



PACTUM

Update needs analysis Report

Catalogue of good practices in the field of Social
Political and Behavioural Sciences

Document Information

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Abstract (for dissemination)	The D1.2 good practice catalogue has the objective to collect and disseminate “good examples” in the field of Social Political and Behavioural Sciences which can be used as reference for the future developments of Higher Education Institutions and for the achievement of PACTUM project’s objectives



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About PACTUM Project

PACTUM is a capacity-building project aiming to develop a high-quality, multi-disciplinary and stimulating program in social, political and behavioural sciences. The target country of this project is Tunisia, a key partner for European Union Higher Education Institutions. Tunisian universities have recently undergone a remarkable transformation, which is bound to, and complements, the processes of modernization and democratization of the political system. Academic cooperation in a delicate and rapidly evolving field like that of social sciences – and in particular those disciplines which are central to the formation of future ruling classes and higher civil servants – is a crucial test for prospective cooperation among Tunisian HEIs and European HEIs engaging with capacity building activities.

The PACTUM project, aims at sharing best practices and knowledge in the field of social sciences, with a special focus on modernization, sustainability, and Internationalization of the Higher Education system in Tunisia. The goals of the project converge on the crucial need to boost positive impact on students and mutual enrichment between European and Tunisian academics.

PACTUM's main outcomes will be an integrating Master Program and a series of five summer schools dedicated to sustainability, good governance and public administration, democratic theories, and participation in the Mediterranean area. All these activities will be held at five Tunisian universities and will involve three European Universities (University of Siena, University of Montpellier, University of Granada and UNIMED).

The **specific objectives** of PACTUM are the following:

- The organization of a series of Summer School in synergy with the Master Course in order to set up teaching activities for students, public employees, institutions personnel, general public.
- The creation of a post-lauream master course in Social Political and behavioural sciences.
- Implement capacity building actions for teachers, researchers, technicians and administrative staff of HEIs Partners from Tunisia.
- Engage stakeholders for the enlargement of target groups and the improvement of employability opportunities for master students.

More at

<https://pactum-project.eu/>

Project Partners

- University of Siena, Italy (coordinator)
- University of Carthage, Tunisia
- University of Sfax, Tunisia
- University of Sousse, Tunisia
- University of Tunis El Manar, Tunisia
- University of Kairouan, Tunisia

PACTUM PROJECT

Projecting Academic Capacities with Tunisian Universities through Master courses

618888-EPP-1-2020-1-IT-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

- University of Granada, Spain
- UNIMED - Mediterranean Universities Union, Italy
- University of Montpellier, France
- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Tunisia

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This research has been conducted by UNIMED, Mediterranean Universities Union, as part of the work under the Work Package 1 of the PACTUM project, to perform an updated needs analysis of the Tunisian Higher Education System, with a specific focus on the Tunisian Teaching System in the Field of social, political and behavioural sciences. A special thank goes to all the colleagues directly and indirectly involved that greatly assisted the research. We thank all the Tunisian Universities partners of the project and the European partners, in particular the coordinator of the PACTUM project, University of Siena, for having provided us with sources, assistance and contributions, and for the comments and inputs that greatly improved the research process and the research outcomes.

Any error in data and statistics reported in this Report is the sole responsibility of the UNIMED research team and represent only UNIMED views.

Introduction

The first step of the project is to conduct an up-to-date needs analysis of the Tunisian Higher Education System in the field of social, political and behavioural sciences. This has been carried out thanks to a comprehensive literature review aimed at identifying the existing governance frameworks and thanks to the development of a tailored analysis of key dimensions with the support and collaboration of the Tunisian universities, both partners and not partners of the Pactum project. The study aims at identifying the current situation of the universities involved in the project and enables the identification of specific needs to address in the field of social, political and behavioural sciences. Covering a number of dimensions related to the Tunisian teaching system in these field, the study aims also to delineate both gaps and priorities in fields like social sciences, setting a number of objectives to achieve. The analysis is based on a combination of a desk research, an evaluation made with the distribution of a series of questionnaires and a focus group.

The study has been carried out starting from desk research, consisting in reviewing relevant literature and collecting previous expertise in order to develop a baseline knowledge, and standardize the understanding of concepts and terminologies related to HE governance among the consortium institutions. Upon the desk research findings, the report has been informed by the data from a survey and the results of the focus groups. Results have been elaborated by WP1 Leader, UNIMED, with the cooperation of the project coordinator. All the other partners have contributed to the analysis providing key information to the researchers and supporting UNIMED in fully understanding the key features of the Tunisians HE system.

The current Report sums up all the activities performed, representing on the one side the first achievement of the project, on the other side the knowledge base upon which the subsequent activities are designed (from the capacity building action, to the outlining of the actions plans and the governance reform process itself).

Structure of the Report

The report is composed of four main sections:

1. Methodological note
2. Catalogue of good practices in the field of Social Political and Behavioural Sciences

Therefore, the first section offers a summary of the research methodology used during the research. The second section provides a series of good practices on teaching related to the field of social political and behavioural sciences. These good practices are the result of a series of research activities conducted by the WP 1 Leader, UNIMED, with the active cooperation of the partners of the project.

1. Methodological Note

The purpose of the good practice catalogue is to collect and disseminate “good examples” in the field of Social Political and Behavioural Sciences which can be used as reference for the future developments of Higher Education Institutions and for the achievement of PACTUM project’s objectives. The catalogue has been developed in cooperation with the partners of the project and aims to make visible some of the good practices. In addition, the catalogue will be a means of dissemination, transfer and implementation of the good practices from one context to another.

The creation of a catalogue of good practices is part of the broader analysis of the current state of the art of the Tunisian teaching system in the field of social and political sciences. The overall objective is to provide the partnership with a clear picture of the Tunisian teaching system in these fields and to underline barriers and opportunities.

The examples within the catalogue have a common thread in that they cover a number of fields within which innovation in the Tunisian teaching system has been done. The list in the catalogue is by no means exhaustive with respect to relevant activities and practices in the field of social, political and Behavioural Sciences.

The following paragraphs briefly explain the research tools used to collect the information needed to complete the catalogue of good practices.

1.1 Research tools

This report, as part of the work under the Work Package 1 of the PACTUM project, is the result of more than 6 months of research, reflections, conversations, exchanges and writing conducted by the UNIMED team in strong collaboration with the project coordinator, and the contribution by all the Tunisian Universities of the Consortium: University of Carthage, University of Sfax, University of Sousse, University of Tunis El Manar, University of Kairouan.

The research has been structured in several steps, conducted contemporarily and subsequently, all framed into a comprehensive methodology. First, desk research has been performed resulting in two complementary but different results: on the one side, an overview of the Tunisian Higher Education system functioning, based on the sources shared by the Ministry and the universities member of the consortium, in particular the report developed in the framework of the SAGESSE Project¹; on the other side, the definition of the basic concepts related to the Tunisian teaching system in the field of social and political sciences, shared and agreed by the Tunisian universities as a common reference.

¹ SAGESSE Project, Report WP1 - Autonomy, Governance and Quality Assurance in Tunisian Universities: State of the art

Second, two **surveys** have been delivered by UNIMED to different groups of stakeholders. A first survey has been sent to the five Tunisian universities members of the consortium. A second survey has been delivered to the other public Tunisian universities not partner of the PACTUM project. The objective of these surveys is to gather information needed in order to elaborate a comprehensive analysis of the current situation of the social, political and behavioural sciences in Tunisia. All the surveys combine both quantitative and qualitative research approaches.

Third, a **Focus Group** has been arranged in September 2021 on Zoom, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which prevents the organisation of a face-to-face focus group. The objective of this virtual focus group was to validate the analysis conducted on the survey responses and to jointly discuss the dimensions of the universities needs which need to be addressed, improved and revised, and subsequently focused on during the capacity building action.

Through the use of these tools, UNIMED were able to identify the needs, weaknesses and limits of Tunisian HEIs in field of action of the PACTUM project, but also priorities and strengths of each university involved in the project. Moreover, the tools allowed us to identify the dimensions and subdimensions of social and political sciences teaching in need for improvement. Results were carefully analysed and the analysis allowed to integrate further data where more information was needed or in the case interesting results have been further explored.

2. Good Practices

While conducting the analysis, the research team identified the “practices” that may be upscaled and taken into consideration for next activities. Among those practices, a selection has been made to identify inspiring actions at national and regional level, which may serve as inspiring practices for stakeholders, university leaders and in general for all the actors involved in the field of study.

Among all the practices identified, a selection has been made so that the inspiring examples could represent the widest possible set of initiatives, addressing the most comprehensive range of internationalisation dimensions. The criteria for the selection of practices are listed and explained below:

- impactful: able to generate a change in the context, with an emphasis on quality over quantity.
- transferable/replicable: able to be transferred or replicated to other contexts/countries/institutions and still generate a positive similar impact.
- sustainable: able to rely on existing resources and survive over time.
- adaptable: able to be adapted to other contexts and still generate a positive impact.
- innovative: exhibiting innovative elements with respect to the status quo.
- added value: able to build on and improve processes and results, overall being capable of becoming a learning experience for others.

Each inspiring practice is described and assessed in the following tables.

Master Degree in Migration Studies: Governance, Policies and Cultures, MIGRANTS
Coordinator: University of Palermo, Italy Countries involved: Tunisia, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom
Type of initiative North-South cooperation
Abstract MIGRANTS project intends to reinforce the institution capacity of Tunisia Higher Education System. Given its geo-political situation, Tunisia can play, in the specific context of Migrations, an important role for itself and for the surrounding countries, including, of course, the EU member states. In a coherent sense with Global Compact MIGRANTS project promotes a broad multi-stakeholder partnership to address higher education in Migration Studies in Tunisia in all its dimensions by including migrants, diasporas, local communities, civil society, academia, the

<p>private sector, parliamentarians, trade unions, national human rights institutions, the media and other relevant stakeholders in migration governance both in the Partner Country and in Europe.</p> <p>The main objective of MIGRANTS Project is to improve the quality of Tunisian higher education and enhance its relevance for the labour market and society in order to support its capacities in local, international cooperation and global partnerships for safe, orderly and regular migration, in line with national priorities, policies, action plans and strategies, through a whole-of-government and whole-of society approach.</p> <p>Specific Objectives of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to develop a new Joint Master Degree in “Migration Studies: Governance, Policies and Cultures” between the three Partner Universities; - to improve Partner Universities teaching staff’s capabilities by a comprehensive programme of training, job shadowing, coaching and mentoring activities, and support in acquiring scientific qualification in Migration Studies; - to disseminate and exploit the results of the project, step by step, in order to guarantee its impact and sustainability; - to realize an orientation plan for students in entrance, in itinere, and in exit for placement. 					
<p>Keywords</p> <p>Regional cooperation, Joint Master, Migration studies, migration governance, political sciences</p>					
<p>Reference</p> <p>https://migrantsproject.eu/</p>					
<p>Evaluation criteria</p> <p>Value from 1 to 3 stars (low/medium/high)</p>					
impactful	transferable or replicable	sustainable	adaptable	innovative	added value
★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
<p>Stratégies numériques pour la formation doctorale en sciences humaines et sociales en Tunisie, RAQMYAT</p>					

<p>Coordinator: Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, France</p> <p>Countries involved: Tunisia, Italy, France, Spain, Austria</p>
<p>Type of initiative</p> <p>North-South cooperation</p>
<p>Abstract</p> <p>Improving the training of Tunisian doctoral students in social sciences and humanities is now a strategic concern for Tunisian partner institutions. Tunisia is faced with difficulties relating to doctoral students' integration into the world of work. This can be explained by a weak academic interdisciplinarity, limiting their capacity to work on the multiple and complex issues of the Tunisian transition. The uneven inclusion of digital technology in pedagogical practices also participates to such difficulties. This is the reason why modernizing doctoral courses in SSH through the development of digital practices will be the primary focus of this project.</p> <p>The challenge of the RAQMYAT project (Stratégies numériques pour la formation doctorale en sciences humaines et sociales en Tunisie/ Digital Strategies for Doctoral Training in Humanities and Social Sciences in Tunisia) is to contribute to the emergence of a new SSH doctoral training model based on the existing legal framework in Tunisia. The methodological approach will be focused on the integration of digital technology in Tunisian doctoral students' research trainings and the development of cross-disciplinary skills, necessary to their occupational integration. The activities carried out within this project will ensure the cooperation of partners with all the necessary actors, i.e doctoral students and their teachers, heads of universities and institutions, directors of doctoral schools and members of the sectoral doctoral committees and research laboratories.</p> <p>This project seeks to achieve the following specific objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encouraging the creation of a community of researchers and teachers involved in the field of digital humanities in order to overcome the institutional fragmentation of the Tunisian higher education and research field. - Giving the means to doctoral schools to develop and implement a digital strategy that would benefit their visibility and the quality of their training. The RAQMYAT project should allow each Tunisian institution to include relevant digital resources into their doctoral programs. - Realizing online training courses, integrable in the doctoral training of partners associated with the project. - Contributing to the creation of doctoral training in SSH open to the socio-economic and international world.
<p>Keywords</p>

Digital strategies, Doctoral training, international cooperation, humanities and social sciences					
Reference https://raqmyat.hypotheses.org/					
Evaluation criteria Value from 1 to 3 stars (low/medium/high)					
impactful	transferable or replicable	sustainable	adaptable	innovative	added value
★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★

Arab Master in Democracy and Human Rights, ARMA					
Coordinator: University of Saint-Joseph, Lebanon Countries involved: Lebanon, Palestine, Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, Egypt, Italy, Denmark					
Type of initiative South-South cooperation					
Abstract The Arab Master in Democracy and Human Rights is a unique programme designed to meet the needs of students, professionals and experts who want to deepen their knowledge and develop their skills in the field of democratic governance and human rights in the Middle East and North Africa. Established in 2015, it is the youngest of the Global Campus’ regional masters. The programme was coordinated by the European Inter-University Centre during its first three editions, in collaboration with the Ca’ Foscari University in Venice. It moved to Beirut in 2017 and is now coordinated by the Saint Joseph University. The Arab Master in Democracy and Human Rights is supported by a growing network of partner universities from the region: Saint Joseph University (Lebanon), Birzeit University (Palestine), International University of Rabat (Morocco), University of Carthage (Tunisia). Professors from the University of Jordan (Jordan) and the University of Cairo (Egypt) are also engaged in the programme. The partnership is also open to institutions beyond the region such as: the European Inter-University Centre (Italy), the Danish Institute for Human Rights, the University of Southern Denmark. The Arab Master in Democracy and Human Rights aims to support the next generation of experts, academics and practitioners and to give them the					

<p>practical experience needed for building up their professional career and academic activities. It offers cross-regional mobility, with one semester in Beirut (Lebanon) and another in one of the following universities: Birzeit University (Palestine), the International University of Rabat (Morocco), the University of Carthage (Tunisia) or the University of Jordan (Jordan).</p>					
<p>Keywords Regional cooperation, Joint Master, regional mobility, Democratic governance</p>					
<p>Reference https://arma-isp.usj.edu.lb/</p>					
<p>Evaluation criteria Value from 1 to 3 stars (low/medium/high)</p>					
impactful	transferable or replicable	sustainable	adaptable	innovative	added value
★ ★ ★	★ ★	★ ★	★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★

<p>INSAF-Fem - Technologie et Innovation Sociale Pour une Meilleure Employabilité des Femmes Tunisiennes</p>					
<p>Coordinator: University of Cadix, Spain Countries involved: Spain, Tunisia, Italy, Turkey,</p>					
<p>Type of initiative North-South cooperation</p>					
<p>Abstract The INSAF-Fem is a CBHE project, financed by the European commission, that aims to build the capacity of Tunisian women in the use of technology and communicative practices in order to become agents of local development, by adapting collaborative and transformative learning to the needs of the Tunisian context. The proposal aims to promote a development strategy especially for the internal Tunisian regions and cities where professional equality between men and women is not ensured. The project works to improve the status of women through an innovative approach of social compromise, solidarity practice, and the use of technology subordinated to the needs of the female community. This is done through</p>					

the creation of networks to contribute to economic growth.					
Keywords Regional cooperation, Women, technology and innovation, Employability and labour market					
Reference http://www.insaf-fem.tn/					
Evaluation criteria Value from 1 to 3 stars (low/medium/high)					
impactful	transferable or replicable	sustainable	adaptable	innovative	added value
★ ★	★ ★	★ ★	★ ★	★ ★	★ ★ ★

Demos Rights - Master's Degree in Democratic Governance and Human Rights					
Coordinator: Université Moulay Ismail, Morocco Countries involved: Morocco, Lebanon, Tunisia, Spain, Netherlands, Greece					
Type of initiative North-South/ cooperation					
Abstract This project aims to develop a two-year multidisciplinary Master Program in Democratic Governance and Human Rights, including online distance learning and part-time-on-campus, which will combine theoretical approaches and project-based learning by realizing their own project with the broad use of online learning tools. It will be based on the collaboration of higher education systems and exchange of knowledge and good practices in the field of governance and human rights. Students attending this degree will be able to understand and analyse legal and political theories of democratic governance and international and regional human rights regimes. The objective is to prepare graduates and professionals in the south-Mediterranean countries to use classical and contemporary theoretical approaches of good and human-rights based governance, inspection mechanisms that allow compliance with international human rights, transitional justice, efficient use of social media for change. Implementation of the skills acquired to in state					

<p>building, development aid and non-governmental organizations can lead to the change in the culture of political thinking and acting. The project specific objectives aim to: Support the modernization and internationalization of Democratization Studies in Tunisia, Morocco and Lebanon through transfer of know-how and academics' mobility; Support Tunisia, Morocco and Lebanon to address the needs in their higher education system in the field of Social and Behavioral Science, including those of quality, relevance and equity of access, benefiting academics, students and Syrian refugees as potential students; Contribute to closer cooperation between the EU and our partner countries by promoting research activities and development of innovative infrastructure if the HEIs, with the involvement of academics and students. And finally promote voluntary convergence with EU developments of curriculum development in Social and Behavioral Science by adapting EU-HEIs curricula to specific needs of PC-HEIs and train adequately academics and tutors.</p>					
<p>Keywords Regional cooperation, Joint Master, Governance, Human Rights</p>					
<p>Reference https://www.demos-project.eu/</p>					
<p>Evaluation criteria Value from 1 to 3 stars (low/medium/high)</p>					
impactful	transferable or replicable	sustainable	adaptable	innovative	added value
★ ★ ★	★ ★	★ ★	★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★