

Creating Together: VSB-TUO's Blended Intensive Programmes in the U!REKA Alliance

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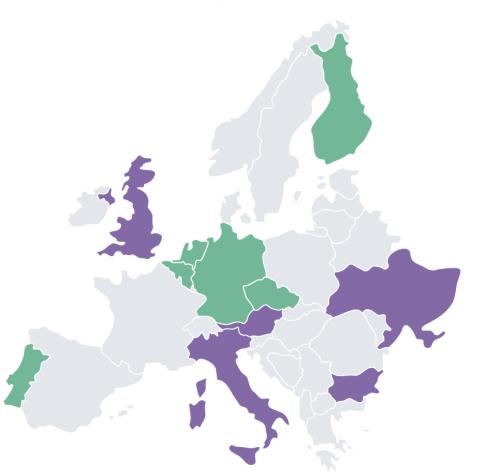


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U!REKA SHIFT European University

Different Partners, One Voice





123K

Students

Full Partners

Netherlands: Amsterdam UAS, City of

Amsterdam

Germany: Frankfurt UAS, City of

Frankfurt

Finland: Metropolis UAS, City of Helsinki

Belgium: HOGENT UAS, City of Ghent

Czechia: VSB - Technical University of

Ostrava, City of Ostrava

Portugal: Politécnico de Lisboa, City of

Lisbon

11K Staff Members

Associated Partners

United Kingdom: Edinburgh Napier

University

Ukraine: Odessa National Economic

University

Austria: UAS BFI Vienna

Italy: University of Bari

Bulgaria: New Bulgarian University

Joint Mission and Goals

Overview



Joint Mission Statement



Our vision is to create a profound shift towards climate neutral and eventually climate positive societies.

- Support all students in developing green and digital competencies, regardless of educational field
- Enable active participation of all stakeholders and students to co-create solutions to societal challenges
- Our highly skilled U!REKA future-proof urban professionals will be pivotal in achieving climate neutrality in Europe by 2050



Main Objectives





Inter-University Campus

Establish a sustainable U!REKA inter-university campus based on joint long-term strategy, ensuring seamless mobility and good governance



Lighthouse University

Become a lighthouse European University for challenge-based and collaborative learning and innovation



Future-Proof Professionals

Shape U!REKA future-proof urban professionals who accelerate the transition towards climate-neutral and smart cities







U!REKA's Core Values

Our governance is value-driven, built on three fundamental values that shape decision-making and influence both formal structures and informal relationships.

Inclusion

Ensuring diverse voices are heard and valued in all decision-making processes

Co-Creation

Collaborating with stakeholders to develop innovative solutions together

Boldness

Taking courageous steps towards sustainable, transparent governance across the alliance



Understanding BIPs and their Role in the Alliance





Short-term intensive courses

Highly interactive programs focused on practical skills and direct application of knowledge



Hybrid format

A combination of virtual and physical participation for maximum flexibility and accessibility



Inter-university cooperation

Strengthening partnerships between institutions across Europe within U!REKA



Interdisciplinary education

Connecting different disciplines to address complex global challenges of today

BIPs are strategic tools that promote intercultural competence, knowledge exchange, and academic innovation across partner universities.

Cooperation within U!REKA



European network

Partnerships with leading universities across Europe

Credit recognition

Seamless transfer of academic results between universities



Student exchange

Mobility and international experience for all participants

Joint programs

Coordinated educational initiatives with consistent quality

Research collaboration

Joint projects addressing current social issues

Cooperation within the University





Involve the University Management

We build bridges between individual faculties for more effective sharing of experience and resources.



Interconnect Individual Faculties

We develop interdisciplinary initiatives that deliver innovative solutions to academic challenges.



Student Engagement

We make every effort to ensure that students are informed and involved.



Role of the International Office

Support Coordinate schedules and partner

Support applications, accommodation and final documents.

communication.

Coordinate

Organize

Organize meetings, manage documentation, and guide students and visiting teachers.

Provide cultural orientation and continuous support in cooperation with the department.

Provide



BIPs organised at VSB-TUO





1 ____ 2023

Common Regeneration U!

How to organize Blended Intensive Programme

Leadership and sustainability U

International Autumn School in the Health, Safety and

Environment

2024

U!REKA Staff BIP

Project and Grant Management: From Theory to Practice International School in Crisis Planning

Each BIP offers a unique opportunity for international cooperation, practical learning, and professional networking.

BIPs organised at VSB-TUO







Spring 2025

Planning Resilient Cities

Industrial Past, Sustainable Future

How to Understand Brownfields

Project and Grant Management

U!

Summer 2025

Network Technologies U

Autumn 2025

Health, Safety and Environment Ethical AI and Sustainable Innovation

Spring 2026

Alternative application of waste materials to reduce carbon footprint

Important Issues before BIP





Benefits for Students and Institutions



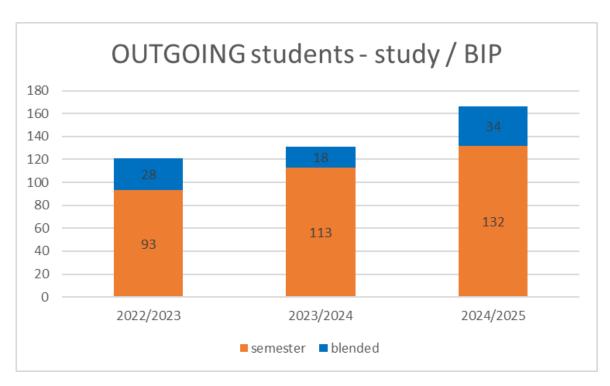
Students

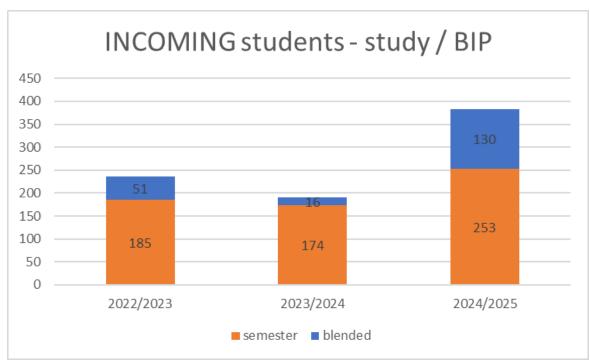
- √ flexibility,
- √ intercultural exposure,
- ✓ new skills,
- ✓ short mobility,
- **✓** ECTS credits,
- ✓ Development of digital and soft skills.

Institutions

- √ international cooperation,
- ✓ visibility,
- √ stronger partnerships,
- √ resource optimization,
- √ cost reduction.

Share of students on BIPs in the total number of outgoing / incoming students at VSB-TUO





Our experience with BIP at Faculty of Civil Engineering



As a partner – spring 2022

Physical in Helsinki, 5 partners, 7 FCE students

- > IT system applications issues
- > Happy and satisfied students



As a coordinator – spring 2023

Physical in Ostrava, 6 partners, 32 students + 4 lecturers

- ➤ U!REKA partners (3)
- ➤ Necessary to set the process of BIP organization at VSB-TUO IT issues again
- ➤ It was a challenge both for Institutional coordinator and faculty coordinator



BIP as a coordinator



The challenges of BIP	IIA (multilateral or bilateral)
	Will we have enough students?
	Which virtual platform
	What is the best time
The challenges in	Will the different calls connect?
BM	Information for BM
	How do I ensure enough students in BM?

BIP as a coordinator



The challenges at VSB-TUO



Being the first



Virtual component



IS Edison



Credits vs hours taught

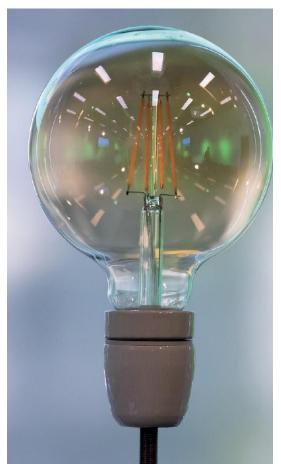


How do we keep to budget

Planning the cooperative BIP with U!REKA



In the time of changes – planning resilient cities for the future



Partners: FraUAS, Metropolia UAS, VSB-TUO

Request for cooperation

September 2024 – project initiation

02

Connecting partners

September 10, 2024 – first coordination meeting

03

BIP planning

October 2024 – January 2025 – preparation of content and logistics

Project recognition and sustainability



In the time of changes – planning resilient cities for the future



U!REKA Award

The program has gained recognition at the alliance level for its innovative approach and high-quality implementation.

Rotating model of sustainability

Ensures long-term continuity and equal involvement of all partners.

- 2025 Ostrava, VSB-TUO
- 2026 Frankfurt, FraUAS
- 2027 Helsinky, Metropolia UAS
- 2028+Continuation of rotation

Conclusions





Why we love BIPs

BIPs provide valuable international learning opportunities.

Require effective coordination and proactive support.

It promotes global visibility of institutions.

Strengthen institutional partnerships and enrich student experiences.

VSB-TUO supports efforts of faculties to organize BIPs

Students find their paths to BIPs

Recipe for success

Be active

Communicate within university and with partners + companies/stakeholders

Share information

Attract students

How and where to go next

Expansion of the offer

Preparation of new thematic BIPs for various fields and faculties of VSB-TUO.

Increasing student engagement

Better promotion, earlier communication, and motivational campaigns for students.

Strengthening partnerships

Active development of cooperation with other universities within U!REKA.

Connection to practice

Further involvement of associated partners from cities and companies in programs.





Thank you for your attention



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U!REKA website