

## Introduction to ACEEU

Expertise in Creating Impact through Entrepreneurship & Engagement

Federica Casaccio
International Relationships Manager, ACEEU





# We love to work with partners who are as passionate as we are.

With its recognised expertise in and methods for entrepreneurship and engagement development, ACEEU supports institutions, individuals and projects to become more impactful.

#### SHORT INTRODUCTION TO ACCEU PROJECTS UNIT

#### Who we are

The Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities (ACEEU) was established in 2016 as an international quality assurance and project development body. ACEEU performs its work in two structural units: the Accreditation Unit and the EU Projects Unit.

ACEEU's EU Project Unit started in 2020 to complement its accreditation work. Since then it has been involved 60+ EU projects, under various programs such as Erasmus+, EIT HEI Initiative, and Horizon Europe, among others. Currently, it collaborates with more than 300 HEIs, VETs, governmental bodies, SMEs, NGOs and other institutions across 38 countries, providing expertise and leadership in horizontal WPs and in educational multiple-level.



### Our passion is impact creation!



#### ACEEU'S BROAD EXPERTISE TOWARDS A BROADER IMPACT

How we contribute to successful consortiums



#### **Core Topics**

ACEEU advances educational institutions societal impact by fostering key-topics

- Engagement
- Digitalisation
- Sustainability
- Entrepreneurship
- Quality Assurance



#### **Educational levels**

ACEEU goes beyond academia, driving impact in multiple educational levels

- Higher Education
- Adult Education
- VET
- Youth



#### **Horizonal roles**

ACEEU takes over a variety of horizontal activities in EU Projects

- Communication & dissemination
- Exploitation & sustainability
- Quality assurance
- Innovation management
- Project coordination

ACEEU believes the power of education has not limits, supporting partners across multiple industries and sectors



#### POTENTIAL ACEEU CONTRIBUTIONS

#### Example activities where ACEEU impart its expertise as a Partner

- Building the capacity of higher education institutions to enhance their potential
- Developing toolkits, roadmaps and resources to foster topics such as entrepreunership, engagement, innovation, sustainability and digitalisation
- Embedding topic-focused components into curricula and ensuring its quality following specific frameworks (e.g. EntreComp framework, GreenComp, DigComp etc.)
- Assessing the employability potential of graduates
- Evaluating the learning outcomes and skills of graduates, and their alignment to existing labor market demands
- Assisting in effective involvement of stakeholders in external quality assurance activities

- Enhancing internal quality assurance processes to align with the mission of the European Education Area
- Supporting research endeavors: research instrument development, data collection, data analysis and final output generation
- Contributing to infrastructure and structures development to enable long-term impact
- Institutional policy formation and development in the area of EEU
- Organizing workshops, peer-learning activities, seminars, trainings in the area
- Putting at disposal its vast network of practitioners, policy-makers, researchers and educators active in the area of third mission, quality assurance and innovation in higher education

#### **FUNDING PROGRAMS AND INSTRUMENTS**

#### .. that we are interested



#### **EU Funding**

#### **Erasmus+**

- Cooperation Partnerships
- Small-scale Partnerships
- Partnerships for Excellence
- Capacity Building in VET and higher education
- Alliances for Innovation
- Centres for Vocational Excellence
- Forward-looking projects
- Other related Erasmus+ funding programs

#### **Horizon Europe**

- Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
- Innovation actions (IA)
- Research and innovation actions



#### National and Regional Funding

#### **Digital Europe**

- Specialised education programmes in key capacity areas
- European Digital Innovation Hubs
- Digital Skills Strand

**National funding instruments** in the field of higher education, quality assurance and third mission

**Regional funding instruments** in the field of higher education, quality assurance and third mission

Region-specific funding mechanisms supporting collaboration between the EU and the given region (e.g.

The Southeast Asia-Europe Joint Funding Scheme for Research and Innovation, European Development Fund, etc.)

#### **ERASMUS+ AND EUROPEAN PROJECTS**

#### ACEEU's EU-funded Projects

Funded projects

60+

Partners

300+

Countries

38

































































#### NOT ONLY PROJECTS .... DISCOVER ACEEU

#### Overview

ACEEU was founded in 2016 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. In 2019, it moved its headquarter to Münster, Germany.

An affiliate of ENQA and a full-fledged member of INQAAHE, ACEEU is so far the only Accreditation Council that focusses on third mission and entrepreneurial and engaged universities.

As such, ACEEU is aiming to contribute in fulfilling its mission of tearing down "the walls of the ivory towers" and contribute to creating a vibrant ecosystem of universities which nourish close-knit relationships with different stakeholders (be it industry, government, NGOs, city councils, other higher education institutions and similar) and forge greater socio-economic value.

Within this framework **ACEEU**, is eager to embed itself in various project activities with different partners in Europe and worldwide in order to contribute to more rigorous quality in higher education pertaining to engaged & entrepreneurial universities, better infrastructure, teaching and research activities, standards and norms that emerge as a result of the university being more interlinked with its environment and relevant stakeholders.





#### **ACEEU ACCREDITATION**

#### The foundations of our work

- First institution-level accreditation focused on third-mission aspects (entrepreneurship / engagement)
- Accreditation as Entrepreneurial University and/or Engaged University (single and dual accreditation possible)
- Accrediting entire universities and single academic units (faculties, schools, departments)
- Evaluation against 15 standards, through a
   20-step process
- Full member of INAQAAHE and affiliate member of ENQA
- Driven by an International Council comprised of 39 leading experts





















19

Completed procedures

29

Accreditations in progress





#### MORE THAN "JUST" AN ACCREDITATION

## Quality assurance, organisational development and celebration of excellence



















People are the most important determinant of project success

Get to know your future project partners!

#### THE TEAM BEHIND ACEEU

#### An international team with diverse backgrounds and competences



Prof. Dr. Thorsten Kliewe Chair



Dr. Lina Landinez CEO



Federica Casaccio International Relationship Manager



Erin Kummer Knowledge Coordinator





Angela Hernandez Community & Creative **Engagement Specialist** 



Michael Kliewe IT Specialist



Jeldo Meppen Digital Solutions Designer



Adekola Ashonibare Junior International Project Officer





Tamar Chkhartishvili International Project Assistant 1



Aysel Muradova International Project Assistant





## Contact us to discuss current and future partnering opportunities!

eufunding@aceeu.org

We look forward to collaborate together!





