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Interreg Programme: Excellence in Research, Social and Technological Innovation Project Management (ReSTI)

eLearning Guide

ReSTI Module 1: EU Policies

This ReSTI eLearning Guide is offered to orient learners to the courses in this module.

Become a ReSTI Policy Specialist!



Programme Introduction

ReSTI Programme overview:

Click here to access

Excellence-in-ReSTI stands for Excellence in Research, Social and Technological Innovation Project Management. The Excellence-in-ReSTI Programme was developed as an open source platform for project managers and administrators in public and private organisations, and can be used by all people interested in this topic. As such, the ReSTI Programme is offered, free of charge, under Creative Commons license.

The intent of the ReSTI Programme is to inspire an innovative and socially responsible Danube region and for participants to hone competences in research, technological, business and social innovation. Another goal was to co-create a network across the region that learns together and collaborates on various initiatives that lead to EU-funded innovation projects. It goes without saying that the curriculum can also be used by any individual or organisation outside of the Danube region.

The programme offers five modules, each containing several courses that point the learners to EU research opportunities, teach project design and management methods and take learners through the steps of social innovation and innovation for the business context. Courses are directed at three stakeholder groups: research & education, business and civil society. The completion of each module leads to earning a digital badge that participants can place on their online profiles and include in their digital educational portfolios. Completing all modules leads to the *ReSTI Professional* super badge.

Modules and many courses can be completed in any order. However, a course sequence is suggested for all learners who prefer to follow a roadmap.

Usage License: The ReSTI Programme is appropriate for individual learners, and was especially designed for organisations/institutions that use it

as scaffolding for their own educational offers that may include face-to-face engagement. The license allows for organisations or individual consultants to use the ReSTI Programme to charge for their own consulting time or face-to-face engagement with their stakeholders, or their own educational (certification) programme that may be built upon or integrate the ReSTI Programme. The license details¹ can be found on the programme's landing page of the ReSTI.academy site and aligns with



Workload: The work in each ReSTI course aligns with particular ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits so that it is easy for the institution/s using the courses to give credit to their participants through their academic affiliations. The ECTS credit equivalence would be helpful when ReSTI courses are integrated into other programmes for which academic accreditation is sought.

Since this programme is open to the public, the library resources (upon which the activities are based) are often composed of open source materials. Some of these resources require registration before they can be accessed. It may happen that - due to the dynamic nature of the open source landscape - certain links will not be functionable at a given study time. Such issues are continuously monitored and corrected by responsible partners but in the meantime it is advised to search by resource titles to find the missing materials elsewhere.

ReSTI 5-Door Approach to eLearning

The ReSTI Programme Design accommodates multiple learning styles through the ReSTI 5-Door Approach to eLearning. In order to address different learning styles each course offers multiple entry points to the content through five doors:

Behind each door, the learner is engaged in the content through a particular learning mode, and participants can either walk through all doors and solidify their learning through repetition in various formats and/or choose the style that works best for them. At the core of this approach lies self-authorship in meaning-making. Learners choose from a plethora of offerings and compose the meaning that emerges from that choice. They can do a lot of activities, or just a few, or none if they pass the assessment upon entry. The purpose here is to optimize the learning potential and give full control about method, type and depth of learning to the (adult) learner. It is important to realize that the learning includes multiple pathways-some of which will be repetitive. This repetition is intended because not everyone will go through all the activities.

ReSTI 5-Door Approach to eLearning – Click here to watch video



The **Library** contains all content resources for the entire course such as lectures, readings, videos, case studies, articles, models, references, and other research materials, and various templates needed in the course. As is the case for all the doors, the Library also includes a variety of library activities that solidify the learnings. Information intake happens here through thinking, analyzing, and concluding.



The **Café** includes prompts for activities that learners complete through interaction with other people, engaging socially and constructing knowledge in collaboration with others. While the activities behind some other doors can be done in solitude, the Café activities require the learner to invite others into the learning. Information intake happens here through sensing, feeling, and relating.



The **Playground** offers learning opportunities for exploration, such as simulations, trial and error experimentation, or games. Some of these activities can be completed alone but many will also require other players. Information processing happens here through experimenting, doing, and acting.



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The **Forest** provides opportunity for individual reflection upon particular content items and/or activities prompted by instructions but also by various media and activities where the learner takes an observer role. Information processing happens here through watching, reviewing, and reflecting.

The **Assessment** requires the learner to pass an automated test. The tests are randomized from a broader set of questions and tests for acquiring a certain knowledge base, but cannot refer to experiences gained. However, if learners also complete the activities behind various doors, the knowledge base from the library comes alive, gains meaning, and will therefore be remembered better.



The **ReSTI Plaza** serves as an exchange place where learners leave information, reflections and opinions for other learners to access. Some activities include prompts to post in the plaza for others to learn from.

How to Best Move Through the Courses

Step 1: Course Information & Sequence

All materials can be accessed randomly and according to preference. However, the developers do suggest a potential sequence for all those learners who would rather have a complete roadmap, provided in the *Course Information & Sequence* file to be found on the landing page of each course.

Step 2: Introductory Video(s)

To obtain an overview of the course, it's best to begin by entering the Library Door and watch the introductory video(s).

Step 3: Summary of Resources

Next the *Summary of Resources* file provides the lay of the land for all the resources in a course. These are organised in sub-categories. Resources needed for activities are color-coded to distinguish them from all other resources.

Step 4: Access Doors

Thereafter, participants may continue with *Library Activities* and/or by entering any of the other doors to complete activities there.

For further info about the ReSTI 5-Door Approach visit this co-authored article:

Rowland, R., et al. (2018). The 5-Door Approach to eLearning for the Interreg Excellence in Research, Social, and Technological Innovation Project Management. *INTED2018 Proceedings*, 12th International Technology, Education and Development Conference, 5-7 March, Valencia, Spain, pp. 1016–1022, doi: 10.21125/int-ed.2018.1198.

ReSTI Modules & Courses

Module 1 | EU POLICIES

Course 1.1 EU Institutions and Strategy

Course 1.2 EU Policy Goals and Guidelines

Course 1.3 EU Grant Landscape & Funding Structure

Module 2 | PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1 Introduction to Grant Application Writing & Impact
- 2.2 Advanced Project Development and Application Preparation
- 2.3 Forming a Consortium
- 2.4 Budget Development

Module 3 | PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- 3.1 Introduction to Project Management
- 3.2 Risk Management
- 3.3 Financial Management & Reporting
- 3.4 Communication & Dissemination, Capitalisation
- 3.5 Exploitation & IPR

Module 4 | SOCIAL INNOVATION

- 4.1 Introduction to Social Innovation
- 4.2 Social Innovation: Approaches and Methodologies



4.3 Designing and Implementing Social Innovations

Module 5 | INNOVATION IN THE BUSINESS CONTEXT

- 5.1 Innovation Sandbox
- 5.2 Introduction to Human-Centred **Innovation Practice**
- 5.3 Toward Sustainability: Introduction to Nature-Based Innovation Practice
- 5.4 Bringing Innovation to Market
- 5.5 Business Development

Click here to see more about programme structure

For further information, questions, or welcomed feedback, please contact the lead partner of the project, the Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI) in Vienna.

Technical aspects

Process of Excellence-in-ReSTI learning menu registration and course enrolment:

Participants should start at website ReSTI.academy and after reading the relevant information, click on the "ENTER" button below. This will guide them to the main MOOC website of Charles University in Prague where they can register.

Assessment process:

If confident about the knowledge and skills gained, participants may proceed to the Assessment door where they will find an Assessment quiz. Participants need to answer 6 out of 10 questions correctly in 30 minutes to pass each Assessment quiz. In case of failure, the same assessment can only be attempted after 5 days have passed.

Process of tracking study progress:

Participants can track their study progress through the course completion status block (available top right of the screen), they also have the option to double-check their progress by visiting the list of desired learning outcomes that can be found within the Course Information & Sequence document.

Process of earning badges:

When learners have successfully completed the Assessment quiz in each course within a module, they will be awarded a virtual badge by the Excellence-in-ReSTI Partnership. The badges are small informative pictures with metadata that indicate the accomplishment of successfully completing a whole Excellence-in-ReSTI Module and thus reaching an adequate knowledge level in all module topics. The earned badges can be shared online in various websites and social networks. Participants first have to create a digital backpack and then upload their badges per each module. Upon completion of all 5 modules, participants will be awarded a so-called ReSTI Professional badge.

The badge system - click here to watch video



Participants can see earned badges here.

Introduction of ReSTI Module 1 EU Policies

The first Excellence-in-ReSTI module has been conceived as an introduction to the European Union institutions, their strategies, policy goals and funding structures. Course 1.1 deals with the institutions of the European Union and its long term strategies. Course 1.2 covers the most important policies and its goals which will help to achieve the strategies defined by the EU. Last but not least, course 1.3 will provide an overview about the most important funding mechanisms (programmes) which can be seen as a concrete tool to implement the strategies and policy goals. Each course can be completed independent from each other. The materials have been developed by experts from the University of Belgrade (Serbia), Charles University (Czech Republic) and EuroVienna, an affiliated entity of the City of Vienna (Austria).

Module 1 Course Outlines EU POLICIES

Recommended academic credits: 3 ECTS for the online curriculum (~ 90 hrs workload total, see below details for each course in this module)

ReSTI Module 1 Course 1.1 *EU Institutions and Strategy*

1 ECTS (~ 25 hrs workload)

Course Description:

The course "EU Institutions and Strategy" provides systemic insight into institutional design of the European Union, its fundamental values, organisation of the EU funding systems and the strategic priorities of the European Union, to be set by the respective strategic document, comparable to the Europe 2020 Strategy. The course shall also explain the link between the EU strategic goals and priorities, set by the strategic documents and the EU grant/funding schemes. Understanding this link shall help participants in profiling their funding applications closer to the EU strategic priorities, thus increasing the chances for positive outcome of the application.

Course Objectives:

The main course objectives are

- systemic insight into landscape and the functioning of the EU institutions and its basic values
- comprehension of the key principles of decision-making process related to EU grants applications
- understanding the structure and key priorities set by the Europe 2020 Strategy (and UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda)
- know-how to review the EU strategic documents and to profile the funding application closer to the EU priorities set by the strategic documents.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, participants are able to • understand the structure of the EU institutions

- and key principles of their functioning
- comprehend the logic of decision-making process related to EU grant schemes
- comprehend the structure and key elements of the Europe 2020 (Europe 2030) strategy and to understand the key priorities of the strategy
- derive key points (in terms of goals and priorities) of the Europe 2020 (Europe 2030, UN SDG 2030) strategy and to use this information in designing the funding application, so as to make it closer to the strategic priorities.

ReSTI Module 1 Course 1.2 *EU Policy Goals and Guidelines*

1 ECTS (~ 30 hrs workload)

Course Description:

This course is designed to introduce students to the most important EU policy goals and guidelines - their structure, the process of creation and updating of policy goals and their relation to financial instruments. You will find out how to identify possible interlinkages between everyday-life needs and EU Policies and how to apply it to your project idea.

Course Objectives:

The main course objectives are

- know-how to navigate through various informational resources regarding the topic of EU priorities, policy goals and related strategies
- know-how to search for the strategic documents and are able to explore deeper into the main EU websites containing strategy papers
- sense of the possibility of often strategic shifts during implementation of long term strategies
- overview on the most relevant current priority areas influencing EU and national-level policy implementation and the potential future direction of the EU.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, participants are able to

 analyse the most important EU Policy guidelines and policy goals, are able to identify possible interlinkages between practical

- conditions and EU Policies
- identify the structure and key EU Policy guidelines and policy goals as set by the European Council and the European Commission
- review the EU Policy guidelines and policy goals and to profile the funding application closer to the EU priorities set by the strategic documents
- analyse the process of creation and updating of the set of policy goals, political as well as fiscal and economic targets as managed by the European Council

ReSTI Module 1 Course 1.3 **EU Grant Landscape & Funding Structures**1 ECTS (~ 35 hrs workload)

Course Description:

In this course, students will learn about EU funding structures and the most important EU funding programmes. Furthermore, they will gain knowledge, which will help them to decide on their own whether a certain funding programme may be suitable for their specific challenge or problem to be solved through an EU project. Another important part of this course is to understand programme specific priority areas of a funding programme and how these topics have to be considered in the process of developing a project. Students also have to get in touch with a funding programme in order to be able to ask and receive particular information, which may be crucial for their future project. Last but not least, students will discover valuable background information based on strategic documents which help understanding why a certain funding programme chose to focus on its main funding priorities. Therefore, students will be able to discover the bigger picture on the EU funding landscape.

Course Objectives:

The main course objectives are

- overview on existing EU funding options overall Europe and introduction to the EU Funding programmes, their structures, rules, regulations and aims
- structure and basic functioning of the EU

- funding landscape including its main objectives
- know-how to identify and understand the strategic background of EU funding programmes including their priority areas
- know-how to differentiate between the priorities and goals of EU funding programmes.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, participants are able to

- decide which funding programmes are available for challenges or problems to be solved
- understand the specific EU programme language (e.g. technical terms)
- differentiate the numerous existing documents provided by the programmes, which define the main priorities and goals
- understand that a European added-value is crucial for receiving funding from an EU programme.

Link list

• ReSTI Programme overview:

http://www.interreg-danube.eu/approved-projects/excellence-in-resti

• Video on ReSTI 5-Door Approach to eLearning:

https://stream.cuni.cz/en/Detail/2858

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Join the ReSTI LinkedIn Alumni group https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13538663/



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