



iCAP

Early Innovation Capacity

Fostering innovation interest and building innovation capacity
among secondary school students through opening up new learning
spaces for young learners

Erasmus+ 2017-19

Coordinator: UNIVERSITY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE UK



The Commission calls upon EU initiatives to carry out experimentation in the field of fostering innovation interest, engagement and capacity among students in early schooling and to encourage schools to create such learning experience that helps build up new generations of young EU innovators.

iCAP is one of the first practice-oriented projects in the EU responding to the Commission's invitation to establish experimentation with the creation of innovation interest, skills and capacity in primary and secondary school, and it also contributes to a new generation of Erasmus responding to the increasing EU interest in entrepreneurship and innovation based schooling.

Despite its ambitious mission, it is based on the realistic assumption that schools do not change fast enough to meet changing learning needs.

Even if such changes at systemic level are not likely, it is indeed possible for schools to offer their students relevant and powerful innovation and entrepreneurial experiences, from which they can develop innovation skills and capacity.

iCAP is missioned to design, deliver and share experimentation with learning activities and formats that create innovation interest and capacity among students, based on transnational virtual collaboration and on addressing societal challenges presented by local entrepreneurs, innovators and pioneers in the participating communities.

It will provide open spaces integrated into the learning activities for student teams to engage in missions, from research to small local NGO initiatives, in which they can follow, contribute and co-create innovative solutions to societal problems. This represents a powerful open schooling approach establishing local partnerships with the community and offering real-life/time challenges to the students as encouraged by the Commission.

The innovation interest and capacity will be trained in the transnational and virtual spaces in which future collaborative innovation and co-creation will take place. This will happen through the collaboration between the schools.

The students' co-creation and co-driving will not only be practiced in connection with the content and activities, but also and innovatively in connection with the implementation.

The project will create and openly share guidelines, documentation and knowledge produced through the intensive experimentation, and with a special focus on the substantial co-driving and co-creation from the students.

The results will be produced taking the student teams (12 to 15 year old) through the phases of innovation engagement, from an opening trying out phase to more complex engagement:

- Phase 1 - LOCAL (Community driven)
- Phase 2 - SHARING (Youth-driven)
- Phase 3 - COLLABORATIVE (Community-driven+)
- Phase 4 - MAX CO-CREATIVE (Project-driven)

Each phase will build on the project's innovation mechanics, taking the students through the full circle of innovation engagement from simple curiosity to co-creation.

All activities will work through real-life local societal challenges and in close collaboration with small eco-systems of community resources. The activities and processes will be worked, shared and discussed involving the students as they will be the centre, the co-drivers and co-creators of planning, activities and results.

Key outcomes:

- iCAP resource centre
- iCAP learning: building innovation interest and capacity in secondary schools
- I am an innovator - what R U? - video
- Supporting EU young innovators - in practice! (Policy paper)
- Special outcome - iCAP research recommendations for the Empowering EU Young Innovators Agenda

Results will be available on www.icap.net

The consortium includes 2 knowledge partners with expertise in innovative didactics, including entrepreneurial and innovation oriented learning, 5 practice partners (secondary schools) from different countries and a quality and exploitation partner.

Practice partners are dedicated to engage fully in the experimentation, formally endorsed by the school management and by letter of collaboration.

Among its activities, the mobility holds a special position, bringing together all the students. It is expected to be very dynamic and productive, and will be co-designed and co-driven by the students.

PARTNERS



UNIVERSITY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE LBG
(COORDINATOR)



SCOALA GIMNAZIALA GHEORGHE TITEICA



INSTITUT DE VILAFANT



SOLSKI CENTER KRANJ



PLATON M.E.P.E.



PANEPISTIMIO THESSALIAS



FURNESS ACADEMIES TRUST



WORKING WITH EUROPE