

## An Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnership project Project period: 2023 - 2025

UP2YOU aims to promote cooperation between Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), thereby enhancing the roles and effectiveness of both sectors in promoting sustainable and inclusive development within their communities. This will be achieved through the creation of new courses, Living Communities Labs, and a Community Balance Scorecard.

# UP2YOU

Upgrading university pathways to promote bottom-up sustainable and inclusive development

## Goals & Objectives

General objective is to promote quadruple helix model improvement & uptake as means to promote sustainable and inclusive development of local communities through participatory, multidisciplinary approaches.

Specific objectives:

- To develop innovative formats of HEI courses integrated with CSOs know-how
- To foster cooperation between HEs & CSOs
- To promote the development of synergies between the academic & social fields able to lead the development & implementation of more coherent & efficient development policies

## Results achieved

Given that the project is in its first year of development, its sub-goals are as follows:

- Tested & developed innovative formats of HE courses integrated with CSOs know-how.
- 25 HE teachers, 150 HE students & 90 CSOs professionals trained.
- Fostered cooperation between HEs & CSOs.
- Developed synergies between academic & social fields to promote more coherent & efficient development policies.
- Strengthened transnational cooperation & exchange of existing learning practices between partner organizations, key stakeholders & local communities in the field of quadruple helix model in EU.

Resources to be used:

- OERs, LCL & CBS will be co-developed & tested in all participating countries including partners' staff, HE students & teachers, CSOs professionals & other local stakeholders.
- OERs & digital tools will be used for training target groups, to establish 5 Living Communities Labs (co-developed & tested with local stakeholders and supported by a co-designed Community Balance Scorecard).

## Next actions

Addressing global challenges requires a concerted effort by all stakeholders that could be managed through an effective model of the Quadruple Helix, encompassing academia, industry, government & civil society.

Challenges:

- Poor alignment of interests & objectives (HE institutions often prioritize research & education while CSOs focus on addressing immediate societal needs).
- Bureaucratic & administrative barriers (hindering effective collaboration between stakeholders).
- Communication gaps & cultural differences (impeding mutual understanding & joint problem-solving).
- Unequal distribution of resources & power dynamics (undermining CSOs active participation & influence, limiting the potential for truly inclusive & effective partnerships)

## Project partners

**Coordinating institution:**  
Universidade De Vigo (Spain)

**Partner institutions:**

- Fondazione Comunitaria Di Agrigento E Trapani (Italy)
- Csi Center For Social Innovation Ltd (Cyprus)
- Koalicija Na Mladinski Organizacijska Prilep (North Macedonia)
- Cekdev International Education And Development Academy (Türkiye)
- Link Campus University (Italy)
- Association Européenne Pour La Democratie Locale (France)

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Co-funded by  
the European Union

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