



Liberté • Égalité • Fraternité  
RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE



UNION EUROPÉENNE

MINISTÈRE DU TRAVAIL,  
DE L'EMPLOI  
ET DE LA SANTÉ

# Innovation Islands: Creating Shared Value for Learning and Work

**e-sapè**

Dr Andrew Robinson & Prof Jacques  
Vauthier

University of Corsica

# The Project

## 2011-13

### ESF Axe 4



- University of Corsica (France) - lead
- University of Highlands and Islands (Scotland)
- Compagnons du Devoir (France)
- University of Newcastle (UK)
- University of Budapest (Hungary)



RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

MINISTÈRE DU TRAVAIL,  
DE L'EMPLOI  
ET DE LA SANTÉ



UNION EUROPÉENNE

# The Challenge

- To develop an eLearning pilot for remote, rural areas in island communities
- To foster training and apprenticeships
- Savoir, savoir-faire, savoir-etre
- ICT as a tool for work and also self-fulfilment
- “Faire de sa vie un chef d’oeuvre”

# The pathfinders

- Scotland's newest university : UHI – access to learning across large distances, islands, and mountains
- Compagnons du Devoir : a Grande Ecole des Metiers – reviving “metiers nobles”
- Marine Biotechnology, Newcastle University- creating pan-European clusters
- Budapest – mastering change, succeeding in a widening Europe

# Culture and Tradition Come First

- Respecting a bilingual context :  
French/Corsican; English/Gaelic
- Special identity within national and European framework
- Working with the grain of local feeling and sense of place
- Very special physical environments of European importance

# But..



- The need to create sustainable employment
- To create SMEs or monoenterprises
- Reducing isolation, increasing access
- Transport costs and frequency
- Reducing dependency on imports
- Harnessing ICT to citizen's needs

# What will success look like?

- Creating new, useable knowledge by and for Corsicans
- Shaped and shared with pioneer partners
- Learning good practice, avoiding mistakes made elsewhere
- An ICT-enabled learning and leading platform
- Sense of self-reliance and confidence
- Connected islands as innovating clusters

# Project as Portal to Growth

- “Plus on partage, plus on possède, voilà le miracle”
- The sea and ICT : waves of innovation
- Project as a process of renewal of identity and culture, because of confluence of ideas
- The peripheries of Europe : tomorrow’s model for society?



Thank You  
Merci  
from  
l'Ile de Beaute