



## FS-Biotech Project: Skills Development Model in Higher Education

Autores: Ventura, M., Amorim, M. & Casanova, M. (2009)

### INTRODUCTION

“FS Biotech – Future Skills For Biotechnology” main goals are: to enhance the quality of teaching-learning systems in HEI; to promote cooperation between HEI and companies by fostering the involvement of companies, Industry and Professional Associations, *Alumni* and other relevant stakeholders; and to develop competitive graduates that may have an impact in the competitiveness in the Biotechnology field. This project is co-financed by the European Commission and by the 10 partners from the consortium of Ireland, UK, Germany, Poland, Denmark, Spain and Portugal. UCP-Porto is the coordinator and responsible for all activities of the project. The project started in October 2008 and will finish in September 2010.



### OBJECTIVES

- To foster cooperation between companies and HEIs and the adaptation of curricula to companies' needs in terms of valued skills.
- To allow the transference of market valued skills into the curricula.
- To develop research in the area of Self-Regulated Learning skills, in order to adapt the Tutorial Project to students' needs.
- To encourage the concept of lifelong learning among graduates.
- To foster the exchange of good practices regarding the promotion of soft skills development in HEIs students and graduates.
- To encourage the development of soft transferable skills in students.
- To develop a soft skills model based on coaching strategies.
- To increase the ability to integrate the graduates in the employment system.
- To promote self-reflection in students regarding the skills that they should develop in order to adjust themselves to circumstances and achieve pre-defined goals.
- To increase competitiveness in Biotechnology teaching on an international level.
- To decrease gender inequality regarding technological employment.
- To encourage constant evaluation in HEIs so as to remain up-to-date with the global changes.

ENCOURAGE > DEVELOPE > PROMOTE > ENHANCE > FOSTER

### SUPPORT TEAM

- Collaborate with companies and mediate the communication between them and HEI's.
- Define Curricular Development Training Model
- Coach the students
- Coach Teachers
- Organize workshops for teachers
- Develop support resources for the Tutorial Project
- Assist teachers in order to help them implement the new methodologies

Theoretical Base: Evers, Rush & Berdrow, 1998. Evans, 2001

### BUSINESSES

- Assist the FS-Biotech to develop the questionnaire to identify transferable skills
- 200 companies from 4 countries will complete the questionnaire
- Cooperate with teachers and support team in order to develop new educational approaches



### STUDENTS

- Complete a questionnaire about transferable skills in their first year of Higher Education and discuss the results
- Complete a questionnaire to evaluate their perceptions of themselves in self-regulated learning
- Be coached in order to improve their transferable skills (optional to students)
- Be tutored in order to improve their self regulated skills



### TEACHERS

- Implement Curricular Development Training Model into their subjects
- Contribute to develop the Tutorial Project
- Put in practice the Tutorial Project
- Encourage students' self-regulated Learning skills
- Adapt pedagogical methodologies

