

Call for Ecsite members to join proposal INSO-4-2015

Ecsite is a partner in a proposal on the new H2020 call [INSO-4-2015 Innovative schemes for open innovation and science 2.0](#) (b. Academia- Business/Public/CSO knowledge co-creation) and is looking for up to 5 of its members to join the proposal as Third Parties¹.

About the project

The objective of this proposal is to establish the first Open Research University in the European Research Area. The concept of the Open Research University is facilitating and empowering citizens and allowing them to join the academic research process at **every step, from the design through the process of collecting data to the conclusion and publication.**

Operating the Open Research University will utilize a cloud-based 'Open Research & Innovation Platform' for academic researchers, social innovators, citizen scientists and policy-makers in collaboration with the industry and the educational system. The rich functionality of the platform will handle multiple and diverse research projects as well as identifying any potential interaction and interrelation among them at unexpected junctions. The platform is to become a pan-European meta-community, i.e. a community of communities, of academic researchers and citizen scientists, participating in multiple and diverse research projects. Each project will be headed by an academic principle investigator. The platform will also be instrumental as an educational tool for students.

This is a 3-year project proposal and if successful, the earliest it would start is February 2016.

Profile of Third Party

We are looking for members of Ecsite who are one of the following:

- A science centre/museum conducting its **own research** linked to citizen science/research co-creation
- A science centre/museum that has strong existing links with a university with **ongoing** citizen science/research co-creation projects
- A university with **ongoing** citizen science/research co-creation projects

Role of Third Party

¹ Third Parties are legal entities which participate in Horizon 2020 by carrying out some tasks in an action, but which do not sign the Grant Agreement (including entities linked to the beneficiaries) (Articles 1 and 8 of the General Model GA - multi-beneficiary). They are not bound by the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement and consequently, the European Union (represented by the Commission or another funding body) has no obligation vis-à-vis third parties. Linked third party itself performs certain action tasks directly and is responsible for them towards the beneficiary. The beneficiary remains responsible towards the Commission/Agency for the work carried out by the linked third party.

This project will allow selected organisations to carry out their **existing** citizen science/research co-creation initiatives or embark on the new ones but only if partnerships with universities have been set. Each Third Party will have their main research project involving citizen science, which they will be working on. Third parties either in partnerships with universities or on their own (if they are conducting research themselves) will have to use the tools and platforms that will be developed by the project. **Any topic of research** can be chosen (but consortium is looking to cover: medicine, food, transportation, education , ecology, psychology, management).

There will be three main tasks within the project:

- Together with other Third Parties and Ecsite, development participatory face-to-face activities with the citizens and young people aimed at citizen science, co-creation, DIY, innovation. And then implementation and running of these activities.
- Use the online platform/tools developed by the project in order for citizens to collect data, analyse data, communicate with researchers. Encourage the use of home computers and wearable devices. Collaborate in the evaluation of the tools. Engage with industry at local level.
- Promote and disseminate the project amongst the audiences of the science centre and recruit citizen scientists for 'other research projects' (not your main one)

Budget

60 000 EUR will be allocated mostly covering Personnel costs, materials and overhead costs. Travel costs and translations will be covered by Ecsite.

Criteria for selection: obligatory

- Ecsite member status (Full Members prioritised)
- Have an existing own citizen science/research co-creation project or together with a university
- The institution must carry out its activities in one of the [countries eligible for H2020 funding](#)
- An English-speaking project manager

Criteria for selection: desirable

- Project in one of the following topics: medicine, food, transportation, education, ecology, psychology, management
- Links with industry and academia
- Interest/priority/experience in citizen science/research co-creation

How to apply?

To submit your application please fill in [this online form](#) by **11am on 18th May**. Only successful applicants will be notified of the outcomes. For any questions, please contact Maria Zolotonosa at mzolotonosa@ecsite.eu