



Pilot project 3: Making the incubators more dynamic: “Subnetwork of Mediterranean Incubators” and Competition and Training Model for the Incubators’ companies

The pilot project 3 aims at making university incubators more dynamic by creating a “sub-network of Mediterranean Incubators” to favour communication and the exchange of advice and best practices among them and by creating a competition and training model for the incubators’ companies. This model may inspire and be reproduced by the incubators (both participating in the project or external to it) after the end of the project.

On the occasion of the third training conference, the Management Committee of this pilot project will be set up. This Committee will ensure the management and, to a large extent, the quality of this pilot project too. It will also be responsible of monitoring the progress of activities. The Committee shall meet in a specific session during the training conferences (M12, M16, M20, M24 and M28). A virtual conference will be organised in M32, before the last evaluation meeting that will be held at the same time as the closing conference. The representatives of the business **sector** will also be invited to take part in the virtual evaluation conference that was planned for the development of the pilot project 3. The training visits on field (organised in the months M14, M18 and M22, will allow the staff to acquire the necessary skills to carry out their tasks and learn from the work and functioning of the other incubators. Once the model is approved, the activities of dissemination and organisation of the 1st Competition will start. This will be held in M24 of the project. At the same time, fundraising activities will be organised for the Competitions’ prizes.

P2 (UniMe) will be in charge of coordinating the WP6, by insuring the implementation of the planned activities and respect for the deadlines

T6.1- Establishment of a Management and Monitoring Committee for the pilot project and selection of the people who will be responsible of implementing each pilot project in each University.

T6.2- Organisation of 7 meetings for the management and organisation of the implementation of the pilot project 3

T6.3 - Identification of the needs and definition of the competition and training model for the incubators’ companies, review and approval of the models

T6.4- Organisation of field visits and training of the staff of the partner countries’ HEIs within the context of the pilot project 3

T6.5- Presentation of the models to the stakeholders to gather recommendations and comments

T6.6- Dissemination and organisation of the first international competition

T6.7- Signing of agreements with the companies for an internship period

T6.8- Assessment of the first competition and review

T6.9- Dissemination and organisation of the 2nd international competition

T6.10- Organisation of a training period for the winners of the first competition

Deliverables:

D6.1 Creation of a tested Mediterranean competition model

The coordinator of WP5 will draft, with the support of all partners, a report on the development of WP6, containing the model approved and tested on the occasion of the two competitions organised and containing also the possible assessments and recommendations. The final report will be made available on the project website so it can be used as a model and case study for future applications in the next

Competitions organised by the HEIs and the incubators involved in the project or external to it. It will also provide a reference model for companies that might be interested in using it for further initiatives. Political authorities at all levels will also be the target recipients of the report for the impact that the initiative will have in the promotion of young graduates' employment and as a case study on technological cooperation in the Mediterranean.

D6.2 Training visits on field and exchange of best practices

Field visits allow to get to know the organisation and working methods of the hosting Incubators and HEIs more in depth and directly. The visits also offer the opportunity to meet other stakeholders (companies and policymakers) from the host country. Field visits have an educational purpose and aim at increasing the visitors' knowledge of the Incubators functioning, their services, financing methods and their relationship with their possible donors. Field visits will last 3 days and are addressed to the university staff acting as a link with the incubators.

D6.3 Creation of the "Subnetwork of Mediterranean Incubators"

A "Subnetwork of Mediterranean Incubators" (participating in the "Mediterranean Network for Employability"), gathering the liaison staff acting as a link between the HEIs and the Incubators, will be created. This will serve as a platform for cooperation and for the exchange of best practices. The group will be opened to new contacts and members while the project is being implemented and after it is closed, allowing for the dialogue, cooperation and debate to continue among the stakeholders, also outside the conferences.

The network will be permanent thanks to the UNIMED network as it will be an integral part of the "Mediterranean Network for Employability", which will acquire the status of one of UNIMED Sub-networks. Regular meetings, in person or on line, will be organised after the project is closed.