



FEBRUARY 2024

NEWSLETTER 3

University cooperation for promoting the GREEN transition and sustainable practices in education and training



The U-GREEN Training Program

Our consortium has been working on the U-GREEN training programme for U-GREEN experts. The programme aims to train education and training professionals to master the U-GREEN transition. The goal of this course is to train education and training professionals to master the green transition and to apply new green and sustainability practices and methodologies in line with the U-GREEN label and guidelines.

It consists of 5 modules that combine passive learning techniques with a learn-by-doing approach, materialised in the "practical project":

MODULE 1. The U-GREEN Label (Principles, Methodology and Criteria);

MODULE 2. Navigating through the different Assessment Formats: Peer Audit and Self-Assessment;

MODULE 3. Awarding the U-GREEN Label and making recommendations;

MODULE 4. Guidance for the implementation of changes and follow-up;

MODULE 5. Practical project: conducting a Peer Audit and Self-Assessment

Get in touch with us:



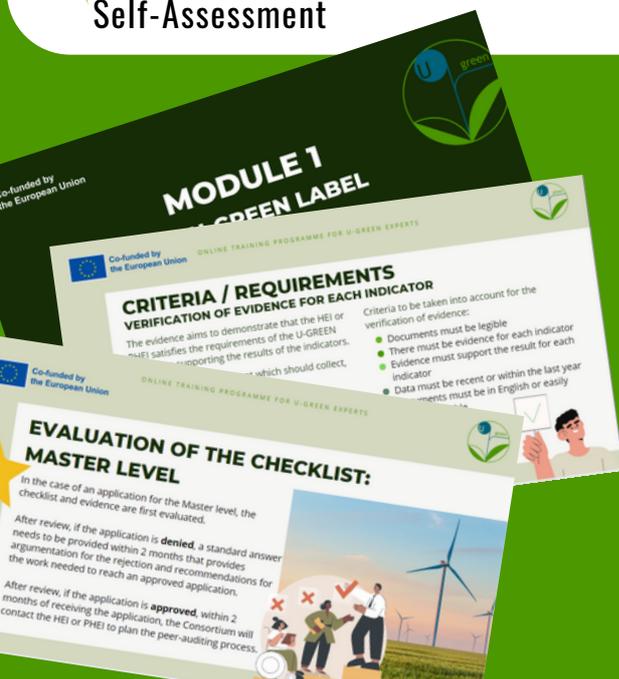
<http://www2.ual.es/u-green/>



[@ugreen.erasmus](https://www.facebook.com/ugreen.erasmus)



[@u_green_erasmus](https://www.instagram.com/ugreen_erasmus)



The main target group of the course, the U-GREEN experts, are central to the implementation of the U-GREEN label as they will be empowered to carry out self-assessments and peer audits and as such will assess compliance with the criteria, make recommendations and award the label, both internally, at consortium level and among external stakeholders.

Soon, the partner universities will start the pilot implementation of the course, another step towards achieving the project's objectives!





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3rd U-GREEN Meeting in Warsaw

On 20 and 21 September 2023, the third meeting of the partners of the U-GREEN project on university cooperation to promote green transformation and sustainable practices in education was held at the Warsaw University of Life Sciences (SGGW). The project is implemented within the framework of the Erasmus+ strategic partnership (KA220 action) and the meeting was attended by representatives of all partners, that is, Universidad de Almería (UAL), Haute Ecole de la Province de Liège (HEPL), Instituto Politécnico de Coimbra (IPC), Agricultural University - Plovdiv, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia (UNIMORE), Agricultural University of Iceland (AUI), Paris Sup'Biotech and INCOMA.

As part of the project's phases so far, standards and guidelines for the green transformation of higher education institutions have been developed, including the rules for awarding the 'Green Label'.

During the two-day meeting, participants worked on a training program and teaching materials for U-GREEN experts, which will constitute a pool of freely available resources for the Virtual Knowledge Hub, which is an online platform serving as a repository for open resources.

The meeting had been officially opened by Professor Marta Mendel, the Vice-Rector for International Cooperation of Warsaw University of Life Sciences (SGGW). The first session was dedicated to the Mid-term Report, presented by José Joaquín García from UAL. The auditors positively assessed the project with a minor comment on equity issues, which have been further discussed in our meeting. The following sessions of Day 1 were dedicated to working on Result 3 outcomes (mainly teaching resources for U-GREENexperts), but we also discussed the Multiplier Events that had been already organised by two partners in the summer of 2023. SGGW and Plovdiv University shared their experiences and outcomes of those events. Apart from working sessions, we took part in a guided SGGW Campus Tour, which was intended to show visitors the variety of student and research facilities, that can be useful for prospective international cooperation. We visited the university library, one of the dormitories, and the Water Centre which is a research unit related to water management. Extracurricular activities of that day included also some informal events, such as a Welcome Reception at the SGGW Rectorate, where we met representatives of UniGreen Alliance, and the U-GREEN Dinner organised at the Der Elephant restaurant. The second day was dedicated mostly to brainstorming sessions devoted to Result 4, i.e. the Virtual Knowledge Hub, and the Sustainability Plan. The meeting was very fruitful and the general atmosphere was great.





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Multiplier Events

Unimore illumina la notte della Ricerca

Venerdì 29 settembre dalle 20:30 alle 23:00
 L'Osservatorio Geofisico @ossgeolab in Piazza Roma sarà aperto al pubblico per la visita e per scoprire alcuni progetti in corso.
 Vi aspettiamo!

UNIMORE.IT

OSSEVATORIO GEOFISICO

On September 29, 2023, the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia organised the U-Green Erasmus project multiplier event, coordinating it with the European Researchers Night. The objective was to bring attention to the U-GREEN Project, a joint initiative among European universities dedicated to promoting environmentally friendly transitions and sustainable practices in the realm of education and training.

As a partner in the U-GREEN project, Modena's event aimed to raise awareness among 30 diverse participants, including high school teachers, professionals from tech companies, and others passionate about sustainable development.

The venue for the event was the Modena Geophysical Observatory, chosen for its symbolic importance in fostering environmental consciousness. Additionally, during the evening, data from the Modena Geophysical Observatory were presented in order to analyse local climate changes.

The event was divided into two sessions, where participants were grouped for personalised interactions. The sessions provided insights into the U-GREEN project's core principles, objectives, and initial outcomes. Attendees also received detailed information about U-GREEN Guidelines and the coveted U-GREEN Label, shedding light on the project's methodology and awarding system.

Furthermore, participants had the opportunity to explore the Observatory, guided by experts from Modena's academic community.

The event concluded with open discussions, where participants shared thoughts on the project and offered valuable suggestions for improvement. Feedback received underscored the success of the event in effectively conveying the message of sustainable education, with participants expressing satisfaction with both the presentation and organisational aspects.





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Multiplier Events

On October 18, the Polytechnic University of Coimbra organised the event "U-GREEN: The role of Education for a Greener Future" as a multiplier event for the U-GREEN Project. The aim was to publicise the U-GREEN Project, a university cooperation partnership to promote the green transition and sustainable practices in the area of education and training.

The event was open to external entities, including education and training institutions, municipalities, companies in the field of the environment and sustainability, and non-governmental organisations and cooperatives in the environmental field, as well as the academic community of the Polytechnic University of Coimbra and was intended to help raising awareness and encouraging debate on the topic of the ecological transition of Education and Training Institutions and generate synergies between the relevant actors. During the discussion, some contributions and opportunities for improvement were launched with a view to strengthen the U-GREEN Project, as well as some ideas for projects and lines of research that could be hosted within the framework of the UNIGreen European University.



During the event, the U-GREEN guidelines for Education and Training Institutions were presented, describing the standards, practices and approaches adopted to support the green transition in Education and Training Institutions in three main areas (Infrastructure & Resources; Administrative Management, Teaching & Learning; and Community Engagement and Awareness), corresponding to Outcome 1 of the project. The U-GREEN Label and its manual were also presented, addressing the principles, methodology, criteria and levels of progression and process applicable to the areas addressed by U-GREEN, corresponding to Outcome 2 of the project. There was also the opportunity to take a look at the U-GREEN Project at the European University UNIGreen.





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Multiplier Events



On December 14, the Multiplier Event of the U-GREEN Project took place at the HEPL.

The invitations had been sent widely, within and outside the Liège provincial structure.

Many students came along, interested in the sustainable dynamics in which the HEPL is committed within the project. Among the other participants in the event, let us quote local (from neighboring municipalities) and provincial stakeholders, important players in the transfer of knowledge and teaching fields, and partners in associative, business, and industrial circles. In total, more than 50 people came to assist the event, which was a real success.

The choice that had been made by the organisers was to highlight projects developed within or in partnership with the HEPL, which put sustainable development at the heart of their research. Thus, Mr. Close and Mr. Kleinberg presented a project to develop connected urban hives, which aim to provide beekeepers with precise monitoring of the hives (weight, temperature, pressure, humidity, etc.), and to detect hive thefts, or unwanted diseases or insects... communication systems make it possible to recover data remotely, and solar panels allow systems to be supplied.

The event continued with an interactive CAP2030 workshop, organised by Association 21. CAP 2030 is an animation tool which allows citizens and associations to assess or design their actions and projects, collective or individual, with regard to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the UN 2030 agenda. This animation, intended for an uninformed audience, allows participants to understand the different dimensions of sustainable development, at the start of what they are, already do or plan to do, their realities.

3 themes were offered to them, in connection with the themes developed by the U-GREEN label:

- The implementation of an energy plan for HEPL
- The implementation of a sustainable canteen for students
- The implementation of a sustainable mobility plan for the HEPL students and staff.

These workshops were rich in learning opportunities for the participants, who were able to understand the many sustainable, direct or indirect ramifications, which a project may include.

Finally, to thank speakers and participants, drinks and local products were organised by HEPL.

