

Procedure to leverage joint research activities 2025

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1. General information

Through top level education and research, EU GREEN, the European University for Sustainability, aims at addressing sustainability from the periphery and for the periphery. EU GREEN partners aim to place societal responsibility at the heart of their mission, as a guiding principle that defines the way we teach and the focus of our research. 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, implemented by the Work Package 3, 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 present 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. This call will support three types of key actions:

1. Incentive for collaborative research projects

2. EU GREEN scientific conferences

3. Researcher mobility program

2. Details of the key Actions 1 & 2

2.1 Incentive for collaborative research projects

This action should support concrete exploratory collaborative activities by research teams with single or multiple disciplines that put forward the complementarity of competences and approaches to develop or reinforce collaboration. Those activities could facilitate travel and networking, information sharing, gaining access to data, preparing a larger publication on research outcomes, lead to the application to larger projects or to the creation of new sub-group etc.

The projects must:

- Include at least three EU GREEN partners,

- Be completed within one year or less (end of expenses: December 31st, 2026),
- Not exceed a total budget €20,000 for the whole project, or €10 000 for the conferences
- Respond to sustainability challenges at the European or global level

Each proposal must have one designated Principal Investigator (PI) at one of the EU GREEN partner universities and one local project coordinator in charge at each of the participating member institutions.

Special attention during the selection process will be given to proposals:

- Involving the participation of early career researchers¹ and their training
- Seeding in the future a larger research collaboration,
- Relation to other priority areas within the EU GREEN alliance: Education, Innovation and entrepreneurship; engagement with external stakeholders and communities; mobility and internationalization; access, diversity and inclusion and campus life.
- Dealing with common territorial challenges and/or including regional external partners (i.e. public entities or private companies).

This call is open to the entire scientific community of our universities. It is not restricted to EU GREEN clusters.

2.2 EU GREEN scientific conferences

This action should support the organisation of scientific conferences. The conference can be either the continuation or second edition of a former activity funded in previous calls or a new proposal. These funds can be used to either cover operating costs or support the travel of lecturers and/or participants from EU GREEN universities.

- Include at least three EU GREEN partners,
- It will be granted up to €10,000 Euros for their organisation.
- The conference should be organised in one of the 9 EU GREEN universities and should forecast a detailed communication plan.
- The budget may include the travel fees of the EU GREEN researchers to come to the conference.

As a result, indexed conference proceedings will be asked.

2.3 Total budget available for Action 1 and Action 2

Total budget available per university representing an average of 15 projects to be supported:

University	Total budget available
Atlantic Technological University	40 000 €
Högskolan i Gävle	40 000 €
Otto von Guericke Magdeburg University	30 000 €
University of Angers	60 000 €
University of Evora	40 000 €
University of Extremadura	10 000 €

¹ Early career researchers are understood as follows: master students, PhD students, those who finished their doctoral thesis less than 8 years ago.

University of Parma	30 000 €
University of Oradea	40 000 €
Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences	20 000 €
TOTAL	310 000€

2.3 Rules of funding for Action 1 - Incentive for collaborative research projects and Action 2 – EU GREEN Scientific conferences

No research per se cost will be allowed (i.e research consumables, research materials or equipment or publications are not allowed). The eligible costs should be related to the structuring of research.

At the application stage, each project leader will need to fill a **detailed budget**. The template of the budget form will be provided to the applicants. **The maximum budget allocated per project, based on the real costs declared in the detailed budget, will be split between involved partners.** Each university will finance the expenses of its own participating researchers. The project may include external partners, but they will be non-eligible for direct funding.

The co-funding of activities from other sources is possible and encouraged. But the project PI should pay attention to avoid European double funding (i.e. the same expenditure cannot be allocated twice to European funds). For example, the beneficiary cannot benefit from this program and from Horizon Europe or Erasmus+ funds for the same activities.

The contacts for the budgetary follow-up in each university (namely the EU GREEN local coordinators) will be provided to the successful applicants after the notification. Specific financial and economic rules specific to each university might be applicable; therefore, **it is requested to share the budget distribution with each internal EU GREEN office from each university before submission.**

Type of activities	
Travel and subsistence expenses: airfare (economy class), train, car rental, lodging, meals, catering, visas, etc.	eligible
Costs of hosting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - seminars - conferences - workshops (e.g., venue rental, catering, lodging, etc.) 	eligible
Other goods, works and services requested to meet the projects objectives	eligible
Internships & student assistant costs	eligible
Publications (related to collaborative research) costs, including Open Access fees	not eligible
Internal invoicing for access to research infrastructures	not eligible
Subcontracting	not eligible
Scientific equipment	not eligible

Fellowships, scholarships for theses	not eligible
Website development	not eligible
Entertainment costs	not eligible
Office supply and furniture	not eligible
Indirect costs	not eligible

2.4 Characteristics of the projects for joint research activities (action 2.1) and EU GREEN conferences (action 2.2)

The research collaborative projects (action 1), and the conferences (action 2) shall make clear efforts towards **gender balance**. They should aim to have an even, 50/50 participation rate of both men and women amongst teams and in leading roles. The number of men and women in the project must be provided in the application.

The position of the people in the project must be mentioned (either PI, local coordinator or participant).

To raise awareness of the carbon impact of the activities, researchers should estimate the carbon footprint **of the mobilities implemented in their projects**, e.g., by using the online simulator [“Labos 1point5”](#). An assessment should be provided with the application form.

2.5 Evaluation

The following criteria will be utilised for project assessment (out of 60 for actions 1 and 2)

	Criteria	Max.score
Criteria 1	Relevance of the project for EU GREEN mission and vision. Link with the SDG.	/15
Criteria 2	Leverage potential and sustainability of the collaboration. Potential impact of the action.	/15
Criteria 3	Participation of Early Career Researchers. See table below.	/10
Criteria 4	Quality and credibility of the proposed workplan. Clarity and pertinence of the objectives of the project	/10
Criteria 5	Relation to other priority areas within the EU GREEN alliance: Education; Innovation and entrepreneurship; Engagement with external stakeholders and communities; Mobility and internationalization; Access, diversity and inclusion and Campus life.	/5
Criteria 6	Dealing with common territorial challenges and/or including regional external partners (i.e. public entities or private companies).	/5
	TOTAL	/60

Participation of Early Career Researchers in relation to the total number of participants	Grade
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50/50	10/10
60/40	8/10
70/30	6/10
80/20	4/10
90/10	2/10

Example:

25 members in the project, 10 ECR, 15 others = 8/10

11 participants in the project, 6 ECR, 5 others = 10/10

In case of a tie, gender dimension shall be considered. Priority shall be given to the proposals with the highest number of female research staff. In case of ex aequo then, the number of institutions involved will be taken into account.

2.6 Submission

Proposals must be submitted by the dedicated online form available [here](#) before the call deadline which is on the **15th of October 2025 at 10 am CET**.

Within the application, you will be asked to upload elements, among which:

- The detailed budget,
- The carbon footprint assessment of the mobilities
- Summary table of all the people involved for pillar 1. & 2. Template is available on the website.
- The CV of the PI or of the visiting fellow for pillar 3 (max 4 pages)

Projects received after the deadline or incomplete projects will not be considered. Projects must be submitted in English.

An opinion from the research clusters will be asked depending on the project scientific scope. If the project does not fit the scope of a cluster, then the JRC may ask an opinion from other internal or external specialists. The Joint Research Committee will evaluate the propositions.

2.7 Timeline for Action 1 and 2

Presentation of the call	At the 3rd Research week in June 2025
Application open	June 2025
1 st online information session	26 th of June 10 am – 11:30 CET
2 nd online information session	10 th of September – 3 pm– 4:30 CET
Application close	15th of October 2025, 10 AM CET
Joint Research commission – Seed funding selection	13th of November 2025 2 pm – 4 pm CET
Notification to applicants	Before the 15 th of December 2025
Latest date for projects to start	1 st of January 2026
End date of eligibility of expenditure	31st of December 2026
Final report due	31st of December 2026

3. Researcher Mobility Program

3.1 General characteristics

The program finances outgoing mobility towards EU GREEN universities. It is expected from the research visits to either launch or reinforce research cooperation between EU GREEN institutions on an individual (researchers), intermediate (teams/medium scale projects) or institutional level (research centres/large scale projects, PhD schools etc.). Max €2,000 per person per mobility will be granted to cover travel costs and related expenses as accommodation and food during the mobility period.

The mobility must comply with internal regulations at each partner university. Mobilities will be funded only towards EU GREEN universities and for participation in project activities. Both the visiting fellow and the host researcher shall be actively implicated in the project's realisation during the visit. The support of the project by a host researcher and host research centre is mandatory.

3.2 Funding availability

Depending on its internal budget, each university may finance the following number of mobility schemes:

Universities	Number of outgoing mobilities available
Atlantic Technological University, Ireland	28
Högskolan i Gävle, Sweden	29
Otto von Guericke Magdeburg University, Germany	30
University of Angers, France	19
University of Evora, Portugal	14
University of Extremadura, Spain	17
University of Parma, Italy	22

University of Oradea, Romania	25
Wrocław University of Environmental and Life Sciences, Poland	23
TOTAL	207

3.3 Evaluation

The following criteria will be utilised for project assessment.

	Criteria	Max. score
Criteria 1	Relevance of the project for EU GREEN mission and vision. Link with the Sustainable Development Goals .	/ 10
Criteria 2	The expected outcomes of the mobility visit, and next collaboration steps planned after the visit	/ 6
Criteria 3	Quality of the programme of the activities to be developed during the visit.	/ 5
Criteria 4	Participation of early career researchers (PhD students and Postdoc)	/ 4
	TOTAL	25 points

In case of a tie, priorities will be given to projects with early career researchers.

Evaluation committee: each university selects internally in real-time until all the mobilities planned are realised. When a proposition arises, WP3 team will send it to the dedicated university's JRC members, who will decide internally within 2 weeks.

3.4 Submission

Proposals must be submitted by email at eugreenwp3@univ-angers.fr. This action will be evaluated in real-time until funding runs out. Whenever you would like to submit a proposal, send it to WP3 coordination team who will provide you an answer within 1 month. Applications will be accepted until **30th September 2026** until exhaustion of the funds. Mobilities need to be undertaken before 30 December 2026.

Projects must be submitted in English.

The application must contain:

- The application form including the detailed budget,
- The carbon footprint assessment of the mobility
- The CV of the visiting fellow (max 4 pages).

4. Reporting of all actions

Technical report:

A final report must be submitted within 30 days after the end of the project and at the latest on the 31st of December 2026. A template will be provided by the WP3 coordinator. The reports will be submitted by email at the following address: eugreenwp3@univ-angers.fr which will then disclose the reports to the JRC for a general assessment of the "Joint research activity" initiative.

Financial report:

A financial report must be submitted at the end of action 2.1 (incentive programs) and 2.2 (scientific

conferences) following the financial same template provided in the application form and clearly stating the final expenditures per university. A short feedback and photos (if available) will be asked for the action 2.3 to promote the mobility.

5. Results

Ownership or joint ownership of results, the transfer of results, the dissemination of results and the access rights are governed by the EU GREEN Grant Agreement and the EU GREEN Consortium Agreement.

6. Communication

The EU GREEN logo and “funded by the European Union” logo must appear in the communication materials of your project. If your project is selected, the WP3 coordinating team will provide you with specific information.

All results and dissemination materials must acknowledge the funding received by EU GREEN according to these [guidelines \(6.1 Official communication guidelines\)](#).

7. Questions

If you have any question on this procedure, please send it to eugreenwp3@univ-angers.fr.

The info sessions will be recorded (see calendar), and the videos will be made available on request.