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Advanced skill Course

Advancing Education for Sustainable Development & Global Citizenship in the Mediterranean Context: Resource Recovery and Environmental Challenges



3-7 February 2026

[Hotel Golden Tulip El Mechtel](#)

Av. Ouled Hafouz, Tunis 1005, Tunisia

In collaboration with



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI CAGLIARI



The Advanced Skill Course

The course *“Advancing Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship in the Mediterranean Context”* is part of the Transnational Education (TNE) initiatives funded under the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), Mission 4 *“Education and Research”*, within the framework of the NextGenerationEU programme. The course is promoted within the MARE Project, coordinated by the University of Bologna, and developed in collaboration with international academic and institutional partners.

The programme aims to strengthen advanced competences in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Global Citizenship Education (GCED), with a specific focus on the Mediterranean region as a key area affected by environmental, social, and economic transformations. Through an interdisciplinary and international perspective, the course explores issues such as climate change, ecological transition, sustainability policies, and the role of higher education institutions in addressing global challenges.

Teaching activities combine lectures, seminars, and interactive sessions, encouraging dialogue between academic research, policy frameworks, and professional practices. The course is designed to foster critical thinking, cross-cultural exchange, and the development of skills necessary to operate in complex educational and institutional contexts linked to sustainable development and global citizenship.

About us

The [UNESCO Chair in Global Citizenship Education in Higher Education](#) (GCEHE) is the first UNESCO Chair in Global Citizenship Education assigned in Italy, at Bologna’s University, with Prof. Massimiliano Tarozzi as chair holder. The UNESCO Chair will aim to disseminate global citizenship education issues at a higher education level, as it is an educational field that has been under studied and experimented on at the teaching level. It also aims to strengthen the network of cooperation between the various university institutions involved in this research area. It creates a local network that aims to facilitate collaboration between different types of actors involved in promoting GCED, such as civil society organisations, schools, local authorities, and private enterprises. Furthermore, it builds a global network that connects the world's most important research centres to develop joint projects and foster North-South university collaboration.

The [Department of Civil, Environmental Engineering and Architecture](#) (DICAAR) is the polytechnic expression of the University of Cagliari, where a wide range of multidisciplinary expertise converges. Its establishment is the result of a clearly defined cultural, educational,

and scientific project, grounded in an open and inclusive perspective. The Department's mission is to foster the scientific culture of design, planning, protection, restoration, and enhancement of the environment, the landscape, architectural and historical-archaeological heritage, structural and infrastructural assets, the territory, and geo-resources, in the broadest sense of the term.

The [*Institut Supérieur des Cadres de l'Enfance \(ISCE\)*](#) is a public higher education institution with administrative status, legal personality and financial autonomy. It was established under the Public Finance Law of 30 December 1989 and operates under the supervision of the Ministry of the Family, Women, Children and the Elderly, in coordination with the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, within the framework of the University of Carthage. The Institute is a higher education and research institution specialising in the field of childhood studies and education. It is currently the only university institution on the African continent authorised to award university degrees specifically focused on the sciences of education with a specialisation in childhood education. The ISCE offers a wide range of academic programmes, including a national Bachelor's Degree in education sciences with specialisations in child education and preschool education, several Master's programmes and doctoral programmes in Art, Design and Media Studies, as well as in Educational Sciences.

Teaching methods

In line with the aims of the Advanced Skill Course, the teaching method is designed to encourage active participation, critical thinking and collaborative discussion. In addition to face-to-face teaching, there will be an emphasis on meetings and visits to the local area, as well as reflection guided by ongoing tutoring at the end of each day.

During the course, students are also encouraged to work in groups to develop a presentation to be delivered on Saturday morning for final assessment.

Teaching topics

In line with the approach presented, the Advanced Skill course adopts a multidisciplinary structure - that includes Humanities, Anthropology, Sociology, Environmental engineering, Communication science, Architecture, Biology, Pedagogy - and an interdisciplinary method encouraged through fieldwork and group activities. The proposed modules, to which academics and representatives of civil society (ASviS) will contribute, cover:

- Global Citizenship Education;

- Climate change and environmental challenges in the Mediterranean area;
- Sustainability and resource management;
- Universities, policies and social transformation;
- Sustainable development and Agenda 2030;
- International cooperation and exchange of practices.

DETAILED SCHEDULE

Hour	Program
Tuesday 3 February 2026	
09:30-09:45	Opening Session: Welcome and launch of the Intensive Course <i>Prof Laribi Rim, Alessandra Carucci & Massimiliano Tarozzi</i>
09:45-11:00	Lecture 1: Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Education: frameworks and goals <i>Prof. Massimiliano Tarozzi, University of Bologna</i>
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	Lecture 2: Promoting Sustainable Development in Africa <i>Prof. Jouhaina Gherib, Manouba University</i>
13:00-14:30	Lunch Break
14:30-16:30	Lecture 3: Understanding the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development and its Action Plan towards 2030 <i>Dr. Gianluigi Farru & Fabiano Asunis, University of Cagliari</i>
16:30-17:00	Coffee Break
17:00-18:00	Tutoring – Group discussion

Wednesday 4 February 2026

Hour	Program
09:30-11:00	Lecture 4: Global Citizenship Education in a Changing World: Rethinking the Internationalisation of Universities 4.0 <i>Prof. Naouel Abdellatif Mami, Sétif 2 University</i>
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11.30-13:00	Lecture 5: <i>Strategies for resilience and adaptation in coastal communities</i> <i>Prof. Chiara Garau, University of Cagliari</i>
13:00-14:30	Lunch Break
14:30- 16:30	Lecture 5: <i>Strategies for resilience and adaptation in coastal communities</i> <i>Prof. Chiara Garau, University of Cagliari</i>
16:30-17:00	Coffee Break
17:00-18:00	Tutoring - Group discussion

Thursday 5 February 2026

Hour	Program
09:30-11:00	Lecture 6: <i>Framing climate change and climate-induced mobilities beyond alarmism</i> <i>Prof. Valentina Cappi, University of Bologna</i>
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	Lecture 6: <i>Framing climate change and climate-induced mobilities beyond alarmism</i> <i>Prof. Valentina Cappi, University of Bologna</i>
13:00-14:30	Lunch Break
14:30- 18:00	<u>Site Visit</u>

Friday 6 February 2026

Hour	Program
09:30-11:00	Lecture 7: Sustainable Waste and Resource Management in the Mediterranean Context <i>Prof. Fabiano Asunis, University of Cagliari</i>
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	Lecture 7: Sustainable Waste and Resource Management in the Mediterranean Context <i>Prof. Gianluigi Farru, University of Cagliari</i>
13:00-14:30	Lunch Break
14:30- 16:30	Lecture 8: Water and Wastewater: Management, Reuse and Recovery <i>Prof. Gianluigi Farru & Alessandra Carucci, University of Cagliari</i>
16:30-17:00	Coffee Break
17:00-18:00	Tutoring – Group discussion

Saturday 7 February 2026

Hour	Program
09:30-11:00	Students' Presentations
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	Students' Presentations
13:30-14:30	Closing Ceremony and lunch

See you on Next Edition! Au revoir 😊

Online Programme - Lectures' overview

Policy Development and Institutional Transformation

Giulio Lo Iacono, ASVIS

Thursday, January 15th

15:00 – 17:00

Impacts of climate change on Mediterranean Sea ecosystems

Antonio Pusceddu, University of Cagliari

Friday, January 16th

15:00 – 17:00

The Center for Sustainability and Ecological Transition (CSTE) of the University of Palermo: Field experiences

Maurizio Cellura & Giuseppe Maggio, University of Palermo

Friday, January 23rd

15:00 – 17:00

Sustainability and Global Citizenship Education

Namrata Sharma, State University of New York

Friday, January 30th

15:00 – 17:00

In-presence - Lectures' overview

Promoting Sustainable Development in Africa

Jouhaina Gherib, UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Development in Africa, University of Manouba

Tuesday, February 3rd

11:30 – 13:00

The lecture addresses major Africa's challenges and opportunities related to Sustainable Development with its 5 pillars: people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership and in accordance with continental (Agenda 2063) and international priorities (2030 Agenda). A special focus will be made on the specific challenges facing African higher education systems in their role of emancipation and transformation of the continent into the Africa We want and the Pan African vision described in the 2063 Agenda as "an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena". By referring to the Flagship Programs of UNESCO and the action plan of the UNESCO chair on Higher education for sustainable development in Africa, some innovative solutions from the Tunisian context will be explored.

Understanding the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development and its Action Plan towards 2030

Fabiano Asunis & Gianluigi Farru, University of Cagliari

Tuesday, February 3rd

14:30 – 16:30

The lecture examines the Mediterranean Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development (MSESD) and its Action Plan towards 2030 as a key policy framework supporting sustainability and global citizenship in the region. It situates the strategy within the broader objectives of the 2030 Agenda, UNESCO-led initiatives, and Mediterranean cooperation. The lecture highlights priority areas, governance mechanisms, and implementation tools relevant to higher education institutions. Particular attention is given to the role of ESD in addressing environmental challenges, social equity, and capacity building. Through selected examples, the lecture connects policy objectives with practical pathways for institutional transformation and regional collaboration.

Global Citizenship Education in a Changing World: Rethinking the Internationalisation of Universities 4.0

Naouel Abdellatif Mami, University Setif 2

Wednesday, February 4th

09:30 – 11:00

This lecture examines the evolving role of universities in a rapidly changing global context marked by environmental challenges, digital transformation, artificial intelligence, and increasing social and geopolitical tensions. It proposes Global Citizenship Education (GCE) as a key conceptual and strategic framework for rethinking the internationalisation of higher education within the paradigm of University 4.0.

The lecture argues that internationalisation can no longer be limited to physical mobility or institutional competitiveness, but must be redefined as a values-driven, inclusive, and socially responsible process, closely linked to sustainable development, ethical digitalisation, and global responsibility.

Learning Objectives: Understand the principles of Global Citizenship Education (GCE); Explain the concept of University 4.0 and its transition dynamics; Critically analyse internationalisation beyond mobility; Reflect on the ethical, digital, and sustainability responsibilities of universities; Engage in dialogue on national and institutional transformation models.

Recommended Readings

- UNESCO (2015). *Global Citizenship Education: Topics and Learning Objectives*.
- UNESCO (2023). *Reimagining Our Futures Together: A New Social Contract for Education*.
- Knight, J. (2012). *Concepts, Rationales, and Interpretive Frameworks in the Internationalization of Higher Education*.
- De Wit, H., Hunter, F., Howard, L., & Egron-Polak, E. (2015). *Internationalisation of Higher Education*.
- Selwyn, N. (2019). *Should Robots Replace Teachers? AI and the Future of Education*.
- Marginson, S. (2018). *Higher Education, Economic Inequality and Social Mobility*.
- Andreotti, V. (2014). *Soft versus Critical Global Citizenship Education*

Strategies for resilience and adaptation in coastal communities

Chiara Garau, University of Cagliari

Wednesday, February 4th

11:30 – 13:00 / 14:30 – 16:30

Coastal communities are increasingly living on the edge of climate change, experiencing first-hand the effects of sea-level rise, extreme heat, flooding, and growing socio-environmental inequalities. This 6-hour module fosters a shared understanding of how urban form, spatial organisation, and environmental pressures interact in coastal cities, highlighting the role of analytical thinking in supporting smart, sustainable, and people-centred planning. Rather than offering predefined solutions, the module promotes critical reflections on how spatial models and decision-support tools can help interpret complexity and guide long-term adaptation pathways. At its core, these lecture hours are structured around these two key questions: what does it really mean to design strategies for resilience and adaptation in coastal communities, when climate, space, and society are changing at the same time? How can urban analytics help transform coastal cities into Smart and Happy Cities, where adaptation improves everyday wellbeing instead of merely reducing risk? By doing so, these lecture hours invite participants to look beyond risk and vulnerability, and to see coastal cities as adaptive, living systems, where resilience becomes a design principle for smart, sustainable, and happy urban futures.

Framing climate change and climate-induced mobilities beyond alarmism

Valentina Cappi, University of Bologna

Thursday, February 5th

09:30 – 11:00 / 11:30 – 13:00

The relation between migration processes and climate change has been gaining increasing prominence in public and policy debates. Often framed in mainstream media and political discourses as emergency phenomena, or as epiphenomena of crises distant in time and space, the two processes polarise political debates and their nexus gives rise to a number of misconceptions that are difficult to dispel, despite scientific evidence (Boas et al. 2019; De Haas 2020; Sturridge and Holloway 2022). Examining these forms of (mis)representation allows us to question what agendas certain narratives fuel and to hypothesise on the extent to which existing narratives might orient public opinion and policy towards calls for new (climate) walls or forms of human rights protection in a world of changing climate (Giacomelli and Cappi 2025).

Through interactive group activities, we will address these misconceptions by discussing the risks of framing climate change as an inevitable natural event and climate-induced mobilities as a security issue. By adopting the 'mobilities paradigm' (Sheller and Urry 2006; Sheller 2018; Boas 2025), and taking into consideration the climate justice framework (Sultana 2022), we will explore why some places and communities today are more exposed to climate risk and mobility injustices, laying the foundations for what we might call "narrative accuracy" in academic research, education, and public discourse on these issues.

References

Boas, I., Farbotko, C., Adams, H., Sterly, H., Bush, S., van der Geest, K., Wiegel, H., Ashraf, H., Baldwin, A., Bettini, G., Blondin, S., de Bruijn, M., Durand-Delacre, D., Fröhlich, C., Gioli, G., Guaita, L., Hut, E., Jarawura, F.X., Lamers, M., Lietaer, S., Nash S.L., Piguët, E., Rothe, D., Sakdapolrak, P., Smith, L., Tripathy Furlong, B., Turhan, E., Warner, J., Zickgraf, C., Black, R., & Hulme, M. (2019). Climate Migration Myths. *Nature Climate Change* 9(12), 901-903.

Boas, I. (2025). *Beyond climate migration: The politics and practice of climate mobilities*. Wageningen University & Research. <https://doi.org/10.18174/687963>

De Haas, H. (2020). *Climate Refugees: The Fabrication of a Migration Threat*. <http://heindehaas.blogspot.com/2020/01/climate-refugees-fabrication-of.html>.

Giacomelli, E., & Cappi, V. (2025). 'Othering' in the Panicocene: intergovernmental and non-governmental awareness campaigns on climate change induced-migration. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies* 51(13), 3341–3359
<https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2025.2468287>

Sheller, M. & Urry, J. (2006). The new mobilities paradigm. *Environment and planning* A38(2), 207-226.

Sheller, M. (2018). *Mobility Justice*. London, New York: Verso.

Sturridge, C., and K. Holloway. (2022). *Climate Change, Conflict and Displacement: Five Key Misconceptions*. HPG briefing note. London: ODI. <https://odi.org/en/publications/climate-change-conflict-and-displacement-five-key-misconceptions>.

Sultana, F. (2022). Critical Climate Justice. *The Geographical Journal* 188(1): 118–124.
<https://doi.org/10.1111/geoj.12417>.

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management in the Mediterranean Context

Fabiano Asunis & Gianluigi Farru, University of Cagliari

Friday, February 6th
09:30 – 11:00 / 11:30 – 13:00

The lecture presents an overview of sustainable waste and resource management in the Mediterranean context. It examines specific waste streams and resource pressures shaped by environmental, climatic, and socio-economic conditions. Circular economy principles and resource recovery strategies are introduced, with particular attention to agro-industrial residues and organic waste. The role of EU and Mediterranean regulatory frameworks is discussed in guiding current practices and future transitions. Selected case studies connect theoretical concepts with real-world applications.

Water and Wastewater: Management, Reuse and Recovery

Gianluigi Farru & Alessandra Carucci, University of Cagliari

Friday, February 6th

14:30 – 16:30

The lecture addresses sustainable water and wastewater management in the Mediterranean context and the relevant EU and Mediterranean policy frameworks. It will present key treatment approaches, focusing on wastewater reuse and resource recovery, such as energy and nutrients, as responses to scarcity and environmental pressures, highlighting the role of circular economy principles in enhancing resilience and sustainability of water systems.

Online faculty



Giulio Lo Iacono is currently Secretary General of the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS), where he is responsible for the General Secretariat. In this role, he has coordinated all editions of the Sustainable Development Festival from 2017 to 2022.

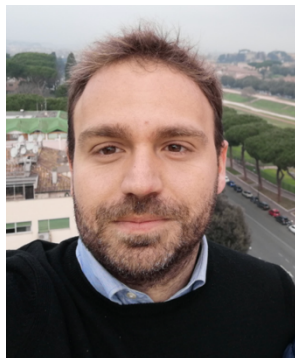
Before joining ASviS, he worked on sustainability-related issues at companies such as CAP and Enel, with a particular focus on communication and stakeholder engagement. He also worked in New York at the United Nations Global Compact, where he served as manager for European networks during the negotiation phase of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Earlier in his career, he worked at BNL in external relations and collaborated with RAI and several university master's programmes.



Antonio Pusceddu is full Professor of Ecology at the University of Cagliari and he has been president of the Italian Society of Ecology and the Italian Association of Oceanography and Limnology. He coordinated or participated in numerous national (PNRA, PRIN, PNRR) and international (FPV-VII-EU) projects. He conducts research in marine ecosystems, from coastal lagoons to the oceans' hadal depths, with focus on the relationships between biodiversity and ecosystems functioning and on the impacts of human and natural disturbance, including climate change, on the oceans. Author of more than 170 articles in peer-reviewed journals, he currently scores an H-factor of 51 and >8000 citations (source: Scopus). Recently invited speaker at the 1st National Forum of the National Center for Future Biodiversity, and at the International Symposium on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functions under Global Change, he is Editorial Board Member of Marine Environmental Research (Elsevier), Chemistry and Ecology (Taylor & Francis), Marine Ecology (Wiley), and served as a reviewer for more than 60 scientific journals.



Maurizio Cellura is Full Professor at the Department of Engineering of the University of Palermo, where he teaches *Ecodesign of Systems and Processes* and *Building Physics*. He is the author of more than 150 scientific publications and, among many other activities, he has been a member of the Scientific and Technical Committee of the Green Building Council Italy since 2017.



Giuseppe Maggio is Associate Professor at the Department of Economic, Business and Statistical Sciences of the University of Palermo. He is also a member of the Scientific Committee of the Sustainability and Ecological Transition Centre and a Research Fellow at the International Centre for Economic Analysis at Wilfrid Laurier University (Canada). His research focuses on sustainability issues using spatial approaches, with particular attention to agriculture, environment, development and health economics.



Dr. **Namrata Sharma** is on the faculty at the State University of New York, USA, and an expert with the United Nations Harmony with Nature Knowledge Network (UN HwN). She is an international education consultant and has served on the Boards of several professional organizations in India, USA, and Europe. She holds a bachelor's degree from Delhi University, SRCC, India; a master's degree in education from Soka University, Tokyo, Japan; and a Ph.D. from the University College London – Institute of Education (IOE), UK. She worked as faculty at the University of Nottingham in the UK before her move to the US. She has authored several books, research papers, and articles. Dr. Sharma has specialist interests in Global Citizenship Education, Sustainability Education, International and Comparative Education. In her ongoing research work she is engaged in drawing meaningful linkages between teaching the UNESCO-led initiatives of Global Citizenship Education and Sustainability.

In presence faculty



Massimiliano Tarozzi (Director) UNESCO Chair in GCEHE, University of Bologna is UNESCO Chair in Global Citizenship Education in Higher Education. He is Full Professor at the University of Bologna where he is founding director of the International Research Centre on Global Citizenship Education (GCED). He was Co-director of the Development Education Research Centre at IOE, UCL's Faculty of Education Society, where he remains Visiting Professor. He is member of the Advisory Board and Coordinator of Academic Network on Global Education and Learning. He has been Visiting Professor for many international universities including UCLA, Beijing Normal University, and São Paulo University and is Co convenor of the special interest group Theory and Methods of empirical research in education within the Italian Society for Educational Research. In addition to several scientific articles, he has written or edited 18 books in the field of intercultural and Global Citizenship Education, and qualitative research methods.



Alessandra Carucci is Full Professor in Sanitary-Environmental Engineering at the University of Cagliari. Her research activity is mainly in the areas of water and wastewater treatment, with particular attention to nutrient removal and advanced biological processes. She has published more than 150 papers, mostly on international journals and derived from experimental works, and has coordinated several national and European research projects. She is reviewer for the main international journals of her scientific area and expert evaluator for the European Commission for the Framework Programmes (FP6, FP7 and Horizon). At the University of Cagliari she has been Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Architecture, Director of the Doctoral School in Environmental Engineering and Science and, since 2015, she is Vice-Rector for International Affairs.



Rym LARIBI is Director of the Higher Institute of Childhood Management (ISCE), University of Carthage, Tunisia. She is Assistant Professor in Education Sciences, holding a PhD in Life and Earth Sciences Didactics, and member of the Scientific Council of the University of Carthage. Her research activities focus on early childhood educator training, science didactics, inclusive education, global citizenship, sustainable development, and curriculum design.

She is a member of the UNITWIN/UNESCO “Arab-European Network on Global Citizenship and Sustainability” and actively engages in transnational and Euro-Mediterranean university cooperation projects, including the MARE Project (Mediterranean Alliances for Research and Education) funded by the National Recovery and Resilience Plan – Next Generation EU. Her contributions include designing and implementing advanced training programs, developing hybrid and certified educational modules, promoting academic and scientific mobility, and strengthening Euro-Mediterranean partnerships to support inclusive and sustainable education.



Jouhaina Gherib is UNESCO Chairholder and professor of Strategic Management at the University of Manouba in Tunisia. She holds a PhD from the University of Paris 1-Panthéon Sorbonne in France and has published over 30 scientific publications and conference papers. Her research interests include strategic decision-making, corporate social responsibility, entrepreneurial orientation and the sustainable development goals (SDG). She was elected as Vice-Rector for Research and International Relations in 2011, then, in 2014. She was later elected as the sixth Rector of the University of Manouba in 2017 and re-elected again in 2020 becoming the first woman in Tunisia to do so. In 2024 she was awarded the newly created UNESCO Chair for Sustainable Development in Africa, based at the University of Manouba. Throughout her career, Prof. Gherib has devoted her efforts to making scientific research results of the university more visible and to aligning the quality of education with international standards and doing so with a constant interest in the well-being of the entire community. By relying on technology and culture as accelerators, she works to increase the societal impact of the university and open the way to a sustainable modernization of Tunisian society as a whole by educating responsible and innovative citizens rooted in their context as well as connected to their global.



Naouel Abdellatif Mami is Vice-Rector for External Relations, Cooperation, Communication, and Scientific Events at Mohamed Lamine Debaghine Sétif 2 University, a position she has held since 2012. She holds a Ph.D. in Psychopedagogy and Foreign Language Teaching/Learning and completed postdoctoral research at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland). She began her academic career in 2005 as a lecturer in English.

Recognized for her academic excellence, she was named the *Youngest Professor in Algeria* in 2016 and received the *Virtue et Conoscenza – Mare Nostrum Award* in Italy in 2022. She has coordinated numerous national and international research projects, including initiatives on human rights, intercultural dialogue, university governance, and social responsibility, several of which have been recognized as best practices at European level. Prof. Abdellatif Mami is currently leading projects on innovation in higher education, including initiatives on artificial intelligence in language teaching in collaboration with the University of Leeds. She is a member of several international and national bodies, including the Board of UNIMED and the Algerian National Commission for the Transition to University 4.0. Her research interests include global citizenship education, internationalization, educational innovation, digital transformation, and the socio-ecological role of universities. She is also actively engaged in promoting social responsibility and gender equality in higher education.



Valentina Cappi (University of Bologna) is researcher at the Department of Interpretation and Translation of the University of Bologna, where she teaches "Media and Climate Change Communication" and "Gender and Sociology". Her research interests concern the relationships between media narratives, imaginary and social practice. She is currently conducting research on Italian public perception on climate change and media framing of this phenomenon

She is part of the research team for the Horizon Europe "Alphabetic: Activating learning paths: holistic arts-based education and training for inclusion and cultural awareness" and she has collaborated on other Horizon2020 projects, including "Perceptions: Understanding the Impact of Narratives and Perceptions of Europe on Migration and Providing Practices, Tools and Guides for Practitioners". She has been short term scholar at the Institute at Brown for

Environment and Society (IBES) of the Brown University (USA) and she is author of several scientific publications.



Chiara Garau Chiara Garau is Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Cagliari (Italy) and holds the National Scientific Qualification as Full Professor in the same sector. With a multidisciplinary background spanning Architectural Engineering, Communication Science, Business Intelligence and a PhD in Urban Planning, she is an internationally recognised expert in smart, sustainable and happy cities. She has held visiting professorships and research appointments across Europe, Africa, and the United States, and has been invited speaker, keynote and scientific committee member at major global conferences and international policy forums, including EU and NATO initiatives. Regularly serves as evaluator for the European Research Council and the European Commission (Horizon Europe and MSCA). Her research leadership includes numerous national and EU-funded projects on smart cities, urban planning, urban analytics, smart mobility, and urban governance. She has ranked among the top 2% most cited scientists worldwide (Stanford–Elsevier) for the last five consecutive years. She is author of over 150 scientific publications.



Gianluigi Farru is a researcher at the Department of Civil, Environmental Engineering and Architecture (DICAAR) of the University of Cagliari (Italy), where he also teaches within the Environmental Engineering programme, delivering the course Environmental Pollution and Remediation Processes. His scientific work is centred on the development and assessment of thermochemical treatment technologies for organic waste streams, with a specific focus on hydrothermal carbonization. His research addresses the recovery and upgrading of agro-industrial residues within the broader framework of circular bioeconomy and sustainable resource management. He obtained his PhD in Earth and Environmental Sciences from the University of Cagliari, earning the Doctor Europaeus certification in 2022. Over the course of his academic career, he has undertaken international research stays at IMT Atlantique (France), the ATB Leibniz Institute (Germany),

and the University of Extremadura (Spain), and he regularly contributes as a speaker to international scientific conferences on waste valorisation and circular bioeconomy.



Fabiano Asunis is a fixed-term Assistant Researcher (RTD-A) at the Department of Civil, Environmental Engineering and Architecture (DICAAR), University of Cagliari (Italy), and Lecturer in *Biological Reactors and Laboratory* within the Industrial and Environmental Biotechnology programme at Consorzio UNO (Oristano). His research focuses on biological processes for the valorisation of agro-industrial residues, with particular attention to circular bioeconomy principles. He holds a PhD in Earth and Environmental Sciences from the University of Cagliari, with Doctor Europaeus certification. He is the author of over 20 peer-reviewed scientific publications and has served as reviewer for more than 50 international journal articles. Fabiano has carried out research stays at Tampere University (Finland), NOVA University Lisbon (Portugal), and the University of Galway (Ireland), and regularly participates as speaker in international conferences on circular bioeconomy and waste valorisation. His interests also include technology transfer and research-based entrepreneurship.

Tutor and contacts

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