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**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
FOR ADMISSION TO THE PHD
IN SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY AND ONE HEALTH
XL CYCLE – A.Y. 2024/2025**

Issued with D.R. n. 35/2024

REGISTRATIONS by accessing the platform at:

<https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/>

Registration starts: 07/06/2024 at 1.00 pm (Italian time)

Deadline: 08/05/2024 at 1:00:00 pm (Italian time)

DISCLAIMER

The official and legally binding announcement is the Italian one. The present document cannot be used for legal purposes and it is only meant to provide information in English on the call for applications

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ART. 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

1. This Notice communicates the selection procedures for admission to the Doctoral Course in Sustainable Blue Economy and one Health - 40th Cycle, activated through an Agreement, pursuant to art. 3, paragraph 2, letter a) of Ministerial Decree 226/2021, between the Leonardo da Vinci Telematic University (UNIDAV), administrative bodies, and the G. d'Annunzio University of Chieti-Pescara (UdA).
2. The Doctorate Course lasts three years, starting from 1 November 2024.
3. All information relating to the number of places available for competition, the number of scholarships, the restricted topics, the criteria for the evaluation of any qualifications, the methods and dates of completion of the admission tests, are summarized in the Attachment 1 – Doctoral Course Sheet, which constitutes an integral part of this announcement.
4. The legislation and reference documentation relating to this Notice can be found at: <https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/>.
5. This announcement has the value of notification in all respects. Candidates will not receive any personal communication. The University assumes no responsibility for the dispersion of communications resulting from inaccurate indications of personal contact details by candidates or from failure or late communication of their change or from telematic errors. Any changes or additions to the contents of this notice and all selection documents will be made known by publication on the University website, <https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/>.
6. This announcement is published in Italian and English. For all legal purposes, only the Italian version shall prevail and be binding.

ART. 2 – POSITIONS AVAILABLE

1. The Course has nine places, for which accreditation has been requested pursuant to art. 5 paragraph 2 of Ministerial Decree 226/2021, of which seven with scholarship and two without scholarship.
2. The scholarships are financed as follows:
 - a) one from UNIDAV, pursuant to and for the purposes of the Ministerial Decree. 629/2024, pursuant to the PNRR M4C1, Investment 4.1, sub-investment "PNRR Research";
 - b) four from UNIDAV, pursuant to and for the purposes of the Ministerial Decree. 630/2024, pursuant to the PNRR, M4C2, Investment 3.3 "Introduction of innovative doctorates that respond to the innovation needs of companies and promote the hiring of researchers by companies";

- c) one from the UdA pursuant to and for the purposes of the Ministerial Decree. 629/2024, pursuant to the PNRR M4C1, Investment 4.1, sub-investment "Public Administration;
 - d) one from UdA, drawing on the University funds of the same G. d'Annunzio University.
3. The scholarships referred to in the previous paragraph 2, letter b) are on a specific research topic and co-financed by the following Partner Companies: Cantieri Italiani S.r.l (one scholarship), DigitalPlatforms S.r.l (one scholarship), ResNova S.r.l. (one scholarship), Terme Italia S.r.l. (one scholarship).
4. The restricted research topics referred to in the previous paragraph 3 are the following:
 - a) Cantieri Italiani S.r.l.: *"The use of AI in photovoltaic production for the green transition of ports and the promotion of the Blue Economy"*
 - b) DigitalPlatforms S.r.l.: *"Cyber Security and IoT: development and transition in the context of Sustainable Blue Economy"*;
 - c) ResNova S.r.l *"Molecular biomarkers and interconnection between health and environment or lifestyle"*
 - d) Terme Italia S.r.l.: *"TALKING HEALTH"*
5. The restricted research topics referred to in the previous paragraph 4 are detailed in *Attachment 1 - Doctoral Course Sheet*.
6. For selection purposes, the Commission referred to in the following art. 6 formulates a general ranking, which includes all the candidates and four special rankings for the subject-specific positions referred to in the previous paragraph 4, which includes the candidates who have specifically requested it and who have taken the relevant supplementary interviews.
7. For the purposes of the general ranking, the research project, functional to the evaluation of the candidate's generic aptitude for research, must be drawn up within the topics of the Doctorate. The research project can be presented in English.
8. Candidates who intend to compete for one or more places with a specific topic scholarship must communicate this specifically in the application, and present one or more projects consistent with each specific topic chosen. The research project (or one of the projects) with a specific topic can also be presented for the general ranking, or separate projects can be attached, indicating for each which ranking and topic it is aimed at. To compete for more than one scholarship with a specific theme, separate projects must still be attached.

ART. 3 – ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

9. Candidates who, at the deadline date of the announcement, are in possession of: master's or specialist degree, degree from the previous system (old system), similar academic qualification obtained abroad,

recognized equivalent to the aforementioned second level academic qualifications, for the sole purpose of participating in the competition for admission to the doctorate; second level academic qualification issued by institutions belonging to the AFAM sector.

10. The suitability of the foreign qualification is ascertained by the Judging Commission, in compliance with the legislation in force on the matter in Italy and in the country in which the qualification was issued, as well as international treaties or agreements regarding the recognition of qualifications for the continuation of studies.
11. Graduating students can also apply for admission, provided they obtain their qualification by 31 October 2024. In this case they will be admitted "conditionally". The winners will subsequently be required to promptly certify, under penalty of forfeiture, that they have obtained the title.
12. All candidates in possession of an academic qualification obtained from an Italian University, whether they are EU citizens or citizens of states not belonging to the European Union, are required to self-certify the qualification held and are admitted to the selection subject to verification of self-certified declarations.
13. Candidates who cannot access places with scholarship are:
 - Research Doctorates;
 - those who exceed the total gross annual personal income limit of €16,000.00;
 - in relation to doctoral scholarships financed under the PNRR, considering that all positions must be covered with a non-waivable scholarship, as provided for by Ministerial Decree 301/2022 in par. 3.3 letter e), PNRR scholarships cannot be assigned to doctoral students who have renounced scholarships valid for the XXXVIII and XXXIX cycles.
14. At any stage of the procedure or even after the start of the doctoral course, the University will carry out checks on the truthfulness of the declarations produced. In the event of false and/or mendacious declarations, the candidate may be excluded at any time, with a reasoned decision, from the selection procedure or from the doctoral course if successful.

ART. 4 – APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

1. Registration for the selection procedure must be carried out online, following the instructions in the following paragraph 2, starting from the day of publication of the extract of this Notice in the Official Journal, no later than midnight (Italian time) of the thirtieth following day.
 - a) Participation in the admission tests is subject, under penalty of exclusion, to compliance with the methods and procedure indicated below:
 - b) the candidate must connect to the appropriate service on the page <https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/>;

- c) click the SUBSCRIBE button;
- d) follow the platform's instructions, making the desired choices, correctly filling out the personal data sheet and uploading the requested documents (mandatory ones are marked with an asterisk *) in PDF format:
 1. Valid identity document*;
 2. CV* (european format);
 3. research project(s)*;
 4. *diploma supplement* or self-certification of the grades of the exams taken during the course of study, as well as the degree grade;
 5. any other relevant titles (scientific publications, awards, or other);
 6. copy of a valid identification document.
2. Once the SUBMIT button has been clicked, the application cannot be modified or canceled in any way. However, the candidate will be able, no later than the deadline of the announcement, to submit a new application by opening a new procedure with the same methods and the same personal information. For the purposes of the comparative evaluation procedure, the Commission referred to in the following art. 6 will only acquire the most recent application in chronological order.
3. The application is considered successful only when, at the end of the procedure, the candidate receives a confirmation email to the email address indicated during registration.
4. It is the candidates' responsibility to verify the correctness of the information provided and the attachments inserted and to proceed with the correct conclusion of the IT procedure. To this end, during the registration phase, maximum precision is required in entering personal data such as name, surname, tax code, date and place of birth and personal email address on which to receive communications from the University. It is the candidate's responsibility to check, at any stage of the procedure, the presence of any communications from the University in their personal email address indicated in the registration.
5. All the documentation required in the PhD technical sheet attached to this announcement must be sent in PDF format. Attachments must not each exceed 5 megabytes (MB).
6. There is no payment of any admission fee for the selection.
7. Please note that the procedure for submitting the application via the online platform consists of different steps, which in some cases may require long waiting times. Candidates are therefore invited to complete the application for admission to the selection well in advance of the deadline.
8. Complaints will not be accepted for any malfunctions of the IT system due to overloads encountered by the candidates or any other cause close to the deadline, nor for the dispersion of communications resulting from inaccurate indications of the e-mail address by the candidate. Applications that are

incomplete in completing and/or transmitting the mandatory attachments will be excluded. After the deadline of the notice, no additions to the documentation already sent will be permitted under any circumstances.

ART. 5 – COMPARATIVE SELECTION PROCEDURE

1. The comparative admission procedure to the Doctoral Course consists of the evaluation of qualifications, the evaluation of the research project and an interview. For candidates who have declared in the application or during the interview that they also wish to compete for one or more places with a tied scholarship, a further specific oral interview will be held to in-depth study of the research project or projects relating to the tied grants, the purposes for which the Selection Committee is integrated from time to time, for the scholarships referred to in the previous art. 2, paragraph 4, by an expert member for each co-financing company, indicated by the company itself, and for the grant referred to in the previous art. 2 paragraph 6 from .
2. Candidates admitted to the comparative evaluation will receive the relevant communication via the University's certified email segreteria@pec.unidav.it.
3. **The interviews are scheduled for 30 August 2024 at 9am at the University offices in Torrevecchia Teatina (CH), piazza San Rocco, 2.** The directions will be published in <https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/>
4. To take the interviews, candidates must show a valid identity document. In the event that the admission test is carried out remotely, the President of the Selection Committee will be responsible for contacting the interested candidates at the e-mail address indicated by the candidate in the admission application.
5. Failure to participate in the interview, whatever the reason, will result in exclusion from the competition.
6. The interviews are organized by the University taking into account the individual needs of candidates in situations of civil disability equal to or greater than 66% and/or disability and/or Specific Learning Disorders (DSA) in accordance, respectively, with laws no. 118 /1971, n. 104/1992 and n. 170/2010 and subsequent amendments and additions. The request for aids deemed necessary must be made by the interested candidates and sent by email to the address: doctorate40@unidav.it, peremptorily no later than 7 (seven) days before the date of the interview. The candidate must ensure that he has received a response to the request.

ART. 6 – EVALUATION COMMITTEE

1. The evaluation committee for admission to the Doctorate is appointed, after the deadline of the call, by the Rector.

2. With the same decree, the Rector appoints the members indicated by the co-financing companies of the specific topic scholarships who will integrate the Commission in the supplementary interviews relating to the formation of the special rankings.
3. The Commission, for the evaluation of each candidate, has one hundred (100) points, of which 30 for the qualifications, 40 for the research project and 30 for the interview. The candidate is considered suitable if he achieves an overall mark of at least 60/100.
4. If the number of applications received exceeds thirty, the Commission may proceed with a pre-selection of the applications themselves. based on the evaluation of the project, or projects of each candidate, according to the evaluation criteria indicated in the following table. Candidates who obtain a score of 15/25 in at least one of the projects presented will be admitted. The score obtained is valid only for pre-selection purposes and does not contribute to the formation of the final ranking mark. The outcome of the pre-selection through the list of candidates admitted to the oral test will be published on the website <https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/> on **12 August 2024**.

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Points</i>
a. knowledge of the state of the art	from 0 to 5
b. originality and innovative content	from 0 to 5
c. feasibility of the project	from 0 to 5
d. clarity and completeness of objectives and methodologies and potential results	from 0 to 5
e. relevance of the project to the doctoral theme/themes	from 0 to 5

5. The Commission, where it deems it necessary, may request the Rector, for specific cases, to integrate the Commission itself with members of the Teaching Board relating to scientific disciplinary sectors not present among the members of the Commission.
6. In the preliminary meeting, before acquiring the applications and proceeding with their examination, the Commission specifies the criteria that will be used for the attribution of scores in the evaluation of the candidates' qualifications, project and interviews. To determine the evaluation criteria for the supplementary test relating to scholarships with specific topics, the members indicated by the co-financing companies referred to in the previous paragraph 2 will participate in the work from time to time.
7. Exclusively for the purposes of forming the special rankings through the supplementary oral tests relating to places with scholarships on a specific topic, the Commission, integrated as per the provisions of the previous paragraph 2, has 40 points. This score does not count towards the general ranking score.
8. Candidates who have obtained a score lower than 60/100 in the general ranking cannot access the supplementary test.

ART. 7 – RANKINGS AND COVERAGE OF PLACES

1. Once the competition tests have been completed, the Judging Commission draws up a final report, indicating the evaluation criteria used, the score attributed to each candidate and the merit rankings, a general one, compiled on the basis of the sum of the scores obtained by each candidate in the individual tests, and four special ones, relating to the candidates who also participated in the supplementary interviews for the specific topic scholarships.
2. In the event of an equal overall score, the youngest candidate prevails, pursuant to art. 2, paragraph 9, of Law no. 16.06.1998. 191.
3. In the event of further parity between two or more candidates, and for the sole purpose of awarding the scholarship, the economic situation prevails, determined pursuant to the decree of the President of the Council of Ministers of 9 April 2001, and subsequent amendments.
4. The merit rankings will be made public after the regularity of the competition documents has been verified, through publication on the Doctorate website and certified email communication to interested parties.
5. The candidates who come first in each special ranking of the supplementary tests for the specific topic scholarships who are in a useful position in the general ranking cannot opt for the latter and are directly admitted to the doctorate in the position with the specific topic scholarship.
6. In order to fill available doctoral positions, the following steps are taken:
 - a) by assigning places with a specific scholarship financed with Ministerial Decree 630 of 2024 to each candidate who comes first in the relevant special ranking, who is simultaneously frozen from the general ranking, while the others return to compete, for the other positions, in the general ranking. If a special ranking is empty, the Commission, integrated by the member appointed by the co-financing company, may propose to the candidates admitted to the general ranking whose project is similar or in any case relevant to the restricted topic, to carry out the doctorate with the corresponding scholarship on the restricted topic.
 - b) covering the remaining three places with scholarship drawing on the first three candidates in the residual general ranking, and assigning in order first the 2 scholarships financed by Ministerial Decree 629 of 2024, and subsequently the scholarship financed by the G. d'Annunzio University;
 - c) filling the two positions without scholarship by drawing on the first two candidates in the remaining general ranking.
7. Acceptance of the place is finalized by the enrollment application.
8. In case of failure to apply for enrolment, within seven days of communication to the winners, the rankings will be scrolled, according to the sequence indicated in the previous paragraph 6.
9. In the event that the renouncer is the winner of a restricted thematic scholarship, the latter is reassigned, according to the special ranking order, to the next suitable candidate in the same ranking, or, failing

that, to the first of the remaining suitable candidates in the general ranking according to the provision referred to in the previous paragraph 6 letter a).

10. In the event that a winner renounces the scholarship, it will be assigned to the next candidate in the ranking order.
11. In the absence of suitable candidates, the places are not assigned.

ART. 8 – REGISTRATION

1. The publication of the merit rankings on the Doctorate website constitutes official notification for all legal purposes. However, the administration will send a PEC communication to the successful candidates for doctoral positions. Candidates are responsible for checking the dates and complying with the registration procedures.
2. At the same time as the publication of the merit rankings, the electronic enrollment procedures will be indicated in detail on the dedicated platform, by accessing the portal <https://unidav.esse3.cineca.it>. The relevant credentials will be communicated via e-mail to the winners of the competition.
3. The winners of the competition are required to proceed - under penalty of forfeiture - with the online enrollment application on the aforementioned platform no later than seven working days following the date of publication of the ranking.
4. When starting the online enrollment procedure, the student must have the following documents available, in the form of files with specific titles as file name (e.g. Carta_Identità.pdf, Fiscal Code, Photo, etc.):
 - a) digital copy in PDF or JPG format of the valid identification document complete with all sides (max 5 Mb);
 - b) digital copy in PDF or JPG format of the tax code or health card (max 5 Mb);
 - c) passport photo in Jpg or Jpeg format (max 5 Mb);
 - d) for non-EU students only, scanned copy in PDF or JPG format of the valid residence permit which shows the reason for its issuance or, in the event that the permit issuing procedure is ongoing, scanned copy in PDF or JPG format of the application permit presented by the non-EU student.
5. All the documents indicated above, to be attached online when required by the procedure, are necessary for the validity of the enrollment procedure.
6. The online registration procedure must be completed with the payment of the registration fee referred to in the art. 9 (€256.00 including the university contribution, the regional tax and the stamp duty paid in virtual mode), according to the methods that will be indicated on the platform.
7. Winners who have not complied with the requirements within the established deadline will be considered to have withdrawn and we will proceed in accordance with the order of the ranking with

another candidate taking over, to whom a communication will be sent to the email address. Enrollment must be completed no later than seven days from the date of notification of the transfer.

8. The admission to the Course of candidates with a foreign qualification obtained in a NON-EU country will take place subject to verification of the qualification held on the basis of the "Declaration of value", issued by the Italian diplomatic representation in the country in which the qualification was obtained or, alternatively, on the basis of the Diploma Supplement, with official translation if in a language other than Italian, English, French, German and Spanish. Candidates must attach a valid residence permit if already issued or a copy of the request made to the competent authorities.

ART. 9 – TAXES

1. Upon enrolment, doctoral students are required to pay €256.00 of which: €100.00 as university tuition, €140.00 as regional tax for university study, €16.00 as stamp duty.

ART. 10 – SCHOLARSHIPS

1. The annual amount of the scholarship, redetermined pursuant to Ministerial Decree no. 247 of 23.02.2022 is equal to **€16,243.00** gross of social security costs to be paid by the recipient.
2. The scholarship is subject to the payment of separately managed INPS social security contributions to pursuant to current legislation, to the extent of two thirds paid by the University and one third paid by the scholarship holder.
3. The personal income limit to be able to take advantage of the scholarship is €16,000.00 gross per year. Cases of total or partial incompatibility for the use of the scholarship are established by current legislation. In particular, pursuant to Law 398/89 art.6 paragraph 2 "those who have already benefited from a scholarship cannot benefit from it a second time for the same reason". In the event of incompatibility, the scholarship installments received in the reference year must be returned.
4. The duration of the scholarship is equal to the entire duration of the course. The scholarships are paid on a deferred monthly basis (carried out no earlier than the twenty-fifth day of the month).
5. The assignment of the doctoral scholarship is confirmed annually on the condition that the doctoral student has completed the program of activities planned for the reference year, verified by the Teaching Board.
6. The scholarships cannot be cumulated with other scholarships awarded for any reason, except those awarded by national or foreign scientific institutions for activities related to study/research periods abroad.

7. Failure to finalize agreements with external bodies for the financing or co-financing of scholarships or for the activation of industrial doctorates will result in a corresponding reduction in the overall number of places, relieving UNIDAV from any economic, financial or legal burden.

ART. 11 – OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF PhD STUDENTS

1. Those enrolled in doctoral courses are obliged to attend courses and continuously carry out study and research activities within the structures designated for this purpose.
2. During the course, the PhD student may be authorized by the College, for research-related needs, to carry out stays abroad. Stays abroad can benefit from additional mobility allowances, paid by UNIDAV or third parties.
3. Doctoral students who have won scholarships according to Ministerial Decree. 629 and 630/2024 must accept upon enrollment to:
 - a) produce every six months, according to the indications of the Teaching Board, a report indicating the time commitment (broken down into months in the company, at headquarters and abroad) and a summary of the main activities carried out;
 - b) carry out the required compulsory study and research periods abroad and, depending on the case, in the company. Failure to comply with the minimum period in the company and abroad will result in the revocation of the scholarship;
 - c) guarantee compliance with the communication and information obligations established by the art. 34 of Regulation (EU) 2021/241, indicating in all documentation that the Program is financed under the PNRR, with explicit reference to funding by the European Union and the NextGenerationEU initiative, reporting in the documentation the emblem of the European Union and provide adequate dissemination and promotion of the Programme, including online, both web and social, in line with the provisions of the PNRR Communication Strategy;
 - d) respect the principle of not causing significant damage to environmental objectives, pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852.
4. The acceptance of PNRR grants financed through Ministerial Decree n. 629 and 630 of 2024, involves the obligation to spend a period of study and research abroad of at least six (6) months.
5. The acceptance of scholarships financed by Ministerial Decree n. 630 of 2024 entails the further obligation to spend a 12-month study and research period with the co-financing partner.
6. Doctoral students can carry out tutoring activities. They can also carry out subsidiary or supplementary teaching within the maximum limit of thirty hours in each academic year. This activity must be authorized by the Teaching Board which establishes the methods.
7. The Board, in the event of insufficient results in the ongoing evaluation, of unjustified and prolonged absenteeism or prolonged unavailability, or if a doctoral student engages in behaviors that are not compatible with the ethics of research and with the rules of good behavior prescribed by the

organizational structure in which the Doctorate is based, may with a reasoned document propose to the Rector the dismissal of the Doctoral student from the Course.

8. Suspension of the Doctorate is foreseen in cases of maternity, paternity and illness, for adoption and foster care, for fixed-term/permanent employment in the public administration during the probationary period, for training courses for teachers, for the performance of the service military/civilian, as well as for the completion of a period of study or work that is not incompatible with a subsequent resumption of the Doctorate course, subject to authorization from the College and in any case for a maximum of 6 months. During the periods of suspension, the scholarship is not paid.
9. Public employees admitted to Doctorate courses enjoy the leave provided for by collective bargaining for the normal duration of the course or, for employees under public law, extraordinary leave for study purposes, compatibly with the needs of the Administration, pursuant to art. 2 of Law 13.8.84, n. 476 and subsequent amendments, unless there is an explicit act of renunciation, only if they are enrolled for the first time in a Doctoral Course.
10. Doctoral students who are not up to date with the payment of taxes and contributions cannot carry out any activity connected to the course, nor be admitted to take the final exam.
11. Simultaneous enrollment in a bachelor's or master's degree course and in a master's, research doctorate or specialization course is permitted. In the case of simultaneous enrollment in a research doctorate or master's course and in a medical specialization course, the regulations referred to in art. apply. 15, paragraph 5, of the Research Doctorate Regulations. The PhD student with a scholarship cannot simultaneously benefit from scholarships or funding linked to enrollment in the second course, and therefore must renounce them, under penalty of forfeiture of the doctoral scholarship.
12. For the regulation of any further case relating to the subjective legal positions of doctoral students, please refer to the University Research Doctorate Regulations, in particular to the articles. 15 and following.

ART. 12 – PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

1. The University, pursuant to EU Regulation 2016/679, undertakes to use the personal data provided by the candidate exclusively for the completion of the competition procedures and for institutional purposes.
2. Participation in the competition entails the expression of consent to the personal data of the candidates and those relating to the competition tests being published on the University website and processed exclusively for the purposes of this Competition. The University information is published online at the following address: <https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/>.

ART. 13 – ACCREDITATION CLAUSE

1. In the event of a negative outcome of the accreditation procedure pursuant to art. 3 of the Ministerial Decree n. 226 of 14 December 2021 of the Doctoral Course referred to in this Notice, the same will consequently be revoked at any stage of the comparative evaluation procedure or subsequent procedures.
2. In the case referred to in the previous paragraph 1, the documents of revocation of the Notice and closure of the Doctoral Course will be published on the University website and communicated directly to interested parties.
3. **With the application for admission to the selection referred to in this announcement, the candidate declares to have full knowledge and awareness of all the provisions of the announcement itself and to accept them, with specific regard to those referred to in this article, relieving UNIDAV from any related obligations.**

ART. 14 – FINAL PROVISIONS AND REFERENCE RULES

1. For anything not covered by this announcement, please refer to the University's Research Doctorate Regulations, issued with D.R. n.27 /2022 and the current legislation on the matter.
2. The person responsible for the procedure is Dr. Simona Mincone, e-mail addressdotto40@unidav.it.
3. Further information can be requested at the following telephone number: +39 0871 474777.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - DOCTORAL COURSE SHEET

Attachment 1 – PhD Course Description

(Attachment 1 to the Call for Applications for Admission to the **PhD in Sustainable Blue Economy and One Health**, Cycle XL – A.Y. 2024/2025)

PhD Program	Sustainable Blue Economy and One Health
Coordinator	Prof. Michelina Venditti email: dottorato40@unidav.it
Course duration	3 years - Course start date: 01/11/2024
Research Areas	01; 02; 05; 06; 09; 10; 11; 12; 13; 14
Relevant Scientific Disciplinary Sectors (SSDs)	ING-INF/05; ING-IND/11; INF/01; IUS/01; IUS/10; IUS/13; FIS/06; M-PED/02; SECS-P/07; SECS-P/01; SECS-P/06; L-ANT/02; MED/36; MED/28; MED/44; MED/03; BIO/14; BIO/15; BIO/12; SPS/10
PhD Program Website	https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/
Description	<p>The PhD in Sustainable Blue Economy and One Health focuses on advanced third-level training in the field of "Sustainable Blue Economy"—an emerging sector encompassing both established and innovative aspects of the marine economy. This aligns with the European Green Deal and the need to adapt economic development to sustainability criteria consistent with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</p> <p>The course integrates the One Health approach, recognizing the close link between human, animal, and environmental health to enhance the well-being of marine ecosystems, species, and the communities dependent on them.</p> <p>This PhD program is characterized by an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approach, promoting cross-sectoral collaboration. It aims to provide PhD candidates with specific and transversal skills through rigorous methodological training, enabling them to develop innovative research projects and formulate hypotheses and practical solutions that reconcile societal, economic, and marine environmental needs.</p> <p>Key topics include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New business models, production, consumption, evaluation and impact, environmental accounting, cost accounting, and sustainability reporting; - Marine renewable energies, technologies, economic development models, and socio-economic effects of utilizing marine renewable energies; - Scientific, social, economic, and legal aspects of marine protection; - Ecological restoration of seabeds, in line with the UN Decade for Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, the European Green Deal, and the PNRR, focusing on remediation and restoration of marine ecosystems; - Digital twin technology for marine economy sustainability; - Interconnection between environmental health and lifestyle. <p>The educational offering includes an inclusive, integrated, and interactive teaching methodology, with both theoretical and practical lessons (workshops, project work, simulations, internships), fostering constant synergy and collaboration with local communities, public institutions, and private companies. There are also periods of training and research abroad and educational meetings with sector experts (including international ones).</p>

	<p>Upon completion of the program, PhD graduates will use their methodological, theoretical, and practical background to critically interpret the state of the art in their research field, address open problems, and contribute to advancing knowledge in line with international agendas and the UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, particularly SDGs 14 (Life Below Water), 13 (Climate Action), 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), 4 (Quality Education), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).</p> <p>To stimulate students' research and proposal skills, aimed at identifying new research lines or applications, demonstrating feasibility, and evaluating impact according to the "Do no Significant Harm" (DNSH) principle and in light of significant constitutional changes (articles 9 and 41) of February 2022, the PhD provides in-depth studies on specific research and application areas of interest to the student, emphasizing the interconnection between environmental, economic, management, legal, and health aspects.</p> <p>The PhD program is established through a specific agreement between the Leonardo da Vinci Telematic University and the University of G. d'Annunzio of Chieti-Pescara, under which PhD students will also have access to research and teaching services and facilities from the University of G. d'Annunzio.</p>
Available Positions	<p>n. 9 positions, including:</p> <p>2 positions without a scholarship;</p> <p>1 position with a scholarship funded by UNIDAV, pursuant to D.M. 629/2024, under PNRR M4C1, Investment 4.1, sub-investment "PNRR Research" - General PhDs</p> <p>1 position with a scholarship funded by the University of G. d'Annunzio, pursuant to D.M. 629/2024, under PNRR M4C1, Investment 4.1, sub-investment "Public Administration"</p> <p>1 position with a scholarship funded by the University of G. d'Annunzio, using its own university funds;</p> <p>4 positions with scholarships funded by UNIDAV, pursuant to D.M. 630/2024, under PNRR M4C2, Investment 3.3 "Introduction of innovative PhDs that meet the innovation needs of companies and promote the hiring of researchers by companies". (details in the following box)</p>
Theme-bound positions and details on their related research projects	<p>CANTIERI ITALIANI S.R.L.:</p> <p>Project Title: The Use of AI in Photovoltaic Production for the Green Transition of Ports and Promotion of the Blue Economy</p> <p>Company Contact: Ing. Marco Rana - Renewable Construction Division - Engineering and Connections Directorate</p> <p>Research Project Objectives:</p> <p>The PhD program will explore the integration of photovoltaic systems in port contexts, focusing on using AI for data analysis to continuously monitor system performance, detect anomalies, and plan maintenance. The green transition of port areas involves integrating renewable energy sources into the energy mix of infrastructure services and transportation. Real-time performance analysis of photovoltaic systems and predictive production estimates are fundamental for quantifying the energy mix. AI could play a crucial role in developing advanced control systems for intelligent management of port photovoltaic plants. Machine learning</p>

algorithms could provide optimal operating strategies to maximize production by dynamically adapting to weather and environmental pollution conditions. Another important aspect is developing accurate forecasting models for short- and long-term energy production, integrating meteorological data, solar radiation models, and historical plant performance information. This would allow better planning of port operations and optimized energy flow management.

Project Alignment with PNRR Themes.

The project aligns with:

- Mission 1: Digitalization, innovation, competitiveness, culture, and tourism.
- Mission 2: Green revolution and ecological transition.
- Mission 3: Infrastructure for sustainable mobility.
- Mission 7: RePowerEU.

DIGITALPLATFORMS S.R.L.:

Project Title: Cyber Security and IoT: Development and Transition in the Context of Sustainable Blue Economy

Company Contact: Gen. Dr. Luigi Ciro de Lisi, Chairman of the Scientific Committee of DigitalPlatforms

Research Project Objectives:

The PhD scholarship co-financed by DigitalPlatforms focuses on "Cybersecurity & IoT: Development and Transition," involving research and training activities at Unidav locations, partner institutions (University of G. d'Annunzio), and DigitalPlatforms' headquarters for applied activities. The scientific goal is to investigate new tools for data security, balancing personal data protection and cybersecurity. Analytical models will be developed for risk management from technology misuse, prevention against data acquisition, misuse, and theft, and methodologies for creating value (the so-called Internet of Value). The ultimate goal is to study and establish data security systems for organizations operating in Blue Economy and One Health sectors, with attention to digital transition, marine environment protection, and tourism support.

Project Alignment with PNRR Themes.

The research project aligns with: Mission 1: Digitalization, innovation, competitiveness, culture, and tourism (specifically M2C2 and M2C3) and Mission 2: Green revolution and ecological transition (specifically M2C4).

CRESNOVA S.R.L.:

Project title: "Molecular biomarkers and interconnection between health and environment or lifestyle"

Company contact: Chiara Sammartino

Objectives of the Research Project.

The doctoral scholarship co-financed by the company ResNova S.r.l. is focused on the development of biomarkers. molecular to evaluate the interconnection between health and environment or lifestyle. Human health is systematically connected to a healthy, safe environment and correct lifestyles.

Characterization of the human exposome and the development of innovative biomarkers are fundamental to pursue a plan to prevent the occurrence of transmissible and chronic-degenerative diseases at a population level.

The objectives of the research project are:

- study of epigenetic modifications related to the exposome
- identification of genomic variants, molecular biomarkers with advanced technologies
- increase the effectiveness of the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases, taking into account individual differences in genetic heritage, lifestyles and environment, and provide professionals with the resources necessary to personalize interventions.

Consistency of the proposed project with the themes of the PNRR.

These themes are in line with the objectives of the European Green Deal shared by PNR 21 -27.

Especially:

- the "health" research area aimed at improving diagnostic capacity and the development of new technologies.

Furthermore, the development of new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches and the identification of health risk factors linked to the environment and/or lifestyle ("HEALTH"; area (5.1) with articulation 1,5 and 7).

TERME ITALIA S.R.L.:

Project title: "TALKING HEALTH"

Company contact: Alessandra De Paola - Executive Special Projects –
adepaola@termeitalia.it

Objectives of the Research Project

The key words of the SUBEOH Doctoral course are Sustainability, Wellbeing, Innovation and Interconnection / Integration; are also the main objectives of the TALKING HEALTH Doctoral project, which aims to develop innovative digital systems for the transmission and promotion of the culture of thermalism, i.e. the environmental, economic and digital sustainability of collective health and well-being opportunities deriving from the use of water thermal baths, which are an integral part of the natural cycle of terrestrial water.

The requested PhD will have to establish an innovative ecosystem of communication to the population aimed at disseminating the culture of thermalism proposed by the companies of the Terme Italia group, of sustainable access to the natural resource adopted by them, and of

	<p>promoting the holistic approach to health and to well-being that integrate natural resources and medical and scientific expertise.</p> <p>Consistency of the proposed project with the themes of the PNRR</p> <p>The project is consistent with the following missions of the PNRR: MISSION 1 – Digitalisation, Innovation, Culture and Tourism. The doctoral path is consistent with the aforementioned mission: the theme of digitalisation, as a necessary support for the acquisition and analysis of data, the articulation of adequate metrics and to guide changes and support decisions is present, in a transversal, in the various teaching activities.</p>
Admission requirements	Please refer to the art. 2 of the competition notice
Foreign languages	Knowledge of the English language is required
Application	<p>The application must be submitted online.</p> <p>The candidate must connect to the appropriate service on the page https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/ and follow the instructions referred to in the art. 4, paragraph 2 of the Notice. In the application for participation, candidates must indicate whether they also intend to compete for one or more places with a specific scholarship financed by Ministerial Decree 630, specifically indicating which(s) and attaching the relevant project(s).</p>
Documentazione da allegare in formato pdf alla domanda online (max 5MB ogni allegato)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CV (<i>European format</i>), limited to educational and/or scientific and/or professional qualifications consistent with the topics of the doctorate (max 10,000 characters); - diploma <i>supplement</i> or self-certification of the grades of the exams taken during the course of study, as well as the degree grade; - research project(s) (max 10,000 characters). - any other relevant titles (scientific publications, awards, references or other)
Publication date of any pre-selection outcome	12 august 2024
Test methods and evaluation criteria	<p>Following any pre-selection (art. 6 paragraph 4 of the Notice), the selection will take place through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - evaluation of CV and qualifications (30/100 points) - evaluation of the research project (40/100 points); - interview (30/100 points). <p>The interview consists of (a) the discussion of qualifications; (b) in the discussion of the research project; (c) in assessing knowledge of the English language.</p> <p>Candidates who apply for one or more scholarships with a specific topic will undergo an additional interview on the research project relating to the specific topic.</p> <p>Candidates residing abroad who request to take the oral test remotely are contacted by email by the Commission to define the date and time of the interview.</p> <p>The minimum score to qualify is 60/100.</p>

Schedule of exams	The interviewss are scheduled for 30 August 2024 at 9am at the University officess in Torrevecchia Teatina (CH), Piazza San Rocco, 2. The indications will be published in https://www.unidav.it/index.php/dottorato-di-ricerca-40-ciclo/
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