

Knowledge Alliance

Please give us as more details as possible, any details could be important. Additional comments or add from your side could be requested after the interview session.

Proposed Project Title: The Alliance for advanced Implementation of Collaborative Solutions

1 What is the reason of your project?

The reasons for this project are (1) To facilitate the exchange, flow and co-creation of knowledge in advancing Cross-Sector Social Interactions implementation, and (2) develop new and multidisciplinary approaches to teaching and learning in the field of Cross-Sector Social Interactions (CSSI) implementation in Higher Education in Europe

The participation of academics and practitioners will develop improve the familiarization across sectors, the development of trust and allow for opportunities of further engagement.

Given the previous experience in CSSI and the intensification of pre-existing and new social issues the CSSI Implementation project will facilitate the scaling up of such initiatives of businesses, governments, and civil society organisations speeding-up the process of arriving to collaborative solutions. This will no longer delay the process which so far has been based on figuring out how to collaborate as part of the process of collaboration. This will also allow for the maximum use of very valuable resources of all involved parties.

2 Please give us a concise description of the outputs, results and/ or products (i.e. key pedagogical strategies, media used, language version, etc)

1a. Development of specialized teams working on the development on intersectoral, and multidisciplinary understanding of collaborative solutions per social issue (health, environment, poverty alleviation, social inclusion)

1b. Development of academic publications including papers, books and practitioner guides on the implementation of advanced collaborative action according to social issues

1c. Development of an online platform that will facilitate the emergence of cutting-edge theoretical, methodological and practice-based European understanding of social issues in context

1d. Development of a thesis publication (theory and practice) to disseminate cutting-edge knowledge and best practices on an annual basis to large scale audiences around the world addressing academics and practitioners at the same time

1e. Development of a bi-annual symposium on CSSI

1f. Development of an Advisory board with prominent academics and practitioners in the field of CSSI

2a. Develop practice-based pedagogical strategies for CSSI implementation

2b. Translate the pedagogical strategies in the project team's languages (English, Italian, Spanish, German, Dutch)

3c. Develop video clips on brief introductions to social issues, summaries of the literature per social issue, introductions to key case studies in CSSI to facilitate teaching CSSI

2d. Development of reporting and writing guidelines for CSSI implementation solutions for large scale audiences

2e. Development of summer school for lecturers in CSSI research and teaching to test and share the new pedagogical material and share best teaching practices

2f. Involvement of practitioners in delivering teaching and participating in in-class workshops and research activities

3 **What would be the impact of the Project?**

- Students

New leaders should be educated to enable their organisations to grapple with new risks and opportunities. Students will have the opportunity to train to the new beyond sectors silo working reality and hence be ready to engage and contribute in cross-sector social interactions working. Students will develop new cutting-edge skills in order

to develop collaborative solutions for the existing and new complex problems the world will face faster and more accurately.

Assessment: A standard questionnaire will be required to be filled before and after attending relevant modules that employed materials developed by the project to assess the skills developed.

- Companies staff

Companies are not the only target group that will experience the impact of this project. Practitioners from business, nonprofit organisations and public sector will benefit by the new generation of students who will be prepared to join large-scale, long-term public-private-civil society partnerships across countries. Being able to go beyond regulatory compliance and re-imagine new ways to develop collaborative solutions to engage with organisations from many sectors and serve the social good requires the new skills that the students will be trained upon.

Assessment: Every student who receives training using materials developed by the Knowledge Alliance will join an alumni association of free membership to the online platform reporting on the importance of his CSSI education in the organization he/she is working for. This will also allow for sharing latest insights from the field and identifying future needs.

All organisations will benefit by getting access to cutting-edge research findings through the unique thesis publication that will provide theoretically informed implementation cases and practice-based theoretical insights. This new publication will provide easy access to the latest research and practice in the CSSI field.

Assessment: Downloads of the publication will be counted by the collaborating publishing house and Ingenta connect (international database for journal publications).

- Teachers

Lecturers will benefit from the use of pedagogical strategies and video material in order to introduce and integrate in their teaching CSSI as part of the existing curriculum or developing new modules on CSSI. Developing such material would be impossible for lecturers across HE institutions due to high costs in time and funding. Providing such material on open-access will intensify their use and the benefit to students and organisations in European societies will be achieved in shorter time-scales.

- Broader public

The broader public will benefit from all the actions as they all aim at benefiting the social good by enhancing and intensifying the development of collaborative solutions for the social good for the environment, poverty alleviation, health, social inclusion to mention a few.

4 What is the area/scope of the project?

Regarding the background of the CSSI term: 'cross-sector social interactions' was introduced at the first international scoping symposium on cross-sector social interactions in 2007 at the London School of Economics (LSE) that was co-organised by Brunel Business School and LSE. The term CSSI was developed as a response to the need for a distinctive and 'uncharged' term that provides a wide enough spectrum to encompass past and future practices emerging at the intersection of the business, public and civil society sectors. The most recent CSSI type of engagement is cross-sector social partnerships, which is seen by the UN, governments, civil society and private sector organisations as the most promising way of developing solutions to social problems.

Justification:

The proliferation of cross-sector social partnerships around the world, despite their potential to achieve unique innovative collaborative solutions, it is also associated with high degree of failure due to the challenges that organisations from different economic sector face when working together. Hence, developing a European Knowledge Alliance on Advanced Implementation of Cross-Sector Social Interactions will allow the participants to share cutting edge research findings and best practices on the implementation of collaborative solutions. This shared platform across academia and practice will facilitate the timely and focused development and implementation of CSSI in Europe providing solutions to social issues.

Product scope description:

Developing a European Alliance for Advanced Implementation of CSSI will comprise of practitioners and academics in the following areas: health, environment, social inclusion and poverty alleviation. As CSSI involve diverse teams from several departments within an organization ranging from innovation managers, funding directors, CSR directors and product/service managers the calls for participation will be distributed in large scale databases and social media groups to identify interested parties.

Participation acceptance criteria:

(1) The acceptance criteria for participation will be previous or current involvement in CSSI implementation in any of the thematic areas mentioned above.

(2) All participating individual or organizational actors should agree to share basic information about the implementation of their CSSIs. All the information will be fed into the development of an online searchable database which will be developed for the first time.