

ENCORE Project

Entrepreneurship Knowledge Centers to Foster Innovative
Entrepreneurship Practices in Education and Research

Terms of Reference

For

External Evaluator

Project Information

Project title	Entrepreneurship Knowledge Centers to Foster Innovative Entrepreneurship Practices in Education and Research
Project acronym	ENCORE
Project reference number	617589-EPP-1-2020-1-AT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP
Coordinator	FH Joanneum
Project Start date	9 th February 2021
Project duration	36 Months
Work package	Work Package 6: Quality Plan
Work package leader (Institution)	Royal Thimphu College, Bhutan

Project Partners

Partner Number	Partner Name	Country
P1	FH Joanneum	Austria
P2	University of Alicante	Spain
P3	Haaga-Helia Ammattikorkeakoulu Oy	Finland
P4	Royal University of Bhutan (Gedu College)	Bhutan
P5	Royal Thimphu College	Bhutan
P6	Tribhuvan University	Nepal
P7	Global College International	Nepal
P8	Souphanouvong University	Laos
P9	National University of Laos	Laos

ENCORE Project Description

ENCORE is following the recommendation of ADB to include and support the chosen countries in other financial funding programs to promote, expand and catalyze economic regional development. Only a few international initiatives have already taken place in Bhutan, Nepal and Laos to improve their challenging economic situation and further improve the living conditions. Since the education is directly linked to the well-being of the citizens, ENCORE includes Bhutanese, Nepalese and Laotians HEIs by integrating advanced learning tools for the ability to identify, create and disruptive business ideas into existing academic structures, while strengthening the university-business collaboration through participatory schemes on a local and regional level and aims to improve and enhance existing entrepreneurship practices and promote innovative ideas.

AIMS:

- (1) To promote entrepreneurship education, the creation of an entrepreneurial mind set and disruptive business development at HEIs in Bhutan, Nepal and Laos to benefit from sustainable and professional business development on a national, regional and local level.
- (2) To enhance the university-business cooperation in the field of entrepreneurship to foster the concept and idea of business development, increase teaching quality and in the long-run to increase the employability of graduates.
- (3) To foster innovation in the field of entrepreneurship by including established entrepreneurs in student-business learning activities within an institutionalized physical environment.
- (4) Internationalization of higher education institutions and countries having limited access to international cooperation in research and capacity building.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- a. To strengthen teaching staff capacities and student skill sets through innovative teaching & learning methodologies by offering trainings combining theoretical and practical inputs & study visits including multiplier events;
- b. Technical development of the entrepreneurship knowledge centers (EKC) in each of the 6 HEIs in Bhutan, Nepal and Laos to operate the centers and apply the learned knowledge - technical innovations at the HEIs;
- c. Implementation and operation of 6 EKCs on entrepreneurship conceptualization and education with different foci;

d. To enhance the cooperation HE-Enterprise and students learning experience by developing Innovative Entrepreneurship Case studies in cooperation with established entrepreneurs, to apply the innovative methods learned and prepare the students for innovative thinking & acting in “real life” contexts;

e. To promote greater access to high quality educational materials on the topic of teaching & learning methods and technology enhancement, providing Open Educational Resources to regional and international communities;

f. To extend networks in entrepreneurship innovation in national & international HE contexts by joint publications and organizing the International Conference on Innovative entrepreneurship practices.

Objectives of the External Evaluator

The Primary task of the External Evaluator for the ENCORE project is to supervise the Quality Plan of the project in terms of implementation of the project activities by all the partner institution and to offer assessment on various project aspects referring to the following responsibilities and tasks:

General responsibilities of the External Evaluator (EE):

1. Be the Chair of the Quality and Ethics Board and lead the Quality and Ethics Board (QEB).
2. Attend all the Quality and Ethics Board meetings.
3. Along with the QEB members, the EE, will evaluate the quality and progress of the project activities and outputs, to ensure these are executed as per the standards promised in the Logical Framework Matrix and work plan specified in the project document.
4. Provide necessary feedback on the project progress, project implementation and project documents.
5. Support the Work Package Leader/ Risk Owners in the process of Risk Management Plan and Managing Risks. The support is in terms of identification of potential risks and design alternatives scenarios “Plan Bs”/ contingency plan. Details of additional responsibilities are laid out in the ENCORE Risk Management Document.
6. Raise issues related to the Risk Management Process as one of the main agenda during the regular QEB meeting.
7. Escalate items of major risks which have an impact on overall project execution needs to be the Project Management Board through the Project coordinator.
8. Resolve and manage any ethical issues during the project for all the project partners.
9. Ensure all the issues raised by the project partners are freely discussed & are adequately managed.

10. Support the WP leader 6# Quality & Ethics Control to develop the quality plan and the feedback mechanisms/processes to ensure that a good basis for quality assurance is available for the ENCORE project.
11. Write & submit three reports (one after each year). Each report should evaluate the following items: timeliness of delivery of outputs, each output & product produced according to completeness, usefulness for target groups, impact they can achieve, communication & work ethics among the partners.
12. The EE should be updated with the project progress and understand the project requirements.
13. Report to the ENCORE Project Coordinator (FHJ) on any issues related to the work assigned.

The External Evaluator can schedule independent meetings with all partners as and when required for the project related tasks. The project management board is responsible to provide all project documents and deliverables to the external evaluator on request.

Expertise needed:

1. Experience in working as an External Evaluator for any of the Erasmus+ K2 projects.
2. Knowledge and understanding of Erasmus+ K2 projects.
3. Research experience in the field of higher education.
4. Knowledge and understanding of project monitoring and evaluation.
5. Experience in writing project based evaluation reports.

Subcontracting Authority: Work Package 6 Leader- Royal Thimphu College, Thimphu, Bhutan.

Duration of the project: 36 Months (2021-2024).

Expert's fee: Defined by the ENCORE project and the fees shall be paid annually after the submission and final assessment by the coordinator.

Document submission:

1. CV (Euro pass format)
2. Motivation letter

Deadline: 24/05/2021

Procedure: Documents should be sent to the Work Package leader (Quality Plan) at erasmus@rtc.bt
