Information Bulletin

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About the project AHEAD

The project "African Higher Education Leadership in Advancing Inclusive Innovation for Development – AHEAD" is implemented in the framework of the *Erasmus+ Programme, KA2 Capacity Building in Higher Education*. The duration of the project is 36 months, starting from 11/2017 and ending in 10/2020.

AHEAD project aims

To enhance the management, governance, teaching, research and evaluation capacities of African higher education institutions, enabling them to implement the knowledge triangle and integrate their research, education and innovation functions in support of *innovation for sustainable development and inclusive growth*.

Erasmus+ is the European Union Programme in the fields of education, training, youth and sport for 2014 - 2020. The action *"Capacity Building in Higher Education"* contributes to the modernization and internationalization of higher education in the Partner Countries.

AHEAD
Inclusive Innovation for Development

What have we achieved so far?

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www.ahead-project.net

African Higher Education Leadership in Advancing Inclusive Innovation for Development

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AHEAD Train the Trainers Workshop in Birmingham, UK

The AHEAD train the trainers workshop took place between **21.05 – 24.05 2019** in **Birmingham, United Kingdom** and was hosted by Birmingham City University. The aim of the joint training event was to ensure the transferability and multiplication of the AHEAD open educational recourses (OERs) by preparing faculty members and researches from the PC universities to teach and/or train in the area of innovation management and inclusive innovations, as well as entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship education.

Around 35 representatives from the AHEAD consortium participated in the training and had the chance to discuss the topics including: Delivery of entrepreneurship teaching/ training; Human-centered Design, Design Thinking and Social innovation, customer development process; Innovation systems; Types of innovations; Technological learning, technological catch-up, technological leapfrogging; Inclusive and Grassroots innovations.

The academic staff from the African partner universities had the chance to go on a study visit to the STEAM house, while the project managers reviewed the AHEAD project implementation and planned the upcoming activities.

AHEAD Second Transnational Capacity Building Workshop

The second capacity building workshop within AHEAD project took place between **30.10 – 01.11 2019** in **Kampala, Uganda**. The event gathered 47 representatives of all 15 European and African partner organizations who were warmly welcomed in Kyambogo University. The aim of the meeting was to strengthen the impact and quality of the activities and results achieved so far and to coordinate and plan the ongoing collaborative work AHEAD.

Meanwhile the project managers from each partner organization were involved in the **Fourth project management meeting** aimed at reviewing the technical and financial project implementation so far and planning the upcoming project activities.

The partners also had the chance to informally interact and get a glimpse at the rich Ugandan culture and traditions by visiting the Ndere Cultural Center.

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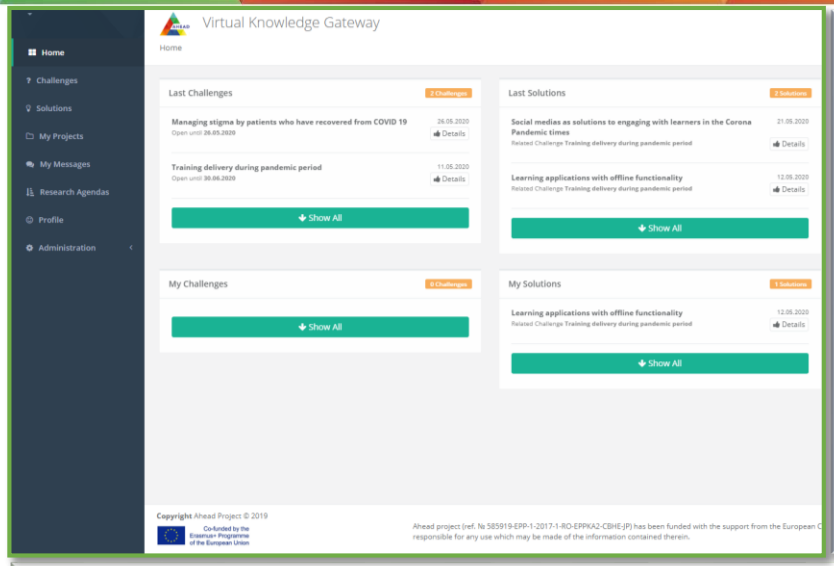


The AHEAD Virtual Knowledge Gateway is now open!

The Virtual Knowledge Gateway (VKG) is a collaboration platform for university researchers and external stakeholders. It aims at providing a possibility for PC HEIs to:

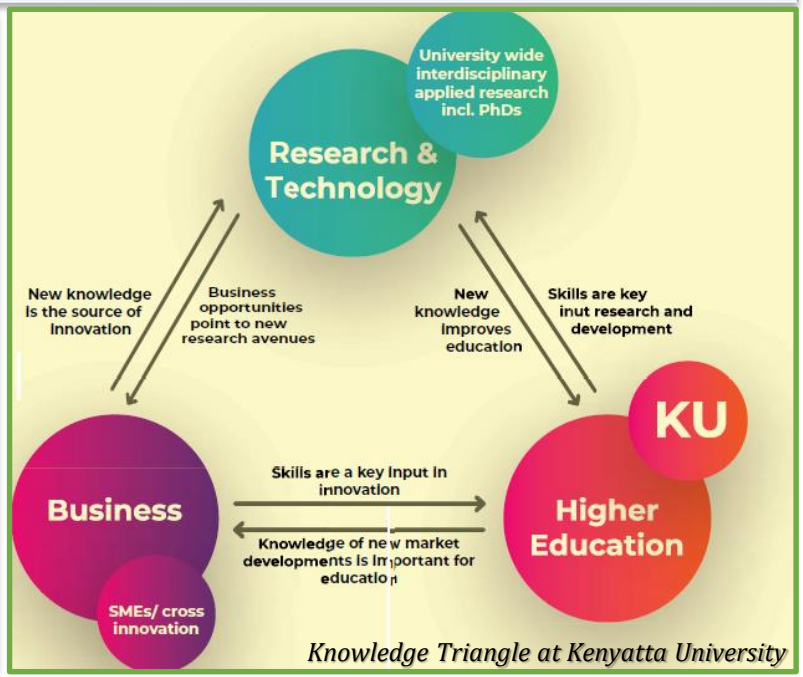
1. Share research agendas and issue papers;
2. Post challenges and crowdsource innovative collaboration ideas to solve them;
3. Contribute to solving challenges posted by other users;
4. Collaborate with enterprises and industry, policy makers and public officials, research institutions and other HEIs, NGOs and informal community groups in joint projects.

You can access the platform here: **https://ahead-project.net/app/**

What is AHEAD of us?

- ✓ Establishment of **Innovation for Development Hubs** – structures hosted in each PC HEI aimed at supporting local and regional development and enabling stakeholder collaboration and co-creation in innovation. Currently each institution is preparing a *Feasibility and Sustainability assessment reports* to enable the establishment of the University-led Hubs.
- ✓ Pilot **Student Start-up Competitions** – To be organized in each PC HEI calling for student start-up ideas or business plans with strong social impact. Students will be supported by *Alumni Database* of successful entrepreneurs to serve as role models and mentors.
- ✓ **The Third Transnational Capacity Building Workshop** in Nairobi, Kenya will be organized in June 2020 to gather the project partnership once again in order to continue the fruitful project collaboration and exchange.

Stay informed about the AHEAD project: **https://ahead-project.net/**



Knowledge Triangle at Kenyatta University

African Higher Education Leadership in Advancing Inclusive Innovation for Development

AHEAD Inclusive Innovation for Development

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