EDULINK

EDULINK II
ACP-EU Co-operation Programme
in Higher Education

Energy Access and Efficiency
Innovation and intellectual property

CAP4INNO – Knowledge transfer capacity building for enhanced energy access and efficiency in the Caribbean

Replication workshop "UWI towards a more innovative university" Cave Hill campus, Barbados, in July 2015.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD
October 2013 – January 2017

CONSORTIUM
- Universidad de Alicante (UA), Spain
- University of Technology (UTech), Jamaica
- Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC), Dominican Republic
- The University of the West Indies (UWI), Jamaica

Associated partners:
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Switzerland
- Jamaica Intellectual Property Office, Jamaica
- Oficina Nacional de la Propiedad Industrial, Dominican Republic
- Intellectual Property Office, Trinidad and Tobago

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PROJECT WEBSITE
www.cap4inno-project.org

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

A greater awareness and increased knowledge and skills about innovation, intellectual property and patent databases as sources of technical information for technology surveillance in Caribbean countries (Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago) has been achieved, as well as a culture shift in relation to 'innovation thinking'. The revision of existing courses and development of new courses has increased the understanding and knowledge of innovation and knowledge transfer among students.

BACKGROUND

Energy costs in the Caribbean are amongst the highest in the world, approximately three to four times than in North America and Europe. New, more effective and efficient technologies are urgently needed to broaden the access to energy and make it more affordable for vulnerable sections of society. Caribbean countries currently have weak innovation systems and a lack of resources to boost research and development.

There is a need to create support mechanisms for the development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies. In order to address the situation, CAP4INNO has targeted these issues by increasing awareness of the qualification and training needs required of Higher Education Institution (HEI) staff and students in the energy sector. It focused on improving the qualifications of staff in order to modernise academic and research programmes and deliver new innovative courses. Inter-institutional networking was also reinforced as co-operation among stakeholders.

METHODOLOGY

Creating the knowledge base
An in-depth analysis of training needs of Caribbean HEI's academic staff in Energy, Knowledge Transfer (KT) and Innovation in the energy sector was conducted. Identification of the skill sets and tools needed in the region to develop and implement innovative energy solutions for an efficient regional energy sector.

Capacity building
Capacity building workshops conducted with HEI staff and the replication of these workshops in partner countries in order to build capacities for both management and academic staff in areas relating to Intellectual Property (IP), Innovation, Ideas Evaluation, Entrepreneurship and aspects of Patenting in the Renewable Energy discipline.

Modernising curricula and training offer
Action Plan for curriculum modernisation and the joint development of materials for new transversal courses. Pilot courses conducted for professionals and an e-learning platform established with course implementation.

Networking and promotion of regional uptake
Students' innovative energy-efficient ideas competition and presentation of winning idea at the final CAP4INNO conference on renewable energy. Organisation of round table for stakeholders in renewable energy in each partner country.

CAP 4INNO

Universitat d'Alacant
Universidad de Alicante

CHALMERS UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

intec

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

WIPO WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

JIPO Jamaica Intellectual Property Office

ONAPI

RESULTS

Outputs

Capacity building

- 167 academics, researchers and managers trained in KT, innovation, entrepreneurship and IP Management
- 177 students trained in innovation and KT.
- 86 professionals in the energy public and private sector trained in innovation
- 1 new pilot course on Sustainable Energy Innovation, Implementation and Entrepreneurship delivered
- 5 existing courses revised including training materials and new competences.

Documents

- 3 strategies for integrating Innovation, KT, IP Management and Entrepreneurship learning contents into partner HEI's curricula.

Networking

- 3 national round tables on energy access and efficiency with key stakeholders in the energy field.
- Conference 'Applying and Developing Renewable Energy Technology for the Benefit of the Caribbean' to promote effective collaboration in the Caribbean Region.

Publications

- Universidad de Alicante, 2017. Towards a Sustainable Energy Sector in the Caribbean and the Role of Higher Education Institutions.

Databases/Website

- 1 online training platform with 3 training modules (Idea Evaluation, Stakeholders engagement and Caribbean innovation in Renewable Energy).
- 1 website.

Outcomes

- Awareness among university staff on innovation, IP and patent databases.
- Enhanced student and professional innovative skills to face the challenges of energy access and efficiency.
- Awareness of the value and potential of renewable energy alternatives.

Impacts

Usage

- Stakeholders in the energy sector are collaborating on energy access and efficiency and in modernising curricula in order for HEIs to offer the necessary skills in the energy sector.

Policy implications

- Recommendations for enhancing energy access and efficiency through innovation and KT have been drafted and presented during the CAP4INNO final conference and in the 4th Biennial National Science, Technology and Innovation Conference organised in collaboration with the Scientific Research Council of Jamaica.

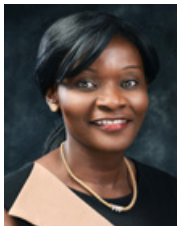
Sustainability

- The West Indies Renewable Energy Group at UWI will coordinate renewable energy projects at UWI.
- The Technology Transfer Office at UTech will transfer results of innovative research to the market.
- At UTech and with the support of WIPO, a Technology and Innovation Support Centre will provide services to the public. INTEC's Professorial Development Department will be in charge of follow up for course development.

Poster Sessions, 3rd Joint Stakeholders' Conference, EU-ACP collaborative programmes.

Presentation of the Cap4inno project, International Conference on Sustainable Energy Development, INTEC, 23/24 October 2014, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

TESTIMONIAL



Natasha Corbin, The University of the West Indies, Barbados

"One of the primary benefits is the improved knowledge and capacities of staff members with respect to the exploitation of innovative solutions in energy access and efficiency in the Caribbean. It has also fostered collaboration amongst the stakeholders and greater awareness of organisations engaged in the sector and the university programmes in intellectual property, entrepreneurship, innovation and renewable energy and energy efficiency."

ACP-EU Co-Operation Programmes in the fields of Higher Education and Science, Technology and Research

http://www.acp-hestr.eu/

Implemented by the ACP Secretariat

Financed by the European Union