



EU-CONEXUS RESEARCH FOR SOCIETY

D. 4.3

"Report on dissemination and training programme of available services (Job Shadowing)"

2023

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1. Introduction: Framework for action

EU-CONEXUS is a strong partnership between nine universities developing science and innovation into a hub of excellence on Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability (SmUCS). EU-CONEXUS-RFS, within EU-CONEXUS, focuses on the research contribution to society.

For this contribution to be effective, the alliance has designed a strategy with actions and tools to transform their partners approach to research and bring it closer to the different stakeholders. To this end, different work packages have been defined to address the management of researchers' careers, the promotion of open science, the positioning of the alliance in ERA, the transfer of knowledge and innovation and the management of research infrastructures and resources.

This last package involves the collaboration of partners to share physical and virtual infrastructures, resources and best practices in this area. The objectives include strengthening the role and the recognition of R&I of the EU-CONEXUS ecosystem in SmUCS themes, investigating joint structures, as well as sharing best practices across other European Universities alliances, in particular SEA-EU because of its similar thematic focus.

There is a need to identify the specific requirements of research infrastructures and resources to be shared, including access to data, information and training, as well as the possibility to introduce adjustments and to reduce operational costs. The shared access to the EU-CONEXUS joint Research Infrastructures (EU-CONEXUS RI) shall reduce fragmentation of the R&I ecosystem, in order to avoid duplication of effort, minimize operational costs, assure research integrity and draw on best practices.

The foreseen tasks aim at better coordinating the development and use of facilities, resources and services of the EU-CONEXUS RI, and at expanding international cooperation. Pilot incentives developed for enhancing cooperation, train researchers and managers, make industry more aware of the services provided by EU-CONEXUS

RI and foster the embeddedness of universities' research infrastructures in local, regional, national, European and global R&I ecosystems and industrial value chains.

The external services provision offer will combine access to research infrastructures with a **training offer on how to use research infrastructures (Job shadowing)**. **This training programme will be accessible for researchers within the Alliance but also for interested individuals outside the Joint Research Infrastructures.** Webinars or specific training courses (with possibility of fees for external users and certification) will also be organised on analytical or sampling methods and other procedures based on EU-CONEXUS RI and skills in relation to Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability.

All the universities from the Alliance have expressed their willingness to participate in this training programme and have offered courses that will be part of the initial catalogue.

The participating universities are:

1. La Rochelle Université (FR),
2. Agricultural University of Athens (EL),
3. Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest (RO),
4. Klaipeda University (LT),
5. Catholic University of Valencia (ES),
6. University of Zadar (HR)

2. Methodology of the report

In the framework of the task 4.3 Report on dissemination and training programme of available services, the development of the work has been articulated around several group meetings with all partners as well as meetings of a small group of partners constituted in a steering committee to make progress on the different aspects related to the programme and to ensure its adequate launching.

A total of 9 meetings took place in order to define and design the programme.

10 June 2021: First meeting on the deliverable with all partners. Presentation of the issues.

23 September 2021: Presentation of courses and professors. First potential programme.

20 December 2021: Inclusion of new training courses and agreement on the constitution of a steering committee. Invitation of interested partners.

14 February 2022: Constitution and first meeting of the steering committee.

12 May 2022: Second meeting of the steering committee. Discussion on the programme's operating terms (prerequisites, costs and fees, certificates and ECTS and mobilities...).

24 March 2023: Agreement on final list for the first edition of the training programme.

16 June 2023: Catalogue preparation and review by all partners. Final agreement on the programme's operating terms.

27-28 September 2023: On site WP4 meeting in Athens. Discussion about 1st draft of the deliverable.

3. Why this programme?

One of our main concerns has been to provide competitive training courses to industry, public bodies and SMEs to enhance cooperation and therefore ensure the sustainability of the European University – EU-CONEXUS, by fostering the embeddedness of universities' RI in local, regional, national, European and global R&I ecosystems and industrial value chains.

Equally important has been the internal training of research staff or students from the universities in the alliance. In this way, synergies can be multiplied by strengthening partnerships through the launching of new courses, increased use of infrastructures and reflection on those that may be needed in the future as well as increased competences of EU-CONEXUS staff.

For this purpose, a programme has been designed with a catalogue of specialisation courses and training in the use of infrastructures that can be modified after each term according to an analysis of the results and the market needs.

For it, we have identified the specific needs, the target groups and the expected outcomes, as well as we have had to overcome a number of challenges in each of the universities related to internal regulations and procedures.

3.1 Specific needs

- a. **Addressing the challenges of Smart Urban Coastal Cities (SmUCS):** Coastal cities face unique challenges related to climate change, population growth, environmental degradation, and infrastructure needs. These challenges require training in innovative solutions that consider the complex interactions between urban and coastal environments.
- b. **Enhancing knowledge transfer and collaboration:** There is a need for better knowledge exchange and collaboration among researchers, stakeholders, and institutions across various disciplines to develop and implement effective SmUCS solutions, particularly focusing on sustainable technologies.
- c. **Supporting capacity building and skill development:** Bachelor and master students, researchers and other professionals in the R&I ecosystem require capacity building and skill development to address the complex challenges faced by urban coastal cities effectively.
- d. **Strengthening links between academia and business:** There is a need to improve connections between academia and business for the development and implementation of innovative SmUCS solutions and promote career permeability.

3.2 Target groups

- a. **Researchers and academics** - the programme will provide valuable insights and methodologies that researchers can build upon, facilitating further research and innovation in the fields of the specialisation courses.
- b. **Higher education institutions** (HEIs) will benefit from strengthened research capacity, increased collaboration, and the establishment and strengthening of research networks, contributing to their role in research and innovation.
- c. **Public administration, industry and businesses** – public and private sector stakeholders will benefit from the training programme outcomes opening up new market opportunities and driving industry advancements.
- d. **Bachelors and Master students as well as early career researchers** - the programme focus on capacity building will benefit these target groups by providing mentoring, training, and career development opportunities.

3.3 Expected outcomes

- a. **Strengthened research capacity** - researchers, academics, and higher education institutions will benefit from increased collaboration, strengthened research networks, and innovative methodologies, leading to improved research capabilities and scientific advancements.
- b. **Improvement of career opportunities for public and private stakeholders** by strengthening their expertise and knowledge.
- c. **Deeper understanding of SmUCS. A comprehensive framework for knowledge transfer**, focused on Smart Urban Coastal Cities (SmUCS), facilitating collaboration and exchange between experts. The programme will stimulate scientific knowledge in the field of urban coastal challenges.

- d. **Capacity building and skill development** among researchers, early career researchers, and research management bodies, empowering them to address SmUCS challenges more effectively.
- e. **Enhanced links between academia and business**, as well as improved career permeability, fostering innovation and the practical application of research outcomes.
- f. **Support of an innovative ecosystem**, promoting collaboration, knowledge exchange, mobilisation of R&I systems and capacity building.

3.4 Challenges within each partner university

LRUniv

In LRUniv, a training already available to external researchers and stakeholders was selected to be proposed in the EU-CONEXUS-RFS Lifelong Learning Courses catalogue. This training is provided on demand for individuals or groups, either face-to-face or in hybrid mode (the training content in this case would be adapted) by a researcher from the Engineering department. Participants are delivered a certificate at the end of the training. Some RFS partners propose trainings that can also be followed by students and that provide ECTS. The main (ongoing) challenge for LRUniv is to recognize these ECTS if LRUniv students wish to follow such trainings. Indeed, it requires to include those courses in LRUniv Master curricula, which is not updated every year, and it then needs to be approved by LRUniv Academic Council. Therefore, in order to launch the programme offer, in LRUniv the catalogue was disseminated to researchers and external stakeholders for the time being, and not to Master students. It was also disseminated to PhD students, as in LRUniv the Doctoral School training courses do not provide ECTS.

AUA

In order to launch a training programme with a robust link to employment, economic well-being, and the engagement of individuals in society, Agricultural University of Athens needs to comply to National Legislation which is based on an integrated strategy for VET (Law 4763/2020).

The procedure includes validation from the Center of Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning (CCELL) a unit of the Agricultural University of Athens, which ensures coordination and interdisciplinarity cooperation in the development of training programs education, continuing education, training and in general lifelong learning. The Center was established by ministerial decision no. 85595/Z1/08-06-2018 (Official Government Gazette 2102/τ.Β´/08-06-2018).

According to the Center's regulation (Official Government Gazette 6354/06.11.2023/τ.Β´), the three training offers ("Application of gas chromatography for the determination of fatty acids in fish and fish feed", "Fish feed and seafood quality control" and "Applications of Molecular Biology in Fisheries and Aquaculture") applications were submitted for approval by the CCELL Council. The relative documents included: a) the application form in national and English language, b) Program Financial Data Analysis c) Feasibility and Sustainability Study.

In addition, the teachers to implement the training programmes were identified. In order to be eligible for teaching in the Courses, they must be registered at the CCELL's List of trainers. According to the procedure, all the relevant documents need approval by the CCELL Council in order to proceed to the implementation of the trainings. The relevant applications were submitted.

All of the above applications have been approved.

After the CCELL Council approval, the budget of the programs needs to be submitted, along with the "Request for Project Acceptance" documents, to the "Special Account for Research Grants." of the Agricultural University of Athens. This way, implementation costs and participants' fees become eligible. The relevant documents for the three courses have been submitted and await approval by the Research Committee of the "Special Account for Research Grants".

Furthermore, the required documents have been prepared and are pending financial approval for the commencement of dissemination activities, participant enrollment, and the delivery of training sessions for the programme.

- Creation of a study guide and programme timetable based on a template.
- Delivery of the study guide and the programme timetable to the Secretariat of CCELL for control: After the finalization of the Study Guide, an announcement of the program is created by the secretariat of CCELL and posting on the CCELL's website (www.kedivimaua.gr).
- Submission of the study guide in both electronic and paper form.
- Delivery of the educational material in electronic form to the Secretariat of CCELL
- Declaration of Scientific Responsible of each training programme for copyright exemption of educational material, that the thematic units are not taught in an undergraduate curriculum, that the specific training programme is not available in another CCELL, existence of the written consent of the director of the laboratory in case scientific laboratory instruments of the AUA are used.

The successful attendance of the training programmes, will be certified by the attribution of a “CERTIFICATE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION” according to CCELL's template as well as a “EUROPASS CERTIFICATE SUPPLEMENT”.

UCV

UCV followed the regular internal proceedings to register the courses and make them approved by the Governing Board, so Bachelor, Master and PhD students are credited with the corresponding ECTS.

As leaders of this deliverable, from the very beginning, a joint launch of all courses was agreed in order to generate a greater impact. However, we encountered a series of challenges:

1. The modification of the content of the catalogue at different times. The timing was not strictly adhered to, and the coordinator of WP7 (communication and dissemination) at UCV in charge of compiling the catalogue had to be continuously

making changes until it was finally approved by all partners at the end of November 2023.

2. The bureaucracy issue on the part of the governing bodies in some universities that demanded extra reports (for rectors and vice-rectors) to comply with internal regulations and national regulations on lifelong learning.

KU

The research infrastructure of Klaipėda University is managed according to the principle of open access and is available to both internal and external users. Internal users, including researchers and PhD students, can directly use the infrastructure for their research. External users, such as businesses, state institutions, etc., typically order research services provided by laboratory staff. Additionally, research equipment is occasionally used by interns, although their access is generally within the scope of joint project activities.

The possibility of using the infrastructure for LLL is limited due to the overload of laboratory staff and the accreditation of a significant portion of laboratory activities.

For this reason, we found a way out and offered alternative training related to the use of scientific infrastructure. These are anti-corruption trainings, which are extremely relevant in various activities, including the use of valuable university resources - research research infrastructure. We believe that these trainings fit perfectly into LLL training and complement it.

Given that the proposed anti-corruption training is hybrid and paid, and also because there were probably many other time-consuming internal activities in the institutions as well EU-CONEXUS events during that time from announcing the learning until the end of the SwafS project, the need for these learning have not yet arise. Klaipeda University are considering the possibility of modification of learning format and cost. Also, the possibility of adding to the LLL courses catalogues the research infrastructure use training in the future. It all depends on the scientific infrastructure and the availability of employees who can be trained to work with them.

UNIZD

UNIZD followed the regular internal procedure and reported no challenge or particular issue regarding the design, approval, launch and dissemination of the training catalogue.

UTCB

At **UTCB**, the challenges identified were the following:

1. Attracting university teaching staff to get involved in the development of the specialisation programme and increasing their interest in the development of a specific curriculum for each training programme.
2. Awareness for the public administration, industry and businesses – public and private sector stakeholders to facilitate the participation of their employees in the specialisation/training programme by granting the necessary time to attend the courses/programs.
3. Identification and development the specialisation/training programme of interest for the EU-CONEXUS Alliance and current affairs at the European level. The main topics would be smart city, sustainability, resilience, decarbonisation, nZEB (Zero Emission Buildings) etc.

4. The programme

4.1 The [catalogue](#)

This catalogue is open to the inclusion of new courses as well to a modification of the existing ones depending on the demand, new needs to be covered and the availability of professors. After an initial thorough analysis, each university convened to present a series of courses. All courses' descriptions and learning outcomes as well as prerequisites have been fully described in the catalogue.

4.2 The terms of the programme

In order to manage the training programme, the steering committee established terms to develop it and make it publicly available.

4.2.1 Steering Committee

In order to approve new courses and update the catalogue, a Steering Committee has been established with 4 members. These members will rotate each year so all the partners take part in this process. After each academic year a new steering committee will review the catalogue and update it.

4.2.2 Catalogue of offered courses

Each university will fill in a document to inform about the courses it offers each term.

The new courses will be submitted to the steering committee which will assess them regarding their feasibility and suitability of the courses. The catalogue can be extended and modified after each term depending on the availability of the teaching staff and the willingness of the universities offering the courses.

4.2.3 Prerequisites, costs and fees

Each partner will define its own way of management according to internal procedures.

Therefore, each university will:

- specify the prerequisites to participate in a course (previous knowledge or background, master degree, BA degree, professional...)
- set its own fees and costs according to their internal policy and proceedings.
- indicate the course format (online, on site, blended), the ECTS (in case there are), the number of sessions per course, the calendar (fixed schedule or upon request)

4.2.4 Certificates and ECTS

Each partner will:

- specify the number of ECTS for its courses
- carry out the internal proceedings to register the course
- issue its own certificate signed by the corresponding university authorities (rector, vice-rector...) and the professor. The certificate will include: number of hours or/and ECTS, skills and the EU-CONEXUS-RFS logo. This certificate will certify the

attendance as well as the acquisition of competencies through a test, exam, project or report.

4.2.5 Mobilities (for students and researchers of EU-CONEXUS)

Depending on whether it is a student or a researcher there will be one type of mobility or another.

- For Students of BA and Master, they can apply for an Erasmus mobility if the training course have at least 3 ECTS.
- For PhD students, they will be treated as students of BA. In case they have a contract, they will be treated as teaching staff.
- For teaching staff: these researchers will be able to apply for an Erasmus training grant.
- In addition, there is an EU-CONEXUS Plus budget for researchers complying with the requirements. These grants will be awarded in an open and transparent process.
- Blended Intensive Programmes (BIPs) are also an option to finance these courses.

External agents will have to apply for grants awarded by other organisations or institutions.

4.3 Evaluation: KPIs

To measure the results of the training programme, the alliance members will use quantitative and qualitative KPIs.

4.3.1 Quantitative KPIs

- Number of participants
- Number of mobilities awarded
- Incomes generated
- Outreach (social media)

4.3.2 Qualitative KPIs

- Origin of participants
- Background of participants
- Satisfaction with trainers
- Satisfaction with content
- Satisfaction with infrastructures (updated or outdated technology)
- Perspectives of improvement of professional career

5. Dissemination activities and tools

WP4 members have designed and defined tools and actions that will have to be adapted according to the target group they want to reach (Bachelor and master students, researchers or external professionals).

Activities/tools	Action/ Purpose
Electronic catalogue	Electronic material for distribution and publication in EU-CONEXUS website Launch of Lifelong Learning Courses for Research and Skill Advancement - EU-CONEXUS
Social Media Channels Instagram and LinkedIn	To disseminate the courses, participant's impressions and results Linkedin Facebook
Multimedia materials	Short videos of the training courses
University websites	Articles on the training courses, the benefits and learning outcomes
Spotlight stories	Stories and interviews with trainers and participants
RFS newsletter	Newsletter issued by EU-CONEXUS for Researchers

The main information is provided at the EU-CONEXUS website: [Launch of Lifelong Learning Courses for Research and Skill Advancement - EU-CONEXUS](#).

The courses are promoted in the EU-CONEXUS RFS newsletter on 30 Jan 2024, social networks and alumni network of EU-CONEXUS. Apart from this, each partner will take care of their further promotion through institutional channels.

LRUniv

Articles will be published in the University newsletters and information will be made available on the Intranet. Social media post are planned also.

AUA

All approved programmes are published on the Center of Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning 's, website, which provides the possibility to go through appropriate links to the specific website of each programme (<https://kedivimaua.gr/programmata/>).

The CCELL is linked to the central webpage of AUA <https://www2.aua.gr/el/info/kentro-epimorfosis-kai-dia-vioy-mathisis-kedivim>

The calls will be also disseminated by AUA social media.

Moreover, it is planned to disseminate the calls by other websites related to study offers in Greece.

The three training offers (“Application of gas chromatography for the determination of fatty acids in fish and fish feed”, “Fish feed and seafood quality control” and “Applications of Molecular Biology in Fisheries and Aquaculture”) are expected to start dissemination and implementation by February 2024.

UCV has used the following means to promote the courses.

1. *Newsletters for professors, researchers and administrative staff*



Launch of Lifelong Learning Courses

Embark on a journey of lifelong learning with the launch of the new Training Programme, designed to provide hands-on experience with research infrastructure and analytical methods. Open to students, professors, researchers, university staff, and professionals, this program offers access to cutting-edge equipment, specialized knowledge, and the opportunity to expand your network within your field.

[Explore!](#)



Descubre las oportunidades de internacionalización:



Formación permanente EU-CONEXUS

Descubre los nuevos cursos desarrollados por EU-CONEXUS.
Abierto a estudiantes, profesores, investigadores, personal universitario y profesionales.
Posibilidad de financiación con Erasmus y EU-CONEXUS (consulta en la Oficina de Relaciones Internacionales).

Algunos de los cursos:

Analyte extraction and quantification from marine samples via spectroscopic techniques	Scuba diving for scientific research in coastal waters	Techniques for the main captivity of Pinnidae (I)
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Para más dudas, puedes escribirnos marta.talens@ucv.es

2. Newsletter for students



Descubre las oportunidades de internacionalización mientras estudias:



Formación continua EU-CONEXUS

Descubre los nuevos cursos desarrollados por EU-CONEXUS, y en colaboración con todos tus laboratorios y centros de investigación. Alumnos de grado, máster y doctorado que cumplan con los conocimientos previos pueden participar.
Posibilidad de financiación con Erasmus y EU-CONEXUS (consulta en la Oficina de Relaciones Internacionales).

Para más información escribenos a marta.talens@ucv.es
[Catálogo de cursos](#)

3. Publication in its lifelong learning website section: [Otros títulos/Formación Permanente | UCV](#).

4. LinkedIn UCV - posts

KU

Publication on the Training Programme is available at KU website: <https://www.ku.lt/lt/naujienuos/eu-conexus-mokymosi-visa-gyvenima-kursai> and shared by e-mail with researchers community at Klaipeda University.

EU-CONEXUS MOKYMOSI VISĄ GYVENIMĄ KURSAI

Kviečiame studentus, dėstytojus, mokslininkus bei visą universiteto personalą dalyvauti EU-CONEXUS mokymosi visą gyvenimą kursuose. Kursų sąrašą bei detaalią informaciją galite rasti šioje brošiūroje ([Lifelong learning courses \(eu-conexus.eu\)](https://www.eu-conexus.eu/launch-lifelong-learning-courses))

Daugiau informacijos:

[Launch of Lifelong Learning Courses for Research and Skill Advancement - EU-CONEXUS](https://www.eu-conexus.eu/launch-lifelong-learning-courses)

Kilus klausimų, rašykite: marta.talons@ucv.es

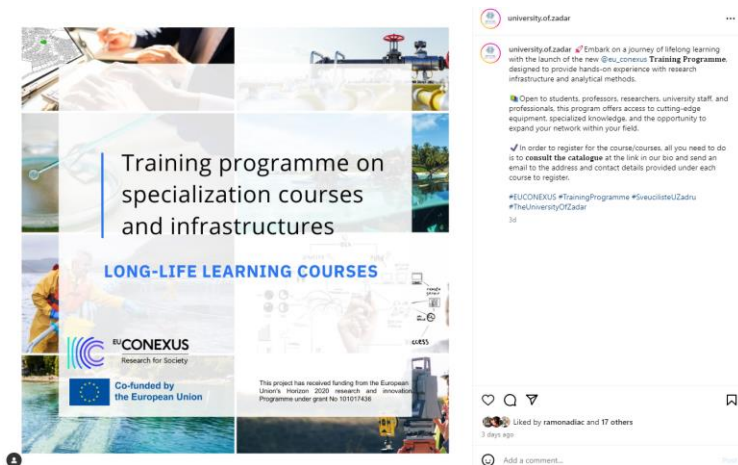


Training programme on
specialisation courses
[LIFELONG LEARNING COURSES](https://www.eu-conexus.eu/launch-lifelong-learning-courses)

UNIZD

Facebook	LinkedIn
<p>Sveiklėte u Zadr 3 d. · 0</p> <p>Embark on a journey of lifelong learning with the launch of the new Training Programme, designed to provide hands-on experience with research infrastructure and analytical methods.</p> <p>Open to students, professors, researchers, university staff, and professionals, this program offers access to cutting-edge equipment, specialized knowledge, and the opportunity to expand your network within your field.</p> <p>✓ In order to register for the course/courses, all you need to do is to consult this catalogue, and send an email to the address and contact details provided under each course to register.</p> <p>EU-CONEXUS Find more information https://www.eu-conexus.eu/launch-lifelong-learning-/</p> <p>The main objective of this Training Programme is to provide students and professionals with a variety of specialized courses and practical experience with research infrastructure and analytical methods.</p> <p>Take part in this new programme and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access a larger offer of equipment and facilities as well as courses. Acquire specialized knowledge. Expand your network with researchers from your area of interest or research. Experience another culture and perspective. <p>Why can't I take this Training?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researcher, Master or PhD students. Researchers. Researchers and related with research. Researchers in the private or public sector. <p>Training programme on specialisation courses and infrastructures</p>	<p>University of Zadar 4,722 followers 3d · 0</p> <p>Embark on a journey of lifelong learning with the launch of the new Training Programme, designed to provide hands-on experience with research infrastructure and analytical methods. ...see more</p> <p>Take part in this new programme and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access a larger offer of equipment and facilities as well as courses. Acquire specialized knowledge. Expand your network with researchers from your area of interest or research. Experience another culture and perspective. <p>Why can't I take this Training?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Researcher, Master or PhD students. Researchers. Researchers and related with research. Researchers in the private or public sector. Researchers in the private or public sector. <p>Training programme on specialisation courses and infrastructures</p> <p>LIFELONG LEARNING COURSES</p> <p>EU-CONEXUS</p> <p>with EU-CONEXUS</p> <p>Maritime Department University of Zadar and 5 others</p>

Instagram



UTCB

Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest promoted the agreed courses on each available communication channel as follows:

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/UTCBRO>

Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/utcbro/>

LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/school/utcbro/>

And national events like:

1. GLOBAL SURVEYORS' DAY, March 21st, 2023,

Link: [GLOBAL SURVEYORS' DAY 21 MARTIE 2023 - UTCB - GEODEZIE](#)

2. Workshop TOPOGRAPH, October 2nd, 2023

Link: [Workshop TOPOGRAPH - UTCB - GEODEZIE](#)

3. GIS DAY at Faculty of Geodesy, UTCB, November 14th, 2023,

Link: [GIS DAY la Geodezie - marti, 14 noiembrie 2023 - FELICITARI PARTICIPANTILOR - UTCB - GEODEZIE](#)

4. The 9th Edition of Competition for models of wooden bridges and trusses"

Link: <https://fcfdp.utcb.ro/cadre/concursul-de-machete-de-poduri-si-ferme-din-lemn-editia-a-ix-a/>, December 6th -7th , 2023

5. The 6th Edition of Conference of the UTCB Doctoral School

Link: <https://sd.utcb.ro/dsc-2023/>

6. Continuity/sustainability of the programme over time

From the beginning, the training programme was designed with the will and commitment that it will be offered over time. To this end, the interaction between participants and teachers must serve to ensure that the programme is adapted to the needs of each group and meets their expectations.

Thus, with the feedback after the completion of each course, each university will evaluate the convenience of modifying the content, expanding the catalogue with new courses or cancelling the courses that are not in demand.

Likewise, each university will be responsible for ensuring the continuity of its courses through its own resources (financial and personnel). The courses have a cost that has been established to ensure their viability and that must be borne by the participants, either by themselves or through some type of aid that they may receive.

7. Conclusion

A minimum period of one year is required for a proper implementation and evaluation of the programme. This time allows sufficient data to be obtained on parameters such as the number of participants, participant satisfaction with the contents, impact, etc., to be able to determine the viability of the programme.

Likewise, this programme can be related to the Responsible Research and Innovation Strategy and that EU-CONEXUS has developed for the whole Alliance.

Thus, in terms of Research and Education, the programme offers the knowledge necessary to participate in the R&I process, allows to increase the individual or own capacity in research infrastructures of the Alliance, improve processes and collaborations between members as well as with the rest of the social actors in order to find solutions to the problems related to Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability that are joint and replicable in other world regions. In short, it equips all citizens so they can take part in shaping science policy.