



# QUARTERLY NEWS

Num. Jul 2023



## TOP NEWS OF THE MONTH

### Activities

Social networking, quality assurance, survey and pedagogies designing...

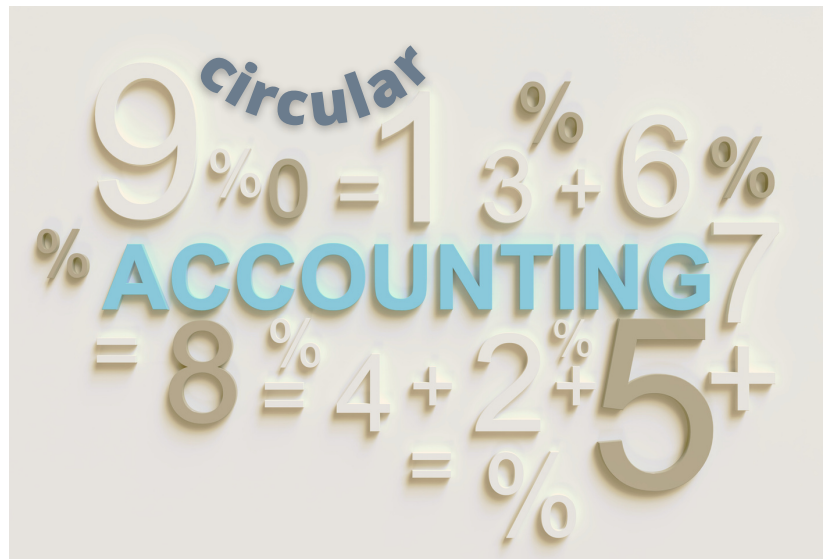
### Meetings

On-line Coordination (Alcalá Meeting)...

### New & exciting tasks

Company Interviews and ACES Dissemination Activities

## THE ACES PROJECT



Briefly, ACES project work is organized around 5 working packages founded on three pillars: Knowledge: Current State analysis and research framework (WP2), Teaching material (Topics/Content): Creation of teaching and learning materials (WP3) and Digital Tools/Pedagogies: Pilots and pedagogical tools (WP4).

Progress towards reaching these pillars entailed activities related to (WP2) a literature review on circular economy (CE) accounting and company interviews about the measurement and valuation of CE. Based on this research, (WP3) modular teaching materials with innovative pedagogical elements will be developed to fill the gap on circular accounting in the current curricula of European HEIs.

# What's new?

ACES Progress: From WP2 to WP3...

## ➤➤➤ ACES PROGRESS & QUALITY MANAGEMENT



### ACES coordination and organisation.

As part of the coordination and organisation of the ACES project, several internal meetings were held between the partners. In particular, the company interviews were prepared, with each project partner identifying and proposing a group of candidate companies, as well as the drafting/development of the questionnaire. The agenda for the second meeting of the project, to be held in Alcala de Henares (Spain) from 12 to 14 September, was also prepared and discussed. Administrative and Quality assessment tasks were also discussed and carried out, as well as dissemination activities.

We are excited to share with you some of the exciting activities undertaken by Impact Hub related to the ACES project from November 2022 to April 2023. We began by setting up the program internally to ensure seamless execution and effectiveness. In addition, we provided valuable feedback on the ACES website and the first Dissemination, Exploitation, and Sustainability plan, to ensure the overall transferability of the project. In March 2023, we had the pleasure of attending the first partner meeting in Helsinki and meeting with partner organizations in a collaborative and joyful environment. Following this meeting, we also mapped 25 organizations across Greece, Spain, Austria, Czech Republic, and the Netherlands that are part of the Impact Hub Network. Some of these organizations will be selected and interviewed by the other partner organizations to help validate findings, which we believe will be instrumental in achieving the project's objectives.

## ACES COORDINATION AND ORGANIZATION



### Quality Management

ACES had first Quality Survey in May that covered the first six months of the project. That time period included Kick-Off Meeting in November 2022 and the first Project Meeting in Helsinki in March. The results were excellent. Based on the given answers, project team has a great atmosphere and collaboration between partners is going smoothly. Project Management was given positive feedback. As always, there is room for some minor improvements. All in all, we hope that this positive mood among partners and good collaboration will last until the end of project Aces! The next survey will take place in six months.

## »»» LITERATURE REVIEW & INTERVIEWS: PRELIMINARY INSIGHTS

### Literature Review

Partners have begun drafting/writing of the literature review. Insights regarding Business Models body of knowledge suggest that circularity can be built over 4 ideas: (re-)cycling, extending and intensifying the use of products/assets, and/or dematerializing processes. As for the Managerial Accounting view on Circular Economy, some first impression is that circularity is an important topic but still there are many open questions about how to reflect it in the managerial accounting.

### Interviews

Likewise, partners have begun performing the interviews with companies of different sectors around Europe. Micro, SME's and Big firms will be contacted, operating under circular business models or transiting from linear to circular practices. It's foreseen that the interviews take place between June to September.

Some interviews have already been done.

We are already performing some interviews with companies (2 already took place and 5 more are in the pipeline). Working now on transcriptions and analysis and anonymization.

## »»» SOME INSIGHTS

One interview was conducted with a small IT company's owner. Owner established the company at 2017, but could not go 100% circular at that time because they had to find first sustainable partners to work with. The business model is 100% circular today and they all four models in their business recycle, extend, intensify and dematerialize by extending computers lifetime by repairing and updating computers. They do face some accounting challenges, for example will their asset become a liability one day, or will the circulated material be valuable inventory one day. Today it is not that yet.

**WHAT  
COMPANIES  
SAY**

[Read more about in our official webpage and LinkedIn:](#)



# Next steps

Focusing in the 2nd ACES Meeting in Alcalá (SPAIN)



## DISSEMINATION AND COMING ACTIVITIES

### »»» DISSEMINATION

**ACES project as an initiative to improve the impact of HEI in sustainable development.**

As part of the preparations for the EU-CELAC Summit, the University of Alcalá de Henares hosted the 5th EU-LAC Academic Summit on 6-8 July, bringing together a large group of academics from both regions to discuss the future of higher education in the region. Among the various topics addressed, the strategic value of the academic community in contributing to sustainable development was highlighted, opening the debate on the role of higher education institutions (HEIs) in the fight against climate change and the relevance of the circular economy. In this international event, two panels were organised by the IAES/UAH discussing around universities, climate change and the circular economy, where the ACES project was presented as an initiative on how HEI are contributing to climate change.

Likewise, the literature review about Circular Business Models results will be presented in the Spanish Maganerial and Accounting Association (AECA) international Congress, taking place from 19 to 21 september 2023.

**ACES IN THE  
5TH EU-LAC  
ACADEMIC SUMMIT  
&  
XXII AECA  
INTERNATIONAL  
CONGRESS**

### LOOKING TO ALCALÁ UNIVERSITY MEETING ◀◀◀

Our next meeting in Alcalá, Spain, is scheduled for the 12th-14th of 2023. The aim of the event is to generate, through literature and interviews, educational content for financial management teachers to use to support the circular economy. By the time of the event, the data base has been collected from three perspectives and at least twenty-five interviews have been conducted.

As one of the objectives of the ACES project is to learn new teaching methods, we will use a variety of innovative pedagogical methods wherever possible to learn about them and to encourage their use.

**SECOND ACES  
MEETING**  
Alcalá de Henares (Madrid)  
September 12, 13 and 14



Co-funded by  
the European Union

More information about the Erasmus+ programme: [www.oph.fi/erasmusplus](http://www.oph.fi/erasmusplus)

The European Commission is not responsible for the content of this publication



<https://erasmusaces.eu/>

**SOMETHING NEW IS HAPPENING IN (HEI) EUROPE...**



**THE ACES PROJECT**

