Feedback from the 3ʳᵈ Research Week (9th-13ᵗʰ June 2025)

Everything written in bold means that it's been reported more than twice

Research Week – Introduction (112 people):

According to you, what is the major output of WP3 so far?

- It increases **collaboration** in team works/ partnerships, **networks**, friendships, new ideas, chance to transform together to built a better future, identifying common interest point. It builds an inclusive community, human and institutional connections.
- There is also student mobility, doctoral education with joint research activities, integration of knowledge, **research week**. It also allows **networking** between different clusters, connecting to other researcher in the alliance
- There are new research collaborations delivering new knowledge and peer-reviewed publications
- It is the seed funding mechanism

What are your needs today in terms of research that could be answered at the EU GREEN level?

- Someone is already satisfied with EU GREEN giving new experience thanks to knowledge and research
- Real ecological transition
- **Strengthen interdisciplinarity**, post doc programmes, **joint PhD** opportunities and strong commitment of Rectors and universities to get common resources (PhD fellowships). Support in writing applications for joint projects
- More help for the task force to go along with the clusters
- Support in EU **funding** (e.g. direct funding for research) / apply for RIA funding opportunities. Need of a central body to assist with European funding applications.
- Specific support on grant writing
- More streamlined dissemination of EU Green information

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- Audacity, innovative vision, valorisation, development
- Accessing EU projects such as **Horizon**. Signposted guidance for Horizon applications, finding Horizon partners.
- **More time to work**
- Good project leader, strategy and finding good partners
- Consortium building
- Tools to search for relevant colleagues from partners (hope that Agora will help), to know which expertise have other **colleagues in other universities**, to build up a research project or exchange, work across clusters and WPs. Matchmaking platform. Research questions that can be answered together (**common research**, research network)
- More colleagues
- More specific support in writing for young researchers
- Collaborative actions for new proposals, strong **partnerships**
- Critical mass for excellence
- A centralised approach to ethics approval

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In terms of funding, what should we start, stop or continue?

Start	Continue	Stop
- Encourage diversity in clusters, more inclusive activities - Encourage new members / involving other partners, expanding, connecting, work with other WPs, link with the community, help spreading initiatives in the universities, more sponsorship at national events to gain exposure, looking for other opportunities, new collaboration - Recognition for responsibilities (cluster leaders) - Reinforce the **transdisciplinary / multidisciplinary** work such as BIP in PhD programmes, climate change interdisciplinary studies - **Joint PhD** training (define better the "joint" doctorate) : proposition of joint PhDs modelled on Erasmus mundus; other proposition of common PhD programme in humanities like philosophy, aesthetics; joint online course programme = common PhD rules and programme	- **International conferences** - Good spirit - Funding **mobilities** (e.g. researchers, **staff**) - **Seed funding** - Flexibility - **Partnership** - Network of PhDs - Workshops - BIP - Keep the pace - Meetings such as **Researcher week** - **In person meetings** (WP3), regular cluster meetings - Great networking meetings - Researchers' mobility grants - Leverage calls - Collaboration inside clusters	- Senior researchers involvement - Atomizing initiatives - Old research pattern in humanities, old research models - **Lack of trust** checking researchers' work - **Nothing** - Bureaucracy - So many BIPs in same time without having enough funding for mobilities - Small fundings - **Stress** - Less expensive clusters, more together - Activities that don't have a specific time limit - Funding research - Merchandise - **Connection** problems such as less cluster connections - Working in silos - Competition ideas - DEI - The session - Disappointment

- EU proposals **workshops for calls**, research workshops, writing European Projects, considering European calls for research proposals - Grant writing - Investment in **more mobilities, especially for students /** administrative staff, networking - More funding, seed funding, funding research per sector, and more for young researchers - Writing support groups for research proposal - Considering European calls for seed fundings - Grant writing, apply for diverse European and extra European grants -Consultation with researchers on the content of researcher week -Horizon projects, writing **Horizon** applications, Horizon Europe expertise -Cluster meetings -Food production improvement - Explanatory video - Bring art		

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In terms of doctoral education, what should we start, stop or continue?

Start	Continue	Stop
- **Communication,** clear **career pathways and guidance, advice;** support early carrier researchers - More inclusivity - EU Green identity - **strengthen DEI** : Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - Better communication between PhD joint committee and clusters - Training for collaboration instead of competition - **BIP,** transdisciplinary BIP on a rotating regular basis - Reference to sustainability competences, sustainability conferences - Systematic joint courses - More **transdisciplinary work, common courses for PhD programmes,** more PhD in humanities - More summer schools - Creating concepts - Apply for funding - Development of EU wide accreditation policy to supersede national guidelines to afford progress in this strategy area	- PhD - BIP - **Cotutelle**, joint degrees, doctoral network, bring PhD students together, exchanging PhDs - **Competition** for PhD students - PhD funding - **Funding** - Short training periods in other universities - Momentum and perseverance - **Collaboration**, joint research - **Summer schools** - **Mobility** - Interdisciplinarity - Information literacy - Supporting - 3 min contest - All - Interactions between universities - Internship - Relation to sustainability in a broader perspective - EU Green interchange	- **Nothing** - Procrastination - Trying to fit traditional systems - Giving everything to seniors - Excessive class work - **Too much bureaucracy** - Too competitive, internal competition - Having different credit systems - Pushing to do that - Talking - Discourage people - National based project - Long programmes - Problems

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- Clearer attention to social sciences - **More (interdisciplinary) joint PhDs, joint supervision funding, EU Green PhD student network,** better dissemination of information on PhD education activities; common PhD scholarships - Online common trainings at a larger scale - Course catalogues - Start to solve problems - Opening another university - Motivating wit the good salary and perspectives - More involved partners, more support to bring supervisors together - Information literacy - Short programmes - Much clarity in the proposals - Joint teaching activities - New approaches, new models - Common meetings with WP2 - Post doc programmes - Apply for grant - More immersive events - More networking opportunities	- Humanities PhDs	

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Research Week – wrap-up session (71 people):

SWOT Analysis: Write down the elements that come to mind by category regarding research in the alliance

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
- **Interdisciplinary collaboration, connections,** good opportunity for new collaborations, internal collaboration - **People**, **team**, people fully committed, trust, momentum, steady improvement, **motivation** - Number of researchers and universities involved - Diversity - Very long tradition in Europe to make research together to use in EU Green - Map of skills and competences available - Community created, **network**, partnerships, 2 years to know each other better, good, friendship, interpersonal relations - **Complementarity**	- **Coordination** complexity, network - Quality management - Rigid structure - Too short **meetings**, **poor interconnection, fractioned communication between cluster e.g., scarce interaction with stakeholder** - Different educational models - **Not enough involvement** of new people in EU Green, based on volunteer people - Lack of initiative, innovation, energy / different levels of commitment that cause frustration - No grants for PhD students - Limited funding for coordination, **no budget** for research - Operative and practical solutions through simple and quick tools (shared database, links) - Narrow perspective	- Traveling - **Co-creating research applications,** go outside the EU Green consortium - Increasing **network**, create **partnerships** for Teaching and research widening the horizon of perspectives, connections - Competences to create good research proposals - Rely on bottom up activities - More people can joint EU Green in future, try to **find synergy** with other European University alliances, new colleague to **collaborate** with and **meet** - Broad **knowledge,** based on wide range of topics as a pillar of scientific projects - Common goals, vector for European values - Community created - Inspiration, joint efforts	- **Too much top-bottom approach** - Complexity of different university cultures - No activity without funding, small **budget**, volatility of funding calls - **Political uncertainty**, less budget for research and focus of **European funding to defence** - Hierarchical frame, stay-inside-the-box thinking, too much **connections** to manage, no deep meaningful connections established - Get trapped in silos of research - **Competition** between the universities of the alliance, from bigger universities - Lack of continuity - Lack **of commitment** of the **governance without a clear understanding of what to do, engagement fatigue**, no interest, lack of focus / distraction

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- **Mobility** funds for face to face project reflexion - Resilience to failure - Increase critical mass, knowledge - New **ideas**, suggestions and projects - Smart people, energy - Focus on sustainability - Expertise in everything, **excellent research**	- **Institutional recognition, Visibility nationally and at European level (e.g. social media)** - Need to start clearly defining and measuring key KPIs and bring them to the fore from now on - **Lack of** time - Resources - Few science - **Leadership, lack of leaders for proposal** - Need for help for proposal writing - Missing contact persons doing the same job at each partner institution, **lack of human resources in EU Green activities** - Goals of alliance and clusters unclear, too wide range of subject in the clusters - Not all scientific fields represented, too many specialists focused only on their field of research - Less Young Researcher participation - No willing leaders for horizon projects	- Involve more students, expand our relationship using students that can apply for **mobilities,** recruit Young Researchers to lead new projects - **BiPs**, European funding, Research collaborations, so many opportunities to grow - **Funding** within a consortium, grant applications - Contacts - Ideas - Cultural diversity enriching research and development - Early days for social network presence - Mixing expertise - Cooperation in SF - **Leverage research** - Include more scientific and society impact in research projects - Already build working teams - Possibility to apply to EU projects with partners from 15 EU countries - **Wider European calls fitting EU Green topics, working together for calls** - International environment	- Inflexibility in structures, internal regulations - Clusters leaders fatigue - **Time** constraints due to regular work duties, **busyness / increasing work load**, start activities that weaken the energy of the team - Scarce participation to EU Green initiatives, a little projects submitted - Insufficient pragmatism, too much formal - Focusing on heterogeneity rather than our collective visions, drop-outs - Support to consolidate long term collaborations - Lack of "EU GREEN brand" recognition - 2026 evaluation - Too many people = too many ideas = no projects at all - Transfer of ideas not happening - Cease after project completion - Loosing jobs - No effects - Other networks

	- Rely on too busy 50-60 years old researchers to lead projects - Organisational difficulties - Difficult to find calls involving all 9	- Horizon Europe	

What concrete actions can we implement together for 27-28 ?

- **More meetings / conference in presence**, joint activities, mentorship
- Less meetings face to face
- Sessions working in a concrete topic, specific sessions from taskforce according to cluster's interests
- Continue to support cluster project, new clusters, strategic research groups
- More nano blocks
- Projects in Horizon and Nato Diana Programme
- **Communication** between WPs and information going down to members
- Objective criteria for measuring performance of clusters, more actions of clusters participants and not relying all on the leadership, focus on clusters leaders choosing as some of them are not good
- Open Science, free data
- Implement a Researcher Map showing expertise and activity, present new researchers to the whole EU Green
- Support in writing projects, large **/** more meaningful European research **projects**
- More **Seed funding, leverage EU funding, helping in gathering research funds**

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- More real transdisciplinary work, workshop on transversal skills for young researchers
- More **mobilities** for staff (researchers) and students, more joint publications, more interdisciplinarity and Europe PhD programme, doctoral and postdoctoral **network**, more short stages for PhD students, joint PhD / bachelor / master studies, more experiential sessions, specific **joint conferences** to present the research hat has originated from our partnership
- Joint research seminars, research results of major interest to Europe
- Creating a **task force** for EU projects integrating the task forces already existing in each University to help in finding **calls and in writing proposals** (especially as regards administrative issues) / more taskforce support
- Increase in publication, collaboration
- Repeat the 3-minute frame, create 3 Minutes researcher event like the one for PhD students
- EU Green PHD Cohort Programme Pilot
- EU Green Personal Development Mentorship Programme
- A BiP for the Research Internship for 10ects - output based assessment
- EU Green research showcase at the next Summer School (more opportunities for networking)
- More social media exposure and presence, prepare dissemination materials for citizens and reach out schools. Involve student into the events, organise them during the semester, increase knowledge merging different cultures but students are not here
- A **real database** with access to all EU GREEN researchers profiles, research data management
- **Horizon** project, calls
- Increase proposals for webinars
- More collaborative projects with the communities
- Reflexion on the impact of the work, assessment at EU level on sustainability
- Top-down identification of potential working groups for a specific proposal that have gone under detected
- New modes of approaching the real world problems
- More inclusivity
- Living labs networks within EU GREEN

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- International collaboration / jobs
- Speaking science

How can we better coordinate our responses to European research calls ?

- **Data base** of researcher profile for better selection of matches, base of participants, short list of keywords of expertise
- We need to be aware of the **different expertise** inside each university
- More coordination in partner search from alliance universities
- Involve more experienced researchers
- Podcast
- Connect with universities outside EU GREEN, create a place for submit concept notes, as a way to find project leaders
- No politics, no industry involvement
- Use social media
- Better plan discussion, define deadline, share subtasks
- Help to find researcher from Alliance Universities in similar topic
- Search for people really committed and available
- There is a need of joining strong consortia with 1-3 EU GREEN partners, not Apply for research grants only within EUGREEN partners
- Target seed fundings with EU strategies and policies
- Get Help from experienced people
- Having contact points for EU calls
- Establish and expand a unified EU Green Task Force to provide formal, dedicated support for proposal writing, integrating existing groups and hiring more European project officers.

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- Appoint clear points of contact within each university and research field, including dedicated internal project officers and an "Rpgd officer" for the alliance.
- Develop a central information hub including:
  - A searchable database of researcher profiles, expertise keywords, and available infrastructure.
  - A map of the RIS3 priorities for each of the 9 regions.
  - A shared space for consortium members to comment on ongoing proposals.
- Create smart tools for partner and call identification, such as a "partner finder" on the website, AI for call selection, and a "ChatGPTeugreen" for quick questions.
- Organize regular matchmaking and networking events, like speed-dating sessions, to foster connections both within and outside the consortium.
- Implement a structured workflow for proposal development, from early warnings and feasibility analysis to a clear submission process with defined deadlines and sub-tasks.
- Create a formal process for identifying project leaders, including a platform to submit "concept notes" and a focus on empowering young researchers.
- Offer personalized support and training, including special courses on proposal writing and dedicated help for each project team.
- Broaden strategic partnerships by actively exploring Interreg opportunities and involving industry collaborators in research activities.
- Engage in strategic lobbying to influence policy and narrow the focus of future European calls to better align with the alliance's strengths.

What is the first idea that comes to mind when thinking about the direct outcome from this week ?

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EU GREEN

EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY:
RESPONSIBLE GROWTH, INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Lots of networking   Understanding EU Green better
Good time to discassion   3-minute fame 👍 🙂   Renewed entusiasm
Networking   Mobility mobility mobility   contacts   Missing Action plan   others Coffee Conexions idea
Good work   Meeting colleagues in person   Commitment   New Goals   Wonderful PhD students   More knowledge Personal
funding   proposal   know   Aperol spritz   much   talking   results   researchers seed   Jamaica bar   Good Smells Link meetings
Links   Motivation good   engaged   collaboration   young   New   Opportunities   Tosra frita 😁 Alliance   Prosciutto
met   Cheese   names Efficiency   time   Better   brainstorming   Connections   Feeling of serendipity
New ideas   bilateral   Lots of discussions Bye   without   person   discussions   Work work work
Improvement   Lambrusco   need   3minute fame   Wooclap   Intercluster activities Lots   research   online
New friends   Better collaboration   Parmezano   Discussion about joint phd   The problems not solved again   far   project
Tired but happy   Good environment   faces
Old friends   A lor of work to do   New project seeds   intercluster People
Finding direction   students   The big potential of Alliance

♻ Do something EUGREEN today!