

1ST NEWSLETTER

Empowering Higher Education Through Innovation and Digital Transformation









We are delighted to announce the launch of PIONEER+, a project funded by the EIT Higher Education Institutions (HEI) Initiative.

Its primary objective is to support HEIs in developing and implementing comprehensive strategies that foster entrepreneurial mindsets, promote innovation, and enhance digital readiness. By enabling collaboration between universities, industry, and policy stakeholders, PIONEER+ seeks to contribute to the creation of a more resilient, competitive, and future-oriented higher education ecosystem across Europe.



Building on its overarching goal to strengthen the capacity of European Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in innovation and entrepreneurship, PIONEER+ focuses on enabling universities to:

- Develop coordinated strategies that integrate innovation and entrepreneurship across curricula and institutional policies.
- Enhance the digital and entrepreneurial skills of students, researchers, and academic staff.
- Facilitate collaboration between academia, industry, and public sector stakeholders.
- Implement practical tools and frameworks to assess, monitor, and improve institutional innovation performance.

PIONEER+ will help HEIs drive societal and economic growth while equipping graduates for a fast-changing global economy.

WHO BENEFITS FROM PIONEER+

- **HEIs:** Get guidance, training, and frameworks to develop sustainable innovation and entrepreneurship strategies.
- Academic Staff & Researchers: Access capacity-building, mentoring, and tools to boost teaching, research, and innovation.
- **Students:** Gain entrepreneurial and digital skills for the workforce or launching ventures.
- **Industry & Start-ups:** Strengthen collaborations, access research, and engage skilled graduates.
- **Policymakers & Society:** Benefit from HEIs as innovation hubs driving economic growth and social development.

LOOKING AHEAD

The PIONEER+ First Physical Meeting, held on **16 October 2025** and hosted by the Coordinator, **Ionian University**, marked an important milestone in our shared journey. Partners gathered to align on key objectives, exchange valuable insights, and lay the groundwork for upcoming activities. The discussions set a clear direction for collaboration, knowledge sharing, and future initiatives that will shape the project's progress in the months ahead.



PARTNERS



Coordinator | Ionian University Greece



Partner | Digital Green Jobs Italy



Partner | A.B. Institute of Entrepreneurship
Developement LTD
Cyprus



Partner | Lazarski University Poland



Partner | RPTU Kaiserslautern-Landau Germany





Partner | University of Haute-Alsace France



Partner | University of Trier Germany



Partner | Warsaw University of Life Sciences Poland

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