



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENT MOBILITY GRANTS FOR STUDY OR TRAINING AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

as part of Project TNE23-00091 "Economics Network between Latin America and Italy" (EcoNet LatAm) - CUP: D61I24000080006

Project Leader: Scuola IMT Alti Studi - LUCCA

Partners: Università degli Studi della Basilicata, Università degli Studi di Firenze, Università degli Studi di Siena (UNISI)

Budget assigned to UniSI: € 49,089.46

THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT

- Having regard to the "Call for the granting of funds for transnational educational initiatives – TNE", Ministerial Decree MUR no. 167 of 03/10/2023 and its annexes;
- Having regard to the project proposal "*Economics Network between Latin America and Italy*" (acronym *EcoNet LATAM*) promoted by IMT School for Advanced Studies Lucca (IMT LUCCA), in which the University of Siena participates under the scientific supervision of Prof. Paolo Pin, Department of Political Economy and Statistics;
- Having regard to Ministerial Decree MUR no. 225 of 25/07/2024 approving the ranking list of the 24 eligible and fundable proposals under Annex 1 of Ministerial Decree no. 188 of 26/06/2024, and in particular the project "Economics Network between Latin America and Italy" (EcoNet LATAM) – CUP D61I24000080006
- Having regard to the Agreement signed between the lead institution and the Ministry of University and Research on 31/10/2024;
- Having regard to the partnership agreement signed between the lead institution, the University of Siena and the other participating institutions on 30/10/2024;
- Acknowledging that the objective of the "Economics Network between Latin America and Italy" project (EcoNet LATAM) is to create and strengthen a collaborative network between UNISI and the Latin American universities involved in the project through exchanges of faculty and students;

HEREBY ISSUES

the following notice:

Art. 1 – Purpose and Objectives

1. This procedure is open for the award of financial contributions for mobility activities for study, training or research, with a minimum duration of 2 months, to be carried out at the foreign Higher Education Institutions associated with Project TNE23-00091 "Economics Network between Latin America and Italy" (EcoNet LatAm), or at the University of Siena for incoming students from the same institutions.
2. This Notice remains in force until the funds allocated to the University of Siena for mobility (€ 49,089.46) are exhausted, it being understood that all mobility periods must be completed by **15/03/2026**.

Art. 2 – Eligible Applicants

1. The following students may apply:
 - students enrolled in the 2nd or 3rd cycle of studies (Master's degree, single-cycle Master's degree, PhD) in any year and field of study at the University of Siena or at the foreign universities associated with the project;
 - students who maintain enrolment status until completion of the mobility period;
 - students who meet the requirements of Art. 9 of EU Regulation no. 241/2021 regarding resource additionality (absence of double funding).

In cases of simultaneous enrolment in two study programs, students may submit an application for only **one** of their active careers. They must select the relevant career when applying.

The status indicated when applying must be maintained throughout the entire mobility period abroad. Specifically:

- PhD candidates receiving a scholarship **may not obtain their degree during the mobility period**, under penalty of forfeiting the mobility and returning any funds received;
 - students must maintain valid enrolment at their home institution for the entire duration of the mobility. If necessary, they must enroll in the new academic year within the deadlines set by their institution. Late enrollments are not permitted.
2. Applicants must possess adequate knowledge of the language of the host country or English, if accepted by the host institution as the working language.

Art. 3 – Host / Home Institutions

1. The mobility may take place exclusively **from or to** universities or research institutions located in the Latin American countries involved in Project TNE23-00091 (EcoNet LatAm):
 - Universidad San Sebastián (USS), Chile
 - Universidad Nacional de Colombia (UNAL Medellín), Colombia
 - Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP), Peru
 - Universidad del Rosario (UDR), Colombia
 - Universidade Federal do Ceará (UFC), Brazil

Additional universities may be communicated at a later stage.

Art. 4 – Eligible Activities and Documentation

1. TNE – EcoNet LATAM funding is awarded exclusively to carry out an outgoing/incoming mobility period for study or for training and research.
2. Applicants must specify the purpose of the mobility (study, or training and research), define the activities to be carried out, the planned period, objectives and expected results, and obtain prior approval from the host institution through:
 - a *Learning Agreement* (for study mobility), or

- an *Activity Project* (for training and research mobility).

Art. 5 – Application Procedure

1. Applications must be submitted by sending the following documents to the Administrative Office of the Department of Political Economy and Statistics (amministrazione.deps@unisi.it):
 - Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum
 - Copy of valid passport
 - Transcript of Records
 - Certificate of Enrolment at the home university
 - Language proficiency certificate
 - Learning Agreement (for study mobility) or Activity Project (for training/research mobility)

The Learning Agreement and the Activity Project must be completed using the template attached to this Notice (Annex 1A) and must be signed by the academic supervisor at the host or home institution.

Additional documents useful for evaluation may also be attached, such as:

- letters of recommendation from faculty at the host or home institution;
 - evidence of previous study or research periods abroad.
2. The Department will notify applicants of the outcome and will handle subsequent administrative procedures. Successful applicants will receive an official communication via the email used for submitting the application.

Art. 6 – Grants and Payment Procedures

1. Successful applicants will receive financial support under Project PNRR/TNE EcoNet LATAM CUP D61I24000080006 to cover travel expenses and individual support, in accordance with the financial rules of Project TNE23-00091.
 - The airfare will be reimbursed for the actual cost (up to a maximum of € 1,500), upon submission of original receipts and boarding passes.
 - The mobility grant amounts to **€ 1,800 per month**, paid in two instalments:
 - **70%** upon arrival at the host institution/University of Siena, upon submission of the mobility start certificate;
 - **30%** after completion of the mobility, upon submission of the mobility end certificate.

Funds will be credited only after completion of accounting checks and related banking procedures. Delays may occur due to university accounting timelines, especially near year-end closures.

Failure to complete the requirements listed in Art. 8 will result in the **loss of the entire TNE-EcoNet LATAM grant**. The final instalment will not be paid and reimbursement of funds already received will be required in cases of:

- mobility duration shorter than the minimum required period;

- failure to complete the end-of-mobility requirements in Art. 8;
- withdrawal from studies, programme transfer, or internal change of programme between application and the end of mobility;
- obtaining the degree between application and the end of mobility.

Students participating in TNE–EcoNet LATAM mobility are exempt from paying tuition fees, registration fees, exam fees, and laboratory or library access fees at the host institution. However, small fees may apply (e.g., insurance, student unions, laboratory materials) similar to those paid by local students.

Students must not be charged additional fees relating to the organisation or administration of the mobility period.

Art. 7 – Candidate Selection

Applications will be assessed by a committee appointed by the Director, consisting of 3 to 5 members, serving until the end of the project.

Selection criteria – Training and Research Mobility (max score in brackets):

- a) Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum (25 points)
- b) Clarity and relevance of the Activity Project to the objectives of TNE–EcoNet LATAM (50 points)
- c) Language proficiency (10 points)
- d) Previous research experience abroad or in the selected host country (10 points)
- e) Recommendation letters (5 points)

Selection criteria – Study Mobility:

- a) Curriculum Vitae et Studiorum and exam grade average (40 points)
- b) Relevance of the Learning Agreement to the project objectives (35 points)
- c) Language proficiency (10 points)
- d) Previous study experience abroad or in the selected host country (10 points)
- e) Recommendation letters (5 points)

Applications scoring **below 40 points** will not be funded.

For foreign students:

The evaluation process will take place in two stages:

First stage:

The applicant's home university will check eligibility and rank the candidates based on the criteria listed above

Second stage:

The selected candidates will submit their application according to art. 5 and will be evaluated by the above Committee

Art. 8 – Obligations of Participants

Winners must correctly complete all procedures and respect all deadlines; otherwise, authorization for mobility and related funding will be revoked.

Winners must maintain student status at their home university for the entire mobility period and must renew their enrolment and pay all tuition fees as required.

Within 7 days of receiving the award communication, winners must accept or decline the grant via email; failure to respond results in forfeiture.

Art. 9 – Incompatibilities

The TNE–EcoNet LATAM mobility grant **is not compatible** with other mobility grants for the same period. It is the student's responsibility to verify any incompatibilities with other funding.

The mobility grant is compatible with PhD scholarship top-ups for periods abroad, provided neither the scholarship nor the top-up is funded by European funds.

Students selected for TNE–EcoNet LATAM mobility may **not**:

1. obtain their degree from the time of application until the end of mobility;
2. take exams at their home university during mobility;
3. request transfers, programme changes, or withdrawal from studies from application to end of mobility;
4. undertake other mobility periods abroad during TNE–EcoNet LATAM mobility;
5. carry out any activity requiring physical presence at the home university during mobility;
6. be in arrears with tuition payments at the home institution.

Art. 9 (sic) – Safety and Insurance

1. The University of Siena may suspend, modify, interrupt, or cancel mobility if safety conditions in the destination country require it (as assessed through the website *Viaggiare Sicuri*).
2. During the mobility period, participants will be covered by accident and liability insurance and by the “protected travel” policy taken out by the University (information available on the University website).
3. These guarantees exclude leisure activities, even if organized by associations or agencies. Health and hospitalization insurance is entirely the participant’s responsibility and must comply with the host country’s requirements.

Art. 10 – Personal Data Protection and Confidentiality

1. Processing of personal data will comply with EU Regulation 2016/679 (GDPR) and Legislative Decree 196/2003 as amended.



2. The Data Controller is the University of Siena. Data will be processed exclusively for managing the procedure and fulfilling publication requirements.
3. Providing personal data is mandatory. The privacy notice is available on the University website.

Art. 11 – Responsible Officer and Information

1. The officer responsible for the procedure is Dr. Caterina Ciabattini, Head of the Administrative Office of the Department of Political Economy and Statistics.
2. Requests for clarification or information may be sent to: amministrazione.deps@unisi.it

The Head of the Department

Prof. Filippo Belloc

The officer responsible for the procedure

Dr. Caterina Ciabattini