



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme



FOLLOW PROJECT

<http://www.follow-project.eu>

1. GENERIC OVERVIEW



THE HIGHER EDUCATION MODERNISATION AGENDA GOALS OF EUROPE 2020

- to increase the **NUMBER** of **HE GRADUATES**;
- to improve the quality and relevance of teaching and researcher training, to equip graduates with the knowledge and **CORE TRANSFERABLE COMPETENCES** they need to succeed in high-skill occupations;
- to provide more opportunities for students to gain additional skills through **STUDY OR TRAINING ABROAD**, and to encourage cross-border co-operation to boost higher education performance;
- to strengthen the "**KNOWLEDGE TRIANGLE**", linking education, research and business;
- to create **EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE** and funding mechanisms in support of excellence.

1.CONTEXT



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These projects come as complement to projects carried out under the other Erasmus actions. They have relevance to the modernisation agenda of higher education, enhance the implementation of Erasmus mobility, aim to support communication activities, and events for the dissemination and exploitation of results of Erasmus projects, or foster transversal aspects.

THESE ACCOMPANYING MEASURES ARE EXPECTED TO PRODUCE A BETTER IMPACT OF THESE RESULTS IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SOCIETY AT LARGE.

**ERASMUS
ACCOMPANYING
MEASURES**

**2007
2008
2009
2010**

2011



FOLLOW

2.WHY?



Q: What is the FOLLOW project all about?

A: It's about how Higher Education Institutions can improve the monitoring and promotion of their graduates employability



The project is joint effort of **4 cluster universities** with the main goal of identifying and disseminating the best and most effective practices concerning the monitoring and promotion of HE graduates employability and to channel them into objective and effective improvements on the local and European policies that deal with this subject.

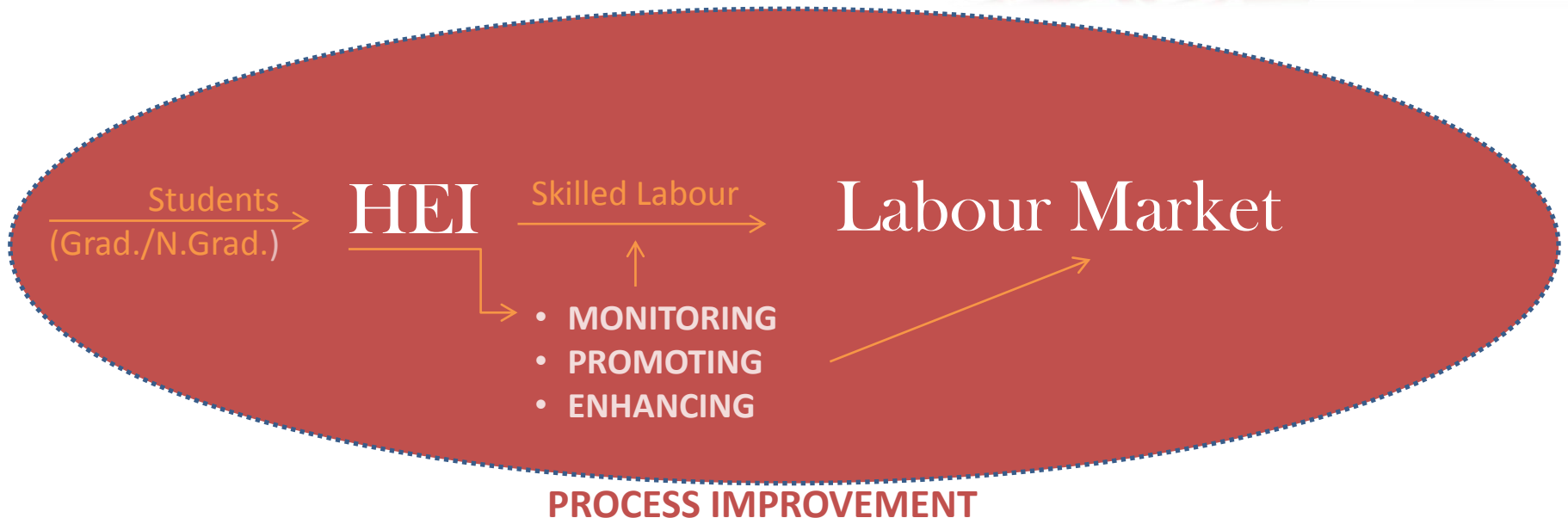
The accumulated experience of the 4 partners in the domain of graduate employability will produce synergies which ultimately will result in a set of best practices and recommendations

3. RELEVANCE IN 2012?



The employability issue plays a key role in the strategic management of the HEI. The more recent evolution of these institutions is marked by a growing concern with structures that approach the labor market.

HEI need, not only to produce skilled labor, but also to have a relevant role in contributing to a more oriented and adequate path between educational offer and the needs of employers.



4.MAIN GOALS



What is the main goal?

To know what is successfully being done in terms of graduate employability and to extrapolate that success to a more widespread area of action.

This focus will result in a knowledge update which will benefit not only each partner, but also at European level since the collected and organized information will allow an unprecedented comparison, a general description of existing mechanisms, their location, features and performance.

MAPING OF AVAILABLE EMPLOYABILITY MECHANISMS

Specific and intermediate goals:

- Organizing the “**First International Seminar on Higher Education Graduates Employability**”
- Creating a **network of knowledge and experiences** in terms of interventional structures in the field of employability and to foster cooperation between HEI’s.
- Producing a **final report with the Best Practices on Monitoring and Promoting HE Graduates employability** based on the different realities and different lines of action in terms of strategic management in each FOLLOW Project participating institution
- To keep a **constant flow of information circulating** through preliminary reports, brochures, Twitter and Facebook Accounts, Official Website
- Setting the foundations for an **European Observatory of HE Graduate employability**

5. STRUCTURE & METHODOLOGY



FOLLOW is structured in 4 Work Packages (WP) in which all partners are involved



WP1: EMPLOYABILITY PRACTICES MAPPING



WP2: INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON HE GRADUATES EMPLOYABILITY



WP3: DISSEMINATION



WP4: ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES PLUS ADDITIONAL SUPPORT INFO.

WP1 EMPLOYABILITY PRACTICES MAPPING – KEY INDICATORS



PERFORMING AGENT

- **Identification** – Name of the agent
- **Type** – Internal or External to the HEI

PRACTICE

- **Identification** – Name of the practice
- **Type** – Promoting, Monitoring, Both
- **Areas of Intervention**

HUMAN RESOURCES

- **Number of persons per practice**
- **Estimated total time (days) per practice (1 year period)**
- **Total number of persons working at the unit/agent**

MATERIAL RESOURCES

- **Infrastructures**
- **Logistics**

IMPACT

- **Results**
- **Deliverables**
- **Main Effects**



WP1 EMPLOYABILITY PRACTICES MAPPING – KEY INDICATORS



AREAS OF INTERVENTION

PROMOTION

- Dissemination of job search by students
- Job vacancies by companies
- Professional/Career Guidance (personal development planning)
- Promotion of Entrepreneurship
- Skills and education match (Learning/employability/Transferable skills)
- Specific collaborations with companies (eg. Recruitment Opportunities/Promotion of field placements)
- Link to alumni
- Public policies (government programmes, job centers)
- University as an employer

MONITORING

- Follow Up of job search
- Follow Up of job vacancies
- Follow Up of internships
- Graduate Employability Observatories
- Follow Up of employability within companies (eg.:Surveys on salary)
- Internal indicators (surveys, internal reports, informal reports, qualitative surveys)
- External indicators (Government, ministries, professional association)
- University as an employer

Main WP1 Output:

Preliminary Report with main findings which will be presented and discussed in the international seminar (WP2)

WP2 Lisbon International Seminar



WP2 International Seminar



Lisbon, 11th and 12th October 2012

Preliminary Structure

1st Day

Morning: Opening Session; Keynote Speakers

Afternoon: Public presentation of FOLLOW results;
Best Practices presentation (selected institutions -
inside/outside partners)

2nd Day

Morning: Workshops/Discussion groups (2 or 3)

Afternoon: Workshops/Discussion groups outcomes;
Closing Session

This event will be streamed online





The organizing committee will include representatives from all the partners involved in FOLLOW. Each partner will have an active role in raising attendance from entities/persons that act in similar domains. **In this stage, the FOLLOW project has its major visibility and cooperation with internal and external actors.**

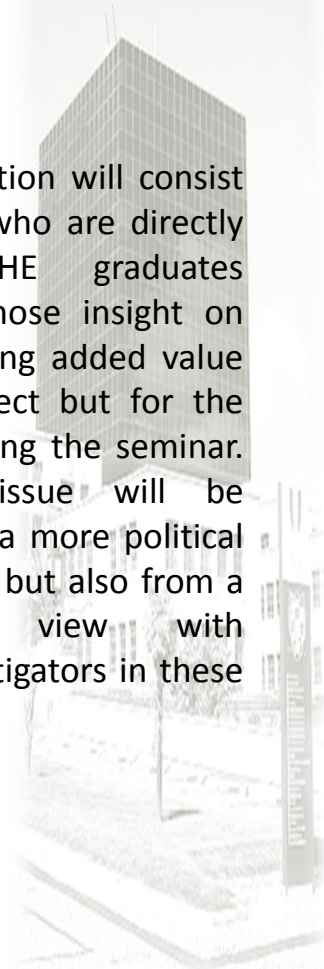
The seminar will revolve around 3 main thematic axis:

- External Contribution
- FOLLOW project results
- Discussion Groups Contribution

WP1 Results
WP1 Report Presentation

Thematic workshops will be set up (with previous signing-up; up to 5 people each) in order to discuss and present suggestions and contributions not only for the FOLLOW project but also to the study of graduate employability issues

The external contribution will consist of keynote speakers who are directly linked to the HE graduates employability and whose insight on these matters will bring added value not only to the project but for the work of those attending the seminar. The employability issue will be addressed from both a more political and intervening view but also from a more theoretical view with contributions of investigators in these domains.



WP3 Dissemination



This WP will address the dissemination of all public outputs and events. This is to be made in a way that the results and outcomes of the project continue to be disseminated after the project terminated.

Official Website

<http://www.follow-project.eu> →

- Public Area: Updates, Preliminary Results, Final Reports and Documents, Agenda.
- Restricted Area: Site Management, Work Document Repository

Online Dissemination Resources – Social Networks/Blog



Other Dissemination Material:

Brochures, Leaflets and other physical supports

The blog will be a tool to present the project activities to the external world. The blog will also allow for outside people and entities to interact with the project through comments, feedbacks and suggestions. There will also be a section with links to the project website and to the web forum

The creative process associated with the production of these type of materials will also be WP3 responsibility.

6. BEYOND FOLLOW



The FOLLOW project was conceived and structured in order to have its impact amplified beyond the duration of the project. The dissemination network being developed will continue as an independent platform after the conclusion of the project. Also the experience exchange network set up for WP1 is intended to continue in order to update its results

December 2012



Post-Follow:

- Independent Observatory for European HE Graduate Employability
- Broaden the action radius of FOLLOW to other HEI, Public Entities, National and European Institutions
- Promote and update the main outputs of FOLLOW
- Organize and promote the second international seminar on graduate employability

Timeline – Key Dates

February – FOLLOW Kickoff Meeting in Leuven

May – Official Website Online

June – Preliminary WP1 Report

July – Virtual WP1 Seminar (6th)

September – International Seminar Dissemination Material

October – International Seminar (11th and 12th)



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Thank you for your attention

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