

SEED FUNDING CALL FOR RESEARCH ACTIVITIES & AFRICAN-EUROPEAN COLLABORATION

We are pleased to announce the opening of a **seed funding call for research activities & African-European collaboration** within the framework of [CIVIS European University Alliance](#). Activities can be organized on CIVIS campuses in Europe and/or Africa.

Projects must be submitted in English via [CIVIS online form](#) by **31 May 2025**.

Eligible activities

1. Thematic activities

This refers to any initiative with a research dimension, thematically related to at least one of the five interdisciplinary [CIVIS Hubs](#) themes and aiming to establish a collaboration among participants that goes beyond the activity itself.

Supported activities:

- Workshops/training measures for early-stage researchers
- Network meetings for establishing a research group
- Fieldwork
- Workshops for preparing a larger publication on research outcomes
- Citizen science projects
- Research-oriented summer/winter schools

2. Application design measures

This refers to activities with the explicit aim of preparing an application for a larger research grant. All types of collaborative research projects are eligible if they relate to at least one of the [CIVIS Hubs](#) themes. The proposals should clearly state how you will lead to a fully-fledged research grant and which funding programme and/or call you target.

Examples for supported activities:

- Meetings of potential or designated applicants/consortium members
- Meetings of the writing team
- Meetings of PI and/or other key participants to (potential) research consortium

Funding available

Each project can receive a maximum of 10,000 CHF:

- Travel and accommodation expenses for researchers from other CIVIS universities are covered if the activities are organised on the UNIL campus;
- Travel and accommodation expenses for UNIL researchers are covered if the activities are organised on the campus of another CIVIS university.

Selection criteria

Project proposals must:

- Involve at least three CIVIS Universities, among which at least two European universities
- The main applicant should be a member from a CIVIS University in Europe
- Relate to at least one of the [CIVIS Hub themes](#)
- Align with one of the activity types described above (thematic activity/application design measures)
- Demonstrate the potential for a sustainable, longer-term collaboration among project participants
- Application design measures must state the funding programme or the call for applications targeted (e.g., Horizon Europe, SNSF, ...)
- Be implemented by **30 June 2026**
- An activity report must be submitted no later than one month after the activity has been completed.

Project proposals are encouraged to include:

- Participants from at least one of the six strategic partner universities in Africa
- A response to a societal challenge
- Interdisciplinary aspects

Project proposals linked to thematic activities should, if possible, incorporate a citizen/participatory science approach.

Evaluation process and timeline

14 April 2025	Info session
May 31st 2025	End of the call
November 1st 2025	Decision notification and start of the projects
June 30th 2026	End of the activities