



## **INGENIUM Alliance of European Universities**

### **Kick off meeting, Oviedo 24 – 26 January 2022 Agenda and Work**

#### **Guidance Document**

The Rectors and other senior representatives of the INGENIUM Alliance partner Universities will meet in Oviedo to officially commence our work to implement the European Universities action, which has been awarded co-financing of €14.5 million, under the EU Erasmus Programme.

This three-day gathering of the key personnel from each of the partner Universities, will be an extraordinary opportunity to enhance our mutual understanding, strengthen our links and give public visibility to the commitment of the partners towards the joint objectives of Ingenium, as set out in our shared Mission Statement.

From a practical perspective, the time has come to start working on the details of our work programme for the next four years, to fully understand our commitments, to distribute the tasks among partners and to agree how we deliver the Ingenium's targets and milestones, thereby ensuring that all work packages are fully, and effectively implemented.

Therefore, the kick-off meeting agenda and work programme must be balanced: it must enable partners to interact through strengthening personal and professional relationships that will form a solid basis for our joint work. Our meeting in January will facilitate future communications and will build trust between partners' key staff. Our time together will also allow time for focused and effective operational work on the action.

While we have a challenging amount of ground to cover over just three days, the proposed agenda is designed to deliver those early objectives and with the full commitment of all partners, I am confident that we can achieve our goals. I would like to stress here the importance of a every partner' full commitment to making a success of the kick-off event. With such full commitment and the active contributions of Rectors, Partner Coordinators, WP Leaders and all other participants, the meeting will represent a very successful beginning for our work and set the tone and high standards for our future cooperation.



## Timetable

### Monday, 23/01/22.

When	What	Where	Attendees & Content
20:00 – 22:00	Welcome cocktail	NH Hotel, San Francisco St. Opposite to University of Oviedo historical building.	All participants are invited on arrival

### Tuesday, 24/01/22

When	What	Where	Attendees & Content
09:00 – 09:15	Registration	University of Oviedo Historical building, Floor 1.	All participants
09:30 – 10:00	Opening speeches	Library of the University of Oviedo Historical building, Floor 1.	All participants
10:00 – 11:00	INGENIUM Alliance Council	Aula Clarin at University of Oviedo Historical building, Floor 1	All participants. Rectors or top representatives are invited to address to the participants
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break	Served at corridor in Floor 1	
11:30 – 13:00	INGENIUM Steering Committee	Aula Clarin	INGENIUM Steering Committee members and other key staff. Alternative programme will be offered for participants not attending ISC meeting
13:00 – 14:00	The European Universities experience	Aula Clarin	All participants.
14:00 – 15:00	Lunch	Served at corridor in Floor 1	All participants.
15:30 – 18:00	Discovering the INGENIUM Partner Universities	Aula Clarin	All participants. Each University will be invited to deliver a 10-minute presentation (see below for guidance)
20:30	Dinner	NH Hotel	All participants



### Wednesday, January 25

When	What	Where	Attendees & Content
09:00 – 11:00	WP Leaders' introduction and discussion: WP 2, 3 & 4	Aula Clarin	WP Leaders and other participants as relevant Each WP Leader is invited to deliver a 15-minute presentation, followed by 15-minute discussion (see below for guidance)
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break	Served at corridor in Floor 1	
11:30 – 13:00	WP 1 & 10 working session	Aula Clarin	All participants. Longer sessions for management and communication are proposed
13:30 – 14:30	Lunch	Served at corridor in Floor 1	All participants.
15:00 – 16:15	WP Leaders' introduction and discussion: WP 5, 6 & 7	Aula Clarin	WP Leaders and other participants as relevant Each WP Leader is invited to deliver a 15-minute presentation, followed by 10-minute discussion (see below for guidance)
16:30 – 17:20	WP Leaders' introduction and discussion: WP 8 & 9	Aula Clarin	WP Leaders and other participants as relevant Each WP Leader is invited to deliver a 15-minute presentation, followed by 10-minute discussion (see below for guidance)
17:30 – 18:15	ISC Wrap-up meeting	Press Room at University of Oviedo Historical building, Floor 1	ISC Members. Two people per University
18:30 – 19:00	Closure: Asturias Minister of Science, Innovation and University	Aula Clarin	All participants
20:30	Dinner: Espicha (see tip below)	To be confirmed	All participants

### Thursday, January 26



Individual agenda will be arranged for participants staying till Thursday. It will involve meetings with designated University of Oviedo academics and researchers to explore future cooperation.

### **Guidance for meetings (draft proposal)**

This is a sort of guidance of how we would envisage each of the meetings to develop and some suggestions for the content of the discussions and possible approach.

#### **INGENIUM Alliance Council**

This is quite a formal meeting. The highest governing body of the Alliance will be established, and it will be one of the few opportunities Rectors will be meeting. Happening at the launching event of the European Universities endeavour, this meeting would be a good opportunity to show the commitment towards the Alliance of the partner Universities, and the Rectors' full personal involvement and support.

We would suggest that, once the IAC is formally established, every Rector addresses a 5-minute speech along the following lines:

- The understanding of the INGENIUM Alliance and the reasons for joining a European University action.
- The challenges ahead to become a joint European University. What is the University expecting and what is ready to contribute to make it happen.

We would strongly advise to keep this meeting for strategic and political speeches and to avoid long presentations of each University features, which will be the objective of the afternoon session.

#### **INGENIUM Steering Committee**

This should be already an operational meeting. Members of the ISC are the key people in each of the Universities, and the success of the Alliance heavily depends on them. The ISC will be the place to report the progress of the implementation of the activities and to share and overcome any issue or problem.

We suggest the ISC formal meetings to start with a short progress report by each of the partners. Being this one the first one, we would suggest partners could report on:

- Local teambuilding and internal organisation. Hiring of staff. Appointment of key people.
- Local Committees and local leaders for WP implementation.
- Risks and problems in project start up.

After the partner round up, the meeting will go on with Q&A on specific issues.

#### **Discovering the INGENIUM Partner Universities**

Knowing better each other is a paramount objective of this initial meeting. Therefore, a full afternoon will be dedicated to presentations of each of the Alliance partners. Obviously, it will be



up to the partners to decide how they want to present the University and the features they want to highlight. However, we would suggest asking yourselves what you would like to know from the others and then try to answer those questions in your University.

It won't be possible to cover everything in great detail, but here are some topics that we think would be worth covering:

- Main figures. Students, academics, researchers, administrative staff. Position in rankings.
- General organisation. Legal status. Degree of autonomy. Assemblies, Boards, Rectors and Directors. Election or/and appointment of senior staff.
- Financials. Budget. Funding sources. Tuition fees at different degree levels. Income from research contracts.
- Academic organisation. Structures (Faculties, Schools) and two/three-cycle degrees. Quality assurance and accreditation systems.
- International student and staff mobility. International academic cooperation: joint and multiple degrees.
- Main research areas. International cooperation in research. Participation in EU R&D Framework Programmes. Patent production. Innovation and tech transfer.
- Sustainability and social inclusion. Social engagement.
- Strategic and forward-looking planning. Long term positioning

### **WP Leaders' introduction and discussion**

A template was circulated some days ago. The objective of the presentation would be to share with the INGENIUM partners:

- What should be the Alliance joint approach to the WP and how we, as WP leader, propose to make it happen?
- Our understanding of the WP objectives, milestones and deliverables, and the opportunities and difficulties ahead.
- Our proposal for the WP implementation: How are we planning to carry out the tasks and produce the outputs and deliverables.
- How do we propose to organise the work together and the joint structures we think we should create.
- What do we require from the other partners
- A tentative work programme for year 1 (2023)



## Tips

### Google Maps Location of venues:

NH Hotel, San Francisco St., In front of University of Oviedo historical building.  
<https://goo.gl/maps/G2AgjIzRaQj2yUqe8>



University of Oviedo Historical building, <https://goo.gl/maps/HbwaTrz9CFdqHbvT7>



### Historical Tip: What's up with Aula Clarín (stress in "l")

Aula is Spanish for classroom; Clarin (pseudonym of Leopoldo Alas) was the XIX century writer of La Regenta, a novel that takes place in Oviedo. His son, of the same name, was University of Oviedo Rector murdered during the Spanish Civil War.

### Local flavour tip: What's up with "espicha" (stress in "l")

Espicha is the Asturias language (included in the Council of Europe list of endangered languages) word for a countryside celebration of the new cider. Asturias cider (currently applying for designation as UNESCO World Heritage) was traditionally matured in wood casks during the winter and gets ready in springtime. The right time for opening (espichar) the casks and getting together to celebrate friendship! So, cider is obviously a must in any espicha, with an assortment of local foods...

**Welcome to Asturias. Enjoy yourselves!**