

100 GOOD PRACTICES FROM THE TERRITORIES FOR A BETTER WORLD

ADEC: INNOVATION AND HUMAN CAPITAL PROGRAM - REMECO

BACKGROUND



The Metropolitan Area of Cordoba is characterized as a "university city", as it has six public and private universities and educational institutions, with more than 200,000 students from around the world.

However, there is no link with the public-private sector, and knowledge transfer necessary to increase innovation. There are many theses containing innovation, which often require financing for its implementation, nevertheless unfortunately they become library files, missing the opportunity to leverage that knowledge that was generated.

Faced with this situation, an approach strategy that would not only establish a link between the two sectors through co-financing of the thesis, but also to transfer effectively the innovation proposed by the university student to the productive and social system.

DESCRIPTION

Innovation and Human Capital comes in the framework of the **Territorial Development Program in the Metropolitan Area of Cordoba** (IDB-MIF), known as **Remeco** (2010-2014) and led to an investment of an amount of \$ 3,600,000 USD.

REMECO was aimed to increase the competitiveness of the territory through an integrated territorial development based on the innovation process, improving the business environment and the creation of territorial assets.

In addition to ADEC, the main program partners were the Municipality of Cordoba, the Government of the Province of Córdoba / Federal Investment Council (IFC) and the Multilateral Investment Fund of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB MIF). Moreover, universities, chambers of commerce and professional associations, among many other actors, are part of the network that carried out this initiative.

The activities carried out were: a) Raising awareness on issues related to entrepreneurship and innovation of students from universities and technical institutes; b) The establishment of a micro-financing fund for development of innovation projects from universities or technical schools in partnership with the productive sector, technical assistance, training and equipment purchases; c) The selection of projects to be financed partly with resources from the fund.

The program funds through a non-refundable contribution 50% of the total project, up to a maximum of US \$ 2,000 per project in individual cases and US \$ 3,000 in multidisciplinary projects.

THE ADDED VALUE

The large participation of different educational levels in the program stems from a positioning strategy accompanied by an intense work of outreach and joint involving more than 100 educational institutions and more than 1,500 young people and teachers, thanks to the gradual linking of ADEC with them.

The implementation of a **broad concept of innovation** opened the possibility of developing and transferring incremental innovations. In addition, both lines have been innovative for recipients. It should be noted particularly active role given to institutional recipients, as entrepreneurs and professional associations, which usually are not taking into account in most programs



RESULTS

188 projects for 4 calls, of which 133 were approved, were submitted. More than 130 Cordoba institutions implemented innovative solutions, more than 1,500 young postgraduate students were involved in the dissemination of the program, more than 350 took part in the design of the presented projects, and more than 180 institutions were the innovations targets.

In November 2010, 12 university departments were formally involved in the program and in 2011 another 5 tertiary institutions were added.

The program has involved 5 major universities, 11 institutions of tertiary level, 47 provincial Institutes of Secondary Education, 22 Provincial Technical Education Institutes, 9 Private Institutions of Secondary Education and 3 Agro-technical Provincial Education Institutes.

The projects also covered a **diverse universe of partners**. The first three calls included 38 companies, 14 civil associations, 10 municipalities, seven provincial government agencies, 5 educational institutions 5, 3 national public organizations and 2 chambers.

The present practice has been awarded by KIP International School and ILS LEDA at EXPO Milan 2015

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