Technological University of the Shannon MidWest

Name of the organisation:	Technological University of the Shannon MidWest	
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Type of organis	ation:							
SME Training		School No Profit		University NGO	★	Public	: Authority	
Other (Specify)								
Fields of action	:							
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Other (Specify)								

Description of the organisation

Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest (TUS) is a multi-campus university with over 14,500 students, spread across six colleges throughout Ireland's Midwest and Midlands region. TUS was established on 1 October, 2021. With campuses in Athlone, Clare, Limerick and Tipperary, TUS benefits from an already strong and vibrant history of education and learning in the wider region and plays a strong role in sustaining and enhancing this identity for generations to come.

TUS's continuous focus on partnership, innovation and staying agile shows they understand the importance of working with key stakeholders across industry and society. With hundreds of courses every year across four counties, our story has only just begun.

Research, Development and Innovation at Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest supports, develops, and welcomes knowledge creators, innovators, and entrepreneurs, while supporting regional and national industry and other stakeholders.

Our vision is to deliver excellence in multidisciplinary research practice and encourage collaboration between researchers and strategic European and global partners in industry and academia. The aim is to advance the key research priorities relevant to the region, aligned with national and European research priorities, and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest has a world leading research infrastructure which inspires and enables transformative research, development and innovation. They empower students by providing an outstanding higher education experience relevant and responsive to our stakeholders' needs.

The hallmark of the educational philosophy is active learning through a fusion of theory and practice. Technological University of the Shannon: Midlands Midwest is renowned for active leadership in education, enterprise, and engagement.

Impactful Research, Development, and Innovation (RDI) are central to the TU strategy.

At the centre of the RDI is a focus on Development. The Development Unit is dedicated to implementing the vision of supporting individuals, companies and industries in the Mid-West to achieve social, economic and environmental changes through applying its expertise in a collaborative manner. Sustainable Development is at the core of activities in TUS.

With a focus on sustainable energy, climate action, social enterprise, rural development and technology for education, our team leads and partners in projects and activities while working closely with academic staff and experts across the Institute.

We have a particular strength in securing funding from an array of EU programmes (H2020, Interreg, Erasmus+, COSME and others) both as coordinators and as partners/co-beneficiaries. Our dynamic team has extensive experience in proposal development and work in an agile environment to respond to specific partnership needs and requirements.

TUS Midwest prides itself on the extensive networks and connections it has developed with community, enterprise, industry and public sectors in the Midwest region, throughout Ireland and internationally.

Experience of the organization in previous European projects

TUS has participated in several European projects, the most recent of which are shown in this table:				
EU Programme	Year	Project Identification or Contract Number	Applicant/Beneficiary Name	
Erasmus+	2016	2016-1-IE01-KA202-016898 TELI2	LIT	
Erasmus+	2016	2016-1-IE01-KA202-016870 COFARM	LIT	
Erasmus+	2016	2016-1-UK01-KA203-024560 SEDETT	Glyndwr University	
Erasmus+	2017	2017-1-TR01-KA203-046578 EDUcode	Dokuz Eylul University	
Erasmus+	2017	2017-1-UK01-KA203-036607 INTSEnSE -Internationalising Trading for Social Enterprise Sustainability and Education'	Glyndwr University	

EU Commission Contract	2017	EASME/H2020/EE/2016/021 MangEnergy	LIT
Erasmus+	2018	2018-1-SE01-KA201-039098 FICTION	Södertörn University, Sweden
Erasmus+	2018	2018-1-PT01-KA203-047361 MathE	Instituto Politecnico Braganca
Erasmus+	2019	2019-1-PL01- KA201-065027 CLIL4STEAM	Szkoła Podstawowa nr 5 im. Janusza Kusocińskiego w Świdniku
Erasmus+	2020	2020-1-SE01-KA203-077872 CoSy Project	Södertörn University, Sweden

Experience and Expertise of the organization in the project's subject area

TUS has experience in various studying interaction models. In addition to standard class-based models, also provides interactive learning. Also, the Problem Based Learning approach has been used on numerous study programmes. TUS provides personal development and communication skills modules for its students. Moreover, some staff in TUS have a notable interest in teaching and learning approaches and have performed research in networks & organisations that address these issues. Networks that TUS is associated with, which also interact with secondary school teachers and students, include EPI*STEM, the National Centre for Excellence in Science & Maths Teaching and Learning and the Irish Science Teachers' Association. TUS previously worked with teachers in local schools in the Comenius Chemistry is All Around Us project, and Erasmus+ projects - E-learning from Nature, FICTION, CLIL4STEAM. TUS lecturers have worked on initiatives to enhance teaching and learning of science, both at programme level and in association with the dedicated Learning Support Unit which operates to aid students who have difficulties in subjects

Contributions that can be provided to the project

like science.

The Development Unit in TUS has a focus on sustainable energy, climate action, social enterprise, rural development and technology for education. The team leads and partners in projects and activities while working closely with academic staff and experts across the Institute. The staff working on the project have participated in pedagogical skills training and upskilling.

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Reasons for involvement in the project

Many staff in TUS have a notable interest in teaching and learning approaches and have performed research in networks & organisations that address these issues. Networks that TUS is associated with, which also interact with secondary school teachers and students, include EPI*STEM, the National Centre for Excellence in Science & Maths Teaching and Learning and the Irish Science Teachers' Association. TUS previously worked with teachers in local schools and national and transnational partners in the Comenius Chemistry is All Around Us project, and Erasmus+ projects - E-learning from Nature, FICTION, MathE, CLIL4STEAM.

Contact Person's Experience and Expertise

Marie Walsh has been a lecturer in science in the Department of Applied Science in TUS (formerly LIT) since 1990. She has a strong interest in methods promoting teaching and learning of STEM subjects. Member of: the Irish Science Teachers Association, the Royal Society of Chemistry Education Division Ireland. She has co-ordinated a number of activities that involve interaction with secondary schools, including: CanSAT, Space Week, Science Week, ChemEd-Ireland. She is also an Associate member of EPI*STEM, the National Centre for Excellence in Maths & Science Teaching & Learning. She was the LIT project manager for the Chemistry is all Around Us Network, funded in the framework of the Lifelong Learning Programme – Comenius sub programme – Networks Action which aimed at stimulating the interest of students in Chemistry. She was project manager in TUS of the following Erasmus+ projects: E-learning from Nature, an Erasmus+ KA2 project (No: 2015-1-IT02-KA201-015133), which aimed at the use of digital and other media to promote alternate methods of teaching & learning science; MathE (No: 2018-1-PT01-KA203-047361); FICTION (No: 2018-1-SE01-KA201-039098); CLIL4STEAM (No: 2019-1-PL01- KA201-065027). MathE and CLIL4STEAM were both evaluated as being examples of Best Practice.