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EU GREEN

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

THE 2023-2024 EU GREEN BIP EXPERIENCE

Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta an Atlantaigh
Atlantic Technological University
OTTO VON GUERICKE UNIVERSITÄT MAGDEBURG
université angers
UNIVERSIDADE DE ÉVORA
UNIVERSITÀ DI PARMA
HÖGSKOLAN I GÄVLE
WROCŁAW UNIVERSITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND LIFE SCIENCES


EU GREEN

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From the President of the EU GREEN Senate

Dear Reader,

I am pleased to present this booklet, which showcases the Blended Intensive Programmes (BIPs) organised within the EU GREEN Alliance during the 2023-2024 academic year. As you probably know, the EU GREEN Alliance unites European institutions dedicated to promoting sustainability, innovation, and the green and digital transition in higher education. BIPs offer a unique format that combines virtual learning with physical mobility, allowing more students as well as university staff to engage in academic exchanges. This approach not only caters to the need for flexibility in today's world but also leverages digital technologies to facilitate intercultural dialogue, knowledge exchange, and multidisciplinary collaboration.

Our BIPs are designed to integrate online learning with intensive in-person experiences, fostering cross-cultural exchange and cooperative learning among people from different countries. These programmes are more than just academic opportunities; they provide participants with the chance for both personal and professional development. Through these BIPs, participants not only acquire new skills but also cultivate a mindset of curiosity and openness,

preparing them to tackle global challenges with creativity and teamwork.

Looking to the future, we are excited about the possibilities for new initiatives within the EU GREEN Alliance framework. Although some details are still in progress, we are committed to expanding our offerings and continually improving the educational experiences we provide.

I believe this review booklet, beyond documenting our experiences, will be a valuable resource for understanding the potential of Blended Intensive Programmes and for maximizing the opportunities they offer. I hope each of you has the opportunity to participate in a BIP, whatever it may be, because it certainly represents a rewarding and inspiring experience, and I hope BIPs will play a significant role in your educational and/or professional journey.

With my best wishes,

Giorgio Pelosi
EU GREEN Senate President
Università di Parma

Message from the EU GREEN Coordinator

What is EU GREEN?
It is an alliance of European universities that aims to transform our way of understanding education, research and innovation through the prism of sustainability. EU GREEN is made up of 9 universities from different European countries, united by a common commitment: addressing global challenges in terms of sustainability, biodiversity and the environment, through cooperation and joint work.

Also, with the commitment to internationalise those services that are traditionally less internationalised and that will be key in the near future to take advantage of this opportunity for both students, researchers and teaching staff.

This grand strategy allows us to share resources, knowledge and projects, and ultimately drive real change in our communities and society at large.

Why are BIPS great joint training opportunities?
Our universities have collaborated for decades through the Erasmus study programme. BIPs are innovative and unique training opportunities provided by the European Commission, designed to educate thousands of students through short

mobilities in both virtual and in-person formats. These programmes enable students not only to learn through hands-on experience but also to delve deeper into critical topics related to global challenges. They offer students within the alliance a chance to connect with peers, creating new opportunities from these interactions. In essence, BIPs are short, intensive programmes that utilise cutting-edge methods of learning and teaching, including online collaborative work. BIP programmes include challenge-based learning where transnational teams of students work together to address challenges or projects. Often, work groups combine students from different areas of study to approach the project from different perspectives and who will have to learn to collaborate and complement each other. BIPs also offer professors, whether faculty administrators, the opportunity to collaborate with other researchers or experts in the field and grow alongside students of different nationalities.

In this sense, students from the universities that are part of this alliance will participate in educational programmes designed in collaboration between the institutions, which includes the sharing of experiences and the adoption of best practices and access to shared resources. So far, we are proud because EU GREEN has offered 12 of these initiatives, which have been a success for all parties and, therefore, we will continue working on them.

Go BIPs! Go EU GREEN!

Gemma Delicado Puerto
EU GREEN General Coordinator
Universidad de Extremadura

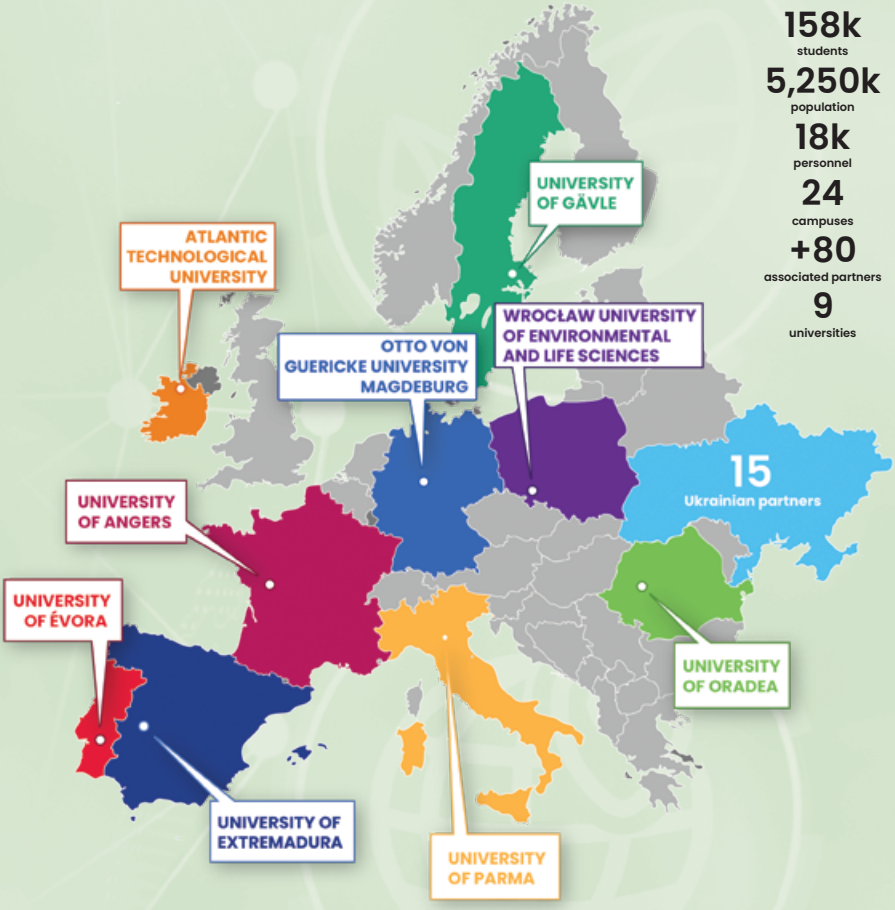
The EU GREEN Alliance

The EU GREEN Alliance aims to create a **European hub for education, research and innovation in sustainability** that goes beyond the boundaries of the consortium. At its core, EU GREEN is dedicated to upholding key EU values such as **inclusion**, **democracy**, **peace** and **sustainability**. Its vision is built around five key pillars: **education**, **research**, **innovation**, **service to society**, and **respect for European values**.

The EU GREEN Alliance is composed of **nine universities** and the Alliance's academic network is further strengthened by more than 80 associated partners who actively contribute to its mission. EU GREEN is structured in 9 Work Packages. Each Alliance partner is responsible for one of them and co-responsible for a second one.

Education is the key to achieving a necessary sustainable future. Our young European students, together with our researchers, teachers, and administrative staff, have played and will continue to play a significant role in defining these pillars by building a **common approach to sustainability**. In today's world, universities are pivotal in preparing citizens for the ecological transition, and EU GREEN is equipping its students and staff with the skills and knowledge needed to drive progress toward the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

Who We Are


158k
students
5,250k
population
18k
personnel
24
campuses
+80
associated partners
9
universities
UNIVERSITY OF GÄVLE
ATLANTIC TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY
OTTO VON GUERICKE UNIVERSITY MAGDEBURG
WROCŁAW UNIVERSITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND LIFE SCIENCES
15
Ukrainian partners
UNIVERSITY OF ANGERS
UNIVERSITY OF ÉVORA
UNIVERSITY OF ORADEA
UNIVERSITY OF EXTREMADURA
UNIVERSITY OF PARMA

The Pillars of the Alliance

The Erasmus+ Programme

Since its establishment in **1987**, the "Erasmus" programme has been instrumental in promoting collaboration among higher education institutions in **Europe**. The programme has since evolved into Erasmus+, broadening its scope to encompass **mobility in several fields such as education, youth and sports both within Europe and globally**. Over 15 million people have been part of Erasmus+ projects since its launch. Erasmus+ not only enhances academic and professional opportunities but also fosters cultural exchange and personal enrichment.

Erasmus+ is structured around 3 main "Key actions", each designed to support the educational, professional, and personal development of individuals by promoting lifelong learning:

- Key Action 1: Learning mobility of **individuals**
- Key Action 2: Cooperation among **organisations** and institutions
- Key Action 3: Support to **policy development and cooperation**

Thanks to its wide range of activities, Erasmus+ contributes to sustainability goals, employment, social cohesion, and the strengthening of European values. The current Erasmus+ funding runs from 2021 to 2027 with an estimated budget of around €26.2 billion.

The Blended Intensive Programmes

The Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programmes (**BIP**) provide **short-term mobility experiences** that offer the unique opportunity to attend courses in blended mode (**virtual and learning conducted in a physical setting**).

As part of the Erasmus+ Programme, BIPs are an excellent opportunity to explore the EU GREEN environment. These intensive programmes **use creative methods for learning and teaching also through online collaboration**.

Under the EU GREEN Alliance, Blended Intensive Programmes are implemented by **at least three higher education institutions** (HEIs) coming from **at least three programme countries**. The mobility includes both physical in-presence activity between **5 to 30 days** and a virtual part with no specified duration.

BIPs aim to **develop transnational and transdisciplinary curricula by implementing research-based learning and challenge-based approaches that tackle societal challenges**. For the 2023/2024 Academic year, the EU GREEN Alliance offered **11 BIP opportunities** covering a wide range of disciplines.

These programmes offered an incredible opportunity to significantly increase active collaboration between professors from the **nine partner universities** while diving into the beauty, culture, and distinct charm of the cities involved. The exciting summary of this experience can be discovered reading the following pages: each Blended Intensive Programme was designed to enrich both the participants' academic journey and the cultural and scientific growth, not forgetting to promote unique destinations, each one with its own characteristics and excellences, but all of them within the soon-to-become our EU GREEN European Campus.

EU GREEN Work Package 6 - Fostering Mobility and International Collaboration for Education on Sustainability

BIP projects are a relevant part of the EU GREEN Alliance strategy towards the development of a flawless mobility scheme within the network. The activity, as any other internationalization action, runs under the coordination of Work Package 6, which oversees its design, implementation and monitoring.

EU GREEN fosters any form of mobility, from virtual to blended and physical, connecting sustainability expertise across the consortium and beyond. The interaction between the ERASMUS+ Programme and the Alliance strategies is significant, since the first is a precious and primary instrument to achieve significant goals in mobility and exchange of students and staff. Such initiatives introduce students and staff to diverse cultural perspectives and teaching methods, enabling them to tailor their experiences while specializing in specific sustainability-related areas of interest.

Work Package 6 aims to implement mobility models and develop long-term collaborations that are inclusive and prioritize the respect of diversity of our community, placing inclusivity and sustainability as main pillars of each single undertaken activity. Work Package 6 is not limited only to mobility and exchange, though focus on a long-term strategy that identifies internationalization as a key element towards the consolidation of an academic alliance-based environment. Open to anyone interested in promoting European values beyond any border, it contributes to a unique space for education and research. EU GREEN Work Package 6 is coordinated by the University of Parma and co-coordinated by Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences, though it relies on the precious and constant contribution of all the alliance partners, whose work is of equal relevance and significance.

The BIP Experience – A Success Story

Dear Reader,

The purpose of this information booklet is to highlight the importance of the Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programmes (BIP) initiative that took place during the 2023/2024 academic year. As part of a larger strategy towards the development of a permanent flawless mobility and exchange scheme within the EU GREEN, the BIP Action offered the EU GREEN students' community the opportunity to experience the new and innovative sustainability-related themes overarching our Alliance.

The responses from students and teachers to this initiative were enthusiastic: there is still much that can be done, and will be done, to continually enhance both the quantity and quality of these short programmes, yet its first edition has already highlighted the action's full potential, particularly in expanding mobility opportunities for students:

- Not keen on undertaking long mobility period
- Not in the condition to face a full semester or academic year abroad
- Wishing to explore blended mobility as a still-unknown possibility
- Interested in innovative topics with the guarantee of full recognition.

With 11 successful programmes already realised in this first Call for BIPs, these programmes are setting a precedent for future educational initiatives such as long-term studies within Erasmus+ or Joint Degrees.

Key Highlights of the EU GREEN BIPs:

- **Focus on Sustainability**: Each programme emphasises environmentally sustainable practices and solutions, preparing students to tackle pressing global challenges.
- **Collaborative Learning**: The BIPs encourage collaboration between institutions, fostering a rich exchange of ideas and cultural perspectives.
- **Practical Application**: Students engage in hands-on projects that apply theoretical knowledge to real-world scenarios, enhancing their learning experience.
- **Interdisciplinary Approach**: The programmes bring together diverse fields of study, encouraging students to think critically and innovatively about sustainability.
- **Networking Opportunitie**s: Participants benefit from building connections with peers, faculty, and industry professionals, expanding their professional networks.
- **Future-Proofing Education**: By integrating blended learning methodologies, these programmes pave the way for further educational innovations, making learning more adaptable and relevant.

Thank you for participating if you were among the lucky ones.... Thank you for reading if you are interested in taking part in the near future... we rely on your energy and will to contribute to the growth of EU GREEN.

Alessandro Bernazzoli
University of Parma

Anna Posadowska-Malarz
Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences

The EU GREEN BIPs in Figures

OVERALL PARTICIPANTS:

413

STUDENTS ATTENDING THE BIPs:

256

UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS INVOLVED IN TEACHING:

157

AWARDED ECTS CREDITS:

1580

Artificial Intelligence in Health and Sport

June - July 2024

Coordinating University: **Università di Parma (I PARMA01)**

Universities involved: **Atlantic Technological University, Högskolan i Gävle, Otto-von-Guericke-Universität Magdeburg, Universidade de Évora, Universitad de Extremadura**

In-person hosting university: **Università di Parma**

Coordinator: **Prof. Giancarlo Condello – Università di Parma**

ECTS credits: **6**

Attending students: **24**

The BIP explored the use of AI to maintain healthy lifestyles in the general population and optimise performance while preventing injuries in athletes. It covered four modules: Introduction to AI, AI Opportunities and Challenges, AI in Health (Research and Applications), and AI in Sport (Research and Applications).

Aligned with the EU GREEN educational strategies, the BIP addressed societal challenges and scientific frontiers. AI, as a transformative science, connects diverse fields such as well-being, economy, behavior, public health, and marketing, impacting both local and global contexts.

The programme featured lectures and workshops, both online and in-person, involving experts from academia and industry. It encouraged the sharing of knowledge between students and scholars from diverse cultural backgrounds and areas of expertise.

"The programme has been a great opportunity for students from different countries, universities and cultures to work together, share their knowledge and experience by actively participating in the lectures." - Giancarlo Condello (Professor - Università di Parma)

"Everything was fantastic. The course was brilliant, with state-of-the-art approaches and a very open-minded leader. Highly satisfied, found many good friends and got positive memories relevant for my academic and professional career." - Oleksandr Fomichov (Student - Hogskölan i Gävle)

Ecological Restoration for Ecosystem Sustainability

June – September 2024

Coordinating university: **Universidade de Évora (PT ÉVORA01)**

Universities involved: **Atlantic Technological University, Högskolan i Gävle, Universidad de Extremadura, Università di Parma,** Université d'Angers, Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu

In-person hosting university: **Universidade de Évora**

Coordinator: **Prof. Carla Pinto Cruz – Universidade de Évora**

ECTS credits: **6**

Attending students: **22**

Human-driven and natural environmental changes, worsened by the accelerating impacts of climate change, disrupted ecosystems worldwide, affecting both their structure and function. Ecological restoration emerged as a vital response, aiming to revive, initiate, and fast-track the recovery of ecosystems damaged by these disturbances.

In response to this pressing need, the EU-Green Alliance consortium of universities launched the Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) "Ecological Restoration for Ecosystem Sustainability." The programme brought together a wealth of experience from six universities, whose lecturers boasted deep theoretical knowledge and practical experience in managing conservation and restoration projects across diverse ecosystems and biological groups.

What made this initiative unique was its cooperative nature, uniting scattered expertise from across Europe into a consolidated and integrated effort through the BIP. Together, they forged a pathway to train the next generation of ecological restoration professionals, ready to meet the urgent challenges of ecosystem sustainability.

"One of the most interesting aspects was the opportunity to engage with students from different universities, with different backgrounds." Rossano Bolpagni (Professor - Università di Parma).

"It was a very formative experience both in terms of learning more about topics related to my course of study and in terms of meeting young people of different nationalities, from different faculties and speaking a language other than my mother tongue."
Laura Di Noia (Student - Università di Parma).

Engaging Music Technology

September 2024

Coordinating University: **Universidad de Extremadura (E BADAJOZ01)**

Universities involved: **Universidad de Extremadura, Universidade de Évora, Universitatea din Oradea**

In-person hosting university: **Universidad de Extremadura, Campus of Cáceres**

Coordinator: **Dr. Martín Gómez-Ullate – Universidad de Extremadura**

ECTS credits: **6**

Attending students: **16**

This project-based course blended theory and practice, guiding participants through the design and execution of projects that leveraged technology to enhance various aspects of musicianship—composition, performance, sound design, interpretation, and music education.

Participants used innovative technologies, interfaces, and resources to collaborate on a collective musical performance. Drawing on their diverse musical backgrounds, they integrated new tools and techniques developed throughout the program. The final performances were presented publicly in Castelo Branco, Portugal, and Cáceres, Spain.

The course covered a broad range of topics: music theory, practice, notation, sonic awareness, music production, sound design, and interfaces for musical expression. Students gained practical experience with common software and hardware, including DAWs, virtual instruments, and sound synthesis.

"I had the opportunity to take part in a series of captivating and enriching activities. I learned a great deal about flamenco rhythms, along with the rich traditions and customs surrounding this genre. The people we met were wonderful—both my colleagues and the other participants were incredibly supportive, and we helped each other a lot throughout the project. We also shared insights into traditional Romanian music and worked on a choral piece together. The location was also stunning, as the city of Cáceres is absolutely beautiful."
Maria Cristina Mihu (Student - Universitatea din Oradea)

"It has been an incredibly positive experience. A remarkably interesting interdisciplinary team of highly qualified professionals sharing knowledge and experience while deeply discovering Extremadura's cultural heritage."
Martín Gómez-Ullate (Professor - Universidad de Extremadura)

Food Sustainability

June – July 2024

Coordinating University: **Università di Parma (I PARMA01)**

Universities involved: **Universidad de Extremadura, Université d'Angers, Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu**

In-person hosting university: **Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu**

Coordinator: **Prof. Tullia Tedeschi – Università di Parma**

ECTS credits: **6**

Attending students: **42**

This programme was designed to make students aware of these pressing challenges from multiple angles—environmental, agricultural, managerial, and legal. The ecological module equipped students with the tools to identify and map environmental pressures on a watershed scale, organise data into comprehensive GIS-connected databases, and assess soil health and water pollution risks.

The food module explored sustainable food production, offering insights into waste recovery, efficiency improvements, food safety, and security. It also highlighted the environmental footprint of food production, aiming for a holistic understanding of sustainability in the food system. The management module introduced the concept of transition, focusing on how innovative policies, localised production methods, novel technologies, and alternative consumption patterns could shape the future of food systems.

Finally, the law module provided a deep dive into the European Union's comprehensive approach to food sustainability, introducing students to the latest regulations on novel foods and sustainability frameworks.

"The BIP was an enriching experience. The theme of food sustainability was addressed from several angles. The programme was able to combine theory, practice and group work between European students."
Eva Lucot (Student - Université d'Angers).

"It was a really meaningful experience, both in terms of learning and personal growth. Not only did I gain new skills and dive deeper into sustainability topics, but I also had the chance to meet and connect with a diverse group of students. We quickly formed strong bonds, and what started as casual interactions in class turned into genuine friendships".
Ester Belluzzi (Student – Università di Parma).

Heritage Education and Digital Humanities

June - July 2024

Coordinating University: **Universidad de Extremadura (E BADAJOZ01)**

Universities involved: **Atlantic Technological University, Universidade de Évora, Università di Parma, Universitatea din Oradea, Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu**

In-person hosting university: **Universidad de Extremadura, Campus of Cáceres - Universidade de Évora, Learning villages of Torrequemada and Torreorgaz**

Coordinator: **Dr. Martín Gómez-Ullate – Universidad de Extremadura**

ECTS credits: **5**

Attending students: **22**

This innovative course offered a hands-on approach for students and professionals in cultural heritage and digital humanities, providing foundational and specialised knowledge on cutting-edge tools and techniques. Participants explored how modern heritage studies—spanning archaeology, history, museology, and cultural heritage management—increasingly rely on digital technologies. Techniques such as remote sensing, GIS, geophysical prospection, and archaeometry, alongside digital methods like 3D/2D scanning, big data, and drone photography, opened new dimensions for documenting and preserving heritage.

The course also emphasised the use of accessible digital tools, from social media and digital photography to interactive apps and games, enhancing how heritage is interpreted and shared. Structured around short virtual lessons by experts, the programme combined theoretical insights with practical applications through real-world case studies. Participants not only gained technical skills but also learned how to select and apply the right tools to suit their specific goals or budgets, empowering them.

"The experience was very rich. Each day was planned to be lived intensively. Both in-person and on-line, each teacher organised small but significant lessons that allowed me to approach these new topics that I had never faced before. I had the valuable opportunity to compare different cultural heritage systems. The most valuable thing is to discover that Spain has a great intangible cultural heritage very well preserved."
Silvia Iasoni (Student – Università di Parma)

"The experience of teaching online and in-person was very interesting and rewarding. Sharing it with my colleagues and with students has been a new experience, where I gained knowledge on the topic and on teaching methods."
Sofia Aleixo (Professor - Universidade de Évora)

Introduction to Mathematical and Computational Modelling for Sustainability

May - June 2024

Coordinating University: **Universitatea din Oradea (RO ORADEA01)**

Universities involved: **Atlantic Technological University, Högskolan i Gävle, Universidade de Évora, Università di Parma, Université d'Angers**

In-person hosting university: **Universitatea din Oradea**

Coordinator: **Prof. Radu Cătălin Țarcă - Universitatea din Oradea**

ECTS credits: **6**

Attending students: **25**

This programme was designed for Master's and Doctoral students looking to sharpen their skills in mathematical and computational modeling, specifically for research projects aligned with the EU GREEN research agenda. It introduced advanced modeling techniques aimed at improving understanding and supporting sustainable decision-making in health, environmental, societal, and industrial systems.

The programme emphasised strategic, high-level thinking in the design and analysis of modeling frameworks, demonstrating how these tools could be harnessed for effective decision-making. Equal emphasis was placed on both interpersonal and technical skills, preparing participants for collaboration and analytical tasks. Students were introduced to a variety of modelling methods, learning not only how to apply them but also understanding their limitations. This approach enabled students to choose specific areas for in-depth exploration. The programme consisted of online weekly sessions and a week-long in-person aspect at the University of Oradea. The BIP provided hands-on workshops, student presentations, group projects, and networking opportunities. Students in the programme worked on research-related projects with expert mentors, focusing on modeling techniques or preliminary modelling work to prepare them for real-world challenges.

"The BIP course provided useful interdisciplinary information regarding how mathematical and computational modelling can be used as tool in any research area.
Also, it was a very good networking facilitator event".
Radu Cătălin Țarcă (Professor - Universitatea din Oradea)

"Regarding this BIP, the exercise part of the programme was really useful."
Fatma Celik (Student – Università di Parma)

Invasive Alien Species in a European Perspective

May - June 2024

Coordinating University: **Hogskölan i Gävle (S GAVLE01)**

Universities involved: **Atlantic Technological University, Universidade de Évora, Università di Parma, Universitatea din Oradea, Université d'Angers, Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu, Universidad de Extremadura**

In-person hosting university: **Universidad de Extremadura**

Coordinator: **Prof. Sandra Wright - Hogskölan I Gävle**

ECTS credits: **6**

Attending students: **23**

The course tackled critical issues surrounding the emergence, spread, and management of invasive plant and animal species (IAS), highlighting their significant impact on biodiversity, society, and the economy. Students gained a deeper understanding of IAS through a critical lens, focusing on informed decision-making and the legal frameworks surrounding IAS, while also exploring the potential of Citizen Science to involve the public in monitoring efforts.

In parallel, the course introduced an innovative, hands-on approach to digital humanities, designed for students and professionals in cultural heritage and related fields. Participants acquired knowledge on cutting-edge technologies, tools, and techniques to document, analyse, and preserve cultural heritage. With the growing integration of digital media into heritage studies—through methods such as remote sensing, GIS, 3D/2D scanning, and drone photography—students learned how to diversify documentation methods. Moreover, they explored the role of interactive tools, apps, and games in making heritage interpretation more accessible and engaging.

"It was a very interesting and enriching experience to interact with such a broad and diverse faculty, both in the development and organisation of the BIP."
Filipe Banha (Professor - Universidade de Évora)

"I really enjoyed participating in the BIP on Invasive Alien Species. It was a learning experience in many ways, starting from the new things that I learned and the chance to put into practice what we were analysing during the lectures. Morever, meeting new people from different countries and cultures was very important to me, as well as the chance to improve my English.
Chiara Conte (Student - Università di Parma)

Living, Inquiring and Knowing: a Hub of Outdoor Practices for Sustainability (LINK Outdoor)

September - October 2024

Coordinating University: **Universidade de Évora (PT ÉVORA01)**

Universities involved: **Atlantic Technological University, Università di Parma, Université d'Angers**

In-person hosting university: **Universidade de Évora**

Coordinator: **Prof. Maria Ilhéu – Universidade de Évora**

ECTS credits: **6**

Attending students: **20**

Education for sustainability needs to consider the connection to all entities in the natural-cultural world. Enabling students to connect with the multispecies communities we live in is a key to a sustainable future. The increase of human-induced pressures upon the natural world makes this an immediate priority. A sustainable future demands deep changes in our behaviors by promoting transformative learning. It emphasises the need for competencies that address future complexities, preserve sociocultural values, and adopt a proactive approach, as outlined in the GreenComp Framework.

This BIP implemented immersive and transformative experiences for research and learning. Students were empowered to work collaboratively across disciplines. Through theoretical backgrounds, analysis and discussions of Real-World case studies participants developed their capacity to embrace sustainability. This BIP promoted creative and collaborative approaches while inspiring students to innovate their own studies, to encourage healthy lifestyles and deep relationships with the natural and socio-cultural ecosystems. This initiative empowers students personally and unites experts to create innovative outdoor teaching methods connecting with sustainability aspects. This BIP was designed to have an immersive in-person experience, online classes with theoretical concepts related to sustainability, and individual or group transdisciplinary outdoor projects.

"Participation in this initiative was stimulating and invited influences from across Europe which I believe will impact my teaching and research. I think it is in the application of the BIP's concepts that a greater understanding is gained by both teachers and learners."
Stephen Hannon (Professor - Atlantic Technological University)

"It was an amazing experience; the objectives of the project were achieved. Students' participation and engagement were optimal because the teaching methods were student-centered. The coordinators did an excellent job. I will recommend this project without a doubt, for students who are interested in various aspects of outdoor learning."
Goodluck Ohis Aigbologa (Student – Università di Parma)

One Health and Sustainability in Wildlife: from Basic to Clinic

June - July 2024

Coordinating University: **Universidad de Extremadura (E BADAJOZ01)**

Universities involved: **Universidade de Évora, Università di Parma, Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu**

In-person hosting university: **Universidad de Extremadura, Faculty of Veterinary – Cáceres**

Coordinator: **Prof. María Martín Cuervo – Universidad de Extremadura**

ECTS credits: **5**

Attending students: **16**

The programme offered a dynamic four-week journey, immersing participants in the vital intersection of environmental health, wildlife conservation, and veterinary medicine.

Participants dove into the core principles of One Health, exploring the unique aspects of wildlife immunology, anatomy, and the impact of pollution and pharmaceutical residues on wildlife. Week two advanced into diagnostic methods, from lab analyses to imaging techniques, with a focus on infectious and parasitic diseases affecting both wildlife and domestic animals. Participants gained expertise in hematological, biochemical diagnostics, and advanced imaging for wild species. By week three, the programmes shifted to hands-on clinical training, teaching participants how to diagnose, treat, rehabilitate, and reintroduce rescued wildlife, with practical protocols for various scenarios like collisions and accidents.

In the final week, participants headed to Extremadura for immersive workshops and field visits to Monfragüe National Park and the Los Hornos Wildlife Recovery Center, putting their new skills to use in real-world conservation efforts.

"It was a great experience. The students were attentive, kind and very responsible. The organiser tried her best to accommodate people with different backgrounds."
Hector Cordero (Professor - Universidad de Extremadura)

"I really enjoyed all aspects of the BIP, there were so many interesting topics presented by great Professors. The programme was made even better by the in-person portion held at the University of Extremadura. All professors were wonderful and incredibly engaging, they all organised fun laboratory experiences for us to participate in."
Sarah O'Keeffe (Student - Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu)

Statistics for Management

May – June 2024

Coordinating University: **Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu (PL WROCLAW04)**

Universities involved: **Atlantic Technological University, Högskolan i Gävle, Universidad de Extremadura, Universidade de Évora, Università di Parma, Universitatea din Oradea**

In-person hosting university: **Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu**

Coordinator: **Prof. Jan Kazak - Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu**

ECTS credits: **6**

Attending students: **20**

This course was designed to empower students with essential tools and strategies that enhance decision-making in management and economics. By focusing on foundational skills in descriptive and inferential statistics, data processing, and visual analysis using cutting-edge software, students have become better equipped to conduct thorough, impactful research in the field of Management.

Beyond just learning techniques and methods, the aim was for students to grasp their real-world applications—how these tools can solve management challenges and drive informed decisions. From day one, students were encouraged to apply their theoretical knowledge in tackling real research problems and setting clear objectives with the right variables and methods to achieve their goals. Learning took place by using project-based methods, fostering both understanding and practical skills.

The programme also offered an international experience, encouraging collaboration with peers and faculty from partner institutions across cultures. This cross-cultural engagement built the capacity for future global cooperation.

"As an educator, I have found BIPs to be an incredibly effective and dynamic approach to education. It combines the best of both traditional face-to-face education and digital learning, allowing greater flexibility and deeper engagement. It has also been encouraging to see students from different places connecting and learning so much from each other."
Rengin Aslanoglu (Professor - Uniwersytet Przyrodniczy we Wrocławiu)

"As a student, this project was really useful. I participated in data analysis, group work, project management, and problem-solving with other students from abroad. The experience allowed me to see different perspectives and taught me the use of computational instruments such as Jamovi, R studios, Knime analytics for data analysis and project management. The program was also useful in teaching students how to collaborate with each other, and to respect differing opinions"
Goodluck Ohis Aigbologa (Student – Università di Parma)

Transversal Skills for the Internationalization of Young Researchers through EU Projects

May - July 2024

Coordinating University: **Universidad de Extremadura (E BADAJOZ01)**

Universities involved: **Universidade de Évora, Università di Parma, Universitatea din Oradea, Université d'Angers**

In-person hosting university: **Universidad de Extremadura, La Vera – Campo Arañuelo Rural Innovation Hub (Cáceres)**

Coordinator: **Dr. Cristina Gallardo - Universidad de Extremadura**

ECTS credits: **4,5**

Attending students: **26**

Participants learned how to build a strong personal brand and craft a professional online presence through websites, social media, and CVs. They also developed skills in communicating research accessibly, networking effectively, and fostering collaboration within their fields.

This BIP provided insights into conceptualising project ideas for European Union (EU) projects, with a focus on essential elements like Open Science, Ethics, Gender, Security, and Taxonomy. Participants were guided through crafting compelling project proposals aligned with EU funding frameworks, emphasising innovation, impact, and feasibility.

Participants explored the EU's sustainability goals and their global significance, learning to align projects with environmental, social, and economic objectives. The final module covered sustainable planning, impact assessment, circular economic principles, and community engagement, ensuring that participants could evaluate project contributions to meet EU sustainability goals and promote responsible research practices.

"I believe that the topic of this course was especially important for researchers. The experience was positive."
Andreia Dionísio (Professor - Universidade de Évora)

"This BIP promoted interdisciplinary collaboration, networking, and sustainability. Participants improved their skills, worked on idea conceptualisation, and formed multidisciplinary teams, receiving feedback and establishing valuable contacts."
Cristina Gallardo (Professor - Universidad de Extremadura)

A Year of BIPs in Photos

Thanks to

All participating students, Academics and Faculty members

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