

Aligning Project Management and Impact: A Practical and Strategic Dialogue for European University Alliances

15-17 April 2026

University of Granada, Arqus Alliance

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 15 April		
<p><i>Arrival of participants. Speakers briefing and get together.</i></p> <p><i>A welcome cocktail in the centre of Granada is planned at 19:30.</i></p>		
Thursday, 16 April FOCUS: Exploring Challenges & Opportunities		
9h00-9h30	Registration	
9h30-9h45	<p>WELCOME SESSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arqus Alliance hosts. Jonas Salz. Chair of the FOREU4ALL Project Management Topical Group. Project Coordinator – YUFE Alliance. Glória Nunes Rodrigues. Co-chair of the FOREU4ALL Impact Topical Group. Impact Task Force Leader – ENLIGHT Alliance. <p>Objective: To welcome participants, set the overall context and present the workshop objectives, as well as practical information.</p>	Plenary Hybrid
9h45-10h30	<p>KEYNOTE PANEL Why Project Management and Impact matter for the Future of European Universities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jan Palmowski. Secretary-General of The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities. Bjørn Stensaker. Professor at the University of Oslo. European Commission representative. <p>Objective: To highlight the strategic relevance of aligning management and impact for the European Education Area & European Research Area.</p>	Plenary Hybrid
10h30-11h00	<p>SETTING THE SCENE What is Management and Impact in the European University Alliances context?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jonas Salz. Chair of the FOREU4ALL Project Management Topical Group. Project Coordinator – YUFE Alliance. Glória Nunes Rodrigues. Co-chair of the FOREU4ALL Impact Topical Group. Impact Task Force Leader – ENLIGHT Alliance. 	Plenary Hybrid

	Objective: To clarify the topical groups' vision on what is management and impact. To identify differences and common elements. To explore how they can reinforce each other. Set expectations and establish a common language.	
11h00-11h30	COFFEE BREAK "Wall of Failures"	
11h30-13h00	WORKSHOP on CHALLENGES (1) Challenges in aligning Project Management and Impact Main Challenges Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning for Impact: impact in EUAs strategic planning and proposal writing. • Data Collection and Analysis: how to align and combine different data collection processes. • Communication and Societal Accountability: how to communicate EUAs performance and impact. • Management: how to inform strategic decision-making; how to maximise/mitigate desired/undesired effects. • How to Align Project with Alliance-logics? 	Workshop rooms
13h00-14h00	LUNCH Poster Area	
14h00-15h00	WORKSHOP on CHALLENGES (2)	Workshop rooms
15h00-15h30	COFFEE BREAK	
15h30-17h00	RAISING LITERACY around: Main Topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embedding Impact in Everyday Project Management: approaches to planning, evaluating and managing Alliance outcomes. • The Power of Storytelling: reporting and communicating our Alliance achievements. • How to make the most of AI tools for Effective Project Management and Impact. • How to embed Diversity and Inclusion in Project Management for Impact. • Nurturing Resilience in Complex Working Environments: being a Healthy Project and Impact Manager. 	Parallel rooms
17h00	END of FIRST DAY	
	CONFERENCE DINNER	

FRIDAY, 17 April		
FOCUS: BUILDING OUR TOOLBOX AND A JOINT ROADMAP		
9h30-10h00	RESTITUTION of 1st Day – Challenges Rapporteurs of first day workshop.	Plenary Hybrid
10h00-11h15	WORKSHOP TOOLBOX (1) Creating a Toolbox: How can we mutually reinforce each other? Objective: to discuss potential solutions & tools to the previously identified challenges.	Workshop rooms
11h15-11h45	COFFEE BREAK “Wall of Good Practices”	
11h45-13h00	WORKSHOP TOOLBOX (2) Creating a Toolbox: How can we mutually reinforce each other?	Workshop rooms
13h00-14h00	LUNCH Poster Area	
14h00-15h30	WORKSHOP ROADMAP Building a Joint Roadmap Objective: to define a collective roadmap of action, including joint commitments and defining who, when, how to achieve these commitments.	Workshop rooms
15h30-15h50	COFFEE BREAK	
15h50-16h30	CONCLUSIONS & CLOSING SESSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapporteurs Toolbox & Joint Roadmap Workshops. • Iwona Jablonska. Team Leader - Programme Manager. European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). European Commission. • Bjørn Stensaker. Professor at the University of Oslo. Objective: to consolidate and reflect on the key insights emerging from the workshop, including the toolbox and joint roadmap sessions. To thank the organising committee and participants.	Plenary Hybrid
16h30	END	