



Online information session

**CIVIS Call for Applications:  
Seed funding for research activities and African-European collaboration**

23 February 2024, 11:00-12:00 CET/UTC+1

[seed-funding-2024@lists.civis.eu](mailto:seed-funding-2024@lists.civis.eu)



# Agenda



- **Introduction to the session (5')**  
Grazia Vulcano, CIVIS African and Mediterranean partnerships
- **Welcome & introduction to CIVIS (5')**  
Prof. Jean-Marc Pons, Advisor to the President of Aix-Marseille University, member of the CIVIS Steering Committee
- **Background and objectives of the Call**
  - Research support in CIVIS (5')**  
Prof. Chris Pearce, Vice Principal (Research & Knowledge Exchange), University of Glasgow, Chair of the CIVIS Research Council
  - Strategic partnerships (5')**
- **Main features of the seed-funding (10')**  
Christian Möllmann, CIVIS Global Partnerships Officer
- **Preparing your application (15')**
- **Questions from the floor (15')**  
Grazia Vulcano, CIVIS African and Mediterranean partnerships



*CIVIS is an alliance of [11] comprehensive, highly recognised, research-intensive, publicly funded universities offering cutting edge education rooted in local societies, serving society at large and **strategically linked to an array of African and Mediterranean university partners.***

# European Universities



European Universities initiative of the EU (CfP – EC, DG EAC)

*Supporting long-term collaboration among universities*

*Open to all academic missions (education, research, innovation, transfer to society)*

17 European University alliances selected, incl. CIVIS

2017

Concept promoted by Emmanuel Macron

2018



*Creating inter-university campuses (embedded mobility)*

*Promoting inclusiveness, innovative pedagogies, multilingualism, multiculturalism*

2019



2020-2023

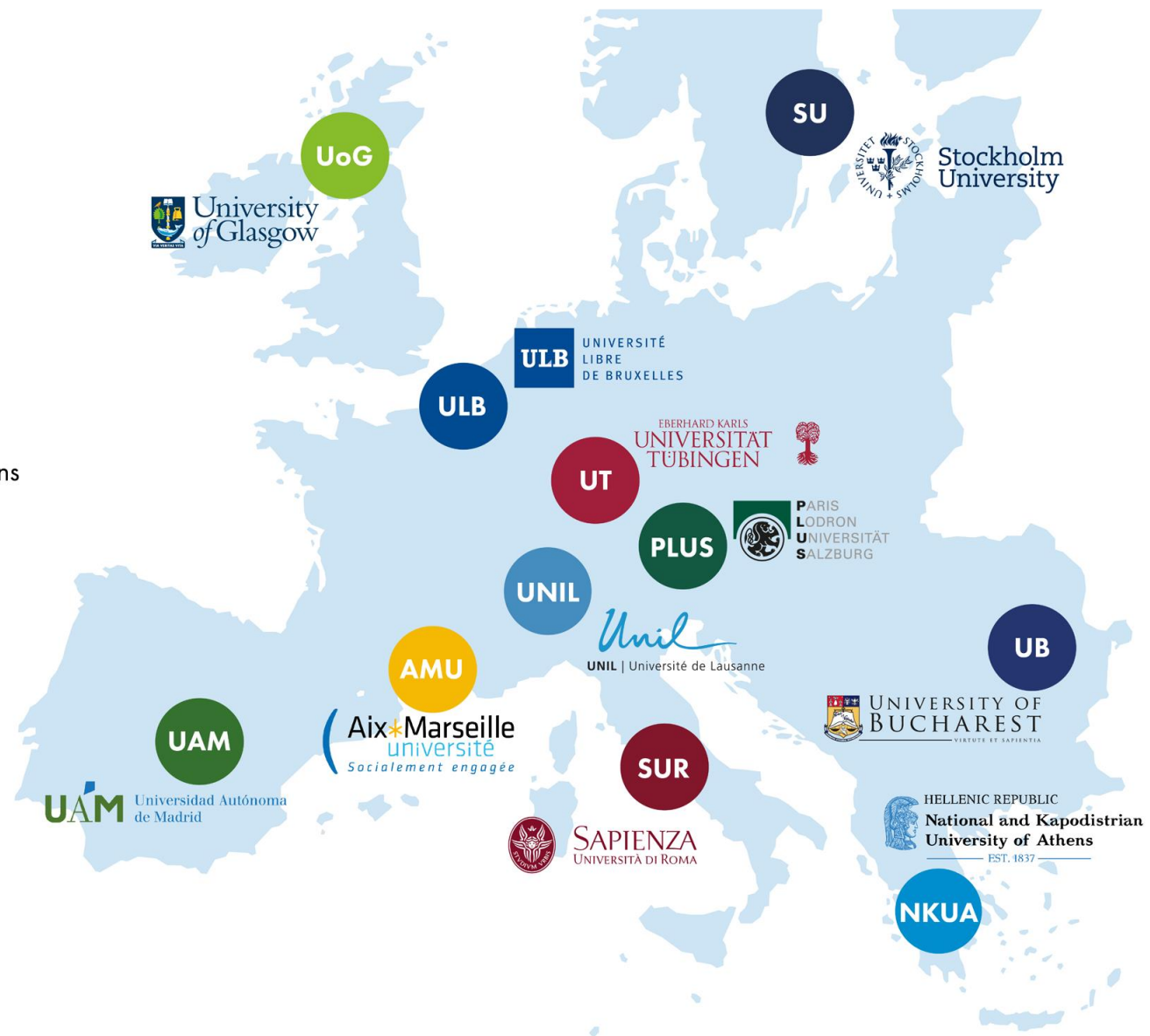
34 further alliances selected, 50 alliances active (as of Dec. 2023)

*EU objective: 60 alliances involving 500+ institutions*



# MEMBER UNIVERSITIES

- **AMU** Aix-Marseille université
- **NKUA** National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- **UB** University of Bucharest
- **ULB** Université libre de Bruxelles
- **UG** University of Glasgow
- **UNIL** University of Lausanne
- **UAM** Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- **SUR** Sapienza Università di Roma
- **PLUS** Paris Lodron University of Salzburg
- **SU** Stockholm University
- **UT** University of Tübingen





# AFRICAN PARTNER UNIVERSITIES



- UCAD Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar
- UH2C Université Hassan II de Casablanca
- UEM Universidade Eduardo Mondlane
- USF University of Sfax
- MAK Makerere University
- WITS University of the Witwatersrand

# CIVIS – Europe's Civic University Alliance

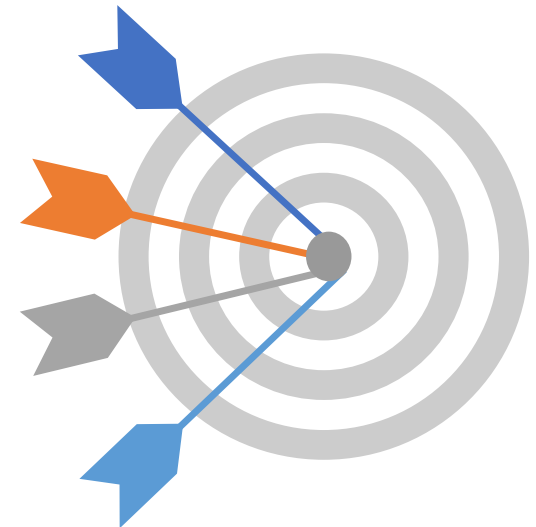


## CIVIS features shared with (many) European University alliances

- Long-term collaboration
- Openness to all academic missions
- Inter-university campus (embedding mobility)
- Promoting inclusiveness, innovative pedagogies, multilingualism, multiculturalism

## Specific CIVIS features

- Civic engagement (locally/globally)
- Societal challenge-orientation in academic missions
- Bridge to Africa / Mediterranean region



# CIVIS in numbers

---



**500 000+** Students

**68 000+** Personnel  
(incl. over 30 000 teachers and researchers)

**200+** ERC Grants

**38** Nobel Prizes

**8** Languages

**100+** Faculties and Schools

**700+** Research groups

**500+** Undergraduate programmes

**1 500+** Graduate programmes  
(incl. **500+** in English)



# CIVIS in brief

---



## PRIORITIES

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

INNOVATIVE  
PEDAGOGIES

LOCAL & GLOBAL  
PARTNERSHIPS

## OPPORTUNITIES

STUDENTS

- Intercultural experience
- Creative courses
- Open online courses
- Micro-programmes
- CIVIS passport
- Language learning
- Summer schools
- Flexible mobility
- Student Council

ACADEMICS

- Challenge-based hubs
- Collaborative teaching
- Funding for new courses
- Open labs
- Paedagogy workshops
- Post-doc fellowships
- Research partnerships

STAFF

- Language cafés
- CIVIS Academy
- Best practice exchange



# COLLABORATIVE SPACES



Student Council



5 Hubs



Open labs



Alumni Network



Interuniversity Digital Campus



14 museums



CIVIS Ambassadors



Disciplinary meetings



CIVIS Days



Global Consultative Council



Taskforces

## HUB 1

Climate, Environment, Energy



Stockholm  
University



University  
of Glasgow

# CIVIS HUBS

## HUB 5

Digital and Technological  
Transformation



Universidad Autónoma  
de Madrid



UNIVERSITY OF  
BUCHAREST  
VIARUM ET SAPIENTIA

## HUB 2

Society, Culture, Heritage

EBERHARD KARLS  
UNIVERSITÄT  
TÜBINGEN



HELLENIC REPUBLIC  
National and Kapodistrian  
University of Athens  
EST. 1837

## HUB 3

Health



SAPIENZA  
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Unil

UNIL | Université de Lausanne

## HUB 4

Cities, Territories, Mobility

ULB

UNIVERSITÉ  
LIBRE  
DE BRUXELLES



PARIS  
LODRON  
UNIVERSITÄT  
SALZBURG

## WHAT IS A HUB?

Hubs are the nodes in which academics from across the CIVIS Alliance come together to develop collaborative, educational offerings.

Each hub has its own thematic focus responding to a **vital global challenge**.

After an initial commitment to establish **3** hubs, we have already launched **5**.

# 141

challenge-based  
educational  
opportunities developed  
by the CIVIS Hubs

# CIVIS OPEN LABS – Co-creating local solutions to global challenges

---



## Concept

- Incubators for citizen projects within our universities
- Spaces for collaboration of researchers, teachers, students, civic society actors
- Collaboration of Open Labs across CIVIS universities (incl. African partners)

## Objectives

- Generate innovative solutions to relevant local issues
- Focus on SDGs
- Promote service-learning, citizen involvement

## Achievements

- 41 projects (2/3 include service-learning)
- 360+ social stakeholder involved
- External funding attracted



# Background and objectives of the Call (I): Research in CIVIS

---

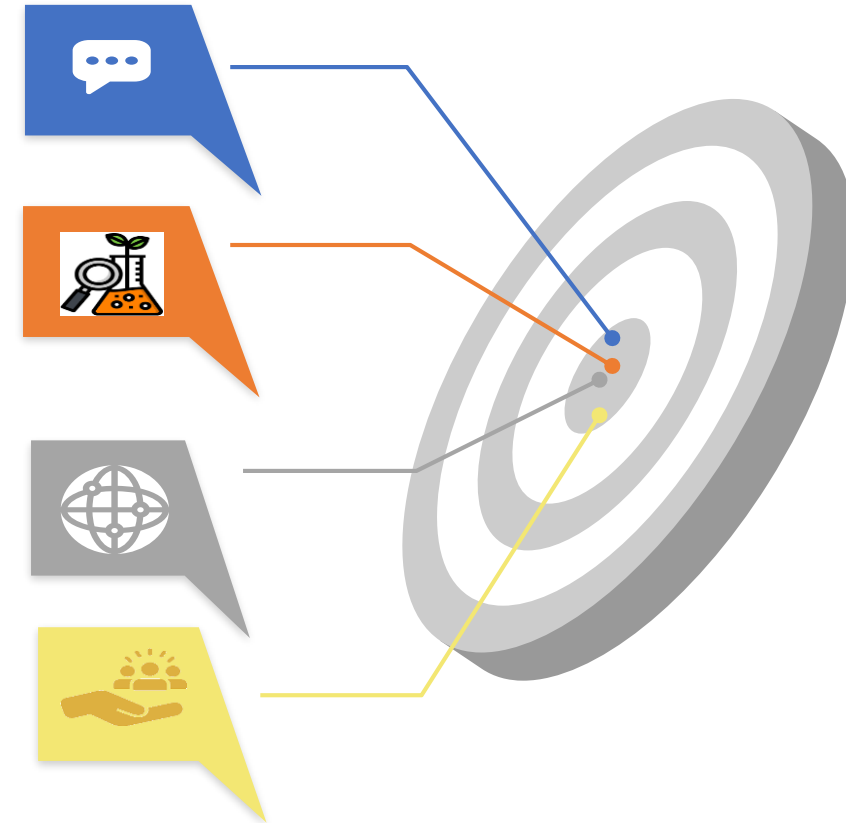


## Context

- Past and continuing focus of CIVIS on joint educational offers (also focus of Erasmus+ project funding for CIVIS)
- Promoting **joint research is a key, complementary objective**
- RIS4CIVIS project (2020-23) developed the CIVIS strategy on Research & Innovation, infrastructure sharing, participatory research, etc. ([project website](#))

## CIVIS bodies/platforms supporting joint research:

- Five thematic Hubs
- Open Labs (participatory research / citizen science)
- Expert Group ‚Research Funding‘
- **Research Council (since Dec. 2023)**



# Background and objectives of the Call (II): Research in CIVIS

---



## Current research support measures

- Research-oriented education / training (e.g., through CIVIS joint educational offers, MSCA Postdoc Fellowships – CIVIS3i ([website](#)))
- Networking support (e.g., through Hubs, Institutional Contact Network)
- Funding information and advice (e.g., through Expert Group 'Research Funding')



**Seed-funding: New measure, recommended in RIS4CIVIS conclusions**

## Call objectives:

- Stimulating bottom-up, research-oriented initiatives across CIVIS universities in Hub thematic areas
- Contributing to sustainable academic networks through support for grant proposal development
- Creating opportunities for early-career academics (postdoc level, doctoral components welcome!)
- Stimulating citizen science/participatory research



# Background and objectives of the Call (III): Strategic partnerships



**Based on strategic partnership agreements signed in 2022**



**Main objectives:**

- Jointly addressing global societal challenges
- Contributing to universities' internationalisation strategies
- Increasing mobility (incl. virtual mobility)
- Promoting joint research / research-oriented training



**Current platforms for collaboration**

- Hubs
- CIVIS governance (Steering Committee, Board of Rectors)
- Institutional contact group (management level)



**Current main activities**

- Designing joint educational offers
- Mobility programmes
- Joint projects (e.g. Jean Monnet Network [PolyCIVIS](#))



# Background and objectives of the Call (IV): Strategic partnerships



## **First positive experiences with a seed-funding Call in 2022:**

- 13 pilot activities supported (e.g., joint workshops, summer schools)
- Very positive feedback / request for similar initiatives

## **Call objectives in relation to CIVIS partnerships:**

- Support network creation/consolidation between CIVIS universities in Africa and Europe
- Contribute to research/research-oriented training as a priority in our partnership
- Support third-party funding acquisition / sustainability in a dynamic funding landscape (see e.g., the Africa Initiatives in Horizon Europe, AU-EU Innovation Agenda, etc.)



# Main features of the seed-funding (I)

---



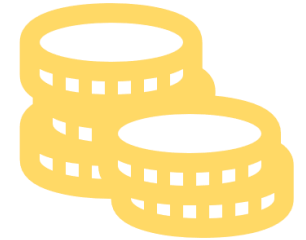
## Who can apply?

- Permanent faculty members, employees with a long-term contract (beyond the end of the funding period)
- Postdocs are encouraged to apply or participate in applications
- Main contact person/applicant from European CIVIS University



## Which costs are eligible?

- Staff mobility costs (travel, accommodation, subsistence) within Europe, from Europe to Africa
- Staff mobility costs from Africa to Europe for some European universities only
- Organisational costs for meetings at a European CIVIS university
- Real costs (no lump sums)



## What is the budget of this Call?

- 10,000 Euro max. per project  
(projects involving UofG, UNIL may exceed this limit slightly for local costs)

# Main features of the seed-funding (II)

---



## Which kind of activities will be funded ?

### Thematic Activities

*Examples for supported activities:*

- Workshops/training measures for early-stage researchers
- Network meetings for establishing a research group, reaching out to non-academic stakeholders or both
- Fact-finding missions
- Workshops for preparing a larger publication on research outcomes
- Citizen science projects
- Research-oriented summer or winter schools

### Application Design Measures

*Examples for supported activities:*

- Meetings of potential or designated applicants/consortium members
- Visits of the PI, other key participants to (potential) consortium members

# Main features of the seed-funding (III): Eligibility criteria



Your proposal must



- ✓ Involve at **least three CIVIS universities** from Europe or Africa (min. two European universities)
- ✓ Relate to at least one of the CIVIS Hub themes
- ✓ Submit either a thematic activity or an application design measure
- ✓ Be implemented by July 31, 2025

Your proposal should



- ✓ Include participants from **at least one of the six strategic partner universities in Africa**
- ✓ Include partners from more than two European universities
- ✓ Be interdisciplinary
- ✓ Address societal challenges
- ✓ Include or contribute to citizen/participatory science

# Main features of the seed-funding (IV): Proposal evaluation



- ✓ Number of CIVIS universities involved (10%, min. 3)
- ✓ Number of African partner universities involved (10%)
- ✓ Relevance for CIVIS Hubs (15%)
- ✓ Coherence of the proposal (10%)
- ✓ Scientific relevance (25%)
- ✓ Network composition (10%)
- ✓ Sustainability (20%)
- ✓ Only for 'thematic activities': Citizen science / participatory research (not directly weighted)
- ✓ Financial, organisational feasibility



# Preparing your application

---



The Call timeline

How to use the partner search platform for this Call?

Application process and application form

How to fill in the budget table?

Support and resources

# The Call timeline

---



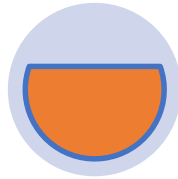
**March 31, 2024 (24:00 CEST/UTC+2)**

DEADLINE



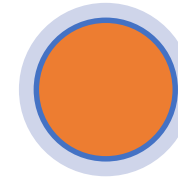
**By May 15, 2024**

CIVIS Hub Councils  
examine academic aspects  
CIVIS Management  
Committee will check  
financial, organisational  
feasibility  
CIVIS Research Council and  
Steering Committee will  
decide on the funding.



**By June 15, 2024**

Applicants will be  
notified about the  
funding decision



**By July 31, 2025**

Proposed activities are  
completed

# How to use the partner search platform

---



**Are you looking for partners for your project proposal?**

Use the online [partner search platform](#).

- Applicants can fill in an online form to share project descriptions, contact details with possible partners from CIVIS universities in Europe or Africa.
- Information provided will be made available online and disseminated by CIVIS university staff for supporting the partner search.
- Shared projects can be from any development stage - from a first project idea to an already established consortium looking for further partners.



# Application process and application form

---



- Apply for this seed-funding online through the [CIVIS application portal](#)
- Applicants may want to download the [word template](#) of the application form (also available in the application portal).



*ONLY for information or for collaborative work on a joint application, do not upload the word document as your application!*

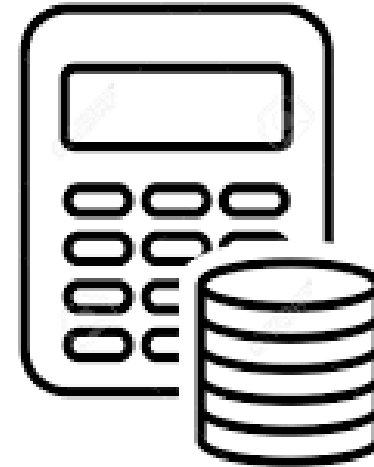


# How to fill in the budget table?

---



- Applicants can download the budget template in the [here](#)
- The budget MUST be uploaded in the online application form
- Costs MUST respect Erasmus+ rules for participants from European CIVIS member universities
- Double funding from the same third-party funding institution or programme is restricted (co-funding is possible & welcome!)
- This Call does not cover PhD or Postdoc scholarships



# Budget example – activity held in Europe



## Budget request CIVIS Seed-funding call 2024

**Project Title:** Seminar on XXX

**Project coordinator:** XXX, University of Stockholm

**Activity types:**  
 Thematic activities  
 Application design measures (The African Union-European Union Innovation Platform -HORIZON-EIE-2024-CONNECT-01)

sections of the table below for requesting CIVIS for refunding the

### Staff Mobility expenses

Name of the travelling participant	Home institution of the travelling participant	Destination/Location of the activities	Nb of days for the activities (excluding travel)	Currency	Unit Cost for travel (select 850 EUR for travelling in Europe or 1 500 EUR for EU-Africa travels )	TOTAL	Extra call fund	TOTAL REAL COST (EU+ external fund)
XXX	AMU - Marseille	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	850,00	850,00		
XXX	AMU - Marseille	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	850,00	850,00		
XXX	SUR - Rome	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	850,00	850,00		
XXX	SU - Stockholm	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00		
XXX	SU - Stockholm	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00		
XXX	UH2C - Casablanca	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	850,00	
XXX	UH2C - Casablanca	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	850,00	
XXX	MAK - Kampala	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	850,00	
XXX	MAK - Kampala	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	850,00	
XXX	WITS - Johannesburg	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	850,00	
XXX	WITS - Johannesburg	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	850,00	
XXX	UofG - Glasgow	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	850,00	
XXX	UofG - Glasgow	SU - Stockholm	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	850,00	
				EUR	0,00	0,00		
				EUR	0,00	0,00		
				EUR	0,00	0,00		
				EUR	0,00	0,00		
<b>Sub-total</b>						<b>2 550,00</b>	<b>6 800,00</b>	<b>9 350,00</b>

### Other expenses

Other expenses	Description	Currency	TOTAL	Extra EU fund
Catering for 4 days seminar on XXX	SU - Stockholm	EUR	1 000,00	
		EUR		
<b>Sub-total</b>			<b>1 000,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>3 550,00</b>	<b>6 800,00</b>

10 350,00

# Budget example – activity held in Africa



Co-funded by  
the European Union

## Budget request CIVIS Seed-funding call 2024

<b>Project Title:</b>	Seminar on XXX
<b>Project coordinator:</b>	XXX, University of Stockholm
<b>Activity types:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Thematic activities <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application design measures (The African Union-European Union Innovation Platform -HORIZON-EIE-2024-CONNECT-01)
Please complete the green sections of the table below for requesting CIVIS for refunding the expenses :	

### Staff Mobility expenses

Name of the travelling participant	Home institution of the travelling participant	Destination/Location of the activities	Nb of days for the activities (excluding travel)	Currency	Unit Cost for travel (select 850 EUR for travelling in Europe or 1 500 EUR for EU-Africa travels)	TOTAL	Extra EU fund	TOTAL REAL COST (EU+ external fund)
XXX	AMU - Marseille	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	1 500,00	1 500,00		
XXX	AMU - Marseille	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	1 500,00	1 500,00		
XXX	SUR - Rome	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	1 500,00	1 500,00		
XXX	SU - Stockholm	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	1 500,00	1 500,00		
XXX	SU - Stockholm	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	1 500,00	1 500,00		
XXX	UH2C - Casablanca	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	1 500,00	
XXX	UH2C - Casablanca	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	1 500,00	
XXX	MAK - Kampala	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	800	
XXX	MAK - Kampala	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	800	
XXX	WITS - Johannesburg	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	0,00	
XXX	WITS - Johannesburg	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	0,00	
XXX	UofG - Glasgow	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	1 500,00	
XXX	UofG - Glasgow	WITS - Johannesburg	4	EUR	0,00	0,00	1 500,00	
				EUR	0,00	0,00		
				EUR	0,00	0,00		
				EUR	0,00	0,00		
				EUR	0,00	0,00		
<b>Sub-total</b>						<b>7 500,00</b>	<b>7 600,00</b>	<b>15 100,00</b>
<b>Other expenses</b>								
Other expenses	Description	Currency	TOTAL	Extra EU fund				
Catering for 4 days seminar on XXX	WITS - Johannesburg	EUR	0,00	1 000,00				
		EUR						
<b>Sub-total</b>			0,00	<b>1 000,00</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>7 500,00</b>	<b>8 600,00</b>	<b>16 100,00</b>			

# Support and resources

---



- For general inquiries, please contact [seed-funding-2024@lists.civis.eu](mailto:seed-funding-2024@lists.civis.eu) or visit the Call's [FAQs page](#).
- Do you have a question about your local funding options and circumstances?

## **Please contact your local CIVIS Office/contact person!**

- Inform your local CIVIS Office/contact person about your planned application, if you are the main applicant (main contact person) or if your university is supposed to be the host institution of an event.
- More information on our [CIVIS website](#)

# Questions from the floor

---





**Thanks for participating and good luck for your application !**