



# Newsletter

EntRENEW course in Entrepreneurship  
in Renewable Energy

## EntRENEW Newsletter

Having introduced the Reader into the main features of the Entrepreneurship in Renewable Energy (ERE) we believe we have provoked your interest in going further - taking the course, collaborating! See in this edition more information about the EntRENEW project, other valuable resources (intellectual outputs - IOs) and the characters behind it (partners)! We wish you a pleasant reading!

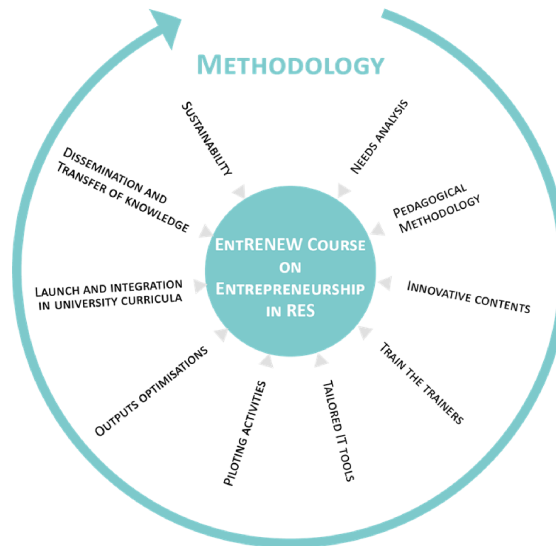
## What is the Idea Behind the Project?

The EntRENEW project aims at promoting a dynamic interdisciplinary perspective that articulates the corporate, scientific, and pedagogical skills and knowledge in renewable energy and entrepreneurship. EntRENEW will contribute to increasing the capacity of European students to become effective entrepreneurs and leaders, enabling them to address the challenges of Europe's future sustainable prosperity and the transition of energy sectors towards decarbonisation (as part of the European Green Deal).

The EntRENEW project has developed a trans-disciplinary **HE blended-learning course in Entrepreneurship in Renewable Energy (ERE)** at the intersection of entrepreneurship and technology (smart, sustainable, and renewable energy applied studies).

EntRENEW applies modern and innovative HE pedagogical trends. The motto inspiring this project is

*"We change with the changing needs of students and society"*



## What is our goal?

**SO 1:** FACILITATE THE EXCHANGE, FLOW AND CO-CREATION OF NEW KNOWLEDGE

**SO 2:** ENABLE EDUCATORS TO TEACH TRANSDISCIPLINARY STUDIES THROUGH INNOVATIVE METHODS AND IT TOOLS

**SO 3:** STIMULATE SYNERGIES BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT EUROPE

## How will we do it?

The project duration is 36 months. The work is divided into 6 WP and 5 Intellectual outputs (IOs). The EntRENEW project is following the below Work Programme to guarantee quality performance:

WP1: Methodological Approach Definition and Design

WP2: Pedagogical Content Development

WP3: Development of the E-learning Platform

WP4: Testing and launch of the EntRENEW Blended-learning on entrepreneurship skills for the renewable energy sector

WP5: Dissemination and Exploitation

WP6: Project Management and Quality Control

The long-term impact will be to create a new generation of decision-makers who will explore concrete entrepreneurial solutions in support of EU countries facing the important challenge of maintaining their social and economic performance and being more eco-responsible, especially in terms of energy.

### **Intellectual Outputs**

#### **IO1 Methodological Approach Definition and Design**

The first output aims at specifying the pedagogical methodology for efficient training in the Entrepreneurship in Renewable Energy (ERE) blended course and Incubation Hub. It is the backbone of the project.

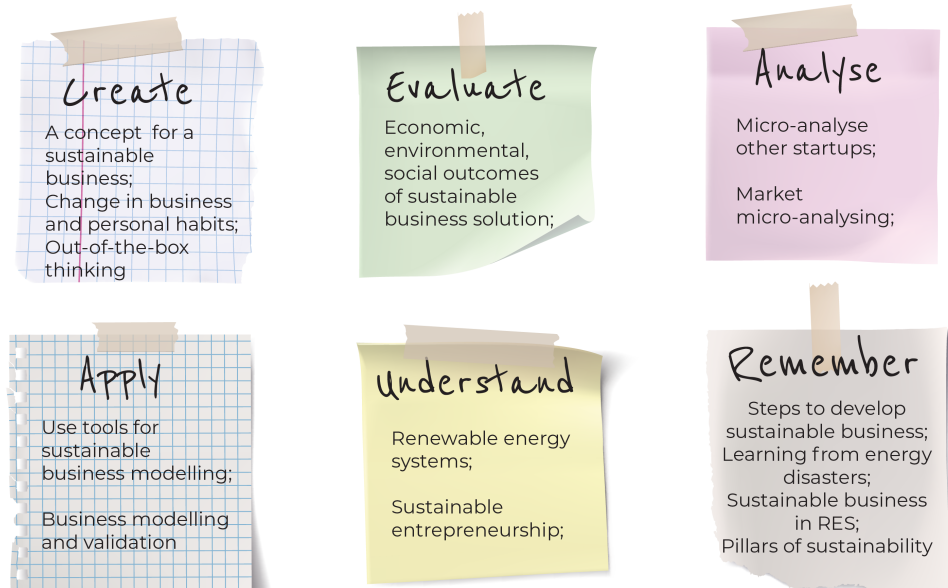
### **Learn more**

#### **IO2 Training Contents (Modules and materials for the e-learning, in-class sessions, assessment and ToT Toolkit)**

The second intellectual output is the actual training content for the EntRENEW course on Entrepreneurship in renewable energy (ERE). The course training materials are innovative in several ways: they incorporate a multidisciplinary approach to renewable energy entrepreneurship, drawing on a range of disciplines such as engineering, business, and environmental science; they place a strong emphasis on innovation, encouraging students

to think creatively and develop innovative solutions to the challenges facing the renewable energy industry; they accent both on R & I and sales perspective, direct linking with the world of real business in the form of consultation, mentoring and network building.

### Learning objectives



### IO3 EntRENEW E-learning Platform

IO3 aims at developing a Learning management system (LMS) for the Entrepreneurship in renewable energy (ERE) course, including a Virtual Incubator platform.

### Learn more

### IO4 EntRENEW Blended-learning course

IO4 will represent the final version of the course on Entrepreneurship in Renewable Energy (ERE) after a pilot delivery of the course in a blended learning setting.

***The first cohort of 14 students have graduated successfully from the ERE course, presenting 7 viable business ideas in the renewable sector.***

The ERE course has been piloted by Vrije University Amsterdam, a project partner. The project transnational meeting in Amsterdam was planned to take place a week before the pilot course final one where their examination was to take place. 7 teams of 2 students had prepared their business idea in the renewable energy field. They presented their pitches, each team consisting of a marketing/financial specialist and a physics/chemistry/engineer specialist. Project partners' representatives – professors and innovation specialists – took the role of evaluation jury. Each pitch was accompanied with a Q & A session, where the jury representatives pointed out business ideas' strengths, areas for further investigation, guidance, and suggestions for going further and scaling up. Both students and the jury were quite content with the outcomes of the session.



## **IO5 Best practices for blended training of students on entrepreneurship in renewable**

### **Energy**

IO5 will enhance the innovation developed in all project activities, by ensuring visibility, sustainability, and the potential for transfer and replication of EntRENEW blended course. It is a practical paper with examples of success stories and visions of innovative start-ups (e.g. study cases).

# MEET THE TEAM

The partners have been involved naturally in this project as the topic is strategic for them regarding the expertise presented below. They are complementary to the two main profiles of the EntRENEW project: engineering master studies in the field of sustainable and renewable energy and marketing and entrepreneurship master programmes. Considering the topic of Entrepreneurship in Renewable Energy and its specific learning needs, the quality of the project clearly depends on the cooperation between the business sector and the higher education partners in the project consortium. The consortium was thus chosen to serve this purpose, providing five HEIs in France, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Finland with established long-term relations with companies, and public and regulatory bodies in the field that provide a different form of coaching, incubation, and internship programmes.



## Who are we?

The ALDV –Association Léonard de Vinci– is a private university in Paris-La Défense. It includes a management school (EMLV), an engineering school (ESILV), and a design and multimedia school (IIM).

EMLV provides state-of-the-art programmes in business with an emphasis on diversity and entrepreneurship. Students are exposed to real-life business scenarios which equip them with core professional skills. EMLV is a member of the Conférence des Grandes Ecoles, which brings together the best French higher education institutions. The ALDV engineering program provides complete technical courses on both renewable energies and sustainable development. ALDV also organizes seminars and workshops and a hackathon based on gamification addressing the topic of sustainable development. EMLV has already developed an entrepreneurial 12-week program for the Master students of the three ALDV schools.

ALDV is the coordinator of the project, and it leads WP1 on Methodological Approach Definition and Design and WP6 on Project Management and Quality Control. ALDV devotesis committed to devote a significant effort to ensure that the EntRENEW project will result in an innovative learning course.



UPV (Universidad Politécnica de Valencia) is a public Higher Education Institution actively involved in international cooperation and mobility projects. UPV is the first technological university in Spain according to international rankings. Even though it focuses mainly on engineering and technical studies, it also hosts a Faculty of Fine Arts and a Faculty of Business Administration and Management. IDEAS UPV won the promotion award on entrepreneurship from the EU commission in 2009 and contributed to the EU label of EER for the Valencia Region in 2015. In Climate KIC, IDEAS UPV has coordinated several projects related to green entrepreneurship, such as CLIMATE KIC ACCELERATOR (2015 in Portugal, and 2016 in Spain), PIONEERS INTO PRACTICE (from 2016), and GREENHOUSE (2018-2019). IDEAS UPV team members have extensive expertise and links with entrepreneurship experts that will be useful for this project.

UPV is the WP2 leader in Pedagogical Content Development given its expertise in green entrepreneurship and mentoring. UPV, as part of the Climate-KIC, will bridge the projects for EntRENEW to capitalise on its innovative approaches towards entrepreneurship education and the current achievements in fostering a new generation of entrepreneurs and climate leaders to realise a zero-carbon economy.



Halmstad University (HU) is known for its popular and reality-based programmes and small student groups. The research at Halmstad University is pursued in interdisciplinary innovation and research environments. The University takes an active part in the



development of society through extensive and recognised collaboration with both the private and public sectors. The University's programmes are repeatedly ranked among the best in the country in employer collaboration. In the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise's latest survey, the Pre-school Teacher Education was named the best in the country, and three of the top ten educations, in all categories, were at the University.

HU is holding expertise in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, as well as in Smart Energy, and its team strongly supports the development of the pedagogical methodology in WP2 as well as all activities in this WP, especially the preparation of teachers to deliver the new course to their students at a high quality, using all innovative learning methods and tools.



The basic philosophy of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VUA) is expressed in three core values: responsible, open, and personally engaged. In its Educational vision, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam describes the basic principles for its education based on these core values. Sustainable, enterprising, and diverse – these are the priority values that govern the university's actions, and the essence of its education, research, knowledge transfer, and operational management. Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam has a clear vision and a clear set of ambitions when it comes to sustainability. Sustainability is an integral part of teaching and research, operations management, and the buildings at the VU campus. VU Amsterdam strives to maintain its current position amongst the top 10 most sustainable universities worldwide. Among the research institutes in the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam is the Institute for Environmental Studies (IVM) which has been evaluating ecosystems. One of the most prominent faculties of VUA is the School of Business and Economics.

VUA leads the activities dedicated to the virtual incubator hub design and development as its Center for Entrepreneurship specializes in sustainable entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship education outside the business and education domain. In addition, VUA is the leader of the Dissemination and Exploitation Work Package.



University of Vaasa (UVA) is a business-oriented, multidisciplinary, and international university. UVA conducts impactful research of a high international standard and educates highly skilled experts for various fields. UVA has about 500 staff members, and the annual operating costs are approximately 40 MEUR. In total, there are slightly over 5 000 students at the university, of whom 240 are foreign students, and 390 PhD students. UVA consists of four schools: Accounting and Finance, Management, Marketing and Communication, and Technology and Innovations. In addition, the university has three open and multidisciplinary research platforms: Vaasa Energy Business Innovation Centre (VEBIC) for energy and sustainable development, InnoLab for innovations, entrepreneurship and open science, and Digital Economy. Three programmes in the University have been awarded the international quality accreditation – the EFMD Programme Accreditation System, or EPAS. Seven programmes at the University are accredited by ASIIN. Further accreditation processes (EUR-ACE, Euro-Inf and AACSB) are underway. According to the Times Higher Education 2023 ranking, the University of Vaasa is placed among the top 400 universities in the world. The Shanghai Global Ranking of Academic Subjects (GRAS) 2022 ranks University of Vaasa as follows: 151–200 for business administration and 401–500 for management.

In accordance to its strategic focus on sustainability, UVA produces new scientific knowledge and information as well as educates future experts and conscious citizens. The university has built a culture in which the principles of sustainable development are realized in our education, research and interaction with various stakeholders in society. The campus aims for carbon neutrality by 2030.

As a business-oriented university, UVA builds one of the largest educational entity in business studies in Finland with more than 2400 students and a faculty of 200 people. The different departments, especially Management, Marketing, Accounting and Finance, and Industrial Management, educate experts and decision makers in the business sector who have the readiness to work in demanding corporate and industrial roles in both local and international operational environments.

UVA is taking part of the recently approved Centre of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) in Green Innovation GREENOVET, comprising 18 European Partners and co-funded by Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. In addition, UVA is member of several

European platforms and federations, such as the European University Association (EUA), the European Foundation for Management Development (EFMD), and the International Association of Universities (IAU).

The university has, together with the University of Applied Sciences VAMK, a business incubator, West Coast Startup, supporting students and staff members in developing business ideas.

The project matches one of the strategic focus areas of UVA, energy, and sustainable development. WP4 Testing and launch of the EntRENEW Blended-learning on entrepreneurship skills for the renewable energy sector are led by UVA and it will result in the successful integration of a fully operational and validated EntRENEW course in all 5 partnering HEIs MA programmes.



EP (Europroject) is a French-Bulgarian consultancy specialised in the setting-up of European research & innovation projects under the framework of ERASMUS+, Horizon Europe, and LIFE. Europroject has broad experience in project management, dissemination, exploitation, web design, and development, including the creation and maintenance of project websites and online platforms and adherence to accessibility standards. The company has developed a wide network and strong relations with research organisations, local public bodies, NGOs, training centers, and private companies. EP currently participates in the implementation of 10 EU projects, including large-scale ones, and benefits from the experience of its French mother company Euroquality, which has been the project manager of more than 30 EU projects over the past 10 years. Europroject's teams have specific knowledge and competencies in the fields of environment, energy, climate change, social sciences, and humanities. In 2020 Europroject and Euroquality became part of the Italian group TINEXTA, merging innovation consulting expertise with their subsidiary Warrant Hub S.p.A.

Europroject helps the coordinator with the coordination and financial management. EP is also in charge of the overall communication activities, and the animation of the communication team dedicated to the project.

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## CONTACT US

### PROJECT COORDINATOR:

Irène Beccarini (ALDV): [irene.beccarini@devinci.fr](mailto:irene.beccarini@devinci.fr)

### COMMUNICATION AND PRESS:

Polina Hitova (EP): [polina.hitova@europroject.bg](mailto:polina.hitova@europroject.bg)

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Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



This project has received funding from the EU's Erasmus+ programme under grant agreement No. 2020-1-FR01-KA203-080630. This output reflects only the author's view, and the European Union cannot be held responsible for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

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