

Newsletter #18  
August/September 2025

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Dear colleagues,

As the academic year resumes, applications in the Procedure to leverage joint research activities are open. A novelty for the 2025 call, **supervisors can also offer internships**.

This time, activities will have to take place over one year : they will finish at the end of 2026, as the first phase of the EU GREEN adventure comes to a close.

Ahead comes a period of challenge as the second application for funding for alliances will have to be prepared and submitted. If you have any suggestions to improve the development of collaborations among our universities, please feel free to share them with us.

Thank you for your faith and contribution to the project.

*EU GREEN Research Team*

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## 2025 Call to leverage joint research activities



EU GREEN has established a yearly joint procedure for proposals to stimulate collaboration among our 9 universities.

**After the first two editions focused on the structuring of research clusters, the decision was taken for this third edition of the call to open up more widely, not just to the scientific scope of clusters but to all the research themes of our nine universities.**

Any academic staffs from EU GREEN partner universities can submit proposals for joint research activities aiming a short-, medium- or long-term impact on the quality offer of our institutions. This procedure is intended to leverage cooperation between our academic communities and create new or consolidate existing scientific relationships enhancing the quality of our education. Its vision is to build robust communities and strong research-based learning among the EU GREEN universities.

The call is inclusive of all research disciplines and topics, but the topic of the proposals should be linked with the [17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG\)](#). The proposals should clearly explain those links.

There are 3 pillars for the 2025 call:

- Incentive for collaborative research projects
- EU GREEN scientific conferences
- Researcher mobility Program

Deadline : 15/10/2025 10 am CET

All information here

## **2025 - Call for Research internships - deadline postponed !**

This procedure is intended to boost mobilities and leverage cooperation between students and researchers to create new scientific relationships or consolidate pre-existing ones.

This procedure is divided into 2 phases:

- the first one is a manifestation of interest from supervisors willing to host EU GREEN students,
- the second one explains the dissemination process through the EU GREEN network to recruit a student from one of the ninth universities to purvey successful internships offers.

New deadline: 08/10/2025

All information here

## ***Baseline Assessment of Sustainability practices and perceptions in EU GREEN - Survey***

One of the aims of EU GREEN is to support the integration of sustainability and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) into the teaching practices of the academic staff.

To enable this, a seed funding team has developed a staff survey that will help to establish the current state of play and gain insight into the existing sustainability-related education practices and perceptions of academic and research staff.

The results of the survey will provide benchmark data and inform the continued development of both the EU GREEN educational strategy and guidelines documents and help guide the design of Education for Sustainable Development related continuing professions development (CPD) offerings.

The survey is anonymous and takes about **15 minutes** to complete. If you wish to participate in further related follow up studies you can provide your email address, but it will not be associated with the answers that you provide.

**Your contribution to this research is important and so we would really appreciate if you could take the time out of your busy schedules to complete this survey**

If you need more information or to contact the BASE Team, please write to this email: [john.scahill@atu.ie](mailto:john.scahill@atu.ie)

[Participate to the survey](#)

## Matchmaking

Below are opportunities for connexion in the frame of the WP3 research calls described above, as well as one European project.

### **Multidisciplinary methodological framework to study algorithmic echo chambers and civic disengagement among university students**

Colleagues from Sociology (Faculty of Social-Sciences) have expressed their interest in exploring a potential partnership with EU Green Alliance universities on an exciting and innovative research initiative. The general idea of their project proposal refers to ***the design of a multidisciplinary methodological framework to study algorithmic echo chambers and civic disengagement among university students***. The project aims to develop a comprehensive and innovative methodological framework that enables EU Green Alliance higher-education institutions to collaboratively study how algorithmic echo chambers shape university students' civic engagement, attitudes toward pluralism, democratic values, and how these dynamics vary across national and institutional settings. Their intention is to apply for the current call on *Incentive for collaborative research projects* with the deadline on October 15, 2025. They are particularly keen to collaborate with partners who are interested in co-developing interdisciplinary research methodologies, exploring opportunities for joint publications and future grant applications.

You may contact them for further discussions on how you might align your research interests and explore possible collaboration avenues.

**Contact:** Dr. Sorana Saveanu [sorananasav@gmail.com](mailto:sorananasav@gmail.com); Raluca Buhas [ralubuhas@gmail.com](mailto:ralubuhas@gmail.com)

## **Geography, management sciences, economics and sociology (open to multidisciplinary exchanges).**

Dr. Nina Aubry (nina.aubry@univ-angers.fr) is a lecturer in geography at the University of Angers (France). She is looking for scientific partners within the EU Green alliance in the fields of geography, management sciences, economics as well as sociology (open to multidisciplinary exchanges). **The aim is to study the ways in which public policies are territorialised, and in particular the effects and spatial dimension of calls for projects in sustainable local development on a European scale.** By mid-October, the aim is to respond to the EU Green Incentive for collaborative research projects to develop medium-term collaborations and submit a European project within the next two years. This project could be backed up by a project already funded in France, on a regional scale, to test the methodology and relevance of the scientific approach. Indeed, local authorities, associations, businesses and project leaders are increasingly being asked to respond - alone or in consortia - to calls for projects issued at regional, national or European level in order to implement their projects. They are regularly presented as responses to the risk of public funds being spread too thinly, as guarantors of the principle of subsidiarity, and as well as drivers of innovation. However, their widespread use and proliferation across all sectors (health, access to public services, regional planning, employment, industry, research, ecological transition, etc.) are profoundly transforming the actions implemented (timeframe, scope, nature, etc.) as well as the players themselves, a significant proportion of whose activities are now devoted to managing calls for projects.

**Contact:** Dr. Nina Aubry (nina.aubry@univ-angers.fr)

## **Assessemement of the acceptability of environmental tax standards among students**

Environmental taxation is often presented as a cornerstone of sustainable public policy. Designed to encourage behavioral change through tax incentives or penalties, these instruments are playing an increasingly important role in the European Union's environmental and

climate strategy. However, despite their growing popularity, the effectiveness and methods of evaluating these taxes remain unclear. This project aims to analyze the environmental attitudes and behaviors of university students, focusing on understanding how level of education, discipline and institutional context influence the willingness to adopt pro-environmental practices, including the acceptance of environmental taxes.

This project - which draws on expertise in behavioral economics, taxation, political science, sociology and psychology - will be based in particular on field and laboratory surveys conducted among student populations at the various universities involved in the EU GREEN consortium.

**Contact:** Dr Sophie LAMBERT-WIBER: [sophie.lambert-wiber@univ-angers.fr](mailto:sophie.lambert-wiber@univ-angers.fr)

## **Road network disruption in peripheral areas and the impact on communities'**

Researchers from ATU are looking for partners in the area of sustainable communities and mobility, with a focus on road network disruption in peripheral areas and the impact on communities.

**Contact:** Dr Amaya Vega [Amaya.Vega@atu.ie](mailto:Amaya.Vega@atu.ie)

## **Assessing Sustainability: A case study of University Value Chain Higher Education Institutions**

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) have played a significant role in promoting sustainable development across various areas, though their own commitment to sustainability remains a subject of debate.

Increasing trends in research collaborations, as well as international researcher and student exchanges, could inadvertently have negative impacts on overall sustainability. This research aims to develop a sustainability assessment framework that integrates all three sustainability aspects. The framework can help assess the impact of practices within university supply networks. A three-steps approach is proposed.

- The first step involves studying and analyzing the university value chain, practices and identifying key sustainability factors. Each area of sustainability practices such as use of renewable energy sources, efficient heat supply system, green campus, or promotion of workers well-being will be investigated and develop into a sustainability impact pathway.

- The second step focuses on developing a sustainability assessment framework and evaluating the sustainability performance of selected universities.
- Finally, based on the findings from the second step, a roadmap will be developed to serve as a strategic planning guide, outlining short-, medium-, and longterm strategies toward achieving sustainability.

Contact : Dr. Jettarat Janmontree [jettarat.janmontree@ovgu.de](mailto:jettarat.janmontree@ovgu.de)

## **IntelliPhen – Competence Development in Intelligent Phenotyping for Future Crops project (Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships - Key Action 2 – KA2)**

The IntelliPhen – Competence Development in Intelligent Phenotyping for Future Crops project is being developed as part of Erasmus+ Cooperation Partnerships (Key Action 2 – KA2) in the field of higher education.

### **Objectives**

- To bridge the digital skills gap in agriculture by training Master's students (EQF 7) in advanced technologies: artificial intelligence, robotics, computational imaging, digital twins, and IoT.
- Develop an interdisciplinary 25 ECTS curriculum consisting of five Control Systems, IoT, and Digital Plant Phenotyping.
- Create a collaborative digital infrastructure for experimentation and co-creation of educational content.

### **Expected results**

- A comprehensive 25 ECTS program, with several modules distributed as open educational resources.
- Innovative teaching methodologies adapted to digital pedagogy.
- Integration of modules into the Master's programs of partner institutions and implementation of a cloud-based data and simulation platform.

### **Partners**

The project is coordinated by the University of Angers. An agreement in principle has already been established with the University of Tartu (Estonia), and other European universities and HEI are currently being contacted to form the final consortium.

## Personal Development Mentorship Programme



The EU GREEN alliance has launched its Personal Development Mentorship Programme, a new pilot initiative developed by Atlantic Technological University (ATU) Research Leads, Dr Richéal Burns and Dr George Onofrei.

This programme is designed to foster a strong and supportive EU GREEN community by creating meaningful connections between researchers and academics across the alliance. Through mentorship, participants will have the opportunity to enhance personal and professional development, share knowledge, and strengthen collaboration within EU GREEN.

70 applications have been received overall from the 9 universities. An official and online launch is planned on October 7th. Members of the initiatives will be invited to participate in an in-person meeting in 2026.

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## Networking webinars



Gain a platform to share expertise and research with a broader academic community by participating in the EU GREEN networking webinars next year !

### **Who can host a webinar?**

Researchers and PhD students

### **When ?**

Between January and December 2026.

### **Why?**

- Facilitate collaborations
- Build an international network
- Enhance your personal career growth by showcasing your communication skills.
- Foster interdisciplinarity
- Contribute to creating a collaborative and interconnected academic environment.

Propose a webinar here

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## Spotlight on Successes

### The Net-Zero Challenge for European Universities Tourism Educators in Brussels



On 16th September, a key meeting titled “*The Net-Zero challenge for European universities tourism educators*” took place at the European Commission – **Directorate General MOVE** in Brussels.

The event gathered EU GREEN members, among which Junwei YU, Associate Professor of Marketing and Cluster 4 leader at University of Angers; James Hanrahan, Lecturer and PI of the NOTES project as well as Director of the Atlantic Sustainable Tourism Observatory Ireland; Deirdre Byrne, Staff Researcher at Atlantic Technological University; Jaime Manuel Moleiro Serra, Associate Professor of Sociology at University of Évora; and Giuseppe Virga, Project Manager at University of Gävle.

The meeting aimed to communicate the key findings of the NOTES project and to identify potential policy gaps at the EU level. Among the main outcomes were the identification of barriers to teaching sustainable tourism in European higher education and discussions of possible solutions to be addressed at the EU level. Participants were invited to engage in a targeted consultation on the EU Sustainable Tourism Strategy and to attend the webinar titled “*Sustainable Destination Management and Regenerative Tourism*” organized by the EU Tourism Platform.

Additional highlights included information about an upcoming EU call for tourism-related projects and acknowledgment of the EU GREEN handbooks. The DG MOVE office also introduced the EU Tourism Platform during the session.

An initiative to create an international Master’s programme focused on sustainable tourism was also presented.

## **Sustainable and efficient food systems: two EU GREEN teams meet in Wrocław**



The second meeting of the AGRIBIOPEP and COOBASED projects, which seek more sustainable and efficient food systems, has taken place in Wrocław (Poland), between 8 and 10 September.

The sessions brought together specialists from the EU GREEN alliance to advance the development of solutions that promote more sustainable, efficient, and environmentally friendly food systems. Both projects, coordinated by the University of Extremadura, share complementary objectives in terms of agri-food sustainability.

COOBASED, led by Professor Francisco Javier Mesías, promotes the consumption of organic foods through local networks and cooperative structures. AGRIBIOPEP, coordinated by researcher María José Benito Bernáldez, investigates new sources of low-cost, natural proteins to recover agri-food waste and reduce the use of animal proteins.

During the meeting, technical advances were shared and synergies were discussed. Thanks to these projects, proposals were submitted to the European calls for FutureFoods and Horizon Europe 2024 and 2025. Progress was also made in strengthening agreements to facilitate student mobility between partner universities. The results reflect a strong institutional commitment from the teams in Spain, Portugal, Poland, Italy, France, Ireland, and Sweden, consolidating these SEED projects as key platforms for transforming the European food model.



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