Finanziato dall'Unione europea
NextGenerationEU
Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca
Italiadomani
PIANO NAZIONALE DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI PAVIA

UNITAFRICA

Empowering the Academic Cooperation between Italy and Africa for fostering the quality and effectiveness of the higher education systems in a mutual learning environment

TransNational Education (TNE)

Presentation overview

- Presentation of TNE UNITAFRICA
- Partners
- Project timeline
- Project activities and the 6 Work Packages
- Expected impact
- UniPV WPs
- Mobility schemes
- Steps for mobilities implementation
- Dissemination guidelines

Presentation of TNE UNITAFRICA project

Origin of the idea

The CUCS (University Coordination for Development Cooperation) is the network of Italian Universities for Development Cooperation

General objective

Strengthening the relationship between Italian and African Universities and improving the quality of the higher education systems based on a mutual learning approach

Presentation of TNE UNITAFRICA project

UNITAFRICA is a project funded by the PNRR (National Recovery and Resilience Plan), through the NextGenerationEU Fund.

The project is part of the Mission 4 - Education and Research:

- Component 1 - Enhancement of the supply of education services: from kindergartens to universities
- Investment 3.4 - Education and advanced university skills
- Sub-measure T4 'Transnational education initiatives" (TNE)

Presentation of TNE UNITAFRICA project

Budget

- Total budget: 2,407,557 €
- Eligible costs:
  - personnel fully dedicated to the project for coordination
  - mobility for students and academic staff (professors and admin staff)
  - organization of courses for students
  - organization of advanced skill courses
  - communication activities (PIT/website)
  - meetings (1 in Africa and 1 in Italy)
- The budget can be managed only by Italian Universities

Presentation of TNE UNITAFRICA project

Key motivations

- Fostering Italian-African Academic Collaboration
- Addressing Challenges in African Education Systems
- Promoting Mutual Learning linking Agenda 2030 to Agenda 2063
- Focusing on Sustainable Educational Impact
- Strengthening Italy's Academic Presence in Africa

Presentation of TNE UNITAFRICA project

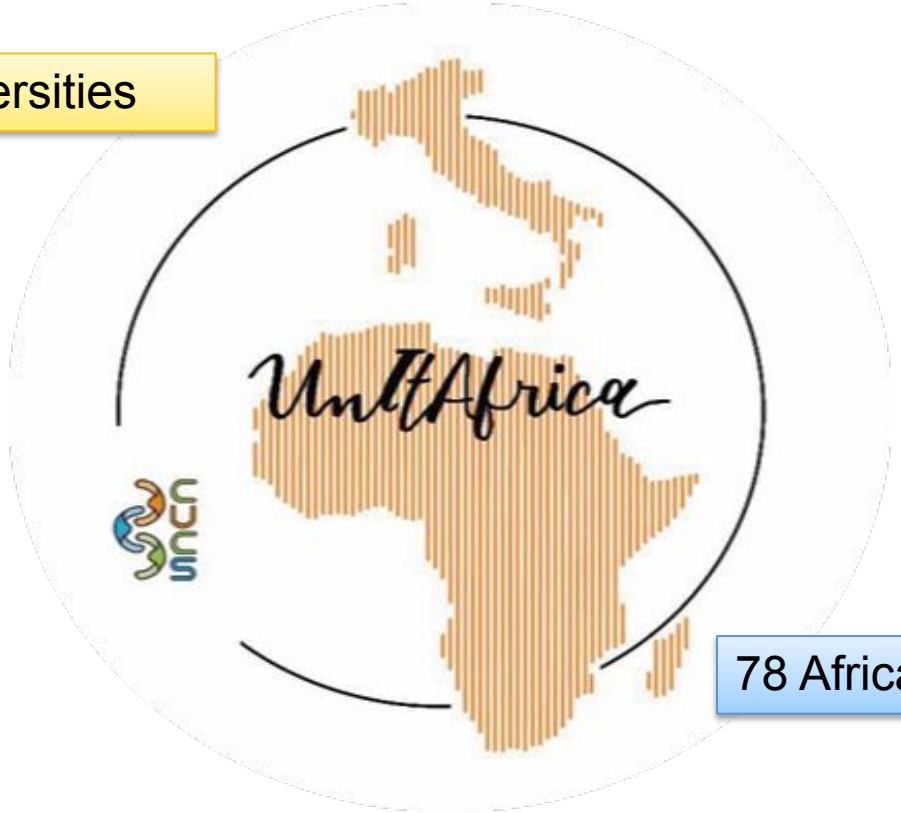
Project goals

- Identify guidelines and best practices for teaching methodologies.
- Promote joint training programs between Italian and African Universities.
- Encourage innovative teaching methods.
- Increase internationalization of universities.
- Promote science as a tool for human growth and development.

Presentation of TNE UNITAFRICA project

UNITAFRICA Alliance among 99 Universities

21 Italian Universities



78 African Universities

UNITAFRICA partners

Italian partners

21 Italian universities

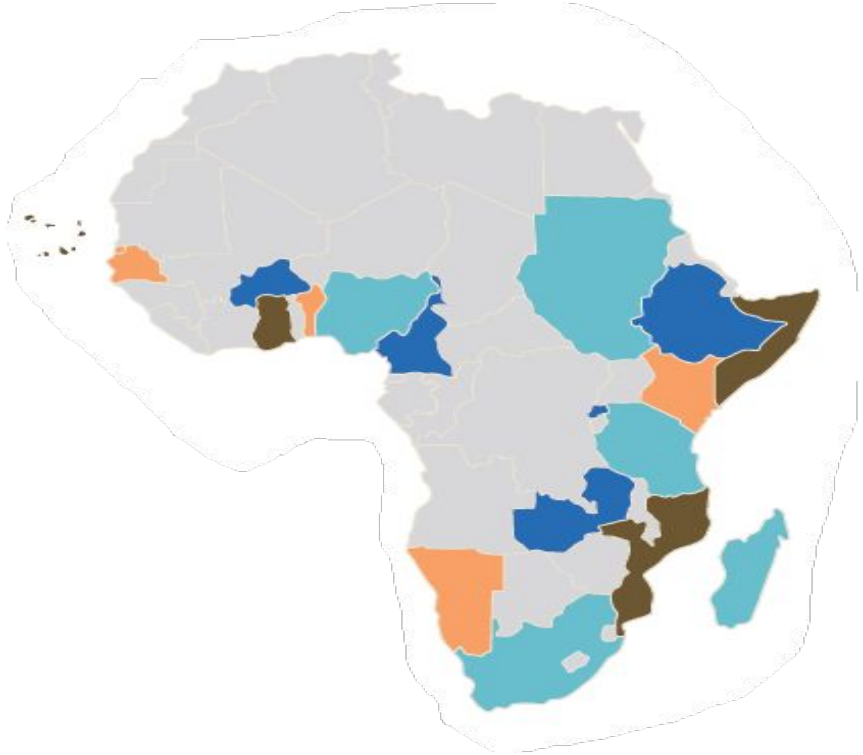
1. Università degli Studi di Brescia (UNIBS)
2. Università degli Studi di Bergamo (UNIBG)
3. Università Alma Mater Studiorum Bologna (UNIBO)
4. Università degli Studi di Firenze (UNIFI)
5. Università degli Studi di Genova (UNIGE)
6. Università degli Studi di Milano (UNIMI)
7. Università degli Studi di Padova (UNIPD)
8. Università degli Studi di Parma (UNIPR)
9. **Università di Pavia (UNIPV)**
10. Università degli Studi di Pisa (UNIPI)
11. Università degli Studi di Torino (UNITO)
12. Università degli Studi di Trento (UNITN)
13. Università degli Studi di Udine (UNIUD)
14. Università Ca' Foscari Venezia (UNIVE)
15. Università degli Studi di Verona (UNIVR)
16. Sapienza Università di Roma (UNIROMA Sapienza)
17. Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro (UNIBA)
18. Università degli Studi della Basilicata (UNIBAS)
19. Università degli Studi di Messina (UNIME)
20. Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II (UNINA)
21. Politecnico di Milano (POLIMI)

UNITAFRICA partners

Associate African partners

78 Universities in 18 African countries:

- West Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal),
- East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia),
- Central Africa (Cameroon)
- Southern Africa (Namibia and South Africa)



Project timeline

01/10/2024 — **Start of UNITAFRICA TNE**

25/10/24 — **KOM Italian Universities and administrative start**

14/02/25 — **KOM Italian & African Universities**

March/April'25 — **Website and PIT launch**

April/May '25 — **Meeting in Africa**

May'25 — **Beginning of international mobility and courses**

March '26 — **Final Meeting in Bari (Italy)**

31/3/26 — **End of TNE project (UNITAFRICA to be continued)**

Planning and communication activities

Italian&African co-design of courses and seminars

Students and Academic staff mobility + joint online activities

Project activities and the 6 Work Packages

Key Activities

- Establishment of a Consortium (21 Italian + 78 African universities)
- Development of a Platform for Innovative Teaching (PIT) and website
- Facilitation of international mobility
- Educational initiatives for students
- Advanced skills courses:
  - For teachers and early-career scientists.
  - For administrative staff.

Project activities and the 6 Work Packages

6 Work Packages

WP N.	WP title	Leading University
1	Project management	University of Brescia (UniBS)
2	**Constitution of UNITAFRICA network and digital platform**	**University of Trento (UniTN)**
3	Innovative education for Master & PhD Students	University of Brescia (UniBS)
4	Skills development	University of Basilicata (UniBAS) Polytechnic of Milan (PoliMI)
5	Retrospective analysis: impact evaluation	University of Parma (UniPR)
6	Communication and outreach	University of Bari (UniBA) University of Messina (UniME)

Capacity Building & Impact

Improved **teaching and administrative capacities**

Increase **mobility opportunities** for students and staff

New pathways for sustainable development in African regions

Growth of scientific **cooperation and knowledge** exchange.

WP4: Skills development

UNITAFRICA administrative and teaching staff courses aims at improving the participants competences

- TNE advanced skilled
  - Early career researchers
  - Teaching staff
  - Administrative staff
  - PhD students, post doc, residents

Rural development, land management, agrifood and food supply chains
Health, water and hygiene including one-health
Sustainable Energy, Environment and natural resource management
Entrepreneurial and Industrial development for local prosperity
Cultural heritage and Sustainable tourism
Social sciences
Interdisciplinary

- Teaching mode: in presence or hybrid (at least 50% in presence)

WP4: Skills development

UniPV will organize 2 Advanced Skill Courses:

- Poverty, food insecurity, clinical nutrition and global health
- Designing without borders: writing and winning grants for internationalization of teaching and learning

UnItAfrica

INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY

TNE ordinary+additional mobility

Only in presence

1. Students mobility for MS thesis/PhD research (2-6 months)
2. Students mobility for courses attendance within their mobility (2-6 months)
3. Professors mobility for courses (5 days-3 months)

Hybrid

TNE

advanced skills mobility

1. Professors and administrative staff mobility for advanced skills courses (teaching and training)
2. PhD students, post doc, residents, early career researchers mobility for advanced skills courses

Steps for mobilities implementation

Guidelines for incoming students

1. Collection of partner Universities' International Mobility Office emails and first contact with their staff.
2. Partners Universities will run student selections, through a fair and open procedure.
3. UniPV will share with their partners the **TNE graphic; this must be used for all documents.**
4. UniPV will provide access to its Mobility Online platform for uploading student nominations.
5. UniPV Mobility Office will contact selected students for application guidance.

Steps for mobilities implementation

Guidelines for incoming professors

The partner University can select professors who will come to University of Pavia according to its internal procedure.

After the selection process, it's necessary **sending the nomination letter to:**

- the **UniPV** scientific coordinator of the project (Prof. Gian Battista Parigi, gianbattista.parigi@unipv.it)
- to **UniPV** Mobility Office (erasmus.staff.mobility@unipv.it).

UniPV will get in touch with the selected professors for clarifying the following steps.

Dissemination guidelines:

The aims of dissemination are:

- promoting the project
- highlighting the changes that have taken place thanks to EU resources

For every document, event and manifestation related to the project must be used:

- symbol of the European Union
- logo of the MUR
- Italia Domani logo

It's essential to indicate the **CUP (Codice Unico Progetto) of the project**

Contacts:

UniPV Scientific Coordinator:
Gian Battista Parigi (gianbattista.parigi@unipv.it)

UniPV Scientific Committee Representative and WP leader:
Maria Sassi (maria.sassi@unipv.it)

UniPV Administrative Staff:
Marco Oliva (marco.oliva@unipv.it), Giulia Crispu (giulia.crispu@unipv.it)