EU–CONEXUS
Research for Society (RFS)

18 JANUARY 2022

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

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EU-CONEXUS: European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability

One of the 17 first ‘Universities of the Future’

It is a transnational European higher education and research institution that covers the smart urban sustainable coastal development from a global point of view.

The EU-CONEXUS teaching, research and innovation programmes include the totality of social, economic, and environmental problems and opportunities that coastlines are facing today.
Aims at a institutional transformation in all partner universities for creating a multidisciplinary, challenge-driven, internationally competitive research and innovation structure, relying on researchers who follows a career path, and who is open to qualitative new, participatory and innovative partnerships with industries and the civil society.
Expectations

1. Interconnection of transformations will complete already engaged long-term vision for the European University.

2. Facilitating researchers’ mobility and access to multiple work environments will bring a new profile of European researchers to have more attitude on environmental issues.

3. Enabling public and intra-alliance access to information will increase exchanges, enable cooperation and co-creation, build inter-partner projects.

4. Sharing resources will bring lower costs, offer the opportunity to reach the ecological impact of multiple purchases and investments in new resources.

5. Training and exchanges with actors of the social and economic innovation system will enable to reduce challenges that coastal areas and cities are facing.

6. Understanding the specific challenges each university will harmonise practices and working conditions, making them fairer, more sustainable and more environmentally friendly.
A Hub of Excellence in Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability

4,000 Academic Staff

65 Research Institutes

98 Research Groups
La Rochelle Université, France
A human-sized university specialising in Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability issues.

Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest, Romania
We build education in engineering since 1818 in Romania.

Catholic University of Valencia, Spain
Professional and personal growth of students, staff and society.

Agricultural University of Athens, Greece
Provides a high level of Education and Research since 1920.

University of Zadar, Croatia
A space of creativity and transfer of new knowledge and technologies.

Klaipeda University, Lithuania
A national and Baltic Region leader in the field of marine sciences.

Waterford Institute of Technology
Education-focussed collaborative, inclusive, ethical and innovative community

The University of Rostock
University’s motto "Traditio und Innovatio"

Frederick university
Assists students achieve the maximum of their potential and empowers them to have a positive impact to society.
Project data

Project title: EU-CONEXUS Research For Society
Acronym: EU-CONEXUS RFS
Funding Programme: HORIZON 2020 Programme – “Science with and for Society”
Start: 1st March, 2021
End: 29th February, 2024
Duration: 36 months
Total budget: 1 992 960 EUR
EU grant: 1 992 960 EUR
Institutional transformation at Alliance level

Interdisciplinarity

Innovative structure

Joint science

RESEARCH

Transversal Skills

European Research Area

Innovation agenda
Developing Joint Science
Gender Equality & Non-discrimination
Open Science
Science to Business Cooperation
Innovative and Socially Responsible Management

RESEARCH FOR SOCIETY
Developing Joint Science

BY SHARING RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURES

A Joint Research Area in:
- Life Sciences and Biotechnology
- Environmental Sciences and Biodiversity
- Coastal Engineering
- Social Sciences, Culture and Human Sciences

- Development of joint research projects
- Wider training opportunities
- Access to 9 times more research infrastructures
- Reduce ecological impact, be more sustainable
PROMOTING EQUAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Comparing women/men working conditions for promoting equalitarian careers
- Developing a knowledge transfer and innovation management system for representing both genders equally
- Bringing a specific focus of an innovative mentorship programme
- Promoting gendered innovations
- Ensuring non-discrimination culture
INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT IN RESEARCH

- Engaging innovation ecosystem
- Expertise services to stakeholders
- Science commercialisation
- Knowledge transfer
- Innovation hub: advertising innovative solutions
OPENING SCIENCE FOR SOCIETY

- Increasing citizenship involvement
- Developing practices for society inclusiveness
- Increasing society’s knowledge on research results
- Enabling co-creation, co-development and reuse of knowledge and making it more reliable, effective and reasonable
- Creating an EU-CONEXUS Open Science platform
Innovative and Socially Responsible Management

CONTROL & RELY ON SUSTAINABLE RESEARCH COOPERATION

- Innovative practices in strategic development
- Socially responsible financial and administrative coordination
- Harmonized quality assurance and monitoring
- Coherence within European Research Area
EU-CONEXUS
RFS FOR

- Researchers / Future Researchers
- Students / Perspective Students
- Scientific Institutions
- Other European Universities
- Local, National, International Policy Makers
- Public Authorities
- EU Bodies
- Industries and Socio-Economic Partners
- Citizens & General Public
**Governance Structure**

**GOVERNING BOARD (GB)**
Take strategic decisions for both projects; composed of Rectors/Presidents of each university.

**RESEARCH COUNCIL (RC)**
Takes over the responsibilities of the Joint Research Steering Committee (Erasmus+) and supervises the RFS actions and the Erasmus+ WP4 actions, activities of WGs of both projects composed by Vice-rectors for Research.

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL (AC)**
Makes proposals on academic offers (also in relations with Research activities PhD to the GB is responsible for Erasmus+ WP2 actions; composed by Vice-rectors in Academic Affairs.

**RFS - MANAGEMENT BOARD (MB)**
For operational actions of both projects, composed by ED and representatives from all partner universities.

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**Coordination Team**
La Rochelle University team
+ Klaipeda University Project Manager

**RFS - WORKING GROUPS (WG)***

**WP1** RFS Management Board (WG)
Data Management And GDPR Issues (WG)
Research Integrity Committee (WG)
Gender Equality Plan (WG)

**WP2** European Research Area (WG)

**WP3** Joint Human Resources Unit (WP)

**WP4** Research Infrastructure and Resources (WG)

**WP5** Public and Corporate Relations Unit (WG)

**WP6** Open and Participatory Science (WG)

**WP7** Joint Communication Unit (WG)
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