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Capacity Building: Our Experience So Far

Glasgow Caledonian University

Info Day E+ Projects, *Abdullah Gül University,*
Kayseri

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University for the Common Good

Agenda

- **Why do we do this?**
- **About Capacity Building**
- **Our Experience**
- **Case Studies**
- **Suggestions**
- **Questions**

1 - Why do we do this?

- **For The Common Good**

This is the University motto and our mission. CB projects impact universities, staff and society.

- **We are growing up**

GCU is not a research driven university yet, this is one of multiple strategic steps to achieve that goal.

- **Positioning and exposure**

Only a few universities are known world-wide, but it is good to be known in certain circles.

1.1 - For the Common Good

- **Social Innovation**

GCU is an AshokaU Changemaker Campus. We have a research centre for Social Innovation, The Yunus Centre.

- **Our Vision**

By 2020 GCU will have a global reputation for delivering social benefit and impact through education, research and social innovation.

- **Impact**

CB projects have a direct impact on partner university policies and staff. That creates an impact on students, and students impact society.

1.2 - We are growing up

- **We are not research driven, yet**

GCU is a young university, and we don't have the critical mass of researchers to be a research driven university (although we have some success in FP7 and H2020, and 4* ratings in REF)

- **We don't have enough international contacts**

Participating in research and other activities requires having partners. It is a vicious circle: unless you are known, you don't get invited.

1.3 - Positioning and Exposure

- **Gets you to visit unusual places**

CB projects are part of the cooperation budget of the Commission, that means that some destinations are not the traditional exchange/recruitment ones.

- **Gets you to know the local government**

Many CB projects have the backing of the national government, you get to know some key stakeholders.

- **Gets your name out there**

The university is named on websites, leaflets, social media, university meetings, government meetings...

2 - About Capacity Building

- **Ownership**

This programme falls between two stools, it is not research and it is not international.

- **Getting involved**

There are many opportunities for Programme universities, they are the ones required.

- **Funding**

There is ~20% of co-financing expected. “*Every project is a loss*” is usually quoted when referring to CB, but it is a matter of economies of scale.

2.1 - Ownership

- **This is not research**

There is no funding for research activities. Most research offices in universities don't support these projects (*"We support if asked, but we don't encourage them"*)

- **This is not international**

The main activities are not student exchange or recruitment.

- **But it benefits both**

Getting involved in a CB project may bring future research partnerships, help to set up exchange agreements or create exposure for recruitment.

2.2 - Getting Involved

- **Programme Country**

Any HEI can participate on these projects as coordinator or partner and receive funding.

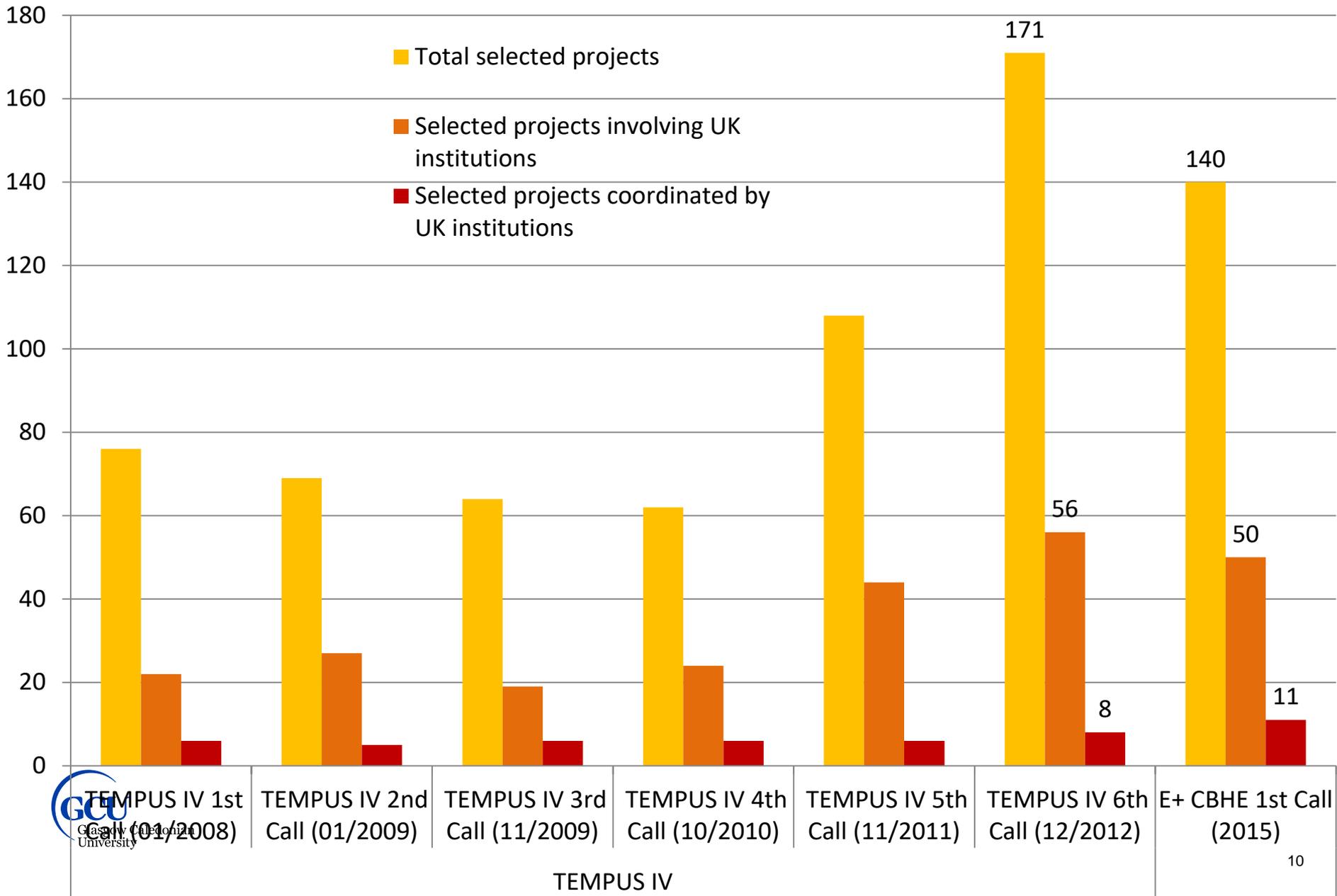
- **Programme Universities have a good reputation**

It is relatively easy to find international partners and join a project consortium.

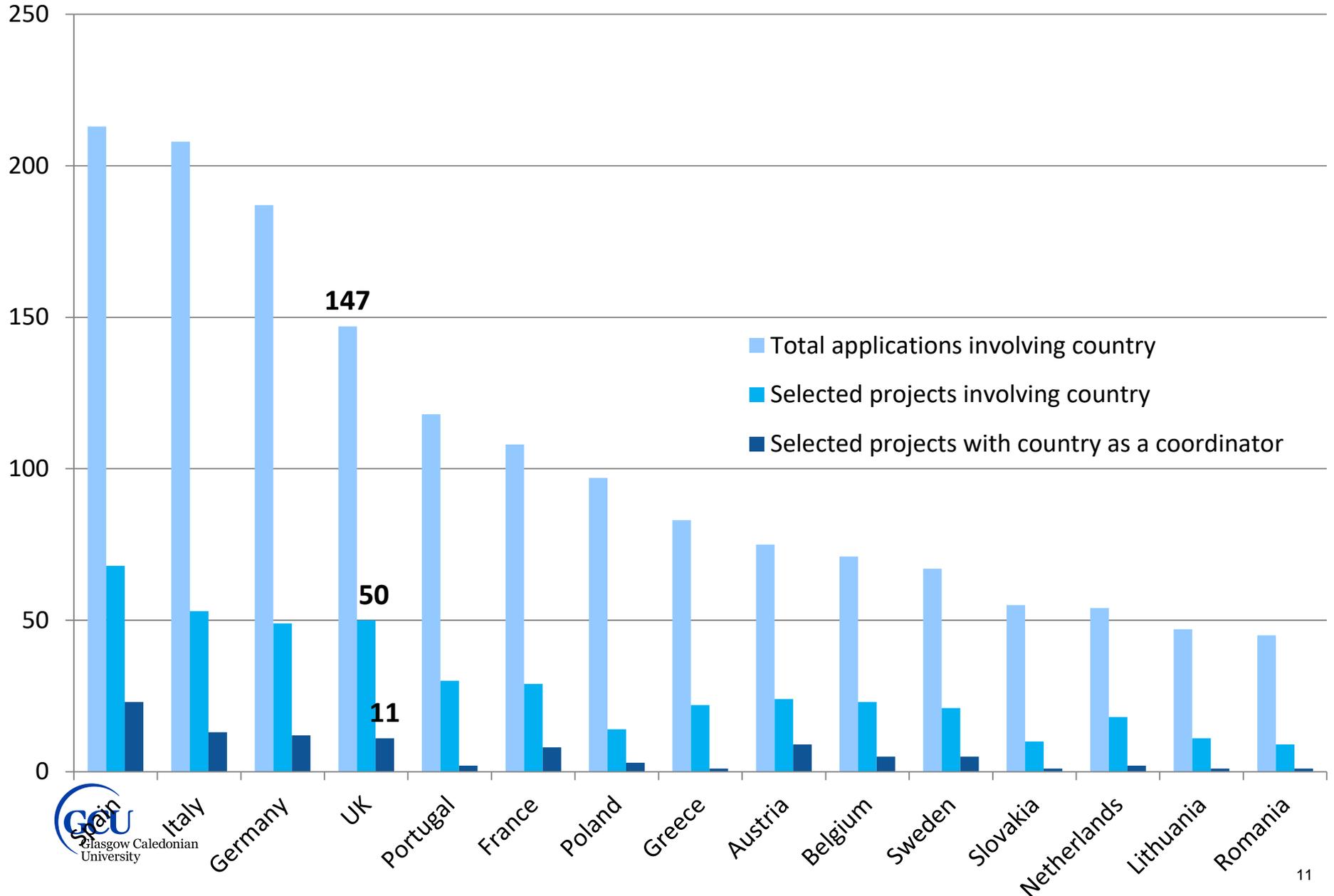
- **UK Universities in Capacity Building**

Some slides stolen from the Commission:

UK participation under Tempus IV and CBHE compared



CBHE 2015: Applications and selected projects per Programme Country



2015 CALL

UK institution

**Projects
(as partner or
coordinator)**

THE GLASGOW CALEDONIAN UNIVERSITY	7
KINGSTON UNIVERSITY HIGHER EDUCATION CORPORATION	3
LONDON METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY*	3
UNIVERSITY OF BRIGHTON	3
COVENTRY UNIVERSITY	3
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE NEW UNIVERSITY	3
UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON	2
THE UNIVERSITY OF HUDDERSFIELD	2
UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL LANCASHIRE	2
THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH	2
STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY	2

2.3 - Funding

- **Competitive application**

Research offices are more used to this type of applications. There is external support available (consultancies)

- **Unit costs and real costs**

Most of the funding is based on unit costs. That means that sometimes you win, sometimes you lose. Real costs are for subcontracting or non-Programme equipment.

- **Co-funding**

There is an expected 20% co-funding, but it doesn't need to be justified. Economies of scale may help to keep basic costs down.

3 – Our Experience

- **Internal structure**

GCU has a EU-specific support structure: The Europe Office.

- **Staff engagement**

We involve staff at all levels.

- **Impact**

Intangible outcomes and positioning

3.1 – Internal structure

- **The Europe Office**

One-stop-shop for EU funding, both pre and post award. We engage pro-actively with staff and support them throughout the project.

- **Team and projects**

We submit and manage our own projects, where we are the PIs. 60% of the TEO team is funded through project budgets.

- **Strategic positioning**

Due to its nature, TEO supports both Research and International strategies, while underpinning the University's Mission and Vision.

3.2 – Staff engagement

- **We do some teaching too**

Not everything is research, and some academics are more focused on teaching than on research. These projects allow them to have some international exposure.

- **Academic and administrative**

CB projects allow for administrative/support staff to be involved too.

- **Creates long-term links**

In many cases the most important aspect is the interpersonal relationship that is created.

3.3 - Impact

- **Impact on partner Universities**

CB projects are aimed at supporting non-Programme HEIs to reach an international level. Basic aspects for us could be innovative for them.

- **Impact on staff**

Staff from universities will have the opportunity to travel and meet colleagues from other institutions.

- **Impact on students and society**

Improvements on partner universities will benefit students and society. Some CB projects have triggered policy changes at national level.

4 – Case Studies

- **Current Projects Overview**

We are currently involved in 4 CBHE as coordinator, 8 CBHE as partner, 3 Strategic Partnership as coordinator, 3 Strategic Partnerships as partner and 1 Knowledge Alliance as coordinator.

4.1 - Current Projects - CBHE

- **LASIN:** Latin American Social Innovation Network – Colombia, Panama, Chile, Brazil – coordinator
- **LAURDS:** Latin American University Research and Doctoral Support – Panama and Colombia - coordinator
- **Common Good First:** Digital storytelling for Social Innovation – South Africa – coordinator
- **SEASIN:** South East Asia Social Innovation Network – Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar – coordinator

4.1 – Current Projects - CBHE

- **ENHANCE:** Strengthening National Research and Innovation Capacities in Vietnam
- **eSTEM:** International Diploma for School Teachers in STEM Education - Egypt
- **EUCA-INVEST:** Investing in Entrepreneurial Universities in Caucasus and Central Asia – Georgia and Kyrgyzstan
- **IHEI:** Internationalisation of Higher Education in Iran
- **TEACHEX:** Teaching Excellence in Israel
- **INDOEDUC4ALL:** Ensuring Access and Quality Education for Students with Disabilities in Indonesian Universities
- **FREE NETWORK:** Fostering Research-based Entrepreneurship and the development of spin-off companies in Central America

Suggestions

- **Start as a partner**
- **Get senior management involved**
- **Identify a region or an area of interest**
- **Link with your existing partners**

Thank you for your attention
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