



Project overview

The NearUS initiative will establish a Network of European Research and Innovation Centres throughout the United States. It will act as a central contact point for European research and innovation actors seeking to grow and reinforce collaboration across the Atlantic. The mission of the Network is to provide standardised as well as tailor-made, research & innovation internationalisation support services to European researchers and innovators, to accelerate access to the US market, and maximise chances of success. The initiative started in April 2017.

NearUS targets to serve the following actors:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Accelerators	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incubators	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research Parks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Networks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SME's
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clusters	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• R&D institutes and labs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start-ups

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrepreneurs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research managers and administrators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding Agencies 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University Associations

The NearUS Network will include the following entities:

- One “Coordination Node” in Europe (at EBN, Brussels)
- One “Coordination Node” in the US (at InBIA)
- Two physical “Landing Hubs”:
 - San Francisco Centre: NearUS West Coast Landing Hub (managed by EAEC)
 - Boston Centre: NearUS East Coast Landing Hub (managed by InBIA)
- Five Associate Hubs across the US, and plans to expand the NearUS Network beyond these first five Hubs, over four years.

The NearUS Network is built on local US experience and strong existing ties between the EU and US, while providing new researcher- and entrepreneur-serving capabilities which address the resource gaps necessary to enable access for all EU Member States and Associated Countries, as well as every state in the US.

A variety of services are proposed for researchers and entrepreneurs engaged by the Network during the pilot phase, then the Centres’ pilot activities will be evaluated to inevitably retain the initiative’s most successful components to ensure a sustainable plan for NearUS in the future.

Services will target various, commercially viable technology maturity levels (Research2Research, Research2Market and Business2Business stages) and will include research connection symposia, business matchmaking opportunities, working visits and innovation tours to US organisations to explore technology/product partnerships and/or business development middle / long term opportunities, pitching to potential investors, entrepreneurial bootcamps, work space access, hands on business acceleration programmes, and more. As the NearUS initiative is highly competitive to best serve the strongest researchers and entrepreneurs, all services must be applied for through an open and transparent selective mechanism.

60 associated partners in the EU and US support the NearUS Network, with more associated partners expected in the future.

Current Opportunities in NearUS

NearUS Match & Pitch @ CES, Las Vegas, 7-11 January 2018

Deadline for applications: 12 November 2017

Target audience: Early stage entrepreneurs and innovators looking for partnering and investment opportunities in the US (focusing on the West Coast) for their ICT, IoT & Wireless Industry Focus, and related “Convergence” innovations

Offer: 10 selected innovators will

- receive complimentary CES Exhibits Plus Passes, which provides access to all CES exhibits, Super Sessions, Keynote addresses and select conference sessions, in addition to an invitation to the US Department of Commerce International Reception,
- have the opportunity to present their prototypes and/or V1 to selected potential US partners during CES 2018. They will be matched with partners, buyers, channels and investors during a matchmaking event and introduced to early-stage focused investors during a specially organized NearUS pitch session.

More info: <https://near-us.eu/call-applications-nearus-matchpitch-ces>

NearUS Silicon Valley Innovation Tour, 15-19 January 2018

Deadline for applications: 12 November 2017

Target audience: Early stage startup founders spun out of universities and research labs or otherwise licensing related technologies; other innovation stakeholders highly interested in exploring the US market as a middle to long term vehicle for commercializing promising EU research, including incubator managers, tech transfer office managers, etc.

Offer: 10 selected participants will

- be introduced to accelerators, renowned US university research gems, and successful US and EU scale-ups and unicorns located in San Francisco Bay, Sacramento and the Silicon Valley,
- receive guidance on visa/immigration/IP/pitch support and be introduced to potential partners including corporations and potential investors,

- meet state and city officials and visit the NearUS West Coast Hub that can provide EU innovators with soft-landing solutions and future guidance on local business trends, practices and programs.

More info: <https://near-us.eu/call-applications-innovation-tour-san-francisco-sacramento-and-silicon-valley>

NearUS Research2Market Bootcamp, 4-16 March 2018

Deadline for applications: 5 December 2017

Target audience: Established start-ups from universities or public/private labs and pre-revenue technology companies spun out of universities or public/private labs

Offer: 10 selected participants will benefit from a customised bootcamp that

- starts and ends in Boston, and provides participants with perspectives on their market in other US regions as well.

- in between is hosted by a Soft Landing site in the US which offers programming/services themed to each selected participant's industry sectors

In preparation for the Boot Camps, a two-day pre-departure workshop will be held in Brussels in early February

More info: <https://near-us.eu/call-applications-research2market-r2m-bootcamp>

NearUS Business2Business Bootcamp, 4-16 March 2018

Deadline for applications: 5 December 2017

Target audience: Post-revenue (at least €100,000 p.a) businesses incorporated in Europe that have at least one piece of intellectual property (either internally generated or licensed from another entity) and/or have an inventory of product.

Offer: 10 selected participants will benefit from a customised bootcamp that

- starts and ends in Boston, and provides participants with perspectives on their market in other US regions as well.

- in between is hosted by a Soft Landing site in the US which offers programming/services themed to each selected participant's industry sectors.

In preparation for the Boot Camps, a two-day pre-departure workshop will be held in Brussels in early February

More info: <https://near-us.eu/call-applications-business2business-b2b-bootcamp>

Additionally, NearUS invites you, to join us for an information session and a brainstorming workshop as also for a Training on how to Internationalise to the US in Brussels on November 14, at the EBN Office, 168 Avenue de Tervueren, Brussels. The agenda and the links to the registration for the two events are available [here](#) and [here](#).

U.S.-based opportunities for EU researchers and firms

NearUS, the H2020 initiative aiming at building up ENRICH - European Network of Research and Innovation Centres and Hubs - in the USA announces the opening of the following calls:

1. NearUS Match & Pitch at CES 2018 (January 7-11, 2018)! [\(More info\)](#)
2. NearUS Innovation Tour to San Francisco, Sacramento and Silicon Valley (January 15-19, 2018)! [\(More info\)](#)

3. NearUS Research2Market (R2M) Bootcamp in Boston, with an individualised programme across the USA (March 4-16, 2018) and a pre-departure workshop in Brussels in February 2018! [\(More info\)](#)

4. NearUS Business2Business (B2B) Bootcamp in Boston, with an individualised programme across the USA (March 4-16, 2018) and a pre-departure workshop in Brussels in February 2018! [\(More info\)](#)

Deadline for applications is:

November 12th, 2017 23.59 CET for the NearUS Match & Pitch at CES 2018 and the NearUS Innovation Tour to the West Coast.

December 5th, 2017 23.59 CET for the NearUS Bootcamps in Boston

Training: How to Internationalise to the US

Going international is not an easy step. Even though the US may seem culturally close to a lot of EU R&I actors, the US ecosystem and market have their own pace. Within this context, the NearUS Project is organising the first training event on “How to internationalise to the US” that will provide the trainees further understanding about the US market, its main

challenges and opportunities from the European perspective and support on how to successfully create relevant partnerships in the US.

NearUS invites:

1. Researchers / SMEs / Startups / Entrepreneurs
2. Incubators / Research managers and administrators
3. Universities / Clusters / Business networks / R&D institutes and labs / Research Parks

The agenda and the link to the registration are available [here](#)

NearUS Focus Group Invitation

In order to ensure that the support services NearUS offers meet the real and unmet needs of European researchers and innovators, NearUS is convening a Focus Group of stakeholders representing the three commercially viable technology maturity levels addressed by NearUS: Research2Research (R2R), Research2Market (R2M) and Business2Business (B2B).

NearUS invites you, as a potential service user or provider, to join us for an information session and a brainstorming workshop in Brussels on November 14, at the EBN Office, [168 Avenue de Tervueren, Brussels](#).

The agenda and the link to the registration are available [here](#)
