

## **Curriculum alignment and cross-border cooperation with SMEs (EDU-SMEs)**



Programme Priority: P4 Skilled and socially inclusive region

Programme Specific Objective: 4.2. More aligned vocational education and training (VET) programmes in the Central Baltic region

Sub-programme: Central Baltic

Duration: 01.09.2015 - 28.02.2017

Total funding: 256.692 EUR

ERDF funding: 209.058 EUR ERDF

### **Project Summary:**

The project EDU-SMEs aims at developing a better matching between the graduates' competencies and companies' needs in the Central Baltic region. The project idea lies in aligning partner institutions' curricula in business management and entrepreneurship.

In practice new knowledge and pedagogical approaches are integrated in the existing curricula and students will gain new competencies especially in the field of internationalization of small and medium-sized companies (SMEs). The project main activities help to integrate classroom learning and practice in the workplace by strengthening cooperation between vocational education training institutions and SMEs through real-life assignments. The project also supports individual SMEs in their internationalization through cross-border activities that link SMEs with faculty and students in their target markets. The activities include a jointly developed and delivered e-learning course on internationalization of SMEs.

As a result of the project the curricula in business management and entrepreneurship are aligned and cross-border cooperation with SMEs is expected to increase. The project will also produce useful materials and support for other vocational education and training programmes and SMEs in the region.

## Map of Partners



## Partners

Lead Partner

### Yrkeshögskolan Arcada Ab

Country: FI

[www.arcada.fi](http://www.arcada.fi)

**Partner budget:** 91.304 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 68.478 EUR ERDF

Project Partners

### Vidzemes Augstskola

Country: LV

[www.va.lv](http://www.va.lv)

**Partner budget:** 41.764 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 35.499 EUR ERDF

### Eesti Ettevõtluskõrgkooli Mainor (AS Erahariduskeskus)

**Country:** EE

[www.eek.ee](http://www.eek.ee)

**Partner budget:** 48.945 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 41.603 EUR ERDF

## **Tallinna Tehnikakõrgkool**

**Country:** EE

[www.ttkk.ee](http://www.ttkk.ee)

**Partner budget:** 42.299 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 35.954 EUR ERDF

## **Valmieras Biznesa un inovāciju inkubators**

**Country:** LV

[www.vbii.lv](http://www.vbii.lv)

**Partner budget:** 32.382 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 27.524 EUR ERDF

## **Results**

### **Expected results**

The project has 4 main results: 1. Partner schools align their curricula in business management and entrepreneurship. The curricula will include new knowledge on internationalization of SMEs 2. New learning materials will be developed and implemented 3. An e-learning environment (IT- platform) will be developed, that will benefit both educational institutions and SMEs. The platform includes the following: a. an e-learning course on Internationalization of SMEs, jointly developed and delivered by the partners b. an area where students and SMEs can test their readiness for internationalization ("internationalization scoreboard") c. description of existing support functions and resources for SMEs internationalization in all partner countries, with webb-links for easy access d. a match-making area where assignments provided by the SMEs can be chosen by faculty and students in other countries e. videoclips and interviews with SMEs that have successfully internationalized their business in the central-baltic region (Best Practice examples). 4. A pedagogical model for cross-border cooperation between VET institutions and SMEs. That model will be widely disseminated in the region. All these results contribute to increased share of aligned vocational education and training in the Central Baltic region. During the project, partner institutions align their own education. They also produce useful materials and support for other VET and SMEs in the region, for long-term exploitation of project results.

### **Achieved results**

## **Project Visibility**

### **Other media visibility**

[Project homepage](#)

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