



**INGENIUM**  
European University

# 2023 PROGRESS REPORT



Co-funded by  
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# What is INGENIUM European University?

**We work together as a consortium to better pursue our common vision** of what European higher education should be in terms of teaching methodology, interdisciplinarity, research and commitment to social development

**We identify the value of our students and staff** having enhanced opportunities to study and work across the European Union. We recognise both the societal, cultural as well as educational benefits and opportunities that mobility in all its forms: physical, online, blended.



## What's in the Name?

THE LATIN WORD INGENIUM STANDS FOR INNATE OR NATURAL QUALITY, NATURAL CAPACITY OR, FINALLY, FOR TALENT. IN MODERN LANGUAGES, ITS SEMANTIC FIELD INCLUDES TERMS SUCH AS GENIUS, INGENIOUS OR ENGINEER. FEW WORDS CAN BE, THEREFORE, MORE APPROPRIATE TO NAME AN ALLIANCE OF UNIVERSITIES, WHICH ARE THE MAIN REPOSITORIES FOR AND GENERATORS OF KNOWLEDGE, OF GENIUS



**We are building a new model for cooperation in higher education**, a model that goes far beyond our current capabilities, enhancing cooperation at an institutional and international level, creating cutting edge multidisciplinary education and research teams, developing innovative pedagogies and digital technologies.



# Our Mission

1ST OF JANUARY 2023 MARKED THE OFFICIAL START DATE OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INGENIUM ALLIANCE, REPRESENTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OVIEDO AND THE EACEA



We are strongly committed to providing excellent education that is universally accessible, to generate advanced knowledge through basic and applied research, to contribute to the social and economic development of our own territories and to promote open societies and international cooperation.

## Our Members

- ◆ University of Oviedo (UNIOVI) - **Spain**
- ◆ Medical University of Sofia (MUS) - **Bulgaria**
- ◆ University of Crete (UoC) - **Greece**
- ◆ Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences (HKA) - **Germany**
- ◆ South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences (XAMK) - **Finland**
- ◆ University "G. d'Annunzio", Chieti-Pescara (Ud'A) - **Italy**
- ◆ University of Skövde (HIS) - **Sweden**
- ◆ Munster Technological University (MTU) - **Ireland**
- ◆ University of Rouen, Normandy (URN) - **France**
- ◆ "Gheorghe Asachi" Technical University of Iasi (TUIASI) - **Romania**



# Building the INGENIUM Pillars



The kick-off meeting, held on the 24th and 25th of January in Oviedo marked a **significant milestone establishing the Alliance Government Bodies**: the Alliance Council and the INGENIUM Steering Committee that set the grounds for closer cooperation in the months to come.



In 2023, the INGENIUM Alliance has **successfully established all the governance, management and coordination structures** that were indicated in the approved European Universities work programme. The Consortium Agreement was the first deliverable produced.



## One European University

THE INGENIUM ALLIANCE WORK PROGRAMME IS STRUCTURED AROUND THE IDEA OF BUILDING A SINGLE UNIVERSITY WITH TEN SITES DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT THE EU, ABLE TO PERFORM ALL THE FUNCTIONS REQUIRED FOR MODERN UNIVERSITIES: EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT.



# 2023 in Numbers

## Active Participants

# 200

Over 200 active Staff and Students are participating in regular working meetings under any of the 10 work packages.

## 5 Milestones Reached

The Alliance signed the Consortium Agreement, launched the website & social networks, developed its basic IT Infrastructure, finalized its Dissemination and Exploitation Strategy and launched the first Call for Joint Research Projects.

## 10 Partner Universities

The founding members of the Alliance are 10 mid-size Higher Education Institutions spread across the territory of the EU with a strong European vocation. The rectors and presidents of all 10 academic institutions are in direct contact as members of the highest governance board of the alliance.

## 2 Joint Calls Launched

The Alliance has successfully launched its first calls for the creation of the first joint study programmes and joint research projects. A framework for a joint Doctoral School has been agreed in June 2023.

## Stakeholders

# 400

Nearly 400 academics, administrative staff and students belonging to the partner universities have been involved in INGENIUM activities. These activities include workshops, staff academies and meetings on joint academic efforts.

## 2 Joint Strategies in Place

In the first year the Alliance put in place 2 major joint strategies, one being the Innovation and Education Strategy and the other being the Dissemination and Exploitation Strategy.

## 10 Work Packages

INGENIUM's ambitious work programme of building a European Interuniversity Campus, with each package coordinated by one of the partner universities. Erasmus coordination and best practice frameworks are also being established.

## 9 Deliverables Completed

According to schedule and plan, seven out of ten work packages have successfully programmed and completed 9 different deliverables in their first year of activity, constituting the first steps towards greater goals. These deliverables are being put into action in the partner universities to ensure our alliance prospers.



10 Days of INGENIUM is the **flagship community building activity of the Alliance** and it takes place twice in each academic term, hosted by two partner universities in two successive weeks, as **an umbrella event that unifies** and creates considerable bonds between members of the INGENIUM community.

# 10 Days of INGENIUM

OVER 200 STUDENTS AND STAFF FROM ALL THE PARTNER UNIVERSITIES WERE INVOLVED IN THE FIRST 10 DAYS OF INGENIUM EVENTS, THAT WERE HOSTED BY KARLSRUHE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI GABRIELE D'ANNUNZIO DI CHIETI-PESCARA



The event constituted a key milestone for the Alliance, both for **its significance as a community building event**, and its effectiveness as a key platform that structures the most important activities of the INGENIUM European University.



# Joint Research Projects



The INGENIUM Alliance places a lot of importance on the **links between research, education** and the service to society missions of higher education. Therefore, **building new connections** between researchers across the Alliance is also a key objective for INGENIUM.

First call for joint research projects has been launched. Expressions of interest are due by end January 2024 and deadline for applications is set for March 15th , 2024.

## Joint Programmes

CREATING JOINT PROGRAMMES INVOLVING SEVERAL INGENIUM PARTNERS IS ONE OF THE KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE INGENIUM MISSION STATEMENT AND CRITICAL FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE ALLIANCE



## Joint Education

A European Universities alliance **committed to the creation of a “single university with ten sites”**, as described in the grant agreement, needs a common strategy that supports the creation of joint education. In 2023, INGENIUM partners developed and officially approved this strategy, which will guide the creation of the educational offer of the alliance.



# Multilingualism and Intercultural Understanding

THE PARTNERS AGREED ON THE INGENIUM POLICY ON MULTILINGUALISM AND INTERCULTURAL UNDERSTANDING HAVING PUT IN PLACE A TOOLKIT BASED ON 3 PILLARS: HEALTHY CAMPUS, BEST PRACTICES, AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS, WHICH WILL BE FINALLY COMPLETED BY FEBRUARY 2024

INGENIUM is setting the basis to become a **committed Alliance on Non-discriminatory and Socially Engaged Higher Education**. Multiple thematic subgroups have been created to address different issues that are relevant to build an Inclusive University, such as gender discrimination, disability, transgender identity and religion, among others.

## Erasmus+ Mobility

The INGENIUM Alliance is **committed to boosting student mobility** between its members in preparation for the creation of a truly inter-European university campus. A fundamental step towards that objective was **the signature of multilateral Erasmus+ agreements** involving all partners, which provide a considerable degree of flexibility to increase the number of students taking part in Erasmus+ exchanges between partners. A priority for this year is to work with faculties and Erasmus+ coordinators to boost mobility flows.



# Other completed milestones in 2023

**INGENIUM Innovation Strategy was approved and submitted by the end of October.** In 2024 the partners will be working on reviewing the implementation of the Innovation Strategy roadmap and will assess how the actions implemented and their success will be evaluated. The aim is to start a developmental discussion and establish a framework that allows for comprehensive evaluation and measurement of progress.

**Student Advisory Board members** from each of the partner universities have already been communicated and the Board will be meeting early in 2024 to elect student representatives to the INGENIUM governing bodies.



**Entrepreneurial INGENIUM has already produced a first deliverable,** the Interim Report on Transnational Incubation and Acceleration Programme, providing an overview of the incubation and acceleration programmes currently being delivered in the INGENIUM HEIs.

## Key Document

A JOINT DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION STRATEGY, ONE OF THE FIRST PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND A KEY DOCUMENT FOR THE ALLIANCE, WAS APPROVED AND SUBMITTED AND LAID OUT THE FRAMEWORK FOR INGENIUM COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES.



# Moving Forward

AFTER A FIRST YEAR WITH A FOCUS ON KICKSTARTING THE KEY AREAS OF THE ALLIANCE, 2024 IS SET TO BE “A YEAR OF IMPACT”. THE NEXT TWELVE MONTHS WILL BE CRITICAL IN THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING A FULLY-FLEDGED EUROPEAN INTER-UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, AS DESCRIBED IN THE INGENIUM GRANT AGREEMENT.

IN 2024 THE ALLIANCE WILL SEEK TO INCREASE IMPACT BY PROGRESSING IN THE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES AND INCREASING THE OUTREACH OF ITS ACTIVITIES, TRYING TO BENEFIT AS MANY MEMBERS OF ITS ACADEMIC COMMUNITIES AS POSSIBLE

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*“Knowledge has no boundaries or borders. But the creation and dissemination of that knowledge still faces too many barriers, even in the European Union. The European Universities Initiative provides us with a once in a generation opportunity to remove those barriers and build the transnational universities of the twenty-first century, based on an approach that promotes cooperation over competition.”*

**Rector Ignacio Villaverde**

Chair of the INGENIUM Alliance Council

