







# University of Rome La Sapienza <u>The SHARE Africa Project</u> BEP (Blended Executive Programmes)

Call for Applications

Background and Context

# The Frame of the SHARE\_Africa Project

Africa is today at the centre of the debate in Italy, in Europe and in the world, and the continent's role will become increasingly strategic in the current era of global and urgent transitions. Within this context, there is room for maneuver to revive relations between Africa and Italy by means of a new paradigm of cooperation grounded in science, education & research. In line with the strategic objective of internationalization assigned by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan to the Italian academia and the EU vision on science diplomacy as an asset of international cooperation, the Science Hubs for Advanced Research & Education with Africa (SHARE\_Africa) project is designed based on the experience of the Italian Higher Education with Africa Foundation (IHEA Foundation) since its launching in October 2020.

SHARE\_Africa is structured to empower peer-to-peer scientific cooperation between 6 Italian Universities (University of Bologna, University of Florence, University of Naples "Federico II", University of Padua, "Sapienza" University of Rome and Politecnico di Milano) and a number of African Higher Education Institutions. The track record of IHEA Foundation boasts a Specializing Master in Ethiopia (60 ECTS) and 5 Intensive Advanced Courses in Tunisia and Ethiopia targeting more than 130 young academicians in 2 years. The asset of the existing relationships and the current records of activities, combined with considerations strategic for Italy in terms of foreign affairs policy, international cooperation strategies, migration policies and industrial interest, led IHEA Foundation to identify the MENA Region and the Horn of Africa, with focal Hubs in Tunisia and Ethiopia, as the target regions. From the same analysis, Early Career Academicians are the target group since they are already part of the academic system, yet young enough to grantee the best exploitation of the projects' results along their career since they, being alumni of SHARE\_Africa will act as the Italy-Africa Education and Research Ambassadors.

**The overall objective** is to promote the birth of Italo-African Science Hubs to sustain long-term cooperation in Education and Research between the Italian and African Academic Systems by means of joint Education and Research Ambassadors while providing policy recommendation to empowering science diplomacy. Among its specific objectives, this call addresses SO1 as follows:























# **Call for Applications**

- HAVING REGARD to the EU Council Decision 16051/23 of 8 December 2023, which amends the EU Council Implementing Decision of 13 July 2021, concerning the approval of the evaluation of the Recovery and Resilience Plan for Italy, subsequently amended by the EU Council Decision 9399/24 of 14 May 2024, with which, in relation to investment 3.4, it was arranged, among others, the modification of the description of the measure and the introduction of the milestone M4C1-23 bis, which provides for the implementation of ten transnational educational initiatives TNE by 30 June 2026;
- HAVING REGARD to the Directorial Decree of 3 October 2023, no. 167 "Notice for the granting of funding for transnational educational initiatives TNE";
- HAVING REGARD to the Directorial Decree of admission to funding from the MUR n. 252 of 08/08/2024: project identification code TNE2300010, Title: Science Hubs for Advanced Research & Education with Africa (SHARE\_AFRICA) TNE23-00010 submitted by the University Foundation for University Education with African Countries (IHEA Foundation), C.F. 11459500960, for the amount of € 1,834,200.42 (one million eight hundred and thirty-four thousand two hundred/42) to be drawn from the resources provided by the PNRR within the scope of Mission 4 "Education and Research" Component 1 "Strengthening the offer of education services: from nursery schools to University From research to business" Investment 3.4 "University teaching and advanced skills" T4 "Transnational initiatives in education", funded by the European Union − NextGenerationEU. CUP E46E24000010006
- HAVING REGARD to the Articles of Association of the IHEA Foundation Rep. 161794 Racc. 27468 of 08/10/2020;
- HAVING REGARD to the Statute of the IHEA Foundation, as Annex "C" to the aforementioned Articles of Association;
- HAVING REGARD to the signing of the grant agreement ("atto d'obbligo" in Italian) for the SHARE\_AFRICA project by the President of the IHEA Foundation on 29/10/2024;
- Having regard to the commitment made by the Sapienza University of Rome within the framework of the above-mentioned project TNE2300010, Title: Science Hubs for Advanced Research & Education with Africa to launch a call for applications for the E-BIPs.

The Sapienza University of Rome communicates the following:























# Regulations

## Article 1

Scope and Profile Requirements

# **Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism**

The program aims to provide interdisciplinary and practical expertise in cultural heritage management and the development of sustainable tourism strategies, with a particular focus on the African context, specifically Tunisia and the MENA region. In addition to the core aspects of the field, the intensive course integrates digital tools and innovative strategies, offering a holistic approach to cultural heritage enhancement.

The program follows a blended approach, combining a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) with an immersive two-week course in Tunis, held at the National Center for Training and Skills Development in Cartage. This includes classroom lectures and site visits, allowing participants to engage in real case studies that illustrate the concepts explored during the lessons.

The MOOC will be delivered remotely from September 8 to 12, 2025. The two-week in-person training will take place from September 15 to 27, 2025.

By the end of the course, the participants will have developed:

The ability to plan and implement conservation and enhancement strategies for both tangible and intangible heritage.

The skills to independently manage sustainable tourism initiatives while ensuring the active involvement of local communities.

Proficiency in selecting appropriate digital technologies and marketing strategies for the promotion of cultural heritage within a sustainable tourism framework.

The program is designed for a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 30 participants. All the course and lodging expenses will be fully covered by the Project. The costs related to the mobility of trainees who are not residents of Tunis will also be covered. The call is open to graduates holding a BA degree in humanities, management and economics, design, multimedia, communication, or related fields and PhD students in humanities, management and economics, design, multimedia, communication, or related fields. Applicants should have a keen interest in exploring best practices in Cultural Heritage management and Sustainable tourism. The eligibility criteria are defined in Art. 6.0.

## Article 2

The BEP Secretariat

The BEP secretariat is constituted jointly by Sapienza University (1 representative) and Manouba University (1 representative).

The BEP secretariat receives the applications submitted by the Candidates and transfers those in compliance to the Selection Committee.























#### Article 3

The Selection Committee.

The Selection Committee is composed of 3 representatives from Sapienza University of Rome and 3 representatives from Manouba University of Tunis, respectively.

The Selection Committee receives the applications from the Secretariat and is in charge of evaluating each application submitted by the Candidates for selecting those to be invited to participate.

The Selection Committee will draft a final report in accordance with the requirements of this Call, confirming that all submitted applications have been thoroughly reviewed and presenting the list of candidates invited to participate in the BEP. The report will also outline the criteria applied in the selection process.

The majority of the Members of the Selection Committee shall be present for their meetings to be considered valid.

#### Article 4

Statement of Principle for the Candidates' selection.

The Selection Committee commits to secure a selection process that is based on equal opportunity without prejudice, regardless of gender, race, religion, age, pregnancy, disability or other personal attributes provided that they do not impair the candidate's professional performance (that is, unable to meet the reasonable and genuine requirements of the position).

The Secretariat ensures that the selection process follows documented procedures, with candidates having access to published criteria on eligibility and selection.

## Article 5

Evaluation procedure steps

# 0. Eligible Profiles

The professional or academic experiences of the applicants will be used to assess the eligibility for participation in the program. To be eligible for admission, applicants are required to:

- Have obtained at least a Bachelor's degree or an equivalent qualification from one of the African universities listed in Annex 1 by the start date of the BEP. Students that has not yet acquired the required degree by the application deadline, shall submit the documentation no later than August 01, 2025.
- Candidates must demonstrate their interest and commitment to the program's subject through a motivation letter and their CV.
- English language proficiency (B2 level) will be assessed through certification or an oral interview.

# 1. Call for applications

Applications for the SHARE\_Africa BEPs shall be submitted according to this call, published in English on the following websites and social media: <a href="https://www.antichita.uniroma1.it/news">https://fondazioneihea.it/</a>; <a href="https://www.antichita.uniroma1.it/news">https://www.antichita.uniroma1.it/news</a>; and those linked to the Unesco Chair on Higher education for sustainable development in Africa — Manouba University (UMA). The application process opens on April 17, 2025, and the deadline for submission is May 30, 2025. Applications received beyond this deadline will be automatically rejected.























# 2. Evaluation of applications and ranking

The applications will be evaluated according to the criteria included in annex 2 and the specifications defined in the Requirement Profile (Art. 1) by the Selection Committee (Art 3).

The rank list will be formulated by the Selection Committee based on objective criteria and the information provided in the application documentation (Art. 6):

- BA degree grade (1-10 points);
- CV and other educational or extra curricula experiences in the field of Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism (1-5 points);
- assessment of motivation letter (1-5 points)
- alignment of the candidate's profile with the program (1-5 points).

Maximum total: 25 points.

#### Article 6

# Application documentation

Interested and qualified candidates are required to submit their application via email to <u>cultheritage.sapienza@outlook.com</u>, specifying "Application for Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism" in the subject line, and attaching the following documents::

- at least, Bachelor degree or equivalent from one of the eligible Universities.
- CV (in English, including academic background and professional experiences) (MAX: 2 pages).
- Motivation letter (in English) highlighting reasons to participate and showing the commitment of the candidate to the project (MAX: 1 page).
- Any additional documents or statements providing further information that may highlight relevant experience in the field (facultative).

Incomplete and/or inconsistently filled out applications and/or those that do not meet the required criteria will be considered ineligible.

# **Article 7**

# **Publication of Results**

The Secretariat will publish the list of accepted candidates on the website <a href="https://www.antichita.uniroma1.it/news">https://www.antichita.uniroma1.it/news</a>; <a href="https://

Below is a indicative schedule of the participation of students in the program:

Publication of the call for applications: 17<sup>th</sup> of April, 2025
 Deadline for the submission of the applications: 30<sup>th</sup> of May, 2025
 Deadline for Trainee Selection Announcement 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2025

• Deadline for acceptance 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2025

In the event of a withdrawal by selected student(s), the next candidate(s) on the ranking list (Art. 5.2) will be admitted.

# Article 8

Visa

The Visa procedures are entirely the responsibility of the student. Therefore, the possibility of carrying out the period abroad for selected students is always subject to the issuance of the Visa by the destination country (Tunisia). It should be noted that the issuance of a Visa for some countries may be restricted for certain nationalities.























# Article 9

#### Insurance

The accident insurance and liability insurance provided by Sapienza University of Rome can only cover incidents that occur during educational activities. Other medical services, not related to study activities, falls within the sole responsibility of the selected students.

# Article 10

#### **Contacts**

Any request for clarifications or communication shall be addressed to <a href="mailto:cultheritage.sapienza@outlook.com">cultheritage.sapienza@outlook.com</a> or <a href="mailto:chaireunesco@iscae.uma.tn">chaireunesco@iscae.uma.tn</a>.

## Article 11

# Personal Data

Personal data of the interested parties will be processed in accordance with the principles of correctness, lawfulness, transparency and minimization, for the protection of confidentiality and all the rights of the interested parties, in accordance with the provisions of the European Regulation on the protection of personal data. (EU Regulation 2016/679, so-called GDPR), by the Code regarding the protection of personal data (Legislative Decree 196/2003 and subsequent amendments) and by the consequent implementing measures adopted by the European authorities and by the Guarantor for the protection of personal data (www.garanteprivacy.it).























# Annex 1 – List of eligible African Universities from which the application can be originated

N.	Name of the associate member	Acronym of the Country associate member			
1	Addis Ababa Institute of Technology, Addis Ababa University	AAIT	Ethiopia		
2	College of Veterinary Medicine and Agriculture, Addis Ababa University	Ethiopia			
3	Ethiopian Catholic Higher Learning Institute	opian Catholic Higher Learning Institute ECUSTA Ethic			
4	University of Manouba Tunis		Tunisia		
5	Badr University Cairo		Egypt		
6	Université Internationale UIR N de Rabat		Morocco		
7			Tunisia		
8	Universitè Tunis El Manar UTEM Tun		Tunisia		
9	Jimma University	JU	Ethiopia		
10	Makerere University	MU	Uganda		
11	Strathmore University	SU	Кепуа		
12	Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology	NMAIST	Tanzania		
13	University of Dar Es Salaam	UDSM	Tanzania		
14	University of Rwanda	RU	Rwanda		
15	École Nationale d'Agriculture de Mèknes	ENA Mèknes	Tunisia		
16	Université de Sfax Tunisia		Tunisia		
17	Debre Markos University		Ethiopia		
18	Mekelle University		Ethiopia		
19	Carthage University		Tunisia		
20	University of Nairobi		Кепуа		
21	Mohammed Cherif MESSAADIA Souk Ahras		Algeria		

























22	Mediterranean and Middle East University Network Agreement (MUNA)		Marocco, Tunisia, Egyp Albania, Benin,Algerid Palestine, Lybia, Giordania, Turchia, Cyp
23	Università Sultan Moulay Slimane di Beni Mellal		Morocco
24	Université des sciences et de la technologie Houari Boumediène	USTHB	Algeria
25	Université Mohamed Khider Biskra	UMK-Biskra	Algeria
26	Ecole Nationale Polytechnique de Constantine		Algeria
27	École Supérieure des Communications de Tunis	SUPCOM	Tunisia
28	Meru University of Science and Technology		Кепуа
29	Tangaza University College		Кепуа
30	Catholic University of Eastern Africa		Кепуа
31	Polytechnique de El Oued		Algeria
32	Addis Ababa University		Ethiopia
33	University of Karthoum		Sudan
34	University "Abou E I KacemSaadalah"	Algiers 2	Algeria
35	University of Bejaia		Algeria























36	University of Guelma 8 May 1945	GUELMA	Algeria
37	Djilali Bounaama Khemis- Miliana University		Algeria
38	Abou-Bekr Belkaid Tlemen		Algeria
39	Ain Shams University		Egypt
40	Fayoum University		Egypt
41	Helwan University		Egypt
42	Mansoura University		Egypt
43	The Ethiopian Catholic University - Lasalle	ECOL	Ethiopia
44	University of Zawia		Libya
45	Rabat Business School		Morocco
46	Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University Of Fez		Morocco
47	College Of African Wildlife Management, Mweka		Tanzania
48	St. Francis University Colege of Health and Alied Scien		Tanzania
49	State University fo Zanzibar		Tanzania
50	Uganda Martyrs University		Uganda









# Annex 2 – Ranking for the evaluation

Grading Rubric for Trainee Selection					
Grade Criteria	1	2	3	4	5
BA degree grade (1-10 points);	☐ Grade from 76 ☐ Grade from 86 ☐ Grade from 96	to 75: 2 points to 85: 4 points to 95: 6 points to 105: 8 points 6 to 110 cum laude: 10 points			
CV (in English, including other educational or extra curricula experiences in the field of Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism) (1-5 points);					
Motivation letter (in English) highlighting reasons to participate and commitment of the candidate to the project  (1-5 points);					
Alignment of the candidate's profile with the program (1-5 points);					
Overall grade			/25		









# Annex 3 – Application Assessment

Assessment Form		
Candidate's name:		
Nationality:		
Step 1: Document Check (all in English)		
□ CV		
☐ Evidence of Bachelor degree or higher		
☐ Motivation letter		
☐ Copies of additional documents		
☐ English Language certificate		
In the absence of an official English language certificate, an interview will be conducted to assess		
the candidate's proficiency.		