

Newsletter #18
June/July 2025

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Dear all,

The first half of 2025 has been rich in events and connexion as EU GREEN activities continue to flourish.

The 3rd Research Week in Parma gathered around 160 participants from all universities of the alliance. For the first time, this event took place at the same time as the Summer School dedicated to PhD students and the 3-minute fame contest.

Now the next milestones for research in EU GREEN are the two calls detailed below which provide funding opportunities for all members of the alliance to organize conferences, individual mobilities or incentives for collaborative research projects.

This year, a new call also gives the opportunity to propose PhD or Master internships. Information sessions are proposed to help you in your applications - see below for more details.

The University of Angers will be closed from July 18th to August 17th. In the meantime please contact your local contact point for EU GREEN matters.

We hope you enjoy some rest during summer break.

EU GREEN Research Team

3rd Research Week



The third edition of the EU GREEN Research Week, held at the University of Parma, proved to be another resounding success—building on the momentum of its previous editions (the 2023 edition was held in Angers, France and the 2024 edition was held at the Atlantic Technological University, Ireland). Marking the halfway point of the project, the 2025 event offered a dynamic mix of discussions, strategic meetings, and forward-looking initiatives for research across the alliance. The universities of Angers (France) and Parma (Italy) lead the alliance’s research-related initiative.

More than 160 participants from the nine EU GREEN partner universities gathered to exchange ideas and strengthen collaborative ties. For the first time, the event also featured a summer school for PhD students, culminating in the 3-Minute Fame competition.

The in-person format enabled productive meetings between the key Work Package 3 “Structuring research-based learning through Excellence Clusters” bodies—including the Joint Research Commission, the European Task Force, the PhD Council, and the Research Clusters—who worked in both individual and joint sessions to align strategies and ensure progress toward the project’s objectives.

Related documents

- [Read the feedback from the event here](#)
 - [Read the minutes of the Joint Research Commission Here](#)
 - [Access the action plan of cluster 1 - Emerging paradigms for health and wellbeing - here](#)
 - [Access the action plan of cluster 2- Agriculture, food and environmental sustainability here](#)
 - [Access the action plan of cluster 3 - Engineering and technology for sustainable development here](#)
 - [Access the action plan of cluster 4 - Sustainable tourism for cultural and natural heritage- here](#)
 - [Access the action plan of cluster 5- Education sciences for sustainable development - here](#)
 - [Access the action plan of cluster 6- Challenges in ecosystem biodiversity and function - a macroregional evaluation - here](#)
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2025 - Procedure to leverage joint research activities

Deadline 15/10/2025 10 am CET



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.

An information session will be held on September 10th from 3 pm to 4:30 CET. [Join here.](#)

2025 - Call for Research internships

Deadline 01/10/2025 10 am CET

This procedure is intended to boost international 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.

An information session will be held on September 10th from 3 pm to 4:30 CET. [Join here](#).

Matchmaking

Are you looking for new connexions or partners to apply for a call? Find opportunities to build collaborations on your research topic on the page below. You can also propose a topic by reaching out to the EU GREEN team at eugreenwp3@univ-angers.fr.

All information here

MSCA Postdoctoral fellowship: find your supervisor within EU GREEN!

The objective of Post doctoral Fellowships is to support researchers' careers and foster excellence in research. The Postdoctoral Fellowships action targets researchers holding a PhD who wish to carry out their research activities abroad, acquire new skills and develop their careers. PFs help researchers gain experience in other countries, disciplines and non-academic sectors.

The EU GREEN universities are seeking high profile Postdoctoral applicants for the next MSCA PF session which deadline is fixed in september 2025. The MSCA PF are open to any research topic and focus on the training and improving the researchers' careers, through international, intersectorial and interdisciplinary approaches.

Find your supervisor here

Spotlight on Successes

3-Minute Fame final: PhD students shine in Parma



The concept of the 3-Minute Fame competition? To invite PhD candidates to present their thesis topic in English in just three minutes — clearly, accessibly, and convincingly. “This exercise is a unique opportunity for our PhD students to engage in an international experience where they learn to effectively communicate their research to non-specialist audiences, and connect with peers from across the EU GREEN universities”, noted Catherine Passirani, Vice-President International and Equality at the University of Angers and Chair of the jury.

Ahead of the final, nearly 100 applications were submitted. The top three candidates from each university were selected to travel to Parma and pitch their research live in front of an EU GREEN jury and an audience that included participants of the Research Week.

The atmosphere was particularly warm and supportive. The audience showed great interest in the wide range of topics presented, fostering a powerful moment of exchange and recognition for doctoral research within the alliance. *“These EU GREEN student cohorts will gradually become strong ambassadors of the values we carry through our European alliance”*, asserted Catherine Passirani.

Four winners celebrated

At the end of the competition, four winners were honoured. Three awards were granted by the official EU GREEN jury, and a fourth

“people’s choice” award was presented through an interactive vote. Congratulations to the four winners:

- **Abhinandan Nandrajog** (University of Angers) – *Prevent intimal hyperplasia with a localized, multi-therapeutic and post-surgery solution*
- **Miguel Advinha** (University of Évora) – *Assessing stakeholder strategies and perceptions for enhancing sustainability in the Montado and Dehesa agrosilvopastoral ecosystem*
- **Rebecca Höpfer** (Otto von Guericke University Magdeburg) – *Innovative alloys for the reduction of inflammatory processes and biofilm formation on orthopedic implants*
- **Maria José Acosta Mayorga** (University of Angers & University of Extremadura) – *Economic analysis of water footprint in the food system*

Watch the event again

Part of the final held in Parma was recorded and is available to watch on YouTube: [click here](#)

The application videos of the 27 finalists, submitted during the pre-selection phase, can also be viewed in this YouTube playlist

[Click here](#)

Opportunities

EU GREEN European Researchers’ Night 26/06/2025

We’re happy to confirm that the following universities have committed to hosting researchers from the alliance:

- **Évora:** can host **6 researchers** (3–4 outreach activities)
- **Extremadura:** can host **5 teams** across 3 cities (Mérida: 1 team, Cáceres: 2 teams and Badajoz: 2 teams)

- **Parma:** can host **10–12 researchers** (6–7 outreach activities)

In return, **each EU GREEN university** is invited to send **up to 1 researcher or 1 team** to participate in an ERN event **abroad**. The destination can be **Parma, Évora, or Extremadura**.

Deadlines for submitting selected candidates:

- For **Évora:** by **19 July 2025**
- For **Extremadura and Parma:** by **22 August 2025**

Please refer to your internal process & EU GREEN team to apply and communicate them the **name(s)** and **topic/activity & the preferred host location** (Évora, Parma, or Extremadura)

Exercise and Cardiovascular Health International Meeting - PhD Research Seminar



This meeting is part of the activities proposed in the TAILEXER seed funding project (2023-2025). The project's objectives included

deepening knowledge on topics related to physical exercise and cardiovascular health. Fostering dialogue and synergies among young researchers within partner universities. One of the objectives of this final international meeting is to promote the dissemination of scientific and academic research conducted by early career researchers from the EUGREEN Alliance.

Open to early career researchers (who got their PhD 8 years ago or less) who are currently pursuing a PhD or master's programme at any of the EU GREEN Alliance universities.

Early career researchers from EU GREEN Alliance universities may participate in the in-person sessions, although every university will be responsible for covering their costs. Please refer to your university's EU GREEN team to check for funding availability.

Key dates:

- Deadline for abstract submission: September 15th, 2025
- Notification of acceptance: September 19th, 2025
- PhD seminar date: October 28th, 2025
- Meeting dates: October 27th - 28th, 2025

[Read more](#)

**Research papers of the month –
June 2025 - Selection from
Wrocław University of
Environmental and Life Sciences**



From *"Climate-driven alterations reshape flower coloration and possible plant-pollinator interactions in wet grasslands"* to *"Changes in bioactive and aroma compounds in flower elderberry as affected by innovative drying method"*, discover the monthly selection from Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences.

[Click here to read more](#)

Portrait of the month

Eva Martin, University of Angers
PhD student



Eva Martin, who earned a BSc in Cell Biology and Animal Physiology from the University of Lorraine in Nancy, France, has already completed a six-month research internship under the supervision of Professors N. Clere and F. Bessaguet. This internship, conducted as part of the second year of her Master's program, focused on mechanisms involved in treatment resistance in non-small cell bronchial carcinomas, with particular attention to endothelial-to-mesenchymal transition (EndoMT).

In 2024, Nicolas Clere, Flavien Bessaguet, and Sonia Mulero-Navarro jointly submitted a PhD project entitled **"STRO-MIR – Identification of Non-Coding miRNAs in Tumor Stroma to Improve Anticancer Treatment of Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer."** The proposal was selected through an open call by the EU GREEN alliance and is co-funded by the University of Angers, Angers Loire Métropole, the French National Research Agency (ANR – France 2030), and the Pays de la Loire region.

Eva's doctoral research investigates how stromal components—particularly Schwann cells and the endothelial plasticity observed in EndoMT—contribute to therapeutic resistance in lung cancer. The project also explores the role of microRNAs (miRNAs)—non-coding RNA molecules with diverse and still not fully understood functions—in modulating tumor–stroma interactions. Sonia Mulero, an expert in miRNAs, provides guidance on the molecular profiling and regulatory analysis aspects of the project.

As part of her doctoral work, Eva will spend between 12 and 18 months at the University of Extremadura. While she feels a bit apprehensive about living abroad alone for an extended period, she is enthusiastic about the opportunity. She previously became familiar with the region during the Young Researcher Marathon in Badajoz—an event hosted for the first time by the Spanish partner university within the EU GREEN alliance framework.

[Connect with her](#)



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