



# Erasmus+ Week 2025 for Sub-Saharan Africa

20-22 May 2025 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



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Erasmus+



# Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting 2025 for Sub-Saharan Africa

20-21 May 2025 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



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**Afternoon of part 1 – 20 May 2025**



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# Jenny Elmaco, *moderator*

## Academic Expert

Centralised Support to the network of Erasmus+ National Focal Points, PRAC SIS srl





# Adapting learning content and teaching methods to achieve climate goals

Claire Herrmann, *moderator*

European Commission, Directorate General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture

- **Nigus Gabbiye Habtu**, Bahir Dar University (EDUABCM project)
- **Elena Castrillo**, IES la Merced (V2SDF project)
- **Aleh Cherp**, Central European University (MESPOM project)
- **Emmanuel Bestmann**, ArcelorMittal Liberia Ltd, MESPOM Alumnus
- **Solomon Derese**, University of Nairobi (UnaVEx project)



# Policy Officer for International Cooperation in Education

European Commission, Directorate General for  
Education, Youth, Sport and Culture



# Nigus Gabbiye Habtu

**Professor of Chemical and Environmental Engineering**

Bahir Dar University (EDUABCM project)



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ENFP National  
Focal Points



# EDU-ABCM

An Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher education project  
**Capacity Building on Student-Centered Energy Education in  
Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mauritius and Mozambique**



Nigus Gabbiye Habtu  
Professor of Chemical Engineering, Bahir Dar University

May 2025  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia<sup>1</sup>



# Built upon, and collaboration with, other projects

- The EDU-ABCM project is part of an intended global collaboration of online digital learning resources, in the energy sector the "EXPLORE Energy Digital Academy"
- All material developed will be included in this framework and the EDU-ABCM consortium will at the same time have full access to all the already existing, and to be developed, high-quality material.
- Such global collaboration takes this Erasmus+ CBHE project to a higher level by projects building upon each other, strongly increasing the impact far beyond what an isolated CBHE project would reach

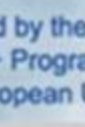
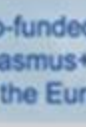
## Based upon two earlier CBHE projects



**"EUSL-Energy": Europe Sri Lanka Capacity Building in Energy Circular Economy (610173-EPP-1-2019-1-LK-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP)**



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



**EUBBC-Digital: Europe-Brazil-Bolivia-Cuba Capacity Building Using Globally Available Digital Learning Modules (618925-EPP-1-2020-1-BR-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP – E+ CBHE)**



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

# Project Partnership

1. University of Mauritius, Mauritius (Consortium Coordinator)
2. Open University Mauritius, Mauritius
3. University of Buea, Cameroon
4. University of Douala, Cameroon
5. Debre Berhan University, Ethiopia
6. Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia
7. University Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique
8. University of Save, Mozambique
9. University of Genoa, Italy
10. Royal Institute of
11. Technology (KTH), Sweden

*In the EDU-ABCM project 8 Universities in 4 countries in Africa (Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mauritius, Mozambique) will collaborate with 2 Universities in EU (Italy, Sweden)*



- The overall objective of the project is **modernization of courses and programs** in the energy sector, with emphasize upon the general perspectives of circular economy towards energy sustainability, recognizing the global impact of energy services on climate change.



# Project components and administration

## Work Packages of the Project

### WP 1 - Project Management

WP2 - Learning Resources Quality Improvement Process

WP 3 - Detailed Update of New and Improved Programs & Courses

WP 4 - Development of Program- Specific Theoretical Learning Resources

WP 5 - Development of Challenges & Case Studies

WP 6 - Development of Remote & Virtual Laboratories & Simulations

WP 7 - Implementation of Programs and Courses into the Partners Curricula

WP 8 - Collaboration, Certification and Double Degree Processes

WP 9 - Development, Documentation and Training of "Train-the-Trainers"

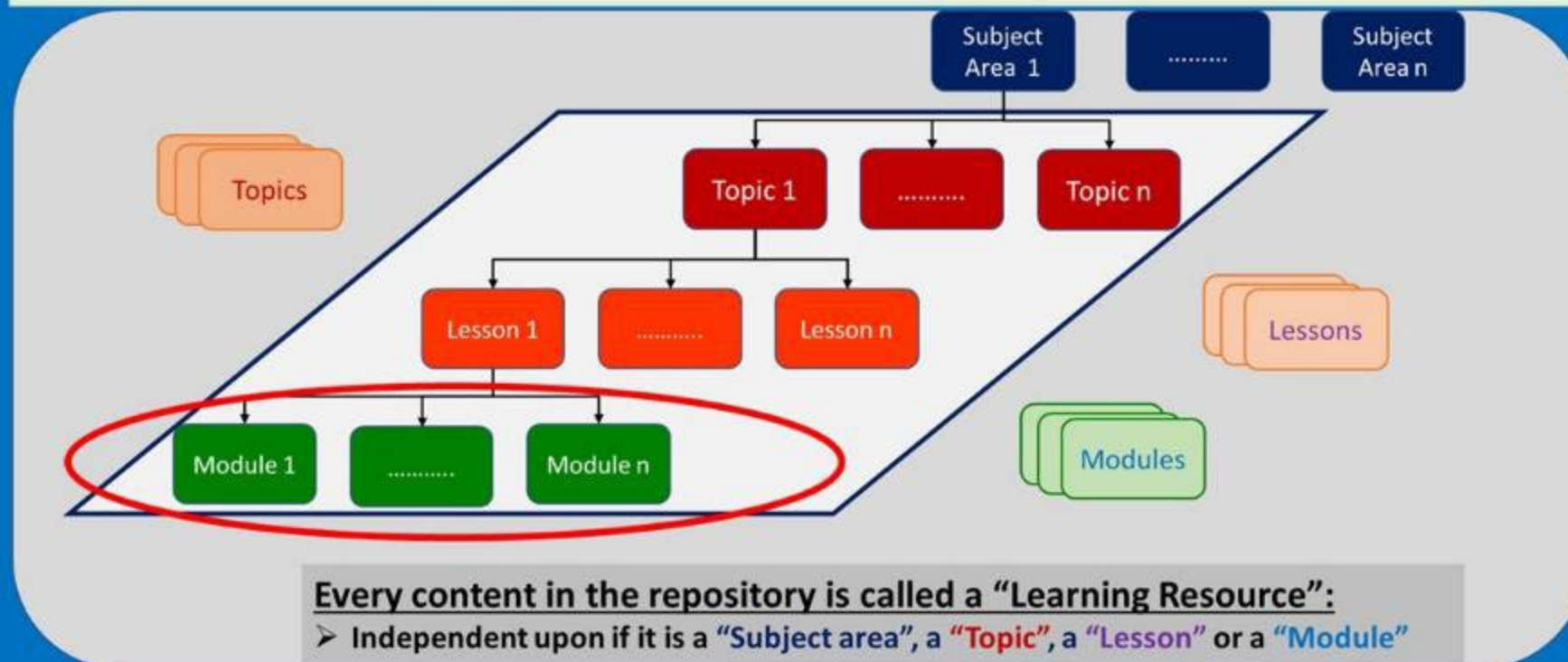
Modules Adapted to Local Conditions

WP 10 - Impact and Dissemination

The consortium has identified and is developing

- 38 course with their corresponding modules
- 8 Remote Lab
- 24 challenges and case studies

## Structure of Learning Content







# Elena Castrillo

**International projects coordinator**

IES la Merced (V2SDF project)



# VET TO STOP DEFORESTATION

ERASMUS-EDU-2023-CB-101128730



Co-funded by  
the European Union



**Regional Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting and Contact-Making Seminar  
for Sub-Saharan Africa**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia 20-21 May 2025**

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- Renewable
- Clean
- Distributed
- Accessible to all citizens
- For free
- No smoke is emitted
- No infrastructure
- Well adapted to Burundi's productive system
- Not generate technological dependence



**OBJETIVE: VET course for the manufacture of solar cookers**



Co-funded by  
the European Union







## V2SDF CONSORTIUM

**M<sup>a</sup> ELENA CASTRILLO ROMÓN**  
mcastrilloro@educa.jcyl.es



<https://www.v2sdf.eu/>







# Aleh Cherp

**Coordinator Erasmus Mundus**

Central European University (MESPOM project)

# Emmanuel Bestmann

**Biodiversity Officer**

ArcelorMittal Liberia Ltd, MESPOM Alumnus



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# Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters Degree



- First edition: 2005-2011
- Second edition: 2010-2016
- Third edition: 2018-2023
- Fourth edition (M4): 2023-2028





# MESPOM Partners

Environmental policy

Central European University, Austria **AT**



Environmental management

Lund University, Sweden **SE**



Environmental science

The University of Manchester, UK **GB**



Ecosystems management and rural sustainability

The University of the Aegean, Greece

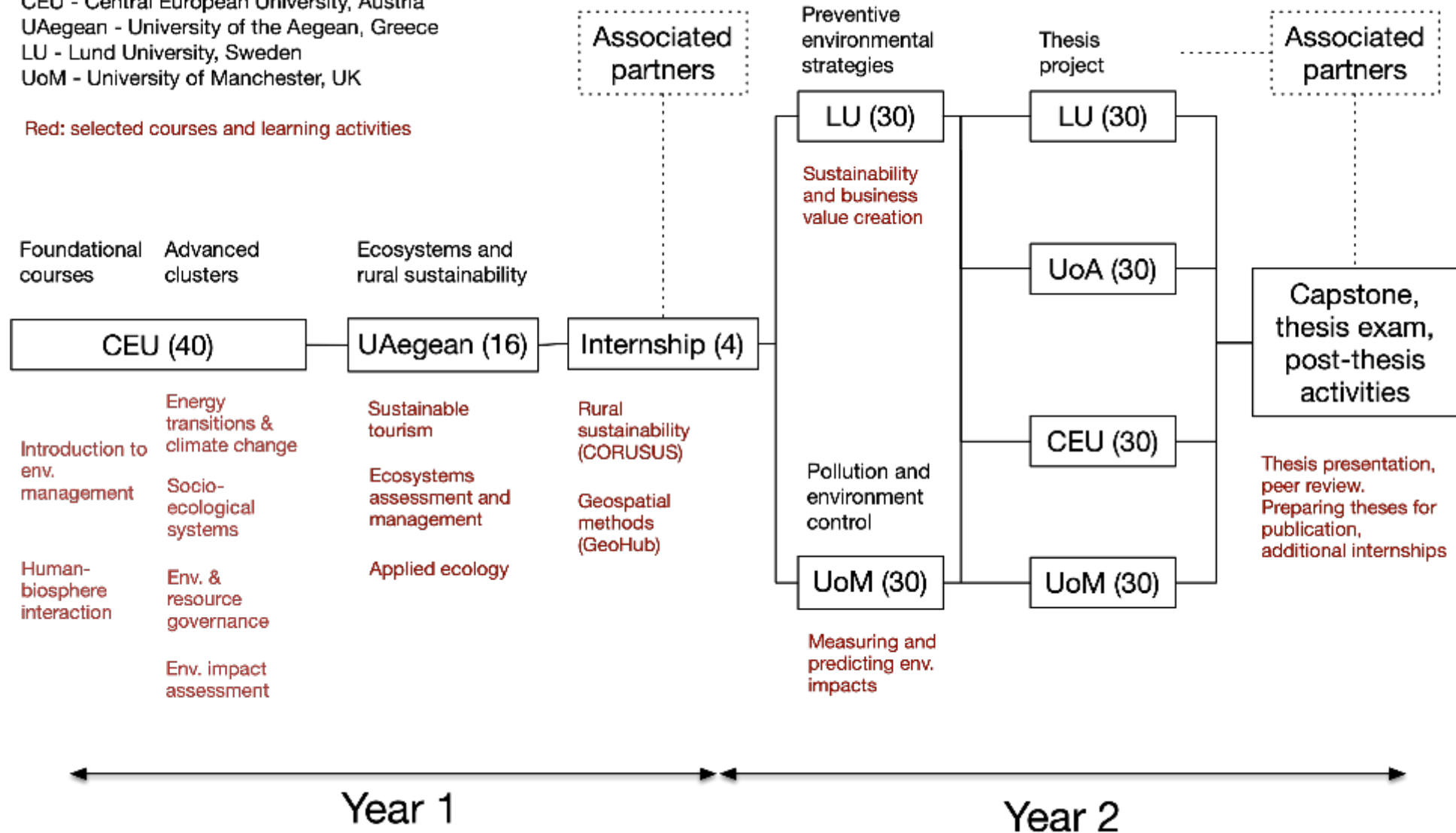
**GR**



# MESPOM Structure

CEU - Central European University, Austria  
 UAegean - University of the Aegean, Greece  
 LU - Lund University, Sweden  
 UoM - University of Manchester, UK

Red: selected courses and learning activities





# Solomon Derese

**Researcher and lecturer**

University of Nairobi (UnaVEx project)



## Una Europa - Virtual **Ex**changes for Sustainability (UnaVEx)



**VIRTUAL BRIDGE**  
BETWEEN EUROPEAN & AFRICAN STUDENTS  
FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

Virtual Exchange for High Quality Sustainability Education



Co-funded by  
the European Union

# Global Sustainability Advocate

## Core

**One day**

Induction

**30%**

**Two/Three Weeks**

Introduction to sustainability

**30%**

**Four days**

Virtual Exchanges

Guest Speakers and Q&A: Tarja Halonen, Daniel Olago, Ewans Njewa, Enzo Manzini  
Group work: Discussion and Working on a Collaborative Sustainability Action

## Electives

**20%**

**2 Weeks**

Climate.Now

**20%**

**2 Weeks**

Biodiversity.now

**20%**

**2 Weeks**

Political economy  
of sustainability

**20%**

**2 Weeks**

Sustainability  
and the arts



# UnaVEx Sustainability Action

Imagining alternative visions of the world

Coming up with feasible ways to realize, make this vision concrete

## Miro Brainstorming



## Some UnaVEx Sustainability Action

- Towards Sustainable Tourism – Best Practices from Local Communities Around the Globe
- Sustainability Challenge: 7 Days to a Greener You!
- Local Communities and Sustainable Actions
- Envisioning the Perfect Sustainable City
- Towards More Sustainable University Campuses
- A Utopian Approach to Sustainability



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Ergonomics





# Linking education and research towards the green transition

Jenny Elmaco, *moderator*

ENFP Academic Expert, PRAC SIS srl

- **Laurent Bochereau**, Minister-Counsellor, Delegation of the EU to the African Union
- **Ahmed Maalel**, University of Sousse and Regional Representative for EURAXESS Africa
- **Yedilfana Setarge**, Addis Ababa University, EURAXESS Coordinator for Ethiopia
- **Girum Ayalneh Tiruye**, Addis Ababa University, (ISIMSAD project)
- **Tesfaye Muluye Workie**, University of Addis Ababa

# Jenny Elmaco, *moderator*

## Academic Expert

Centralised Support to the network of Erasmus+ National Focal Points, PRAC SIS srl







# Laurent Bochereau

## Minister-Counsellor

### European Union Delegation to the African Union

# Horizon Europe Work Programme 2025, Africa Initiative III

19 May 2025

Laurent Bochereau, PhD  
Minister-Counsellor  
Science, Technology and  
Innovation

EU Delegation to the African  
Union



@EUScienceInnov | #EUResearchArea | #ResearchImpactEU | #HorizonEU







# EU-Africa cooperation in Research & Innovation (R&I)



- As a strategic partner, the EU seeks to **enhance cooperation with Africa** to promote targeted actions to finding locally adapted solutions to global challenges that often hit Africa hardest.
- The [Comprehensive EU strategy with Africa](#) and the [Global Approach to Research & Innovation \(R&I\)](#) are the EU's most recent policy initiatives that **prioritise R&I** as a key dimension of **sustainable development**.
  - The *Comprehensive EU Strategy with Africa* proposes to **scale up the EU's academic and scientific cooperation with Africa**, with a view to creating **prosperous knowledge societies** in both continents.
  - The *EU Global Approach to R&I* foresees **special openness vis-à-vis African countries** that wish to thrive as knowledge-based economies and accelerate their **sustainable and inclusive development**.
- The [AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue \(HLPD\) on Science, Technology and Innovation \(STI\)](#) (est. 2010) is the **policy forum** where regular exchanges on R&I policy take place and where **long-term priorities** to strengthen cooperation are established. Under its aegis, the **first ever AU-EU R&I Ministerial Meeting** took place in **July 2020**, establishing the **4 joint priorities** of the AU-EU cooperation in R&I:



Public Health



Green Transition



Innovation & Technology



Capacities for Science



# The Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda

*Aiming to foster the translation of R&I into tangible goods, services, businesses and jobs in both Africa and Europe*



- Drafted through a concerted “**Team Africa-Europe**” work, involving AU and the EU Member States and Commissions, under the **AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)**.
- Working document published in **February 2022**, extensively discussed over a ‘**Stakeholder Dialogue Process**’ throughout 2022, culminated in the **AU-EU Innovation Agenda Stakeholder Event** in Nov. 2022 in Nairobi.
- **Final version** of the Agenda prepared building on the feedback and input received from Stakeholders. **Adopted on 19 July 2023.**

## 4 objectives:



### Make it real

- **Translate innovative capacities and achievements into tangible outputs**, supporting sustainable growth and jobs, in particular for the youth



### Generate impact by design

- **Foster - strengthen innovation ecosystems** to enhance socio-economic impact



### Strengthen people, communities & institutions

- **Develop sustainable, long lasting and mutually beneficial higher education and R&I partnerships**



### Learn, monitor, and scale it up

- **Scale-up instruments** that can take forward existing successful programmes and projects, enable - strengthen the knowledge triangle of education, R&I & place special focus on **public participation, transparency, and inclusion**



**Short-, medium- and long-term set of actions**, according to four joint priority areas:

- Public Health
- Green Transition
- Innovation & Technology
- Capacities for Science + the additional
- Cross-cutting issues



Mapping of **gaps & needs** for each priority area

- Currently under **implementation**. Supported, from the EU side, by the **Global Gateway Africa – Europe Investment Package** as well as **Horizon Europe** (e.g. “**Africa Initiatives**” and “**Med Initiatives**”).



European Commission





# International Cooperation in R&I

## *Global approach to Research and Innovation*

### Guiding principles:

- Commitment to openness
- Values & Principles
- Pursuit of a level playing field and reciprocity
- Pool global efforts to tackle global challenges



# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

## HORIZON EUROPE

## EURATOM

### SPECIFIC PROGRAMME: EUROPEAN DEFENCE FUND

*Exclusive focus on  
defence research  
& development*

Research  
actions

Development  
actions

### SPECIFIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTING HORIZON EUROPE & EIT\*

*Exclusive focus on civil applications*



#### Pillar I EXCELLENT SCIENCE

European Research Council

Marie Skłodowska-Curie

Research Infrastructures



#### Pillar II GLOBAL CHALLENGES & EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COMPETITIVENESS

Clusters

- Health
- Culture, Creativity & Inclusive Society
- Civil Security for Society
- Digital, Industry & Space
- Climate, Energy & Mobility
- Food, Bioeconomy, Natural Resources, Agriculture & Environment

Joint Research Centre



#### Pillar III INNOVATIVE EUROPE

European Innovation  
Council

European Innovation  
Ecosystems

European Institute of  
Innovation & Technology\*

### WIDENING PARTICIPATION AND STRENGTHENING THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA

Widening participation & spreading excellence

Reforming & Enhancing the European R&I system

Fusion

Fission

Joint Research  
Center

\* The European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) is not part of the Specific Programme



# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

Based on:

- Openness
- Access to EU funding
- Targeted international cooperation actions
- Safeguarding EU interests





# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

## Openness

- Horizon Europe ‘by-default’ open to almost all countries
- Non-discriminatory: researchers and innovators of any nationality can apply for grants (MSCA, ERC...)
- Association to the Programme:
  - 20 Countries associated to HE:  
Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Faroe Islands, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Tunisia, Turkey, Tunisia, Ukraine, UK
  - In the “process of Association”: Egypt, Morocco
  - Negotiations under way: New-Zealand, Canada...  
[list-3rd-country-participation\\_horizon-euratom\\_en.pdf](#)



# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

## Access to Horizon Europe funding

- Automatically eligible for EU funding (“Beneficiaries”)
  - Low- and Middle-Income Countries (see [list](#))
  - Countries associated to Horizon Europe
- Non-associated third countries not eligible for EU funding (“Associated partners”)
  - Exceptions on a case-by-case basis + specified in topic calls
- Co-funding mechanisms
  - E.g. Canada, Monaco, China, Switzerland... ([Guide CFM](#) on F&T Portal)



# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

## Targeted international cooperation actions (1/2)

- Flagging of call topics specifically relevant for International Cooperation in the Work Programmes, e.g. in:
  - Strategic thematic areas (topics)
  - Geographical areas (countries/regions)
  - Multilateral initiatives
  - Collaboration with key partners
- WP 25: **35%** International Cooperation-flagged topics; see F&T Portal
  - filter for International Cooperation





# International Cooperation in Horizon Europe

## Targeted international cooperation actions (2/2)

- Cooperation with Africa and MED under the HE ‘**Africa Initiative**’ and new ‘**Mediterranean Initiative**’.
- Cooperation with **China** in line with the ongoing discussions on the **Joint Roadmap for the future of EU-China cooperation in science, technology, and innovation**
  - Aim is a more nuanced and transactional approach for collaboration with China
  - Cooperation in **Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology (FAB)** and **Climate Change and Biodiversity (CCB)** research flagship initiatives. Chinese participants will be funded by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People’s Republic of China.
  - **Article 22.6** applies to limit Chinese participation in innovation actions.

# Africa Initiative III

*In Horizon Europe Work Programme 2025*



- Building on the positive outcomes of the **Africa Initiative I+II** of Horizon Europe Work Programmes 2021-2024.
- In the WP 2025 a total budget of **500.5 MEUR** through **24 topics** under **calls for proposals** to boost **EU-Africa cooperation on Research & Innovation (R&I)**.
- Enabling the implementation of the **short-term and medium-term actions** of the **AU-EU Innovation Agenda**, aiming to **translate R&I into tangible positive impact on the ground**, particularly in the areas of <sup>1</sup>:
  1. *Public Health* (50 MEUR) 
  2. *Green Transition* (241 MEUR) 
  3. *Innovation & Technology* (186.5 MEUR) 
  4. *Capacities for Science* (3.5 MEUR) 
  5. *Cross-cutting issues* (19.5 MEUR) 
- Publication of **Horizon Europe Work Programme 2025**: **15 May 2025**, please check also for date of closing of **calls** ([EU funding & tenders' portal](#)).

# Green Transition – Climate Change and Sustainable Energy



Action ID	Topic title	Budget	Deadline
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL5-2025-06-D1-06</a> RIA – N	Fostering equity and justice in climate policies – Societal Readiness Pilot	15 MEUR; Up to 5 MEUR per grant	24/09/2025
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D2-03</a> IA – L	Sustainable processing and refining of raw materials to produce battery grade Li-ion battery materials (Batt4EU Partnership)	20 MEUR; Up to 10 MEUR per grant	02/09/2025
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL5-2025-02-D3-15</a> CSA – R	Building a Long-Term Africa Union (AU) and European Union (EU) Research and Innovation joint collaboration on Sustainable Renewable Energies	4 MEUR	02/09/2025
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL5-2025-06-D1-07</a> CSA – R	Implementing the climate action pillar of the EU-African Union Partnership on Climate Change and Sustainable Energy	4 MEUR	24/09/2025
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-COMMUNITIES-03</a> IA – L (Cap Verde, Ghana, Morocco, Senegal, South Africa)	Innovative solutions for resilient and climate-adapted coastal communities in the Atlantic	6 MEUR	16/09/2025



# Green Transition – Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture



Action ID	Topic title	Budget	Deadline
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-16</a> RIA – R	Developing a joint AU-EU Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation System (AKIS) supporting the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership	6 MEUR	16/09/2025
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-17</a> RIA – R	Nutrition in emergency situations - Ready-to-use Supplementary Food (RUSF) and Ready-to-use Therapeutic Food (RUTF)	8 MEUR	16/09/2025
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-05</a> RIA – E	Developing innovative phytosanitary measures for plant health - focus on systems approach for pest risk management	12 MEUR; Up to 6 MEUR per grant	16/09/2025
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-05-two-stage</a> RIA – R	Developing agroecology living labs and lighthouses for climate action under the Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) partnership	12 MEUR; Up to 6 MEUR per grant	04/09/2025 (First Stage), 18/02/2026 (Second Stage)

# Green Transition – Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture



Action ID	Topic title	Budget	Comments
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-FARM2FORK-03</a> IA – E	Overcoming the barriers for scaling up circular water management in agriculture	12 MEUR; Up to 6 MEUR per grant	16/09/2025
<a href="#">HORIZON-MISS-2025-05-SOIL-02-two-stage</a> RIA – E	Broadening the living labs approach for soil health in Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)	12 MEUR. Up to 6 MEUR per grant	04/09/2025 (First Stage), 18/02/2026 (Second Stage)
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL6-2025-02-CLIMATE-05</a> Programme Co-fund Action – N	Additional activities for the European Partnership Water Security for the Planet (Water4All)	23 MEUR in 2025; 23 MEUR in 2026; 24 MEUR in 2027	16/09/2025
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL6-2025-01-BIODIV-01</a> Programme co-fund action – N	Additional activities for the European Biodiversity Partnership: Biodiversa+	20 MEUR in 2025; 20 MEUR in 2026; 20 MEUR in 2027	17/09/2025

# Green Transition / Cross-cutting issues



Action ID	Topic title	Budget	Deadline
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-TRANSFO-11</a> CSA – E	Migration and climate change: building resilience and enhancing sustainability	2 MEUR	16/09/2025



# Green Transition / Innovation & Technology



Action ID	Topic title	Budget	Deadline
<a href="#">HORIZON-CL4-INDUSTRY-2025-01-MATERIALS-64</a> Programme Co-fund Action - L	EU Co-funded Partnership on raw materials for the green and digital transition (Co-funded partnership Raw Materials for the Green and Digital Transition)	90 MEUR, divided as follows: 45 MEUR in 2025 45 MEUR in 2027	23/09/2025



# Examples of successful EU-AUR&I Partnerships



## Public Health

- The **European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)**:
  - Joint investment of 1.7 BEUR, more than 600 projects funded thus far
  - 15 EU and 30 AU countries; more than 180 EU and 320 AU partners involved
  - Currently in its third cycle of funding ([Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking](#))



## Green Transition

- R&I Partnership on **Food Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA)** channeled a joint investment of 710 MEUR for 300 projects thus far, on four priorities:
  - 1) Sustainable intensification
  - 2) Agriculture and food systems for nutrition
  - 3) Expansion and improvement of agricultural trade and markets
  - 4) Cross-cutting topics
  - 27 EU and 47 AU countries, 875 EU and 557 AU partners involved
- R&I Partnership on **Climate Change Sustainable Energy (CCSE)**, with an investment of 430 MEUR for climate services, renewable energy and energy efficiency which will support adaptation and mitigation efforts in various sectors for Africa and implementation of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change.
  - 72 projects funded thus far. 27 European and 28 AU countries, 717 European and 250 AU partners involved.



# Synergies on EU-Africa R&I Partnerships

**Horizon Europe  
– Africa Initiative  
(EC DG RTD)**

Neighbourhood, Development and International  
Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – ‘Global Europe

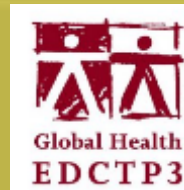
- Global Gateway projects
- African Research Initiative for Scientific Excellence (ARISE)
- ACP Innovation Fund
- Erasmus +

(EC DG INTPA)

**AU-EU R&I Partnership  
on Food and Nutrition  
Security and Sustainable  
Agriculture (FNSSA)**

- DeSIRA projects and DESIRA+ programme
- African Union Research Grants projects

**Example of synergy of  
funds:**







# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

- The EU flagship programme for **researchers' mobility and training** through the development of excellent **doctoral programmes, collaborative research and fellowship schemes**, contribute to excellent research and a highly skilled research-based human capital.

See: <https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions>



#HorizonEU

# Upcoming events

- 12th EDCTP Forum Kigali, Rwanda, 16-17 June 2025
- Union for the Mediterranean –UFM Regional Platform on Research and Innovation Meeting on 22 October 2025/Brussels
- Senior Officials Meeting of the AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation on 24 October 2025/Brussels
- The AU-EU Innovation Fair on 23 October 2025/Brussels
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mediterranean Innovation Market Place on 23 October 2025/Brussels



**#HorizonEU**

# Follow us, engage and keep up to date via:

- [EU-Africa Cooperation in Research and Innovation](#)
- [AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation](#)
- [EU-Africa R&I Cooperation Factsheet](#)
- [Horizon Europe website](#)
- [Africa Initiative I Factsheet](#)
- Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda: [Presentation](#), [Promotional Video](#), [Working Document](#) and [Pre-print of Commentary Paper](#)
- [International Cooperation website](#)
- [Union for the Mediterranean \(UfM\) Portal](#)
- [Horizon Europe Funding & Tenders' Portal](#)
- [National Contact Points \(NCPs\) Portal](#)
- [Coronavirus Global R&I Collaboration Portal](#)







# Thank you!

**@EUScienceInnov**  
**#EUAfrica #HorizonEU**



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# Ahmed Maalel

**Associate Professor**

University of Sousse and Regional Representative  
for EURAXESS Africa

# Yedilfana Setarge

**Associate Professor**

Addis Ababa University, EURAXESS Coordinator – Ethiopia



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**online**

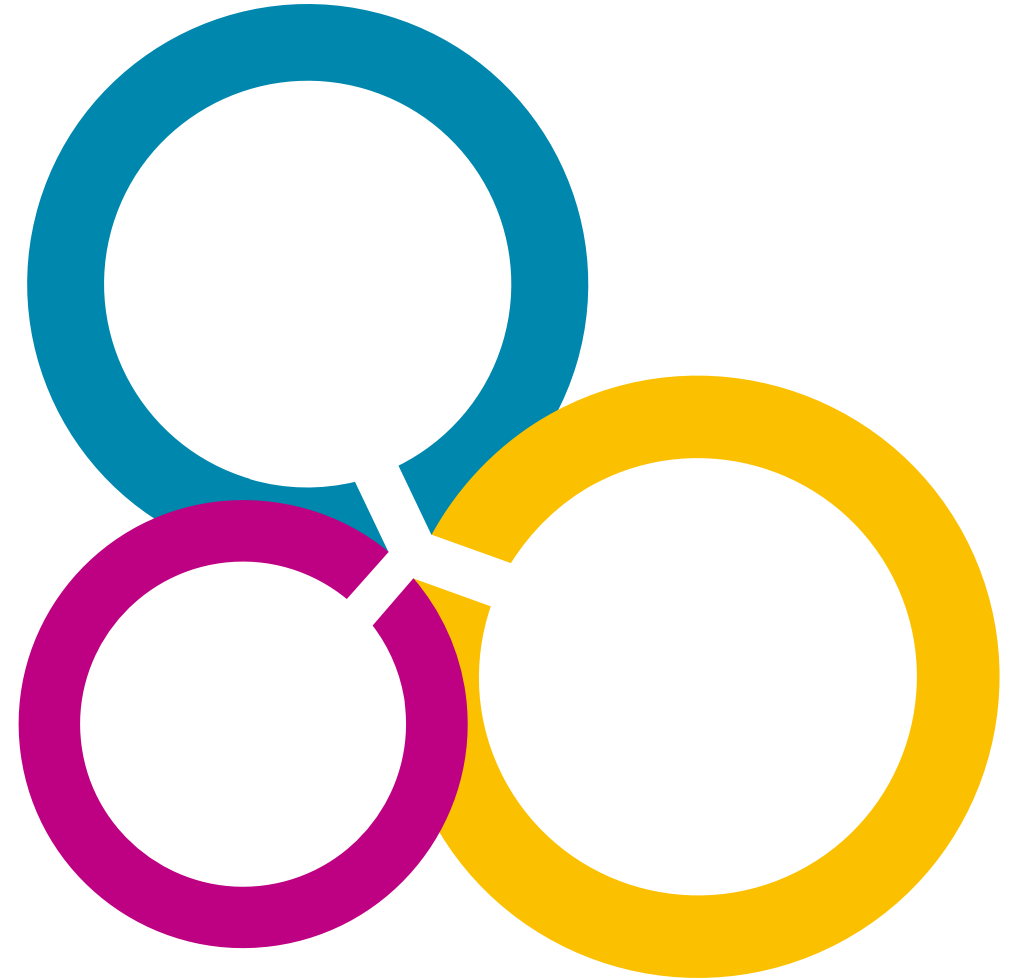
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**#HorizonEU**

**#EUGlobalApproach**







# Horizon Europe – Strengthening Africa's Role

## Increasing African participation in Horizon Europe, particularly:

- Pillar I: MSCA actions, ERC grants
- Pillar II: Clusters 1–6, with growing involvement from Sub-Saharan Africa

 In 2025: Africa Initiative III launches with 24 topics and a €500 million budget — doubling the scale of previous initiatives.

 EURAXESS Africa plays a key role in supporting visibility, access, and engagement in European research programmes.



# Horizon EU Events & hands-on Workshops Organised by EURAXESS Africa Ethiopia





# Horizon EU Events & hands-on Workshops Organised by EURAXESS Africa

## Senegal





# Horizon EU Events & hands-on Workshops Organised by EURAXESS Africa Cameroon



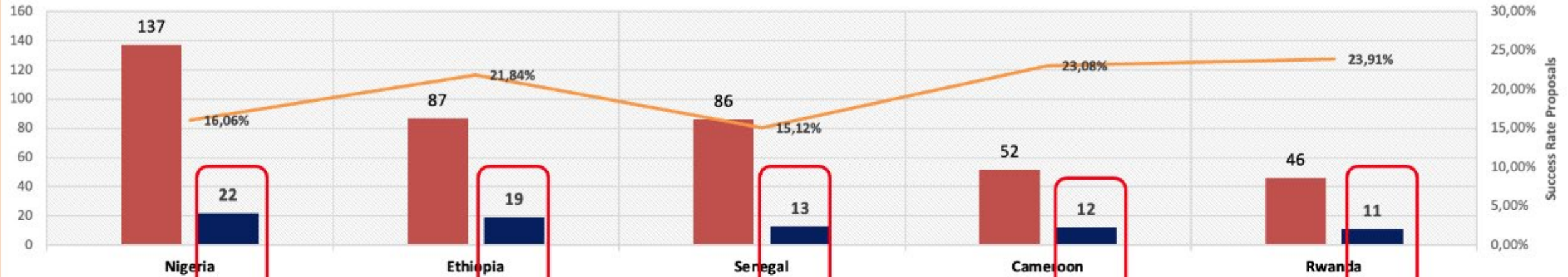


# Horizon EU Events & hands-on Workshops Organised by EURAXESS Africa Nigeria



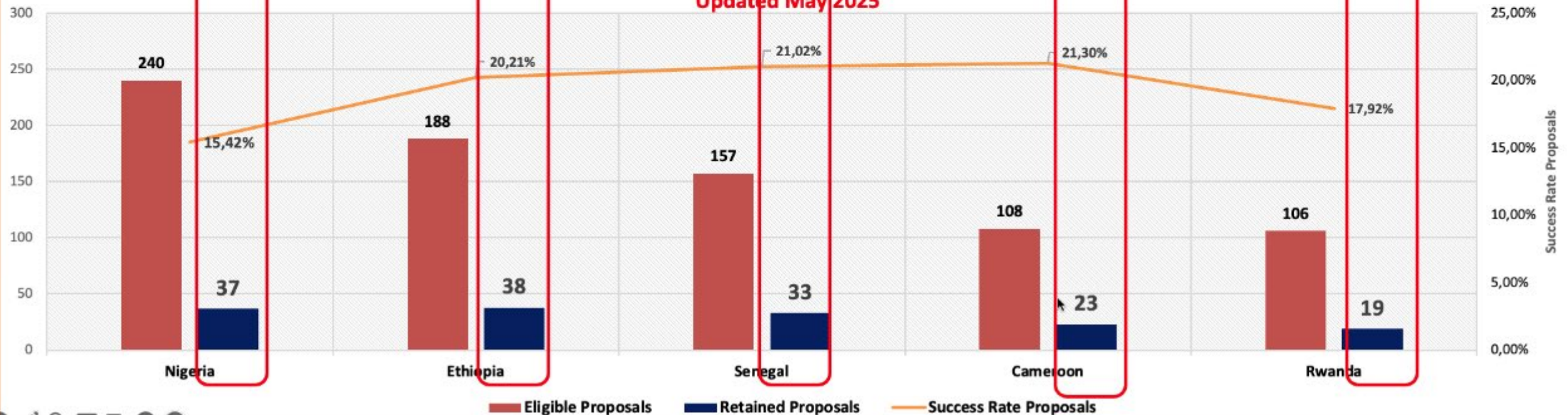


## Horizon Europe Updated March 2024



The number of submissions has increased, and the improved quality of proposals has resulted in a higher number of accepted applications/projects

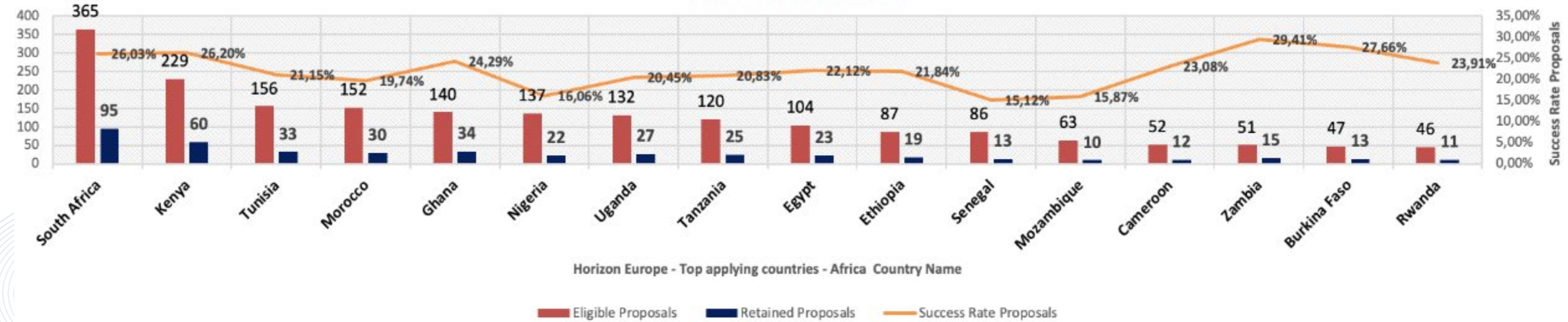
## Updated May 2025





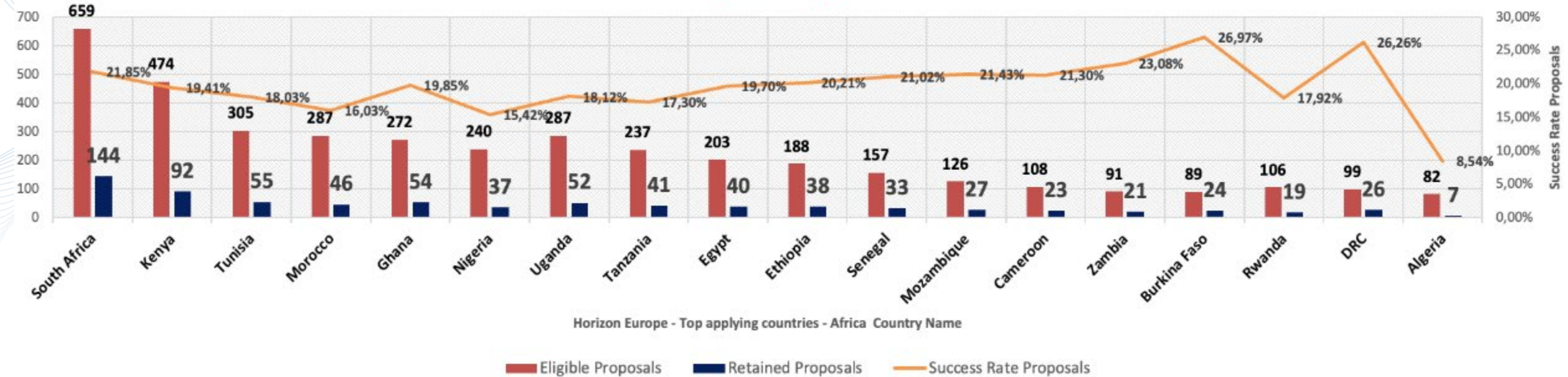
## Horizon Europe - Top applying countries in Africa

Updated March 2024



## Horizon Europe - Top applying countries in Africa

Updated May 2025



# The synergy between MSCA and Erasmus+

# 1. Mobility and Capacity Building

- Both **MSCA** and **Erasmus+** support **international mobility**.
- **MSCA** focuses on **researcher mobility** (PhDs, postdocs, research staff).
- **Erasmus+** supports **student, academic, and staff mobility**, primarily in **higher education**.
- **Institutions** can combine both to build strong international partnerships with capacity-building components.



## 2. Institutional Collaboration

- MSCA promotes **research collaboration and training networks**, while Erasmus+ offers **Strategic Partnerships, Capacity Building, and Cooperation Partnerships**.
- Institutions can **use Erasmus+ to initiate collaborations**, then **scale them into research consortia** through MSCA.

### 3. Enhancing Research and Innovation Ecosystems

- Erasmus+ enhances **institutional capacity and networks**.
- MSCA strengthens **scientific excellence** and **career development**.

Together, they support the full lifecycle of **education, training, and research**, especially in **Widening countries** and **low-participation regions**.

The synergy between **Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)** and **Erasmus+** offers a powerful, complementary framework to enhance **research excellence, academic mobility, and institutional development**. While Erasmus+ strengthens **educational capacity and international cooperation**, MSCA builds on this foundation by supporting **researcher mobility, career development, and innovative research environments**.



**Thank you**  
**africa.euraxess.org**

*EURAXESS Africa*



# Girum Ayalneh Tiruye

**Associate Professor**

Addis Ababa University, (ISIMSAD project)



# REGIONAL ERASMUS+ CLUSTER MEETING AND CONTACT-MAKING SEMINAR 2025 for Sub-Saharan Africa



## **ESIMSAD Project: A Multidisciplinary Academic Mobility Across Africa, Funded by EU under Intra-Africa Academic Mobility**

Dr. Girum Ayalneh Tiruye (ESIMSAD Project Coordinator)  
Associate Prof. at Addis Ababa University  
College of Natural and Computational Sciences  
Center for Materials Science and Engineering

**20-21 May 2025 | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**



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# Outlines

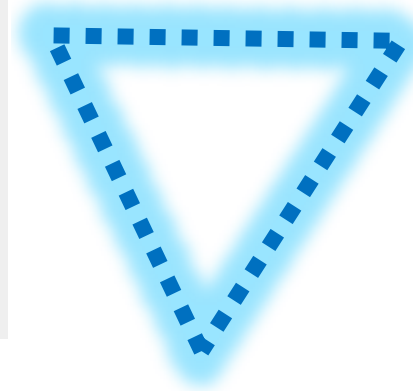


- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ ESIMSAD Project Partners
- ❖ ESIMSAD Project Training Programs
- ❖ Mobility of ESIMSAD Project
- ❖ ESIMSAD Project Training academic Programs
- ❖ Impact of ESIMSAD Project
- ❖ Challenges and recommendations for Academic





# Marie Skłodowska-Curie Fellow (2013-2016)



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# ESIMSAD Project Partners



About 38 MSc and PhD students and 10 staff are planned to be benefited from the mobility!

AAU

Coordinator of ESIMSAD (Ethiopia)



Dr. Girum Ayalneh  
Tiruye



Prof. Kenneth  
Ozoemena.

WITS, Partner  
(S. Africa)



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WITWATERSRAND,  
JOHANNESBURG



EU-Technical  
Partner (Ireland)



UCC  
University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



Dr. Barry Hayes

UNN  
Partner  
(Nigeria)



University of Nigeria



AASTU  
UNIVERSITY FOR INDUSTRY

AASTU  
Partner  
(Ethiopia)



Dr. Getachew Adam

Prof. Paul  
Ejekeme



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# ESIMSAD Target (training) Programmes (MSc & PhD)

## MSc Programmes

- ❖ Materials Science (AAU)
- ❖ Materials Electrochemistry and Energy Technologies (WITS)
- ❖ Solar Energy Physics (UNN)

## PhD programmes

- ❖ Inorganic Chemistry (AAU)
- ❖ Materials Electrochemistry and Energy Technologies (WITS)
- ❖ Materials Science (solar Energy Physics) (UNN)
- ❖ Physical Chemistry (AASTU, UNN)

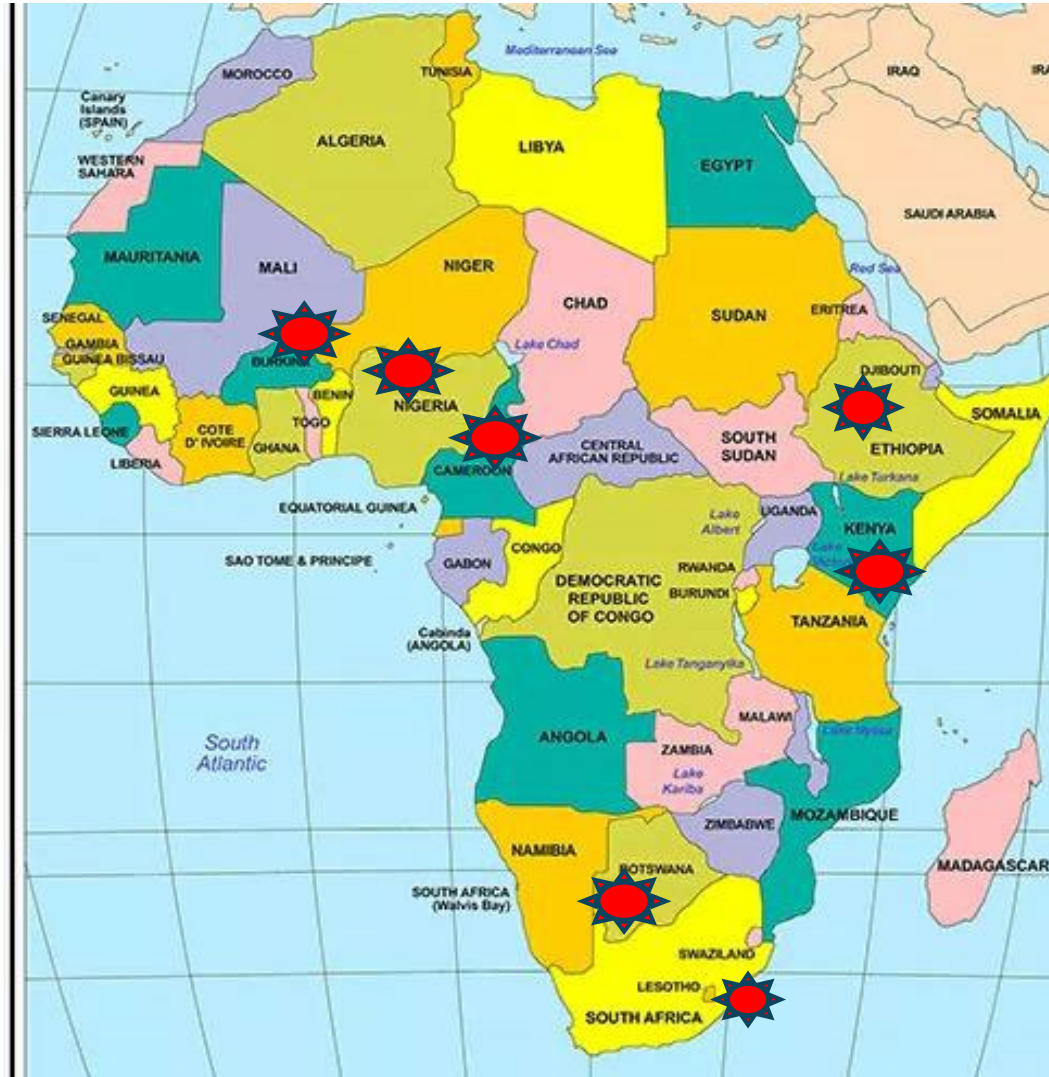


# Geography in ESIMSAD

- ❖ 79% scholarship holders are already selected
- ❖ (Females

21%)

- ❖ 21% scholarship holders are yet to be selected





# Impact of ESIMSAD Project

Out of 79% selected scholarship holders, 50% has finished the mobility so far.

New PhD Curriculum was developed and the existing curriculum was also updated.

Degree-seeking student who graduated with MSc under ESIMSAD project

- ❖ Some of them are doing their PhD in Germany, China and Ethiopia
- ❖ Some of them are working for a company in Uganda, Kenya and Cameroon.

Students who completed Credit-seeking Mobility

- ❖ They were all returned back to their home university with recognition from the host university

In addition to MSc thesis and credit seeking mobility,

- ❖ 12 Scientific journal Articles were published by the scholarship holders with students as a first author







# ESIMSAD Project dedicated Website



ESIMSAD

[Home](#)

[About](#) ✓

[Online Applications](#)

[Scholarship](#) ✓

[News & Events](#)

[FAQs](#)

[Contact](#)

Search

Website: <https://esimsad.org/>

AFRICAN PARTNERS

The HEIs Partners of ESIMSAD



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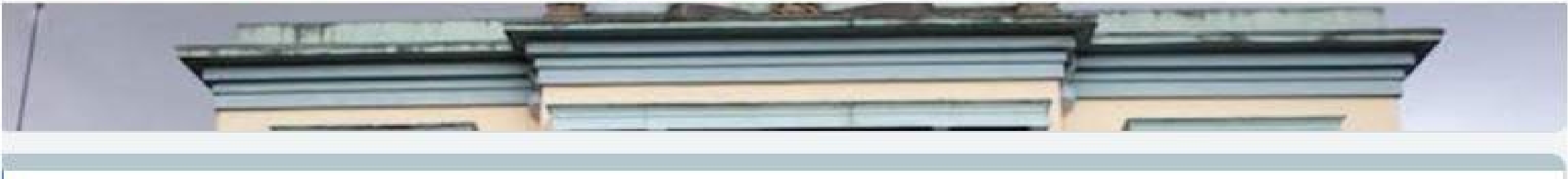


# Future Call for ESIMSAD Credit Seeking Mobility

African  
Union



Funded by the Intra-Africa  
Academic Mobility Scheme of  
the European Union



**Website: <https://esimsad.org/>**

<https://www.facebook.com/Esimsad>



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# Challenges & Recommendations of Academic Mobility in Africa



## Challenges

- ❖ Political barriers which resulted in ESIMSAD partnership amendment
- ❖ Visa and immigration challenges which resulted in change of host university
- ❖ Security issue in some specific areas of Africa which resulted in interruption of staff mobility
- ❖ Non-harmonized curriculum at higher education in Africa (Some students had to take bridge courses from undergraduate programmes)= qualification comparability

## Recommendation

- ❖ Proactive communication with different stakeholders
- ❖ Enhance qualification comparability across African HEIs
- ❖ Improve visa and immigration policies particularly for academic mobilities
- ❖ Promote regional integration to facilitate student and staff mobility within Africa







# Acknowledgments



Funded by the Intra-Africa  
Academic Mobility Scheme of  
the European Union



African  
Union



Grant No: \_ 624175

WITS, Partner  
(S. Africa)



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WITWATERSRAND,  
JOHANNESBURG

AAU

Coordinator of ESIMSAD (Ethiopia)



EU-Technical  
Partner (Ireland)



UCC

University College Cork, Ireland  
Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh



UNN  
Partner  
(Nigeria)



University of Nigeria

AASTU  
Partner  
(Ethiopia)



AASTU  
UNIVERSITY FOR INDUSTRY  
ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY







# Thank you!



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**Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Esimsad>**



[aau.edu.et](http://aau.edu.et)

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Center for Materials Science and Engineering,  
CNCS

SEEK WISDOM ELEVATE YOUR INTELLECT AND SERVE HUMANITY



# Tesfaye Muluye Workie

**Erasmus+ Alumnus, Ph.D. candidate**

University of Addis Ababa



**Erasmus+**  
Enriching lives, opening minds





# Feedback on Stay at BOKU - Vienna

**Tesfaye Muluye** shares his enriching academic and cultural experience at BOKU University.





# Academic Collaboration and Learning

## Collaborative Teaching

Six teachers co-taught a climate change course with great enthusiasm.

## Knowledge Gained

Learned detailed, specialized courses relevant to Ph.D. research.

## Research Support

Worked closely with Professor Thomas Hein, improving scientific articles.

## Program Support

Erasmus plus staff and coordinators provided exceptional assistance.



# Advanced Research Opportunities

## Access to Laboratories

Utilized laboratory facilities at BOKU for water quality and ecological analysis.

## Data Analysis Tools

Gained proficiency in advanced software for biomonitoring.

## Networking with Scholars

Engaged with BOKU's research community, fostering potential collaborations.

## Research Fieldworks

Gained practical skills on macroinvertebrate sampling of riverine habitats.



# Cultural Experiences and Personal Growth

## Excursions

Visited Lunz am See and Lower Austria, exploring nature and rural life.



## Vienna Life

Impressed by Vienna's infrastructure, trains, and community spirit.



## Student Connections

Friendly peers hosted excursions and shared cultural experiences.



## Gratitude

Thankful to Erasmus plus for this transformative academic opportunity.





# Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting 2025 for Sub-Saharan Africa

20-21 May 2025 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



**Erasmus+**  
Enriching lives, opening minds



Freemius

# Speed-networking

**Wafa M'Sallem,**

ENFP Regional Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa, PRACISIS srl  
(In-situ moderator)

**Graeme Robertson-Liersch,**

ENFP Team Leader, PRACISIS srl (Online support)







# Erasmus+ Cluster Meeting 2025 for Sub-Saharan Africa

20-21 May 2025 – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



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Enriching lives, opening minds



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