CALL FOR APPLICANTS

Course Mode	Blended Intensive Programme (BIP)		
Course Title	Agro-forestry biodiversity in the Mediterranean basin		
Admission Profile	Second cycle/Master's or equivalent level (EQF-7) students with technical training who wish to acquire a specialization or updated practical training in developing sustainable and resilient agro-forestry systems		
Hosting Institution	University of UNIRC, IT		
Participant Institutions	**Organizer Institution:** AGRARIA Department (UNIRC, IT) **Co-organizers Institutions:** University of Evora (UE, Portugal) **Partners Institutions:** Open University of Cyprus, Nicosia (CY) Univerza v Ljubljani Biotehniška fakulteta (SLO), Universidad de Almerìa (E)		
Total number of participants per institution:	The numbers of participants agreed by the program partners are the following: - University of Cyprus10 students - University of Evora 4 students - University of Ljubljani 10 students - University of Almeria 10 students **Note**: The BIP is open to a maximum of 40 participants. In case one of the above Universities should have less students than the maximum allowed, the places left will be made available to other universities in order to reach the planned number of participants.		
Number of ECTS	3		
Language of the Programme	English		
Teaching Hours in Presence Mode	53%		
Teaching Hours in Virtual Mode	47%		
Start and End Date of the Virtual Part	June 16th - July 11th 2025	**Place**	
Start and End Date of the in-Presence Part	May 26th - May 30th 2025	**Place**	*Agraria* Department, University of UNIRC, IT

Introduction

The University of Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria jointly with the University of Evora, the University Mediterranea of Reggio Calabria offer their students the opportunity to participate in a Blended Intensive Program. The Blended Intensive Program is officially approved by the EU in the framework of the ERAMSUS+ 2021/2027.

BIPs are one of the new and innovative formats of student mobility introduced by the new Erasmus+ 2021-2027 Program. These programs, jointly developed by multiple higher education institutions, feature advanced and innovative pedagogical approaches that combine short-term face-to-face (physical) mobilities with virtual learning.

BIPs are inherently transnational and transdisciplinary, as curricula are developed and taught together by partner institutions in different countries. The combination of in-person and virtual learning spaces allows students and professors to experience and exchange highly collaborative, challenge-based, and research-steeped methods of teaching and learning.

Summary

..... Introduction to the BIP

The course is divided into 9 modules whose learning outcomes are described as follows

Module 1.- Harvesting and transformation processes of the forest-wood supply chain (0,3 ECTS); Prof. Andrea Proto

Module 2.- The use of felled burned logs as a nature-based solution for soil erosion control in the mediterranean forest regeneration perspective (0,3 ECTS); Prof. Giuseppe Bombino

Module 3.- Post-fire recovery of forest habitats (0,3 ECTS); Dott. Carmelo Musarella

Module 4- Pollinators biodiversity measurements (0,3 ECTS); Prof. Orlando Campolo……..

Module 5.- Forest management (0,3 ECTS)Prof. Fabio Lomabrdi and Prof. Pasquale Marziliano

Module 6.- Principles of Remote Sensing in Forestry applications (0,3 ECTS); Dott. Salvatore Praticò

Module 7.- Implementation of computer vision system for agro-forestry product characterization (0,3 ECTS); Dott.ssa Souraya Benalia

Module 8.- SSR analysis of forestry biodiversity (0,3 ECTS); Prof. Francesco Sunseri

Module 9.- Water relation in fruit tree in farm (0,3 ECTS); Dott. Gregorio Gullo

Contents (Document in attach)

Selection Criteria	This BIP has been designed for Master 's and PhD students and is open to participants from any field related to the program' s content. Selection will be based on the evaluation of submitted CVs (Transcript of Records) and personal motivation letter, in which applicants should explain why they have applied for this BIP. Selected students must communicate their **acceptance or withdrawal within 5 days** from the publication of the selection results by contacting their university program coordinator. Selected students will be contacted with further instructions upon completion of the selection procedures.
How to Apply	Students interested in participating should fill out the application form by **15th April 2025**, as well as insert the required documents in the link: https://siiue2.uevora.pt/ - Copy of valid ID or passport - Transcript of Records (A certificate of enrolment at the home University with a list of passed exams and grades) - Motivation letter
Selection criteria and procedures	An appointed Committee formed by Prof. Catarina Meireles (University of Évora), and Prof. Carlos Pinto Gomes (University of Évora), will carry out the selection procedures. Selection is based on the following criteria: - Academic performance - Motivation - Evaluation of further qualifications and skills Students should expect to hear back about the result of their application by **30th April 2025**. Selected students must communicate their acceptance or withdrawal within **5 days**

	from the publication of the selection results by contacting their university program coordinator. Selected students will be contacted with further instructions upon completion of the selection procedures.
Financial Support	The attendance of the Blended Intensive Programme may be covered by an ERASMUS+ SMS Short Mobility Grant for all mobile students (excluding students from the hosting University). This financial support may only be guaranteed by the selected student's home University. The University of origin of each selected student is fully responsible for the management of the financial aspects of the mobilities in accordance with the provisions of the competent ERASMUS+ National Agency. No financial support is foreseen for hosting institution students as they will not be travelling for the purposes of participation in this program (non-mobile participants). Please refer to your local coordinator or Erasmus/International Relations Office for any further information related to the financial support made available
Contacts	**University of Reggio Calabria (Coordinators)** Dott.ssa Maria Giulia Li Destri Nicosia. giulia.lidestri…@unirc.it Erasmus office erasmus@unirc.it **University of Évora** Prof. Catarina Meireles cmeireles@uevora.pt International Mobility Office mobility@uevora.pt
Additional information	.....