

The EU Pact for Skills – Regional Skills Partnership for KSIgune

KSIgune is the Basque Cluster for Higher Education and Research for CCIs, which is led by the Directorate of University Policy and Coordination within the Deputy Ministry for Universities and Research of the Ministry of Education and the Directorate for Cultural Promotion of the Ministry of Culture & Language Policy of the Basque Government.

Euskampus Fundazioa is the organisation commissioned to lead the Cluster's operations, and to coordinate an ecosystem currently involving 28 Basque Schools and Faculties, and 19 entities.

KSIgune is an ecosystem where the Higher Education and CCIs sectors come together, to cooperate, in Training, Research and Transfer projects.

The challenge

In 2022, a study published by the [Basque Institute of Competitiveness](#) showed that the CCIs in the Basque Country are made up of 16,886 companies that employ 33,983 people, which represents 3.84% of total employment in the territory.

Following both the [II Basque University-Business Strategy](#) and the [Strategy RIS3 Euskadi](#), the region has the challenges of training highly qualified, transformative talent; continuing to generate knowledge transfer from University to Business and vice versa; and developing initiatives that facilitate innovation in the CCIs as a field of opportunity.

The ambition

The KSIgune Regional Skills Partnership aims to analyse the needs of Higher Education and Vocational Training in relation to the Basque Cultural and Creative Industries sector, and contribute to the development and delivery of a comprehensive training plan for upskilling and reskilling, with a focus on digital, green, innovation and entrepreneurial skills. The Partnership will engage the whole ecosystem to implement the training plan through accredited education (lifelong learning, postgraduate programmes, in-house training), so that skills can be acquired and applied by both future professionals and the current workforce, with an impact in the development of local talent.

This would help the long-term goal of positioning the Basque Country among the most advanced regions of Europe in innovation by 2030, and driving the transition to a digital, green and inclusive Euskadi ([STIP 2030](#)).

The Regional Skills Partnership under the Pact for Skills would allow the cluster to engage with European stakeholders and other RSPs to exchange knowledge and best practices, providing the European dimension to the project with the possibility of fostering new alliances to better address the regional challenges and skills gaps in the CCIs sector in the Basque Country. The idea would be to provide the upskilling and reskilling opportunities with the international dimension, to also better respond to the global challenges in which our sectors, businesses and workforce are immersed, and implement training activities in the territory with a wider scope.

The proposal

The KSIgune Regional Skills Partnership commits to:

1. Bringing together the stakeholders of the KSIgune ecosystem to enhance training and capacity building to respond to the Basque CCI's demands to increase competitiveness by 2030.
2. Identifying new educational models in need of digital, green, innovative and entrepreneurial skills and capitalising on alliances that can support the development of a new integral training plan for upskilling and reskilling in the Basque Country.
3. Further developing the KSIgune Connections Programme to 2025 to continue fostering the knowledge transfer between University and Business in the CCI's sector, through projects that respond to both sectorial and global challenges.
4. Connecting the RSP with the Euroregional alliance led by KSIgune in parallel within the Euroregional Green Audiovisual Hub (EGAH) initiative to enhance cross-border cooperation in the audiovisual sector, with specific knowledge transfer between higher education and the entities of the territories of Basque Country, Navarre and New Aquitaine.

Activities

To achieve the commitments set out above, the KSIgune Skills Partnership will deliver activities in 3 key areas, which can be complemented by others as the partnership evolves:

1. Skills intelligence (Commitment 1, 2 and 3)
 - Identification of the training, research, and transfer capacities on CCI's for the 2024-25 academic year within the Basque Faculties, as well as VET centres, which are members of the KSIgune ecosystem.
 - Contrast with the CCI's entities on skills gaps and new professional profiles for the 2025-26 academic year.
 - Support of projects that promote skills and capacity transfer between Higher Education and CCI entities.
2. Up- and re-skilling opportunities (Commitment 4)
 - Design and implementation of accredited training tailored to the cross-cutting demands of the cultural and creative sectors in the Basque Country from a lifelong-learning perspective.
 - Development of an Euroregional Green Audiovisual Hub, which will serve to identify the training, research, and transfer capacities of the audiovisual sector in 3 territories, exchange on sector needs and best practices, and design future ad-hoc training to meet the demands of the Euroregional Audiovisual sector by 2030. This initiative will kick-off in 2024 with the mapping of the Higher Education centres and capacities, as well as the audiovisual sector agents and their skills demands, to continue to share best practices and develop the first draft of the upskilling and reskilling plan.
3. Communication and Awareness-raising (Commitment 1 and 2)
 - Participation in the Creativity World Forum in 2024 to share knowledge with peers and key agents in the sector on the new skills trends and implementation models.
 - Creation of new content (articles, interviews and videos) to be shared with the KSIgune ecosystem and wider CCI sector to disseminate the results of the KSIgune Connections Programme, the projects developed, and the promotion of talent and knowledge transfer in the Basque region.

Tracking your impact

KPI	Target	Timeframe for achievement	Key Milestones
Number of training, research and transfer capacities on CCIIs identified.	100	2024	Map of capacities in the Basque Country made annually available for consultation.
Number of up- and reskilling opportunities offered linked to the work of the partnership.	1	After 2025	Training and skilling programme offered for the CCIIs sector that can be linked to the work of the partnership and which will be complemented by additional actions.
Percentage of active workforce reskilled or upskilled by the up- and reskilling activities of the partnership.	5%	By 2027	Percentage of active workforce in the region reskilled or upskilled within the cultural & creative sectors, spanning a period of 3 to 5 years from the start of the partnership
Number of organisations to participate in the Partnership and its activities.	49	2025	28 Faculties and Schools 19 entities 2 Euroregional partners (with a view to add more progressively)
Number of projects financially supported to promote skills and capacity transfer between Higher Education and CCI entities.	30	2024	KSIgune's Connection Programme will launch the fourth edition of its call for proposals to foster cooperation projects between the Higher Education centres and the CCIIs sectors.
Number of Euroregional projects delivered for cross-border cooperation.	1	2024-25	Launch of the first Euroregional Green Audiovisual Hub with the identification of cross-border capacities, business demands, first knowledge-exchange events and a residency programme implemented.
Number of agents involved in the Euroregional project.	500	2024	Connection of higher education and CCI sector agents for the implementation of the cross-border Hub.
Number of events/networks to participate in to foster knowledge transfer and disseminate the Partnership and its efforts.	3	2024	KSIgune will introduce the Regional Skills Partnership at the Creativity World Forum 2024 and aims to do the same at the UIIN Conference 2024, as well as within the EIT CCIIs KIC as associate member.

Partnership arrangements

Key regional and/or local partners as well as supporters of the regional Partnership.

- Coordinating organisation/steering group:
 - Directorate of University Policy and Coordination and Directorate for Cultural Promotion of the Basque Government
 - Euskampus Fundazioa
- Types of organisations in the membership:
 - Faculties and Schools
 - Public agencies and clusters
 - Companies
- Ways of working, frequency of meetings of members, etc.:
 - E-mail notifications
 - Annual gathering of the Higher Education and Research related to CCIs
 - Partner meetings

The KSIgune Regional Skills Partnership will seek to engage with other stakeholders from other alliances promoted/supported by [Euskampus Fundazioa](#) and the [Basque Government](#) with the aim to help the RSP grow in the coming years.

Supported by:

LEADERSHIP



Ministry of Education | Viceministry of Universities & Research

Ministry of Culture & Language Policy | Directorate for Cultural Promotion

COORDINATION & SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS



Basque Government
Delegation in the EU



BASQUE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



Faculty of Pharmacy

Engineering School of Gipuzkoa

Engineering School of Bilbao

Faculty of Arts

Faculty of Education, Philosophy and Anthropology

Faculty of Information Technology

Faculty of Economics & Business Administration

Engineering School of Vitoria-Gasteiz

Faculty of Science and Technology

Faculty of Psychology

Faculty of Law



Faculty of Engineering

Faculty of Social & Human Sciences



Faculty of Engineering

Faculty of Humanities & Education Sciences

Faculty of Business Administration

HIGH EDUCATION CENTRES



School of Art and Higher School of Design



Basque Higher School of Dramatic Arts & Dance



Basque Higher School of Music

COLLABORATING ORGANISATIONS



Euskadiko Teknologia Elektronikoen eta Informazioaren Industrien Elkartea



Culture and Creativity Industries of the Basque Country



Basque Innovation Agency



BASQUE DISTRICT OF CULTURE AND CREATIVITY



Basque Vocational Training

EUSKADI
LANBIDE HEZIKETA



MEMBER OF BASQUE RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

EUROREGIONAL GREEN AUDIOVISUAL HUB PARTNERS



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Contact information of the coordinating organisation:

Ruth Mayoral López

Euskampus Fundazioa

ruth.mayoral@euskampus.eu

+34 688673715

Webs: www.euskampus.eu/en / <https://www.ksigune.eus/en>