



**UNITAFRICA**

*Empowering the Academic Cooperation between Italy and Africa for fostering the quality and effectiveness of the higher education systems in a mutual learning environment*

TNE23-00050 - CUP D81124000280007

## **EXTENDED PROGRAMME**

### **Advanced Skills Course**

#### **Innovating Higher Education:**

### **Strengthening Africa–Italy Collaboration through Joint Pathways for SDGs 2030 and Agenda 2063**

**Day 1: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

***INTERNATIONALIZATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEMS IN ITALY AND AFRICA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT***

Place: Palazzo Bettoni Via Gramsci, 17

**Morning: Introduction to Italian & African Higher Education Systems and challenges of transnational education**

9.30 Welcome Coffee & Registration

10.00 Institutional Greetings - **Roberto Ranzi, Corrado Paganelli, Advisory Board**

10.15 Introduction to the Winter Course - **Sabrina Sorlini**

10.30 Challenges of the Italian Higher Education and the role of the TNE Programmes – **Michele Mazzola (on-line)**

11.00 Challenges of the African Higher Education and the role of the TNE Programmes - **Daniel Duah**

11.30 Presentation of Italian Higher Education Systems - **Valentina Resaz**

11.50 Presentation of African Higher Education Systems - **Sossé Ndiaye, West Africa; Benard Mwakisunga, East Africa**

12.10 Decolonizing Knowledge and Right Based Perspective to Inclusive Education - **Azubike Onuora-Oguno**

12.30 Discussion

**13.00 – 14.30 Lunch Break**



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### **Afternoon: Internationalization of Higher Education Systems in Italy and Africa**

- 14.30 Importance of Transnational Education to improve the quality of Higher Education Systems: the UNITAFRICA Project - **Sabrina Sorlini**
- 15.00 Internationalization of Higher Education in Italy: the experience of the University of Brescia - **Roberto Ranzi**
- 15.30 Connections in PhD programmes - **Costantino De Angelis**
- 16.00-16.30 Coffee Break**
- 16.30 Creating joint degree programmes as a tool to connect Education Systems - **Carmen Marchiori**
- 17.00 Students and teaching staff mobilities as a tool to increase connections among Universities - **Aiko Terao**
- 17.30 Discussion
- 18.00 Conclusion

### **Day 2: Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

#### **EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT & TEACHING METHODOLOGIES**

Place: Salone Apollo, Rector's building - Piazza del Mercato 15

#### **9.00 Institutional Greetings**

*Francesco Castelli, Rector of the University of Brescia*

*Federico Manzoni, Deputy Mayor of the Municipality of Brescia*

#### **Morning: The role of Education in promoting sustainable development**

- 9.30 Education for Sustainable Development according to Agenda 2030 - **Francesco Castelli**
- 10.00 Education for Sustainable Development according to Agenda 2063: vision from Africa - **Sossé Ndiaye, Daniel Duah**
- 10.30-11.00 Coffee Break**
- 11.00 Innovation of the Education System: the experience of UNIBS - **Daniela Bosisio, Manuela Milani**

#### **Morning – Part 1: Innovative teaching methodologies in class**

- 11.30 Innovative teaching methods in class - LAB Activity - **Giampaolo Sabino**
- 12.30 Discussion

**13.00 – 14.30 Lunch Break**



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Place: Club House, Rector's building - Piazza del Mercato 15

### **Afternoon - Part 2: Innovative teaching methodologies online**

- 14.30 Digital Classrooms, Global Citizens: Shaping Talent, Equity, and Competitiveness through Virtual Education - **Amina Gaye**
- 15.00 Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) and science communication: bridging global online learning and classroom education - **Fabian Suter**
- 15.30 Potentialities of the PIT in UnitAfrica Project and Practical Guide to its use – LAB Activity - **Marcella Distefano (online)**

### **Afternoon - Part 3: Other innovative teaching methodologies**

- 16.30 Applied didactic opportunities - **Francesca Carbone**
- 17.00 Service Learning for Innovative Education - **Sara Bornatici**
- 17.30 Social inclusion and disability: innovative technological education for people with disabilities - **Alberto Arengi, Daniel Duah**
- 17.30 Discussion
- 18.00 Conclusion

## **Day 3: Wednesday Morning 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

### **THEMATIC MODULE 1: SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**

Place: Aula Riunioni e Seminari Ingegneria - Via Branze 43

**Coordinators:** *Sabrina Sorlini, Mentore Vaccari, Angelo Mazzù*

- 9.00 Presentation of Educational offer by Italian and African Universities and the process of its periodical update - **Sabrina Sorlini, Hamdiyah Alhassan, Djicknoum Diouf, Angelo Mazzù, Atumane Ussene, etc. (10 minutes each)**
- 10.00 Roundtable/interview on feedback and suggestions from students to improve international education - **UNIBS Master/PhD & incoming PhD students**
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee Break**
- 11.30 Group work and interactive activities for the discussion of possible collaborations among Italian and African Universities in HE (facilitation techniques for optimizing group outcomes) - **Marta Domini**

**13.00 – 14.30 Lunch Break**



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### Day 3: Wednesday Afternoon 17<sup>th</sup> December 2025

#### THEMATIC MODULE 2: INCLUSIVE BUILDINGS, CITIES AND UNIVERSITIES

Place: Aula Riunioni e Seminari Ingegneria - Via Branze 43 (14.30 – 18.00)

**Coordinators:** *Alberto Arengi, Barbara Angi*

- Inclusive, usable, accessible buildings and cities: why and how teach the importance and the meaning of these topics and concepts (Italian and African approaches)
- Towards inclusive universities: the Italian organization
- Humans-environment co-production
- Discussion and presentation of experiences developed by Italian and African Universities to update the educational offer

#### **16.00-16.30 Coffee Break**

- Interaction between the University and the Territory to improve the quality of HE
- Presentation of experiences and case studies on applied education (students' master theses)
- Work group and interactive activities for the discussion of possible collaborations among Italian and African Universities in HE (facilitation techniques for optimizing group outcomes on: needs and priorities in Education on inclusive buildings, possible areas for cooperation and knowledge exchange between Italian and African Universities)

### Day 4: Thursday Morning 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025

#### THEMATIC MODULE 3: HEALTH, HYGIENE, ONE HEALTH

Place: Aula Riunioni e Seminari Ingegneria - Via Branze 43

**Coordinators:** *Alberto Matteelli, Donatella Placidi, Gerald Lwande*

9:00 Presentation of Educational offer by Italian and African Universities - **Donatella Placidi, Gerald Lwande**

10:00 Discussion and presentation of experiences developed by Italian and African Universities

- The TropED Course – **Alberto Matteelli**
- The cooperation between Unibs and Rucu (Tanzania) - **Donatella Placidi**
- Universal Health and climate change – **Gerald Lwande**
- Mental health for education – **Jessica Dagani**
- The experience with KNUST University – **Roberto Ronca**
- Education on essential and emergency care in Mozambique - **Michele Bertoni**

#### **11.00-11.30 Coffee Break**

11:30 Work group and interaction - application for research interventions

#### **13.00 – 14.30 Lunch Break**



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**Day 4: Thursday Afternoon 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

### **THEMATIC MODULE 4: AGRICULTURE IN TRANSITION: PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS**

Place: Aula Riunioni e Seminari Ingegneria - Via Branze 43

**Coordinators:** *Isabella Ghiglieno, Giulia Ferronato*

- Courses and Curricula
  - Presentation of Educational offer in Italian/English language by Italian and African Universities, course structure and programmes on key themes: Food security, Sustainable intensification, Impact assessment, Nutrient circularity, Ecosystem regeneration and resilience
  - Comparative discussion of course structures and programmes  
Speakers: Hamdiyah Alhassan, Ousmane Kane
- Educational Offer
  - Discussion and presentation of experiences developed by Italian and African Universities to update the educational offer: evaluation of teaching by students, critical issues identified, new teaching proposals (working groups)
- Stakeholders and Territory
  - Discussion and presentation of experiences developed by Italian and African universities to update the educational offer:
    - Examples from Italian and African Universities on managing relationships with stakeholders
    - Role of stakeholders in shaping Higher Education curricula (e.g., co-definition of course contents in sustainability and transition)
    - Reflection on collaboration models to strengthen the link between the University and the Territory

#### **16.00-16.30 Coffee Break**

- Students' Experiences and Opportunities - *Ousmane Kane (UCAB)*
  - Analysis of current trends, challenges, and opportunities for students
    - Case studies on applied education: Internships in private and public companies, Participation in international cooperation projects, Industrial PhDs and professional training, Mobility and exchange programmes abroad
- Open Discussion and Collaboration  
Interactive group work to identify common needs and priorities in agricultural education:
- Exploration of possible areas for cooperation and knowledge exchange between Italian and African Universities.
- Discussion on future trends in Higher Education for sustainable agriculture.



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**Day 5: Morning CONFERENCE (9.00-13.30) (See detailed programme below)**

***EDUCATING GLOBAL CITIZENS FOR A SUSTAINABLE PLANET***

Place: Aula Magna - Via Branze 38

***13.30 – 15.00 Lunch***

***Afternoon: Free time/Social program***

***20.00 Closing Dinner***



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**Speakers**

**Ahmed Mukhtar Sh Mohamed**  
Professor, Somali National University - SNU (SO)

**Bertanza Giorgio**  
Professor, Director DICATAM, University of Brescia (IT)

**Bianchi Camilla**  
Councilor for Ecological Transition, Environment, Green Spaces, and Energy Policies, Brescia Municipality (IT)

**Bocca Simone**  
ECS-CUCS, Free University of Bozen (IT)

**Bonetti Michele**  
President, Tovini Foundation, Brescia (IT)

**Collivignarelli Carlo**  
Professor Emeritus, University of Brescia (IT)

**D'Alberton Nicola**  
ECS-CUCS, University of Trento (IT)

**Domini Marta**  
ECS-CUCS, University of Brescia (IT)

**Duah Daniel**  
Professor, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology - KNUST (GH)

**Fanti Valentina**  
Office of cooperation and volunteering, Fondazione Tovini, Brescia (IT)

**Gallizioli Angelo**  
President, Fondazione Sipec, Brescia (IT)

**Gaye Amina**  
Professor, Amadou Mahtar Mbow University - UAM Dakar (SN)

**Giudici Mauro**  
Professor, University of Milan (IT)

**Lavagnolo Maria Cristina**  
Professor, University of Padova (IT)

**Lombardi Roberto**  
President, Fondazione Museke, Brescia (IT)

**Maternini Giulio**  
Professor, University of Brescia (IT)

**Mazzi Angelo**  
Professor, University of Brescia (IT)

**Mgeni Pius Peter**  
Financial Controller, Ruaha Catholic University RUCU (TZ)

**Monacelli Nadia**  
Professor, University of Parma (IT)

**Poli Giampietro**  
Head teacher, lead partner school for the Rete Ambiente Sostenibilità, Brescia (IT)

**Ranzi Roberto**  
Professor, University of Brescia (IT)

**Sassi Maria**  
Professor, University of Pavia (IT)

**Scalvenzi Michele**  
Secretary and external relations manager, Fondazione Cogeme, Brescia (IT)

**Sorlini Sabrina**  
Professor, Director of CeTAmb, DICATAM, University of Brescia (IT)

**Tarozzi Massimo**  
Professor, holder of the UNESCO Chair in global citizenship education, University of Bologna (IT)

**Tira Maurizio**  
Professor, President Fondazione UNIBS, University of Brescia (IT)

**Valentino Roberto**  
Professor, University of Parma (IT)

**Vittori Luca**  
PhD student, collaborator of the UNESCO Chair in global citizenship education, University of Bologna (IT)

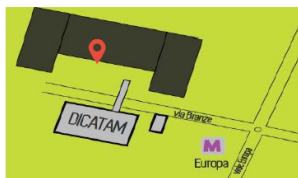
The authors are responsible for the choice and presentation of views contained in this program and for opinions expressed therein, which are not necessarily those of UNESCO and do not commit the Organization

Education for sustainable development and education for global citizenship have emerged as vital responses to today's global realities. These cross-cutting educational approaches aim to equip people with the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes needed to make informed decisions and take action on local and global challenges, fostering a sense of interconnectedness and responsibility towards the environment, the economy, and society. The congress will explore these themes through Italian and African perspectives, with the goal of bridging distances, deepening mutual understanding, and promoting a world where people feel connected across cultures. Education for Sustainable Development and Education for Global Citizenship go beyond traditional disciplines, embracing critical thinking, socio-emotional learning, and active participation in building a more peaceful, tolerant, and sustainable world.

**GETTING THERE**

**By car**  
Highway A4 Milano-Venezia: exit "Brescia Ovest" and follow indications to "stadio" or "ospedale" (North direction). Park in Via Triumplina or Via Branze.

**By train**  
At Brescia station take the metro towards "Prealpino", stop at "Europa" then see the map:



**Organizing Secretariat**  
GREGORIO Elisa, PEZZATO Maria, TONELINI Carmencita  
email: cetamb@unibs.it

**XXII International Conference**

**Educating global citizens for a sustainable planet**

**December 19th, 2025**

**Coordinator:**  
Sabrina Sorlini

**Aula Magna di Ingegneria**  
Via Branze, 38 - Brescia

**Partners**

**Patronage**

AULA MAGNA	PARALLEL SESSIONS	
<p><b>PLENARY SESSION (Ita)</b></p> <p><b>Global citizenship education: one planet, many connections</b></p> <p><b>Coordinators:</b> Carlo Collivignarelli, Giulio Maternini</p> <p><b>8:30 Registration</b></p> <p><b>9:00 Welcome addresses</b> Camilla Bianchi Giorgio Bertanza Roberto Ranzi Maurizio Tira</p> <p><b>9:15 Introduction</b> Sabrina Sorlini</p> <p><b>9:30 Global citizenship education</b> Massimiliano Tarozzi Luca Vittori</p> <p><b>9:50 African Union Agenda 2063: education for sustainability</b> Pius Peter Mgeni</p> <p><b>10:10 Awards "Bando Mattei"</b> Michele Bonetti</p> <p><b>Awards "Bando CeTAmb"</b> Angelo Gallizioli Don Roberto Lombardi</p> <p><b>10:30 Coffee break</b></p>	<p><b>SESSION I (Ita) – AULA MAGNA</b></p> <p><b>Young change-makers for sustainable development</b></p> <p><b>Coordinators:</b> Giampietro Poli, Michele Scalvenzi</p> <p><b>11:00 Presentation of the student winners of "Bando Mattei"</b></p> <p><b>11:15 Experiences of high school students</b> Istituto (TBC)</p> <p><b>11:30 Young students and researchers working on development cooperation projects</b> Graduates, PhDs</p> <p><b>11:45 Discussion</b> Valentina Fanti</p> <p><b>12:30 Conclusion</b></p>	<p><b>SESSION II (Eng) – AULA CONSILIARE</b></p> <p><b>Synergy in higher education curricula in Italian and African Universities: experiences from TNE partners</b></p> <p><b>Coordinators:</b> Angelo Mazzù, Amina Gaye</p> <p><b>11:00</b> The role of TNE UNITAFRICA project in enhancing the synergies in higher education systems Sabrina Sorlini</p> <p><b>11:30</b> How TNE projects have become a driving force for co-supervision of PhD students Nadia Monacelli, Roberto Valentino</p> <p><b>11:45</b> Experiences from KNUST University (Ghana) Daniel Duah</p> <p><b>12:00</b> An example of a long-term relationship and mutual exchange with universities and the local community in Yaoundé Maria Cristina Lavagnolo</p> <p><b>12:15</b> Innovation and resilience: reimagining higher education in African crisis-affected context Maria Sassi</p> <p><b>12:30</b> The experience of the Early Career Scholars CUCS network Simone Bocca, Nicola D'Alberton, Marta Domini</p> <p><b>12:45</b> An experience of interactive teaching with international students to improve transversal skills Mauro Giudici</p> <p><b>13:00</b> Strengthening academic bridges: opportunities and challenges in the collaboration between Somali and Italian universities Mukhtar Mohamed</p> <p><b>13:15</b> Discussion and conclusion</p> <p><b>13:30 Lunch</b></p>



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### List of speakers

Alhassan Hamdiyah, University for Development Studies, Ghana  
Angi Barbara, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Arengi Alberto, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Bertoni Michele, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Bornatici Sara, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Bosisio Daniela, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Carbone Francesca, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Castelli Francesco, Magnifico Rettore, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
De Angelis Costantino, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Diouf Djicknoum, Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis du Sénégal, Senegal  
Distefano Marcella, Università degli Studi di Messina, Italy  
Domini Marta, Università degli Studi di Messina, Italy  
Duah Daniel, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana  
Ferronato Giulia, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Gaye Amina, Université Amadou Mahtar Mbow, Senegal  
Ghiglieno Isabella, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Dagani Jessica, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Kane Ousmane, Université Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba, Senegal  
Lwande Gerald, Moi University, Kenya  
Manzoni Federico, Vicesindaco, Comune di Brescia, Italy  
Marchiori Carmen, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Matteelli Alberto, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Mazzola Michele, Italian Ministry of Universities and Research  
Mazzù Angelo, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Milani Manuela, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Mukhtar Sh Mohamed Ahmed, Somali National University, Somalia  
Mwakisunga Benard, Ruaha Catholic University, Tanzania  
Ndiaye Sossé, Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Senegal  
Onuora-Oguno Azubike, University of Ilorin, Nigeria  
Paganelli Corrado, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Parisio Vera, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Pasetti Marco, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Placidi Donatella, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Ranzi Roberto, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Ronca Roberto, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Resaz Valentina, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Rinaldi Stefano, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Sabino Giampaolo, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Sorlini Sabrina, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Suter Fabian, Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, Switzerland  
Terao Aiko, Università degli Studi di Brescia, Italy  
Ussene Atumane, Universidade Save, Mozambique  
Vaccari Mentore, Università degli Studi di Brescia

**Speakers for the last day of the Course: see the flyer at page 7**



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# Syllabus

<b>Course</b>	<b>Innovating Higher Education: Strengthening Africa–Italy Collaboration through Joint Pathways for SDGs 2030 and Agenda 2063</b>
<b>Organizing Institutions</b>	<p>University of Brescia (UNIBS, Organizing University)  <i>Co-organizing Universities:</i>            Amadou Mahtar Mbow University (UAM, Dakar, Senegal)            Cheikh Ahmadou Bamba University (UCAB, Dakar, Senegal)            Cheikh Anta Diop University (UCAD, Dakar, Senegal)            Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana)            Moi University (Moi, Eldoret, Kenya)            Ruaha Catholic University (RUCU, Iringa, Tanzania)            Somali National University, Somalia (SNU, Mogadishu, Somalia)            Université Gaston Berger de Saint-Louis du Sénégal (UGB, Saint Louis, Senegal)            University for Development Studies (Tamale, Ghana)            University of Ilorin (Unilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria)            Universidade Save (Unisave, Maputo, Mozambique)</p>
<b>Target participants</b>	African, Italian and European professors, researchers
<b>Objectives of the course (max 150 words)</b>	<p><b>General Objective:</b>            This advanced skills course aims to strengthen Africa–Italy collaboration in higher education to support sustainable development through internationalization, innovation, and inclusive academic practices aligned with SDG 2030 and Agenda 2063.</p> <p><b>Specific Objectives:</b>            Specific objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● analyzing current challenges and opportunities in both regions' higher education landscapes;</li> <li>● understanding the role of education in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);</li> <li>● to promote partnerships between universities and external stakeholders through thematic modules on environment/energy, architecture and inclusive building,</li> </ul>



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	<p>health and agriculture to showcase applied educational practices, internships, community engagement and cooperation projects;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● exploring the potential of transnational education, including student and staff mobility, joint and double degree programs, and shared PhD paths.</li> </ul> <p>The course also focuses on strengthening innovative and inclusive teaching methodologies (e.g blended learning, MOOCs, Metaverse, digital tools, learning-by-doing approaches).</p> <p>Overall, the course encourages the joint development of high-quality academic programs and research initiatives, fostering long-term academic and institutional ties between Italy and Africa within a global sustainability framework.</p>
<p><b>Strategic thematic area</b></p>	<p>STRATEGIC THEMATIC AREAS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rural development, land management, agrifood and food supply chains;</li> <li>Health, water and hygiene, One Health;</li> <li>Sustainable Energy, environment and natural resource management;</li> <li>Entrepreneurial and industrial development for local prosperity;</li> <li>Cultural heritage and sustainable tourism;</li> <li>Social Sciences and Humanities.</li> </ol> <p>The course will also cover the transversal area of Ecological transition and digitalization</p> <p>Agenda 2030 SDGs: 3-4-5-6-10-11-15-16-17</p> <p>Agenda 2063: 1-2-3-5-6-8-18-19</p>
<p><b>Abstract (max 300 words)</b></p>	<p>This advanced training course focuses on the internationalization of higher education systems in Italy and Africa as a strategic driver for sustainable development. It brings together academic professional, and stakeholders to examine and strengthen collaborative practices between the two regions.</p>



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	<p>The course provides a comprehensive overview of current challenges faced by higher education institutions, such as brain drain, unequal access, demographic shifts, and limited mobility. It highlights how transnational education (TNE) and joint academic initiatives can contribute to improve the quality, accessibility, and global relevance of higher education.</p> <p>The course is structured into 4 thematic modules covering environment/energy, architecture and inclusive building, health and agriculture. These modules aim to connect academic knowledge with territorial needs and foster collaboration between universities and external stakeholders, including public institutions, private companies, and civil society.</p> <p>Through interactive workshops, group work, and presentations of successful case studies, participants will gain practical tools for designing joint educational offers and research projects. The program also promotes mutual understanding of the structural and cultural characteristics of African and Italian academic systems, laying the foundation for long-term institutional partnerships.</p> <p>Ultimately, the course supports the development of a shared vision for international education that is equitable, resilient, and responsive to global challenges. It empowers participants to become active contributors in building inclusive, high-quality higher education systems aligned with sustainable development priorities in both African and Italian/EU contexts.</p> <p>Follow-up activities will be pursued (e.g., online community, publication of proceedings, seed grants for pilot projects).</p>
<b>Period</b>	15-19 December 2025
<b>Place</b>	University of Brescia (Italy)
<b>Teaching delivery mode</b>	<p>In person</p> <p>Platform for innovative teaching: online connection to the meeting will be provided for days 1 and 2, including the final CeTAMB conference on day 5.</p>



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	Online connection will be guaranteed
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Final test</b>	A certificate of attendance will be provided to all the participants which attend full full-time and in presence the course.  The final evaluation is based on project work and presentation.
<b>How to apply</b>	Identification of the participants based on CV & experience among the Universities with an active MoU with Unibs
<b>Contacts</b>	Sabrina Sorlini unitafrica@unibs.it Gianluca Di Rosario unitafrica@unibs.it Carmencita Tonelini unitafrica@unibs.it