CONTENT

WELCOME WORD

Welcome to the second Get-together training week!

The H2020-MSCA-COFUND Impact Program overall training embraces three specific training objectives, see figure below. The first one is related to vertical in-depth training through research (1). The second one is the vertical in-depth economic and social impact development and entrepreneurship training (2).

Finally, the third one on the top, is the horizontal training in transferable skills (e.g., data mgt., gender, …) (3).
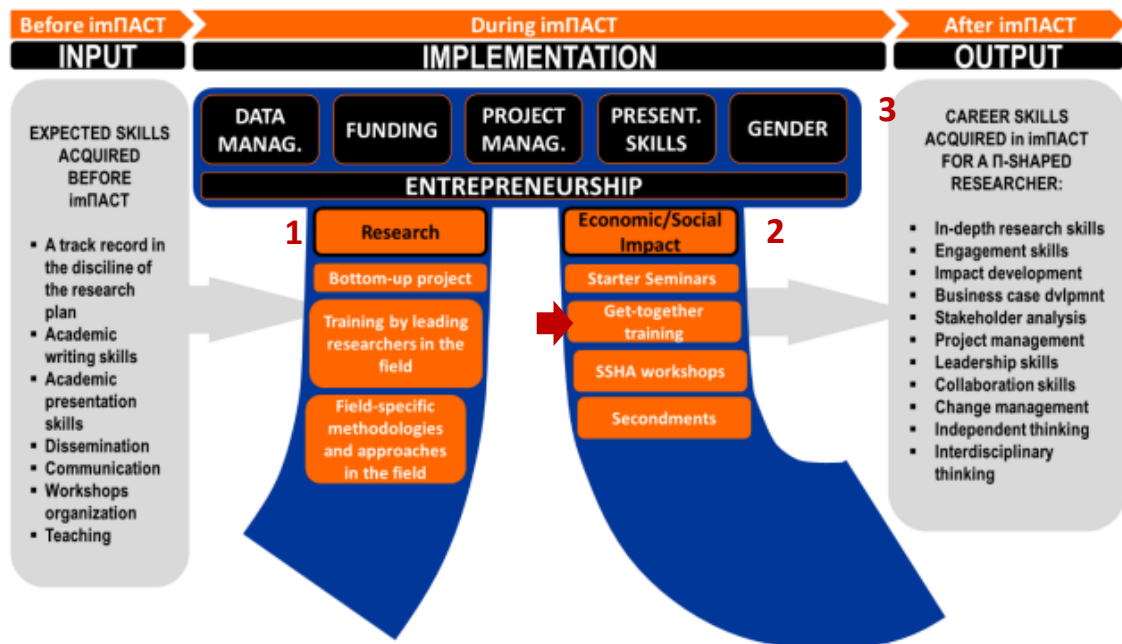

Figure: Visualization of IMPACT postdoctoral training programme

This one-week training entitled: 'Get-together' and is part of the second leg of the π.

Last April, we had the first trainingweek of 5 specific 'Get-together' programme events which are scheduled every 6 months. The purpose is to guide the postdoctoral fellows by coaches with as final goal -at the end of their trajectory-to present their impact case to a broad audience existing of fellow researchers, professors, and a community of relevant stakeholders.

The agenda of the 'Get-together programme' foresees a one-week training starting first with progress presentations by the postdoctoral researchers followed by feed-back sessions (only for postdoctoral fellows and supervisory and management board).

As of the second and following days, dedicated training sessions focusing on specific aspects have been set up. These comprise: Project Management, Work-life balance in Academia, Intellectual Property and Developing an impact case for researchers . All these trainings are open to external researchers/entrepreneurs.

Enjoy!

The MSCA-COFUND-IMPACT programme managers

DATES & PROGRAMME LOCATION

Dates: One week training starting as of Monday September 19th 2022 until Friday 23rd 2022.

Day 1 is reserved for the H2020-MSCA-COFUND Impact Program postdoctoral fellows only.

Programme location: VUB TT office, Pleinlaan nr 11 1050 Etterbeek

REGISTRATION

Please register here.

Participation to the training programme event is free of charge for VUB staff.

For non-VUB attendees: -half day-session fee is 250€

                -full training week (4-days programme) at reduced price: 1500€

Places are limited and available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

AGENDA

DAY#	Date	Time	Topic/Course	Speaker/Trainer
Day 1	Sept 19	09:00-9:15	Welcome - What to expect	Philippe Westbroek
Day 1	Sept 19	09:15-12:00	PPT progress	Postdocs
Day 1	Sept 19	13:00-16:30	PPT progress	Postdocs
Day 2	Sept 20	09:00-12:00	Project Management 1	Filip Janssens
Day 2	Sept 20	13:00-16:30	Work-life balance in Academia	Elke Van Hoof
Day 3	Sept 21	09:00-12:00	IP	Hugo Loosvelt
Day 3	Sept 21	13:00-16:30	Project Management 2	Filip Janssens
Day 4	Sept 22	09:00-12:00	Impact case development: Mod 1 Ecosystems	VUB BUDA (Business Development Academy)
Day 4	Sept 22	13:00-16:30	Mod 2 Core Asset Analysis	Solvay Business School
Day 5	Sept 23	09:00-16:30	Hands-on work (full day)	VUB BUDA (Business Development Academy) Solvay Business School

VRIJE
UNIVERSITEIT
BRUSSEL

CONTACT OF TRAINERS

Project Management

Filip Janssens, Managing Partner at D-NA

Work-life balance in Academia

Elke Van Hoof, Professor at VUB. Founder at Ally Institute. CEO at Huis voor Veerkracht.

Intellectual Property

Hugo Loosvelt, Department Head of Intellectual Property at VUB TechTransfer

Developing an impact case for researchers

Geoffrey Aerts, Professor at VUB, Director VUB BUDA Business Development Academy
Hassan Haddouchi, Drs at VUB BUDA Business Development Academy

Thomas Crispeels, Professor at VUB Technology & Innovation , Solvay Business School
Marc Goldchstein, Department Head of Entrepreneurship Education at VUB TechTransfer

PROGRAMME TRAINING TOPICS OVERVIEW

Project Management (Part I and Part II)
Filip Janssens, Managing Partner at D-NA

The goal of both workshops is to increase insights and skills about project management, so participants can apply these skills in their own projects and other assignments in the future. In project management we can distinguish 2 dynamics:

> Linear dynamic which is all about planning, budget, follow up, reporting…
> Circular dynamic which is all about managing emotions that go hand in hand with change

In the first workshop we make use of a 'project management game', which is a playful and didactic way to discover:

> the structure of project management;
> the key actions in the different phases of project management (both linear and circular);
> the roles and responsibilities in project management.

In every step of this workshop participants are encouraged to reflect on:

> own examples
> own skills
> what is needed to evolve as a project leader
> …

In the second workshop we go deeper into the specific learning needs of the participants.
Examples of topics we can handle are:

> stakeholder management
> managing emotions
> planning (detailed and long-term)
> project reporting
> …

Work-life balance in Academia

Prof. dr. Elke Van Hoof at VUB, Founder at Ally Institute, CEO Huis van Veerkracht.

Work-life balance can be defined as an individual's appraisal of how well they manage work- and nonwork-related obligations in ways that the individual is satisfied with both, while simultaneously maintaining their health and well-being. The ability to strike a perceived sense of balance between work and life represents a challenge for many in academic and research sectors around the world. Before major shifts in the nature of academic work occurred, academia was historically seen as a rewarding and comparatively low-stress working environment.

Academics today need to manage many tasks during a workweek. The current academic working environment often prioritizes productivity over well-being, with researchers working long days, on weekends, on and off campus, and largely alone, potentially on tasks that may not be impactful. Academics report less time for research due to increasing administrative burden and teaching loads. This is further strained by competition for job and funding opportunities, leading to many researchers spending significant time on applications, which takes away time from other duties such as performing research and mentorship. The current hypercompetitive culture is particularly impactful on early career researchers (ECRs) employed on short-term contracts and is a major driver behind the unsustainable working hours reported in research labs around the world, increases in burnout, and decline in satisfaction with work–life balance. While many of the challenges junior academics face are systemic problems and will take some time to alter, some level of individual adjustments and planning – self management, may help ECR's on an individual level.

During this session, we will present on overview of the research as well as present some actionable insights to improve the quality of work-life balance. Furthermore, we will focus on some secondary conditions such as managing different perspectives or how to speak up to facilitate to actual implementation of the actionable insights.

References:
Bartlett MJ, Arslan FN, Bankston A, Sarabipour S (2021) Ten simple rules to improve academic work–life balance. PLoS Comput Biol 17(7): e1009124. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal. pcbi.1009124
ROBERT ALAN LEWIS (2016). Work-life balance in academia: Experiences of lecturers in Switzerland. International Journal of Business and Management, Vol. IV(1), pp. 69-84., 10.20472/BM.2016.4.1.004
Diego-Medrano, Elsa & Ramos Salazar, Leslie. (2021). Examining Work-Life Balance of Faculty in Higher Education. International Journal of Social Policy and Education

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Intellectual Property

Hugo Loosvelt, PhD, Department Head Intellectual Property at VUB TechTransfer

In this session Hugo Loosvelt will present key concepts of patents and other IP rights.

Hugo has been a technology transfer officer since 2006. He manages the patent portfolio of the university in close collaboration with the inventors and research teams involved. He negociates R&D and licensing contracts with VUB's industrial partners. He is actively involved in creating awareness within the science community about Intellectual Property and licensing issues and is recognised as a registered technology transfer professional by the Alliance of Technology Transfer Professionals (ATTP).

Hugo Loosvelt graduated as an industrial engineer in industrial chemistry and obtained his PhD in physics.

Hugo is on LinkedIN

Developing an impact case for researchers

TEAM

Geoffrey Aerts, Professor at VUB, Director VUB BUDA Business Development Academy
Hassan Haddouchi, Drs at VUB BUDA Business Development Academy

Thomas Crispeels, Professor at VUB Technology & Innovation , Solvay Business School
Marc Goldchstein, Professor at VUB, Department Head of Entrepreneurship Education at VUB TechTransfer

Module 1 – Ecosystems - 22 September 2022

The first sessions are dedicated to understanding how industries (and society as a matter of fact) are organized into ecosystems. We elaborate on the basic concepts, actors, supply chains and workflows that constitute those ecosystems. We investigate typical and highly relevant industry dynamics such as network effects, standards and clustering. Focus is put on the underlying impetus of change in these ecosystems: innovation. We learn how innovations are adopted and evolve over time.

Module 2 - Core Asset Analysis - 22 September 2022

This module introduces the key challenge of every organization: formulating a strategy that leads to a viable spot in its relevant ecosystem. We discuss the three key questions a strategy must address:
(1) What do you bring to the table?;
(2) What is your value proposition?; and
(3) What is the concrete plan?

In this session, we will focus on the first question regarding an organization's core assets.

Hands-on work - 23 September 2022 (full day)

During this day, the IMPACT fellows start drafting their ecosystem and analyse their core assets.
Our team provides tools and coaches the fellows during this day.