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Venezia



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Italy - East Asia Cooperation: from Local Expertise to a Global Outlook – LEGO Empowering the Academic Cooperation between Italy and Africa - UNITAFRICA

TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION PROJECT – TNE

Call for Applications for Teachers and Researchers mobilities from Asia and Africa

Academic Year 2025 - 2026

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Art. 1 Purpose of the call and general regulations

1.1 Project Overview, Objectives, and Partners

The Italy–East Asia Cooperation: from Local Expertise to a Global Outlook (LEGO – CUP: H71I24000300002) project is a Transnational Education (TNE) initiative funded by the NextGenerationEU programme. It promotes academic mobility and cooperation between 12 Italian universities and 131 universities in East Asia, spanning three key areas: Languages and Cultures, Science and Technology for Sustainability, and Management and Economics for Society. LEGO fosters internationalization, innovative teaching, Double/Joint Degrees (DJDs), and inclusive, globally relevant education. Key aims include strengthening doctoral training, increasing the international visibility of Italian higher education, and promoting equity and access. This call falls under WP2 and WP3, which focus on supporting the incoming mobility of teaching and research staff from East Asian partner universities. Visiting staff will engage in joint teaching and collaborative academic activities with colleagues at Ca' Foscari University of Venice (UNIVE), contributing to intercultural exchange, curriculum innovation, and long-term institutional cooperation. The LEGO project runs from September 2024 to March 2026.

The UNITAFRICA – Empowering the Academic Cooperation between Italy and Africa (CUP: H71I24000300002) project is a Transnational Education (TNE) initiative funded by the Programme NextGenerationEU. It enhances educational cooperation between 21 Italian universities and 93 African institutions across 18 countries. UNITAFRICA focuses on six thematic areas, including sustainability, health, and innovation, through activities like mutual learning, digital platforms, and innovative teaching. Key goals include promoting inclusive, bi-directional mobility, developing joint Master/PhD pathways, and strengthening institutional ties. This call supports WP3 and WP4, which foster academic exchange and advanced training. The UNITAFRICA project runs from October 2024 to March 2026.

1.2 Target Beneficiary

While the LEGO and UNITAFRICA projects engage a wide network of partners, this specific call, under Work Packages 2 and 3 — is directed at teaching and research staff from East Asian and African partner universities who are selected for incoming mobility to Ca' Foscari University of Venice (UNIVE).

The aim is to support and facilitate joint teaching and research activities with UNIVE faculty, enhance mutual academic exchange, and strengthen long-term international collaboration on strategic and interdisciplinary topics across the project's focus areas.

The following universities are eligible as sending institutions under this call:

Japan

- Waseda University
- Kyoto University
- Keio University

People's Republic of China

- Capital Normal University
- Fudan University
- Peking University
- Shanghai University of Finance and Economics
- Soochow University
- Xiamen University
- Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University

South Africa

- Stellenbosch University

Vietnam

- Hanoi University
- Vietnam National University Ho Chi Min City

Art. 2 Mobility duration and available places (to be carried out by 31st March 2026)

The present call is intended to fund mobilities to Ca' Foscari University of Venice (UNIVE) - Italy.

For every sending institution, priority will be given to candidates proposing a Mobility Programme corresponding to the main objectives of the LEGO and UNITAFRICA TNE projects, as detailed below. In particular, 20% of the maximum score envisaged for the "Proposed Workplan" selection criteria for every destination will be reserved to the above-mentioned coherence priority criteria (see below).

LEGO mobilities :

ACTION	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	SENDING UNIVERSITY	LEVEL/ ACTIVITIES	TARGET AREA OF STUDIES	N° OF PLACES PER ACTION	DAYS	TOT. INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT PER STAFF
WP4 - Languages and DJDs	People's Republic of China	Capital Normal University	Staff for teaching	Languages	1	from 1 to 2 weeks (min. 5 days excl. travel days)	up to €3.300,00
WP4 - Vietnamese Language	Vietnam	Hanoi University	Staff for teaching	Languages	1	up to 2 months	up to €6.400,00
WP6 - Management and Economics - EQUIS	People's Republic of China	Fudan University	Staff for teaching	Management Business and administration	2	from 1 to 2 weeks (min. 5 days excl. travel days)	up to €3.300,00
	People's Republic of China	Peking University					
	People's Republic of China	Shanghai University of Finance and Economics					
	People's Republic of China	Xiamen University					
	Japan	Waseda University					
	Japan	Kyoto University					
WP6 - Management and Economics - Game-based learning	People's Republic of China	Fudan University	Staff for teaching	Management Business and Administration	2	from 1 to 2 weeks (min. 5 days excl. travel days)	up to €3.300,00
		Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University					
		Soochow University					
	Vietnam	Vietnam National University Ho Chi Min City					
		Hanoi University					
	Japan	Waseda University					
		Kyoto University					
		Keio University					



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Priorities per action/destination - LEGO

WP4 - Languages and DJDs - China - Capital Normal University: reserved to candidates teaching in the framework of Bachelor's degree in Chinese Language and/or of the Master's Degree in Teaching Chinese to Speakers of Other Languages - priority will be given to candidates proposing a Mobility Programme on Chinese language and linguistics; teaching Chinese as a foreign language.

WP4 - Vietnamese Language - Vietnam - Hanoi University: reserved to candidates proposing a Mobility Programme on teaching Vietnamese as a foreign language

WP6 - Management and Economics - EQUIS - China - Japan: priority will be given to candidates coordinating double or joint degree agreements at their home University, as shown in the mobility programme

WP6 - Management and Economics - Game-based learning - China - Japan - Vietnam: priority will be given to candidates proposing mobility programmes on Marketing, Human resource management, Organizational design

UNITAFRICA mobilities:

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	SENDING UNIVERSITY	LEVEL/ ACTIVITIES	TARGET AREA OF STUDIES	N° OF PLACES	DAYS	TOT. INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT PER STAFF
South Africa	Stellenbosch University	Staff for teaching	Languages and Translation	1	2 weeks (min. 5 days excl. travel days)	up to € 3.794,50
South Africa	Stellenbosch University	Staff for teaching	Languages and Translation	1	1 week (min. 5 days excl. travel days)	up to € 2.000,00

Priorities per destination - UNITAFRICA

South Africa - Stellenbosch University: Priority will be given to candidates proposing mobility programmes on the application of AI-driven tools to educational interpreting and mediation.

Art. 3 Admission requirements

3.1 Staff Status

- To be eligible for application, prospective candidates must hold the status of academic



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staff at one of the Asian or African partner Universities listed in Art. 2.

3.2 Language Proficiency

- Applicants must demonstrate proficiency in English at the B2 level or higher, according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) (<http://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/>).
- Ca' Foscari University (UNIVE) accepts valid language certificates or self-declarations as evidence of language skills.

3.3 Incompatibility

- Selected beneficiaries are ineligible to receive concurrent funding from any other European Commission grant for mobility for training during the same period.

3.4 Ineligibility

- If, at any stage in the application procedure, it is established that the information provided by the applicant has been knowingly falsified, the candidate will be disqualified from the selection process.
- Selected beneficiaries who receive TNE grant will be called to fully or partially reimburse the grant if they do not complete their planned activities abroad. In case of documented force majeure, UNIVE will evaluate the specific situation as provided by the principles of International Law: the event must be unforeseen, unforeseeable, irresistible and not caused by the Party which was to perform the performance;

Art. 4 Activities

4.1 Scope of Activities

As part of the LEGO and UNITAFRICA projects, the incoming mobilities to Ca' Foscari University of Venice (UNIVE) are designed to promote international academic collaboration with East Asian and African partner universities through teaching, training, and joint research initiatives.

These mobilities support:

- Professional development of incoming staff through exposure to innovative and intercultural teaching practices at UNIVE.
- Collaborative curriculum design and delivery in key areas such as language and culture, management.
- Strengthening of Double/Joint Degree programs and mutual recognition of academic activities between UNIVE and partner institutions.
- Advancement of internationalization, enhancing institutional ties and fostering long-term cooperation between East Asian and African universities and UNIVE.

Implemented under Work Packages 2 and 3 (LEGO) and WP 3 and 4 (UNITAFRICA), these activities are embedded in a transparent, inclusive, and sustainable mobility framework that reinforces the global role of Italian higher education and UNIVE's engagement in transnational academic networks.

4.2 Eligible activities

In the frame of this specific call, mobilities are intended for teaching activities to be delivered in person at Ca' Foscari University premises.

Teaching assignments may come in various forms and take place as seminars, lectures, and tutorials. Actual teaching in this context should require the beneficiary to be physically present with the students.

There will be no minimum number of compulsory hours of teaching required. However, the actual amount of teaching hours during the mobility will have to be declared and certified by the Receiving Institution.

4.3 Reporting Requirements

To ensure the effective dissemination and impact assessment of the project results, all beneficiaries are required, upon completion of their mobility, to submit a final beneficiary report based on the online template provided by Ca' Foscari University of Venice.

Art. 5 Financial and Administrative Support

5.1 Individual support & Travel

- Beneficiaries will receive an individual support as a contribution to their costs during their mobility, which is specified in the table at art. 2.
- Such individual support is intended to cover travel and living expenses during the mobility,

Further details will be shared with all selected participants.

5.2 Mobility Duration

- Mobility durations are specified in the table at Art. 2 of the present Call

5.3 Grant Agreement and Compliance

- Upon accepting the grant, selected candidates will receive an official nomination letter outlining their duties and responsibilities.
- Beneficiaries are required to comply with all local admission requirements of the host institution.

5.4 Administrative Assistance

Ca' Foscari University of Venice will provide administrative and logistical support to incoming teaching staff from Asian and African partner universities. This includes assistance with visa procedures, accommodation arrangements, orientation services, and access to university facilities and resources during the mobility period.

Art. 6 Admission procedure

6.1 Application Submission

- **Method:** Applications, including the application form and all required supporting documents (detailed in section 6.2), must be submitted electronically via e-mail to: tne.pnrr@unive.it
- **Deadline:** The strict deadline for submission is **September 8th, 2025, at 23:59 Brussels time**. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered.
- **Language:** The official language for the application and all supporting documents is English. **File Format and Naming:**
 - The application form and all attachments **must be merged into a single PDF document**.
 - This single PDF file must be named according to the following convention: `HostAcronym.HostCountry.ApplicantFirstName.ApplicantLastName.pdf`
 - (Example: `UNIVE.Italy.John.Smith.pdf`)

6.2 Required Documentation

Applicants (Academic Staff) are required to submit the following documents as part of their application package:

- Application Form: Duly completed and signed by the applicant (using the template provided on the call's webpage).
- Mobility Programme: Completed and signed by the applicant and the Head of the applicant's academic unit/department/faculty (using the template provided on the call's webpage).
- Identification: A clear copy of a valid passport.



- Certificate of Employment: An official certificate issued by the sending institution confirming the applicant's current academic staff status
- Language Proficiency: Copies of official language certifications (if available) or a self-declaration of language proficiency included within the Mobility Programme (refer to section "Language Skills").
- Letter of interest or e-mail signed by the prospective academic contact at Ca' Foscari University stating the availability and willingness to host the applicant for his/her teaching/training programme.

6.3 Contacts at receiving institution

The following contacts will be useful to identify a prospective academic supervisor to provide the letter of interest from the host institution (Ca' Foscari University of Venice):

Name of the Action and of the sending University	Academic coordinator	Administrative coordinator
LEGO - WP4 - Languages and DJDs - Capital Normal University	Prof. Bianca Basciano - bianca.basciano@unive.it	tne.pnrr@unive.it
LEGO - WP4 - Vietnamese Language - Hanoi University	Prof. Thi Huyen Trang PHAN - thihuyentrang.phan@unive.it	tne.pnrr@unive.it
LEGO - WP6 - Management and Economics - EQUIS - Fudan University, Peking University, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, Waseda University, Kyoto University, Xiamen University	Prof. Chiara Saccon - csaccon@unive.it	tne.pnrr@unive.it
LEGO - WP6 - Management and Economics - Game-based learning - Fudan University, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University, Soochow University, Vietnam National University Ho Chi Min City, Hanoi University, Waseda University, Kyoto University, Keio University	Prof. Andrea Pontiggia - andrea.pontiggia@unive.it Prof. Tiziano Vescovi - vescovi@unive.it	tne.pnrr@unive.it
UNITAFRICA - Stellenbosch University	Prof. Mirella Agorni - mirella.agorni@unive.it	tne.pnrr@unive.it



6.4 The eligibility check of applications will be based on following criteria:

Applications will be rejected ONLY in the following cases:

- Submission after the deadline set by art. 6.1
- Missing Mobility Programme
- Final evaluation scoring less than 50 points

Applications will be declared not eligible ONLY in the following cases:

- Applications will be declared not eligible ONLY in absence of one of the requirements set by art. 3.
- Faculty member's study area not matching with requirements set by art. 2

In case of missing signature by the Head of the applicant's unit/department/faculty on the Mobility Programme or missing Letter of Interest at the closing date of the present Call, the applicant will be considered eligible but automatically positioned at the end of the ranking. In the event that all eligible applicants for a specific destination submit a Mobility Programme without signature by the Head of the applicant's unit/department/faculty, or an application missing a Letter of interest, they will be evaluated according to criteria specified in art. 7.2, and the selected candidate will have the possibility to integrate the document after the closing date of the call.

Art. 7 Selection process

7.1 Selection Stages

The selection process comprises the following stages:

1. Eligibility Check: Carried out by administrative staff at UNIVE's International Office to ensure that applications meet all requirements outlined in Art. 3.
2. Evaluation: Performed by the Ca' Foscari University Selection Committee for all valid and eligible applications.

7.2 Evaluation Criteria

Eligible applications will be assessed based on the following criteria and point system:

<i>Evaluation Criteria</i>	<i>Maximum Points</i>
Quality of the proposed workplan (as for section 1 of the Mobility Programme)	30 points
Motivation (as for section 2 of the Mobility Programme)	30 points

Impact of the proposed mobility on consolidation and extension of relations between partner universities (as for section 3 of the Mobility Programme)	20 points
Language skills	20 points
Total	100 points

7.3 Cross-cutting Evaluation Criteria

The final selection decision will also incorporate cross-cutting criteria, such as promoting gender balance, ensuring equal opportunities, and encouraging the participation of individuals from disadvantaged groups, to ensure a fair and equitable selection outcome.

7.4 Ranking and Reserve List

- Following the evaluation, Ca' Foscari University of Venice (UNIVE) will establish a final ranking list of successful candidates.
- A reserve list will also be compiled, containing eligible candidates who may be offered a grant in the event of withdrawals or declined offers from the primary ranked list.
- Should any budget leftovers become available during the project, UNIVE has the right to nominate additional eligible candidates from the reserve list.

7.5 Notification of Results

- All applicants will be formally notified of the selection outcome via email to their provided institutional email address.
- Notification will occur promptly following the conclusion of the evaluation procedure.

7.6 Grant Offer Acceptance

- Selected candidates will receive a formal grant offer.
- Candidates must formally accept or decline the offer via email within three (3) working days of receiving the notification email.
- Should a selected candidate decline the offer or fail to respond within the specified deadline, Ca' Foscari University of Venice reserves the right to nominate the next eligible candidate from the reserve list.

7.7 Appeal Procedure

- Filing an Appeal: Applicants who believe a procedural error occurred during the evaluation of their application may submit a formal appeal via email to tne.pnrr@unive.it
 - The appeal must clearly explain the reasons for believing a procedural error occurred.
 - The appeal must be submitted no later than two (2) days after the notification of selection results was sent.



- Grounds for Appeal: The appeal procedure is strictly limited to addressing potential errors made by the Selection Committee in adhering to the principles and procedures outlined in this call document. Appeals cannot challenge the evaluators' judgment regarding the quality or merit of the application itself, but only alleged procedural mistakes.
- Inadmissible Appeals: Appeals will not be considered if:
 - The applicant failed to meet all eligibility criteria outlined in Art. 3.
 - The applicant failed to submit all required documentation by the deadline specified in Art. 6.1.
 - The appeal concerns the selection decision outcome rather than a specific procedural error.

Art. 8 Data protection

Information relating to individuals (personal data) is collected and used in accordance with EC Regulation No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of individuals (GDPR), and with the Italian legislation (Legislative Decree no. 196/2003) with regard to the processing of personal data by European institutions and organizations and the unrestricted circulation of such data.

Venice, _____

The Rector

Professor Tiziana Lippiello