



Universidade do Minho

Project name | Creation of a Centre of Excellence for Pedagogical Innovation in a consortium

Acronym | EPIC - Pedagogical Excellence and Innovation in Co-creation

Project code | 11076

Funding Programme | Impulso Mais Digital - Pedagogical Innovation and Modernisation in Higher Education - Creation of centres of excellence for pedagogical innovation (04/C06-i07/2023)

Main objective | To promote pedagogical innovation, with a strong digital component, focusing on non-technological areas (social sciences, humanities and arts); to consolidate institutional dynamics of pedagogical modernisation in higher education through a systemic approach that favours innovative practices that are effective in promoting quality teaching;

Promoting organisation | University of Minho (UMinho)

Partner organisations | University of Beira Interior; University of Aveiro; Polytechnic Institute of Cávado and Ave; Polytechnic Institute of Leiria; Polytechnic Institute of Viana do Castelo.

Start date | 01/04/2024

End date | 30/06/2026

Eligible Investment (Total) | 3,842,857.14 EUR

Eligible Investment (UMinho) | 855,357.14 EUR

Activities, objectives and/or expected results

The EPIC - Pedagogical Excellence and Innovation in Co-creation project is made up of five main activities, each with specific objectives aimed at promoting pedagogical innovation and improving the quality of higher education. These activities are interconnected and contribute to training teachers, certifying their competences, evaluating the impact of the activities carried out in the consortium and disseminating good practices.

Activity 1: Development of the Competence Certification Framework

The aim of this activity is to develop and implement a certification framework that ensures that the pedagogical competences acquired by teachers (target audience) within the scope of EPIC training are



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recognised and valued. The standard is aligned with professional development policies and responds to the needs of Pedagogical Transformation Programmes, guaranteeing the qualification of participating teachers.

Activity 2: Transformative Development Programmes for Higher Education Teachers

With a focus on continuous training, this activity aims to develop structured training programmes at different levels (beginner, intermediate and advanced), promoting pedagogical transformation, the use of digital tools, educational diversity and the creation of collaborative networks. These programmes allow teachers to innovate in their practice and contribute to a more effective learning experience for students.

Activity 3: Resources to Support Pedagogical Innovation and Quality Pedagogical Resources

This activity focuses on modernising and making available teaching resources that promote efficient learning environments in line with the current needs of higher education. By digitising and standardising teaching spaces and materials, the aim is to ensure the quality and accessibility of resources, supporting pedagogical innovation and the development of active methodologies.

Activity 4: Impact Assessment and Valorisation of Initiatives

The fourth activity aims to evaluate and monitor the impact of the actions implemented in the project, promoting the valorisation of certification and pedagogical innovation initiatives. This activity makes it possible to adjust strategies and ensure the continuous improvement of the actions promoted during the implementation of the project.

Activity 5: Dissemination and EPIC Experience

The last activity focuses on creating an identity for the EPIC consortium and disseminating its initiatives. Through the dynamisation of communities, hackathons, merit awards, forums and the implementation of a Digital Platform (EPIC DXP), this activity aims to ensure the continuity and sharing of good practices, reinforcing collaboration between institutions and teachers.

Expected results

- Qualification and certification of the competences acquired by teachers;
- Adoption of innovative, student-centred teaching practices, promoting greater academic success overall;





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- Modernisation of learning resources and spaces, ensuring inclusive digital environments that promote the pedagogical development of teachers and the academic success of students;
- Continuous monitoring of the impact of initiatives, based on quantitative and qualitative indicators;
- Creation of an active and collaborative inter-institutional community around pedagogical innovation practices, with national and international visibility.