

EU Research & Policy Programmes

APPSKIL

European ICT Sector Skills Alliance - VET open course for mobile apps creators

AppSkil forms an ICT Sector Skills Alliance focused on the mobile apps field that will interconnect VET providers, sector representatives, and VET authorities to identify skills needs & mismatches, develop and deliver an appropriate training programme connected with qualification frameworks.

The main results are:

- A validated VET programme and open access learning resources on mobile apps creation skills in 5 EU languages
- 1 “train the trainer”, 5 on-site and online training seminars, 6 dissemination events
- A Memorandum of Understanding for mutual recognition and a Memorandum of Cooperation for the establishment of an EU ICT Skills Council

The AppSkil Alliance will provide staff in ICT with needed mobile apps creation skills but in short supply, enhancing personal development and job performance. Based on the learning outcomes approach, the AppSkil VET programme will promote mutual trust and mobility. ICT enterprises will be able to identify personnel with sector-specific skills and VET providers will benefit through the availability of a sector-specific VET program ready to be integrated in NQFs, EQF.

The Appskil Partners include: Coventry University Enterprises Limited (Co-ordinator and Lead) (GB), Department for the Economy (GB), NAACE (GB), South West College (GB), Centro Informazioni Mobilità ed Equivalenze Accademiche (IT), AICA - Associazione Italiana Informatica e Calcolo Automatico (IT), Consorzio Friuli Formazione (IT), Conseil régional de la Formation (BE), Agoria (BE), Business Training (BE), Department of Education. Government of Navarre (ES), Asociación de Técnicos de Informática (ES), Florida Centre de Formació, S.C.V (ES).

CASI

The project “Public Participation in Developing a Common Framework for Assessment and Management of Sustainable Innovation” (**CASI**) is proposed as a response to one of the Grand Challenges set out in the Horizon 2020 programme of the European Union, namely “Climate action, environment resource efficiency and raw materials”.

It represents an EU-wide cross-sectoral partnership on innovation-related challenges and considers not only the impacts of social and technological innovation, but also the types of actors involved and their inherent interests. It thus effectively integrates the perspectives of civil society, SMEs, industry, policy stakeholders, and leading academics.

This collaboration investigates the scope of sustainable innovation as a societal phenomenon and enables the elaboration of an assessment framework of sustainable innovation practices, whose application can be successfully integrated into public policy developments.

MOTIVATIONS

CASI is based on the understanding of innovation as a key driver of societal progress in the age of technology and of imminent uncertainties about the future. Sustainable innovation, on the other hand, further enhances this understanding by introducing sustainability as a focal core of the innovation process. At the same time, this is not an attempt to introduce yet another distinctive type of innovation. Rather, CASI will foster debate on conceptual dimensions, policy boundaries, and good practices combining innovative pursuits with sustainability objectives.

A key ambition of the project is to develop a coherent methodology for the assessment of sustainable innovation practices, based on a sound conceptual framework and a shared understanding of sustainability in innovation among stakeholders. It will define the context of sustainable innovation, as well as introduce sustainability as an objective of innovation diffusion through social and market opportunities.

CASI will further explore the impacts of innovative practices, as well as of specific technological and social innovations, vis-à-vis the persisting challenges of climate change adaptation and resource depletion, and the societal effects thereof. Thus it will make a more thorough inquiry into the balance between the social, economic and environmental impacts of innovations, and will help determine the scope and priorities for national and EU policy making.

QUICK FACTS ABOUT CASI:

CASI is a project supported by the Science | Society Programme of FP7, Theme SiS.2013.1.2-1 “Mobilisation and Mutual Learning (MML) Action Plans: mainstreaming Science in Society actions in research”.

CASI activities are distributed across 11 work packages, and include a total of 40 different tasks. It will run for 42 months, from January 2014 until June 2017.

CASI includes 19 partner organisations from 12 countries in the European Union, and relies on an extended network of national experts in the remaining 16 countries not represented in the consortium to ensure coverage and inquiry in every EU member state.

Website: www.casi2020.eu

INNOTRANS

Enhancing Transport innovation capacity of regions

Innovative and effective Transport systems are a pillar of economic success. INNOTRANS will map regional transport capacity and innovation, developing guidelines for future policy and action plans for investment. The project will ultimately contribute to the building of a regional cultures of continuous innovation. Building on existing areas of competitive advantage, identifying and developing new ones, linking and leveraging assets, INNOTRANS is helping to policy makers to make more informed decisions.

During the five year run of the project INNOTRANS partners will exchange, explore and disseminate good practices in Transport policy to promote innovation and improve competitiveness in all the regions involved.

The main objectives of INNOTRANS are:

- To provide a comprehensive mapping, evaluation and benchmarking of various transport services and policies available across the regions
- To highlight good practices, and innovations that promote and impact on the development of transport companies and infrastructure throughout the regions.
- To develop policy recommendations based on the Good Practices and the respective regional development programmes
- To develop Action Plans that will be implemented to contribute to the transport policies policies aligned to the needs of the regions and gaps not filled by the existing instruments

Alongside Coventry University Enterprises, who co-ordinate the project, the INNOTRANS partners are the Abruzzo Region of Italy, the City of Prague (Czech Republic), the South East Regional Development Agency of Romania and the Region of Western Macedonia (Greece).

Website: www.interregeurope.eu/innotrans/

INTRA

Internationalisation of Regional SMEs

The INTRA project focuses on the role of public authorities in creating internationalisation services to support the competitiveness of European regional economies and thus contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy. Developed by the project partners, it builds on internationalisation research findings as well as highlights the importance of regional quadruple helix partnerships to bring together universities, businesses, civil society and local authorities as the main stakeholders in research and design of new internationalisation policy models, to wider acceptance of good practices identified within the INTRA regions and to prepare new project proposals to be funded under the respective national Cohesion policy 2014-2020.

During the 5 years, INTRA partners will exchange, explore and disseminate good practices in ways to promote internationalisation and improve competitiveness of the respective regions involved.

The objectives of INTRA are:

- To provide a comprehensive mapping, evaluation and benchmarking of various internationalisation services available across the regions
- To highlight good practices, gaps that promote and impede on SMEs at various stages of the internationalisation process
- To develop policy recommendations based on the Good Practices and the respective regional development programmes
- To develop Action Plans that will be implemented to contribute to the internationalisation policies aligned to the needs of SMEs and gaps not filled by the existing instruments

The INTRA partners include Maribor Development Agency (SI) coordinator of INTRA, The Regional Agency for entrepreneurship and innovations – Varna (BG), Foundation FUNDECYT Scientific and Technological Park of Extremadura (ES), The University of Algarve (PT), Coventry University Enterprises Limited (UK), CAPITANK (IT). All partners are supported by their Managing Authorities for ERDF and represent the active stakeholders in internationalisation.

Website: www.interregeurope.eu/intra/

NEWBITS

NEW Business models for ITS

The NEWBITS project is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. The overall objective is to provide with a deep understanding of the changing conditions and dynamics that affect and/or influence C-ITS innovations. New KPIs will be designed to feed reactive and network oriented value creation propositions that improve the collaborative decision-making process across the various stakeholders. This improved value definition must minimize the failures inherent to C-ITS innovation diffusion, evolve present business models and identify effective incentives to accelerate C-ITS deployment.

To support its main goal, the project proposes to:

- apply a business ecosystem approach for C- ITS which acknowledges the context of economics of networks by introducing a higher conceptual level than that of individual organisations, focusing at how organisations create value within the context of the networks in which they interoperate;
- design and implement a holistic intelligence process that will gather key information and indicators on market, demand, stakeholder's involvement and innovation diffusion for ITS and C-ITS;
- develop a tailored application of the Value Network Analysis (VNA) business modelling method, which enables to model value networks, either internal or external to the organizations acting in the business ecosystems;
- formalise the enhanced understanding of the potential system benefits and fundamental economics of new business models suited to C-ITS in the European context and develop relevant outcomes to support policy measures towards C-ITS deployment.

The NEWBITS partners include Ortelio Ltd (United Kingdom) – project coordinator, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain), CE Delft (Netherlands), TTS Italia (Italy), Atos Spain SA (Spain), Coventry University Enterprises Ltd (United Kingdom), Steinbeis Innovation gGmbH (Germany), INTELSPACE Innovation Technologies (Greece), Istituto di Studi per l'Integrazione dei Sistemi (Italy).

Website: <http://newbits-project.eu/>

If you would like further information on any of the opportunities available from CUE Business Solutions please contact us using the link [here](#)