

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 **Sunday 31 March 2024**.

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.

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.

If the project is coordinated by the University of Lausanne, other expenses may be covered (subject to prior agreement with the CIVIS Team).

Selection criteria

Project proposals must:

- Involve at least [three CIVIS Universities from Europe or Africa](#) (including UNIL)
- 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 31 July 2025

Project proposals are encouraged to include:

- Participants from at least one of the six strategic partner universities in Africa
- Partners from more than two European universities
- 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

April-May 2024	<p>CIVIS Hub Councils examine the academic relevance of proposed activities.</p> <p>The CIVIS Management Committee controls their financial and organisational feasibility.</p> <p>The CIVIS Research Council and Steering Committee decide on the funding of activities.</p>
By 15 June 2024	Applicants will be notified about the funding decision.
By 31 July 2025	Proposed activities are completed.