A community & networking platform

DocEnhance seeks to establish a dynamic, adaptable and sustainable online platform, the DocEnhance platform. With the aim of supporting innovative career-oriented PhD training, the Platform will function as:

★ **a network of academic and non-academic institutions** for cooperation and information sharing

★ **an access point for researchers in all career stages to Open Educational Resources** (courses, guidelines, reports, studies) created by the project

★ **a capacity-building tool for educational institutions**, allowing them to access, customise and exploit the resources locally and adopt modernised PhD skills training.

Project partners

UiT The Arctic University of Norway (Norway) - coordinator

All Digital AISBL (Belgium)

University of Chemistry and Technology Prague (Czech Republic)

Tampere University (Finland)

European Science Foundation (France)

Tree of Science (France)

Technical University of Munich – Graduate School (Germany)

University of Ghana (Ghana)

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (Greece)

European University Foundation (Luxembourg)

Maastricht University (The Netherlands)

Confederation of Norwegian Enterprise (Norway)

NOVA University Lisbon (Portugal)

Matej Bel University (Slovakia)

Fundación Universidad-Empresa (Spain)

University of Alcalá (Spain)

Karlstad University (Sweden)

InnoEXC GmbH (Switzerland)

Adecco Group (Switzerland)

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Contact us

✉ docenhance@uit.no

DocEnhance

Broadening PhD expertise through transferable skills

What is DocEnhance?

How well do PhDs fit into an increasingly competitive and demanding market? How can researchers' impact on our society be enhanced? How can PhD programmes upskill in making researchers more «industry-ready»?

Responding to the need of bridging the skills gap between research employment in academia and beyond, the DocEnhance project aims to develop and integrate transferable skills training into PhD education in Europe by building a network and online platform and through increased interaction with the non-academic sector.
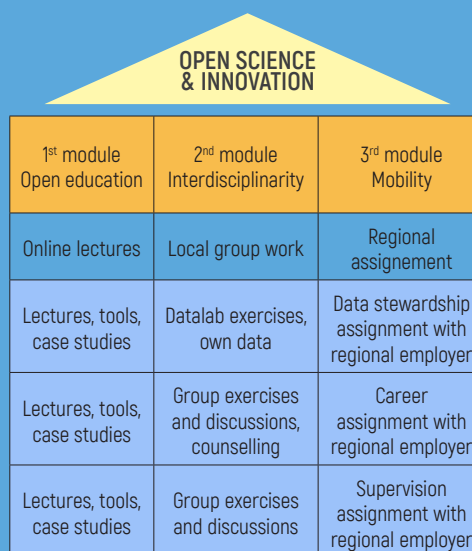
A roadmap for modernising PhD programmes

Between 2020-2022 the EU funded DocEnhance will develop a roadmap for Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs) to enhance their PhD education by integrating transferable skills training into their curricula.

The roadmap will provide HEIs with guidelines to improve and modernise their PhD programmes, so that students are better equipped for the future labour market, regarding both employment opportunities and flexible career development. To identify crucial skills gaps and facilitate an assessment of career paths and alumni networking, DocEnhance will undertake a PhD graduate career-tracking survey.

A novel course concept & design

Aligned to the principles of Open Access and Innovation, the DocEnhance course concept is structured upon three interlinking learning modules, fostering Open Education, Interdisciplinarity and Mobility.

OPEN SCIENCE & INNOVATION

1st module Open education	2nd module Interdisciplinarity	3rd module Mobility
Online lectures	Local group work	Regional assignement
Lectures, tools, case studies	Datalab exercises, own data	Data stewardship assignment with regional employer
Lectures, tools, case studies	Group exercises and discussions, counselling	Career assignment with regional employer
Lectures, tools, case studies	Group exercises and discussions	Supervision assignment with regional employer

All courses are designed according to the Innovative Doctoral Training Principles to support interdisciplinary and international mobility, work-based learning and business-education partnerships. Pilot courses will be organised at several partner universities.

A transferable skills curriculum

With a focus on three courses particularly developed for PhD programmes across Europe, DocEnhance recommends a career-oriented curriculum addressing future needs and competences of researchers.

Pilot courses & expected skills acquirement

Data Stewardship

★ Master theory and concepts of data management

★ Learn how to collect, analyse and manage research data

Career Management & Entrepreneurship

★ Reflect upon personal strengths, weaknesses and life goals

★ Develop critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication and self-management skills

★ Act upon entrepreneurial ideas and opportunities and transform them into value

Supervision

★ Identify and embed pedagogical, practical and up-to-date research skills

★ Gain knowledge of a variety of supervision practices from the non-academic sector