MISSIONE 4
**ISTRUZIONE
RICERCA**

PROPOSTA PROGETTUALE

ALLEGATO 1

AVVISO PER LA CONCESSIONE DI FINANZIAMENTI DESTINATI A INIZIATIVE EDUCATIVE TRANSNAZIONALI - TNE – D.D. n.167 del 3 ottobre 2023

Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza (PNRR) – Missione 4 – Componente 1 "Potenziamento dell'offerta dei servizi all'istruzione: dagli asili nido all'università" – Investimento 3.4 "Didattica e competenze universitarie avanzate", Sotto-investimento T4 "Iniziative Transnazionali in materia di istruzione", finanziato dall'Unione europea – NextGenerationEU.

PROJECT PROPOSAL

(art. 8, par. 7 of the Notice)

Structure of the Proposal

As to the participation in the selection process the Project Proposal must be completed as follows.

The Proposal consists in:

Part A: General and Administrative Information
- General Information of the Project
- List of Participants

Part B: Application Form
- Objectives and expected results
- Concept and Methodology
- Work Plan
- Economic and Financial sustainability profile
- Characteristics of the Partners involved in the project

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PART A - GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

1. General Information of the Project

Project Title: **Mediterranean Alliance for Research and Education**
Acronym: **MARE**
Start date of the project: **01 August 2024**
Duration in months: 20 months
Project total amount (euro/€): **2.569.629,23 €**
Project amount to be located in "*Mezzogiorno*" Regions (euro/€): **€1.393.150,97**

2. List of Participants

List of participating members of the Partnership/Consortium/Foundation: private or public Universities.

Once filling in the information in the schedule below, the first row has to be filled by the coordinator of the project, in bold type

N.	University/Consortium/ Foundation Name	University/Consortium/ Foundation Acronym	Type Private or public University
1	**Università degli Studi di Palermo**	**UNIPA**	**Public University**
2	Alma Mater Studiorum - Università di Bologna	UNIBO	Public University
3	Università degli Studi di Cagliari	UNICA	Public University
4	Università degli Studi di Macerata	UNIMC	Public University
5	Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro	UNIBA	Public University

6	Università degli Studi di Pavia	UNIPV	Public University
7	Università di Pisa	UNIPI	Public University
8	Università di Torino	UNITO	Public University
9	Politecnico di Torino	POLITO	Public University
10	Università degli Studi di Messina	UNIME	Public University
11	Università degli Studi di Siena	UNISI	Public University

Please indicate the details of the possible foreign associate members (non-beneficiaries) of the Partnership below:

N.	*Name of the associate member*	*Acronym of the associate member*	*Country*
1	University of Algiers 2	Algier 2	Algeria
2	University of Sétif 2	Sétif 2	Algeria
3	Constantine University 1	UMC	Algeria
4	Cairo University	CU	Egypt
5	University of Alexandria	AU	Egypt

6	Arab Academy for Science, Technology & Maritime Transport	AASTMT	Egypt
7	Al-Ahliyya Amman University	AAU	Jordan
8	German Jordanian University	GJU	Jordan
9	University of Jordan	UJ	Jordan
10	Yarmouk University	YU	Jordan
11	Tafila Technical University	TTU	Jordan
12	Al Hussein Technical University	HTU	Jordan
13	Al-Balqa' Applied University	BAU	Jordan
14	Princess Sumaya University for Technology	PSUT	Jordan
15	St. Joseph University	USJ	Lebanon
16	Lebanese American University	LAU	Lebanon
17	Notre Dame University-Louiaze	NDU	Lebanon
18	American University of Beirut	AUB	Lebanon
19	Lebanese International University	LIU	Lebanon

20	Lebanese University	LU	Lebanon
21	Misurata University	MU	Libya
22	University of Tripoli	UOT	Libya
22	University of Sabratha	US	Libya
23	Hassan II Institute of Agronomy & Veterinary Medicine	IAV	Morocco
24	Université Mohammed VI Polytechnique	UM6P	Morocco
25	University Hassan II Casablanca	UH2C	Morocco
26	University Sultan Moulay Slimane di Beni Mellal	USMS	Morocco
27	International University of Rabat	UIR	Morocco
28	University Mohamed V Rabat	UM5	Morocco
29	Abdelmalek Essaadi University	UAE	Morocco
30	University Sidi Mohammed Ben Abdallah Fez	USMBA	Morocco
31	Ecole Centrale Casablanca	ECC	Morocco
32	University Cadi Ayyad	UCA	Morocco

33	University of Nouakchott	UNA	Mauritania
34	An-Najah National University	ANNU	Palestine
35	Birzeit University	BZU	Palestine
36	University of Gabès	UNIVGB	Tunisia
37	University of Carthage	UCAR	Tunisia
38	University of Monastir	UM	Tunisia
39	University of Kairouan	UNIV-K	Tunisia
40	University of Sfax	USF	Tunisia
41	University of Sousse	Uso	Tunisia
42	University of Tunis El Manar	UTM	Tunisia
43	Duhok Polytechnic University	DPU	Iraq
44	University of Duhok	UoD	Iraq
45	University of Zakho	UoZ	Iraq
46	University of Halabja	UoH	Iraq

PART B - APPLICATION FORM

In this section, please declare: the objectives and expected results of the project (see section 1), the planned activities, the description of Work packages (see section 2 and 3), and the financial and economic sustainability profile (section 4).

1. Objectives and expected results

Please, describe and motivate the objectives of the project and highlight the expected results in terms of innovation, internationalization, cooperation and promotion of academic programs. In addition, describe the overall project model in order to explain how this will enable to reach the project's objectives.

In particular, in the section below, describe the objectives of the project, which should be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-based. Objectives should be consistent with the expected exploitation and impact of the project.

Please be specific and provide only information that applies to the proposal and its objectives. Wherever possible, use quantified indicators and targets.

 (Max 5000 characters)

MARE, the Mediterranean Alliance for Research and Education, is composed of a network of 11 Italian universities with the aim of promoting the internationalization of them and advocating the Italian higher education model as a best practice for non-EU Mediterranean countries. The alliance acts as a potent vehicle for internationalizing educational offerings in the Mediterranean region, serving as a catalyst for economic and social development.

Collaboration among academic institutions facilitates the sharing of knowledge and resources, fostering synergies that promote innovation and growth. This process contributes not only to the training of highly qualified professionals but also to the development of intercultural skills crucial for cultural integration.

The Mediterranean region is facing several challenges related to political instability, climate change, migration, employability and similar issues. These situations assign a more important role to international university cooperation and in particular to Italy. The Italian universities, partner of MARE, are very well positioned in international activities with southern Mediterranean countries. The MARE proposal will support and implement the Mediterranean strategies of the MARE partners to become a point of reference in this very important region. The Mediterranean region, for the goal of this project, has been defined including all the Arab southern Mediterranean countries, excluding Syria for the current situation of the country, and adding two important neighbor countries of the southern rim such as Mauritania, which is also a permanent member of the 5+5 dialogue and an associated partner of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) as observatory, and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, which is a quite dynamic region in terms of international cooperation as well as closer to middle east countries as part of the great Mediterranean.

MARE's strong international dimension encourages cooperation between Italian universities and non-EU Mediterranean institutions, facilitating the transfer of interdisciplinary and intercultural knowledge through transnational educational programs. The opening of Mediterranean universities to an international perspective facilitates the exchange of students, professors, researchers and administrative staff, creating a diverse and stimulating academic environment that enriches the learning experience and fosters mutual understanding.

Simultaneously, the internationalization of educational offers directly impacts the improvement of the quality of life in the Mediterranean region. The training of competent professionals in various sectors promotes the development of a knowledge-based economy, leading to increased job opportunities and prosperity. Access to high-quality academic programs also contributes to the creation of an informed and aware society, promoting a culture of knowledge essential for addressing contemporary challenges.

Italian universities, rich in international academic and scientific expertise, play a crucial role in expanding the university network in the Mediterranean. Through the sharing of their competencies, these institutions act as a bridge between Italy and the surrounding countries, significantly contributing to the internationalization of educational offers.

The presence of Italian faculty and researchers in Mediterranean countries not only enriches local knowledge bases but also fosters the development of lasting relationships between higher education institutions. In this way, Italy actively plays a role in the transfer of know-how and the mutual enrichment of academic communities.

The expansion of Italian expertise into the Mediterranean also translates into opportunities for advanced and innovative training for students in the region, providing them access to higher-quality academic programs. This also contributes to the creation of a network of highly qualified professionals ready to tackle global challenges.

Planned actions on different thematic areas include:

a) Actions aimed at consolidating existing double degrees between bachelor and master's programs in Italian universities in partnership with non-EU Mediterranean countries; Actions aimed at implementing double/joint degree programs between Italian universities and non-EU Mediterranean institutions.

b) Actions aimed at supporting advanced training programs on the following themes:

1) History, society, and cultural circulation in the Mediterranean; 2) Migration, social and political change; 3) One Health; 4) Sustainable Development and Climate Change; 5) Renewable Energy and Sustainable Mobility; 6) Sustainable Tourism; 7) Employability, Entrepreneurship and Inclusion in the digital age

The project also aims to contribute to the formation of highly qualified professionals capable of addressing contemporary challenges, with specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-based objectives consistent with the expected exploitation and impact of the project.

Several indicators will be used to describe the project results and assess the quality of outputs: the number of students and staff involved in mobility programs, number of joint research projects and publications, establishment of specific centers for Advanced Studies, number of research scholarships awarded, impact of the project on the academic, economic, and cultural development of the countries involved. Other indicators could include the level of

satisfaction of the participants, the quality of the research produced, and the level of engagement and collaboration among the partners. These indicators can be used to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of the project and to identify areas for continuous improvement of the initiatives.

1.1. Scale and Significance baselines, benchmarks, and assumptions

In this section, please indicate both the extension and dimension of the project in terms of budget, activities to be carried and where, numbers of students involved in the projects, to evaluate the impact that each action has on the project.

Scale & Significance

Individual mobility of staff and students will be an opportunity to promote the project, both for incoming and outgoing mobility. The project divides these mobilities into two groups: those unrelated to specific WPs because of their transversal character and those specifically connected with WPs.

In the first group, the consortium aims to strengthen cooperation activities with Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, involving several universities of these countries, for a total number of about 270 mobilities.

Project MARE will also develop students and staff mobility, both incoming and outgoing related to currently existing and future double degrees and to the advanced skills proposed. These activities are considered inside the specific WPs' description, mostly inside specific tasks pertaining to the WPs. The total of these mobilities will count about 160.

Overall, the program should involve at least 430 mobilities, of which 133 incoming SM, 64 outgoing SM, 132 incoming STA and 101 outgoing STA.

The MARE project will produce mobility in 7 existing DD while at least other 4 DD will be designed through it. At least 8 activities of Advanced Skills are proposed.

Activities will require at least 6 research scholarships and contracts and at least 3 teaching contracts. The amount of these scholarships, following the description of section 7 of the call, is added to the total budget of mobility scholarships with the exception of those cases in which specific contracts are necessary for hiring personnel strictly dedicated to the project. The financial allocation of these contracts is included in item a) of the above-mentioned section of the call.

The overall budget of the MARE project amounts to almost 2,6 million euros of which around 65% is devoted to mobility scholarship and research grants. The quota pertaining to Southern universities is slightly above 50% of the total (54%), thus certifying the central role played by Southern partners in the project activities.

2. Concept and Methodology

Describe and explain the overall concept underpinning the project. Describe the main ideas, models or assumption involved;

Describe and explain the overall approach, distinguishing as appropriate, coordination and support activities;

Describe the activities related to the project and provide evidence about the impact of the activities on the countries involved.

*(**Max 5000 characters**)*

The project MARE (Mediterranean Alliance for Research and Education) is founded on the overarching concept of fostering international collaboration and knowledge exchange among Italian universities and institutions in non-EU Mediterranean countries. The main ideas, models, and assumptions underpinning the project include the belief in the transformative power of education and the conviction that shared academic experiences can contribute to economic, social, and cultural development in the Mediterranean region.

The project is rooted in the idea that internationalizing higher education is crucial for the development of a region. By promoting the exchange of students, faculty, and researchers, the project aims to create a diverse and stimulating academic environment that goes beyond national boundaries.

Moreover, the project assumes that interdisciplinary and intercultural collaboration is essential for addressing complex global challenges. By focusing on thematic areas such as history, society, sustainable development, and more, it encourages collaboration across different academic disciplines and cultural backgrounds.

Finally, the project is built on the assumption that the transfer of knowledge and the development of skills are key drivers of economic growth and social progress. By facilitating the export of Italian academic expertise to the Mediterranean, the project aims to contribute to the formation of highly qualified professionals capable of addressing contemporary challenges.

The project employs a mixed model comprising functional and thematic Work Packages (WPs). The functional WPs, including project management and dissemination, ensure efficient coordination and communication among the participating universities. In addition, the inclusion of a specific WP for the coordinated management of individual mobility emphasizes the importance of well-organized exchanges between Italian and Mediterranean universities.

The project places significant emphasis on support activities, particularly in terms of mobility programs.

MARE advocates for the significance of facilitating the movement of both staff and students to and from Southern Mediterranean nations, encompassing activities related to teaching, studying, and research. The primary coordination of the project's key initiatives will be led by UNIPA, serving as the consortium coordinator, in collaboration with the supporting universities that have endorsed the project proposal and the recipient partner institutions. The

consortium's overarching objective is to fortify, consolidate, and perpetuate collaboration and internationalization endeavors with various universities in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Palestine, and Tunisia. Specifically, internationalization and the ensuing mobility initiatives represent a pivotal strategic goal for the developmental policies of the consortium's universities, marking a logical extension of a series of international cooperative ventures and mobility programs between Italian universities and partner institutions in the southern Mediterranean region. These initiatives were predominantly initiated in 2015, coinciding with the commencement of the Erasmus+ KA107-ICM projects.

The thematic WPs focus on specific areas of study, aligning with the competencies and experiences of Italian universities. Through these WPs, the project aims to consolidate existing academic programs, support advanced training, and address key thematic areas relevant to the Mediterranean region.

The project's activities are expected to have a profound impact on the countries involved. By promoting internationalization, the project will contribute to the creation of a knowledge-based economy, enhance job opportunities, and promote sustainable development. The collaborative nature of the project is anticipated to strengthen cultural and economic ties between Italy and Mediterranean countries, fostering a more integrated and prosperous region.

Firstly, the project will promote international collaboration and knowledge exchange among Italian universities and institutions in non-EU Mediterranean countries. This should be achieved through mobility programs for students and staff, joint research projects, and training courses. As a result, the project will contribute to the formation of highly qualified professionals capable of addressing contemporary challenges.

Secondly, the project should have a positive impact on the academic development of the countries involved. This will be evidenced by the number of joint research projects and publications produced as a result of the project. The project will also contribute to the establishment of the MARE Centers for Advanced Studies, which will provide a platform for joint research and training activities.

Thirdly, the project will have a positive impact on the economic development of the countries involved. This might be evidenced by the transfer of Italian academic expertise to the Mediterranean, which will contribute to the formation of highly qualified professionals capable of addressing contemporary challenges. The project will also drive the development of a more diverse and inclusive academic environment, which is essential for promoting economic growth and social progress.

Finally, the project will have a positive impact on the cultural development of the countries involved. This will result in the promotion of interdisciplinary and intercultural collaboration, which is essential for addressing complex global challenges. The project will also encourage collaboration across different academic disciplines and cultural backgrounds, which will contribute to the development of a more diverse and inclusive academic environment.

3. Work Plan

Please provide the following:

- *brief presentation of the overall structure of the work plan (3.1);*
- *detailed work description: a list of work packages (table 3.2 A), a description of each work package (table 3.2 B), and a list of major deliverables;*
- *timing of the different work packages and their components (Gantt chart or similar, see section 3.3).*

3.1. Work Packages

In the description of the proposal, give full details. Base your account on the logical structure of the project and the stages in which it has to be carried out. The number of work packages should be proportional to the scale and complexity of the project.

You should give enough detail in each work package to justify the proposed resources to be allocated and also quantified information so that progresses can be monitored.

(Max. 5000 characters)

The overall project is structured according to a mixed model that includes both functional and thematic Work Packages (WPs). In addition to the two functional WPs dedicated to project management (WP1) and communication and dissemination of results (WP10), there are seven thematic WPs (from WP2 to WP8) and another WP (WP9) focused on the optimal and coordinated management of individual mobility in higher education in the Mediterranean area (both Staff and Students). Such mobility will concern:
a) University professors' and staff mobility both incoming from Italian universities to non-EU Mediterranean universities and outgoing from non-EU Mediterranean universities to Italian universities;
b) University students and doctoral candidates' mobility (both incoming and outgoing).

The thematic WPs complement mobility actions, covering a broad and multidisciplinary range of scientific areas.
Relevant themes addressed in the thematic WPs are at the core of the idea of the Mediterranean as a unique and coherent object of study. The considered themes develop along three main directives: 1) the knowledge of the history and social transformation in the area by addressing issues of cultural circulation, socio-cultural trends, social change and migration; 2) technical issues in which the advances in the scientific frontier need to circulate as much as possible among the community of academics, students and young researchers, such as those related to sustainable development, renewable energy and sustainable transportation and to the holistic concept of one-health approach to human, animal and bio-diversity environment; 3) two issues more directly related to economic development such as sustainable tourism (a crucial topic given the availability of cultural sites and landscape beauties in the Basin) and the overcoming of digital divide through a dedicated approach to the employability (in both public and private field) of the disadvantaged segments of the labor force (young and female population) .

These issues are characterized by a strong global character. Therefore, synergies between partners and associated beneficiaries are instrumental to a multilateral (and not a bilateral) approach to current challenges faced by the Mediterranean area.

In addition, the selection of these thematic areas results from a rigorous analysis of the specific competencies and past experiences of partner Italian universities in terms of teaching and research.

The list of thematic WPs therefore includes: WP2 on History, society, and cultural circulation in the Mediterranean; WP3 on Migration, social and political change, WP4 on One Health, WP5 on Sustainable Development and Climate Change, WP6 on Renewable Energy and Sustainable Mobility; WP7 on Sustainable Tourism and WP8 on Employability, Entrepreneurship and Inclusion in the digital age.

Resources are allocated proportionally to each work package with a slight predominance of those devoted to migration (WP3) and sustainable development (WP5) in which the participation of partners is highest.

Transversal issues such as ecological and digital transitions as well as inclusion and digital divide do not only appear inside thematic WPs' activities but are tackled in many tasks of the project. Consideration for disadvantaged participants will be included in the mobility calls that will originate from the implementation of the MARE project. At the same time, the acquisition of adequate digital platforms for the management of the mobility flows will improve the efficiency of the administrative procedures.

Environmental issues are at the core not only of WP5 but also of other WPs that maintain strong links with it, such as WP4, WP6 and WP7 in which the sustainability paradigm is clearly predominant. Moreover, there is a connection also among the other WPs. For instance, some initiatives are shared between WP2 and WP3 and the issue of migration also appears in WP8 with reference to the employability and digital divide aspects.

The monitoring of the project will concentrate on the flows of mobility and the definition of new double degrees and advanced skills. Overall, we may estimate 35% of the mobility to be completed in the first year of the project. An overall check of the activities after the first year will indicate the tasks to implement in the second part of the project life.

3.2. Work Package Description

This section contains a list of Work Packages in which the activities are declined.

A Work Package (WP) is identified as a set of activities aimed at achieving a specific objective of the project. Each WP is composed of one or more activity(ies).

    A. *List of Work Packages*

WP N.	WP title	Participant(s) Institutions Leading Partner: LP	Operational headquarter (Regional Area in which the activity will be carried out)	Start month	End month
WP1	Project Management	UNIPA (LP), UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNITO, POLITO, UNIME, UNISI	All countries involved (Italy and non-EU countries)	01/08/2024	31/03/2026
WP2	History, society and cultural circulation in the Mediterranean	UNIPA, UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIPV (LP)	Italy, Morocco, Tunisia	01/08/2024	31/03/2026
WP3	Migration, social and political change	UNIPA, UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIPV UNITO (LP) UNISI	Italy, Tunisia, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Iraq	01/08/2024	31/03/2026
WP4	One Health	UNIPA, UNIBA (LP), UNIME	Italy, Lebanon, Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco, Jordan	01/08/2024	31/03/2026
WP5	Sustainable Development and Climate Change	UNIPA, UNIBO (LP), UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPI, UNIME, UNISI POLITO	Italy and all Mediterranen countries, Iraq, Mauritania	01/08/2024	31/03/2026
WP6	Renewable Energy and Sustainable Mobility	UNIPA, UNICA, UNIBO, POLITO (LP),	Italy, Morocco, Jordan, Lebanon	01/08/2024	31/03/2026

WP7	Sustainable Tourism	UNIPA (LP), UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC	Italy, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia	01/08/2024	31/03/2026
WP8	Employability, Entrepreneurship and Inclusion in the digital age	UNIPA (LP), UNICA, UNIME	All countries involved (Italy and non-EU Mediterranean countries) plus Mauritania	01/08/2024	31/03/2026
WP9	Student and Staff Mobility	UNIPA (LP), UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNITO, POLITO, UNIME, UNISI	All countries involved (Italy and non-EU Mediterranean countries)	01/08/2024	31/03/2026
WP10	Communication and Dissemination	UNIPA (LP), UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNITO, POLITO, UNIME, UNISI	All countries involved (Italy and non-EU Mediterranean countries)	01/08/2024	31/03/2026

B. For each work package:

Work Package number	1
Work Package Title	Project Management
Participants involved in this WP	UNIPA, UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNITO, POLITO, UNIME, UNISI
Duration of the WP	20 months
*Task Leader	UNIPA
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNITO, POLITO, UNIME, UNISI

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

*(**Max 2000 characters for each work package**)*

WP objectives and description *(where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)*

The Project Management WP in the MARE project is integral to its success. It involves strategic planning, team organization, monitoring, and quality assurance.

The relevant tasks are**:**

T.1.1 **Strategic planning** which establishes objectives, timelines, and milestones. Risk assessment identifies potential challenges, with strategies for mitigation. It involves **Team Organization** which establishes the organizational structure, defining roles and responsibilities. It sets up effective communication channels for collaboration among team members.

T.1.2 **Monitoring and Evaluation** which regularly monitors project activities against the established timeline and milestones. Evaluates overall project performance, informing decision-making for future phases.

T.1.3 **Quality Assurance** which incorporates quality assurance measures to ensure deliverables meet established standards. It includes periodic reviews, audits, or assessments to maintain quality.

The coordination of WP 1 is entrusted to the University of Palermo (UNIPA), but it is crucial to emphasize that all consortium partners must actively contribute to the WP. The responsibility for the successful execution of the project is shared, and each partner is jointly responsible for achieving objectives and adhering to timelines.

The organization of the board for WP management follows a collaborative and participatory approach. The board comprises representatives designated by each partner, including UNIPA, who collaborate to make strategic decisions and monitor the progress of the WP.

This composition ensures a diverse and inclusive representation, fostering collaboration and shared decision-making among all project partners.

The board's organization reflects a collaborative and democratic approach, where each partner has a voice in decisions and contributes to WP management. This governance model promotes shared responsibility and expertise, fostering efficient management centred on project objectives.

In summary, the board's composition reflects a commitment to inclusivity, diversity, and collaborative governance. It is designed to enable effective communication, shared decision-making, and equitable participation from all project partners, ultimately contributing to the success and impact of the MARE project.

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

Deliverables *(Brief description and month of delivery)*

Overall, WP1 plays a central role in ensuring the effective coordination of MARE project activities, ensuring that all consortium components work synergically toward achieving the predefined goals.

D.1.1 Definition of the Project Management (M2)
The Project Management WP is a critical component within the MARE initiative. This WP is designed to oversee, coordinate, and manage all necessary activities for the overall success of the project. Among the various expected outcomes, the need for a comprehensive strategic plan is evident, outlining clear objectives, planned activities, timelines, and allocated resources. The production of periodic reports is a key element, providing a detailed look at the project's progress, enabling the team to assess milestone achievements and make any necessary course corrections.

D.1.2 Formation and functioning of the Management Board (M2)
 The establishment of a Management Board, formed by one or two representatives from each Italian university and one representative from each non-EU Mediterranean country is a precondition for the functioning of WP1. The Board will convene every two months to discuss the project's progress, address any issues, and make strategic decisions. The periodic meetings of the Management Board is a key element to ensure regular communication and collaborative decision-making. The meetings of the Board will provide an opportunity to align WP activities with the overall project objectives, assess performance, and make any necessary adjustments to the work plan.

During the meetings, representatives from Italian universities provide updates on activities, challenges encountered, and results achieved. Similarly, representatives from non-EU Mediterranean countries share information relevant to their region, ensuring a balanced and inclusive perspective.

D.1.3 Periodic Reports on performance evaluation (M6, M12, M20)

Performance evaluation provides an opportunity to reflect on activities undertaken, including lessons learned, while the change management plan provides, periodically, a structured framework to address any deviations from the original plan.

Additional deliverables are:

D.1.4 External quality plan (M3)

D.1.5 Report on quality assurance (M6, M12,M20)

D.1.6 Sustainability plan (M20)

Work Package number	2
Work Package Title	History, society and cultural circulation in the Mediterranean
Participants involved in this WP	UNIPA, UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIPV (LP),
Duration of the WP	20 months
*Task Leader	UNIPV
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIPA, UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

*(**Max 2000 characters for each work package**)*

WP objectives and description *(where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)*

The WP pursues the vision of connecting the internationalization of education with that of research, experiencing an increase in the quality of administrative processes underlying different types of mobility.

In particular, the WP is structured into 3 interconnected tasks:

T.2.1: **Increasing the mobility of teachers and students within existing double degree programs** among Italian, Moroccan, and Tunisian partners, with the intention that the current exchange programs can act as catalysts to develop further exchanges and potentially additional double degree (DD) programs between partners from the southern Mediterranean region and the Italian partners. The already active double degrees are:

- DD between UNIPV and Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdallah University (Morocco) in Area Studies and Cultural Studies

- DD between UNIPA and El-Manar University (Tunisia) in Communication and Cultural Mediation.

- DD between UNIPA and El-Manar University (Tunisia) in Communication and Cultural Heritage.

T.2.2: **Establishing international research groups among colleagues from both rims of the Mediterranean on topics related to social sciences and humanities** according to the methodological approach of the Area Studies. These research groups will involve both junior and senior researchers, with particular attention to Ph.D. students. The research topics will be connected with students' and staff mobilities in order to integrate training and research as much as possible. In particular, research will focus on social and cultural history, public use of history and memory, political and social communication, circulation of knowledge, linguistics, archaeology, and cultural heritage.

T.2.3: **Improving the quality of international mobility with specific reference to Mediterranean countries**, by developing innovative actions regarding access to mobility (as for entry visas), receptivity in Italy and partner countries, and the effectiveness of educational processes (starting from the features of learning agreements).

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

Deliverables *(Brief description and month of delivery)*

The three tasks will be connected to dedicated human resources in terms of scholarships for second and third-cycle students' mobilities within three double degree programs (M.A. and Ph.D.) and staff's mobilities (T.2.1); research contracts (T.2.2); project management consultancy (T.2.3). The human resources involved in T.2.2 and T.2.3 will be recruited explicitly for each related task on the basis of highly qualified research expertise (T.2.2) or outstanding expertise in managing and organizing mobilities (T.2.3).

The deliverables related to T.2.1 are:

D.2.1: Report on the mobilities of second and third-cycle students implemented by the partners (M20)

D.2.2: *Report on teaching mobilities implemented by the partners (M20)*

The deliverables related to T.2.2 are:

D.2.3: *Establishment of research groups* (M6).

D.2.4: *Mid-term inter-university conference and discussion of the initial results of each research group (M10).*

D.2.5: *Final inter-university conference for the finalization of research outputs from each research group (M18).*

D.2.6: *Publication of research outputs (M20).*

The deliverables related to T.2.3 are:

D.2.7: *Trial on innovative practices for the improvement of international mobility in the Mediterranean (M10).*

D.2.8 *Handbook on innovative practices for the improvement of international mobility in the Mediterranean (M20).*

Work Package number	3
Work Package Title	Migration, social and political change
Participants involved in this WP	UNIPA, UNITO (LP), UNIPV, UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC,
Duration of the WP	20 months
*Task Leader	UNITO (leader) and UNIPA (co-leader)
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIPV,

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

WP objectives and description *(where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)*

The objective of WP3 is to improve the quality of international credits, teaching, and research mobility by promoting multilateral capacity building (CB) activities within the framework of advanced skills (AS) for the benefit of students, PhD candidates, teaching and administrative staff. A tentative list of beneficiaries for mobilities and advanced skills activities includes Université de Tunis El Manar, Université de Saint Joseph (Lebanon), University of Duhok, Birzeit University, Université Internationale de Rabat, Université Hassan II Casablanca, USMS (Sultan Moulay Slimane Beni Mellal).

The specific tasks are:

T.3.1 Support and development of existing and future DD and DS programs with the MENA Region HE system through CB actions. The task will support and develop international education program among partners and indirect beneficiaries through horizontal CB and South-South Cooperation (SSC), to share know-how and expertise in promoting and managing Double degrees (DD) and Diploma Supplement (DS) programs. As part of T.3.1, students and teaching mobility within already existing DD (two programs in LM 81 at UNIPA) and DS programs (at UNITO) as well as ICM programs will be performed. ICM programs for partners that do not yet have activities in the MENA area and/or in new scientific fields will be promoted creating new DD programs.

T3.2 Establishing the MARE Centre for Advanced Studies in social and political change for coordinating and promoting teaching and research activities in the field of socio-political studies in the MENA area. The MARE Centre for Advanced Studies in Social and Political Change will be an interdisciplinary and international centre involving both EU and indirect beneficiary countries. The founding committee will be formed by representatives from UNIPA, UNITO, University of Tunis El-Manar and Université de Saint Joseph and will include participants from WP2 and WP3.

The MARE Centre will manage joint research and training (AS) through related mobilities targeting the following topics: Right to education and cooperation for higher education; Migrations, Displacement and Refugees; History, Area and Cultural Studies of MENA Region. The MARE Centre will envisage a process of multilateral CB among the involved partners (students and teachers) focused on AS activities encouraging SSC.

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

Deliverables *(Brief description and month of delivery)*

The deliverables related to T.3.1 will give evidence and monitor the mobility flows both incoming and outgoing both for students and for staff. In detail they are:

D.3.1. *Report on the mobilities of students implemented by the partners related to the double degrees* (M12, M20)

D.3.2. *Report on the mobility of students implemented by the partners related to the diploma supplements (M12, M20)*

D.3.3. *Report on the mobilities of staff implemented by the partners related to the double degrees* (M12, M20)

D.3.4. *Report on the mobilities of staff implemented by the partners related to the diploma supplements (M12, M20)*

The deliverables related to T.3.2 follow the different steps of the constitution of the MARE Center, the start-up of training and research activities, the infrastructure related, the creation and implementation of two summer schools and the dissemination activity. Namely:

D3.5. *Establishment of MARE Centre for Advanced Studies launched (M6)*

D.3.6. *Launch/management of MARE Centre for Advanced Studites (M6)*

D.3.7. *Report on the courses related to training (M20)*

D. 3.8. *Start-up of research scholarships (M6)*

D 3.9. *Definition of consulting contract (M3)*

D.3.10. *Establishment of 2 Summer Schools on Migration, Social and political change, and on Area Studies (M18)*

D.3.11. *Publication related to the activity of the WP (M20)*

D.3.12. *Dissemination reporting (M20)*

D. 3.13. *Establishment of 1 Digital infrastructure related to the activity of the WP (M12)*

Work Package number	4
Work Package Title	One Health
Participants involved in this WP	UNIPA, UNIBA, UNIME
Duration of the WP	20
*Task Leader	UNIBA
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIPA, UNIME

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

WP objectives and description *(where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)*

The aim of the WP is to mutually reinforce the awareness for a "one-health" approach, a holistic vision embracing the interconnectedness of human, animal and environmental health. The institutions are selecting health challenges by choosing interdisciplinary aspects of medicine, public health, nutrition, food and soil, biodiversity and their related economic impact. This multidisciplinary approach will facilitate the achievement of the project objectives, raising the awareness of prevention as a crucial factor for the implementation of the "one-health" approach.

The WP will be divided into two tasks, namely:

T.4.1 **Promote the mobility of students and staff within existing programs** especially related with interdisciplinary study and research concerning the one-health approach.

The existing curricula that will be implemented in light of the One Health approach are:

a) Master's degree of 2 years at UNIBA (e.g. LM-7 BQSA (Biotechnology for Food Quality and Security-BQSA) which accept bachelor students for 30 credits/year.

b) Bachelor degree in Biodiversity and technological innovation (L32) at UNIPA which aims at internationalize its curriculum with the addition of courses taught in English

T.4.2 **Develop new curricula and related Training of Trainers programme (Advanced Skills)**

In this context the activities will include:
a)   Training of Trainers to implement their own programme;
b)   Training of teaching staff on new Curricula
c)   Teaching to students.

The new curricula that will be implemented are:

1) *a Master program in "One Health"* with a tentative title of "Training system and health service: allies in the 'One Health' strategy". This program will focus on the issues of sustainability, biodiversity and global health which challenge institutions, academicians and the healthcare system

2) *a Summer School in "One Health"* which will bring together doctoral students and staff from all the partners involved in the WP from Lebanon (Lebanese University and Islamic university of Lebanon), from Egypt (Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport and Alexandria University), from Tunisia (Universities of Sousse, Monastir, Sfax) and from Morocco (Cadi Ayyad and IAV Universities) (Morocco), in order to explore the interdisciplinary and challenging issues related to the "one-health" approach.

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

Deliverables *(Brief description and month of delivery)*

The WP will produce specific outputs concerning:

a) involvement of stakeholders, to increase the awareness about the need to implement a One Health approach to public health major problems at a national and international level, in different Mediterranean Countries.

b) encouraging and supporting interdisciplinary research projects oriented to a One-health approach. These initiatives should focus on specific health challenges (as antimicrobial resistance) within the region

c) investing in capacity-building programs to enhance skills and competencies relevant to the One Health approach.

d) developing joint educational programs that emphasize the principles of "One Health." This could include interdisciplinary courses, training programs, and collaborative degree offerings that prepare students to tackle health challenges

e) comparison on health indicators in different geographical areas, developed according the One Health approach.

f) engaging with local communities to raise awareness about the One Health approach and evaluate the involvement of communities in research, health and environmental education, and initiatives related to food production, drug disposal and sustainable use of resources.

The list of the main deliverables is the following:

D.4.1 Report on the launch of public awareness campaigns (M16)
The campaign will inform citizens, healthcare professionals, veterinarians, and the agricultural sector about the aims of the curriculum to be launched

D.4.2 *Reports on one-health indicators on different Mediterranean areas (M16)*
The reports will involve multi-level and transversal competences to explore food production systems, dietary habits, agricultural practice, veterinary practice and environmental bio-monitoring

D.4. 3 *Report on skills demand and recommendations for curriculum development in the Mediterranean Countries (M12)*
Based on the common research protocol, partners will conduct desk and field research to identify skills demand and skills gaps in current curriculum-building processes, in order to develop meaningful curricula that respond to actual needs in terms of One Health approach.

D.4.4 Evaluation reports of the effectiveness and perceived quality of the training programs from the participants (M20)
A quality evaluation report will be produced by the end of the project.

Work Package number	5
Work Package Title	Sustainable Development and Climate Change
Participants involved in this WP	UNIPA, UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPI, UNIME, POLITO, UNISI
Duration of the WP	20 months
*Task Leader	UNIBO (Leader), UNICA (co-leader)
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIPA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPI, UNIME, POLITO, UNISI

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

*(**Max 2000 characters for each work package**)*

WP objectives and description *(where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)*

This WP aims at both improving existing relationships and establishing new agreements in the framework of UN sustainable development goals (SDGs). In particular WP5 aims at enhancing the quality of internationalization and mobility, by improving students and staff knowledge on environmental protection, sustainability and climate change challenges for the Mediterranean region, with an interdisciplinary approach. A balanced mix of teaching methodologies will be adopted to raise awareness of the context and build new curricula. Possibilities to combine exchanges and research at the Mediterranean level will be explored particularly with universities from Morocco, Jordan, Tunisia.

Students from different backgrounds and levels will attend courses on topics related to sustainability offered by the Italian universities involved in the WP or will carry out internships at a research lab/group working on sustainability related topics.

The WP is structured in three tasks:

T.5.1 – A **mapping of the available courses on sustainability topics taught in English at the partner universities** will be performed, together with an offer of possible internships, to increase the relevant student mobilities from the Mediterranean universities (see WP9).

T.5.2 – **Offering of a Training blended course in Education for sustainable development for teaching and administrative staff**

Thanks to their established expertise UNICA and UNIBO will design a blended learning course on Education for Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean. This multidisciplinary programme will provide two parallel asynchronous sub-programmes for administrative/technical and teaching staffs, followed by an intensive synchronous module for both.

T. 5.3 – **Mobility program with Tunisian universities on agricultural production and in hot arid environment in the light of climate change**

This program aims at exploring similarities between the Italian and Tunisian contexts with respect to the issues of agricultural production and environments. While the Tunisian partners will provide the opportunity to study in hot arid environments, which will benefit studies about the effect of climate change in central and northern Italy, Italian partners (lead by UNIPI) will offer strategies to safeguard the sustainability of agricultural systems.

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

Deliverables *(Brief description and month of delivery)*

The deliverables for this WP will be referred to the three different tasks:

D.5.1. Report with the results of the mapping exercise on the available courses and internships positions on sustainability (M15)

To complete task D.5.1 on the mapping of the courses and internships concerning sustainability topics available at the Italian University a report will be produced and disseminated among the students in the Mediterranean universities

D.5.2. *Definition of the curriculum of the blended Training course in Education for sustainable development for teaching and administrative staff (M15)*

For task T.5.2, the curriculum of the advanced interdisciplinary intensive programme will support academic and non academic staff mobility to increase their knowledge and develop new ways to study and research the impacts of sustainability and environmental challenges in their institutions, countries, and civil society. This will lead to create a network of actively involved global citizens that will be able to transfer and share the intercultural and interdisciplinary approach to their universities and study programmes considering the regional challenges.

D.5.3. Report on the offered training programme with evaluation of the effectiveness and perceived quality from the participants (M20)

The report on the effectiveness and perceived quality from the participants to the joint program on sustainability (task T.5.2) will be edited by the end of the project.

D.5.4. Interim and Final reports on the mobility programme with Tunisian universities on problems of agricultural production and environments (M12, M20)

A report on the implementation of the mobility program with Tunisian universities on problems specific to agricultural production and environment (task T.5.3) will be edited by the end of the project after the diffusion of two interim reports in the preceding months

Work Package number	6
Work Package Title	Renewable Energy and Sustainable Mobility
Participants involved in this WP	POLITO, UNIBA, UNIPA, UNICA, UNIBO
Duration of the WP	20 months
*Task Leader	POLITO
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIBA, UNIPA, UNICA, UNIBO

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

WP objectives and description *(where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)*

This WP aims at tackling the potential of renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, which abound in the Mediterranean region and to collaborate towards the development of sustainable mobility solutions, emphasizing integration of electric vehicles, efficient public transportation systems and smart urban planning.

This will be done through the accomplishment of three tasks:

T.6.1 **Developing the curricula for two Double Degree programs targeted on Mediterranean students on renewable energy and sustainable mobility**

The task will start with a skills demand analysis to develop two Double Degree (DD) programs:

• DD in Electrical / Energy engineering between UNIPA and Tafila Technical University (Jordan)

• DD in Automotive/Mechanical Engineering between POLITO and Universitè Internationale de Rabat (Morocco) based on POLITO experience in DD with other Mediterranean partners (École Centrale – Casablanca; Université Libanaise).

T.6.2 **Implementation of capacity building activities towards Mediterranean partners (Advanced Skills courses)**

Such activities will concern:

• a UNIPA course to faculties of Tafila Technical University to support the start and implementation definition of a PhD course in electrical engineering and DD at MSc and PhD level (UNIPA-Tafila)

• a UNIPA course to faculties of Al Hussein Technical University to support the start and implementation of an integrated Course of studies at the Master degree in Electrical Engineering at Al Hussein Technical University

• a POLITO Course on "Solar (PV and concentrated) and wind power generation"

• POLITO training for the design a of experimental teaching labs in e-learning mode, delivered in the countries targeted by this WP

• one POLITO seminar held in Morocco on energy storage technologies (eg batteries), solar concentrators, low-cost rural technologies for energy exploitation.

• two UNICA 1-week courses in Italy, with EES-UETP and CIRED instructors addressed to faculties on innovative design of off-grid and on-grid microgrids in rural and developing areas and the use of flexibility.

Task 6.3:

Organization of a plenary conference in one of the target countries on the integration of industrial ecosystems of the countries involved in the project on renewable energy and sustainable mobility.

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

Deliverables *(Brief description and month of delivery)*

The project's main deliverables will be in relation with the 3 tasks described:

D.6.1 *Report on skills demand and recommendations for curriculum development in the Mediterranean Countries (M14)*

This deliverable, related to task T.6.1 is instrumental to the development of "Renewable Energy" and "Sustainable Mobility" study programs and Double Degrees.

D.6.2 *Report on the definition of the MSc double degrees program (M14)*

This deliverable, related to task T.6.1 will consist in the description of the activities related to meetings, study plans, articulation of subjects, definition of main topics for MSc degrees, connection to companies in the involved countries.

D.6. 3 *Report on the definition of the PhD double degree programs (M14)*

This deliverable, related to task T.6.1, will consist in the description of the activities related to meetings, study plans, articulation of educational activities, main topics of research and PhD thesis, connection to companies in involved countries for industrial PhD

D.6.4: *Report on the Advanced Skills training programmes offered with evaluation of the effectiveness and perceived quality by participants. (M20)*

This deliverable, related to task T.6.2 to be edited by the end of the project will assess the effectiveness and the perceived quality of all the activities related to capacity building in favour of staff and teaching of the Mediterranean universities involved in the task

D.6.5. *Report on the organization of a Conference on the activity of the WP (M20)*

The deliverable, related to task T.6.3 will consist in the programme, the list of participants, slides/posters presented, a brief report on the evaluation of the effectiveness and perceived quality by participants.

Work Package number	7
Work Package Title	Sustainable Tourism
Participants involved in this WP	UNIPA, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBO
Duration of the WP	20 months
*Task Leader	UNIPA
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

WP objectives and description *(where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)*

The WP aims to increase the quality and the effectiveness of relationships between the Italian Universities and two specific countries: Jordan and Morocco, in the field of tourism and hospitality. Sustainable tourism is a challenging topic of particular interest in the Mediterranean destinations that can suffer from high tourist pressure on specific touristic sites.

This specific WP is addressed to increase the mobility of students and staff (Tasks T.7.1 and T.7.2) and to develop new curricula by training teaching staff in selected Mediterranean countries (Task T.7.3)

T.7.1 Mobilities for study and traineeship in the field of hospitality and tourism

This task will manage the mobility flow at Bachelor, Master and PhD level of students incoming and outgoing from and to Mediterranean destinations. Mobilities will concern the three universities involved in the WP and universities in Morocco and Jordan

T.7.2 Mobilities for staff in the field of hospitality and tourism

This task will manage the mobility flow concerning teaching, training and research both incoming and outgoing from and to Mediterranean destinations. Mobilities will concern the three universities involved in the WP and universities in Morocco and Jordan. At least three research grants will be awarded in relation to this task

T.7.3: Development of new curricula and Training of Trainers programme (Advanced Skills)

The task aims to contribute to HEIs in Jordan and Morocco to the development of innovative curricula on sustainable tourism through the implementation of the following activities:

- Primary and secondary research on skills demand and gaps in current hospitality and identification of required skills and knowledge;

- Capacity building of HEIs' staff such as:

a. Curriculum Development course (Training of Trainers programme); by development and piloting of the new curricula on sustainable tourism in the Jordanian and Moroccan Universities;

b. Training of teaching staff on the new Curricula on Sustainable Tourism;

Involved non-EU Mediterranean Universities will be (not an exclusive list):

- for Jordan: Yarmouk University (MOU with UNIPA), University of Jordan, Al- Balqa' Applied University - BAU, Princess Sumaya University for Technology;
- for Morocco: Universiapolis International University of Agadir, Mohammed V University of Rabat

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

Deliverables *(Brief description and month of delivery)*

Staff coming from the University of Palermo, Cagliari and Macerata will organize in both countries (Jordan and Morocco) two specific outputs.

a) Curriculum Development course (Training of Trainers programme);

b) Training of teaching staff on the new Curricula on Quantitative Methods for Sustainable Tourism.

Consequently, the project's main deliverables will be:

D.7.1. Transnational Report on skills demand and gaps of hospitality and tourism workforce and recommendations for curriculum development in the Mediterranean Countries (M12)

Based on the common research protocol, partners will conduct desk and field research to identify skills demand and skills gaps in current hospitality and tourism workforce in order to develop meaningful curricula that respond to actual needs in terms of sustainable tourism, entrepreneurship and management, digital skills, green and soft skills.

D.7.2. *Report on a Training of Trainers programme on curriculum development* (M20)
Based on their expertise regarding curriculum development, UNIPA, UNICA and UNIMC will develop a blended Training Programme on curriculum development on sustainable tourism. The aim of the Curriculum Development course is to help HEIs' staff develop and enhance their skills and knowledge on curriculum development on sustainable tourism, according to the identified gaps.

D.7.3. *Report on a Training Programme on the new curricula (M20)*
Based on the identified skills demand in the tourism sector, and skills gaps in current hospitality and tourism workforce and after the completion of the ToT on curriculum development, the trained academic staff of the partner universities in Jordan and Morocco will develop courses on sustainable tourism, with the support/guidance of Italian partners.
The courses will make use of innovative learning and teaching practices to improve labour market skills and will target students of Hospitality and Tourism Programs, recent graduates, and new or current staff in hospitality and tourism companies.

D.7.4. *Evaluation report on the effectiveness and perceived quality of the training programs from the participants (M20)*
 An evaluation report on the effectiveness and perceived quality of the training program will be produced by the end of the project.

Work Package number	8
Work Package Title	Employability, Entrepreneurship and Inclusion in the digital age
Participants involved in this WP	UNIPA, UNICA, UNIME
Duration of the WP	14 months
*Task Leader	UNICA
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIPA, UNIME

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

WP objectives and description *(where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)*

The WP has four tasks:

Task T.8.1 Develop a Program on Entrepreneurship, Employability and Inclusion in the digital age

The task will focus on teaching employability and entrepreneurship aligned with the digital society's needs, stressing inclusivity and digital literacy. Particular attention will be devoted to the employability of women and young population

Task T.8.2 Develop a Program on Funding Projects through Competitive Grants

This module will offer training to Mediterranean partners on preparing and submitting competitive grant proposals, including ideation, development, evaluation, monitoring, and reporting of projects.

Tasks T8.1 and T.8.2 both aim at enhancing entrepreneurship skills, employability, and inclusivity among graduates, PhD students, researchers, and faculty by teaching effective entrepreneurship and grant proposal submission. Mobility scholarships and at least two research grants will be proposed.

Task T.8.3 Specific Mobility related to current and future double degrees

Along with longer term mobility related to existing Double Degrees (DD), short term mobility of students and staff from and to different Mediterranean University is needed for future DD programs.

The University of Palermo has a DD in Economics (LM56) with the University of Tunis El-Manar This DD can be replicated to another double degree in LM-77 (English curriculum in Entrepreneurship)

Many agreements have been signed or are about to be signed by the universities involved in the WP. Partners include the University of Nouakchott, Mauritania, those of Sfax, Monastir and Sousse (Tunisia) and of IAV and Cadi Ayyad (Morocco). Other potential partners can be envisaged in Lebanon and Jordan.

Task T.8.4 Development of entrepreneurship and employability issues in existing Summer school on human rights and migrants

UNIPA has developed through years an international summer school (SS) which offers professional expertise to tackle the themes of human rights and vulnerability of migrants in the Mediterranean area. Academicians and students active in the school mostly come from Lebanon and Egypt. The task should include the themes of the WP in the existing SS by organized specific sessions on the inclusivity of migrants through the stimulus to employability and entrepreneurship and the overcoming of digital divide (see WP3).

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

Deliverables *(Brief description and month of delivery)*

The deliverables related to this WP, obtained through the joint efforts of all partners are:

D.8.1 Report on the Implementation of a Teaching Module on Entrepreneurship in the Digital Age (M20)
Such deliverables, related to T.8.1 will cover curriculum design, innovative teaching methods, mentoring student projects, networking, project planning, evaluation, and digital strategy. The module will consist of 100 hours with teaching activities submitted in a hybrid format with a blend of online sessions (50%) for lectures and in-person sessions (50%) for project development workshops, ensuring accessibility and flexibility

D.8.2 *Report on the implementation of a Teaching Module on Professional Project Management (M20)*
Such deliverables, related to T.8.2 will focus on ideation, development, evaluation, and reporting of projects, particularly those funded by European, national, and regional instruments. It includes training in economics, business, statistics, law, sociology, and public policy. A special focus wil be devoted to local development policies. The module will consist of 100 hours with teaching activities submitted in a hybrid format with a blend of online sessions (50%) for lectures and in-person sessions (50%) for project development workshops, ensuring accessibility and flexibility.

D.8.3 *Report on the mobility and the definition of current and future double degrees programs (M20)*
This deliverable, related to task T.8.3 will consist in the description of the activities related to meetings, study plans, articulation of subjects, definition of main topics for future double degrees, as well as the monitoring of mobility performed with current degrees.

D.8.4 *Report on the organization of sessions of the Summer School in "Migrants, Human Rights, Democracy" focusing on Employability, entrepreneurship and digital divide issues (M20)*
Participants to the activities of tasks T.8.1 may be involved in the organization of the task.

Work Package number	9
Work Package Title	Student and Staff Mobility
Participants involved in this WP	UNIPA, UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNITO, POLITO, UNIME, UNISI
Duration of the WP	20

*Task Leader	UNIPA
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNITO, POLITO, UNIME, UNISI

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

WP objectives and description *(where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)*

WP9 aims to encourage the importance of mobility of staff and students to/from Southern Mediterranean countries for teaching, study and research purposes. The main activities of the project will be coordinated by UNIPA, as coordinator of the consortium, with the support of all the universities that have joined this project proposal and the beneficiary partner universities. The consortium therefore aims to strengthen, consolidate and continue cooperation and internationalisation activities with Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Palestine, Tunisia, involving several universities of these countries. In particular, internationalisation, and consequently mobility actions, represent a fundamental strategic objective for the development policies of the universities of the consortium, outlining the natural continuation of a series of international cooperation and mobility activities between Italian universities and Partner universities in the southern Mediterranean area, launched in most cases in 2015 with the start of the Erasmus+ KA107-ICM projects. The relevance of the cooperation with the above-mentioned countries is identified in the improvement of the attractiveness and in the strengthening of the international dimension of the training and research fields aimed at increasing the personal and professional skills of the participants, enriching their transversal skills and also expanding university cooperation in disciplinary areas not yet covered through students and teachers mobility. The mobility project helps to achieve the set objectives, i.e. satisfying the growing demand for mobility abroad of teachers and students, encouraging the development of mobility projects with extra EU-countries, promoting internationalisation at home in the universities thanks to the presence of foreign teachers and students, increasing and improving the quality of the academic offering and promoting research and teaching activities.

The list of tasks is:

T.9.1 **Preparation and launch of the mobility work plan for students and teachers**

T.9.2 **Mobility program for students incoming**

T.9.3 **Mobility program for student outgoing**

T.9.4 **Mobility program for teachers and staff incoming**

T.9.5 **Mobility program for teacher and staff outgoing**

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

Deliverables *(Brief description and month of delivery)*

The following project outputs are submitted to show project progress related to mobilities activities:

D 9.1 - Interim report on mobility activities (M12)

The interim report, in M12, describes the activities undertaken by students and teachers during their mobility experiences.

D 9.2 - Final report on mobility activities (M20)

The final report describes the activities undertaken to ensure the achievement of the mobities objectives. The final report will also include the results of the evaluation questionnaire that will be sent to the participants.

Work Package number	10
Work Package Title	Communication and Dissemination
Participants involved in this WP	UNIPA, UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNITO, POLITO, UNIME, UNISI
Duration of the WP	20
*Task Leader	UNIPA
*Task Supporter(s)	UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNITO, POLITO, UNIME, UNISI

* In case of Consortium or Foundation, please specify also the Task Leader and the Task Supporter

(Max 2000 characters for each work package)

WP objectives and description (where appropriate, divided into tasks). Indicate the foreign countries involved in the project, the objectives and the topic developed in the activities. Describe the ability to monitor the progress of the project and measure the achievement of the expected impacts of the different activities)

The dissemination strategy is common and shared by the entire project partnership, adapted to the targets and the reference context and will cover all phases of the project.

A communications strategy and dissemination plan will be developed to maximise the impacts of the project and in strong interaction with all other work packages and with the aim of ensuring effective communication of project messages and activities at the local, national and international levels. Partners will identify appropriate target groups to respond to dissemination messages, implement a broad and differentiated set of dissemination tools, online and offline, useful for measuring the effectiveness of the activities carried out. This dissemination strategy will support a "chain reaction", motivating others not directly involved in the consortium to use the results for their own initiatives, practices and institutional changes towards open internationalisation.

In order for the content of the communication to be effective, it is essential that the language and tools used are common to the sender and the recipient. To achieve key results, communication and dissemination channels will be selected to convey the key messages and results of the project to as many stakeholders and target group members as possible. The visual identity makes it easy to be recognized by the target audience by having an impact on the perception of the project. The project logo will be the result of a combination of essential concepts that surround the project objectives. Different social networks may be used to increase interest in the project and encourage users to participate in project events. They will be used to maximise the visibility of the project. A targeted communication campaign by the universities of the consortium on institutional channels and the organisation of events in which to present the project and the results obtained will contribute to a greater impact in the context in which it operates.

The WP has a unique task
T.10.1 **Dissemination and communication activities**

(*Max 2000 characters for each work package*)

Deliverables (*Brief description and month of delivery*)

The indicators to evaluate the effectiveness of the dissemination strategy of the activities will be related to the publication of articles (2 per year) and their relative diffusion through newsletters and social media, the organisation of webinars and/or events to promote the project and its results (1 per year), and coordination meetings (2 per year).

D 10.1 - Dissemination and communication plan (M3)
The plan describes the project's dissemination and exploitation strategy. It includes the schedule of activities to be carried out and the tools to be used in relation to the target audiences to ensure that the project is widely disseminated.

D 10.2 - Definition of the visual identity of the project, the website and communication media (M3)

The project logo, visual identity and all dissemination media (brochures, posters, leaflets, etc.) will be designed and implemented in electronic format (if necessary in paper form) to be distributed to all partners. The website will ensure the visibility and sustainability of the project. The website will guarantee a first level of information on the objectives and activities of the project. The main activities and results will be posted in the public sections of the website. Any activity carried out by the project will be the subject of the publication of an article on the project website.

D 10.3- Interim report on dissemination activities (M12)

An interim report, in M12, describes the activities undertaken in the first year to ensure the visibility and the dissemination of the project and the plan future dissemination
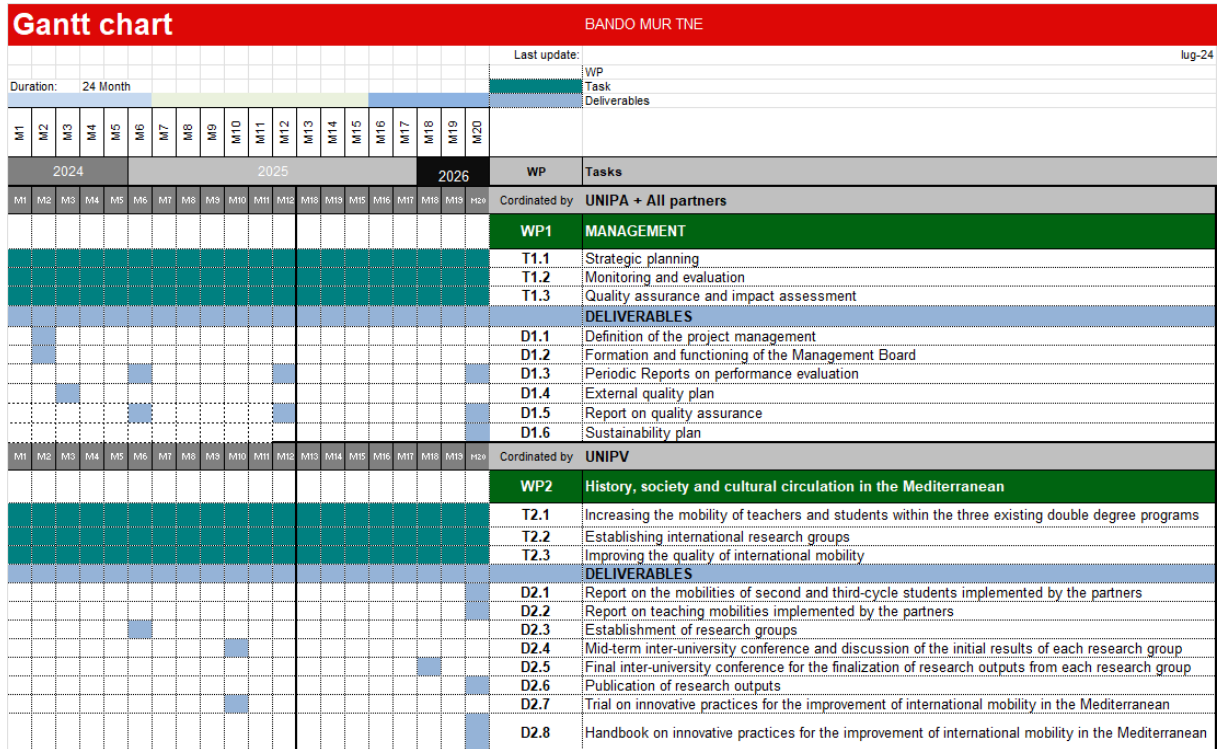
D 10.4- Final report on dissemination activities (M20)

A final report, in M20, will describe the activities undertaken to ensure the visibility and the dissemination of the project.

3.3. Activity timeframe

This section includes a section relating to the implementation time and monitoring of the activities.

Please provide a timeframe (Gantt or similar) to better explain how the project would be developed.

	WP	Tasks
		Cordinated by UNIPA + All partners
	WP1	**MANAGEMENT**
	T1.1	Strategic planning
	T1.2	Monitoring and evaluation
	T1.3	Quality assurance and impact assessment
		DELIVERABLES
	D1.1	Definition of the project management
	D1.2	Formation and functioning of the Management Board
	D1.3	Periodic Reports on performance evaluation
	D1.4	External quality plan
	D1.5	Report on quality assurance
	D1.6	Sustainability plan
		Cordinated by UNIPV
	WP2	**History, society and cultural circulation in the Mediterranean**
	T2.1	Increasing the mobility of teachers and students within the three existing double degree programs
	T2.2	Establishing international research groups
	T2.3	Improving the quality of international mobility
		DELIVERABLES
	D2.1	Report on the mobilities of second and third-cycle students implemented by the partners
	D2.2	Report on teaching mobilities implemented by the partners
	D2.3	Establishment of research groups
	D2.4	Mid-term inter-university conference and discussion of the initial results of each research group
	D2.5	Final inter-university conference for the finalization of research outputs from each research group
	D2.6	Publication of research outputs
	D2.7	Trial on innovative practices for the improvement of international mobility in the Mediterranean
	D2.8	Handbook on innovative practices for the improvement of international mobility in the Mediterranean

Cordinated by UNIPA (Lead partner) + UNIBO, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIPV, UNIPI

ID	WP3 — Migration, social and political change
WP3	**Migration, social and political change**
T3.1	Support and development of DD and DS programs
T3.2	Establishing of the MARE Centre for Advanced Studies in Social and political change
	DELIVERABLES
D3.1	Report on the mobilities of students implemented by the partners related to the double degrees
D3.2	Report on the mobility of students implemented by the partners related to the diploma supplements
D3.3	Report on the mobilities of staff implemented by the partners related to the double degrees
D3.4	Report on the mobilities of staff implemented by the partners related to the diploma supplements
D3.5	Establishment of MARE Centre for Advanced Studies launched
D3.6	Launch of MARE Centre for Advanced Studies
D3.7	Report on the courses related to training
D3.8	Start up of research scholarships
D3.9	Definition of consulting contract
D3.10	Establishment of 2 Summer Schools on Migration, Social and political change, and on Area Studies
D3.11	Publication related to the activity of the WP
D3.12	Dissemination reporting
D3.13	Establishment of 1 Digital infrastructure related to the activity of the WP

Cordinated by UNIBA (Lead partner) + UNIPA, UNIPI, UNIME

ID	WP4 — One Health
WP4	**One Health**
T4.1	Promote the mobility of students and staff with existing programs
T4.2	Develop new curricula and related training of trainers programme (Advance Skills)
	DELIVERABLES
D4.1	Report on the launch of public awareness campaigns
D4.2	Reports on one-health indicators on different Mediterranean areas
D4.3	Report on skills demand and recommendations for curriculum development in the Mediterranean countries
D4.4	Evaluation reports of the effectiveness and perceived quality of the training programs from the participants

Cordinated by UNIBO (Lead Partner) + UNIPA, UNICA, UNIMC, UNIBA, UNIPV, UNIPI, UNIME, POLITO

ID	WP5 — Sustainable Development and Climate Change
WP5	**Sustainable Development and Climate Change**
T5.1	Mapping on the available courses and internships positions on sustainability
T5.2	Offering of a Training blended course in Education for sustainable development for teaching and
T5.3	Mobility programme with Tunisian universities on agricultural production and environments in the light of climate change
	DELIVERABLES
D5.1	Report with the results of the mapping exercise on the available courses and internships positions on sustainability
D5.2	Definition of the curriculum of the blended Training course in Education for sustainable development for teaching and administrative staff
D5.3	Report on the offered training programme with evaluation of the effectiveness and perceived quality from the participants
D5.4	Reports on the mobility programme with Tunisian universities on problems of agricultural production and environments

Cordinated by POLITO (Lead Partner) + UNIBA, UNIPA, UNICA, UNIBO

ID	WP6 — Renewable Energy and Sustainable Mobility
WP6	**Renewable Energy and Sustainable Mobility**
T6.1	Curricula development for two DDs targeted on Mediterranean students on renewable energy and sustainable mobility
T6.2	Implementation of capacity building activities towards Mediterranean partners (Advanced Skills courses)
T6.3	Organization of a plenary Conference
	DELIVERABLES
D6.1	Report on skills demand and recommendations for curriculum development in the Mediterranean Countries
D6.2	Report on the definition of the MSc double degrees program
D6.3	Report on the definition of the PhD double degree programs
D6.4	Report on the Advanced Skills training programmes offered with evaluation of the effectiveness and perceived quality by participants
D6.5	Report on the organization of a Conference on the activity of the WP

		Cordinated by	UNIPA (Lead partner) + UNICA, UNIMC
M1 M2 M3 M4 M5 M6 M7 M8 M9 M10 M11 M12 M13 M14 M15 M16 M17 M18 M19 M20		**WP7**	**Sustainable Tourism**
		T7.1	Mobilities for study and traineeship in the field of hospitality and tourism
		T7.2	Mobilities for staff in the field of hospitality and tourism
		T7.3	Development of new curricula and Training of Trainers programme (Advanced Skills)
			DELIVERABLES
		D7.1	Transnational Report on skills demand and gaps of hospitality and tourism workforce and recommendations for curriculum development in the Mediterranean Countries
		D7.2	Report on Training of Trainers programme on curriculum development
		D7.3	Report onTraining Programme on the new curricula
		D7.4	Evaluation report of the effectiveness and perceived quality of the training programs from the participants

		Cordinated by	UNIPA (Lead partner) + UNICA, UNIPI, UNIME
M1 M2 M3 M4 M5 M6 M7 M8 M9 M10 M11 M12 M13 M14 M15 M16 M17 M18 M19 M20		**WP8**	**Employability/Entrepreneurship/Inclusion**
		T8.1	Develop a Program on Entrepreneurship, Employability and Inclusion in the digital age
		T8.2	Develop a Program on Funding Projects through Competitive Grants
		T8.3	Specific Mobility related to current and future double degrees
		T8.4	Development of entrepreneurship and employability issues in existing Summer school on human rights and migrants
			DELIVERABLES
		D8.1	Report on the Implementation of a Teaching Module on Entrepreneurship in the Digital Age
		D8.2	Report on the implementation of a Teaching Module on Professional Project Management
		D8.3	Report on the mobility and the definition of current and future double degrees programs
		D8.4	Report on the organization of sessions of the Summer School in "Migrants, Human Rights, Democracy" focusing on Employability, entrepreneurship and digital divide issues

		Cordinated by	UNIPA + All partners
M1 M2 M3 M4 M5 M6 M7 M8 M9 M10 M11 M12 M13 M14 M15 M16 M17 M18 M19 M20		**WP9**	**Student and Staff Mobility**
		T9.1	Preparation and launch of the mobility work plan for students and teachers
		T9.2	Mobility programme for Students incoming
		T9.3	Mobility programme for Students outgoing
		T9.4	Mobility programme for Teachers and Staff incoming
		T9.5	Mobility programme for Teachers and Staff outgoing
			DELIVERABLES
		D9.1	Interim report of mobility activities
		D9.2	Final report of mobility activities

		Cordinated by	UNIPA + All partners
M1 M2 M3 M4 M5 M6 M7 M8 M9 M10 M11 M12 M13 M14 M15 M16 M17 M18 M19 M20		**WP10**	**Communication and Dissemination**
		T10.1	Communication and Dissemination activities
			DELIVERABLES
		D10.1	Dissemination and communication plan
		D10.2	Definition of the visual identity of the project, the website and communication media
		D10.3	Interim report on dissemination activities
		D10.4	Final report on dissemination activities

4. Economic and Financial sustainability profile

Please, indicate the Economic-Financial sustainability profile of the initiative in terms of implementation and feasibility of the interventions, focusing on the adequacy of financed interventions to guarantee the continuity of the project.

The MARE project will be implemented by a Consortium of public universities that guarantee the correct and smooth implementation of the activities. The total budget is very well balanced among the partners taking obviously in consideration their capacity to manage and to host international activities based on the size of the university.

All the partners already have important experiences in managing international credit mobility opportunities and hosting international students and staff, as well as to send their students and staff abroad and in the Mediterranean Region in particular.

The project leader, UNIPA, signed the first double degree with a Tunisian university more than a decade ago and since then the number of double degrees in that country has increased to five. They range from international cooperation, to migration, communication and economics. Currently active exchanges for short term mobilities also cover other disciplines (architecture, planning, engineering) and many countries, all of which beneficiaries of the MARE project, namely Algeria, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, Jordan and, more recently, Mauritania. Incoming students have been enrolled or attended Erasmus programs in many universities of these countries. Mobility and double degrees are managed by the International Relations Office which is structured in seven units according to the different functions (incoming mobility, outgoing mobility, cooperation agreements, project design and implementation, communication, enrollment and European university alliance).

The other partners also have a very long tradition in the management of double degrees, capacity building and cooperation partnerships as well as wide experiences on dedicated activities in the Mediterranean area, such as the one of the Center for Area Studies at the University of Pavia, the expertise of the University of Torino in the domain of social and political change, that of the University of Bologna and Cagliari in teaching courses on sustainable development, that on the management of double degree in Morocco by the Polytechnic of Turin and, finally that of the University of Messina in enrolling incoming students.

As part of the project's commitment to excellence and continuous improvement, an external expert will be selected to conduct a comprehensive external evaluation and impact assessment of the project. The external expert will play a crucial role in providing an impartial and expert evaluation to ensure the project's success, sustainability, and alignment with international best practices.

The external expert will be selected based on institutional proven track record in conducting external evaluations and impact assessments in the field of Higher Education in Europe and in the Mediterranean region, expertise in programmatic evaluation, familiarity with international best practices in Higher Education and quality assurance, analytical and reporting expertise.

Throughout the project lifetime, the external expert will be responsible for programmatic review, impact assessment, and will involve a multi-methodological approach incorporating both quantitative and qualitative data.

The external expert will be responsible for:

1) Programmatic review. The programmatic review will consist in thorough assessment of each project component, including faculty and student mobility, joint degree programs, and advanced skills training, as well as the project's transversal components. The review will involve a comprehensive analysis and assessment of the overall project to determine its effectiveness, efficiency, and alignment with its goals and objectives.

The review will focus on:

• Assessment of the effectiveness and transparency of participant selection processes, and the adequacy of support services provided during the various activities;

• Evaluation of the double/joint degrees and advanced skills programmes design, implementation, and outcomes; evaluation of the effectiveness in achieving educational objectives, alignment of curricula with international standards, relevance to industry/market needs;

• Evaluation of the efficiency of the project management and implementation;

• Evaluation of the use of resources, and effectiveness of financial management mechanisms, ensuring compliance with funding guidelines and best practices.

2) Impact Assessment

Impact assessment will include the qualitative and quantitative assessment of the effects of the intervention both at project level (i.e. on the project's target groups and relevant stakeholders) and at programme level.

The impact assessment will focus on:

• Review of performance metrics and validation of the established KPIs for faculty and student mobility, joint degree programs, and advanced skills training;

• Analysis the progression of participants post-initiative, including satisfaction rates, contributions to research, and leadership roles within academia and industry;

• Assessment of the effectiveness of the initiative and its impact on fostering ongoing connections and institutional collaboration, including contributions to internationalisation, innovation and intercultural exchange.

The sustainability of MARE after its end is, as for all projects, a fundamental element, which was taken into consideration from the project writing phase and in agreement with the Consortium.

A sustainability plan (see D.1.6 at WP1) will be defined by the partners. MARE is that type of project that can maintain its effects and its benefits, through its organizational dimension and the development of practices and tools.

The internationalization offices are long-term structures which may certainly evolve over time, but which will continue their mission and are intended to grow.

The methods, tools and practices that will be developed within the framework of MARE will be a support and a common heritage for the entire academic community. Student reception services and tools will continue to be used for all international students hosted at these universities. The fundraising capacities that were strengthened in the project will be deployed to obtain financing in support of internationalization activities. This logic of articulating the

different sources of financing will be one of the training axes for the International Relations officers.

5. Characteristics of the Partners involved in the project

In this section, please provide information about the implementation of the initiative, with a precise description of the Partnership/Consortium/Foundation scope and quality: (i) quality and complementarity of the Partnership/Consortium/Foundation; (ii) capacity and organizational experience of the host institutions.

Please, describe the partnership organization features as foreseen in the following subsections.

(i)	*Please, describe the Partnership/Consortium/Foundation in terms of quality and complementarity. In addition, describe the organization model in terms of human resources; relevant professional experiences and competences of the personnel involved in the implementation of the project. (**Max. 3000 characters**)*

The MARE project brings together partners with long-term expertise in management of European projects.

The overall coordination of MARE will be ensured by UNIPA. Project management involves controlling time, costs and previously assigned responsibilities. This is an essential control to ensure the achievement of objectives and expected results.

The project consortium is established on the basis of quality assurance issues, formalized by a partnership agreement which ensures reliability and interaction between members and lays the foundations for a common methodology in project management and distribution of tasks.

The MARE partners would like to equip themselves with a flexible management structure that guarantees quality implementation.

The management structure will therefore be organized as follows:

a) The project coordinator (PC), who ensures the proper execution of the project while respecting the constraints of resources, time and quality of results. Its main mission is the management and overall coordination of activities.

The coordinator is:
- responsible for leading all operational aspects of the project;
- responsible for monitoring project progress, evaluating it, and maintaining results at high quality standards monitored through intermediate controls;
- the main interface between the consortium and the Ministry;
- in regular interaction with WP leaders to ensure that technical work is carried out in accordance with the provisions set out in the job description and within the stipulated deadlines.

b) the Project Management Committee which is composed by representatives from each partner and takes strategic decisions relating to issues of interest to all partners, such as modifications to the grant agreement, changes in budget distribution and any other corrective measures.

c) The quality team which is composed by the WP1 co-coordinator in charge of quality and a representative of each WP manager. The quality unit will define the internal quality monitoring mechanisms of the project and will share them with the management committee at each partner meeting.

As for the decision-making process, it will normally be made by consensus. In the unlikely event of a conflict that would make a vote necessary, the decision will be taken by a majority of the votes of the Quality team.

(ii)   *Please, describe the organizational experience of the host institutions, the capacity to improve the international organization/collaboration and highlight the importance of geographic coverage. (**Max. 2000 characters**)*

The MARE project brings together more than 40 universities partners from 10 countries, 8 from the Southern Mediterranean region plus Mauritania and Iraq.

All these partners already have a strong and solid connection with the Italian universities members of the MARE consortium and all of them are connected with International institutions and already receive international grants and funding. Mostly of the University partners are members of the UNIMED network and this is another additional element to guarantee a solid and smoothly implementation of the project.

As described in paragraph 1. - Objectives and expected results – the geographical coverage of the project is the following: all the Arab southern Mediterranean countries as described by the Neighbor policy of the European Commission, excluding Syria for the current situation of the country, and adding two important neighbor countries of the south med such as Mauritania, which is also a permanent member of the 5+5 dialogue and an associated partner of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) as observatory, and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, which is a quite dynamic region in term of international cooperation and closer to middle east countries as a part of the great Mediterranean.

The international partnership will be coordinated by the MARE project coordinator in close collaboration with the WP Leaders. Meetings will be organised at national level and international level on a regular basis.

The academic staff involved in the implementation of the project have a huge experience in managing education, capacity building and research activities thanks to their active participation in a network like UNIMED that act in particular in the Mediterranean region. This clearly show that the partnership is already solid and coherent.

The administrative staff involved in the implementation of the project belong to International Relation offices and departments. All of them are very well experts in managing such initiatives because these are similar to other projects funded by the Erasmus+ programme and this clearly shows that the partnership is already solid and coherent.

Place and date

_____

The Legal Representative of the Lead
Institution of the Partnership

_____