



## Press release

### **InnEO'Space PhD project organized its first Startech an innovative training designed to boost Ph'D career development!**

April, 19th 2021

**InnEO'Space PhD project** is preparing young researchers **for a successful career** by developing modernized and transferable PhD courses and learning resources based on innovation skills and employers' needs as well as in-depth knowledge of high stakes and approaches of Earth Observation in any application domains.

The main objectives of Inn'EO SpacePhD are to:

- enhance and develop researchers' innovation-oriented mind-sets and skills through Earth Observation
- raise awareness about employment opportunities in and beyond academia among researchers and scientists.
- tackle future skills mismatches
- create new synergies between PhD students and researchers and potential employers

Last week, under the leadership of the Université Fédérale de Toulouse, **the European consortium organized the first InnEO Startech program.**

The Startech program has been launched by WSL in Belgium in 2012, with the original idea to inspire and support students from engineering schools to test and grow their entrepreneurial skills.

Josiane Mothe coordinator of the European project FabSpace 2.0, has successfully transferred the Startech program for Earth Observation data-driven applications in 2019. Today, she is implementing the program with a new consortium.

**In InnEO'Space\_PhD projet, a Startech pilot has been setting for European PhD students with the aim of developing their taste for entrepreneurship spirit through idea of a company/application creation. Students will progressively expand this idea to reach a marketable prototype/project at the end of the coaching.**

During 4 days, the participants took part in a dense and very interesting training including :

- 8 collective coaching sessions of 2 hours each (on creativity, business models, canvas, lean start up, IP, etc) coached by skilled researchers.
- working sessions in group of 3 or 4 people
- interviews with expert key players, in order to move from theory to practice

Yulia, of the students, said: *"The value of the interviews and interactions with potential clients and customers went beyond any expectations. In full honesty, I did not expect much from it beforehand. It gave me a great insight into our particular project, and more importantly – the generic process of "going outside the building" and the true value behind it."* Josiane Mothe, the Inneo Startech manager, added: *This first Inneo Startech was a real success. We could see how beneficial it was for students to develop business skills in order to build new opportunities. We seek further edition, with the same level of interest and commitment from our students and the same level of guidance and leadership from our experts.*





This first and small edition of the Inn'EO Space Startech is a pilot. It was organized online, due to the Covid pandemic, but was supposed to happen in Toulouse where there is a large number of companies/organizations in a wide range of domains that uses EO data.

A second session, scheduled in July 2021, **will aim to implement this innovative program at a European level.** This second Startech training will involve several PhD students from various European countries. They will be coached remotely by researchers and non-academic experts.

Next activity will be in July 2021 with the 1<sup>st</sup> InnEO Startech summer school that will be organized in Brasov on Machine Learning and Earth Observation.

**Contact :** Josiane mothe [josiane.mothe@irit.fr](mailto:josiane.mothe@irit.fr)

**Follow us:**  inneo-space  @InneoSpace -  [www.inneospace.eu](http://www.inneospace.eu)



*More Information: Supported for 30 months by the European Commission within the agreement number 1010062275, InnEO'Space\_PhD has started on 1st December 2020. This project is coordinated by Josiane MOTHE, researcher at IRT laboratory for the INSPE, University Jean Jaurés in Toulouse (FR) and, followed with two additional universities, Universitatea Transilvania Din Brasov (RO) and Università Degli Studi Di Roma Tor Vergata (IT) along with Aerospace Valley (FR), the biggest european cluster for aeronautics, space and drones and finally Remedia Italia (IT), an international company expert in communication and e-learning products specialized in earth observation.*

