



INVENT



Erasmus+

Promotion of Innovation Culture in the Higher Education in Jordan
561996-EPP-1- 2015-1-JO-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

Project Number: 561996-EPP-1- 2015-1-JO-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

INVENT - Promotion of Innovation Culture in the Higher Education in Jordan

Minutes of the Kick-off meeting

Holiday Inn Resort Dead Sea, Jordan

February 20-23, 2016



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Attendee:

Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST)	
Name	Profession
Prof. Ahmed El Bateha	Vice Presedent
Prof.Osama Haddad	Dean of Scientific Research
Prof. Fahmi Abu Al Rub	Project manager of INVENT Project
Dr. Muhannad Al-Jarrah	Assistant Professor
Eng.Nisreen Al Smadi	Administrative
The University of Jordan (UJ)	
Prof. Ahmed Al-Salaymeh	Professor at the Faculty of Engineering and Technology/Contact Person
Prof.Mohmmad Hamdan	Professor at the Faculty of Engineering and Technology
Dr. Arwa Hamaideh	
Mutah University (MU)	
Prof. Reda Shibli	President of Mutah university
Prof. Omar Maaitah	Professor at the Faculty of Engineering/Contact Person
Princess Sumaya University for Technology (PSUT)	
Dr. Omar Bani Ahmad	Professor at PSUT
Dr. Abdelraheem Abual Basal	Professor at PSUT
Dr. Belal Sababha	Professor at PSUT
Applied Scientific Research Fund (ASRF)	
Mrs Penelope	CEO/Contact Person
Miss Nour Jabiri	Project manager at ASRF
Hochschule für Technik, Wirtschaft und Kultur Leipzig HTWK Leipzig (HTWK)	
Prof. Klaus Haenssgen	Professor- Lecturer/Contact Person
Dr. Riyadh Qashi	Professor at HTWK
University of Deusto (UD)	
Dr. Ivan Dyukarev	Contact Person
University of Cyprus (UCY)	



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Dr. Anastassiou Charalambos	Research Fellow
CONSORZIO ARCA (ARCA)	
Silvana Di Bono	EU project advisor at Consorzio ARCA/Contact Person
Stefania Zanna	EU project advisor at Consorzio ARCA
Paulo & Beatriz – Consultores Associados, Lda (P& B)	
Paulo Baptista	Managing Director/Contact Person
Creative Thinking Development (Cre.Thi.Dev)	
Dimosthenis Papakonstantinou	Manager/Contact Person
Maya Dimitriadou	Researcher
Almotahida Education Group (Almotahida)	
Eng. Ayat Salem	Contact Person
Amman Chamber of Industry “ACI”	
Eng. Fadel Labadi	Manager of Industrial Development Department-ACI/Contact Person
Al Urdonial Lil Ebda (AULE)	
Eng. Mohammed Al Omoush	CEO/Contact Person
Higher Council for Science & Technology (HCST)	
Eng. Omar Amawi	Contact Person
Miss Rasha Al Smadi	Administrative



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Saturday, Feb. 20, 2016

JO HEIs representatives organized all the arrangements needed for the kick-off meeting. They prepared the meeting rooms, data shows, tables, etc.

In the afternoon and evening, they met all partners who arrived on Saturday. Prof. Abu Al-Rub invited all to a social dinner.

Sunday, Feb. 21, 2016.

Under the Patronage of Prof. Ahmed El-Bateha, the Vice President of JUST, the kick-off meeting for the project: “Promotion of Innovation Culture in the Higher Education in Jordan (INVENT)” was launched at 9:30 am. Prof. Al-Bateha welcomed all partners, especially those from EU and those who came to Jordan for the first time. He emphasized the importance of such a project to the HEIs in Jordan and to the industrial sector in Jordan.

Then, Prof. Abu Al-Rub, INVENT Project manager, presented INVENT project. He started with giving a background on initiation of the project and how he chose the consortium that can help achieving the project objectives. The presentation focused on briefing the partners on the followings:

- Aims and objectives of INVENT
- Expected results and impact
- Activities and scheduling
- Budget and cash flow

Then the morning session, from 11:15-14:00, was designated to partners to introduce their institutions and present their expected contribution to the project. Each partner was given 10 minutes for her/his presentation.

The afternoon session was started at 15:00, with work packages presentations and discussions.

WP1: ANALYSIS OF TRAINING NEEDS (Lead: JUST)

Dr. Mohanad Al Jarrah (JUST) presented the objectives, tasks, deliverables, risks, and methodology to accomplish the tasks in this WP and to achieve all of its deliverables. He presented two surveys that were developed by JUST team and approved by Creative Thinking, the leader of the Quality Plan WP. These surveys include one survey to evaluate and assess the



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experience of faculty members at JO HEIs related to projects conducted by both, the academia and industry. The reasons for weak collaboration between industry and academia were emphasized in this survey. This survey was designed by Google Online templates and sent to all JO HEIs. The partners agreed on this survey and some minor revisions were suggested. The second survey was designated to evaluate the experience of the people from the industry who worked on projects with faculty members at the JO HEIs. This survey was sent previously to Eng. Fadel Labadi from the ACI who discussed the questions included in the survey at his board meetings at ACI. Eng. Fadel emphasized on highlighting the benefits for the industry sector from this survey and from the project. The following comments and suggestions were discussed:

- ✓ The length of the survey: it was agreed that the survey for the industry should not exceed 2 pages, with a cover page introducing INVENT project.
- ✓ The questions of the survey: participants agreed that the questions in this survey should be carefully presented in a “language” that the people from the industry will understand and react.
- ✓ Impact: by the analysis of the survey, local needs should be identified.
- ✓ A workshop between INVENT local partners and the people from the industry was proposed and welcomed. Eng. Fadel will organize this workshop by mid April.

WP2: Training of trainers for participation at CTIs (Lead: ARCA)

Dr. Silvana from ARCA presented WP2:

The aim of this WP is to learn from European experience by staff of CTIs and authorities and to develop capacity building in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship. Silvana presented the different tasks involved in this WP and proposed a methodology that can be used to match the training needs of the JO staff and the training available in EU partner countries. She also presented a one-week training program that can be adopted to train the JO staff. The following comments and suggestions were discussed:

- ✓ Criteria for selection: it is important to develop and set the criteria for selection as early as possible in order for the partners from EU to prepare the training program that meets the needs of trainers.
- ✓ It was agreed that CRE.THI.DEV and HTWK will help the Jordanian universities set the criteria of selection.



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- ✓ The criteria should focus on staff who are not teaching or those faculty members who have not permanent administrative position.

The second day meeting was adjourned at 17:50.



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Monday, Feb. 22, 2016

WP3: Establishment and Equipment of the CTIS (HTWK, PSUT)

Prof. Klaus from HTWK and Dr. Omar (PSUT) presented the tasks involved in WP3. These tasks are

3.1 Establishment of center offices and departments: as there are no equipment budget for non-academic institutions, the Innovation Center Offices will be at the JO HEIs only. A discussion was on universities that have already established such centers. It was agreed to build on existing centers or units and develop these centers.

3.2 Hardware equipment at the Centers: It was agreed that JUT purchase all the needed equipment and then distribute for each university its share in these equipment. Tendering procedures according to EACEA should be respected in purchasing the equipment.

3.3 Installation and adjustment of software: HTWK will be responsible for the installation of the software.

WP4: Activity of the Centers and departments (HTWK)

Prof. Klaus presented WP4; tasks and methodology

4.1 Creation of web-site and support its functioning: One of the key deliverables of the INVENT project is the creation of a web-site for the INVENT project. JUST will be responsible for the creation of this web site. It should be used to disseminate and promote the activities and deliverables of the project.

4.2 Creation of database of CTIs and support function: Creation of the databases for the centers is the main objective of the INVENT project. The databases will be for all researcher in JO and for all industries. This database will be available for all stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem in Jordan.

4.3 Training activity: In order for the centers to function efficiently, people at these centers should have appropriate training in EU partner countries. They should be exposed to the EU experience in running such centers. Each EU partner will prepare a training program that fits and satisfies the needs of the Jordanian staff.

4.4 Consulting activity: the JO trained staff will provide training and consultation based on the training they have been provided in the EU partner institutions.

WP5: Quality (CRE.THI.DEV, MU)

Mrs. Maya from CRE.THI. DEV presented the Quality Plan WP. She started by introducing the WP and describing its importance to ensure achieving the project's objectives and deliverables.



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Then she discussed each task in the WP and she proposed a strategy or methodology to achieve these tasks. One of the most outcomes of this meeting regarding this WP is the selection of the Quality Committee members. It was agreed that the number of members in this committee is 6 in addition to the leader of this WP. It was agreed that the members of this committee are::

CRE.THI.DEV (quality manager)

JUST

University of Cyprus

ARCA

P&B

MU

AULE

It was agreed that the Quality Committee will submit the final version of the Quality plan and documents/templates needed by June 2016.

WP6: Dissemination, exploitation of results, and sustainability (Lead: ARCA, UJ)

Stefania-ARCA

Stefania from ARCA presented the objectives of this WP. She introduced a draft for dissemination, exploitation, and sustainability plans. She emphasized on participation of all stakeholders in the activities and dissemination of INVENT. She introduced the experience of the Netkite Project; an CBMED ENPI Project, in dissemination through the website, social media, ETM, etc.

Stefania urged the partners to promote and acknowledge the EU-Erasmus+ in all activities related to INVENT by using the logos of EU and Erasmus+. The following issues were discussed during the presentation of this WP:

- ✓ Translation of brochures: JU will be responsible for this task
- ✓ Final conference: JUST will organize the final conference in Jordan in Sept. 2018

WP7: Management and operational structures (JUST)

Prof. Abu Al-Rub-JUST

Prof. Abu Al-Rub introduced the management plan for the INVENT project. He discussed the management and operational structures. The steering committee was established. It is composed of all contact persons from each partner. The duties of this committee were also agreed on during the meeting. The Training and Technical Group (TTG) was also established and its duties were elaborated.

Prof. Abu Al-Rub discussed the criteria for choosing an external monitor of the project. It was agreed that the project coordinator, in collaboration with the Quality Manager, to hire an external monitor.



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Dr. Abdullah Qudah, Director of the Financial Unit at JUST, gave a workshop on the financial management of the Erasmus+ projects. He discussed the new rules of Erasmus+ projects related to unit cost and actual cost. Eligible and non-eligible expenses were discussed.

In the afternoon the steering committee met to agree on the second meeting. They agreed to have the second management meeting in Leipzig during the period Sept. 1-2, 2016.

The third day meeting was adjourned at 18:00.



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Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016-JUST

On the fourth day of the INVENT kick-off meetings, the consortium of the INVENT project and the consortium of the VTC project celebrated the kick-off meeting of the two projects at JUST. The members of the two projects were received by H.E. Prof. Mahmoud Al-Sheyyab, JUST president, who welcomed all the partners at JUST. Prof. Al-Sheyyab stressed on the importance of the two projects for Jordan in general and for JUST in particular. He expressed his interests in the two projects and committed to give all the support needed to achieve the objectives of the two projects.

Prof. Abu Al-Rub then acknowledged the support that Prof. Al-Sheyyab is giving to all EU projects. He also presented the relation between the consortium members and emphasized on strengthening the relations with EU partners to secure more fund for JUST and promote it in EU.

Prof. Osamah Haddad, Dean of Scientific Research at JUST, welcomed the audience who attended the celebration of the INVENT and VTC kick-off meetings. He emphasized on the importance of securing external fund from EU to support the capacity building and modernizing the higher education in Jordan. He expressed his interests in the two projects and he offered to give all the support needed for the success of these projects.

Prof. Batiha, Vice President of JUST, introduced INVENT project to the audience and Prof. Klaus, from Leipzig, introduced the VTC project.

Prof. Ahmad Abu Al-Haija, the Director of the National Erasmus+ Office (NEO) in Jordan, highlighted the activities of the NEO. He presented the Erasmus+ initiative and the opportunities available for HEIs and students.

Dr. Reem from the NEO presented the management of Erasmus+ projects. She discussed all management issues related to Erasmus+ projects, and emphasized on best practices while implementing the projects.

The teams then took a tour at JUST library and some important centers that will support the implementation of the two projects. They visited the Civil Society Development Center which hosts many workshops and training related to vocational education. They also visited the Consultative Center for Science and Technology and met with Prof. Mustafa Al-Doumi, the Director of the Center. Prof. Al-Doumi gave a general introduction on the center and its activities, in particular these activities related to strengthening the relation between the industry and academia. He offered all the facilities in the center to support the activities of the two projects.

The fourth day meeting was adjourned at 18:00.