



Call for Applications

Staff from Africa to Italy for capacity building

Academic year 2025/2026

ITACA Project 'Internationalising Italian Academia with Africa', admitted for funding with identification code TNE23-00075 by Directorial Decree of the Ministry of University and Research of 8 August 2024, prot. 268, adopted following the Directorial Decree of 3 October 2023, prot. no. 167, containing 'Notice for the granting of funding for transnational educational initiatives (TNE)' - as part of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), Mission 4 'Education and Research' - Component 1 'Strengthening the provision of education services: from Nursery Schools to Universities' – Investment 3.4, 'Advanced University Teaching and Skills – Sub-investment T4 'Transnational Initiatives in education', funded by the European Union – NextGenerationEU - CUP J51I24000250006 (Notice Ref.WP 5A/1)

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Art. 1 – Purpose

Within the ITACA Project, a Call for applications is issued to award a maximum of **7 international mobility grants for academic (teaching, research and administrative) staff** coming from the 10 African Universities listed to Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. The mobility of the African staff to Italy aims at sharing knowledge and teaching and management methodologies on the ITACA thematic areas (*Management & Entrepreneurship, Orange Economy, Green Economy, Agri-Food e Energy & Water*) in a capacity building perspective.

This capacity building objective will be pursued by enabling African teaching, research and administrative staff to visit UCSC to share teaching and research techniques and methodologies, as well as methodologies and best practices for the management and technical and administrative support of transnational projects and networks.

During the mobility period, the African teaching, research and administrative staff will in turn be able to offer Italian staff members opportunities to strengthen their skills in managing international networks and acting at transnational level.

The mobility is expected to have an **actual duration of minimum 5 days and maximum 14 days net of travel days and must be completed by 31st January 2026**. The exact period of mobility must be agreed with UCSC.

Art. 2 - Eligibility and requirements

The Call for Applications is open to

- **Lecturers and Researchers** who are regularly employed or under contract at one of the 10 African Home Universities listed below;
- **PhD students** at one of the 10 African Home Universities listed below
- **Administrative staff** who are regularly employed or under contract at one of the 10 African Home Universities listed below

The requirement of the formal link with the Home University **must be met for the entire duration of the mobility programme**, to ensure full recognition of the activity in the career.

English proficiency. A minimum B1 level of English is required to apply (according to the summary of Common European Framework Reference approved by the Council of Europe - for info visit <https://europass.europa.eu/en/common-european-framework-reference-language-skills>).

The 10 African Home Universities are

HOME UNIVERSITY

- Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology
- Université Centrale de Tunis
- Uganda Martyrs University

COUNTRY

- Kenya
- Tunisia
- Uganda



- University of Rwanda
- University of Antananarivo
- St. Mary's University
- Université International de Casablanca
- Catholic University of Zimbabwe
- Universidade São Tomás de Moçambique
- University of Professional Studies, ACCRA

- Rwanda
- Madagascar
- Etiopia
- Marocco
- Zimbabwe
- Mozambique
- Ghana

Art. 3 - Coverage of mobility costs

The ITACA Project will cover, within the maximum amounts specified in *Annex B_Financial support for academic staff from Africa to Italy for capacity building*, the following costs related to international mobility:

- a) Travel expenses
- b) Visa costs
- c) Subsistence and accommodation

Airfare and accommodation costs will be paid directly by Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore. Visa, meals and local transport costs will be reimbursed to participants in accordance with Italian law and UCSC internal regulations, upon presentation of appropriate documentation. The methods of payment and/or reimbursement will be detailed and must be accepted by the selected candidate at the time of signing the Mobility Agreement.

It's expressly prohibited the double funding of the above-mentioned mobility costs.

Art. 4 - Submission of applications – requested documents

The application must include the following **mandatory documents**:

- 1) Signed Application Form and authorisation to the processing of personal data (*Annex_Template_Application for staff from Africa to Italy for capacity building*)
- 2) Capacity building mobility proposal, indicating the programme to be carried out during the mobility period (*Annex Template_Proposal for staff mobility from Africa to Italy for capacity building*)
- 3) *Curriculum Vitae* in European Format
- 4) Passport copy (valid for at least six months after the expected end date of the mobility; alternatively, copy of a valid ID accompanied by receipt of the passport release/renewal request)

Applications can be accompanied by the following **optional documents**:

- 5) Certificate of language proficiency in English, released by the Home University or third entity



Art. 5 - Submission of applications – deadline and procedures

Applications must be sent by 18th December 2025 at 12.00 CET.

The deadline is final: applications received after this date will be considered inadmissible.

Applications must be sent exclusively online using the following link:
<https://iscrizionionline.unicatt.it/s/events?subId=a10dY000001VpP3>.

Art. 6 - Evaluation Committee

The evaluation of the applications will be carried out by an Evaluation Committee appointed by UCSC and made up of 3 members (plus a 4th supply member).

The Commission may meet, if necessary, electronically or in a mixed format.

Art. 7 - Evaluation of applications

The Evaluation Committee will independently evaluate the applications received from their respective University, assigning an **overall score out of 22** according to the following criteria.

- A. Relevance of the mobility programme to the objectives of the call for applications (max 10 points)
- B. Experience in the chosen subject area (max 10 points)
- C. Level of English language proficiency declared (max 2 points, of which 0.5 if certified)

Based on the personal details of the candidates, the Committees will award **additional points up to a maximum of 2 points** according to the principle of promotion of generational equality (maximum 1 points) and gender equality (maximum 1 point) - see Decree of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers Department of Equal Opportunities adopted on December 7th 2021) - **for a total maximum of 24 points**.

A minimum of overall 13 points must be reached by candidates to be admitted to funding the mobility grants.

The results of the evaluation procedure will be published on the ITACA project website (<http://organismi.unicatt.it/itaca-project>) within 21 days of the deadline for applications.



Art. 8 - Obligations of selected candidates

Selected candidates will receive from UCSC the Admission Letter together with the Mobility Agreement detailing the procedures for the disbursement of the grant. Further documentation necessary for the mobility programme will be requested by email by UCSC. The Mobility Agreement, and any additional documentation, must be countersigned for acceptance by the selected candidate and sent to UCSC within the given deadlines.

Art. 9 - Health Insurance and Safety

Selected candidates will need health insurance for the whole duration of the mobility.

Selected candidates will be required to comply with the disciplinary and safety regulations in force at the locations where the activities will be carried out.

If the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation advises against travelling to the destination location or if the Italian Host University, after consulting the involved parties, considers it unsafe for selected candidates to be sent/stay at the destination location, the mobility period may be suspended, modified, interrupted or cancelled. Selected candidates are invited to carefully assess the risks associated with the mobility period and to review the security measures adopted by the destination country.

Art. 10 - Processing of personal data

In accordance with current legislation on the protection of personal data and, in particular, with EU Regulation 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation – GDPR), the personal data provided by candidates will be collected by Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore and processed for the purposes of managing the evaluation procedure and admission process.

The information regarding the processing of personal data provided during the competitive selection procedure is available on the UCSC website at the following address: <https://www.unicatt.it/en/privacy/information-notice-for-calls-for-applications-and-competitions-for-admission-.html>

Art. 11 - Referral

For anything not expressly provided for in this call, the rules governing recruitment in public competitions shall apply.



Art. 12 - Responsible for the procedure

The responsible person for the procedure of this Call is **Dott. Paolo Nusiner**, General Manager of UCSC.

Art. 13 - Information contact on the call

For any query on the contents of this Call, candidates can write to project.itaca@unicatt.it.

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore
The Rector
Elena Beccalli