of Work Package 2 was to conduct a survey at researchers and research management and administration at the partner institutions to gather data on the experiences within the E³UDRES² alliances. This survey was run at all 6 founding institutions of E³UDRES². The results of this survey show, that the researchers are interested in participating in the E³UDRES² research and innovation activities and also see benefits in doing so. However, there is still a lack of information which is provided to researchers to show the various opportunities within E³UDRES².

Unlocking Collaborative Potential: Strategic Insights into Research Distribution among Institutions

Addressing Challenges and Maximizing Impact in a Research Consortium

The Ent-re-novators project's Work Package 3 involves mapping and strategic planning for research infrastructure sharing among the E^3UDRES^2 partner institutions. This includes identifying available resources and how they can be effectively shared. Some interesting findings were made thanks to the work carried out in the first year.

The analysis of research infrastructure was done using two methods: a questionnaire survey and an institutional self-assessment. Through the answers to researchers' questions, we were able to understand needs, infrastructure usage, and researchers' satisfaction. The analysis revealed areas that require improvement, such as laboratory equipment and data centers.

The distribution of research areas among institutions indicates the need for strategic collaboration to maximize research potential. While the alliance has valuable infrastructure and professional expertise, common obstacles, financial challenges, and human resource issues need addressing.

Researchers show a strong demand for external infrastructure use and openness to international cooperation based on infrastructure sharing. Effective communication of collaboration initiatives is crucial to ensure all researchers are informed and actively participate.

It's clear that the consortium holds significant potential in infrastructure and research collaborations. However, addressing weaknesses and improving communication could further enhance the alliance's research capabilities and impact.

Embracing Openness: Strengthening Collaboration through OS/OI/OE/OA in Work Package 4

A Comprehensive Analysis and Joint Training Proposal for Open Science, Open Innovation, Open Education, and Open Access in E³UDRES² Ent-r-e-novators Consortium

Work Package 4 is embracing open science, open innovation and open education, open access (OS/OI/OE/OA), as to strengthen partners' collaboration in research, scientific and technology transfer.

Open Education, Open Access, Open Science, and Open Innovation are four movements aimed at promoting openness, transparency, and accessibility in various domains and are of importance for the E³UDRES² Ent-r-e-novators consortium partners. We conducted several studies based on a methodology (surveys and experts interviews, quantitative and qualitative assessments of the level of awareness/engagement, acceptability and value perception), the ethics and the results were corelated with other results from different EU reports and the SWOT analysis focusing on our target groups - students, Early Stage Researchers, experienced researchers, professors and other stakeholders - and with a plan for a joint curricula.

The results of all the analysis indicate the situation on the four domains. While some universities have a higher level of awareness and use of Open Education OE, others show uncertainty or limited knowledge but there is preference for using open-source software, and the adoption of OERs varies in terms of barriers and satisfaction among faculty and staff. However, there are notable weaknesses, such as the lack of universal policies and limited evaluation. ➡

Embracing Openness: Strengthening Collaboration through OS/OI/OE/OA in Workpackage 4 (continuation)

Open Access (OA) and Open Science (OS) within our universities, is identified as important in policies and actions, with the importance of OA in research publications is recognized by a high percentage of our academics; however, there is a significant gap between the perceived importance and the level of implementation, and the usefulness of OS/OA. Some universities have internal funding available to publish Open Access papers, articles, and books. There are various ideas to support Open Innovation projects, including access to software tools, continuous project information, innovation centres, education programs, collaborations with the business sector, but the incorporation of Open Innovation into student theses is considered a low priority. Despite these challenges, the partner universities recognise the numerous advantages of Open Innovation, including accelerated innovation, enhanced problem-solving, expanded market opportunities, and improved collaboration with the business sector.
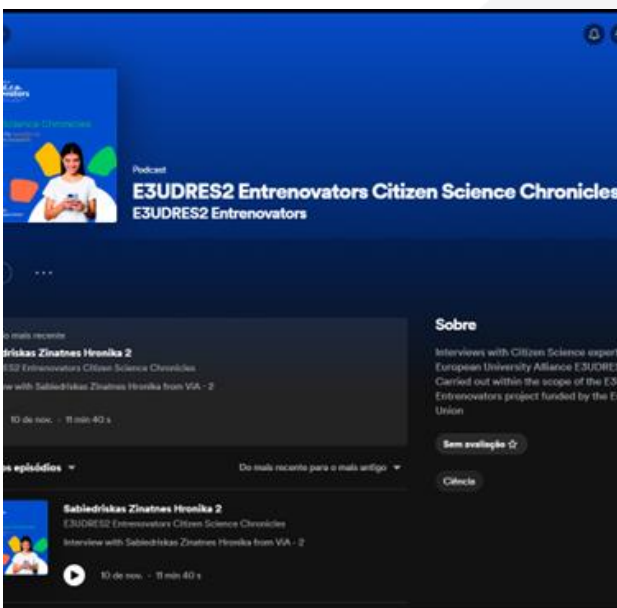

The E^{3}UDRES^2 Ent-r-e-novators proposal for joint training curricula for providing OE/OA/OS/OI skills and competences is part of a multi-level training program dedicated to all stakeholders from our universities (students, Early-Stage Researchers, experienced researchers, professors and other stakeholders), based on around 100 different courses and modules, some already in use in some of our universities and which will be integrated as OERs, further reading, or full courses. We plan to develop a transversal course and resources - Foundations for OE/OA/OS/OI - for an in-depth introduction to the principles, practices, and applications.

WP4
Open Science, Innovation Education

Unveiling Expert Insights: EUDRES Ent-r-e-novators Citizen Science Chronicles Podcast on Spotify

Last month, we launched the podcast "E^{3}UDRES^2 Ent-r-e-novators Citizen Science Chronicles" on Spotify. This podcast includes interviews with experts in Citizen Science from the European University Alliance E^{3}UDRES^2, as part of the WP5 initiative. WP5 is dedicated to collecting and co-creating engagement models, fostering collaboration among researchers and citizens, and eliciting their insights to shape perceptions and expectations for citizen science projects.

Follow the link to access all episodes of "Citizen Science Chronicles" on Spotify: Listen Here https://lnkd.in/eP-wEdFY.

Interviews with the leaders of WP2, WP3 and WP4

The interviews with the leaders of WP2, WP3, and WP4, whose reports are featured in this newsletter, have been released on our YouTube channel and website. These insightful discussions are also a part of our E^{3}UDRES^2 ENT-r-e-novators video series. Stay connected with us through our website at www.entrenovators.eu/ and on our social media platforms.

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Mission
Co-create a more specific joint research and innovation strategy

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