

Advancing Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship in the Mediterranean Context: Resource Recovery and Environmental Challenges

ADVANCED SKILLS COURSE



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ART. 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

Carthage University within the framework of the PNRR TNE MARE project "Mediterranean Alliances for Research and Education", funded by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR), CUP: B71I24000240006 announces a call for applications for the selection of No. 21 participants, with 4 places allocated to applicants from Algerian Universities and 17 from Tunisian Universities, to take part in the Advanced Skill Course (ASC) on "Advancing Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship in the Mediterranean Context: Resource Recovery and Environmental Challenges" organised by The Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna.

ART. 2 COURSE DESCRIPTION

The ASC offers an interdisciplinary perspective on the main environmental and social challenges affecting the Mediterranean region. The online component focuses on topics such as climate change, sustainable resource management, and global citizenship education, bringing together experts and academics from various universities and international organizations. The in-person phase further explores practical dimensions through lectures, field visits, and collaborative activities, aiming to foster critical and project-based competences for sustainability and environmental justice in the Mediterranean context.

2.1 Goals

The ASC main goals are the following:

- Promote an integrated understanding of sustainability and global citizenship by exploring the interconnections between environmental, social, and educational challenges in the Mediterranean region;
- Foster interdisciplinary and intercultural dialogue among young scholars and practitioners engaged in advancing Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Education;
- Encourage critical reflection and ethical engagement towards global issues such as climate change, environmental justice, and sustainable resource management;
- Develop practical competences and institutional strategies to implement sustainability and citizenship principles within higher education systems and campus practices.
- Strengthen regional cooperation and knowledge-sharing in line with the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development and the 2030 Agenda.

2.2 Topics

The ASC main topics are:

- **Climate Change and Environmental Challenges:** the course examines the impacts of climate change on Mediterranean ecosystems, biodiversity, and coastal communities, while exploring strategies for resilience and adaptation;
- **Sustainability and Resource Management:** participants will discuss sustainable approaches to waste, water, and resource management across different Mediterranean contexts;
- **Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Global Citizenship Education (GCED):** the module introduces key theoretical frameworks, pedagogical approaches, and policy implications for higher education institutions;
- **Institutional Transformation and Sustainable Practices:** sessions focus on policy development, university governance, and campus-based initiatives that promote sustainability;
- **Strengthening Regional and International Cooperation:** the course highlights the role of the Mediterranean Strategy on ESD (MSESD), the 2030 Action Plan, and UNESCO-led initiatives in fostering shared action for sustainable development;
- **Field Visits and Experiential Learning:** on-site activities and field trips provide opportunities to connect theoretical perspectives with local realities and best practices.

2.3 Schedule and Learning Activities

The ASC will include online classes, class sessions, workshops and field visits.

Participation in the ASC entails **4 online classes** (2 hours each) **in January 2026** and five days of in-person attendance in Tunis, that means total stay of six days, inclusive of arrival and departure.

The in-person course will be delivered from **the 3rd to the 7th of February 2026**

Course schedule (online sessions):

- January 15, 15:00–17:00
- January 16, 15:00–17:00
- January 23, 15:00–17:00
- January 30, 15:00–17:00

Learning activities (online sessions)

- Impacts of climate change on Mediterranean ecosystems, biodiversity – Antonio Pusceddu (University of Cagliari)
- Sustainability and global citizenship education – Namrata Sharma (State University of New York)
- Policy Development and Institutional Transformation – Giulio Lo Iacono (Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development – AsviS)
- Sustainable Campus Initiatives and Institutional Practices (TBD)
- Promoting Global Citizenship Education in Higher Education: Experiences and Practices – Annalisa Quinto & Luca Vittori (University of Bologna)

Course schedule (In-person schedule)

- February 2 (Mon), arrival
- February 3 (Tue), 9.30 – 18:00
- February 4 (Wed), 9.30 – 18:00
- February 5 (Thu), 9.30 – 18:00
- February 6 (Fri), 9.30 – 18:00
- February 7 (Sat), 9.30 – 18:00

Learning activities (In-person schedule)

- Understanding the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development and its Action Plan towards 2030 – Alessandra Carucci, Gianluigi Farru, Fabiano Asunis (University of Cagliari);
- Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Education: frameworks and goals – Massimiliano Tarozzi (University of Bologna);
- Climate Change, Environmental Justice, and Urban Resilience – Valentina Cappi (University of Bologna);
- Strategies for resilience and adaptation in coastal communities – Valentino Garau (University of Cagliari);

- Sustainable Waste and Resource Management in the Mediterranean Context – Alessandra Carucci, Gianluigi Farru, Fabiano Asunis (University of Cagliari);

2. 4 Prospective Participants

The call is open to faculty members with a particular focus on early career researchers (young scholars, PhD students and post-Doc) and administrative staff from Algerian or Tunisian Universities.

ART. 3 REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To be eligible, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Hold a degree (at least a Bachelor's) in any field;
- Be a faculty member or administrative staff in a University in Tunisia or Algeria;
- Applicants must not currently hold any grant funded by the European Union;
- Applicants must meet all the above-mentioned requirements by the application deadline;
- Selected candidates must also guarantee their full attendance for all the hybrid Advanced Skill Course.

3. 1 Application procedure

Candidates are required to submit their application by e-mail to the following address Advanced.skills.course@isce.ucar.tn specifying in the subject line “Application for MARE Advanced Skill Course”.

The application must include:

- duly completed application form
- curriculum vitae
- ID document (Identity card for Tunisian participants and passport for participants from Algerian Universities)
- Motivational letter

3.2 Application deadline

Applications must be submitted **by 4 December 2025 (23:59, Tunisian time)**. **Incomplete applications or applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.**

ART. 4 SELECTION

Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. **Motivation letter:** Max. 60 points;
2. **CV:** Max. 40 points

4.1 Gender Balance and Equal Evaluations (Ex Aequo)

Gender balance will be considered during the selection process. In cases where two candidates have equal qualifications and evaluation scores, preference will be given to the candidate belonging to the gender that is underrepresented among the selected participants. Additionally, if two candidates of the same gender have equal qualifications and evaluation scores, preference will be given to the younger candidate.

4.2 Selection Committee

The Selection Committee will consist of three representatives (professors) from the University of Carthage, the University of Bologna and the University of Cagliari. The Selection Committee will evaluate all duly completed applications; incomplete or late submissions will not be assessed. The Selection Committee will compile a ranking list which will be communicated to all applicants at the end of the selection process.

ART. 5 CONFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION

Selected candidates must confirm their acceptance **within three (3) days** of notification of the ASC placement offer by sending the signed acceptance form to University of Bologna at the address that will be provided. Failure to do so may result in the offer being withdrawn.

Upon acceptance, participants commit to complying with all administrative procedures required by the University of Bologna. In the event of a late withdrawal, participants will be required to reimburse the full cost of travel and accommodation incurred on their behalf.

ART. 6 FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND BENEFITS

Participation is free of charge. All selected participants will be provided with coffee break and meals; accommodation and travel expenses will be covered only to attendees from Algerian Universities for whom room and board will be granted only for the ASC week (maximum 6 days).

Furthermore, by attending the ASC, participants will benefit from the following:

- Opportunities for academic networking, including exchanges and collaborative initiatives;
- Exposure to innovative teaching methodologies and learning environments;
- Potential to establish long-term collaborations in research and teaching.

ART. 7 INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Selected participants are required to obtain the following insurance coverage:

- **Third-party liability insurance** covering any unintentional damage caused to persons or property during participation in ASC activities -
- **Personal accident insurance** covering injuries sustained during participation in course activities;

Proof of policy coverage and premium payment must be provided upon request.

CONTACT

For any additional information, clarifications or inquiry about the ASC please do not hesitate to contact:
gcedchair@unibo.it.