



Re-UNITA

# RESEARCH Newsletter

## Editorial

The UNITA alliance pursues its strategy of contributing to sustainable development of the territories that host the universities that launched the consortium. To achieve this goal, the establishment of the Research and Innovation Thematic Hubs was a vital step, including our Cultural Heritage (CH) Hub, within the WP4. The first phase of the cartography was successfully completed, with an outstanding response of researchers who enthusiastically rushed in, allowing us to make significant progress on all fronts. The Hub's first workshop held last October in Turin contributed greatly to this important achievement. New and decisive actions are being implemented, such as the UNITA Weekly Talks, in which researchers are invited to present their projects, gathering new wills, and reinforcing the inspiring Turin impulse. Another decisive action for our overall strategy is the implementation of short-term training programs, the Micro-Credentials, with its first edition, dedicated to Visual Culture, already undertaken. Equally meaningful was the decision to keep the cartography open for continuous submissions, which allows not only to update previously submitted projects, but also to welcome new proposals, thus reinforcing an increasingly inclusive research dynamic which seeks the consolidation of a European research scheme. Noteworthy is also the launch of the first PhD co-tutelle program in our field of CH, which grants PhD students the opportunity to explore different scientific approaches, just one of the most significant goals of our alliance of universities. The strength and dynamism of this Hub is also mirrored in a set of other actions already settled: an upcoming thematic school on intangible cultural heritage, at UVT, and our second Hub workshop, also to be held at UVT, which will allow us to move forward and jointly strengthen our collaboration, bearing in mind the forthcoming European calls

*Urbano Sidoncha*  
CH Task Force member  
University of Beira Interior

## Cultural Heritage



Source: Maison du Patrimoine du Grand Bornand

### An interdisciplinary project to preserve natural heritage and promote sustainable tourism

The *Grand [La]bo* project, coordinated by the Pôle Tourisme Montagne Inventive of the USMB, proposes to study how to preserve both natural heritage and quality of life in a well-known mountain resort in Haute-Savoie: Le Grand Bornand.

This project proposes an innovative approach combining interdisciplinarity, continuous link between training and research and collaborations with local actors. The project will mobilize seven USMB's laboratories, the USMB Foundation's Chair in Sustainable Tourism, more than 500 students from five USMB departments and the UNITA Alliance.

<https://www.univ-smb.fr/ptmi/>

## Circular Economy



### Diversity in circular economy: the challenging issue of economies of scales

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Aiming at reducing resource consumption, circular economy massively reduces transport, favours short circuits and valorises as co-products what was previously considered as wastes. Reducing the use of transport often means giving up economies of scale. In a competitive decentralised economy, how can circular economy projects compete with competitors exploiting economies of scale? This is the topic of our ongoing research. Help from colleagues of the UNITA network would be greatly appreciated.

## Renewable Energies

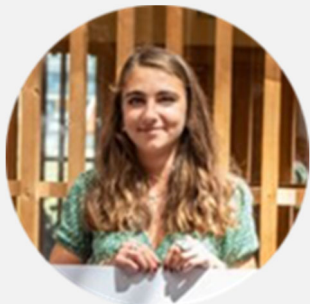


### Project Tr@nsnet - Living-Lab model, for an ecological transition through the integration and interconnection of complex heterogeneous grids

The European Tr@nsnet project aims to contribute to the energy transition by defining a new model of a university living lab, i.e., a real test bed for open innovation, which is transferable to companies. The new living lab model will be based on existing technological demonstrators (Smart Light, IoT, electric and thermal generation) and the creation of new demonstrators (second life of electric batteries, water cycle and mobility), allowing to test and validate new technological developments and business models.

Project website: <http://www.transnet-sudoe.eu/>

## PhD student of the month



Chloé Vagnon - PhD student at USMB

**Chloé Vagnon** defended her thesis in December 2021. Her research in ecology, carried out in the CARRTEL laboratory, focused on an invasive fish species, the wels catfish, in the large peri-alpine lakes.

In her research, Chloe shows that the catfish population is growing due to global warming, but that despite its bad reputation (it would eat native fishes), its environmental impact would not be so negative, since it also feeds on other invasive species, responsible for damage to fragile ecosystems of alpine lakes.

<https://www6.lyon-grenoble.inrae.fr/carrtel>

## Woman researcher of the month



Christine Lartigau-Dagron, UPPA

Christine Lartigau-Dagron after a PhD obtained in 1995 in polymer chemistry, has been recruited in 1998 at UPPA as a lecturer. Her main interest was focused on conjugated polymers, that exhibit quite different properties from the well-known “plastics” since they have the ability to conduct electrons and so can be used as conductors and semiconductors for many applications. Since 2010, she is assistant professor and mainly concentrates her research activities on photovoltaics.

[Read the Interview »](#)

## Highlights

### Autumn Entrepreneurship School

19/10/2022 9 a.m. CEST (Madrid Time)

An online training day in entrepreneurship for all researchers (specially PhD students) within the UNITA constellation of Universities who wish to receive specific and professional training in entrepreneurship.

Registration:

<https://eventos.unizar.es/87929/tickets/autumn-school-from-research-to-the-market.html>

[More info>](#)