

Boosting scientific and technological innovation: The case of the European Network of Research and Innovation Centres and Hubs (ENRICH) in Brazil, China and USA

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The European Network of Research and Innovation Centres and Hubs (ENRICH) is a network-based initiative gathering Europe-wide efforts and actors to connect and support European science, technology and innovation actors in targeted innovation frontrunner markets - Brazil, China and USA - ultimately fostering European Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) excellence and leadership at a global scale. The main objective of ENRICH is to foster the European excellence and leadership throughout the provision of services to European organisations, such as Universities, Research Centres, Research Councils, Innovation Agencies, Funding Agencies, STI networks and platforms, among others, to cooperate, connect, expand and scale business and innovation development with the three strategic partner countries mentioned above.

Promoting the excellence of European STI means meeting the challenges of competitiveness and of creating high-quality jobs within the international scene. The key for meeting these challenges internationally is to find trusted partners and work in synergy with them, to create fertile ecosystems where new ideas meet new skills and competences.

This is the background context in which ENRICH operates. ENRICH services intend to address all the needs for support of an European STI organisation when addressing the abovementioned international markets, ranging from training activities up to soft landing and co-working, including as well networking, intelligence, consultancy, among others.

As a network-based initiative, ENRICH aims to raise awareness and interest about the Centres and its services and the advantages of developing interactions, ultimately capturing the attention of potential new members and participants. This strategy is built upon a concept called “Community” which includes different levels of engagement of

various types of stakeholders, acting as an interface among distinct players of the innovation value chain. All centres have a diversified service offer, which aims at connecting local entities, such as researchers, academia, businesses or public entities, to EU stakeholders in order to boost new collaboration schemes.

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