



**UPDATES WELCOME PROGRAM AND INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY**

**Our ERASMUS+ got talent !**

Organised by the Mobility and Welcome Department of the DDIE, the event “Our Erasmus+ Got Talent” held its 5th edition on Friday, March 13, 2026, at the Maison de l’Étudiant. Primarily aimed at students, this event is part of an initiative to showcase talent and strengthen integration into student life, while promoting intercultural exchange. A total of 180 participants, including students, staff, and families of the contestants, attended the evening.



The competition featured 10 performances by international students from various countries. The disciplines included singing, dance, stand-up comedy, and magic, offering a rich diversity of talents and cultural expressions. These performances were evaluated by a jury composed of three qualified members.

There was also an international general knowledge quiz which actively engaged the audience. The top three participants were awarded prizes during the ceremony. The evening continued with a cocktail reception, encouraging interaction between students of different nationalities. Two additional artistic performances enriched the program: a choreography performed by members of the Mobility and Welcome Office of the DDIE and a performance by a group of student dancers, mentored by one of the jury members, Ayrton Correia (Head of Dance at Unica Sport).

Beyond its artistic dimension, this event serves as a valuable tool for the integration of international students. It provides a platform for self-expression, encourages connections, and helps strengthen students’ sense of belonging within the university community. Participant feedback highlighted the high quality of the organization as well as the welcoming and inclusive atmosphere of the evening



**UPDATES REGIONAL, EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS – Maison de l’Europe et des Territoires**

**Use the RESEARCH CONNECT plateforme to search for Calls for projects open and forthcoming : the new monitoring and research funding database!**

Log on to the [Welcome | ResearchConnect](#) site, or go to the [UniCA web page - RESEARCH & INNOVATION - Services for researchers](#) -> **CALL FOR PROJECTS**, and create your profile using your ‘[prenom.nom@univ-cotedazur.fr](mailto:prenom.nom@univ-cotedazur.fr)’. Refer to the [User guide](#) (in French).

Research Connect can also be launched via the intranet - My Tools



The content of the site is updated regularly to keep you informed of the latest changes and trends in financing. Check out the latest news in this [Bulletin](#).



**PROJECT ASSISTANCE  
REQUEST FORM**

**For projects to be carried out by UniCA, CNRS and OCA**

**Young researchers, apply now for the EU TalentOn competition!**

Organised for the first time in France, the third edition will take place in Brest from 7 to 11 September 2026. EU TalentOn is a competition aimed at young researchers aged between 21 and 35. Come and spend five days working in multidisciplinary, transnational teams to develop innovative projects aligned with one of the five European Missions:

- Adapting to climate change
- Fighting cancer
- Restoring our oceans and waters by 2030
- Smart, carbon-neutral cities
- Soil health and food

Participants will also receive support from subject-matter and business experts to help them structure their project. 100 candidates will be selected. The prize: **€80,000 in prize money**, including €12,000 for the project with the greatest impact, and increased visibility at European level. The competition will be conducted in English. All costs associated with this event – international and local travel, accommodation and meals – are covered by the project.

Applications are currently open until 30 April. For further information:

- EU TalentOn 2026 website: <https://www.eutalentonbrest2026.eu/>
- LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/eu-talenton>
- Rules and schedule: <https://www.eutalentonbrest2026.eu/about/competition-rules/>
- Registration platform: <https://eutalenton.awardsplatform.com/>

**From Training to Impact: The Success of the Erasmus+ UNICATION Project**



After 24 months of implementation, the European Erasmus+ UNICATION project has come to a close with highly positive results, having fully achieved its objectives of strengthening international cooperation, inclusiveness, and project management capacities in Cambodia and the Philippines.



At the heart of the project was an ambitious capacity-building programme, comprising six training modules and an international masterclass delivered in hybrid, in-person, and online formats. This momentum was further reinforced through the organisation of National Multiplier Workshops in Cambodia and the Philippines (WP4 and WP5), which brought together 195 participants from 42 higher education institutions. Through a “train-the-trainers” approach, these activities facilitated the dissemination of acquired skills and stimulated the development of new collaborative projects and cooperation agreements.



In total, the project reached 3,799 participants. At the individual level, UNICATION significantly enhanced communication, intercultural, and project management skills, with nearly 80% of participants now integrating inclusive and gender-sensitive practices into their work. At the institutional level, partner institutions improved their internal procedures, established dedicated task forces, and integrated project results into their training programmes and internationalisation strategies. At the regional level, the project contributed to structuring a sustainable cooperation network between Europe and Asia, supported by formalised agreements and the active involvement of policymakers. It is fully aligned with the ASEAN–EU cooperation framework in higher education.

UNICATION thus leaves a strong legacy, based on replicable tools such as the Inclusivity in Project Management Booklet and the Internationalisation@Home Guide (UniCA), as well as innovative practices including cascading training schemes and the strategic integration of Internationalisation at Home. In the long term, the project is expected to foster increased participation of Asian higher education institutions in Erasmus+ and CBHE programmes, while strengthening inclusive governance practices and sustainable partnerships.

## DIGITAL MOVE project successfully completed: a driver for digital transformation in Higher Education in Mongolia and Vietnam



After three years of collaboration, the DIGITAL MOVE project has successfully come to an end, delivering concrete results that strengthen the capacity of Mongolian and Vietnamese universities to lead their digital transformation. Bringing together 11 universities from Mongolia and Vietnam alongside two European partners — Université Côte d'Azur and Technical University of Košice — the project supported institutions in moving from isolated initiatives to fully integrated institutional strategies. Through structured cooperation, capacity building, and pedagogical innovation, DIGITAL MOVE has laid strong foundations for sustainable transformation. Among its key achievements, the project enabled universities to structure their digital transition through digital maturity assessments and the development of tailored strategies and action plans aligned with their priorities. This process led to the creation of Innovative Pedagogical Centres dedicated to teaching innovation and staff support, as well as the development or upgrading of Learning Management Systems to support blended and online learning.

Recognising that digital transformation relies primarily on human skills, more than 400 participants — including university leadership, academic and administrative staff, IT specialists, and students — benefited from targeted training. These activities helped foster a shared digital culture and sustainably strengthen institutional capacities.

The project also extended its impact beyond the consortium by engaging policymakers, socio-economic actors, and experts through events gathering more than 850 participants, while producing recommendations to support more inclusive digital transformation. Within the consortium, Université Côte d'Azur played a key role in supporting partners in the design of their strategies, developing training programmes and resources, sharing European best practices, and organising study visits, both online and on-site.

The project concluded with a final conference held in Da Nang in January 2026, bringing together partners and stakeholders to share results and explore future perspectives. DIGITAL MOVE leaves a strong legacy: reinforced strategies, sustainable structures, enhanced skills, and above all, a shared vision of digital transformation as a continuous, human-centred process. The project outputs — strategies, training materials, and policy recommendations — remain available to support other institutions in their digital journey.

## Launch of the NEEMA Online Training Programme: Building Skills for Sustainable Food Systems

The European Erasmus+ NEEMA project is reaching a new milestone with the official launch of its online training programme, now freely accessible to all. Designed to address the contemporary challenges of food and nutrition resilience, this training aims to promote the transfer and adaptation of European and international best practices to African contexts, particularly in West Africa and the Sahel, thereby contributing to the sustainable transformation of food systems. The training programme has been co-developed by the European and African partner universities of the NEEMA consortium. It consists of seven online modules, covering in an integrated manner the following key themes:

- Sustainable development and rural entrepreneurship
- Social innovation and territorial dynamics
- Strengthening value chains for small-scale producers
- Food and nutrition resilience within the framework of the SDGs
- Technology, data, green chemistry and circular economy

Each module has been designed to combine theoretical knowledge with practical applications, in response to the complex and evolving challenges faced by today's agricultural and food systems.

Fully free, open, and accessible online, the training is hosted on the Moodle platform and delivered in an asynchronous format, allowing learners to progress at their own pace and according to their availability. It therefore represents a flexible and inclusive learning tool, suited to a wide range of profiles.

To date, more than 600 participants (students, researchers, lecturers, companies, and local elected officials), mainly from African countries, are actively following the online training. For further information about the training or to register, please contact: [dalenda.larifi@univ-cotedazur.fr](mailto:dalenda.larifi@univ-cotedazur.fr)

Modules	
	<b>Module 1: Entreprenariat rural et capacités locales pour la résilience alimentaire et nutritionnelle.</b> Management Center Innsbruck, Autriche
	<b>Module 2: Innovation sociale pour le développement rural et l'alimentation durable</b> Université Amadou Mahtar Mbow (UAM), Sénégal
	<b>Module 3: Renforcement de la chaîne de valeur des petits producteurs agricoles</b> Université Cheikh Anta Diop (UCAD), Sénégal
	<b>Module 4: Objectifs de développement durable et résilience alimentaire et nutritionnelle : une approche holistique de l'ODD 2 et son interrelation avec les autres ODD</b> Universidad de Sevilla (USE), Espagne
	<b>Module 5: Egalité des sexes : parvenir à l'égalité des sexes et autonomiser toutes les femmes et les filles</b> Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences (HH), Finlande
	<b>Module 6: Pratiques durables dans la valorisation des déchets agroalimentaires: des technologies d'extraction aux applications</b> Università degli Studi di Genova (UNIGE), Italie
	<b>Module 7: Développement de projets d'action locale (module pratique)</b> Institut Polytechnique Rural de Formation et de Recherche Appliquée de Katibougou (IPR/IFRA), Mali

## « Ready, Immerse and Go » : the Erasmus+ Ulysseus project comes to an end



The RIGO project (Ready, Immerse and Go – Immersive VR Experience for International Mobility), coordinated by Université Côte d'Azur, is concluding after exploring the use of virtual reality to prepare students for international mobility.

Its objective: to offer an immersive platform enabling students to experience, in advance, realistic situations related to studying abroad (culture shock, language barriers, isolation). Through these simulations, they develop key skills and build confidence before departure. Following an initial co-creation phase completed in May 2024—based on student testimonials—a second essential phase involved designing the final virtual scenarios with

project partners and developing the immersive platform. These contents, directly inspired by real-life experiences, were transformed into interactive modules accessible to students.

Today, the VR platform is publicly available, providing concrete access to these immersive experiences and serving as an innovative tool to support preparation for international mobility.

The project concluded with its final meeting at the end of January in Innsbruck, marking the successful outcome of a European collaboration aimed at making mobility more inclusive and better prepared.

You can visit the VR platform here: <https://auth.speedernet-erasmus.com/signin>

## Closing of the Erasmus+ CURATE Project in Helsinki



The Erasmus+ CURATE project (Co-created stUdent centRed incubATor programmE), launched in November 2023 within the Ulysseus alliance, came to an end in late April 2026 during its final meeting in Helsinki, with the participation of Université Côte d'Azur.

Focused on educational innovation, CURATE aimed to design a student-centered incubator programme combining artificial intelligence and entrepreneurship. Partners co-created the CURATE Incubator Programme (CIP), which was tested through bootcamps, reverse pitching sessions with companies, and a 16-week incubation programme.

The project also resulted in the development of a 3 ECTS MOOC, designed to broaden access to these innovative learning resources and extend their impact across Europe.

This final meeting marks the successful conclusion of an ambitious European collaboration promoting more innovative and inclusive education

## Transnational Mobility of the Erasmus+ CULT Project



The first and only transnational mobility of the Erasmus+ CULT project (Culture and Technology), coordinated by the University of Camerino, was organized by the University of Valencia in Spain. It brought together European teachers around innovative teaching methods inspired by the arts.

An active partner, Université Côte d'Azur took part in this meeting alongside institutions from five countries. Together, they are developing interdisciplinary approaches based on the STEAM model, combining science, technology, and artistic practices.

This mobility provided an opportunity to experiment with new teaching methods that promote creativity, innovation, and inclusion, particularly by facilitating access for women from humanities backgrounds to technology-related fields. It represents a key milestone of the project, aimed at strengthening the links between culture and technology in European higher education.

**Save the Date – Research Funding Webinar (27 May 2026) | IPO Webinar Series**

The International Project Office (IPO) of Ulysseus is pleased to invite you to save the date for the upcoming webinar:

Research Funding Webinar – Entry Points to EU Funding

📅 27 May 2026 | 09:30 – 12:30 (CET)

🎯 Target audience: Ulysseus academic and research staff

This webinar will provide a concise overview of key entry points into EU funding, including instruments such as MSCA, COST, and other relevant programmes, with practical guidance to support your future proposals.

📌 Topics include:

- MSCA Doctoral Networks & Staff Exchanges
- COST Actions
- RAISE Doctoral Networks
- Creative Europe & EU4Health

Please register via this link: 🖱️ [\[Registration link\]](#). Registration deadline: 22 May 2026

We look forward to your participation!

**ALIVE Programme selects 8 start-ups to drive innovation in ageing and well-being**



On 31 March, the selection committee for the ALIVE programme – Accelerating Longevity Innovations and Vitality Experiences – took place in Nice. 15 start-ups, both French and international, reached this stage and participated in the selection committee, showcasing the growing momentum and diversity of innovation in the fields of well-being and ageing. From health tech to solutions supporting active and independent living, these projects tackle key challenges linked to demographic transition and



increasing longevity. Following this selection phase, 8 start-ups were chosen from the 15 candidates to join the programme.

Led by the Institute for Innovation and Partnerships (2IP) Ageing and Well-being of Université Côte d’Azur, the ALIVE programme will support the selected start-ups through a six-month hybrid journey, combining academic expertise, market insights and access to cutting-edge infrastructures.

**Université Côte d’Azur launches the 2IP Ageing and Well-being**

On 22 April 2026, Université Côte d’Azur officially launched the Institute for Innovation and Partnerships (2IP) Ageing and Well-being, in Nice, France. The event marked the creation of a fully-fledged institute dedicated to addressing the societal challenges of ageing and well-being through a transdisciplinary approach. The launch brought together researchers, institutional partners, and public and private stakeholders.

Originally inaugurated in March 2023, the Ulysseus Innovation Hub Ageing and Well-being has evolved into the 2IP Ageing and Well-being Institute, now integrated within Université Côte d’Azur’s structure. By placing health, well-being and ageing at the heart of its strategic priorities, the university conducts cutting-edge research and fosters the emergence of innovative solutions, while providing academic and industrial partners with a privileged environment conducive to innovative collaborations.

[Click here to read the full article.](#)



UPDATES ATTRACTIVITY AND VISIBILITY

**Developing student global competence through engagement with sustainable development goals**



The third edition of the inter-university certificate on "Sustainable Global Leadership and Citizenship" took place at UniCA between March 2-13, 2026. This certificate is a model of interdisciplinary global teaching and learning that embeds United Nations sustainable development goals to develop global competence in higher education.

This blended international learning experience is organised jointly by Université Côte d’Azur and North Carolina State University. This certificate is a teaching collaboration between Shelton Leadership Center, represented by Dr. Debbie Acker and Dr. Seth Murray, and UniCA Engagement Center and International and European Development Department, represented by Dr. Natalia Timuş. This experience was also supported by R2D2 project of the French National Research Agency (ANR) within the framework of France 2030 initiative and the Engagement Curricula initiative.

After a month of collaborative online international learning (COIL) between December 2025 - January 2026, twenty-two students with diverse backgrounds met in person at UniCA for a two-week intensive training. The innovative pedagogical approach combines challenge-based and community-based learning to offer an immersive student experience in the Côte d’Azur. This year eleven local stakeholders and three international universities from Canada and the United States participated in this certificate. This resulted in a rich exchange of perspectives on local and global challenges to achieve sustainable development goals.



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