



IN-BUSINESS GROWTH

Innovative Sustainable
Business Growth
at Global Level

In FOCUS:

On January 26th, in Faro, Portugal, the first seminar on business financing was held under the protocol recently celebrated between the University of Algarve (Portugal) and the Bank Foundation Unicaja (Spain). This protocol aims to make known to the academic community of Algarve the Edufinet financial literacy program, promoted by the Spanish banking foundation and is one of the results of the In-Business Growth project, funded by the Horizon 2020 program ■

04 newsletter

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The seminar held in the city of Faro, Portugal, counted on the participation of Sonia Palomo, Deputy Director of Technology Transfer and International Relations from the Technology Park of Andalucía, and Domingo J. Narváez, Head of the Business Unit from the Business Banking Management from Unicaja and was attended by approximately 30 entrepreneurs, installed in the business incubator of the University of Algarve (Ualg).

The attendees were provided with relevant information for producing a successful business plan and important tips regarding the initial investment and forms of financing their companies.

This session was included in a cycle of conferences called "Lunch & Learn" target to businessmen and entrepreneurs installed in the UAlg incubator. The model "Lunch & Learn" includes a fast buffet served at CRIA office, followed by the conference itself. Is a model that suits the entrepreneurs who have little time and practical



information in several areas of the company management.

In this way, the entrepreneurs were able to have a networking lunch, increase their knowledge about business financing and also realize what aspects really matter from the perspective of a banking institution.

At the suggestion of the participants, the next session of the Edufinet program to be held at the CRIA (with a date to be scheduled) will address the theme Foreign Trade / Internationalization. A Edufinet training session for students of the social education course of the University of Algarve is also planned ■



In-Business Growth, transferring good practices

The Edufinet project was launched in late 2007, although its development began in 2005, within Unicaja and with the collaboration of the International University of Andalusia (UNIA) and the University of Malaga (UMA).

Edufinet became one of the pioneer's financial institutions in Spain to launch such initiative, and has been recognized with several awards. Since the establishment of Edufinet, more than 75,000 people have participated, directly or indirectly, in lectures or project seminars, of which 55,000 are young.

In addition, the web site www.edufinet.com - which offers systematic and practical information that do not require previous knowledge - has recorded more than 5.5 million visits, consultations with access from almost 180 countries ■

Edufinet, a pioneering initiative

In the framework of the European project IN-BUSINESS GROWTH from the Horizon 2020 Programme, several good practices regarding support programs for SMEs and Innovation were identified and transferred.

During one year, partners and actors of the 'In-Business Growth' project have worked on the analysis of the state of the art, in the creation of a handbook of good practices and in the establishment of a new innovative methodology which can be transferred to any agent who works for the development and growth of companies.

Another good practice that was identified in the In-Business Growth was the Business Development Model of the Technological Park of Andalusia (PTA) and this was presented in Faro, on last December 7th in a seminar promoted for IAPMEI, the Portuguese Institute for supporting Investment and SMEs . It was attended by nearly 60 persons, included technicians of incubators and technological parks, agents for supporting SMEs and companies. The participants were interested mainly in the soft-landing service offered by PTA to foreign companies ■



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