



OFICINA DE GESTIÓN DE PROYECTOS INTERNACIONALES
UNIVERSIDAD DE ALICANTE



Funded by the
European Union

TIES

Towards an Internationalisation of Higher Education Network for the MEDA region

Welcome to the project and agenda

Roberto Escarré

Director, International Project Management Office

Kick-off Meeting

March 1st 2010

Agenda day 1:

PROJECT ORGANISATION AND PLANNING

- 10:00 - Welcome to the project and meeting's agenda
Vice-Rector, UA
Mr. Roberto Escarré, Director of the International Project Management Office
- 10:30 - Introducing the TIES project: vision and objectives.
Mr. Roberto Escarré, TIES Coordinator
- 11:15 - Coffee Break
- 11:45 - Planning of the activities: Methodology and Calendar
Aliandra Barlete, TIES project officer, UA
- 12:15 Recess - Per diems and lunch
- 14:30 Presentation of TIES partners (10 min each partner)
- 17:00 Return to Alicante city centre by bus (hotel).

Agenda day 2:

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND FINANCING

- 09:00 – Administrative and financial issues of TEMPUS projects.
Mr. Nizar Ayadi, International Project manager, OGPI, UA
- 10:00 - Introducing the project's Webpage and Management Tool
Aliandra Barlete, TIES Project officer
- 10:30 - Coffee Break
- 11:00 – Next activities
Aliandra Barlete, TIES Project officer
- 12:00 Q&A session
- 12:30 “Vino de Honor” + Tour of the UA campus
- 14:30 Return to Alicante city centre. Visit to Santa Barbara Castle

Aim of the kick-off meeting

- To underline the enormity of the work ahead and everyone's part in it
 - It is a rather large project
 - The expectations are high
- To gain a common understanding of the project plan and the deliverables. Think about how we measure each task.
- Accept the challenge and make the most of the opportunity to be the first internationalisation network in the MEDA region.
- To celebrate the winning of the project and get to know each other .



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Project objectives and mission

Roberto Escarré

Director, International Project Management Office

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Background

- **Regional differences.** Research shows an imbalance among the partner countries involved in terms of mobility: Egypt has the lowest outgoing student percentage (below 0.5%) in the Arab world, whereas Morocco has one of the highest (15%). On average for the region, the percentage is just 2.9%.
- **Human Resources.** Staff working in international offices in the region have little or no formal specialised training. There is a clear need for new structures and opportunities to **train human resources** to take on international activities.
- **Funding.** Institutions in the region are not aware of different financing options that exist for international activities, neither of the financial benefits that a sound international policy can bring.

Why internationalise?

- The introduction of an international elements to HE in the region could greatly assist the **innovative reach** of the institutions, formulate strong **research and exchange partnerships**, bring in **fresh ideas** from overseas visitors and students, and, perhaps one of the most important aspects, be a **source of funds**.
- Also, it allows the region to be actors in the **international scientific development**, thus contributing to the socio-economic development of their countries.

Relevance of TIES

- **Common regional goal:** the nations involved in this initiative (Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco and Jordan) hold a common interest to develop international relations expertise and undertake a structured and strategic process of internationalisation
- **Modernisation and reform:** The project will allow partners to review and update the current practices, and encourage new ways of thinking and new methodologies, while training IRO staff and welcoming the participation of Top-level management in the project's activities to ensure its implementation.

General Objective

- The project aims to **develop institutional capacity** in the area of **internationalisation for MEDA country Higher Education Institutions**, through the **transfer of know-how, management capacities and good practices** for the management of IROs (international relations offices).

Specific Objectives

- Develop an internationalisation culture through regional actions;
- Provide appropriate knowledge and means and methods to improve internationalisation actions of MEDA partner country institutions;
- Create a recognised regional network for internationalisation for good practice transfer.

Target groups

- **Target Groups:**

- Top level management staff dealing with international relations (Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Deans, etc.)
- Ground-level IRO staff dealing with international affairs

- **Final Beneficiaries:**

- MEDA country partner institutions, students, lecturers, researchers, administrative staff, other institutions from the region, Ministry of Education, potential partners from other regions, especially Europe

Activities I

- 1. INNOVATION THROUGH OBSERVATION
 - 1.1. Observation session for management level; 1.2. Observation session for Staff level
- 2. HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
 - 2.1. Development of workshop materials; 2.2. WS: Globalisation and internationalisation; 2.3. WS: International Strategic Planning; 2.4. WS: IRO Models; 2.5. WS: IRO Services development; 2.6. WS: International networking and opportunities; 2.7. WS: Fundraising and project management; 2.8. WS: ICTs for IROs;

Activities II

- **3. CAPACITY BUILDING AND ACTION PLANS**
 - 3.1. Purchasing of IT equipment for IROs; 3.2. Setting up/improvement of IRO, project webpages; 3.3. Drafting guide "IRO Management in MEDA Region; 3.4. Designing Internationalisation plans

- **4. NETWORKING AND SUSTAINABILITY (NETWORK)**
 - 4.1. Internationalisation network set up; 4.2. Sustainability: Creating network's Business plan; 4.3. Internationalisation roundtable conferences

Activities III

- 5. DISSEMINATION
 - 5.1. Project / network website; 5.2. Mailing activities; 5.3. Development of a standard package; 5.4. DfA: Policy makers and shakers
- 6. SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT
 - Activities 3.4, 4.2
- 7. QUALITY CONTROL AND MONITORING
- 8. PROJECT MANAGEMENT
 - 8.1. Evaluation board (15 members); 8.2. Project management and reporting; 8.3. Management meetings

Estimated results

- **Main tangible outputs:**
 - Workshop materials (7 sets)
 - Delivery of trainings (7)
 - "Guide for Management of International Relations Offices in the MEDA Region" (200 print copies per partner, plus on-line versions)
 - Internationalisation plans (12, one per partner)
 - IROs web pages (12) and IT infrastructure,
 - project web page (1),
 - **Internationalisation Network and structure.**

Similar networks

- [AIEA](#) Association of International Education Administrators
- [AMPEI](#) Mexican Association for International Education
- [APAIE](#) Asia-Pacific Association for International Education
- [CBIE](#) Canadian Bureau for International Education
- [CONAHEC](#) Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration
- [EAIE](#) European Association for International Education
- **FAIE** Foro Argentino para la Educación Internacional
- [IEAA](#) International Education Association of Australia

Similar networks

- [IEAC](#) International Educators Association of Canada,
- [IEASA](#) International Education Association of South Africa,
- [IIE](#) Institute of International Education,
- [ISANA](#) International Education Association,
- [AFSA](#) Japan Network for International Education,
- [KAFSA](#) Korean Association of Foreign Student Administrators,
- [NAFSA](#) North American Association for Study Abroad
- Etc...

Conclusions

- Key management issues:
 - Delivering all outcomes planned on time, with quality;
 - Work towards an open and communicative relationship among the partners, to ensure the sustainability of the network;
 - getting the right partner in each participating institution;
- Key technical issues:
 - Involving local HEIs and relevant Ministry;
 - Sharing good practices;
 - Increasing networking;
 - Become an actor in the international education sphere in your country.



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Thank you for your attention.

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