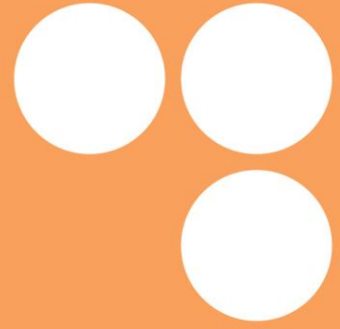


TWIN2EXPAND



2nd RESEARCH MANAGEMENT TRAINING REPORT

twinning towards
research excellence
in evidence-based planning
and urban design



Twining towards Research Excellence in Evidence-Based Planning and Urban Design

The TWIN2EXPAND project, funded by the European Union's Horizon Europe WIDERA program, brings together a consortium of leading European research institutions, including University College London (UCL), Polytechnic University of Turin, Chalmers University of Technology and Space Syntax Limited. The project aims to stimulate research excellence and innovation capacity in the field of EBDP at UCY and to promote interdisciplinary research and networking in the EBDP field.

The project will have a significant impact on the broader scientific community, specific planning and design stakeholders, and urban societies at large, towards understanding and addressing urban challenges, as well as valuing and exploiting opportunities afforded by cities and urban communities.

TWIN2EXPAND will run for three years and will involve a series of training activities, staff exchanges between partners, industry internships, and intensive summer workshops, aimed at enhancing the scientific competence and research capability of UCY staff and early-stage researchers.

For more information about the TWIN2EXPAND project, please visit the project website at <https://twin2expand.surf.com.cy/>

Partners



Grant Agreement 101078890
TWIN2EXPAND – HORIZON-WIDERA-2001-ACCESS-03

Work Package 2 Capacity Building in Research and Management
TASK 2.5 Deliver research management and administration training

Responsible: POLITO

Dates:

18th September 2024

On- line

18th- 20th November 2024

Location: Politecnico di Torino and on-line

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

Assess gaps and needs in managerial and administrative support skills, including grant writing, identify suitable training, secure participation of selected UCY staff, organize ad hoc training with senior experts from the leading institutions

Results:

2° Research management training M22 @POLITO

18 September 2024

Research management training- Grant writing in Horizon Europe

Time: 15:30-17:30 CET on-line

Trainer POLITO: Ilenia Allora

PARTICIPANTS: UCY- Iason Giraud, Nadia Chalalambous, Ilenia Geddes (online) POLITO- Michela Baroso, Martina Crapolicchio, Valentina Romano, Santiago Gomes (online) (...)

Agenda:

- welcome and introduction
- presentation
- Practical exercise
- Q&A and feedback

18-20 November 2024

Research management- training on the job

Time: 9:00- 16:30 CET

Location: Politecnico di Torino, Corso Duca degli Abruzzi 24, 10129 Torino, Italy

PARTICIPANTS:

UCY: Nadia Charalamos, Iason Giraud, Ilenia Geddes (online)

POLITO: Michela Barosio, Valentina Romano, Martina Crapolicchio, Santiago Gomes (online), Federico Micol, Silvia Tabotta, Agnieszka Furman, Isabella Susa

Agenda:

Mon Nov 18th	Activity	Trainer/Speaker
9:15	Welcome: meeting point in front of Politecnico, corso Duca degli Abruzzi 24	Michela Barosio
9:30-11:00	Visit to the Modeling Lab @Energy center	Michela Barosio
11:30-13:00	Visit to Drawing to the future lab @DISEG	Michela Barosio
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-16:00 Link	Research data management (RDM) in practice and support at PoliTO	Mauro Paschetta RIMIN meeting room
Tue Monday 19th	Networking	
9:30-11:00 Link	Paths towards the exploitation of project results	Federico Micol RIMIN meeting room
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
14:30- 16:30	Introduction to communication and dissemination for impact in EU projects	Agnieszka Furman, Isabella Susa, Silvia Tabotta Aula formazione, via boggio, building M

19:30	Networking dinner	Le vitel etonné , via San Francesco da Paola, Torino
Wed Nov 20th	Training	
10:00- 12:00 Link	Stakeholder engagement and communication: good practice @POLITO	Isabella Susa RIMIN meeting room
13:00- 14:00	Lunch	
14:00- 16:00	Next HE proposal planning: Efficient, sustainable and inclusive energy use (HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02)	Valentina Romano RIMIN meeting room

ACTIVITIES DESCRIPTION

The visit of the University of Cyprus (UCY) team to Politecnico di Torino (POLITO) took place from November 18th to 20th, 2024, as part of the research management and administration training under Task 2.5. A previous on-line training took place on September 18th, online.

The 2025 training, organized by POLITO, focused on enhancing the research management skills of UCY staff in various areas, including grant writing, research data management, stakeholder engagement, and dissemination practices for EU projects. The aim of the event was to assess gaps and needs in managerial and administrative support skills and provide training through expert-led sessions, networking opportunities, and lab visits.

September 18, 2024- on-line

The training session focused on how to read and interpret a Horizon Europe call and provided a comprehensive guide on preparing a collaborative research proposal and is led by Ilaria Allora. The training specifically targeted the key elements of proposal preparation with a particular focus on understanding the various sections of the proposal template. An online practical exercise was conducted afterward, allowing participants to analyze a specific call topic related to the Built4People Partnership, under the Horizon Europe theme of Efficient, Sustainable and Inclusive Energy Use. The aim was to enhance participants' ability to write successful proposals that align with Horizon Europe's guidelines and objectives.

The primary objectives of the training were:

1. To guide participants on how to read and understand a Horizon Europe call.
2. To provide detailed instructions on preparing collaborative research proposals.
3. To focus on the different sections of a proposal template and ensure participants are equipped to structure a well-organized submission.
4. To offer practical experience through an online exercise on analyzing a call topic in the area of Digital Solutions to Foster Participative Design, Planning, and Management of Buildings, Neighborhoods, and Urban Districts.

Day 1: November 18, 2024 on-site

The first day began with a welcome session at 9:15 AM in front of Politecnico di Torino, Corso Duca degli Abruzzi 24. After the introduction, participants went on two key lab visits. The first was to the Modeling Lab at the Energy Center, where UCY staff were introduced to the latest modeling techniques and research practices in energy-related fields, guided by Michela Barosio. The second visit was to the Drawing to the Future Lab at the Department of Architecture and Design (DISEG), which focused on innovative design methodologies.

The afternoon session, supposed to be held from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, on "Research Data Management (RDM) didn't take place due to the speaker's illness.

It was replaced by a discussion among UCY and POLITO about the upcoming topic of interest for UCY under the Horizon Europe workprogramme: "Efficient, sustainable, and inclusive energy use" (HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02). Objectives, main activities and consortium were discussed among UCY and POLITO staff.

Day 2: November 19, 2024 on-site

The second day began with a session on "Paths towards the exploitation of project results," led by Federico Micol. From 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM, the session focused on using the Business Modes to explore how research projects can be exploited to create tangible impact. The discussion centered on the exploitable results from the Twin2Expand project, providing the UCY team with a deeper understanding of how to valorize research outcomes effectively.

After lunch, the focus shifted to the practical aspects of communication and dissemination in EU projects. From 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM, Agnieszka Furman, Isabella Susa, and Silvia Tabotta led a session on "Introduction to communication and dissemination for impact in EU projects." The session, held in the frame of a training course for PhDs at POLITO allowed UCY to learn methods to efficiently write research proposals with a focus on communication, dissemination, and impact. Key topics included the principles of Open Science, the importance of public engagement, and strategies for developing a Communication and Dissemination Plan.

Day 3: November 20, 2024 on-site

The final day of the training began with a session on "Stakeholder engagement and communication: good practice at POLITO," held from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Isabella Susa, Head of Research and Innovation Communication and Impact at POLITO, shared best practices in stakeholder engagement and communication strategies. The session provided valuable insights into building strong, trust-based relationships with stakeholders, managing communication channels, and aligning objectives with diverse research partners.

In the afternoon, the final session, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM, focused on proposal planning for Horizon Europe, particularly on "Efficient, sustainable, and inclusive energy use" (HORIZON-CL5-2024-D4-02). Valentina Romano discussed strategies for planning successful project proposals in line with the EU's Horizon Europe priorities. The session equipped UCY participants with the knowledge to contribute to future proposals with a focus on sustainability and energy use.

Key Outcomes and Learnings

Throughout the training, UCY participants were introduced to several tools and techniques designed to enhance their research management skills. They learned about:

1. Business Models for Exploiting Research Results: Applying frameworks to identify exploitable results from research projects.
2. Communication and Dissemination for EU Projects: Writing effective communication strategies for research proposals, emphasizing Open Science and public engagement.
3. Stakeholder Engagement: Best practices for building and maintaining relationships with stakeholders, ensuring effective collaboration throughout the project lifecycle.
4. Discussion on the next project proposal Horizon Europe: objectives, activities and impact.