

To Enhance Employability in Higher Education – A Real Connection to Labour Market

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Abstract

School of Technology and Management of Lamego develops since 2009 a project to reinforce its connection to the real needs of labour market. In this way, we developed until now mainly three areas: 1) multidisciplinary volunteering work teams, where students (coordinated by teachers) develop field work, concerning scientific areas of their bachelors; 2) collaborative training of students, where School invites its partners to present their testimony as entrepreneurs or as representatives of different organizations; and 3) academic cooperation with several organizations, where specialized teams of teachers (although students can also collaborate) develop surveys and strategic plans to improve organizational sustainability through strategic methodologies.

With those areas we tried to help and enhance our student's employability, as well as to dialogue permanently with companies and other organizations, as a way to understand what they really need (and expect from their human resources) to be more competitive and sustainable regarding globalization.

With this article we intend to analyze the results accomplished until now, and to present the project for the next three years, as well as to find other higher education institutions of different regions or countries that are interested in this project. It's our goal to improve this project through international cooperation, where we can learn other best practices that help us to deepen our link to labour market.