UNITA
universitas
montium

UNIVERSIDADE
BEIRA INTERIOR

UNIVERSITÉ
DE PAU ET DES
PAYS DE L'ADOUR

UNIVERSITÉ
SAVOIE
MONT BLANC

Universitatea de Vest
din Timișoara

UNIVERSITÀ
DI TORINO

Universidad
Zaragoza

Deliverable D5.10

Report on UNITA contests linked to sustainable development

WP5

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Abstract

(EN) This document describes the process of selecting and putting in practice two contests related to the sustainable development of the European Universities Alliance UNITA *Universitas Montium*'s physical campuses. The selected contests have taken place at all UNITA founding partners' locations, across six campuses in five European countries. They have offered students and staff in UNITA's communities the opportunity to engage with the concept of sustainability by either defining it themselves via photography or contributing to a more sustainable campus/city/region represented in our alliance through public spaces cleaning actions.

(PT) Este documento descreve o processo de seleção e de execução de dois concursos relacionados com o desenvolvimento sustentável nos *campus* físicos das Universidades Europeias da Aliança UNITA - *Universitas Montium*. Os concursos selecionados decorreram em todos os locais dos parceiros fundadores da UNITA, entre os seis *campus* de cinco países europeus. Estes concursos oferecem aos alunos e funcionários, das comunidades UNITA, a oportunidade de se envolverem no conceito de sustentabilidade, seja definindo-o por meio de fotografia ou contribuindo para um *campus*/cidade/região mais sustentável representado em nossa aliança por meio de ações de limpeza de espaços públicos.

(FR) Ce document décrit le processus de sélection de de mise en oeuvre des deux concours relatifs au développement durable des campus de l'Alliance d'Universités européennes UNITA Universitas Montium. Les concours sélectionnés ont eu lieu dans toutes les six universités fondatrices d'UNITA, situées dans cinq pays. Ils ont offert aux étudiantes, étudiants et membres du personnel d'UNITA l'opportunité de s'intéresser aux concepts de changement climatique et de durabilité, en les définissant eux-mêmes via des photographies ou en contribuant, au travers d'actions de nettoyage des espaces publics, à créer des campus, villes, régions plus durables.

(RO) Acest document descrie procesul de selecție și punere în practică a două concursuri dedicate dezvoltării sustenabile a campusurilor fizice ale alianței de universități europene UNITA *Universitas Montium*. Concursurile selectate au avut loc la toate locațiile partenerilor fondatori UNITA, în șase campusuri din cinci țări europene. Acestea au oferit studenților și personalului din comunitățile UNITA oportunitatea să intre în contact cu conceptul de sustenabilitate, fie definindu-l ei înșiși prin intermediul fotografiei, fie

contribuind la un campus/ un oraş/ o regiune mai sustenabil/ă reprezentat/ă în alianţa noastră, prin acţiuni de curăţare a spaţiilor publice.

(IT) Questo documento descrive il processo di selezione e messa in pratica di due concorsi relativi allo sviluppo sostenibile dei campus fisici dell'Alleanza universitaria europea UNITA Universitas Montium. I concorsi selezionati si sono svolti in tutte le sedi dei partner fondatori dell'UNITA, in sei campus di cinque paesi europei. Hanno offerto a studentesse, studenti e personale delle comunità UNITA l'opportunità di confrontarsi con il concetto di sostenibilità, definendolo essi stessi attraverso la fotografia o contribuendo a rendere più sostenibile un campus o una città/regione rappresentato/a nella nostra alleanza attraverso azioni di pulizia degli spazi pubblici.

(ES) Este documento describe el proceso de selección y puesta en práctica de dos concursos relacionados con el desarrollo sostenible de los campus físicos de la Alianza Europea de Universidades UNITA *Universitas Montium*. Los concursos seleccionados han tenido lugar en todas las localidades de las universidades fundadoras de UNITA en seis campus en cinco países de Europa. Se ha ofrecido a los estudiantes y al personal de las comunidades de UNITA la oportunidad de abordar el concepto de sostenibilidad, bien definiéndolo a través de una fotografía, bien contribuyendo en una región, una ciudad o un campus representado en nuestra Alianza a través de acciones de limpieza de espacios públicos.

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Executive Summary

This document describes the processes associated with proposing, selecting and implementing UNITA contests related to sustainable development of the alliance's campuses located at the six partner universities in five European countries. As per the project's objective these contests aim to contribute to community building, as well as community engagement with the concept of sustainability and with actions oriented towards developing the sustainable dimension of a European Alliance of Universities' transnational campus. It conveys the details about decisions made in order to achieve this task's objectives in a pandemic/ post-pandemic time, as well as methodologies used for:

- A transparent collection of contest proposals from students and staff and a transparent selection of two proposals for implementation;

- A cross-countries/ cross-universities implementation of selected contests in a coherent and connected manner, in the same month (April 2023).

Additionally, the document provides detailed descriptions of the ways in which the two contests were put in practice in the six campuses of UNITA located in Portugal, Spain, France, Italy and Romania.

1. Context and framework

UNITA - *Universitas Montium* is one of the European Universities Alliances supported by the European Commission under the European Universities Initiative. It is an alliance between six European comprehensive higher education institutions, from five different countries, located in mountainous, rural and cross-border regions, and speaking Romance languages. It aims to build an inspiring European inter-university campus (virtual and physical) based both on excellence in learning and teaching and on research and innovation for and with the territories.

In order to create the UNITA interuniversity campus it is important to develop not only the virtual/digital dimension of the campus, but also to support community-building and physical campus development actions. Task 5.4. of the project has the objective of improving UNITA student and staff life in the campus, while sub-task 5.4.2. refers to reaching this objective through UNITA contests related to the sustainable development of the campus. In order to reach the objectives of sub-task 5.4.2. UNITA contests linked to

sustainable development, the coordination of the task was shared between Universidade da Beira Interior and Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara, with a task force comprising representatives from each UNITA Universitas Montium partner university.

Due to restrictions related to the covid-19 pandemic and post-covid diversity of approaches and regulations in the five countries, the implementation of the task implementation was postponed and the decision was made to support the organization of two contests in the third year of the project, rather than two editions of the same contest in the second and third year of the project. This has allowed not only more time for an efficient organization, but a better, more diverse and more inclusive approach towards implementing common, correlated actions in order to contribute to the sustainable development of the UNITA campuses at alliance level, for both students and staff. It also offered more opportunities for participation as the actions proposed in the two contests are very different.

2. Methodologies and calls for UNITA contests linked to sustainable development

Ensuring a participatory, transparent and inclusive implementation of a task relating to the sustainable development of the UNITA campus(es) across six university locations in five European countries was of utmost importance to the task force. For this purpose, the organization of the contests relied on three methodologies:

1. Methodology for selecting contests to be implemented in UNITA in relation to the sustainable development of the campus

2. Call and methodology of implementation (related to the first selected contest proposal): photo contest

3. Call and methodology of implementation (related to the second selected contest proposal): environmental cleaners contest

It was agreed in the task force that proposed contest ideas would involve BOTH students and staff no matter if the initial idea was designed only for one of these categories, for the purpose of better connecting the two categories in relation to UNITA actions.

2.1. Methodology for selecting contests to be implemented in UNITA in relation to the sustainable development of the campus

In order to reach the objectives of Task 5.4.2. UNITA contests linked to sustainable development, the coordination of the task was shared between Universidade da Beira Interior and Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara, with a task force comprising representatives from each UNITA Universitas Montium partner university.

In order to attain an increased engagement of students and staff in the development of the project's actions, as per our vision of an open, inclusive, participatory community, firstly the task-force invited the UNITA Students' Assembly and the UNITA offices staff to submit proposals for contests to be organized across the six campuses. The UNITA Students' Assembly organized a call for the expression of project proposals, submitting a list of proposals subsequently to the task-force coordinator, while the UNITA offices staff proposed contests directly to the task-force coordinator. The project proposal submission calendar took into account holidays and different academic calendars of the six universities and was flexible, including a period of more than three months between December 2022 and February 2023.

The proposals received from the UNITA Students Assembly and the UNITA offices staff were the following:

Proposal	Type of contest (STUDENT/STAFF)	Summarized description
Photo contest for students to show the impact of climate change on their environment	Student/ Staff contest	Propose a photo contest for students to show the impact of climate change on their environment. My idea would be to launch it simultaneously in all the univ., so we would have pictures from the 5 UNITA countries. We would then select the best pictures according to a list of criteria previously written and organize an exhibition with the chosen pictures in all our univ. The winners get their pictures properly printed at the end of the exhibition period.

Proposal	Type of contest (STUDENT/STAFF)	Summarized description
Concerts in which musical groups of students from the different universities of the alliance	Student contest	Concerts in which musical groups of students from the different universities of the alliance perform in a "competition". Each university organizes independently but at the same time, providing for some remote connection (even if it were just the sharing of videos/images or a greeting in streaming between cities). Then in each city you could award a group and have them play together at a concert during the annual Unita event.
Writing project- talk about how they feel about "nature", its degradation and its future	Student contest	With our association we started this writing project, where everyone can talk about how they feel about "nature", its degradation and its future. This pack of letters would not support scientifically the data on climate change, loss of biodiversity and how to change that but it would bring an emotional point of view that could move everyone. Thus we could put some pressure on our universities, maybe governments etc in order to change things.
Event for students and researchers to show their progress on sustainable research projects	Student/ Staff contest	We thought of organizing an event for students and researchers at each university to show their progress on sustainable research. They'd sign up for an oral presentation and/or scientific poster demonstration and all the community could have access to, in order to be more aware and learn about certain sustainable subjects / problems / possible solutions. Depending on the budget we could make it more international and have foreign researchers from other UNITA universities come and present their work, like an exchange. If that gets too expensive, each university would host their own researchers only.

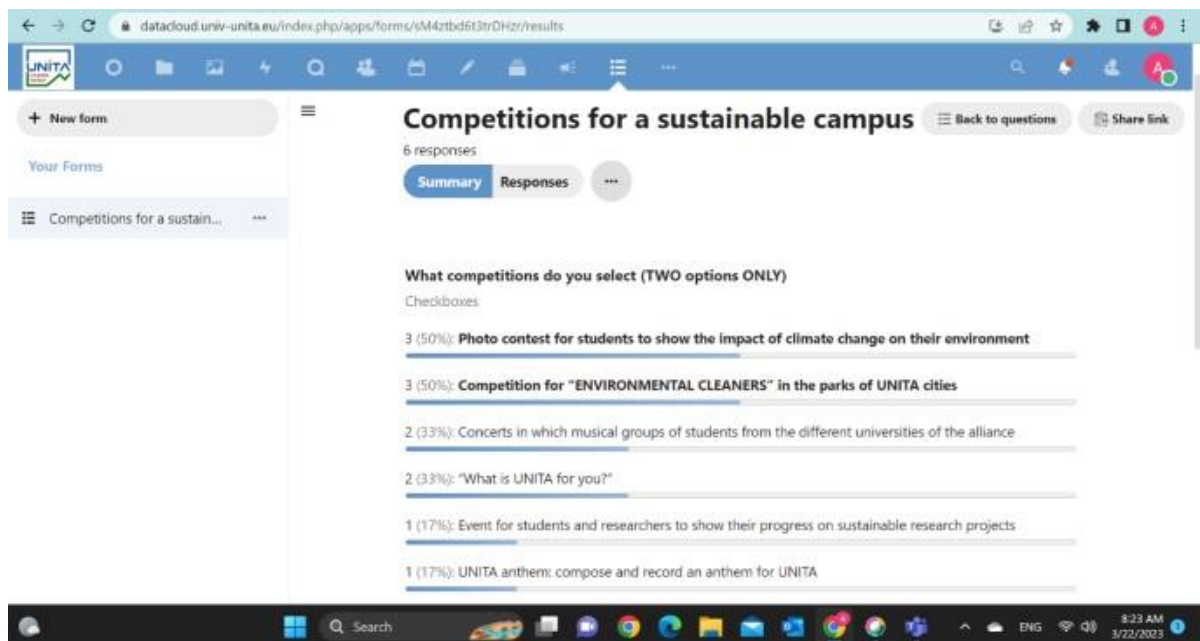| Proposal	Type of contest (STUDENT/STAFF)	Summarized description
"What is UNITA for you?"	Student/ Staff contest	"What is UNITA for you and how can it change your life in the university?", a contest of answers under the form of a photo, a video or a short essay about what students and staff think UNITA is and how they envision its' potential to change their student/staff life in the university.
Artistic contest: create any form of art in relation to sustainable development- pictures or video	Student contest	[X] Artistic contest (money/gifts): Create any form of art in relation to sustainable development and share it with pictures or on the universities.
Develop a project of improvement of something in your campus in a sustainable way	Student contest	[X] More sustainable campus (money/gifts): Imagine one campus of the alliance but more sustainable (Drawing, physical model, numerical 3D model,...)
UNITA anthem: compose and record an anthem for UNITA	Student contest	UNITA anthem (it becomes the official anthem) : Compose and record an anthem for UNITA
Questions on the regions of the universities and their culture, Europe, the EU the universities	Student contest	Quiz UNITA (gifts): Questions on the regions of the universities and their culture, on Europe and the EU and on the universities>>

Proposal	Type of contest (STUDENT/STAFF)	Summarized description
Competition for "ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANERS" in the parks of UNITA cities	Student contest	Competition for "environmental cleaners" in the parks of our cities, Rotating in different places or at the same time in different cities. The participants are the students of each university: running around to clean our parks and collect as much waste as they can. Once the wastes have been weighed, the team that has collected the most wins. Teams of 10-15 people. Event in collaboration with the city's cleaning services for the necessary tools to collect wastes and to make them recycle everything at the end. Other community businesses into environmental protection can provide the rewards (+ the Universities). The goal is to cultivate good habits, respect for the environment and nature, making sure that these are accepted and not faced as a burden. The daily gestures that contribute to safeguarding the planet must not become another commitment to manage and worry about, but rather a simple satisfactory task to complete, such as a competition with prizes. We can add: games on recycling, water tasting courses to become "Water Sommelier" and reduce the consumption of plastic bottles - an all-Italian problem -, promote carpooling, etc... It is possible to calculate an idea of the necessary budget and of the personnel needed, based on an old project I already completed.

In parallel, a committee for evaluating the projects and selecting the final two to be implemented, as well as a methodology for implementation, were organized and approved by the UNITA Management Committee of March 9th 2023. The committee was made up of representatives of each partner university, including students, UNITA offices staff, Work Package and Task coordinators, as well as vice-rectors:

University	Function	Name	E-mail
UVT	UNITA WP5 coordinator	Vlad Sergiu Petcu	vlad.petcu@e-uvt.ro
USMB	UNITA office USMB coordinator	Amandine Fleurier	amandine.fleurier@univsmb.fr
UBI	UNITA Task 5.4. UBI coordinator	João Neves	jcneves@di.ubi.pt
UNIZAR	Vice-rector	Francisco Beltrán Lloris	fbeltran@unizar.es
UNITO	Student	Carla Fois	carla.fois@edu.unito.it
UPPA	Student	Pauline Sonnier	pauline.sonnier@etud.univ.pau.fr

The selection committee cast their vote individually and transparently in March 2023 by using the Forms option on the UNITA DataCloud:

https://datacloud.univunita.eu/index.php/apps/forms/sM4ztbd6t3trDHzr.

Each committee member was to vote for two projects and the committee would meet only if places 2 and 3 obtained an equal number of votes. This approach was agreed on, as during the last year the UNITA alliance has been making efforts in supporting actions oriented towards community-building and if more than two projects would have a similar amount of votes or places 2 and 3 would obtain a similar amount of votes, we took into account putting in practice more than two proposals.

The two competitions which won, with an equal number of votes, based on the selection made by the committee were the following:

- **Photo contests for students to show the impact of climate change on their environment**, proposed by the UNITA office at USMB;
- **Competition for environmental cleaners in the parks of UNITA cities**, proposed by Edoardo Miserere of UniTo as part of the collection of proposals from the Students' Assembly.

For each contest/competition, each UNITA partner university will organize the event according to a common call and in the same time frame agreed at alliance level in order to ensure a participation as wide as possible, with a separate committee in each university to select the winners (1st prize, 2nd prize, 3rd prize). There will be three prizes offered for each contest/ competition in each university: 1st prize: 200 EUR, 2nd prize: 150 EUR, 3rd prize 100 EUR.

2.2. General call and methodology of implementation: photo contest

The UNITA green photo contest offers UNITA university members the possibility to photograph experiences and visions of sustainability. All UNITA members are encouraged to submit entries. Registration for the competition is free of charge.

THEME

The chosen theme for the photo contest is **the impact of climate change on our environment**. The goal of this contest is to photograph expressions of the impact of climate change on our environment. The candidates must catch in their photos the essence of this phenomenon, reflecting it in their different manifestations and/or showing the new realities transforming the lives of human beings.

ELIGIBILITY

The photo contest is open to UNITA students, teaching staff, researchers, and administrative/services staff. Photographs must have been taken or produced by the person submitting the work, must be original and must not have been previously exhibited or taken part in any other competition.

PRIZES

Each university will have its own jury. Each jury will award the prizes to the participants from their university. The jury's decision will be final and the authors will be informed by email. The works will be selected by the jury on the basis of artistic relevance and their connection to the theme. Three winners per university will be selected. UNITA will showcase photographs in several marketing initiatives, such as websites, social media, advertisements, e-newsletters, brochures, exhibitions, etc. The three winners in each university will receive prizes. If the winners are students: first prize (200 euros), second prize (150 euros) and the third prize (100 euros) respectively. If the winners are staff members: please check internal regulations at each university. An exhibition with the winning photographs from all the UNITA universities will be organized in each university later on. The prizes will be paid for by the UNITA Budget at the six UNITA partners.

GUIDELINES

Submission Guidelines:

Photographs must be sent to one of the following e-mail addresses, depending on the university they want to take part in:

Universidad de Zaragoza (UNIZAR) must be sent to: unitacontact@unizar.es

Università Torino (UNITO) must be sent via: https://forms.gle/oVk4unPPLqVUjqXf8

Universidade da Beira Interior (UBI) must be sent to: unita@ubi.pt

Université de Pau et des Pays de L'Adour (UPPA) must be sent to: unita@univ-pau.fr

Université Savoie Mont Blanc (USMB) must be sent to: unita.office@univ-smb.fr

Universitatea de Vest din Timișoara (UVT) must be sent to: unita@e-uvt.ro

Each participant may only present a maximum of one piece of work (one single photograph or a series).

In the text of your email, you must include the following:

- Your full name
- Location of the image
- The title of your piece
- Brief sentence by the artist stating that the photo is an original piece of work and the fruit of his/her own work.
- You will also need to include this declaration in the body of your email: *"I _____(type your full name here)___ give permission for UNITA to use my photographs for promotional purposes in print and web materials."*

Deadline for submissions: 28th of April 2023. Entries received after the deadline or deemed inappropriate will not be considered.

Photographs:

Single Image competition or Photographic Essay / Series of photographs (Maximum 7 images related to each other)

For either option (Single or Series) the technical requirements for the images are the same.

- File format: JPEG
- Maximum file size: 10 MB
- Longest side length: 2000 px
- File resolution: 72 dpi
- The file should be renamed (for SINGLE IMAGE): university_surname_first name_ title of the photograph.jpeg…for example: unizar_smith_mary_my photo title.jpeg
- The file should be renamed (for SERIES): university_surname_first name_title01.jpeg… university_surname_first name_title02.jpeg… etc.

Disclaimer:

UNITA assumes no responsibility for submissions that are incorrect, damaged, destroyed, lost, late, incomplete, illegible, altered or misdirected. UNITA also assumes no responsibility for any damage or loss resulting from or related to the photo contest. By submitting photos for this contest, participants declare they understand all of the rules and regulations of the competition.

By entering the contest you certify that any photos submitted are of your authorship and that you own the rights to distribute them. You certify that these photos do not belong to someone else and are not protected by any copyright. You acknowledge that individual(s) who appear in the photographs have provided permission to be included.

You grant UNITA permission to reproduce any submitted images for the purposes of publicity, marketing, and communications.

Participants will be responsible for any claims from third parties in relation to image rights or any other rights derived from the intellectual property law applicable.

2.3. General call and methodology of implementation: environmental cleaners contest

The UNITA green contest "ME&U TO CLEAN EU" offers UNITA university members the possibility to take part in green activities, foster respect for the environment and urban public spaces, making sure that such good practices are commonly accepted and not considered as a burden.

OBJECTIVE:

To foster respect for the environment, for our urban public spaces and more in general to build a more sustainable world changing the little gestures of every-day life. The daily practices that contribute to safeguarding the planet should not be considered as a burden, but rather a simple, satisfactory task to complete, such as a competition with prizes.

The event has been divided into two different moments:

- during the morning: dialogues, conferences and games open to the general population. Professors from the home university will meet local citizens inside the University facilities to talk about topics related to the environment (air/water/soil pollution, renewable and green energies, re-use, waste management, mobility, bio materials). The organizers and the institutions involved will propose games and activities to participants (water sommeliers, waste sorting quiz,..).
- during the afternoon: the contest will take place.

Participants will create their own teams, receive the necessary tools to collect wastes and will clean up a specific public area or public park. The team collecting the biggest amount of litter will win (more details below). The competition will drive the participants to think about the environment, sustainability and green behaviors for every EU citizen. The organizers will collaborate with the local waste management agency to gain support in withdrawing the garbage collected during the competition and in providing the necessary items to participate (trash bags, protective gloves, waste collection tongs).

WHEN AND WHERE

Early May 2023. Park or common area of the city.

ELIGIBILITY

The competition is open to students, teaching staff, researchers and administrative staff from the member Universities of the Alliance UNITA *Universitas Montium*. Students and Staff from UNITA partner universities are encouraged to apply, free of charge.

ACTIVITIES

Participant students and staff will be divided into teams: each student or staff can create the name of the team and add colleagues or other students (a minimum of 3 people and a maximum of 10 people per team). Anyone willing to participate can decide to create a team on its own or enter the UNITA team (to gather who does not have the chance to create an entire team). During the competition the teams will have to collect as much litter as possible inside the bounded area defined on a map (parks, green or common areas). It is strongly recommended to have a "start line" of the competition where a table and a gazebo can be placed to be a reference point for the participants. It should be the same place as the "finish line", where the teams will deliver all the wastes they have collected: to be weighted and evaluated. Additional gloves and bags can be useful. Remember to take with you a first-aid kit. Every team must collect litter during the whole period of the competition (2 hours): the first three teams who collected the biggest amount of litter and who made the best sorting will be rewarded at the end of the event. An evaluation committee (composed by members of the institutions involved in the organization of the event) will select the best teams by assigning three different sets of scores:

- The first 5 teams that have collected the heaviest quantity of wastes will each receive a point from 5 to 1;
- from 1 to 5 points will be assigned from every member of the committee to every team, based on the quality of waste-sorting. The score attributed for this evaluation set will be calculated as the media between the scores assigned by each member;
- little bags (of a standardized dimension for every team) will be distributed before the start of the competition: every bag of "cigarette butts" collected will count as 0,5 points assigned to the team. The final score assigned to each team is the result of the sum of the three sets of scores listed above.

PRIZES

The prizes can include green gadgets, discounts on green mobilities, tickets for green travels and/or monetary prizes.

GUIDELINES

Registration Guidelines:

Subscriptions must be sent by filling the following online form. Each University will create its own. The competition will involve a maximum number of 200 participants. Each team will involve a minimum number of 3 participants and a maximum number of 10 participants. Participants are required not to collect litter from dangerous places or litter that cannot be carried easily: such litter can be indicated to organizers, who will report the object to personnel entitled and equipped for recovery from the local waste management agency.

Deadline for registration: at least one week before the event.

Disclaimer: By submitting their enrollment for this contest, participants declare they understand and accept all of the rules and regulations of the competition.

3. Photo contest:
implementation at UNITA partner universities, specifics, brief description and photographic report

The photo contests organized by the UNITA European Universities Alliance partners have had the purpose of capturing the impact of climate change on the environment through UNITA students' and staff's photographic "eyes". The contest was uniformly organized throughout the alliance in the month of April 2023, with each university choosing its' winners and offering them prizes. The brief description of each partner's actions is available below, followed by a photographic report of the UNITA environmental cleaners contests organized in the partner universities' localities in Portugal, Spain, France, Italy and Romania.

 UBI: The photography contest was launched at UBI on April 19th, 2023 and ended on April 28th, 2023, in this link: https://www.ubi.pt/Sites/unita/en/Pagina/unita_calls. However, at the end of the contest, there had been no participation submissions.

For this reason, the application deadline was extended and publicity for the competition was reinforced, by email, on May 8th with a final deadline on May 10th. There were a total of 10 participants (5 are students, 3 administrative staff and 2 academic staff).

A jury made of 3 people (2 academic staff and 1 administrative staff) vote for the 3 winners (meeting minute available), who will be offered monetary prizes as per the call:

- 1st prize: "Last Man Standing" by Rafael Carvalho Rodrigues;

- 2nd prize: "Tentar Resistir" by João Carlos Gonçalves Lanzinha; and

- 3rd prize: "As Poeiras Africanas" by Sara Pereira Tavares

UNIZAR: The photo contest (Concurso de Fotografía verde UNITA) was launched at UNIZAR on 10 April, 2023 through a Call published on the Official Channel (Tablón de Anuncios de la Universidad de Zaragoza), and through the section of UNIZAR's website dedicated to International Activities. Students and Staff were invited to participate. Two modalities were possible although the competition was a single one: single photographs or photographic essays of up to seven photographs. The submission deadline was 23:59 on 28 April, 2023. Besides the Official Publication of the call and its posting on the website, several communications were made using channels such as Social Media and UNIZAR's Daily

Newsletter (iUnizar). A total of twelve participated, out of which eleven were students. A jury of 5 people (Academic Staff and 2 Administrative staff members) was in charge of awarding the prizes. The winners were:

> 1st price: Francisco Rojas Heredia (student) with the single photograph "Metamorfosis Antropogénica Forzosa"
>
> 2nd prize: Raúl Calvera de la Cadena (student) with the four-photograph essay: "Sin Humanos solo Queda Hormigón y Acero"
>
> 3rd prize: Silvia Corrales Moya (student) with the single photograph: "Embalse de la Sotonera Vacío".
>
> The winners were officially announced and published on the "Tablón de Anuncios de la Universidad de Zaragoza" on 9 May, 2023 and they were also notified by e-mail. All photographs will be published on Students' social media along the next two months.

 UPPA: The photography contest was launched at UPPA on April 5th, 2023 and ended on April 28th, 2023. Communication was made by email both through the students and staff's networks. Moreover, a specific link on the UPPA website was created to promote the contest: https://organisation.univ-pau.fr/fr/grands-projets/unita/agenda/concoursphoto.html. As only a few participants applied, the communication was intensified from the 17th to the 28th April. But finally, only 5

participants (4 staff, 1 student) proposed their pictures. A jury of 3 people (1 academic staff and 2 administrative staff) met to award the prizes to the 3 following winners:

1st prize   Viviane DELPECH (staff) : La renaissance du désert

2nd prize Luc MIGOTTO (student) : Les dessous du Mont Blanc

3rd prize Julie LAFAILLE (staff) : L'altération du Gréziolles

USMB: The winner of the photo contest at USMB was Adili Claire, with the photography titled *Du lac à la flaque*.

 UNITO: The Photo contest at UNITO was launched the 19th of april and was closed the 28th of April. In total 36 participants (33 students, 2 administrative staff and 1 academic staff). The call was launched here: https://en.unito.it/sites/sten/files/photo_contest_call_eng.docx.pdf. The commission based of 3 people gathered to find the 3 winners, who will be awarded monetary prizes as per the call:

1st prize: LEONARDO BERTON – *Dopo la tempesta;*

2nd prize: TOMMASO PROTTI – *Quello che resta 05*

3rd prize: LUCREZIA DI SANTE – *Sguardo su un futuro incerto*

UVT: The Photography Contest at UVT was launched on the 14th of April and was closed on the 28th of April 2023 on the UVT website and all the social media platforms which reach our students' community. A total of 19 students applied for the call and the three winners were announced via e-mail and on the website call, accessible here: https://www.uvt.ro/unita/concurs-de-fotografie-unita-impactul-schimbarilor-climaticeasupra-mediului-inconjurator/. The jury was composed of one member from the UNITA Office UVT, WP5 UVT Coordinator and WP6 member. Each of the jury members graded the submissions on a scale from 1 to 10 and the results are based on an arithmetic mean.

1st prize: ROSACEAE, Crețu Gabriela

2nd prize: Efecte ale schimbărilor climatice, Cărămidă Maria-Lavinia

3rd prize: Save our planet, Pungilă Damaris

4. Environmental cleaners contest:
implementation at UNITA partner universities, specifics, brief description and photographic report

The environmental cleaners contest was organized in all UNITA campuses and it reflected very well two situations that every alliance faces: 1. particularities in each university can be overcome in an integration process if room is left for a flexible approach to reaching the general objective; 2. the role of universities in their local ecosystems can and should

be supported by alliances' objectives. Thus, for the purpose of a cleaner local environment, all six UNITA university partners have organized a student contest focused on this idea in spring 2023, with each university offering "green" and/or monetary prizes to participants and winners. The brief description of each partner's actions is available below, followed by a photographic report of the UNITA environmental cleaners contests organized in Covilha, Zaragoza, Pau, Chambery, Torino and Timisoara.

UBI: The Cleaners contest was launched at UBI on May 5th, 2023 and ended on May 10th, 2023, in this link: https://www.ubi.pt/Evento/11579. For the organization of this contest some setbacks arose:

- lack of spaces on the university campus that needed cleaning;

- to organize cleaning in municipal spaces it would be necessary more time to obtain all the authorizations in a timely manner;

- to organize transport for trips to Serra da Estrela would be necessary more time for registration so that transport could be rented later; and

- holding interesting workshops and lectures would require more time for teachers to prepare (this was not made).

A slight change has been made to the contest but maintaining its essence. The "ME&U TO CLEAN EU" challenge at UBI consists of collecting as many food containers as possible (with lids), which will be donated to the local solidarity association, so that they can have a new life and serve meals to the neediest. That is, instead of picking up garbage from the ground, we avoid producing more garbage, which is also a form of cleaning. The winning team will receive green prizes, namely ecological and reusable items. At the end of the term, only one team registered, with 2 elements, having collected 14 reusable packaging.

UNIZAR: The "ME&U TO CLEAN EU" Contest at UNIZAR, being a one-day action, was launched at UNIZAR on 8 May, 2023 through a Call published on the Official Channel (Tablón de Anuncios de la Universidad de Zaragoza), and through the section of UNIZAR's website dedicated to International Activities. Only students were eligible to participate. Because the territory covered by UNIZAR is the whole Community of Aragón, because there are

different and distant campuses along that territory and also because it was desirable to give all students the same chance to participate in at least this first environmental action, it was proposed as a big "Brain-Storming Activity" where all students could propose a specific small area within the Community of Aragón to be cleaned or environmentally maintained, while the method to do so was also to be proposed. The activity took place on 11 May, 2023 from 10:00 to 18:00. During those eight hours proposals were received physically on the San Francisco Campus and via e-mail from all campuses. The criteria used to grant the prizes will be that the area proposed is really in need of environmental action and second (but as important) the practicality of the action/method proposed. The jury is composed of five members (1 Member of the Academic Staff, 3 Members of the Administrative Staff related to UNITA or the Environmental Office at UNIZAR and 1 PhD student). The members of the jury were sent all 58 valid proposals and the winning action is expected to be implemented in the second phase of the Alliance.

 UPPA: The cleaner contest was launch at UPPA on April 5th in this link https://www.univ-pau.fr/fr/agenda/enfin-jeudi/archives/ej2023/enfin-jeudi-rencontreaction-marre-des-crados-2.html. A slight change has been made at UPPA UNITA office as we join an event that was already planned by associations. Indeed the operation was called "Marre des Crados" and not ME&U TO CLEAN EU. Students, administrative staff and teaching staff were invited to participate in the conferences that were given in the morning and at the clean up walk during the afternoon. No registration was needed and participants could arrive until 2pm in front of the Presidency of UPPA to join the clean walk. During the day, the organization was the following one: in the morning several conferences were given: a welcome session were Eden Viana-Martin Vice President of Student Life and Pascal Mora mayor of Gelos, as well as a conference on diffuse waste was organized by Mr. Ahmed Allal with a superb creation of @univercine.uppa; in the afternoon, we gave an appointment to all the participants in front of the presidency at 2pm to clean the three colleges of UPPA and then finish with a snack offered by the associations. Gloves and garbage bags were provided by the city of Gelos. Mohammed Sekkal from the Pau congregation was present to help weigh the garbage and sort what could be recycled out. At the end the 16 participants were offered lunch boxes. At the end of the one and a half hour challenge, the participants managed to collect 1kg per person and per hour of garbage and a total of 24kg. The participants were offered UNITA goodies and and a communication was published on UPPA social media on April 30th https://www.instagram.com/p/Crp_qTJgMa_/

USMB: At USMB the UNITA Office opted for implementing the sustainable campus and local cleaning actions through cleaning walks. Two cleaning walks organized during the SEES (Student Week of Ecology & Solidarity): https://www.univ-smb.fr/espaceetudiant/event/semaine-etudiante-de-lecologie-et-de-la-solidarite-sees-campus-jacob/:

27   March 2023, 12pm – 3 pm, organized by the University and the City of Chambéry. 4 students, 30kg collected. https://www.univ-smb.fr/espace-etudiant/event/seescleanwalk-campus-jacob/
28   March 2023, 12pm – 3 pm, organized by the University and the City of Chambéry. 7 students, 22kg collected. https://www.univ-smb.fr/espace-etudiant/event/seescleanwalk-campus-jacob-2/

Other walks have been organized during the European Week for Waste Reduction:

24 November 2022, 1pm – 3pm, organized by a Student Association (Univert), 17 students, 50kg collected. https://www.univ-smb.fr/espace-etudiant/event/semaine-europeennede-reduction-des-dechets-campus-bourget/
25 November 2022, 12pm – 3pm, organized by the University and the City of Chambéry), 7 students, 31kg collected https://www.univ-smb.fr/espace-etudiant/event/semaineeuropeenne-de-reduction-des-dechets-campus-jacob/

UNITO: The contest was organized at Campus Luigi Einaudi at UniTO on May 12th 2023. In the morning students participated in 3 conferences about sustainable food, cycling and circular economy and waste. Participants in the morning session: 31. In the afternoon, the Me & U contest was scheduled, but due to very bad weather conditions, it had to be canceled. The students who joined the contest were involved in an open dialogue on waste sorting and ideas on how to spread knowledge about this important topic in local communities. Registered participants: 71. Actual participants: 25. All participants received green gadgets and UNITA gadgets.

UVT: UNITA ME&U to Clean EU was launched at UVT on the 25th of April 2023 on UVT's website and all social media platforms and is accessible here: https://www.uvt.ro/unita/concurs-cu-premii-unita-meu-to-clean-eu/. Participants had time to register their 4 member teams until the third of May, one day prior to the competition. On the 4th of May at 10:00 AM EET a total of three teams composed of 12 members joined

the contest in order to win the prizes. The teams had two hours at disposal in order to collect as much recyclable garbage from the surroundings of the Students Complex in Timișoara. At the end of the two hour competition the teams managed to collect 90 KG of uncontaminated recyclable garbage which they sorted afterwards.   The teams were offered Liberty Marathon Vouchers, monetary prizes, attendance certificates and UNITA promotional goodies.

5. Impact

The purpose of the student and staff contests organized by the partners of the UNITA European Universities Alliance during spring 2023 had a double purpose:

- **community building** through connecting students and staff affiliated to UNITA through two common actions focused on campus sustainability, local environment and ecology, organized at alliance level;

- putting **campus sustainability, the local environment and ecology on the UNITA community's agenda** and underlining the role and impact of the academic student and staff community, as well as the university overall, in the sustainability of the local ecosystem.

The importance of organizing two UNITA events/competitions in each location of the alliance's partners has been essential to contributing to a more connected community and to a stronger connection between our physical campuses, especially in the aftermath of the pandemic. Moreover, the fact that the two contests have been organized following a **democratic process of concept proposals involving the UNITA Students Assembly, followed by a selection at alliance level**, illustrates the important role of students in community building actions, as well as a deeper and deeper degree of integration in the consortium. Last, but not least, two main outcomes could be identified at the end of this activity:

- both contests have developed a **long-term impact beyond their initial objective** (the photo contest will be followed by an UNITA itinerant exhibition of the winning photos in each partner university and the exhibition will involve the university libraries as locations for showcasing the photos; the environmental cleaners contest has offered the context for developing long-standing partnerships between the UNITA universities and local initiatives dedicated to a more sustainable local environment/ campus.

- both contests have stirred interest in the UNITA campuses and communities and will become **recurrent activities of the alliance**. All partners agree that while it is difficult to find periods of time where all academic calendars allow for common actions to be organized, the month of April is suited for this type of competitions, especially as a complementary activity or a prequel to many universities other specific "Green" months/weeks.