Lecture 1
EU activities in the field of higher education: Education and Training

EU Grants and Project Management
Jean Monnet Module

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LISBON STRATEGY

The strategic goal set for the European Union by the March <u>2000 Lisbon European Council</u> :

> **"to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth, with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion"**
>
> Concrete objectives of education systems, focusing on common concerns and priorities while <u>respecting national diversity'</u>.

CHALLANGES to Lisbon Strategy

✖ challenges facing European societies:<u>increasing globalisation, evolving demographic trends and migration, technological progress, climate change and sustainable development.</u>

✖ the contribution of education and training occurs not only for promoting employment, competitiveness and innovation, but also to fostering social cohesion, active citizenship and personal fulfilment, and meeting the other challenges which European societies currently face

CHALLENGES

- The economic downturn in many EU countries puts these long-term aims even more into the spotlight.

- Public and private budgets were under strong pressure, existing jobs have been disappearing, and new ones often require different and higher level skills.

Lisbon goal!

- Lisbon goal that Europe should become *"the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion"*

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- **Bologna Process:** *Harmonization of education systems in Europe since 1999*

- Education and training as a key policy area in meeting the many socio-economic, demographic, environmental and technological challenges facing Europe

- This requires investment in human capital through education and training systems

EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY

- Europe 2020 Strategy: ambitious objectives for
  - smart, inclusive and sustainable growth,
  - a strong focus on knowledge and innovation, sustainability, employment and social inclusion
  - increasing the share of 30 – 34 years old having completed tertiary education.

- Becoming a world-leading knowledge economy

EU AIMS...

- By 2020, 40% of young people should successfully complete higher education or equivalent studies;

- Make economies more research-intensive, reaching the 3% of GDP research investment target (EU will need an estimated one million new research jobs;

- Improving the quality and relevance of higher education (Involving employers and labour market institutions in the design and delivery of programmes);

- To help students to adapt to the requirements of the EU-wide labour market;

- To contribute to the development of a pool of well-qualified, open-minded and internationally experienced young people as future professionals.
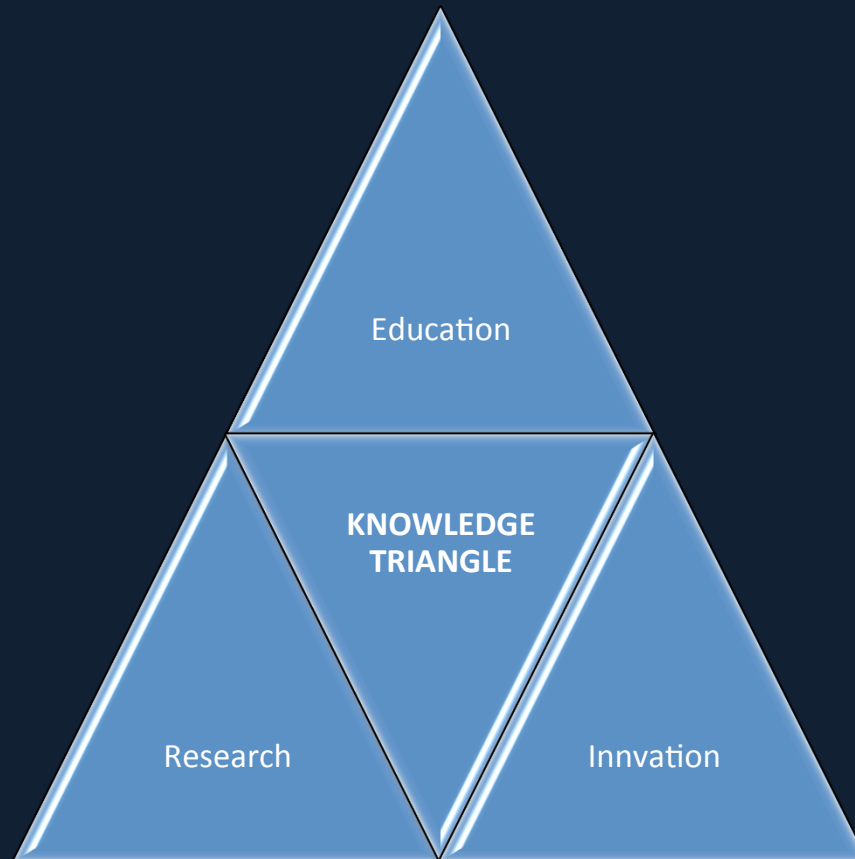
EU AIMS...

- Exploit the transformational benefits of ICTs and other new technologies
- innovative learning approaches and delivery methods
- Researcher training in higher education
- High quality, industry-relevant doctoral training

Knowledge Triangle

- Boosting Jobs and Growth

Key Policy Issues

- Making the knowledge triangle work: Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development

- Public policies which encourage partnership between professional institutions, research universities, business and high-tech centres

Modernisation of offered courses

and the way they operate

«Supporting growth and jobs – an agenda for the modernisation of Europe's higher education systems» (2011)

2020 Goals of European Cooperation IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING (ET2020)

- Personal, social and professional fulfilment of all citizens- welfare

- Sustainable economic prosperity and employability, whilst promoting democratic values, social cohesion, active citizenship, and intercultural dialogue

- Spanning education and training systems as a whole in a lifelong learning perspective

- Learning in all contexts — whether formal, non-formal or informal — and at all levels: from early childhood education and schools through to higher education, vocational education and training and adult learning.

Strategic Objectives

1. Making lifelong learning and mobility a reality;

2. Improving the quality and efficiency of education and training;

3. Promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship;

4. Enhancing creativity and innovation, including entrepreneurship, at all levels of education and training.

5 BENCHMARKS for ET 2020 goals

✖ By 2020, an average of at least 15 % of adults should participate in lifelong learning

✖ By 2020, the share of low-achieving 15-years olds in reading, mathematics and science should be less than 15 %.

✖ By 2020, the share of 30-34 year olds with tertiary educational attainment (4) should be at least 40 %.

✖ By 2020, the share of early leavers from education and training (5) should be less than 10 %.

✖ By 2020, at least 95 % of children between 4 years old and the age for starting compulsory primary education should participate in early childhood education

TARGET KEY COMPETENCES FOR LIFE LONG LEARNING

✖ <u>The European Framework for Key Competences for Lifelong Learning</u> identifies and defines eight key competences:

1. communication in the mother tongue;
2. communication in foreign languages;
3. mathematical competence and basic competences in science and technology;
4. digital competence;
5. learning to learn;
6. social and civic competences;
7. sense of initiative and entrepreneurship;
8. cultural awareness and expression.

How to achieve all these targets?

- By rewarding structures, incentives for multidisciplinary and cross-organisational cooperation

- By eliminating barriers to partnerships between institutions and other public and private actors.

- By increasing <u>funding</u>? (total investment in higher education in Europe is too low: 1.3% of GDP on average; 2.7% in the US and 1.5% in Japan)

Funding/Budget?

- 2007-2013; €72.5 billion EU cohesion funding on education and training and €60 billion on research and innovation.
- Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020 supports this strategy

- ✖ The Community budget for research increases by 75%
- ✖ The education and training programmes are combined with a 40% increase in the budget

NEW CHALLANGES

- 35% of all jobs in the EU will require high-level qualifications by 2020, only 26% of the workforce currently has a higher education qualification

- Researchers in the total labour force: 6 per 100, compared to 9 in the US and 11 in Japan.

- There is a problem of skills mismatch (transversal competences, e-skills, creativity and flexibility)

CHALLANGES

- too few European higher education institutions are recognised as world class (only around 200 of Europe's 4000 higher education institutions are included in the top 500, and only 3 in the top 20, according to the latest Academic Ranking of World Universities)

Launch U-Multirank: a new performance-based ranking and information tool for profiling higher education institutions

CHALLANGES

- the quality and relevance of human capital development in higher education;

- effective governance and funding mechanisms

- strengthen the knowledge triangle between education, research and business.

- international mobility of students, researchers and staff,

Reading List for Unit 1

- A strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training ("ET 2020")

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:119:0002:0010:EN:PDF

Reading List for Unit 1

- "Education and Training" as a key driver of the Lisbon Strategy

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2007:300:0001:0002:EN:PDF

Thank you ...

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