

STEAM+ education network studio

European STEAM+: Innovating STE(A)M in Higher Education with Transdisciplinary Talent Programs project

Innovating STE(A)M in Higher Education with Transdisciplinary Talent Programs (STEAM+) is a large-scale innovative project with a holistic approach, aiming to provide educational policy makers with instruments to prepare new generations for handling the challenges of our time. Europe faces grand challenges, such as climate change, sustainable economics and energy transition, which have a STEM subject at their core, but need transversal skills and knowledge from All other subjects (the extra A) to create STEAM solutions. We need to use brains, hearts and hands of all talents to tackle these challenges. The STEAM+ project uses transdisciplinary talent programs as laboratories of innovation in higher education. The project is co-created by a dedicated and qualified team of 18 partners from 9 countries, bringing together educators, policy makers and future employers, united in their aim to provide new generations with future-proof skills.

We aim to increase awareness among stakeholders about the need for a transdisciplinary approach to tackle the '21st century Grand Challenges' at European and global levels. An important actor is the policy maker at European and national levels. They must facilitate the preparation of new generations for handling grand challenges, by stimulating development of transversal skills.

The day after the Higher Education Summit (HES) the STEAM+ project is holding a European Policy Meet-up in Leuven with its own policy members. However, we would like to invite our European policy partners to join the HES for half a day and allow them to participate in some of the other events at HES on that day. This will once again stress the need for a reform of Higher education to meet the challenges our society will face in the future.

The HES and the STEAM+ project have a shared objective of bringing about innovation within the higher education system to prepare the students of today for the challenges of tomorrow. We therefore believe that a network event at HES is an incredible opportunity to facilitate collaboration between Belgian and European policy makers.

At the network event we propose to invite our European policy partners, the Belgian policy partners and any other interested actors related to education such as teachers, students, and higher education institutions. Bringing these different actors together at the summit will harness the development of a European STEAM+ education network.

For further information I invite the reader to look at our website: <https://www.steamtalent.eu/>. I am also able to answer any questions concerning the proposal via e-mail (jan-peter.sandler@kuleuven.be)