



# MONTHLY INFORMATION



**EU GREEN WP3**

**February 2024  
#4**

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Dear all,

This February edition is the occasion to inform you on several calls: the 2nd edition of the Researcher Program, and the 2nd edition of the call for co-tutelle with the university of Angers. This edition also includes a call from WP2 - Education, funding the creation of new joint degrees within the alliance. You will find the details concerning these opportunities below.

Again, don't forget that **as of February 29th, the drive will be permanently shut down**, as decided in the Executive Committee. All documents will be moved to the Teams, but during this transition period, keep in mind to do additional back ups! If you haven't received the message to connect to the new Teams, please reply to this email.

As usual, our team is available for any enquiries, so don't hesitate to reply to this email.

Thanks for reading,

*Work Package 3 Team*

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# CLUSTERS UPDATE

You will find below a recap of the first calendar of each cluster for the first 6 months of 2024. Don't forget that clusters aren't closed boxes: the aim is to facilitate connections, cross-discipline collaborations and obtain multidisciplinary projects.

## **Cluster 1 - Emerging paradigms for health and wellbeing (Leader UO, Co-leader ATU):**

***Last Friday of each month, 10 AM CET***

- 22nd of March (exception)
- 26th of April
- 31st of May
- June - at the staff week in Ireland 17-21 June
- 26th of July
- August - holiday

## **Cluster 2 - Agriculture, food and environmental sustainability (Leader UNIPR, coleader UPWR): *to be determined***

## **Cluster 3 - Engineering and technology for sustainable development (leader OVGU, coleader UPWR): *Every first Friday of the month at 10 am CET***

- 1st of March
- 5th of April
- 3rd of May
- 7th of June
- 5th of July

## **Cluster 4 - Sustainable tourism for cultural and natural heritage (Leader : UA, co-leader: UE) : *to be determined***

## **Cluster 5 - Education sciences for sustainable development (Leader : Ué, co-leader: HiG) : *Every first Monday of the month from 2 pm to 3:30 pm CET***

- 04th of March,
- 08th of April
- 06th of May,
- 03 of June,
- 01st of July

## **Cluster 6 - Challenges in ecosystem biodiversity and function - a macroregional evaluation (lead : UEx, colead UNIPR) : *the last Friday every two months, at noon CET***

- 26th of April
- 28th of June
- 30th of August

You are welcome to join any of these meetings, just inform us by replying to this email, in order to connect with the cluster leaders.

These dates only concern the general cluster meetings, and not the potential subgroups.

# CALLS

- **Do you want to visit facilities in a EU GREEN university? Do you want to share good practices with a colleague? Do you need to meet in person to prepare a project? Then the Researcher mobility program might be the solution for you.** The second edition of the Researcher mobility program will be launched on 01st of March, and will close on the 02nd of May 2024. This call provides funding up to 2000€ for mobilities within the EU GREEN alliance. [Click here to access the complete bill of specification.](#)

- **Are you looking to cosupervise a thesis with the University of Angers on a topics that matched the 6 EU GREEN clusters and/or the SDGs? The call for supervision of theses is for you !** Through the French National Agency for Research, the University of Angers has secured extra funding for theses in cosupervision with EU GREEN partners. The call will open on March 4th and will close on May 6th.

To apply you need :

1. To identify a cosupervisor from UA or from another EU GREEN university if you are from UA
  2. To decide on a topic for the thesis
  3. To identify possible co-funding and decide whether or not the thesis will be a codirection (funding 100% through this call, one diploma) or a cotutelle (both universities fund half of the PhD and the PhD students gets two diplomas at the end of their thesis)
  4. To provide a budget planning
  5. To provide a calendar of the activities for the PhD student, including the mobilities (beware: this impacts funding as the University of Angers will fund only the time spent by the student at the University of Angers, not the mandatory mobility part)
  6. At that stage, **you do not need** to identify PhD candidates.
- [Click here for the full bill of specifications.](#)

- **Are you a young researcher interested on improving your international skills? Then think about applying to the Blended Intensive Program (BIP) on Transversal Skills for the Internationalization of Young Researchers through European Projects** that is organized in the frame of WP3.

This comprehensive training program, tailored for doctoral students and young researchers, is designed to provide participants with diverse skills set crucial for their academic and professional growth in a globalized world. The program is divided into three core modules: **"Self-promotion and Communication Skills," "Project Idea Conceptualization and Transversal Contents in EU Projects,"** and **"Sustainability in EU Projects."** The program includes a VIRTUAL attendance period (1 day a week on Tuesday from 15pm to 19PM CET) from May 2nd to June 30th, 2024; IN-PERSON attendance period in the north of Extremadura (Spain): July 1st to July 5th, 2024.

**Admission Profile: PhD students and early career researchers.**

[Click here for more information.](#)

**Please forward this information to suitable candidates, who should get in contact with their International office regarding the funding of this BIP.**

- **Are you a visionary EU GREEN academic who would like to be part of an innovative education model ?** Work Package 2 invites you to submit your proposal for a **pilot new joint degree programme!** The funding offered depends on the number of participating universities:

Number of partners	Financing
3	17800
4	26400
5 or more	30000

**Deadline for the first stage of submission of proposal is 12th April 2024! [Click here for manifestation of interest](#)**

- **Results of the Blended Intensive Programme call from WP6, Mobility.** For this first call, 12 BIPs were selected, 2 were shifted to 2024-2025 and 2 were rejected. Below are the 12 selected, half of which emerged from the work done in the clusters and the taskforce in WP3:
  - Artificial Intelligence in Health and sport
  - Ecological Restoration for ecosystem sustainability
  - Engaging Music Technology
  - Food sustainability
  - Heritage Education and digital Humanities
  - Introduction to Mathematical computational modelling for sustainability
  - Invasive Alien species
  - Living, Enquiring and Knowing: a hub of outdoor practices for sustainability (LINK Hub)
  - One health and sustainability in wildlife : from basic to clinic
  - Statistics for management
  - Sustainability learning in new formats : micro-credential as a powerful tool for curriculum design
  - Transversal skills of Young researchers through European Project

Congratulation to the laureates.

**The next steps are :**

- **10/03: Set up the EU GREEN joint call for participants**
- **10/03-15/03: Reviewing the BIPs informations**
- **15/03: Opening the EU GREEN joint call**

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## SEED PROJECTS



The **Circular Dairy Farming Plus (CDF+)** seed funding project aims at creation of EU GREEN joint research and informative network focused on the application to international research calls related to the sustainable food production chain and waste management. The consortium met in Parma in January for a kickoff meeting. See the picture below on the left.



**CHAIN2Sustain : Collaborative Human AI Decision-Making for Sustainability.** This project tackles decision making under the perspective of sustainability is a complicated endeavour. It requires taking into consideration several complex and uncertain factors, competing interests over varying timescales regarding cost, environmental aspects, quality of life and fairness. We aim at benchmarking different approaches to hybrid Human and Artificial Intelligence (AI) collaboration, for the purpose of assisted decision making, with a sustainability bias. The consortium met in Angers, France in January. See picture above on the right.

## CALLS FOR COLLABORATION

- A researcher from cluster 4 is looking for collaboration on **architecture for teaching and learning about heritage values and their safeguard**
- Two researchers in Management from the University of Angers propose a research collaboration if interested. Their aim is to set up a collaborative project (seed funding and/or PhD supervision) **on sustainable digitalization**. They are particularly interested in sustainable digital transformations, and their effects on well-being and green behaviors. This project is planned as an organic extension of their ongoing CIDI STEP project, funded by MSCA4Ukraine (2023-25), which explores the role of collective intelligence in sustainable digital transformation in SMEs. For more information, we invite you to visit their website : <https://granem.univ-angers.fr/fr/projets-de-recherches/contrats-en-cours/cidi-step-project.html>. If you are interested in participating in this project, have propositions or have any questions, please reply to this email. **Keywords: digital, sustainability, well-being, transformation, green behaviors.**

## JOINT RESEARCH COMMITTEE

The Joint Research committee, composed of all the vice rectors for Research from the alliance, has met on February 1st 2024. We welcomed three new vice rectors:

- Daniele del Rio, Vice-rector for research at UNIPR, Italy
- Manja Kruger, Vice-rector for Research and Diversity at OVGU, Germany
- Des Foley, Vice rector for Research at ATU, Ireland

Philippe Simoneau made his goodbyes as his mandate as a Vice Rector for Research at UA is coming to an end. He's very proud of the results obtained by WP3 after one year of work, and he expects to keep being involved in EU GREEN, especially cluster 2 as he is co-director of the *Institut de Recherche en Horticulture et Semences (IRHS)* (Institute of Research in Horticulture and Seeds)

The topics discussed ranged from a recap of the activities of 2023 to the planned expenses for the next year, as well as the update of the workplan for 2024. Amongst the **challenges** that were discussed was the need for more **interdisciplinarity** within the clusters, the inclusion of **social and human sciences**, and a need for **better articulation with other WPs**, especially WP4 Innovation; WP5 Engagement; WP7, Accessibility, Diversity, Inclusion; WP8 - Sustainable and Healthy Campus.

## PHD COUNCIL

Work in subgroup has been kickstarted by the PhD council on 4 core tasks:

- The creation of a pilot even **"My thesis in 3 minutes"** in the volunteer universities
- The identification of 10 terms that require a common definition to work efficiently within EU GREEN, and harmonize our practices, a work done in cooperation with **Work Package 2 - Education**
- The application of **Marie-Sklodowska Curie Actions (MSCA)** to develop the collaboration in doctoral education among the EU GREEN allied universities. Two MSCA calls may be of interest for the reinforcement of collaboration in PhD education: MSCA Doctoral Network (DN), and MSCA Doctoral Programme COFUND (postdoctoral programme is also possible through COFUND however this option is currently not the one being considering at this point by the PhD Council). The idea is to evaluate which universities would be interested in working on common applications. **The questionnaire will be disseminated in March to evaluate the possibilities within EU GREEN.**
- The workgroup on joint protocols for the co-supervision of these will meet soon.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

- **Write it down: as of February 29th, the EU GREEN Google Drive will be permanently shut down, as decided in the Executive Committee.** All documents have been moved to the Teams. All (known) members of the WP3 have been invited to the Teams, if you haven't please reply to this email !
- **Save the date! The next Researchers' week (WP3 Staff week) will take place in ATU, Sligo campus from the 17th to the 19th June 2024 for all WP3 members.**

Thank you for reading this 4th edition of EU GREEN's Work Package 3 information email.

Kind regards,  
Work Package 3 Team