

CloudEARTH*i* Initiative: enable multiscale sustainable transformative change

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The CloudEARTH*i* Initiative comprises four projects that aim to build innovation capacity for environmental science, sustainability, circular economy and embeds values of inclusion and diversity in society by strengthening cooperation among different stakeholders. The initiative has a consortium of more than 25 partners representing academic, business, NGO and governmental sectors from 15 European countries. The first project, CloudEARTH*i* has trained over 1100 students, academics, and non-academics, and accelerated nine startups, while helping two students to create their own startups. The Inspiring the Minds project aims to develop a new framework for co-creating educational programs/courses that will address the lack of competencies related to inclusion, diversity, and climate action. The SEEDplus project aims to foster a new generation of entrepreneurs who are committed to addressing pressing environmental challenges and equipped with the skills to scale their solutions across Europe and beyond. Lastly, the BOOSTalent project brings together an eight-partner consortium to enhance institutional innovation and entrepreneurship practices by fostering innovation in artificial intelligence and machine learning across higher education institutions, students, and businesses.

The CloudEARTH*i* initiative aims to bridge knowledge gaps by creating nine different transformation mechanisms/platforms that align with Sustainable Development Goals. The initiative aims to position HEIs as engines of impact to lead society in the net-zero transition and support innovation in sustainability. The Inspiring the Minds project will develop an interdisciplinary course that focuses on inclusion and diversity in society and green skills required to take climate actions. The SEEDplus project will develop and implement a new entrepreneurship course, tailored to students with technical backgrounds, organize startup competitions, and accelerate the most promising early-stage ventures. Lastly, the BOOSTalent project aims to establish a long-term partnership between industry, academia, and government to develop cutting-edge education programs and address the climate crisis and wider sustainability issues. By fostering innovation in these areas, the CloudEARTH*i* initiative seeks to build innovation capacity across HEIs, students, and businesses, ultimately benefiting European society.