

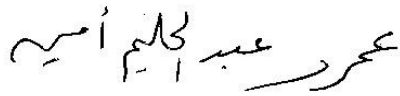
# **PROMOTION OF INNOVATION CULTURE IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION IN JORDAN – INVENT**

## **Technical Evaluation Report**

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Signature:

Handwritten signature in Arabic script, reading "عمر أمين" (Amr Amin).

## Introduction

This report presents evaluation of the accomplished tasks of the project. It will present the reports prepared by each Work package along with recommended actions as needed.

Many of the findings of this report were gathered from the reports received from different work packages.

## **WP1: ANALYSIS OF TRAINING NEEDS**

In general, WP1 was concluded and achieved its objectives.

Two surveys; one for academia and another one for the industry have been provided. Those surveys presented a valuable review of local market needs for qualified people in the field of innovation and entrepreneurship.

WP1 also identified the training needs for officers of CTIs. Those were identified through 2 surveys. The response to the two surveys were adequate, above 125 responses. The responses were helpful in formulating the training programme for the CTIs' officers. This task well integrated with WP2, "Training of trainers for participation at CTIs".

Finally, WP1 team prepared the road map for the implementation of the project. To develop this road map the partners participated in 12 workshops and 10 of one-on-one interviews with local industries.

## **WP2: Training of trainers for participation at CTIs**

WP2 was completed successfully.

WP2 Development of Long-Term Capacity Building Plan which well used the report of WP1 on local needs training were used to prepare a long-term capacity building plan.

Sixteen teaching and technical staff from academic and non-academic Jordanian partners were selected. The selection criteria of the trainees could not be identified.

The Jordanian partners carried out consultation activities to identify the needed equipment of CTIs, the structure of the website and the database; organization and carrying out of trainings; and structure of proposed CTIs. The programme countries partner institutions are missing in this activities. Those partners have sound experience in establishing CTIs.

Three training session took place in March and September 2017; and Jan 2018. The training sessions took place in Portugal, Italy, and Cyprus. The trainees were well satisfied with training material. That well supported the trainees to be qualified trainers in their CTIs.

## **WP3: Establishment and equipment of the CTIs**

### **Comments**

WP3 was successfully concluded. Four 4 CTIs and 2 Units for collaboration with the industry have been established at the Jordanian partner institutions. Faculty For Factory program has adopted the approach of INVENT in order to provide innovative solution for industrial challenges in Jordan. The 3-D printers were added to the required hardware. The printers would be valuable assets to the CTIs. The software was installed centrally at each partner institutions to save the costs for other hardware purchase. The listed software includes only standard software, “Windows; MS Office; ADOBE, etc”. It does not include any of the special software needed by the CTIs. There is a noticeable delay in the tendering process. The effects of that delay on the accomplishment of other work packages should be report along with any remedial actions that were taken.

## **WP4: Activity of the Centers and departments**

In general WP4 accomplished its tasks. The project's web site is on line and is constantly updated.

<http://invent.just.edu.jo/Pages/default.aspx>

The website includes information about the project, partners' information, downloads, training sessions that took place, courses that could be offered by CTIs, database, intranet, and contact information of the project coordinator. Twenty five Challenges proposed by industry or entrepreneurs are posted on the site. All the outputs of the project are downloadable in pdf format. The website has successfully received more than 15,000 visitors. A mechanism to dynamically update the web page and database is highly recommended.

Databases on Jordanian researchers and industries have been developed. ACI classification is used to classify the Jordanian industries into 10 sectors. Information about each company and its activities have been included. In addition, Databases for innovation ecosystem in EU have been prepared.

The trained CTIs' staff who received the training in EU organized 50 training workshops for students, staff, and industry. The number of trainees is 10,000.

Consulting activities were achieved through workshops. There were 2 categories of those workshops. The first category was for the CTIs and Units' staff at the different institutions aimed to maximizing the benefits of the training each CTI staff received. To achieve this, 5 workshops were organized.

The second category of workshops were for entrepreneurs and researchers at CTIs. In the student competition organized, Entrepreneur of the Future, more than 75 entrepreneurs received extensive training for two months. The training aimed at building skills and topics related to marketing, branding, business planning, etc. More than 25 workshops were held to achieve that goal.

## **WP5: Quality Plan**

The quality committee was led by DEV. The Jordanian partners were well represented in this committee.

The Project Quality Plan was developed to describe the Quality Management procedures that the project team should follow in order to ensure, monitor and control the quality of all processes and deliverables produced during the INVENT project lifecycle. In this context, the Quality Plan Manual was developed. It consists of 14 documents which are mainly questionnaires that are used for the internal and external evaluation of the project. The main purpose of the Quality Plan Manual is to facilitate the project's management and guide all partners on the evaluation and quality issues, by establishing a coherent set of guidelines by which all aspects of the project are managed and measured. The use of these guidelines ensured better collaboration among the consortium members, individuals and groups. It also ensured that the entire consortium is responsible for and engaged in the tasks of the project.

The quality committee produced semi-annual progress report. The external technical auditor produced annual reports. Those reports helped the project to adhere to the project's objectives.

## **WP6: Dissemination, exploitation of results, and sustainability**

Dissemination plan was developed. It targets three **objectives**. Those objectives are promoting innovation culture in the Jordan universities, linking universities with the business sector, and fostering the entrepreneurial attitude of young people. The target groups and the matching dissemination activities are well specified.

The project image was elaborated using a variety of tools. Those tools include the **project's logo**,

information campaign, leaflets, headed paper, folder, poster, rollup, and power point template. In addition 6 issues of the newsletter were distributed.

The consortium organized an overwhelming number of workshop and info-days.

Those activities received more than 10,000 participants from industry, academic staff and students. In addition, the training managed by the trained CTI staff served as a valid dissemination tool.

An ETM was held in Amman and 56 persons participated in this event. The participants represented a wide variety of stakeholders. The ETM was concluded by report that was presented to the participants that summarizes the results of different sessions of the ETM.

The final conference was held in Jordan, September 2018. More than 150 persons participated in this conference. The outputs of the project were presented to raise the awareness of the project's objectives.

The consortium developed a general sustainability plan. The plan identified the Key stakeholders, such as future programme funders, policy makers, enterprise networks, and business districts. The plan targets raising the awareness among territorial stakeholders about the opportunity offered by the deployment of innovation networks between R and D performers and private players. More than 40 Memoranda of Understanding were signed by local authorities, higher education institutes, business communities and research/innovation centres to foster technology transfer and innovative entrepreneurship. The financial sustainability of the project is well addressed.



## **WP7: Management and Operational Structures**

The management tasks were accomplished as planned. Local and management meetings took place as scheduled. All INVENT committees were established in the kick-off meeting. Those include The MT and StC where partners are represented. In addition, Training and Technical Group was established. The Training and Technical Group consists of the contact person of each EU partner in addition to all non-academic JO institutions. External auditors have been hired. The management reports were prepared by the project's coordinator in time.