It is an exciting and important time to focus on the future potential of Higher Education Institutions.

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Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) can positively impact regional and Europe-wide social and economic development through education, research and engagement. However, they require targeted support to enhance their capability to fully realise their potential. Accelerate Future HEI will develop and test acceleration services, to equip HEIs with the skills and capacity to drive their institutional transformation towards becoming more entrepreneurial and innovative institutions over the next four years.

### Key Objectives

- **TO IDENTIFY**
  - the status quo of the HEI and its ecosystem regarding entrepreneurial and innovative activities.

- **TO DEVELOP**
  - test and implement acceleration services that help institutions undertake a transformation roadmap and projects.

- **TO BUILD**
  - the capacity of the participating HEIs staff to implement the transformation roadmaps through a skills development program.

- **TO EVALUATE**
  - the strategies from HEIs supervised by an ‘Acceleration Board’ of independent experts.

- **TO GENERATE**
  - policy feedback to the European Commission as well as provide widespread dissemination of the pilot results to other target groups.

### The project methodology is based on a gap analysis, determining:

1. **The current state** of the HEI.
2. Clarifying the desired future state and goals for institutional transformation.
3. Designing a roadmap and implementation plan to achieve the desired future state and institutional transformation goals and objectives.
**Main Deliverables**

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**Led by University Industry Innovation Network (UIIN),** Accelerate Future HEI brings together twelve European partners from eleven countries to develop and implement acceleration services. Participating in this initiative provides HEIs with a unique opportunity to identify key challenges they are facing and dedicate time and resources to develop solutions through an institutional transformation action plan (ITAP). The advantage of participating is HEIs are not doing this alone, but instead receive personalised and peer-to-peer guidance through access to coaches, thematic working group workshops, training workshops and cohort knowledge exchange events. This allows HEIs to take a close internal look at what they want to achieve while receiving external support and guidance to enable them to implement these changes.
Benefits

Participating in Accelerate Future HEI will provide benefits to HEIs:

- Strengthened internal knowledge and skills through institutional data, coaching, training and best practice examples to guide HEI transformation.
- Enhanced capacity, tools and support to identify and capitalise on opportunities, and undertake institutional transformation.
- Better mechanisms around career assessment and incentives, and providing more infrastructure and frameworks for cooperation with surrounding ecosystem actors.
- Enhanced connectivity through cross-regional network creation, international capacity building and knowledge exchange activities.
- Access to replicable models for acceleration support and tangible tools to be applied across European HEIs to initiate and undertake their transformation processes.
- Strengthened links across universities and increased research and human resources capacities.
- Knowledge exchange across HEIs and external ecosystem actors.
- Policy recommendations.

To learn more visit the project www.acceleratefuturehei.eu