

# PRESS NOTE

EUSR excel announces its final results

## WHAT IS EUSR excel?

The EUSR excel project is an initiative that creates and identifies a homogeneous framework of criteria and indicators of Social Responsibility in the field of Higher Education Institutions. Through research and training, this project raises awareness among University managers and staff to institutionalize University Social Responsibility (USR) and its formal presence in the quality rankings. This project was conceived after identifying the need of a common framework that measures and certifies the Social Responsibility in the academic sector, specifically within Universities in order to meet the EC agenda on Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive growth which includes social responsibility.

This project was developed through two key intellectual outputs, where the first segment of the project was focused on building a theoretical framework to develop the model of reference to harmonize the USR indicators, and the second phase centered on composing an USR Online Evaluation Tool and the Design of a USR Quality Certification:

### **EUSREXcel Project theoretical framework**



USR state of the  
art survey



USR Indicators

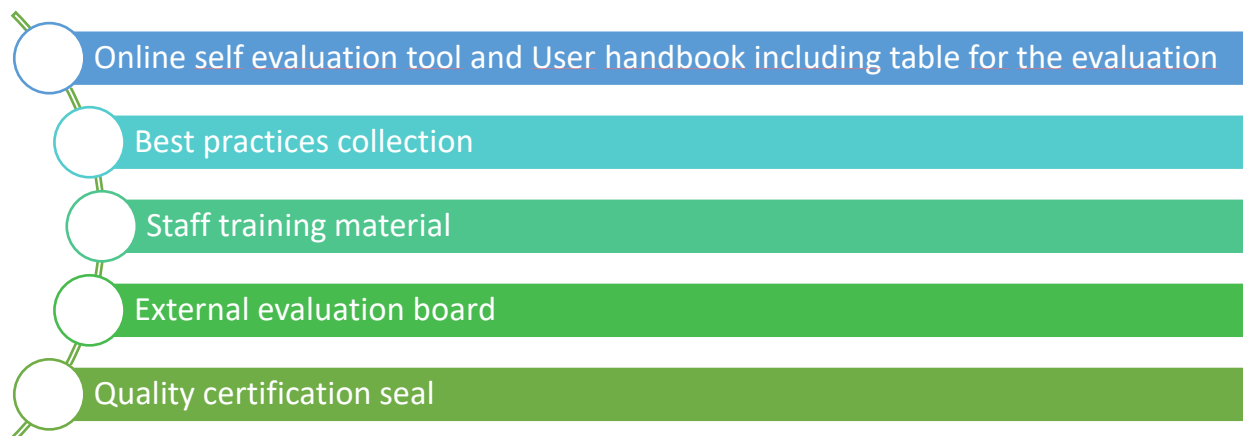


EUSREXCEL  
Online platform



Wiki

## EUSREXcel Online Evaluation Tool and USR Quality Certification



Funded by ERASMUS+, this project was developed throughout 36 months, from September 2018 to August 2021 with the support of CONEXX-EU (Belgium), The University of Applied Sciences VAMK-Vaasa (Finland) The University of Dublin City (Ireland), Innovation Training Centre (Spain), The University of La Sapienza (Italy) and the University Girona (Spain) and around 11 associated partners from the academic sector across Europe to create a network of universities with a USR quality certification.

The relevance of the European framework of USR harmonized indicators resides on the provision of a universal measurement tool for management boards at universities to assess their commitment to USR based, and the creation of a new USR Quality Seal to reward academic institutes based on their performance on USR.



## RESULTS

The mobilization of expertise from our key and associated partners have contributed to raise awareness amid the participating universities and the external publics such as management boards, administrative staff, professors and researcher that collaborated in this initiative to identify the strengths and weaknesses in terms of socially responsible involvement within their sphere of influence. Furthermore, the sum of efforts made across the 36 months gave as a result the creation of an EUSREXCEL guide, an Online Self Evaluation tool on USR, an Users Handbook, a Table for Evaluation, a Good practices illustration, Staff Training material, an External Evaluation Board and a USR Quality Seal that integrate a solid homogeneous framework that can be easily socialized across European universities and with this, promote a harmonization and consciousness of the importance of the Social responsibility within higher education institutes.

<https://socialresponsibilityaward.eu>

# EUSRexcel materials

Materials developed in EUSRexcel project and how to use them

## 01 EUSREXCEL GUIDE TOWARDS A COMMON APPROACH TO USR INDICATORS

This guide inspires, encourages and supports universities to implement USR actions and to create their own auto-evaluation system that could be recognised at a European level



## 02 EUSREXCEL SELF EVALUATION TOOL USER'S HANDBOOK

This handbook provides the correct use of the EUSRexcel self-evaluation tool. Through this tool, universities will be able to evaluate their current level of USR.

## 02

## 03 EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE IN USR

Examples from six partner countries will encourage other HEIs interested in working towards excellence in the field of university social responsibility.



## 04 USR QUALITY SEAL APPLICATION PROCESS

This handbook provides comprehensive information and guidance on: university social responsibility harmonised indicators; the self-evaluation tool; and university social responsibility quality seal evaluation process.

## 04

## 05 CREATION OF AN EXTERNAL EVALUATION BOARD

This document defines all the necessary steps to create an external evaluation board (EEB) in charge of assigning the USR Quality Seal as well as to point out its assessment procedures.



## 06 THE SEAL AND QUALITY CERTIFICATION IN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The aim of this document is to identify who, how and by what processes the seal and quality certificate will be awarded to European HEIs that have passed the assessment processes.

## 06