



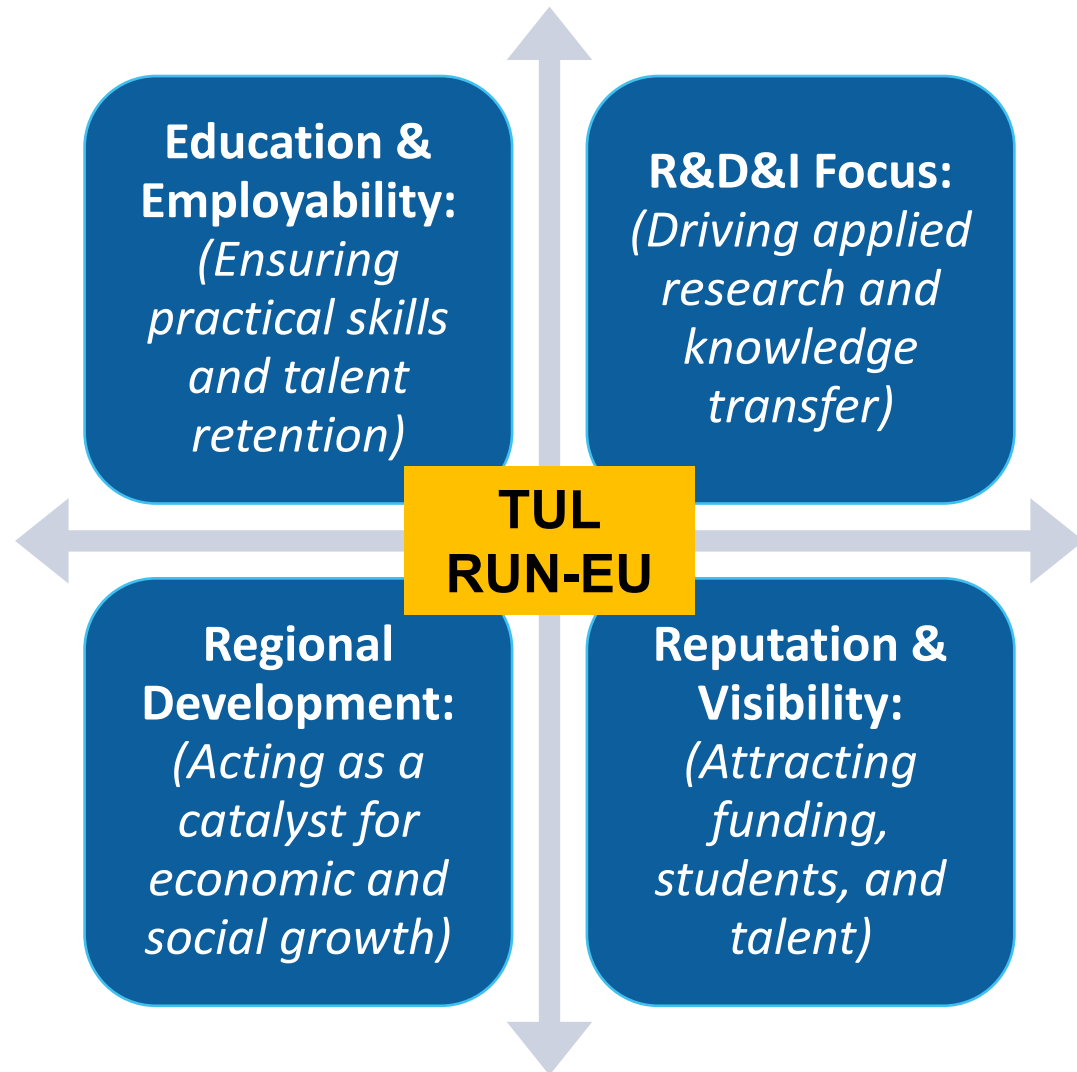
Ileana Maria Greca Dufranc
Wayne Johnson
Kateřina Marříková
Ruaidhri Neavyn

[illegible]

How do you think we as universities, can involve external stakeholders in cooperation and collaboration?



Why cooperation with regions and regional stakeholders is so important



By 2030, RUN-EU will be a fully engaged European University that has developed a unique new type of multinational interregional alliance, a **European Zone for Interregional Development.**

Source: own elaboration, RUN-EU

What do external stakeholders expect from universities when cooperating with them?



10 members, 9 countries



- *Regional location and focus*
- *Driving regional development*
- *Future Skills & New knowledge*
- *Reflect all regions of Europe*

[illegible]

MISSION AND VISION

- Foster excellence and innovation in higher education
- Delivering future and advanced skills and creating new knowledge
- Improve national and international competitiveness of associated regions

ensuring the core principles and values of the EU

necessary for students and regional stakeholders to successfully meet the challenges of the future, engage in societal transformation and promote active citizenship

Allowing them to:

complement existing capital and large city-regions;

retain and attract young talent;

correct existing unfavorable bias in development trends in peripheral European (EU) regions.

MISSION AND VISION

- Strive to secure the sustainable economic, social, cultural and environmental progress

of associated regions and stakeholders

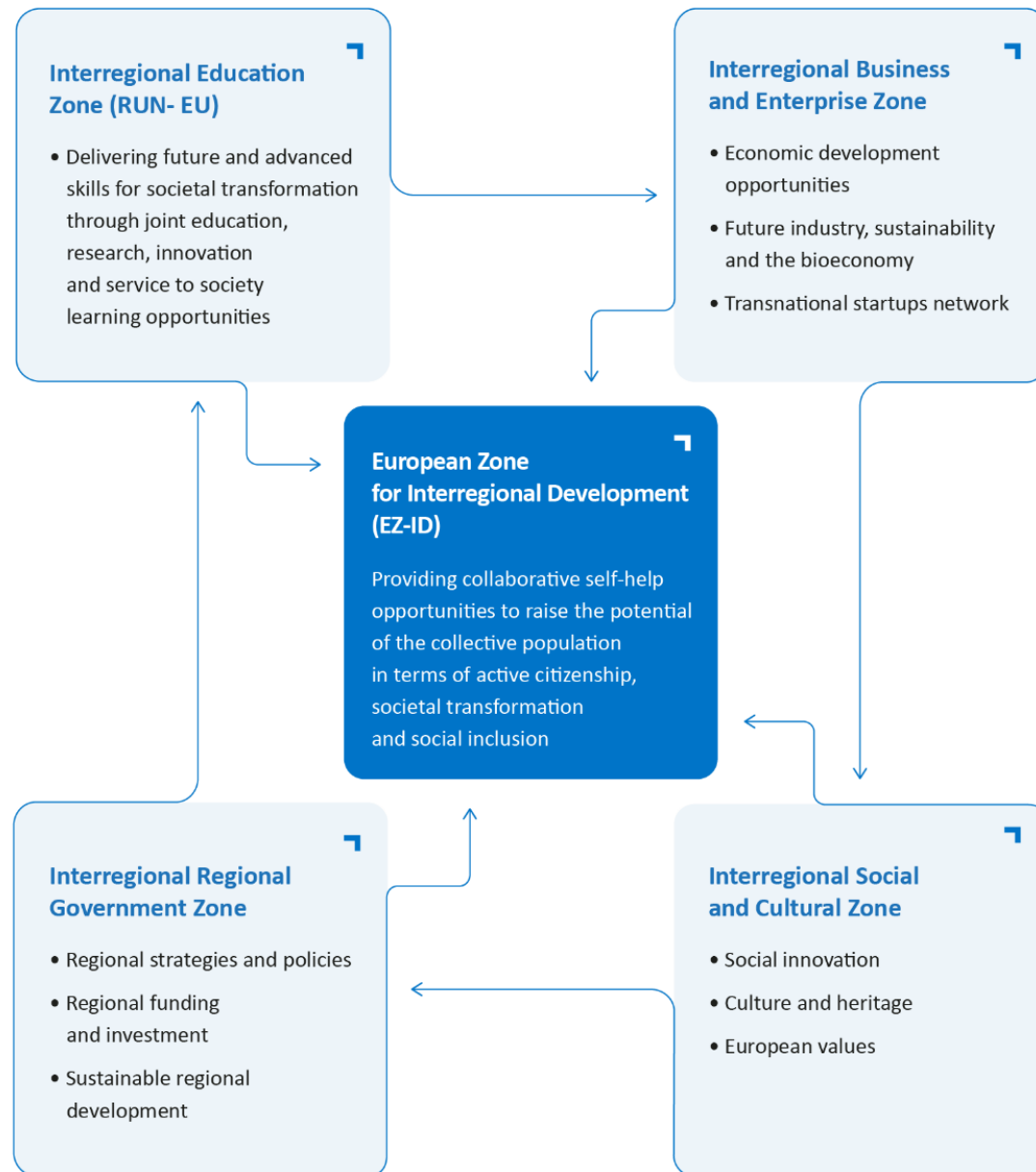
- Address big societal challenges and become a true engine of regional development

leading in the creation of a new type of multinational interregional alliance

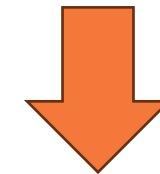
European Zone for Interregional Development (EZ-ID)

“Our Students Will Inherit the Future”

European Zone for Interregional Development – EZ-ID

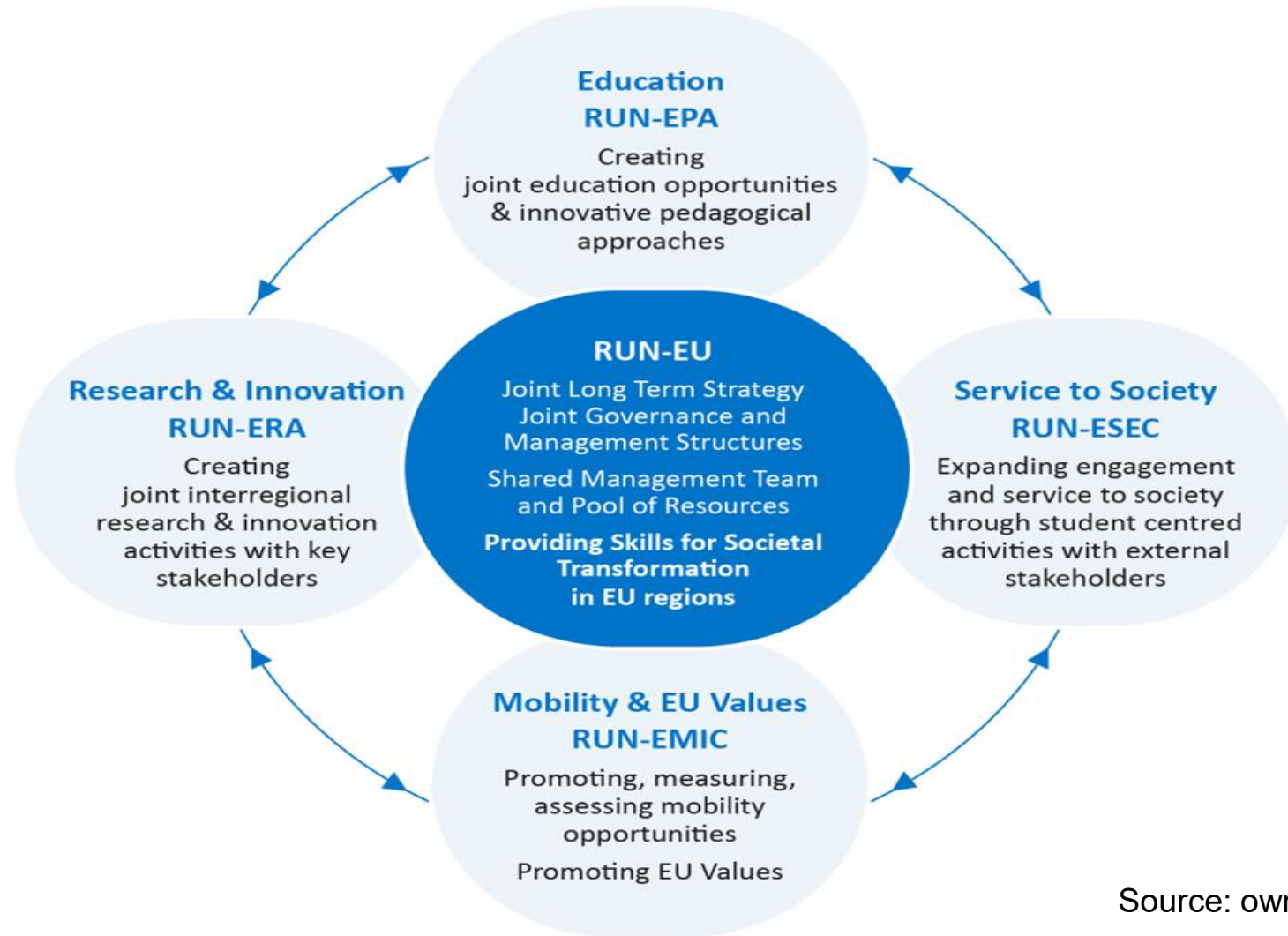


Creating collaborative education, research, innovation, and service to society activities to achieve its vision **to secure the sustainable economic, social, cultural, and environmental progress of its regions and stakeholders**



Developing a new multinational interregional alliance

Joint Operational Units of our European University Alliance



Source: own elaboration, RUN-EU

93385

STUDENTS

10340

STAFF

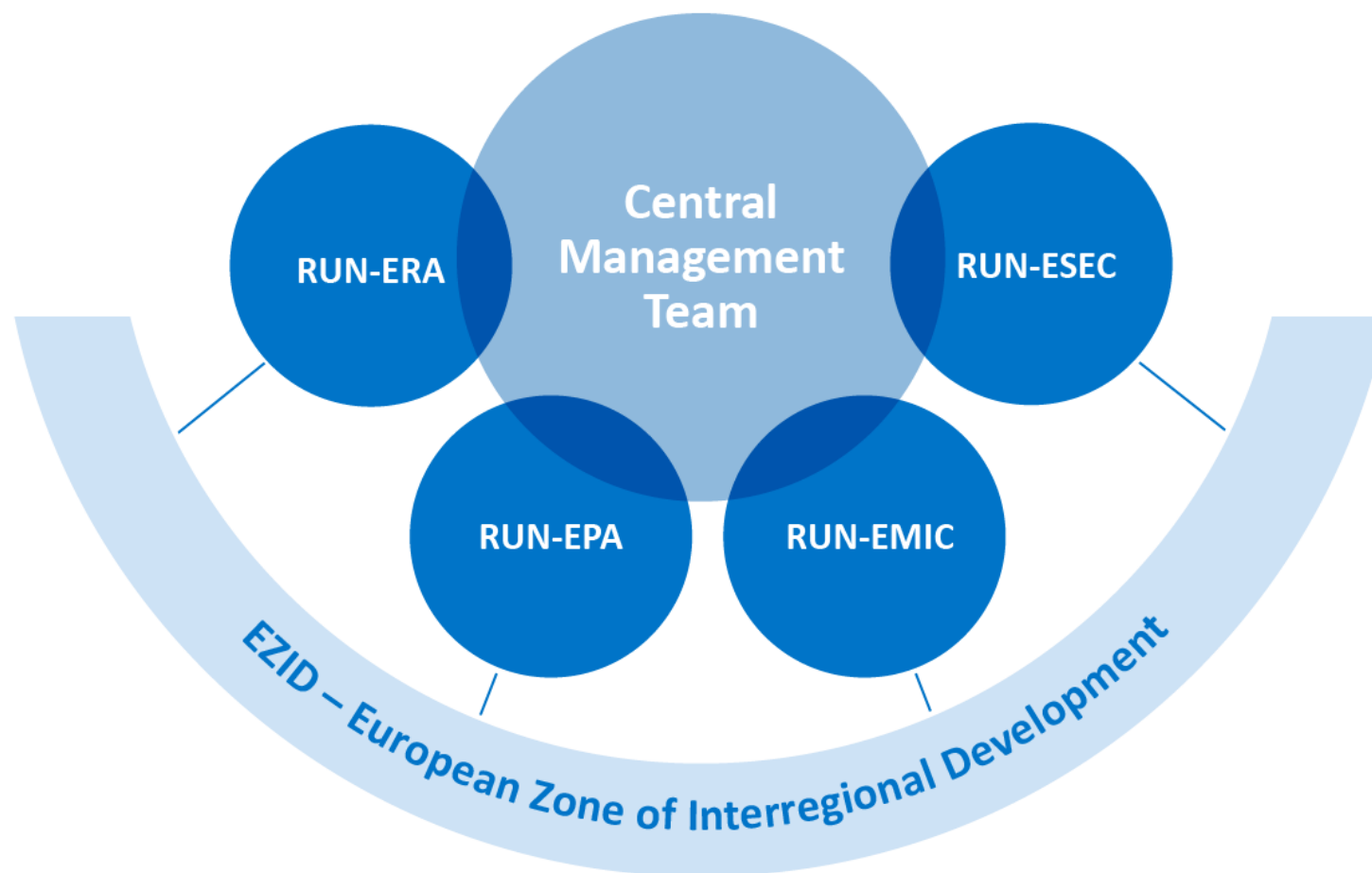
57

FACULTIES/SCHOOLS

103

RESEARCH CENTRES & GROUPS

Realising our European Zone for Interregional Development – EZ-ID



All outputs of our operational units are **relevant to interregional development** as they are **co-created with regional stakeholders**

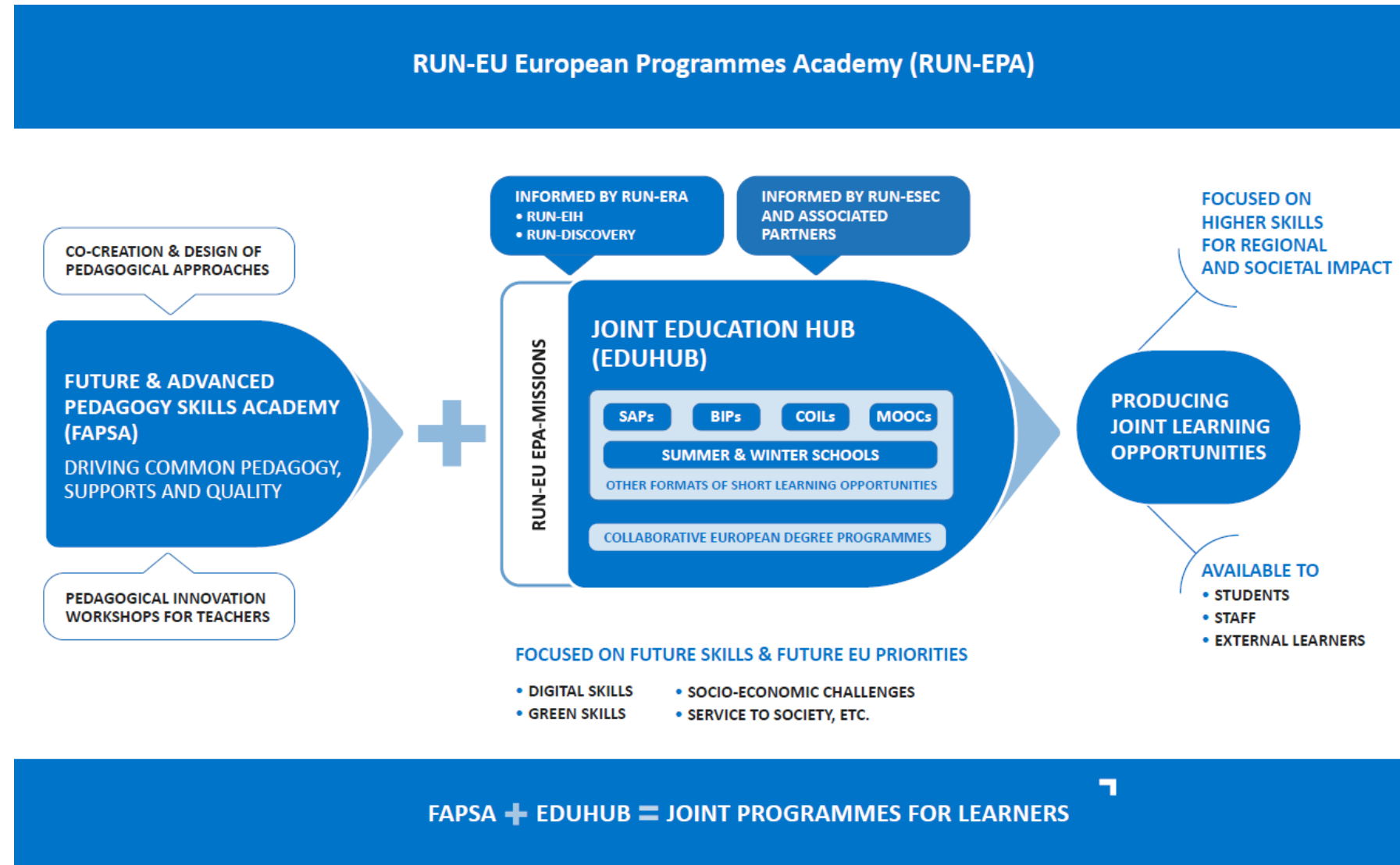
Role of Stakeholders in the Alliance activities



Quadruple Helix Model	Stakeholder Group	RUN-EU Engagement
Academia	University (Students, Staff, Researchers)	Provides expertise, facilities, and the framework for joint teaching.
Industry	Businesses, SMEs, Industry Associations	Co-designs curricula (skills needs) and proposes real-world R&D challenges, Innovation Labs.
Government Policy	Regional Authorities, Public Sector	Shapes the alliance's agenda to align with regional Smart Specialisation Strategies.
Civil Society Public	Citizens, NGOs, Media, Culture, NPO, hospitals	Engaged through projects like RETOS (volunteers) to ensure innovation is socially relevant and inclusive.

Source: own elaboration, RUN-EU

Role of Stakeholders in the Alliance activities



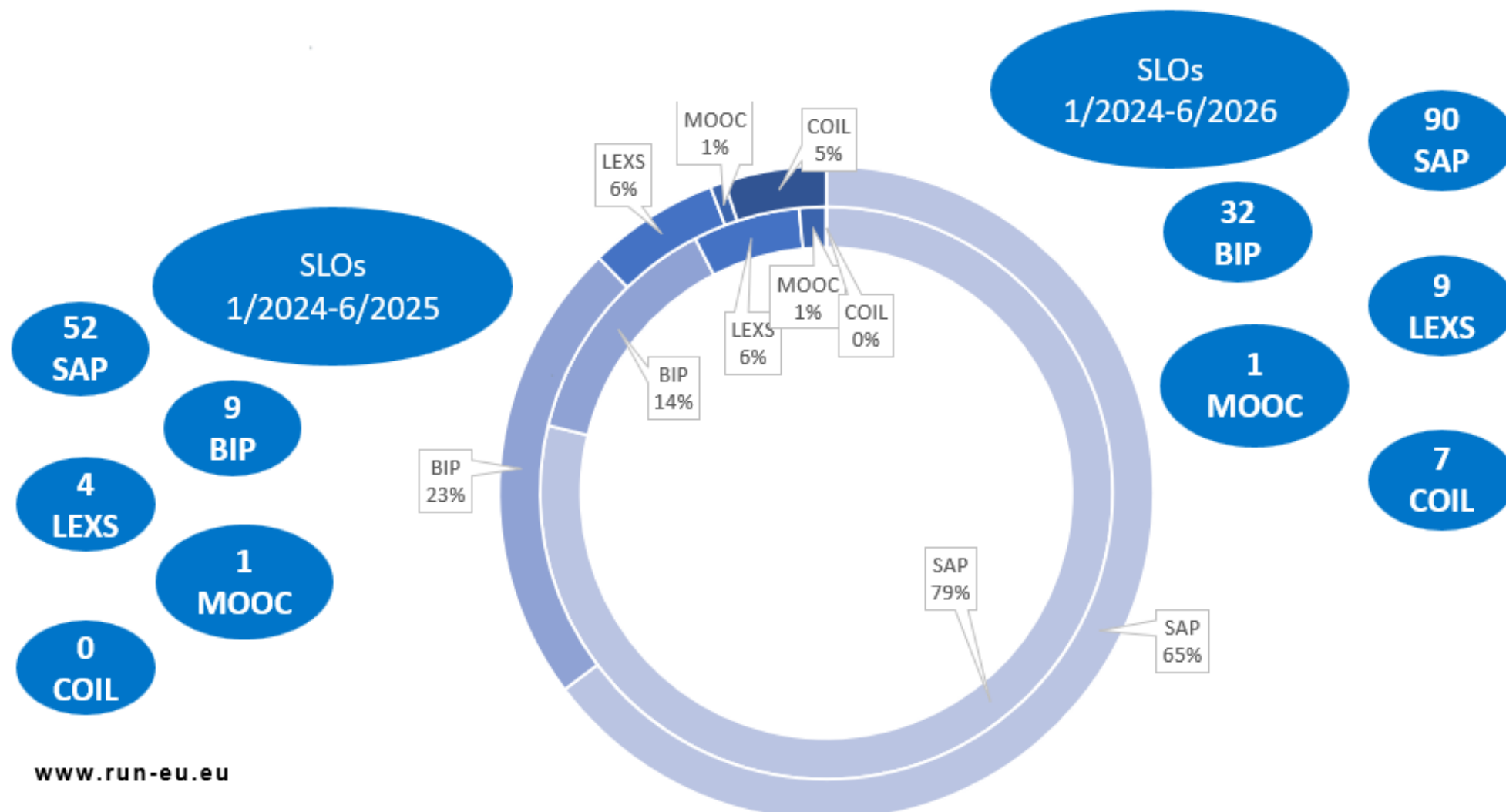
Role of Stakeholders in the Alliance activities



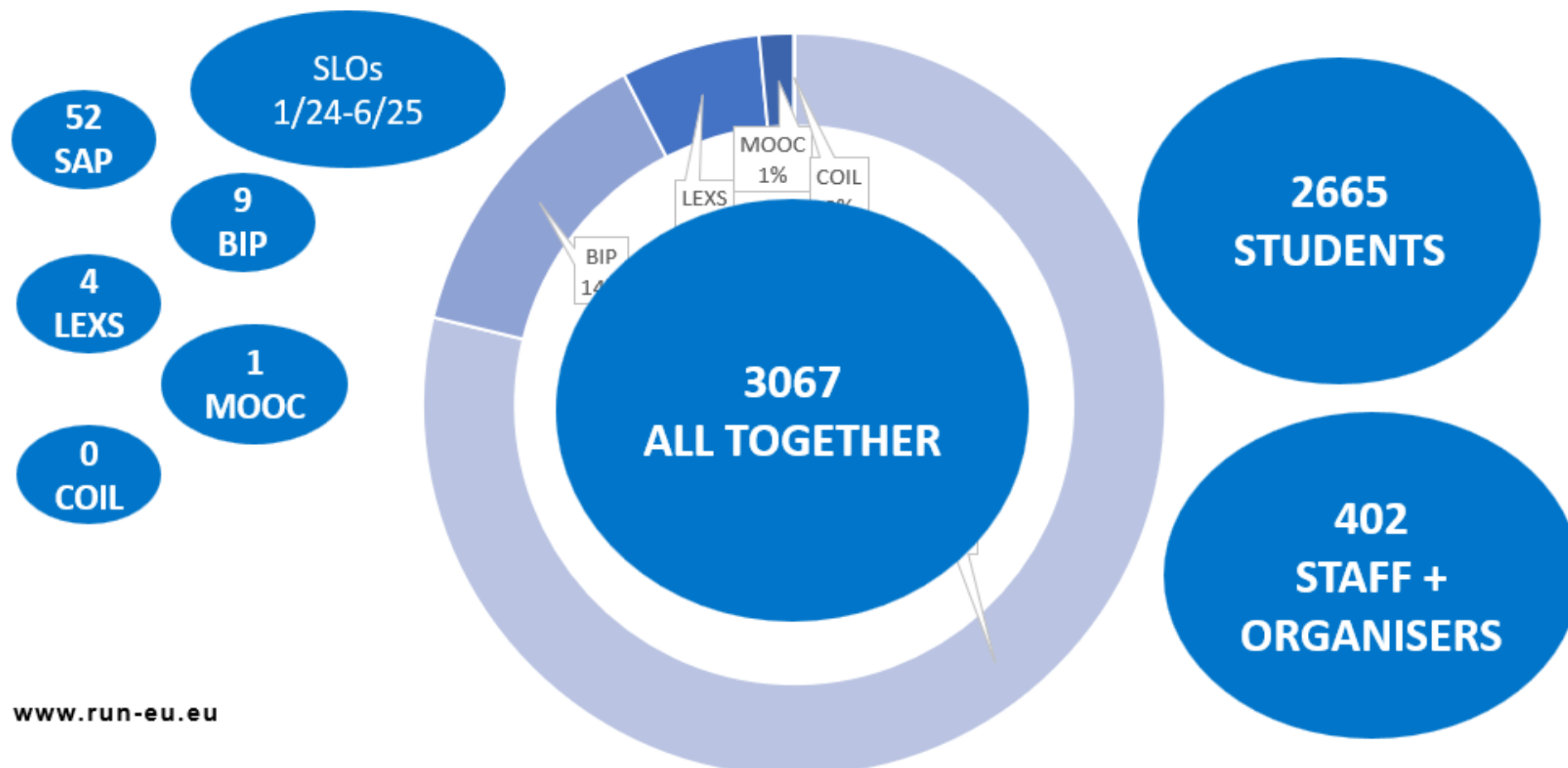
RUN-EPA KPIs		
Descriptor	Qualitative	Quantitative
Joint learning opportunities	Creation of new joint learning opportunities	140
Staff pedagogy training; Staff Super-weeks	Deliver pedagogy training Super-Weeks for staff.	4
Online pedagogy staff training programmes	Provide online pedagogy staff training programmes	24
Student participation in joint programmes; Student participation in mobility opportunities	Facilitate the participation of learners in joint programmes including physical, blended and virtual student mobility opportunities.	7000 learners; 5000 physical, blended and virtual student mobility opportunities
Staff mobility	Facilitate staff mobilities to support the development and delivery of joint programmes and participation in staff development initiatives	800 staff

Source: own elaboration, RUN-EU

SHORT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES – implemented and in progress



Participants in Short Learning Opportunities



www.run-eu.eu

Sample Short Learning Opportunities



Creating Practical Workflows with AI - Think with Data

Improve your critical thinking by framing your analysis around outcomes-based processes.

[READ MORE](#)



Democracy, Citizenship, and Emerging Challenges: European Values at risk?

Tackle misinformation in your environment and promote democratic values in a technological and AI context.

[READ MORE](#)

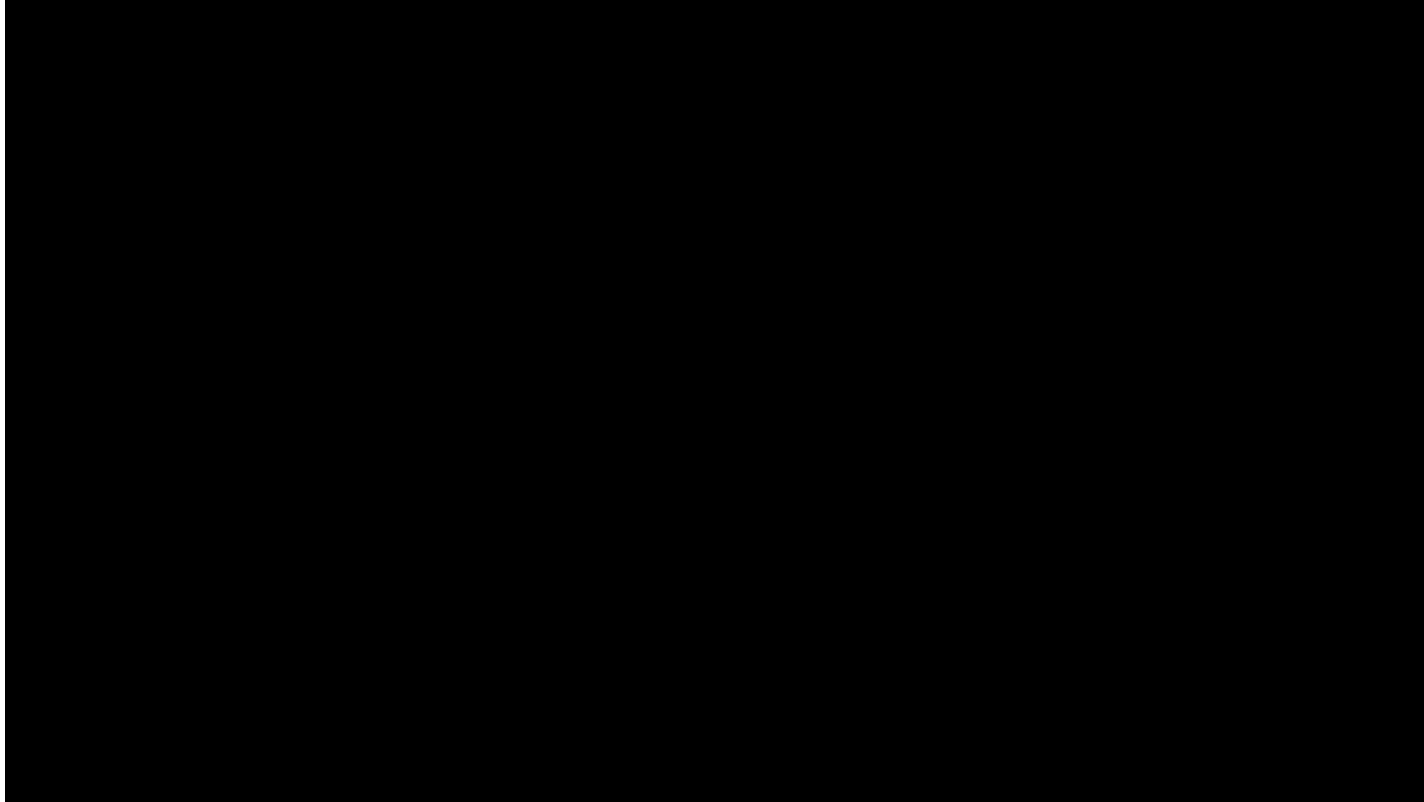


Design Thinking - Healthcare Challenges

This course offers students the chance to work with other disciplines on “wicked problems” in healthcare settings

[READ MORE](#)

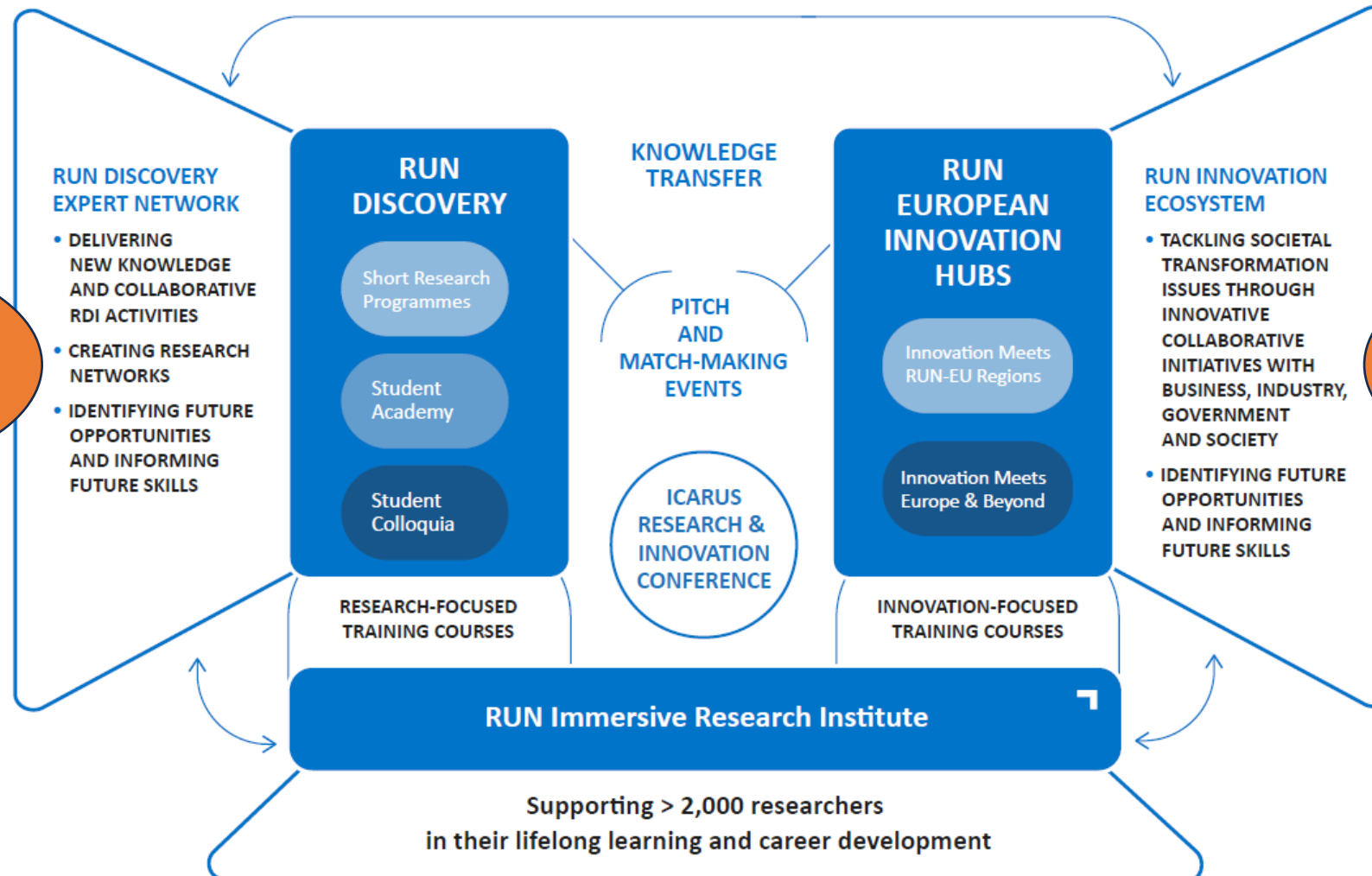
RUN-EU European Programme Academy



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kd3aBZN-BDs>

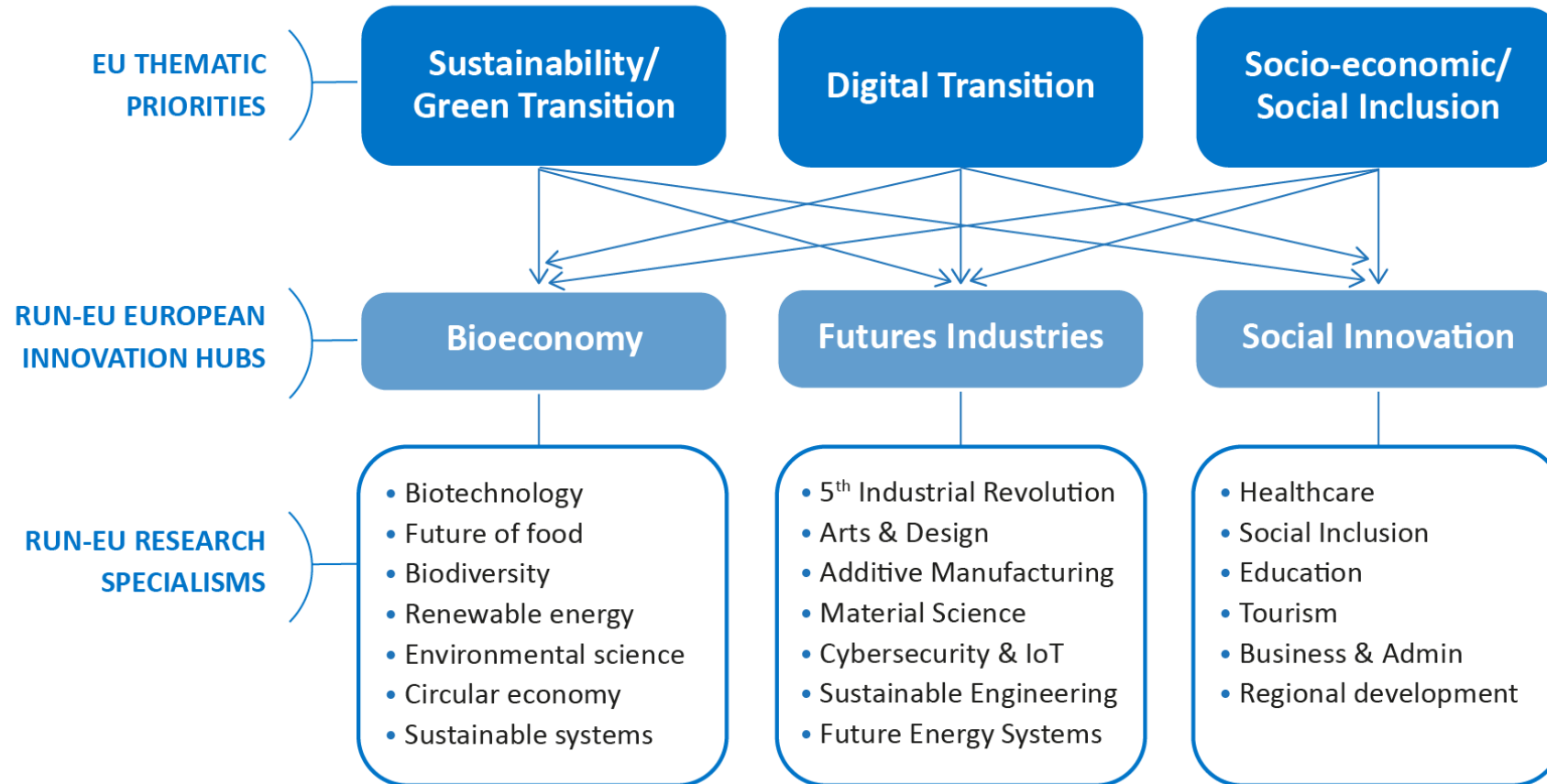
RUN-EU European Research Area (RUN-ERA)

RDI Team &
Project
Building



Connecting
with Regional
Innovation
Systems

Alignment of EU Priority Areas with RUN-EU EIHS & Research Specialisms



RUN-ERA KPIs		
Descriptor	Qualitative	Quantitative
Short Research programmes	Short Research programmes developed and delivered	9
Research colloquia	Research colloquia delivered	9
Research Student Academies	Research Student Academies Provided	4
Annual ICARUS Conference	ICARUS conferences hosted	4
Online researcher training	Online researcher training programmes delivered	12
Innovation events	Innovation Meets Regions events organised and held	9
Research funding applications	Joint research applications for funding at a national or European level submitted	40
Researcher mobilities to promote research collaboration	Researcher mobilities to support the development and delivery of our research, innovation, knowledge transfer and researcher development activities facilitated	Approx. 500

Innovation meets Regions

Three innovation events have already taken place



RUN-EU Innovation Meet Regions:

- HAMK (Finland, 2024)
- UBU (Spain, 2024)
- IPCA (Portugal, 2025)

Upcoming Innovation Meet Regions:

- NHL (Netherlands, 18–20 Feb 2026)
- IPL (Portugal, May 2026)
- TUS (Ireland, Nov/Dec 2026)
- Howest (Belgium, 7–10 Dec 2026)
- FHV (Austria, 10-11 March 2027)
- RUN-EU New Partners (Dates TBC)

International Fairs Participation

RUN-EU Innovation Meets Europe:

- MEDICA Fair, Düsseldorf, Nov 2026
- Arab Health, Dubai, Feb 2027



RUN-Student Colloquia IPCA & TUS (July 2024 & Feb 2025)

Key Highlights



- Over 200 attendees, including students, faculty and researchers
- High standard of presentations and posters
- Diverse range of disciplines represented
- Engaging discussions and great networking opportunities
- Interactive workshops on publishing and protecting IP
- Tour of facilities



ICARUS | RUN-EU Conference (21–23 May, Forum Braga)



- Over 150 attendees
- Keynote Presentations
- Roundtable Discussion
- Workshops
- RUN-EU Tech Pitch
- International Research Group Talks
- Technologies and Services Showcase
- Visits to EIH companies
- EIH B2B meetings
- Brainstorming Group EIH Meetings

RUN REGIONAL
UNIVERSITY
NETWORK
EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY

ICARUS
4TH ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON APPLIED
RESEARCH WITH BUSINESS
AND SOCIETY

21-23.MAY.2025
HYBRID FORMAT
In-person and online participation
at Fórum Braga, Braga, Portugal

Hosted by **IPCA** POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY
OF CÁVADO
AND AVE

PROPOSALS SUBMITTED TO NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN FUNDING CALLS



Submitted to date in cycle 2	Approved	Not Approved	Under Review
39	8 (Total Value: €7M)	11 (Total Value: €9M)	20 (Total Value: €10M)

Sample of successful projects

Partners	Research Project Title	Funding Body	Award
UBU (Lead) IPL + 2 universities from Ivory Coast and 2 from Cape Verde	Empowering Ladies in STEM through Varied Approaches for Technological Excellence - Women in STEM Empowerment	Erasmus+ Capacity Building	400,000.00 €
UBU (Lead) + all excl. FHV	European Social Innovation & Democratic Education (EU SIDE)	ERASMUS+	1,500,000.00 €
TUS, Howest and other non-RUN partners	Youth Work Virtual - Creating immersive digital spaces for inclusive youth engagement	Erasmus +	400,000.00 €
HAMK, NHL Stenden and African partners	AgriCBE-Enhancing Adoption of Competence Based Agricultural curricula in HEIs in East Africa	Erasmus+ Capacity Building	1, 079 380.69 €
NHL Stenden (lead), TUS and others	Food Eco Culture Education	Erasmus+	400,000.00 €
HAMK, UBU, Vietnam and Thailand Unis (lead partner HCMUTE)	GreenEdAsia- Learning for Sustainable Future - Higher Education for Green Transition in Southeast Asia	Erasmus+ Capacity Building	800, 000.00 €
HAMK (lead) + all	RUN-INNOBOOST	EIT-HEI	1,340,000.00 €

Source: own elaboration, RUN-EU

RUN EU PLUS achievements





Your guide to RUN InnoBoost

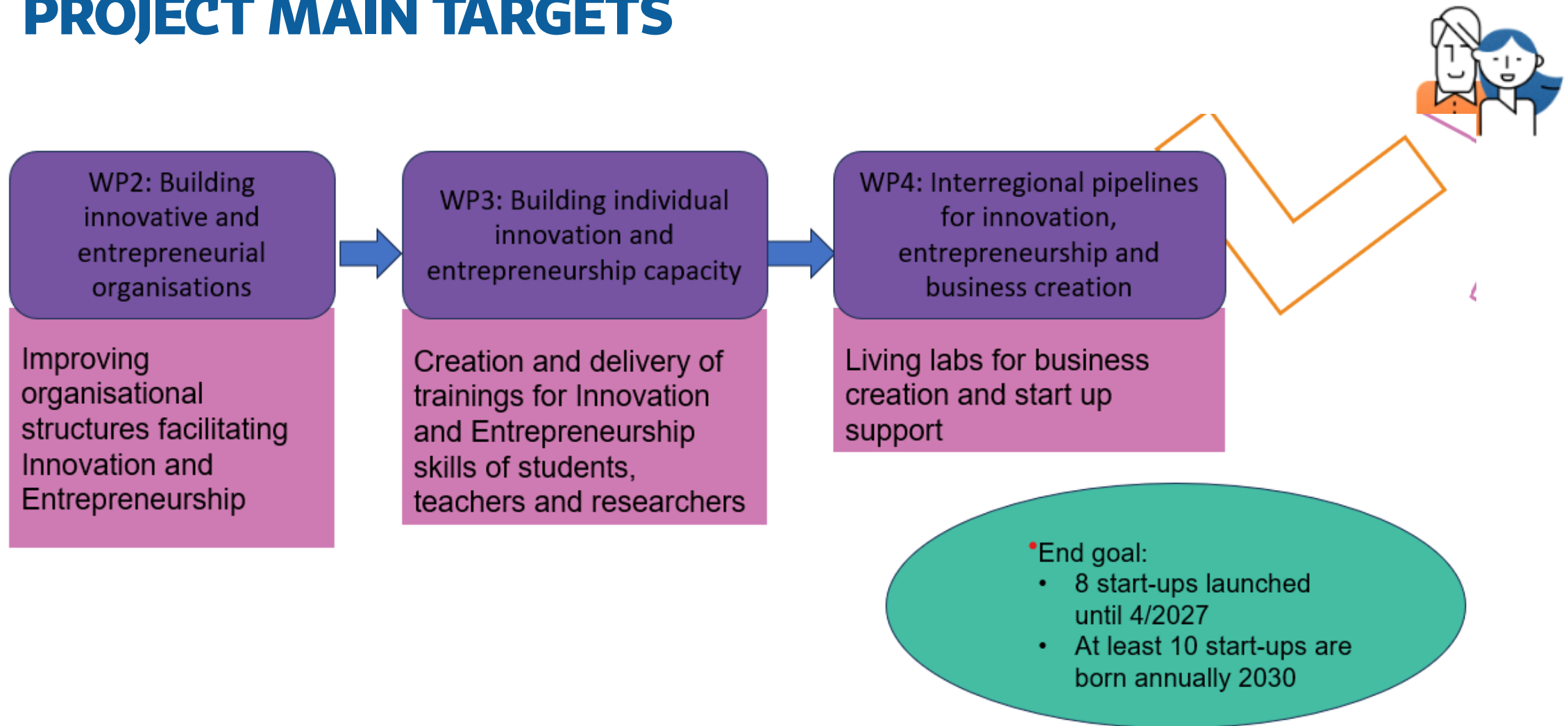
www.innoboost.eu



Supported by



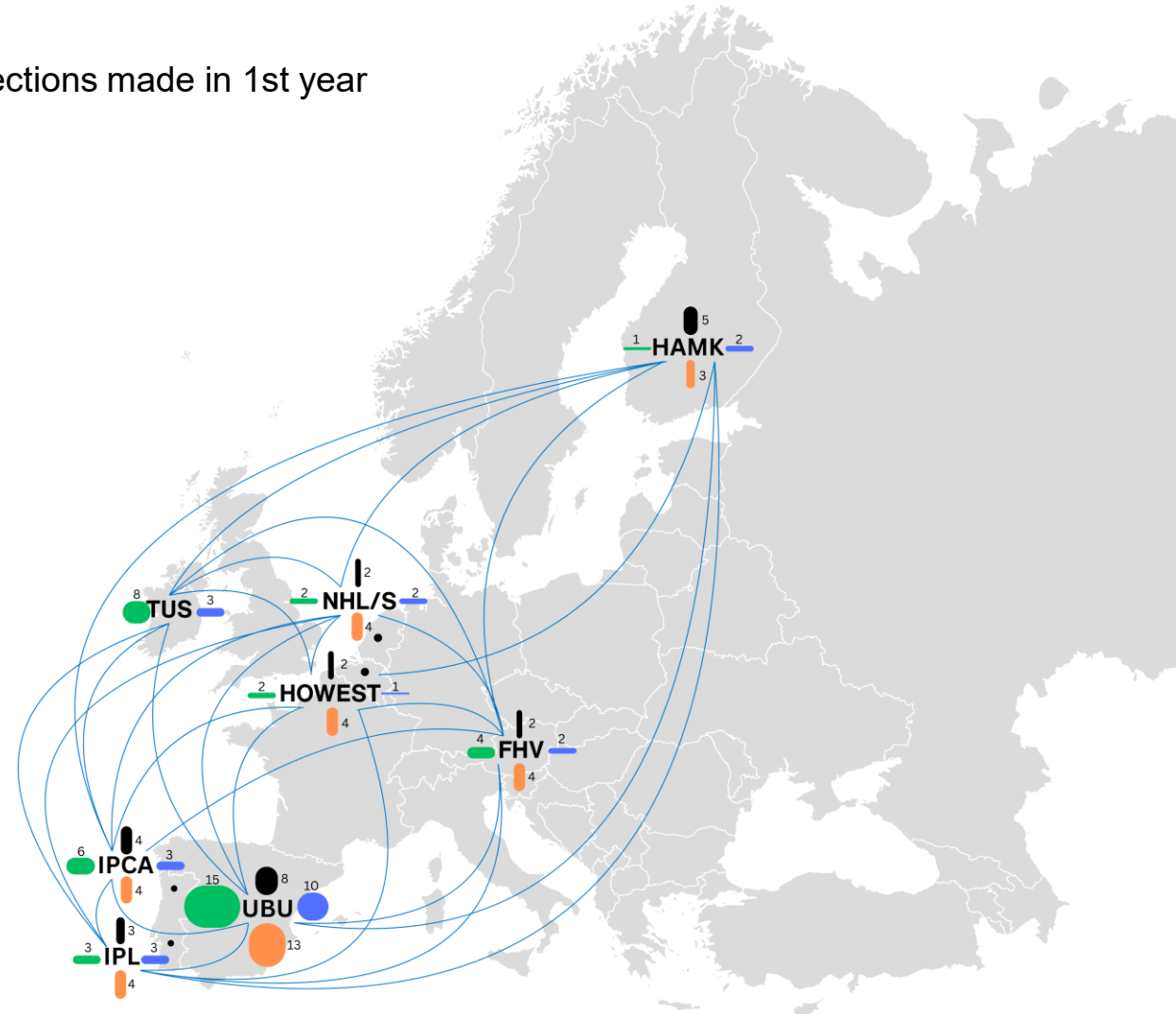
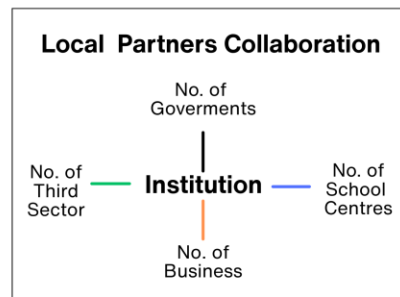
PROJECT MAIN TARGETS



European Stakeholder Engagement Centre



Connections made in 1st year

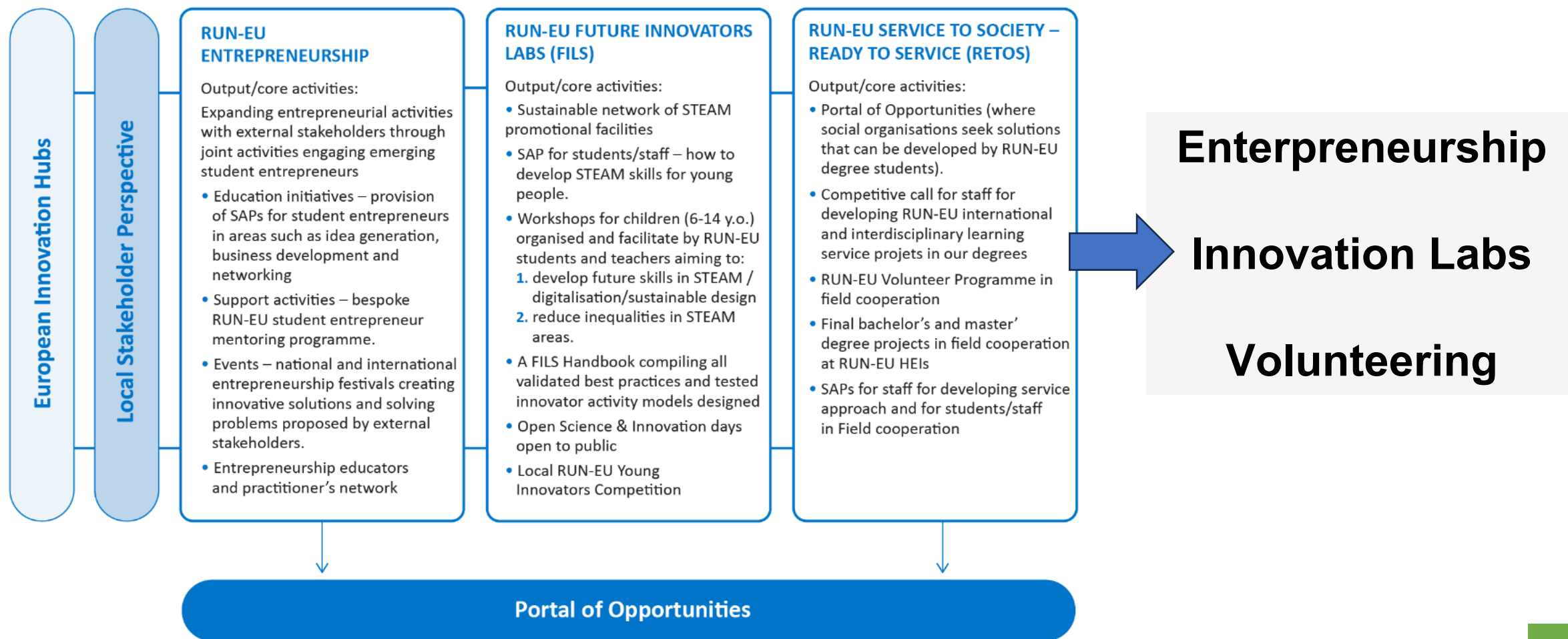


Connecting with:

- NGOs, Social partners
- Regional agencies
- Enterprise centers/partners
- Business, Industry
- Schools
- School centers

RUN-EU EUROPEAN STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT CENTRE (RUN-ESEC)

Overview of Activities & Outputs as part of RUN-EU 2.0



RUN-ESEC KPIs		
Descriptor	Qualitative	Quantitative
Knowledge missions; Engagement with regional stakeholders	Knowledge missions delivered which focus on improvement of engagement with regional external stakeholders	4
Student mentoring in entrepreneurship	An entrepreneurship student mentoring programme created	1
International entrepreneurship festivals	International entrepreneurship festivals organised	2
International Entrepreneurship Educators and Practitioners Conference	International Entrepreneurship Educators and Practitioners Conferences are hosted	2
Future Innovator Lab network; Promotion of STEAM within regions	A network of Future Innovators Labs is created which promotes STEAM activities within and across RUN-EU regions.	1 network of 9 Future Innovator Labs

RUN-ESEC KPIs		
Descriptor	Qualitative	Quantitative
Open Science Innovation	Open Science Innovation days delivered	9
Annual Young Innovators competition	An annual Young Innovators competition is organised and delivered across all campuses	1
Service to society programme; Student volunteering programme	A RUN-EU wide service to society and a student volunteering programme is created	1
Staff mobilities; Associated Partner mobilities; Collaboration with external stakeholders	Staff and associated partner mobilities are facilitated to support the development of RUN-EU engagement with external stakeholders and service to society activities.	250 staff and associated partner mobilities

Entrepreneurship Strand

Promoting entrepreneurship skills among undergraduate and postgraduate students



Knowledge Missions: Connecting entrepreneurs, companies, and RUN-EU students to foster innovation and collaboration.

Entrepreneurship Programmes:

Designed for undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Enhance entrepreneurial skills through SAPs, online lectures, and mentoring.

Delivered as extracurricular, international, semester-long mentoring programmes.



Future Innovators Labs (FILS)

FILS STRAND — Connecting Universities and Society through and for Innovation



Future Innovators Labs: Programmes designed to prepare young innovators (ages 7–17)

INNHOTON: Collaborative innovation hackathon bringing together secondary school students and university students

Innovation Day: A space for dialogue on innovation with society and external stakeholders



RETOS STRAND — Solving Societal Challenges

Service-Learning Programme: International teams of students apply knowledge gained in their disciplinary subjects to address real challenges proposed by associations, NGOs, and other organisations.

Volunteering Programme: International RUN-EU student teams work across the alliance's regions to respond to local needs related to sustainability, STEM skill development and more. This brings internationalisation and European values to the regions, extending the university's impact beyond its campus.



Round Table Discussion

How we currently engage with our regional partners:

“The **necessity of cooperation** between the university environment and the local community and the **benefits of this cooperation for both parties**.”

“Sharing **good and bad practice in the functioning** of this mutual cooperation in different European settings and at different levels, **especially in regional university settings**”

“Explore the **Challenges and Benefits to Stakeholders**”

Which is the way how do you interact with stakeholders in different areas?

How are our regions connected? What is the objective?

What are we going to do to connect regions more?

Are there any challenges to have regions more involved?



Testimonial from the Chair of the RUN-EU EZID



Ricardo Simões
Head of Innovation

Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento
Regional do Norte, I.P.
Norte Portugal Regional Coordination and
Development Commission





Q&A session

Thank you!

