

praxis

European Centre for Project/Internship Excellence

Nuno Escudeiro - IPP/ISEP - nfe@isep.ipp.pt

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Lifelong
Learning
Programme

Outline

1. Praxis: the European virtual market of project/internships for HE
2. Praxis/INNOTECS: including VET
3. Integrating VET into Praxis

Why Praxis?

Mobility - Employability

- EC report on Erasmus (23/09/2014)
 - International mobility during studies boosts employability
 - Better jobs, better salaries, faster
- 250.000 Erasmus students per year, increasing at ~10%/year
- 50.000+ Erasmus placements a year
 - Significant effort: Erasmus coordinators, IR offices, supervisors, students
- ... **lack of infrastructures and support services.**

Problem

- Thousands of student looking for a project/internship ...
- Company/Research labs looking for student in specific study fields ...

- Weak awareness from side to side
- Supply/Demand hard to match

- **Accept something related but not exactly inline with interests**
- **Give up**

- Mismatches have negative impact on employability and economy at large!

Solution



- Exposes the European labour market to all
- Broad recruiting base for companies and research labs
- Adds a unique European dimension to Project/Internship curricular activities
- Unfolding the European Higher Education Area.

What is Praxis?

Project/Internship Virtual Market

www.praxisnetwork.eu

- Vast offer of Academic Projects and Internships all over Europe
- Search facilities that point right to the Projects/Internships matching concrete needs
- Valuable experiences and critical information to get the most out of a Project/Internship experience
- Big community of peers facing the same challenges, social networks
- Wide visibility to HE students of all degrees. Access to young talents and fresh ideas
- Added-value services to providers.

Erasmus network

- 3 years project: October 2011 till December 2014
- 44 partners from 27 EU countries
- 1.1M€ budget co-funded by EU
- Main outcomes
 - European Virtual Market for Project/Internships
 - Annual conference (2012 - Wroclaw, Poland; 2013 - Timisoara, Romania, 2014 - Genova, Italy, 2015 - Porto, Portugal, 2016 Tessaloniki, Greece)

Consortium, developing Praxis since 01/2015

- 109 partners from 34 countries in 4 continents
- Associates are welcome ... Join us!

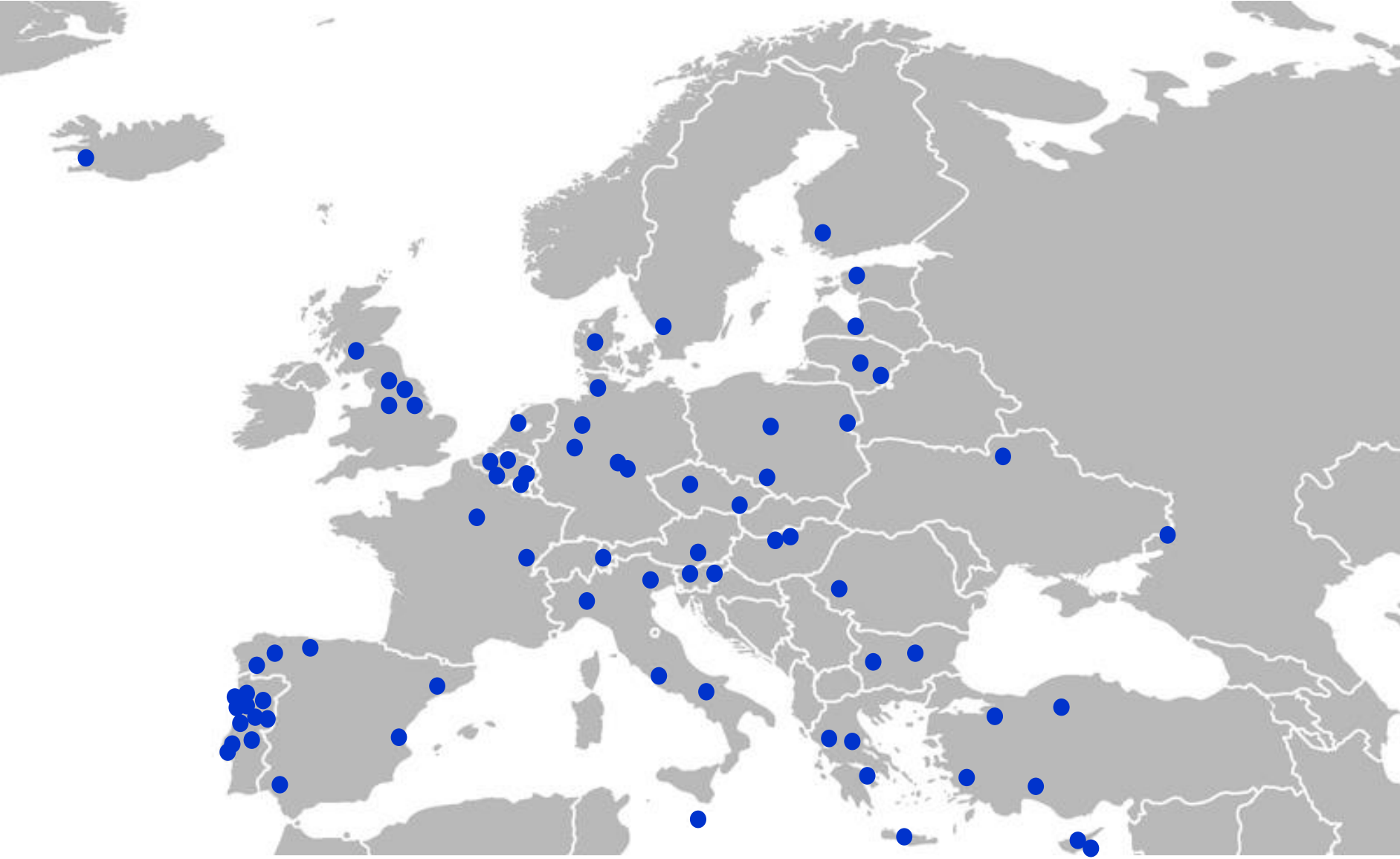
Awards

- **NextBigIdea University finals**, Santander-SIC, 2014
- **Honourable mention** at the *Best Practices in Internationalization and Mobility* contest, promoted by IPP, 2014
- **First prize** awarded to the Praxis visual identity, LUCA School of Arts contest, 2012

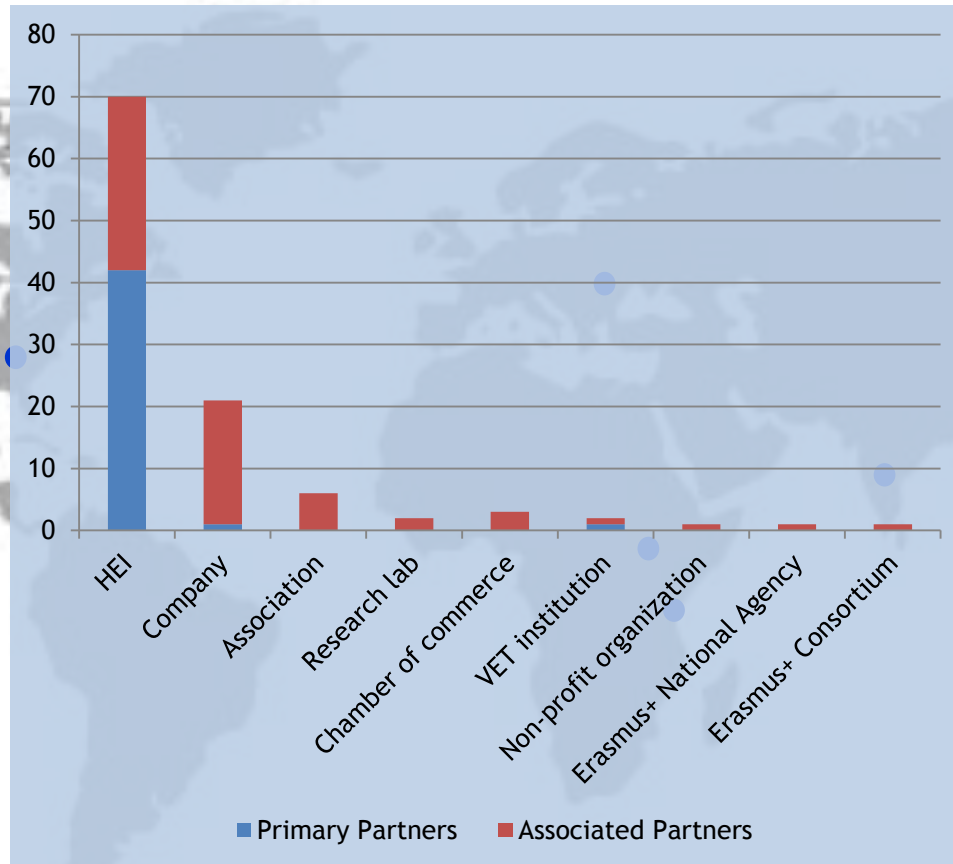
- Recognized by the Portuguese Government as a **best practice in Public Administration**, 2014
- Cooperation protocol with **Erasmus+ National Agency**
- Cooperation protocol with **European Association of Erasmus Coordinators**

Who is Praxis?

The consortium



The consortium

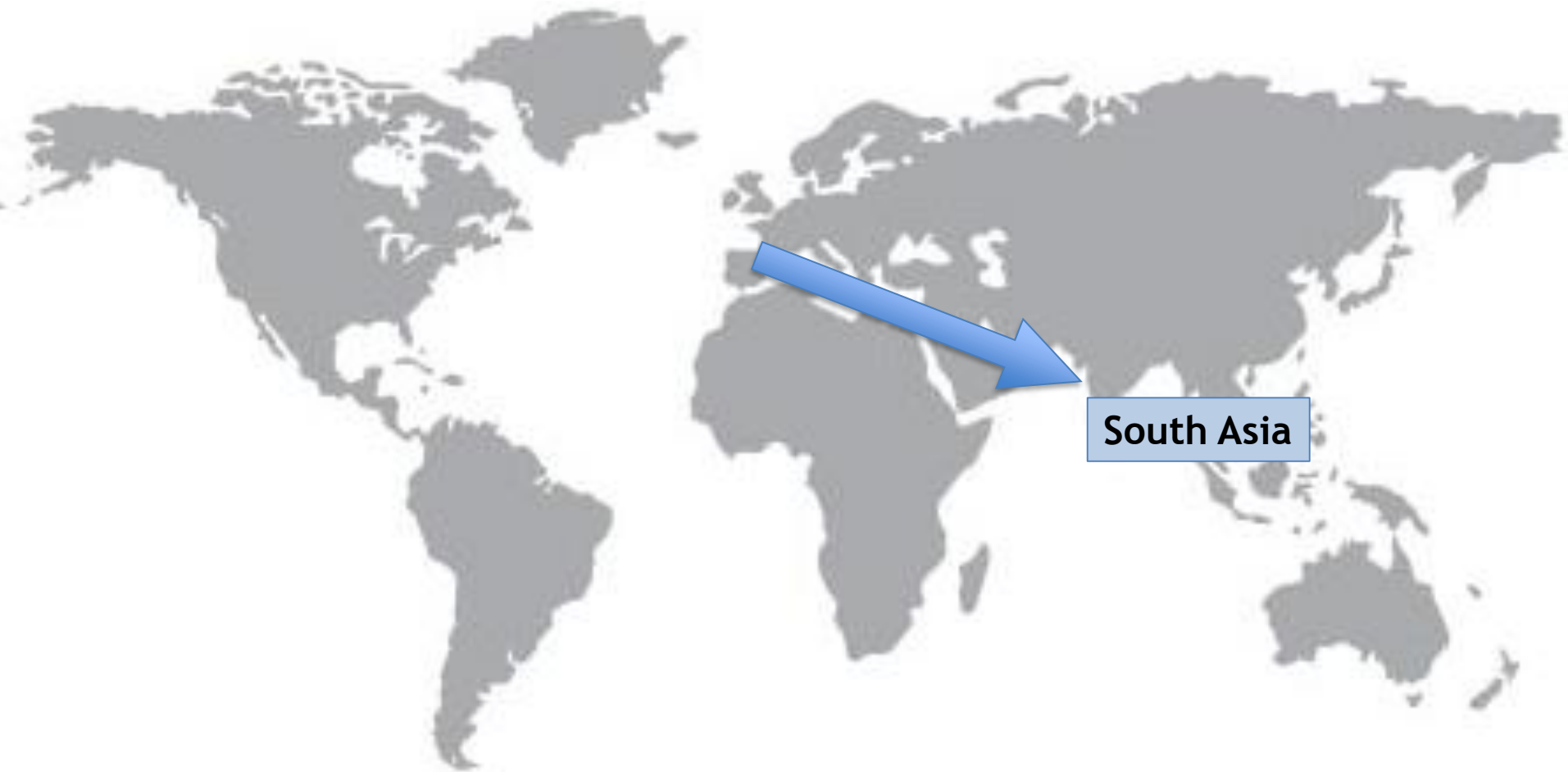


The users

- 2.500 registered students
- 300 providers
- 50 searches/day (September 2014)
- 1.000+ searches/day (September 2015)
- 85.000 visits from 176 countries
- 500.000 page views

Where is Praxis going?

Moving beyond EU borders



South Asia

Plus...

- Vocational education and training, INNOTECS project
- Added value services to providers and HEI
- Market gap analysis
- Creating bridges between Education and Labour
- Barometer on mobility and labour market supply/demand
- Supporting and guiding students (video email, insurance, housing, funding, support to internships outside EU).

Experience the Praxis vibe

Praxis/INNOTECS: including VET

HE and VET internships

HE

- Single course unit
- Last semester of degree, three to six months
- Mainly local but international is attracting ever more students
- Company, research lab, university premisses (teachers' projects), at home (students initiative)

VET

- Integrated in several courses as a teaching activity
- Continuous, variable duration from days to weeks or months
- Mainly local, International in case of Erasmus
- Company, school premises

HE and VET internships

HE

- Informal cooperation arrangements; no commitment besides current offer
- Mostly individual
- Students age around 20/21 for bachelor; 22/23 for masters; 28/30 for doctoral
- Development of product/prototype; supporting development and other departments, essaying new technologies

VET

- Formal/long lasting cooperation arrangements between school and companies
- Team work is very common
- Students age between 15 and 20
- Development of product/prototype; job shadowing

HE and VET internships

HE

- University coordinator, company supervisor, both participate in evaluation
- Final report

VET

- Company and school tutorial monitoring and evaluation
- Final report

Added value of Praxis for the VET sector

- **For students**

- Centralized hub of supporting tools/services: searching facilities, internship logbook, video email, ...
- Practical information
- Social tools: sharing, networking, communicating with peers
- ...

- **For schools**

- Gateway to European labour market
- Benchmarking
- Networking, international contacts, cooperation opportunities
- ...

- **For companies**

- Access to a broad base for recruiting youngsters everywhere in Europe
- Access to all study areas
- Networking, international contacts, cooperation opportunities
- ...

Integrating VET into Praxis

Integrating VET into Praxis

- **CONCEPT, METAPHOR**

- Meeting point, starting point
- Students/Schools meet companies/internships outside their region

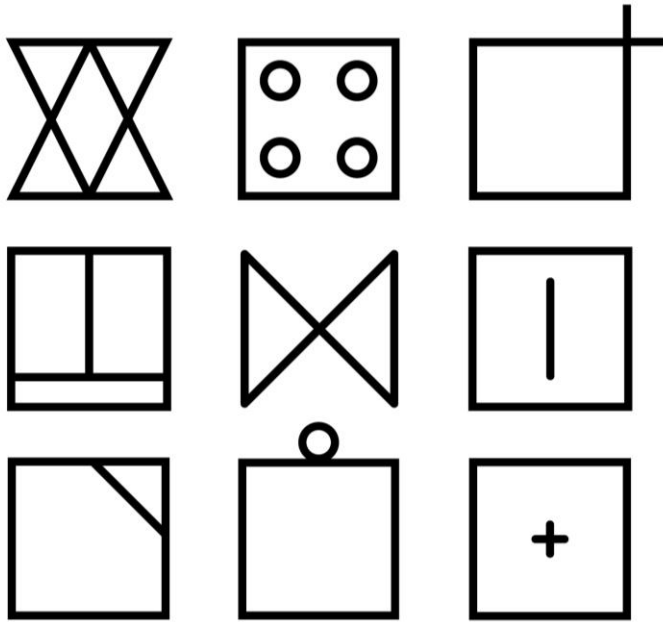
- **FEATURES**

- Search facilities and internship offers: VET type
- Practical information tailored to meet VET specific concerns
- Internship log book, video email, student portfolio, ...

Integrating VET into Praxis

• PLAN

- Gather and organize practical info
- Analysis & design; development
 - Add the VET type in the offer form
 - Add the VET type to students profile so they go to the right offers when searching
 - Logbook
 - Student portfolio
 - Content management, practical information for VET students, schools and companies
- Create piloting group of VET schools and companies for alfa and beta testing
- Pilot period
- Evaluate, correct and deploy



praxis

THANKS YOU!

Become a part of it.

Get involved.

Take the best advantage out of it!

- How can Praxis benefit VET stakeholders (schools, companies, students)?
- What's in it for VET?

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Disclaimer

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