EU CONEXUS
European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability

Co-funded by the European Union

Report on research networking and mobility

D8.1

Final Version

WP 8 Research Networking and Mobility

Contractual due date: *31st October 2026 (M48)*

Final delivery date: *12th October 2026 (M48)*

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Dissemination level: Public

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Executive summary

Work Package 8 (WP8) – Research Networking and Mobility – aimed to strengthen research collaboration, knowledge exchange and international networking within EU-CONEXUS. Through mobility between partner institutions, invitations of external experts, and participation in international scientific events, WP8 contributed to developing an interdisciplinary research community addressing Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability (SmUCS).

WP8 established a comprehensive mobility framework comprising three activities: T8.1, research mobility between partner institutions; T8.2, invitation of external guest researchers; and T8.3, participation in international conferences and scientific events related to SmUCS. The framework combined decentralised management of T8.1 by partner institutions with centralised coordination of T8.2 and T8.3. Common eligibility criteria, transparent selection procedures, digital monitoring tools, and regular coordination meetings ensured consistent implementation across the nine partner universities. Continuous feedback and procedural improvements enhanced accessibility and efficiency throughout the project.

Between May 2023 and October 2026, WP8 supported 474 mobility activities, exceeding the combined target of 438. These comprised 357 research mobilities under T8.1 (112% of the target), 51 invited external experts under T8.2 (85%), and 66 international conference participations under T8.3 (110%). All nine partner institutions participated, demonstrating the Alliance-wide reach of the programme. Following improvements to communication and administrative procedures after the mid-term assessment, application numbers increased substantially.

The three mobility schemes generated complementary benefits for researchers, doctoral candidates, students, and the wider Alliance. Under T8.1, mobility facilitated knowledge transfer, access to specialised research facilities, professional networking, and collaborative research. Surveys showed that 88% of respondents established at least one new professional contact, while 36% reported concrete plans for future collaboration. Furthermore, all nine partner institutions concluded at least one Erasmus+ inter-institutional agreement with another EU-CONEXUS partner, strengthening the basis for continued exchanges.

Under T8.2, 51 guest researchers from 28 countries and 47 organisations contributed through keynote speeches, lectures, specialised courses, and workshops. Their activities reached an estimated audience of more than 3,000 participants. Online dissemination and shared educational materials extended access to external expertise beyond the host institutions, while approximately 94% of invited experts maintained contact with EU-CONEXUS participants after their visits.

Under T8.3, participants represented EU-CONEXUS at scientific conferences, workshops, networking events, and summer schools in 26 countries and 47 cities. Nearly 70% of survey respondents established new professional contacts, and 46% identified opportunities for future collaboration. These activities increased the Alliance's international visibility and supported research dissemination and partnership development. Early-career researchers benefited particularly: approximately 60% of participants supported under T8.3 during the final implementation period were PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers. Knowledge gained through international engagement was also transferred into teaching, supervision, and training activities.

Beyond individual mobility outcomes, WP8 strengthened Alliance integration, interdisciplinary collaboration, and European added value. Activities connected researchers across institutional and disciplinary boundaries in fields including coastal and marine environments, environmental sustainability, agriculture, governance, health, infrastructure resilience, and the blue economy.

More than 90% of survey respondents evaluated their mobility experience positively, while 87% reported benefits for their professional development. Follow-up assessments identified continued collaborations, joint publications, research proposals, co-supervision arrangements, and joint educational activities.

The experience gained highlights the importance of balancing local flexibility with effective Alliance-level coordination. Clear procedures, targeted communication, harmonised monitoring, and systematic participant feedback proved essential for successful implementation and continuous improvement. The structures, tools, and institutional relationships established through WP8 provide a foundation for sustaining mobility schemes beyond the current funding period.

In conclusion, WP8 demonstrated that research mobility is not merely a means of supporting individual exchanges, but a strategic instrument for strengthening research capacity, international engagement, knowledge transfer, and long-term cooperation within a European University Alliance. Its achievements provide a valuable basis for future mobility initiatives supporting an integrated European research and education community addressing shared societal challenges.

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ANNEX 26

Description

1. Background and objectives

The European University for Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability (EU-CONEXUS) aims to foster collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange among its partner institutions. Research mobility opportunities are a crucial component of this strategy.

EU-CONEXUS focus on the topic of Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability (SmUCS), which means to focus its education, research & innovation, and knowledge-sharing activities on defining, understanding and addressing societal challenges that are experienced by communities from urban and semi-urbanised coastal regions (rivers, seas and oceans).

To manage and coordinate research mobilities among the partner institutions, a dedicated work package, WP8 Research Networking and Mobility, was established. The alliance's partner institutions include La Rochelle Université (LRUniv), Agricultural University of Athens (AUA), Catholic University of Valencia (UCV), Klaipeda University (KU), University of Zadar (UNiZD), Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest (UTCB), South East Technological University (SETU), University of Rostock (UROS), and Frederick University (FredU), with UROS as the lead beneficiary.

The key objectives of WP8, established at the initial stage, are as follows:

- 1. Development of an EU-CONEXUS research community in following-up on tools and procedures implemented in the pilot phase. Developing research networking & mobility is part of the greater strategy for education in which students will profit from excellent research existing at partner institutions and because of the close Relation between research and education at partner universities excellence in research will ultimately lead to excellence in teaching.
- 2. Promotion of networking and multi-disciplinary interactions between the partners and international guest researchers in close cooperation with WP9, which provides important structures for joint research activities
- 3. Promotion of research staff mobility facilitated through Erasmus+ inter-institutional agreements of partner universities.

2. Tasks

Three tasks were defined by the Grant Agreement (GA) to achieve the aforementioned objectives:

T8.1 Launch of a call for research staff mobility

Based on the experiences of the ongoing research staff mobility in EU-CONEXUS, a mobility call on SmUCS research topics especially for young researchers will be implemented. The call will further strengthen the cooperation between the partners and foster networking and knowledge exchange on SmUCS research topics. In particular, the call aims to support joint research work and project development on SmUCS topics. In order to support a relevant number of researchers, staff mobilities of about five days are planned. In some dedicated cases (finalising a PhD or starting a cooperative scientific project) longer stays are possible. In order to be able to take into account developments as well as current research projects of the Alliance, there will be four rounds of calls, each of which will

support up to 18 researchers and PhD students. The local coordinators directly and internally manage and coordinate such mobilities from own universities. In addition to this kind of mobility, travel of up to eight researchers and PhD students per partner attending annual EU-CONEXUS conferences will be supported by this call. Through the after-mobility surveys, the most important results of the visits are made known to the network in the form of short communications e.g., on the website or the social media channels. Mobility coordinators will help to organise and implement the mobilities

T8.2 Invitation of external guest researchers

EU-CONEXUS will support the invitation of excellent visiting guest researchers from outside the Alliance at partner institutions to enhance the competencies of the EU-CONEXUS research community and to offer research-related teaching content to students. Each visiting scientist will be given the opportunity to present his/her institution and research areas. These presentations will be made publicly available within EU-CONEXUS as streamed scientific talks/lectures or shared slides. Announcements will be made on the Alliance website, social media channels, and via the research staff involved. In quarterly calls, researchers can propose visiting researchers to be invited. A review panel as a committee qualified by the Research Council (RC) will decide on the invitations on a basis of comprehensible criteria. In total at least 60 guest researchers can be invited.

T8.3 Enhancing participation in conferences on SmUCS topics

An important task in EU-CONEXUS is to present outcomes to the SmUCS community, either actively in science or in practice-related areas. For this purpose, participation of researchers from all disciplines in international conferences and other scientific events is to be promoted. Considering also the thematic interest and focus of the Alliance, calls for participation in international events will be launched quarterly. Funding decisions on applications are made on an ad hoc basis and will be based on an evaluation of the relevance by a qualified subcommittee of the RC. In total at least 60 researchers, PhD students and research managers within the Alliance can be funded.

3. Action and activities

3.1 Establishment of the WP8 Mobility Framework

During the pilot phase of WP8 (November 2022 – May 2023), the primary focus was placed on establishing a harmonised operational framework for research mobility and networking activities across the EU-CONEXUS Alliance. The preparatory work aimed to ensure that the planned activities could be implemented efficiently across partner institutions while remaining aligned with the objectives and requirements defined in the GA.

Draft versions of the three mobility calls corresponding to Tasks T8.1, T8.2, and T8.3 were prepared by the WP8 lead beneficiary UROS, and subsequently revised in close collaboration with all partner institutions. Two coordination meetings were organised on 23 January and 4 April 2023 to discuss implementation procedures, administrative feasibility, eligibility conditions, mobility formats, and evaluation mechanisms. The revised framework and procedural adaptations were validated by the WP8 representatives and RC in May 2023. The detailed description of the mobility scheme can be found in the *D8.2 WP8 Methodology and Framework*. This document was created as supplementary material for the *MS6 Mid-term assessment of the measures to promote research networks and mobilities*. Particular attention was dedicated to establishing a coordination structure capable of

supporting both decentralised and centrally coordinated mobility schemes. The establishment of this operational framework laid the foundation for the subsequent launch and implementation of the WP8 mobility and networking activities.

3.1.1. Decentralized framework for mobilities within Alliance

Each partner institution is responsible for the internal management of the application, evaluation, and reimbursement procedures related to T8.1. This modification was introduced for two main reasons. Firstly, the budget allocated for this type of mobility within the EU-CONEXUS Alliance has been designed to be managed internally and independently by each partner institution. Decentralised management therefore improves administrative efficiency and reduces unnecessary bureaucracy and communication, provided that an effective monitoring framework is ensured (see Section 3.5. and *D8.2 WP8 Methodology and Framework*). Secondly, since the mobility funding is administered by the respective home institutions, partner institutions are in a better position to assess the eligibility and relevance of applications submitted, thereby improving administrative efficiency and allow institutions to assess the scientific relevance of applications in accordance with local research priorities.

Mobility to the JRI conference (also known as the EU-CONEXUS research conference) was changed to be categorized under T8.1. Each university has a budget to theoretically support up to eight mobilities annually for such conferences. WP8 has provided a budget calculation (link) to show the foreseen cost. Accepted participants attending the EU-CONEXUS research conference was exempted from submitting an additional mobility application, as their eligibility has already been evaluated and validated by the WP9 Scientific Committee. This measure was introduced in order to avoid redundant evaluation procedures and to streamline the administrative process. The annual and total target research mobility numbers were calculated and shown in Table 1 and Table 2, respectively. It should be noted that these numbers represent internal target values established within WP8 for implementation and monitoring purposes only, and do not constitute official Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) defined in the GA.

Table 1 The annual target research mobility number of each partner institution and the whole alliance for T8.1

	To JRI conf.	Other mobilities	Total
JRI conference host	0	2	2
AUA	6	1	7
Other partner institutions	8	2	10
Total	6 + 8 * 7 = 62	2 + 1 + 2 * 7 = 17	2 + 7 + 10 * 7 = 79

Table 2 The total target research mobility number of each partner institution and the whole alliance for T8.1

	JRI conf. host	To JRI conf.	Other mobilities	Total
AUA	Yes	6 * 3 yr = 18	1 * 4 yr = 4	22
UCV / UTCB / UROS	Yes	8 * 3 yr = 24	2 * 4 yr = 8	32
LRUniv / UNiZD / KU / SETU / FredU	No	8 * 4 yr = 32	2 * 4 yr = 8	40
Total		18 + 24 * 3 + 32 * 5 = 250	4 + 8 * 3 + 8 * 5 = 68	22 + 32 * 3 + 40 * 5 = 318

3.1.2. Centralized coordination of Alliance-level mobilities

The mobilities for T8.2 Invitation of External Expert and T8.3 Participation in International Conferences on SmUCS were centrally coordinated by the WP8 lead beneficiary UROS, with the support of local WP8 representatives at the partner institutions, EU-CONEXA and a dedicated review panel. EU-CONEXA is a Belgian non-profit association managing common funds for the partner institutions. The review panel comprising at least one researcher from each partner institution is responsible to jointly evaluate the T8.2 and T8.3 mobility applications with clear and transparent selection criteria. The responsibilities of this centralized framework included the provision of application guidelines, support throughout the submission process, and the collection of the required documentation for the subsequent evaluation and reimbursement procedure. This centralised approach was adopted because the Alliance-level mobility schemes under T8.2 and T8.3 were financed through the common EU-CONEXA budget. Compared to decentralised institutional management, a unified coordination structure can provide a more consistent and harmonised implementation framework across the Alliance, ensure greater financial and administrative efficiency, facilitate mobility monitoring during the implementation phase, and enable the systematic collection of after-mobility feedback and follow-up study for reporting and impact assessment purposes.

3.2. Launch and Dissemination of Mobility Calls

Following the establishment of the operational framework, WP8 focused on the launch and dissemination of the mobility opportunities across the EU-CONEXUS Alliance. Particular emphasis was placed on ensuring broad visibility of the calls, transparent access to information, and inclusive participation from the different target groups addressed by the work package.

WP8 collaborated closely with the Joint Communication Unit (JCU) to develop dedicated webpages for the mobility calls under three categories (link). These webpages served as the central information hub for applicants, providing comprehensive guidance on the objectives of the calls, eligibility criteria, application procedures, required documentation, selection processes, financial provisions, and reimbursement rules. The initial structure and content of the webpages were established following coordination meetings held on 23 January and 4 April 2023, and were subsequently updated on a regular basis in response to operational experience, applicant feedback, and evolving implementation needs.

To maximise outreach and visibility, communication and promotional materials were disseminated through multiple Alliance-wide channels, including the EU-CONEXUS website and official social media platforms such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram. Particular emphasis was placed on targeted reminder campaigns organised approximately one month prior to each application deadline, ensuring timely communication and allowing potential applicants sufficient preparation time before submission.

In parallel, WP8 ensured coherent internal dissemination across partner institutions by regularly providing local WP8 representatives with standardised communication templates, promotional materials, and dissemination guidelines. Local representatives actively promoted the mobility schemes within their faculties, departments, and research communities, thereby strengthening institutional engagement and encouraging interdisciplinary participation across the Alliance.

Continuous dissemination activities contributed significantly to maintaining the visibility of WP8 throughout the implementation period and to strengthening awareness of EU-CONEXUS research mobility opportunities among researchers, academic staff, and associated stakeholders.

Additional communication measures were progressively introduced during the implementation phase. These included the promotion of incoming guest researchers funded under T8.2, promotion of keynote speakers participating in the annual EU-CONEXUS Research Conference, visibility campaigns highlighting mobility activities, and the showcase of selected outstanding mobility experiences and success stories in each year. Collectively, these actions contributed to increasing the visibility of the mobility calls and encouraging participation, while also fostering engagement and interaction within the broader SmUCS community.

The pilot mobility call was officially launched in May 2023, with application deadlines established for June and September 2023. This initial pilot phase provided valuable operational feedback from WP8 representatives, applicants, and collaborating work packages. Based on the lessons learned during pilot phase, a coordination meeting was organised on 6 December 2023 to discuss procedural adaptations and identify measures to improve the efficiency, accessibility, and clarity of the mobility schemes.

In the subsequent implementation phases, updated calls were launched annually, accompanied by revised communication strategies reflecting the experience gained during previous cycles. The management of T8.1 applications and evaluations continued to be organised internally by each partner institution, allowing increased flexibility in defining dissemination approaches and internal deadlines in accordance with local academic calendars and institutional procedures. For T8.2 and T8.3, the application system remained continuously open throughout the year. However, evaluations by the review panel were organised on a quarterly basis, namely in February, April, July, and October each year. The introduction of more frequent evaluation rounds enabled applicants to receive funding decisions within shorter timeframes, improved the responsiveness of the mobility scheme, and increased flexibility for mobility activities requiring rapid implementation or short-notice planning.

3.3. Evaluation and Selection Procedures

WP8 established a structured, transparent, and quality-oriented evaluation system to ensure the scientific relevance, fairness, and operational feasibility of all supported mobility activities. Eligibility criteria and selection procedures were initially defined during the pilot phase and subsequently refined throughout the implementation period in response to operational experience, stakeholder feedback, and the evolving strategic priorities of the Alliance.

3.3.1. Evaluation and Selection for mobilities within Alliance

For T8.1 research mobilities between partner institutions, the evaluation and selection process was coordinated internally by the respective partner universities through their local institutional coordinators and WP8 representatives. The validated mobility call defined common eligibility requirements and recommended evaluation criteria applicable across the Alliance (*D8.2 WP8 Methodology and Framework*). *D8.2* provides a detailed overview of the institutional selection procedures and evaluation criteria applied by each partner university.

Each partner institution organised the evaluation of T8.1 application according to its internally defined deadlines and institutional priorities. Application documents and selection results were archived locally at the respective home institutions as well as on WP8 Whaller sphere folders (link), while key implementation data were continuously updated in the shared WP8 T8.1 monitoring table on the WP8 Whaller sphere (link). Selected T8.1 mobilities were documented and monitored through a consolidated tracking table presented in Annex 1, with personal data removed in compliance with

GDPR requirements. This monitoring framework served as the primary tool for tracking implementation progress, mobility distribution, and reporting activities within WP8.

As described in Section 3.1, participants accepted to attend the annual EU-CONEXUS Research Conference were exempted from submitting an additional T8.1 mobility application, since their eligibility had already been evaluated and validated by the WP9 Scientific Committee during the conference selection procedure. This approach reduced administrative duplication and streamlined the mobility support process. Such mobilities were also documented in the WP8 T8.1 monitoring table (link)

Following the approval of mobilities, the administrative management and reimbursement procedures were implemented internally by each partner institution. This decentralised approach allowed institutions to align mobility support with local administrative regulations and research priorities, while maintaining overall coherence within the common Alliance framework.

3.3.2. Evaluation and Selection for Alliance-level mobilities

For T8.2 Invitation of External Experts and T8.3 Participation in International Conferences on SmUCS, a centralised evaluation procedure was established through a dedicated review panel composed of researchers nominated by all partner institutions. The review panel was established since the pilot phase in 2023 to assess applications according to predefined criteria, including relevance to SmUCS, scientific quality, expected networking impact, and alignment with the strategic objectives of EU-CONEXUS. A detailed description of the initial eligibility and evaluation criteria is provided in *D8.2 WP8 Methodology and Framework*.

As the number of applications increased throughout 2024 and early 2025, WP8 received feedback from review panel members requesting more detailed and harmonised evaluation criteria in order to facilitate a more consistent and accurate assessment process. In response, a coordination meeting was organised on 20 May 2025 to revise and further refine the eligibility and selection criteria for T8.2 (link) and T8.3 (link). The updated criteria were subsequently validated by RC in June 2025.

The revised eligibility and evaluation criteria introduced a more detailed scoring structure and clearer assessment standards. In particular, it clarified the rules concerning minimum score thresholds, the treatment of repeat applicants, applications submitted for the same event, and tie-breaking procedures. The revised criteria were also promptly updated on the official application webpages to ensure transparency, equal treatment of applicants, and full accessibility of the evaluation rules.

In order to improve flexibility and responsiveness, the evaluation timeline for T8.2 and T8.3 was revised following the pilot implementation phase in 2023. While applications remained continuously open throughout the year, evaluation rounds were organised on a quarterly basis in February, April, July, and October. This adjustment enabled more timely decision-making and allowed the mobility schemes to better accommodate scientific events and networking activities planned at relatively short notice.

WP8 also collaborated closely with WP9 and the Scientific Committee in the coordination and evaluation of invited keynote speakers and external experts participating in the annual EU-CONEXUS Research Conferences. This cooperation contributed to strengthening the scientific quality, interdisciplinary dimension, and networking impact of the Alliance-level conferences.

3.4 Implementation of Mobility Activities

Following the launch of the mobility calls, WP8 supported the implementation of mobility activities across the EU-CONEXUS Alliance under Tasks T8.1, T8.2, and T8.3. The implemented activities involved researchers, PhD candidates, research managers, and administrative staff from the partner institutions and external organisations connected to SmUCS-related topics.

The implemented T8.1 mobilities between partner institutions included hosted lectures, training activities, staff visits, workshops, conference participation, and summer schools organised within the EU-CONEXUS framework. Mobilities were implemented between the partner universities according to the institutional procedures described in Section 3.1 and the evaluation framework described in Section 3.3. The mobilities generally lasted between three and ten working days, depending on the purpose and format of the activity.

T8.2 focused on the invitation of external experts and guest participants from organisations and institutions outside the EU-CONEXUS Alliance. The implemented activities included lectures, workshops, networking activities, training sessions, and participation in the annual EU-CONEXUS Research Conferences. WP8 worked in coordination with WP9 and local conference organisers regarding the participation and mobility arrangements of keynote speakers, invited experts, and conference participants supported under T8.2.

In line with the objectives of T8.2, visiting guest researchers supported through the mobility scheme were actively promoted across the EU-CONEXUS Alliance. Information about upcoming visits, scientific talks, lectures, and related activities was disseminated through the EU-CONEXUS website and social media channels, and partner institution networks in order to maximise visibility and encourage participation from the wider research community. These communication activities helped raise awareness of the mobility opportunities and facilitated broader engagement with the expertise brought to the Alliance by visiting researchers.

Under T8.3, mobilities were implemented to support participation in international conferences, networking events, consortium-building activities, and thematic summer schools related to SmUCS topics. Supported activities included conference presentations, lectures, poster sessions, session chairing, panel participation, round table discussions, and matchmaking activities. The mobilities involved participants from the nine EU-CONEXUS partner universities and were implemented through the centralised coordination framework described in Section 3.1.

To further maximise the visibility, accessibility, and long-term value of the mobility activities, all mobility participants were encouraged throughout the implementation period to share materials and outputs generated during their mobility experiences. These materials included conference presentations, lecture slides, posters, workshop materials, keynote speech recordings, training resources, and other relevant dissemination outputs. The collected materials of outstanding examples are made available through the official EU-CONEXUS communication and dissemination channels, including the Alliance website and dedicated online platforms. By systematically gathering and sharing these outputs, WP8 aimed to extend the impact of individual mobility activities beyond the direct participants and host institutions, enabling wider knowledge exchange and fostering greater engagement across the entire EU-CONEXUS community.

Throughout the implementation period, WP8 continuously monitored the execution of mobility activities through the established reporting and monitoring framework. Mobility data, participation

records, and implementation information were collected and consolidated for internal monitoring, reporting, and follow-up purposes. Further information regarding the outcomes, impact, and long-term benefits of the implemented activities is presented in Section 4

3.5. Monitoring, Reporting and Process Optimisation

A continuous monitoring, reporting, and quality improvement approach was implemented throughout the duration of WP8 in order to ensure the effective coordination of mobility activities, assess their outcomes and impact, and support the long-term sustainability of the mobility framework across the EU-CONEXUS Alliance.

As described in *D8.2 WP8 Methodology and Framework*, a dedicated monitoring framework for T8.1 mobilities was established in cooperation with all partner institutions during the pilot implementation phase. Monitoring tools and reporting structures were implemented through the WP8 Whaller Sphere, enabling partner institutions to regularly update mobility information and monitor implementation progress.

For T8.2 and T8.3, EU-CONEXA supported the establishment of a shared online mobility registry (link) on Whaller. This registry table served as a centralised monitoring tool for tracking the status of accepted, ongoing, and completed mobilities, including mobility dates, duration, budget pre-checks, reimbursement status, and completion of after-mobility surveys. Based on this common registry, two additional dedicated monitoring tables were subsequently created for T8.2 (link) and T8.3 (link) respectively, allowing a more detailed documentation of mobility-related outcomes and dissemination materials.

Mobility data collection and monitoring activities were conducted on a continuous basis throughout the implementation period in order to assess participation levels, monitor implementation progress, support internal reporting activities, and identify operational challenges requiring further adjustments. Following the launch of the first mobility calls, eleven internal coordination meetings were organised involving WP8 representatives from all partner institutions. During these meetings, the implementation status of the mobility calls, application statistics, budget utilisation, and progress towards the planned implementation targets were presented and discussed. The meetings also served as an important platform for the exchange of operational experience, identification of implementation challenges, and discussion of procedural improvements across the Alliance. In addition, a dedicated WP8 mid-term report was prepared and presented to RC during the EU-CONEXUS Research Conference in 2024.

The after-mobility study constituted an important component of the WP8 monitoring framework, aiming to assess participant experiences, mobility outcomes, networking effects, and the broader impact of the supported activities. During the pilot phase in 2023, after-mobility reporting was initially based on mandatory narrative reports submitted by participants following the completion of their mobility activities. However, based on feedback received from mobility participants and WP8 representatives, the original reporting format was considered administratively burdensome and resulted in relatively low completion rates. In response, WP8 introduced a simplified online survey-based feedback mechanism replacing the original reporting requirements. This revised approach significantly reduced the administrative burden for participants while improving response and completion rates. At the same time, it continued to ensure the systematic collection of relevant information concerning mobility outcomes, participant satisfaction, implementation challenges, networking activities, and perceived benefits of the mobility call.

In May 2026, following the implementation of a substantial number of mobility activities over several years, WP8 initiated additional follow-up assessment activities aimed at evaluating the longer-term impact and sustainability of the mobility scheme. These activities focused in particular on identifying continued scientific collaborations, networking effects, follow-up research activities, and potential future joint initiatives emerging from the supported mobilities. The introduction of this long-term follow-up approach contributed to strengthening the evidence base regarding the broader structural and strategic impact of WP8 within the EU-CONEXUS community.

4. Results and Impact

4.1. Overall Mobility Statistics and Achievement of Targets

Following the launch of the pilot mobility call in May 2023 and continuing until the closure of the final call in October 2026, WP8 successfully established and implemented a comprehensive mobility framework supporting knowledge exchange, staff mobility, external expert engagement, and participation in international scientific events across the EU-CONEXUS Alliance.

During the implementation period, a total of 474 mobility activities were supported under Tasks T8.1, T8.2 and T8.3. These activities included 357 mobilities between the nine partner institutions, 51 invited external experts, and 66 participations in international conferences outside the Alliance (Table 3). Participants represented all nine partner institutions (Table 4) and covered a broad spectrum of thematic areas relevant to SmUCS (Annex 2 and Annex 3), demonstrating the Alliance-wide reach and interdisciplinary character of the mobility scheme.

The overall implementation results indicate a high level of engagement across the Alliance. As shown in Table 3, WP8 achieved 85% of its target for T8.2 and exceeded the target for T8.3, reaching 110% of the planned participation in international conferences. These results demonstrate the strong demand for mobility opportunities and the growing recognition of WP8 as a valuable instrument for international engagement and knowledge exchange within EU-CONEXUS.

Table 3 Overview of WP8 tasks achievement rate

	Target	Achieved	Achievement Rate
T8.1	318	357	112%
T8.2	60	51	85%
T8.3	60	66	110%

Participation was recorded across all nine partner institutions, confirming that the mobility opportunities were successfully embedded throughout the Alliance rather than concentrated within a limited number of universities. While participation levels varied between institutions due to differences in institutional size, disciplinary profiles, and local dissemination strategies, all partners contributed to the implementation of the mobility programme and benefited from the opportunities provided through WP8.

Table 4 Overview of WP8 task achievements of each partner institution

	T8.1 Research mobility	T8.2 External Experts	T8.3 Intl. Conference	Total

AUA	22	8	8	
FredU	35		1	
KU	39	5	11	
LRUniv	39	3	4	
SETU	93	1	12	
UCV	30	7	7	
UNiZD	23	5	2	
UROS	36	9	8	
UTCB	40	12	13	
Total	357	51	66	474
Target	318	60	60	438

The evolution of application numbers further illustrates the increasing visibility and attractiveness of the mobility scheme. During the pilot phase in 2023, participation remained relatively modest as partner institutions familiarised themselves with the newly established procedures and funding opportunities. Following the mid-term assessment and the implementation of revised communication measures, simplified procedures, and improved dissemination activities in early 2024, application numbers increased substantially across all three mobility schemes. As illustrated in Figure 1, the total number of applications approximately doubled following the revision of the calls and communication strategy. The most significant increase was observed under T8.3 Participation in International Conferences on SmUCS Topics, suggesting that clearer communication, improved accessibility of information, and growing awareness of mobility opportunities had a direct positive effect on participation levels.

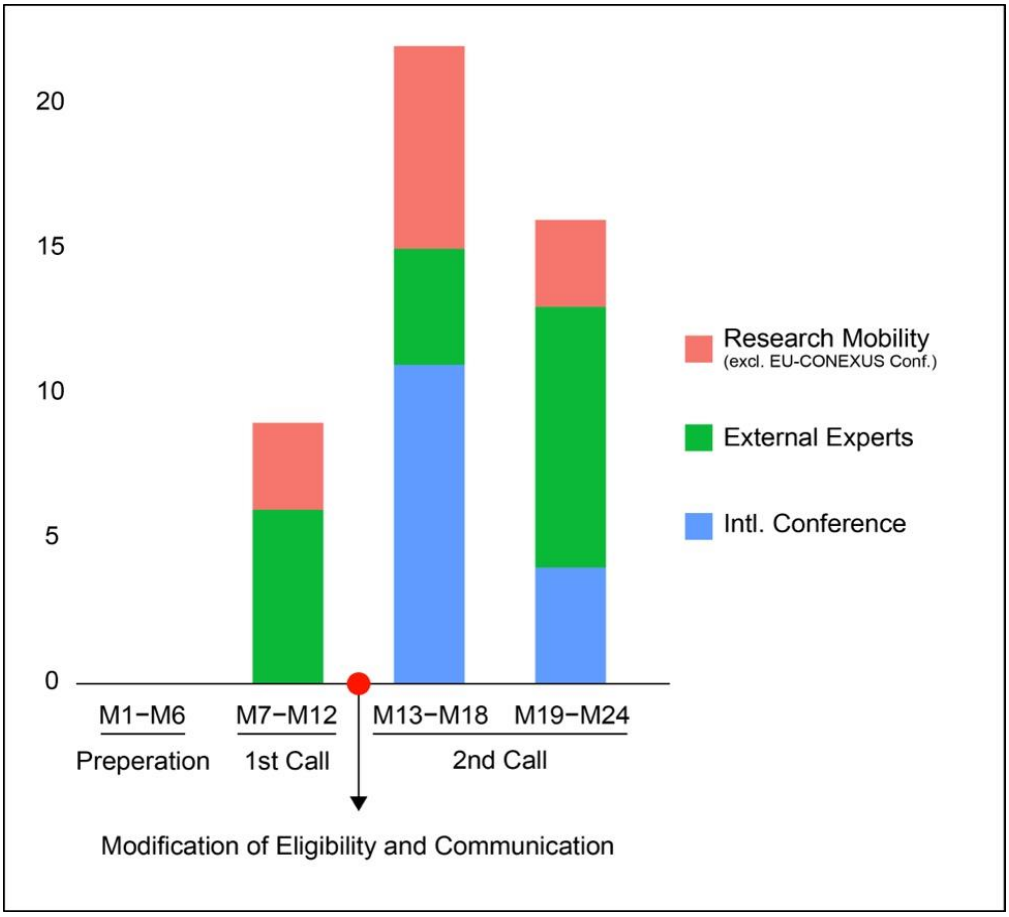


Figure 1. Mobility application numbers from M1 to M24 for all three WP8 tasks.

The implementation data also reveals a sustained growth in completed mobility activities throughout the project lifetime. Both T8.2 and T8.3 recorded increasing numbers of supported mobilities during successive call rounds (Figure 2 and Figure 3). Although the final call in 2026 didn't have a full scale, resulting in lower absolute numbers compared to previous years, participation levels remained strong and continued to reflect sustained demand across the Alliance.

The distribution of mobility activities also highlights the diversity of opportunities supported through WP8. Under T8.2, external experts contributed through three main types of activities: participation in the EU-CONEXUS Research Conference as keynote speakers, delivery of lectures and courses at partner institutions, and participation in local conferences and workshops. While all three categories were represented throughout the implementation period, a gradual increase was observed in expert visits dedicated to lectures and teaching activities (Figure 2). This trend reflects the growing emphasis on knowledge sharing, capacity building, and the integration of external expertise into the educational and academic environment of the Alliance.

The mobility calls attracted increasing participation from early-career researchers. In particular, approximately 60% of participants supported under T8.3 during the final implementation period were PhD candidates and postdoctoral researchers (Figure 3). This development is particularly significant given the original objective of supporting young researchers and facilitating their integration into international academic networks.

The increasing participation of early-career researchers, together with the broad institutional distribution of mobility activities, suggests that WP8 successfully expanded engagement of participants and contributed to the wider integration of the EU-CONEXUS community. Over the course of the project, mobility opportunities evolved from a pilot initiative into a recognised Alliance-wide instrument supporting international engagement, interdisciplinary exchange, and community building across the European University Alliance.

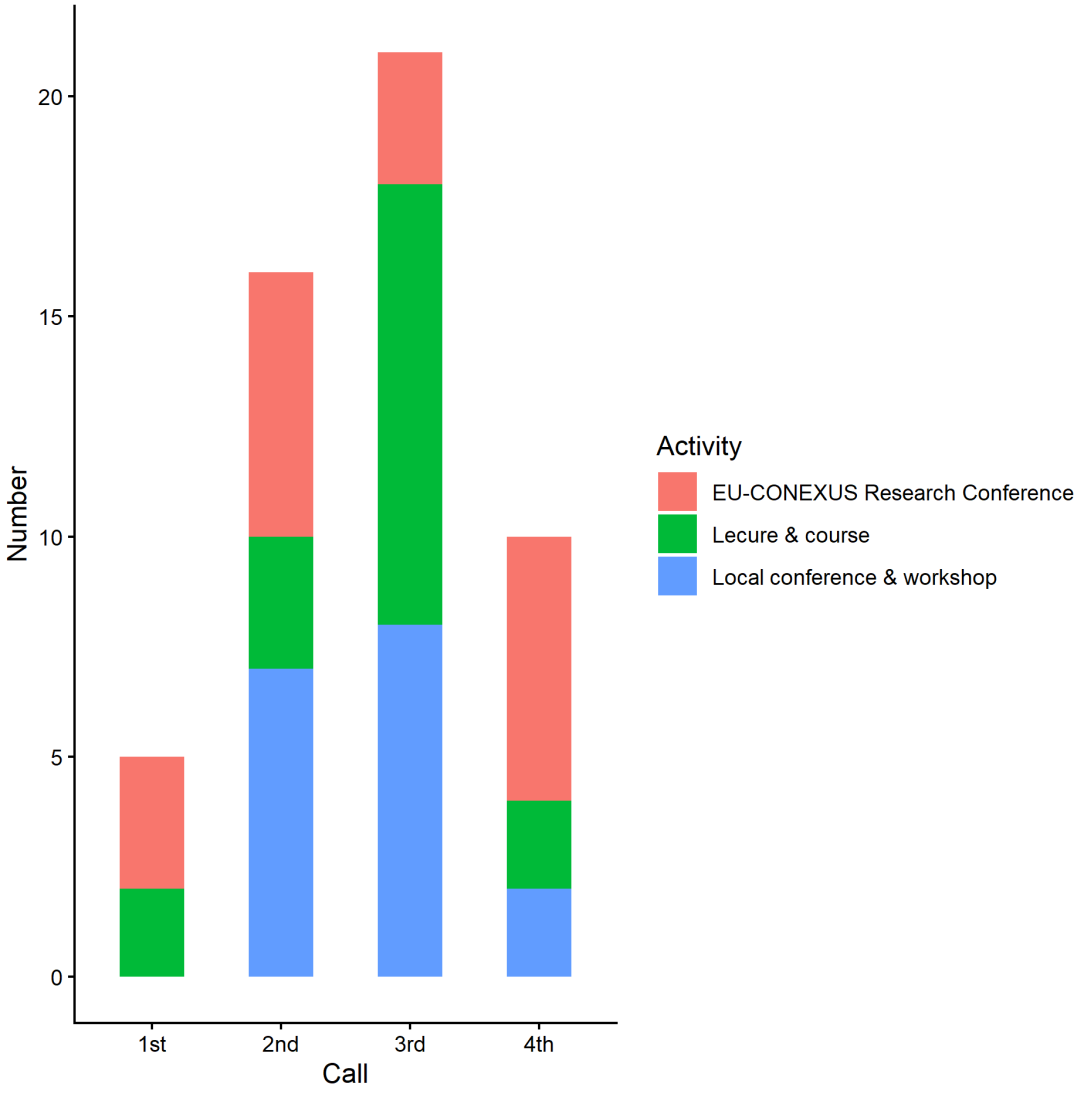


Figure 2 Number of activities implemented by invited external expert via T8.2

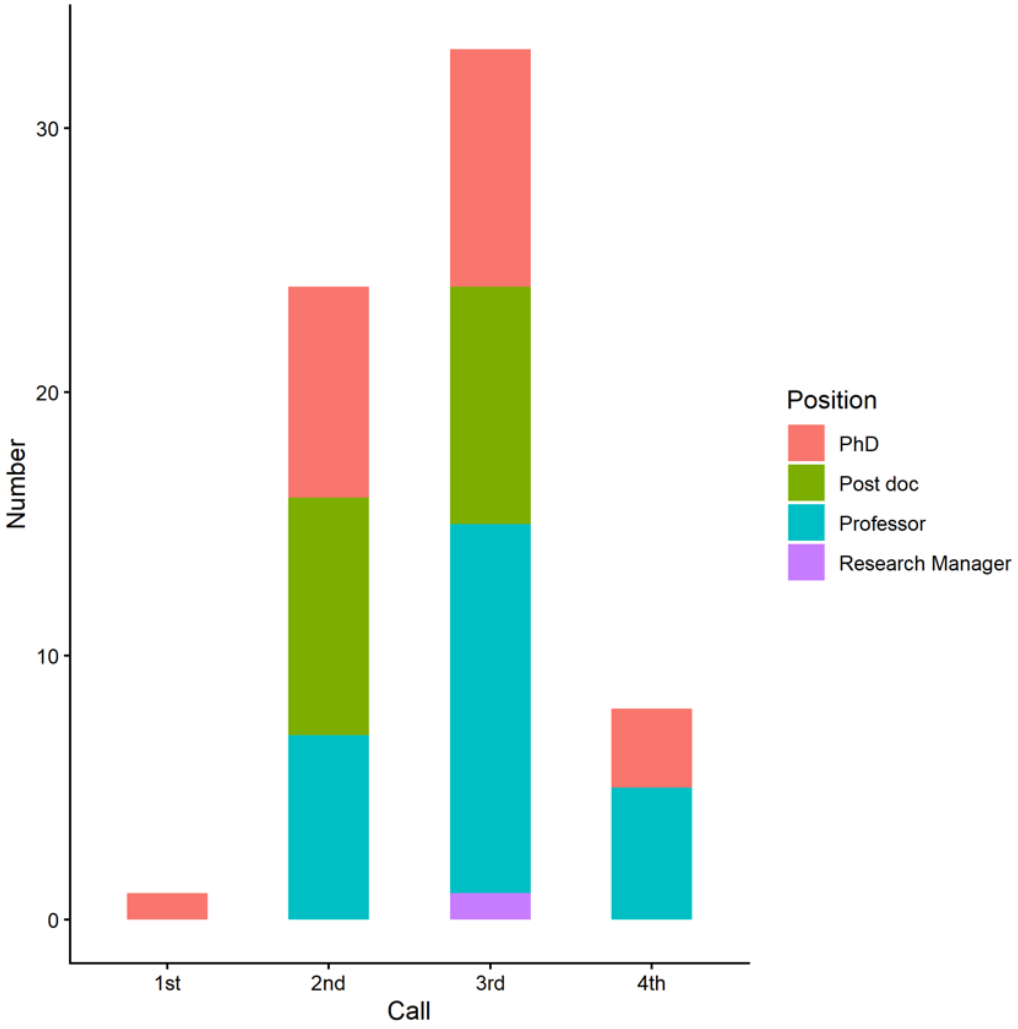


Figure 3 Number of conference participants supported by T8.3

4.2. Results of T8.1 Research Staff Mobility

The research mobility scheme between partner institutions became a relevant mechanism for networking and developing new collaborations within EU-CONEXUS.

A total of 357 mobilities were completed under T8.1. While conference-related mobilities accounted for a significant share of supported activities, dedicated research visits generated the strongest long-term impact. Researchers used mobility periods to access specialised laboratories, exchange methodologies, prepare collaborative publications, develop funding proposals, and initiate doctoral supervision activities (based on the mobility description in the survey).

The after-mobility surveys indicate that 88% of participants established at least one new professional contact during their mobility, while 36% reported concrete plans for future collaborative activities. Furthermore, approximately one third of respondents reported maintaining regular scientific contact with their host institution more than six months after completion of the mobility.

The impact of the mobility scheme became increasingly visible through follow-up activities. By September 2026, participants reported as an outcome of their mobility:

- Skill development and knowledge transfer (84%)
- Expanded network and connections (88%)
- Joint publications (16%)
- Sharing research resources and facilities (28%)
- Collaborative research (36%)
- Cultural exchange (68%)

The mobility scheme also contributed to increasing interdisciplinarity within the Alliance. Researchers from environmental sciences, engineering, agriculture, marine sciences, social sciences, economics, and urban studies increasingly participated in joint activities addressing common sustainability challenges.

One of the objectives of WP8 is to promote research staff mobility by facilitating Erasmus+ inter-institutional agreements among the partner universities. While the establishment of such agreements ultimately depends on institutional decisions beyond the direct scope of a work package, WP8 has played an important enabling role through continuous coordination with the Management Board and Erasmus officers across the consortium. Consequently, all nine partner institutions have now concluded at least one Erasmus+ inter-institutional agreement with another consortium partner, significantly improving the conditions for future research staff exchanges within the Alliance.

4.3. Results of T8.2 Invitation of External Experts

The invitation of external experts under T8.2 significantly strengthened the international dimension of the Alliance and broadened access to knowledge, expertise, and perspectives beyond the existing EU-CONEXUS network.

During the implementation period, a total of 51 guest researchers from 28 countries and 47 organisations participated in activities supported under T8.2. The invited experts represented a diverse range of institutions, including universities, research institutions, public authorities, international organisations, and innovation stakeholders active in fields relevant to SmUCS.

The mobility scheme generated substantial benefits for both researchers and students across the Alliance. Invited experts participated in all four EU-CONEXUS Research Conferences and contributed to a total of 18 keynote speeches. In addition, they delivered 15 lectures and specialised courses at partner universities and participated as keynote speakers or invited experts in 17 local conferences and workshops organised across the Alliance. According to the after-mobility surveys, these activities reached an estimated audience of more than 3.000 participants, creating valuable opportunities for learning, dialogue, and international exchange.

Beyond the immediate activities implemented, T8.2 contributed significantly to capacity building within the Alliance. Through lectures, workshops, conference presentations, and informal networking activities, invited experts introduced participants to new methodologies, professional practices, educational approaches, and international experiences. These exchanges provided researchers, students, and staff with access to expertise that was often unavailable within their home institutions and contributed to the development of new perspectives on societal challenges related to SmUCS.

It is important to note that although approximately two-thirds of the T8.2 activities were organised primarily at the host institutions rather than at Alliance-wide events, the benefits and impact of these mobility activities were not confined to the local level. In cooperation with partner institutions, WP8 supported the live streaming and online dissemination of selected lectures and scientific talks, enabling researchers, students, and staff from across the Alliance to participate remotely and benefit from the expertise of the invited speakers. In addition, several host institutions actively facilitated broader participation through complementary mobility and educational activities. In some cases, students from other EU-CONEXUS universities were given the opportunity to attend courses and training activities delivered by invited experts through physical mobility schemes, including activities linked to the Student Research Hubs under WP7. To further maximise the value of the invited experts' contributions, WP8 collaborated with JCU to collect and disseminate outstanding lecture materials, presentations, and recordings through dedicated webpage to the entire EU-CONEXUS community (as described in Section 3.4.).

The impact of T8.2 also extended beyond individual visits. Monitoring data indicate that approximately 94% of invited experts maintained contact with EU-CONEXUS participants after completion of their mobility. Several experts subsequently became involved in additional Alliance activities, including conference participation, thematic workshops, advisory activities, and project development discussions. These follow-up interactions demonstrate that many mobility activities generated longer-term relationships rather than isolated exchanges.

A particularly important outcome of T8.2 was the promotion of interdisciplinary knowledge exchange across the Alliance. As illustrated in Annex 2, invited experts contributed to a wide range of thematic domains, including coastal and marine environments, agriculture and food systems, governance and society, health and wellbeing, environmental sustainability, infrastructure resilience, humanities, and blue economy. This thematic diversity enabled researchers, students, and staff within the Alliance to engage with perspectives originating from different disciplinary, professional, and cultural contexts and supported the challenge-oriented approach promoted by EU-CONEXUS.

The scheme also contributed to expanding the external networks available to Alliance members. Many invited experts had previously collaborated only with the host institution and had limited or no interaction with other EU-CONEXUS partners. Their participation therefore helped extend existing bilateral relationships into Alliance-wide connections and introduced new international links across the broader EU-CONEXUS community. The participation of experts from both European and non-European countries further enhanced the geographical diversity of the network and reinforced the international profile of EU-CONEXUS.

Overall, T8.2 served not only as a mobility instrument, but also as a mechanism for internationalisation, knowledge sharing, capacity building, and community development. By connecting external expertise with the thematic priorities of the Alliance, the scheme strengthened the openness, diversity, and global engagement of the EU-CONEXUS community.

4.4. Results of T8.3 Participation in International Conferences

The international conference mobility scheme under T8.3 played an important role in increasing the external visibility of EU-CONEXUS, strengthening international engagement, and connecting Alliance members with wider European and global communities relevant to SmUCS.

During the implementation period, a total of 66 conference and networking mobilities were supported under T8.3. Participants attended scientific conferences, thematic workshops, networking events, consortium-building meetings, and summer schools in 26 countries and 47 cities, representing EU-CONEXUS across a broad range of disciplines and thematic areas related to SmUCS.

The supported mobilities enabled participants to actively contribute to international events through oral presentations, poster contributions, keynote lectures, panel discussions, workshop sessions, and stakeholder engagement activities. In addition to the dissemination of academic work, several mobilities focused on consortium-building activities and the exploration of future collaboration and funding opportunities within European and international frameworks.

A particularly important outcome of T8.3 was the increased visibility of EU-CONEXUS within international scientific and professional communities. Throughout the implementation period, participants increasingly represented their activities within the framework of the Alliance rather than solely through their home institutions. As a result, EU-CONEXUS gained greater recognition as a collaborative European education, research, and innovation actor addressing societal challenges related to SmUCS.

The mobility scheme also generated substantial networking benefits for participants. According to the after-mobility surveys, nearly 70% of respondents reported establishing new professional contacts during the supported events, while 46% identified opportunities for future collaboration. Participants frequently highlighted the value of conference participation for expanding their international networks, identifying complementary expertise, and engaging with organisations beyond the existing EU-CONEXUS partnership.

Beyond individual networking outcomes, T8.3 contributed to strengthening the Alliance's connections with broader European and international communities. Conference participation facilitated interactions with universities, research centres, public authorities, professional associations, and other stakeholder organisations working on topics relevant to SmUCS. These interactions expanded the external networks available to Alliance members and created opportunities for future cooperation extending beyond the duration of the mobility activity itself.

The thematic distribution of conference mobilities further demonstrates the interdisciplinary character of the scheme. As illustrated in Annex 3, supported activities covered a wide range of thematic areas and aligned well with the thematic domain of the EU-CONEXUS Joint Research Institutes (Life Sciences and Biotechnology, Environmental Sciences and Biodiversity, Coastal Engineering and Social, Culture and Human Sciences). Topics addressed through conference participation included coastal and marine environments, governance and society, health and wellbeing, sustainable food systems, environmental sustainability, blue economy, and infrastructure resilience. This diversity reflects the challenge-oriented approach promoted by EU-CONEXUS and encouraged participants to engage with perspectives beyond their primary disciplinary expertise.

The increasing participation of PhD candidates and early-career researchers also represents an important achievement of T8.3. For many participants, international conferences served as a first opportunity to engage with broader scientific and professional communities beyond their home institution, contributing to the development of international competences, professional confidence, and a stronger sense of belonging to the wider EU-CONEXUS community.

An additional and particularly important contribution of T8.3 was its role in strengthening the connection between research and education within the Alliance. One of the strategic objectives of WP8 was not only to support the dissemination of research results, but also to ensure that knowledge acquired through international engagement was transferred back into the educational activities of EU-CONEXUS. By participating in high-level international conferences, workshops, and networking events, researchers and doctoral candidates gained exposure to the latest scientific developments, innovative methodologies, emerging research trends, and international best practices. The knowledge and experience acquired through these activities were subsequently integrated into teaching, supervision, and training activities across the Alliance, thereby contributing to the continuous enhancement of educational quality and relevance. Evidence collected through the follow-up surveys demonstrates several concrete examples of this knowledge transfer process. In one case, participation in an international scientific conference directly contributed to the development of a subsequent EU-CONEXUS Minor Programme on biodiversity. In another case, a doctoral candidate incorporated feedback and expertise gained through conference participation into the activities of an EU-CONEXUS Student Research Hub focusing on the long-term effects of phosphorus management. These examples illustrate how conference participation generated benefits extending beyond individual professional development and contributed to the broader educational and research objectives of the Alliance.

Overall, T8.3 functioned not only as a dissemination instrument but also as a mechanism for international engagement, interdisciplinary exchange, community building, and Alliance visibility. By supporting active participation in international events, the mobility scheme strengthened the external profile of EU-CONEXUS while simultaneously bringing new knowledge, contacts, and opportunities back into the Alliance.

4.5. Alliance Integration and European Added Value

Beyond the achievements of the individual mobility schemes, one of the most significant outcomes of WP8 was its contribution to the integration of the EU-CONEXUS Alliance as a European academic and scientific community.

As participation expanded across all partner institutions and thematic areas, mobility opportunities became increasingly embedded within the Alliance. The growing number of applications, the broad institutional participation, and the increasing involvement of early-career researchers indicate that WP8 evolved from a pilot initiative into a recognised Alliance-wide instrument supporting engagement and knowledge exchange.

The annual EU-CONEXUS Research Conferences played a particularly important role in this process by creating common spaces for interaction among researchers, doctoral candidates, research managers, invited experts, and external stakeholders. As the largest recurring Alliance-wide events under the collaboration between WP8 and WP9, they provided valuable opportunities for networking across institutional, disciplinary, and geographical boundaries and contributed to strengthening connections within the EU-CONEXUS community.

Importantly, WP8 generated clear European added value that could not have been achieved through institutional mobility schemes alone. Participants gained access not only to host institutions, but also to the wider expertise, thematic networks, events, and professional communities available across the Alliance. Through repeated interactions and shared mobility opportunities, EU-CONEXUS increasingly functioned as a connected transnational environment rather than a collection of individual partner institutions.

This development directly supports the objectives of the European Universities Initiative by strengthening institutional integration, promoting cross-border cooperation, and fostering a stronger sense of belonging to a shared European community.

4.6. Interdisciplinary Knowledge Exchange Across SmUCS Themes

A distinctive feature of WP8 was its ability to connect participants from different disciplinary, institutional, and geographical backgrounds through the common framework of SmUCS.

The analysis of mobility activities supported under T8.2 and T8.3 demonstrates that participants engaged across a broad spectrum of thematic domains, including coastal and marine environments, agriculture and food systems, governance and society, health and wellbeing, environmental sustainability, infrastructure resilience, humanities, and blue economy.

The thematic distribution of invited experts and conference participation, presented in Section 4.3. and 4.4., illustrates how mobility activities contributed to interactions across the Joint Research Institutes and thematic domains of the Alliance. Rather than reinforcing traditional disciplinary boundaries, the mobility schemes encouraged challenge-oriented engagement around shared societal issues affecting urban and coastal regions. This interdisciplinary exchange strengthened the capacity of participants to address complex sustainability challenges through collaborative and integrated approaches. It also contributed to the development of a shared understanding of Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability across different academic and professional communities within EU-CONEXUS.

By creating opportunities for dialogue across disciplines and sectors, WP8 supported one of the core ambitions of the European Universities Initiative: the creation of interconnected knowledge communities capable of addressing societal challenges through cooperation rather than disciplinary isolation.

4.7. Participant Impact, Sustainability and Continuous Improvement

The after-mobility surveys provide valuable evidence regarding the impact of WP8 on participants and the long-term sustainability of the mobility framework.

Overall satisfaction levels remained consistently high throughout the implementation period. More than 90% of respondents evaluated their mobility experience positively, while 87% reported benefits for their professional development. Frequently reported outcomes included the expansion of international networks, acquisition of new methodologies, access to complementary expertise, increased understanding of activities across the Alliance, and identification of future collaboration opportunities.

Participants consistently highlighted the importance of face-to-face interaction for building trust and establishing meaningful professional relationships. While virtual communication remained an important tool for maintaining contact, many respondents indicated that mobility activities provided the personal connections necessary to transform initial contacts into active cooperation.

The positive outcomes reported by participants were further reinforced through follow-up assessments conducted during the final implementation period. Many collaborations initiated through

WP8 remained active beyond the duration of the mobility activity and continued to generate joint publications, project proposals, co-supervision arrangements, educational activities, and recurring exchanges between partner institutions.

The sustainability of WP8 extends beyond individual collaborations. The governance structures, monitoring systems, evaluation procedures, communication channels, and mobility management practices established over the past years have created a transferable framework that can continue supporting mobility and networking activities beyond the current funding period. An important factor contributing to this sustainability was the Alliance's capacity to adapt the mobility scheme in response to stakeholder feedback. Following the mid-term assessment conducted in 2024, several corrective measures were introduced, including the redesign of mobility webpages, clearer reimbursement guidance, improved dissemination procedures, strengthened monitoring mechanisms, and greater promotion of participant experiences through communication activities. These improvements contributed to increased application numbers, higher survey response rates, broader participation across disciplines, and improved accessibility of mobility opportunities. The experience gained through this continuous improvement process has strengthened the effectiveness, inclusiveness, and long-term viability of the WP8 mobility framework.

Overall, WP8 demonstrated that mobility calls can function not only as a support mechanism for individual participants, but also as a strategic instrument for Alliance integration, capacity building, knowledge exchange, and the long-term transformation objectives of the European Universities Initiative.

5. Conclusions

5.1. Lesson Learned

The implementation of WP8 demonstrated that mobility can serve as an effective instrument not only for supporting individual participants but also for facilitating knowledge exchange, strengthening institutional connections, and creating opportunities for cooperation across a European University Alliance. Over the course of the project, several important lessons emerged that may be relevant for future mobility initiatives within EU-CONEXUS and other European University Alliances.

One of the key lessons learned was the importance of balancing local flexibility with a common Alliance-wide framework. Partner institutions differed considerably in terms of institutional size, disciplinary profiles, administrative procedures, and local priorities. While a shared set of mobility principles, eligibility criteria, and monitoring mechanisms provided a coherent framework for implementation, sufficient flexibility at local level proved essential for ensuring relevance and engagement across diverse institutional contexts.

A particularly valuable experience concerned the decentralised implementation model adopted for T8.1. The mobility scheme relied on local representatives at each partner institution to promote opportunities, support applicants, and coordinate implementation according to local needs. This approach proved highly beneficial for dissemination and participant engagement. Local representatives were able to identify relevant target groups, adapt communication strategies to institutional contexts, and reach communities that would have been difficult to engage through a fully centralised model. As a result, mobility opportunities achieved broad visibility across the Alliance and attracted participants from a wide range of disciplinary and professional backgrounds.

At the same time, the implementation period demonstrated that decentralisation alone does not automatically guarantee effective delivery. Maintaining a coherent overview of mobility activities across the Alliance proved challenging, particularly when collecting comparable monitoring data and assessing outcomes at programme level. Differences in local reporting practices and communication approaches occasionally resulted in varying levels of detail and consistency in the information collected. The experience highlighted the importance of strong coordination between the leading beneficiary and local representatives, as well as the need for regular communication, shared monitoring standards, and mutual trust among partners. The project ultimately demonstrated that successful decentralised implementation depends on both local ownership and effective Alliance-level coordination.

Another important lesson concerns the influence of administrative procedures on participation. Experience gained during the pilot phase showed that unclear travel regulations, reimbursement procedures, and application requirements can create significant barriers for potential applicants. The improvements introduced following the mid-term assessment demonstrated that relatively simple measures, such as clearer guidance, improved website design, and more transparent communication, can have a substantial positive effect on participation and engagement.

The implementation period also highlighted the value of mobility as a mechanism for supporting interdisciplinary and international interaction. By bringing together participants from different thematic domains, professional backgrounds, and countries, the mobility schemes created opportunities for dialogue beyond traditional disciplinary and institutional boundaries. The experience suggests that challenge-oriented mobility schemes organised around common societal themes can be particularly effective in fostering collaboration across diverse communities.

Finally, WP8 confirmed the importance of continuous monitoring and participant feedback. The systematic collection of mobility data and after-mobility surveys provided valuable evidence for evaluating outcomes, identifying implementation challenges, and introducing targeted improvements throughout the project lifetime. The ability to adapt procedures in response to stakeholder feedback proved essential for maintaining the effectiveness, accessibility, and relevance of the mobility scheme over time.

Overall, the experience of WP8 demonstrated that successful mobility programmes require more than financial support alone. Clear procedures, effective communication, strong local engagement, robust monitoring mechanisms, and close cooperation between partners were all critical factors contributing to the implementation and long-term value of the mobility scheme.

5.2. Recommendations for Future Mobility Schemes

Based on the experience gained during the implementation of WP8, several recommendations can be formulated for the future development of mobility schemes within EU-CONEXUS and other European University Alliances.

First, future mobility programmes should maintain a balance between Alliance-level coordination and local institutional ownership. The decentralised implementation model proved effective in reaching diverse participant groups and adapting dissemination strategies to local contexts. At the same time, common monitoring standards, harmonised reporting procedures, and regular coordination mechanisms should be further strengthened to ensure consistent implementation and facilitate impact assessment across the Alliance.

Second, communication and administrative procedures should continue to be prioritised as key components of mobility management. The experience of WP8 demonstrated that the accessibility of information can have a direct influence on participation levels. Future schemes should therefore invest in clear application guidance, transparent reimbursement procedures, user-friendly digital tools, and targeted dissemination activities to reduce administrative barriers and improve the overall participant experience.

Third, dedicated efforts should be made to sustain and further expand the participation of early-career researchers. The increasing engagement of PhD candidates and post-doc throughout the implementation period suggests that mobility schemes can play an important role in supporting the next generation of internationally connected researchers and professionals. Future calls should continue to provide accessible opportunities for first-time participants and encourage their active involvement in Alliance activities.

Fourth, the collection of impact evidence should be further developed beyond the duration of individual mobility activities. While after-mobility surveys provided valuable insights into immediate outcomes, future schemes could benefit from introducing light-touch follow-up mechanisms to capture longer-term effects, such as continued collaborations, joint educational activities, project development, and other forms of sustained engagement resulting from mobility experiences.

Finally, mobility should continue to be recognised not only as a funding instrument for individual exchanges, but also as a strategic tool for Alliance development. The experience of WP8 demonstrated that mobility activities can contribute to institutional integration, international engagement, knowledge exchange, and community building across a European University Alliance. Future mobility programmes should therefore remain closely aligned with the broader objectives of the European Universities Initiative and continue to support the development of an interconnected and collaborative European higher education ecosystem.

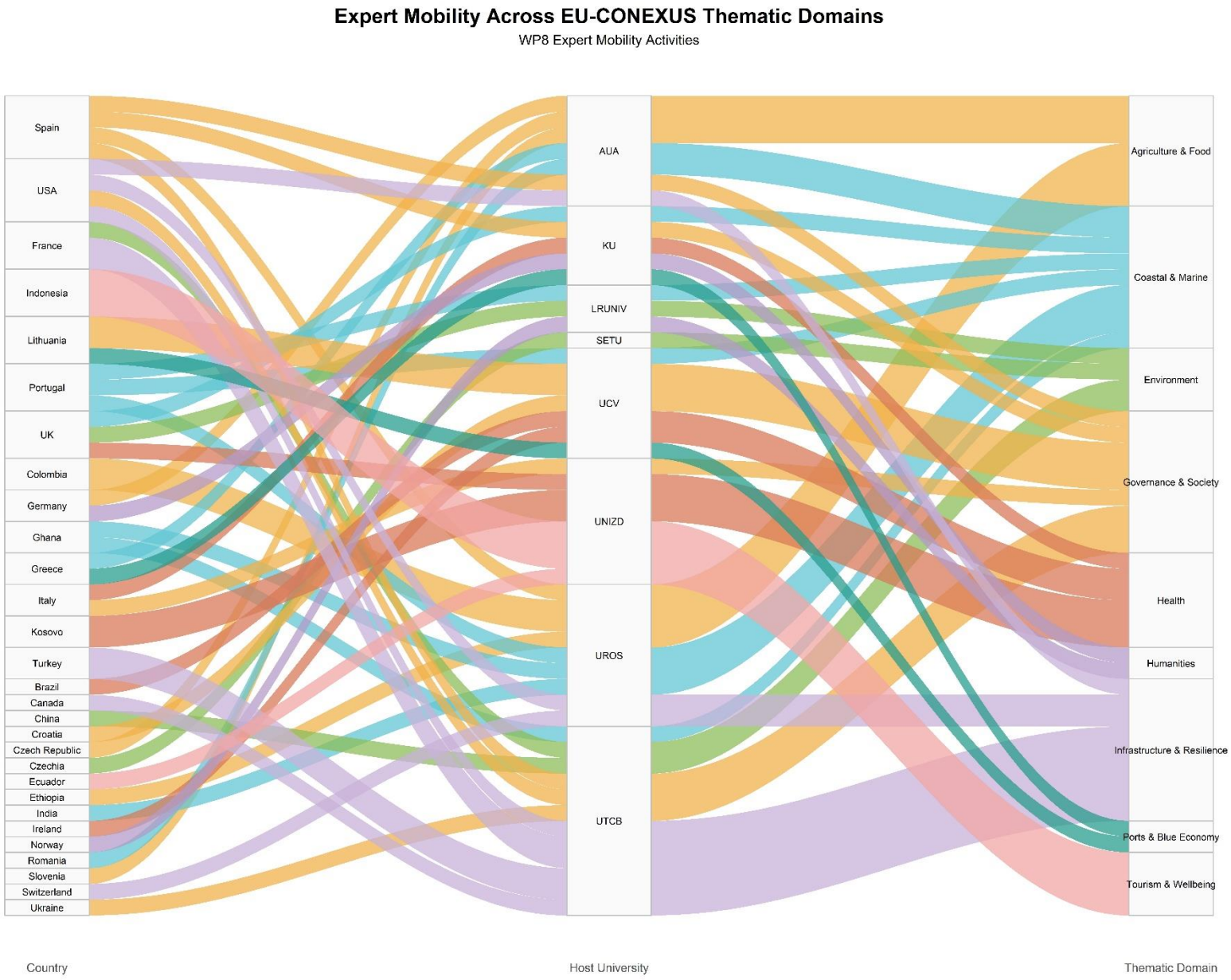
Overall, the implementation of WP8 confirms that well-designed mobility schemes can generate benefits extending far beyond individual visits. Future initiatives should build upon the structures, experience, and partnerships established during the project while continuing to adapt to the evolving needs of participants and partner institutions.

ANNEX

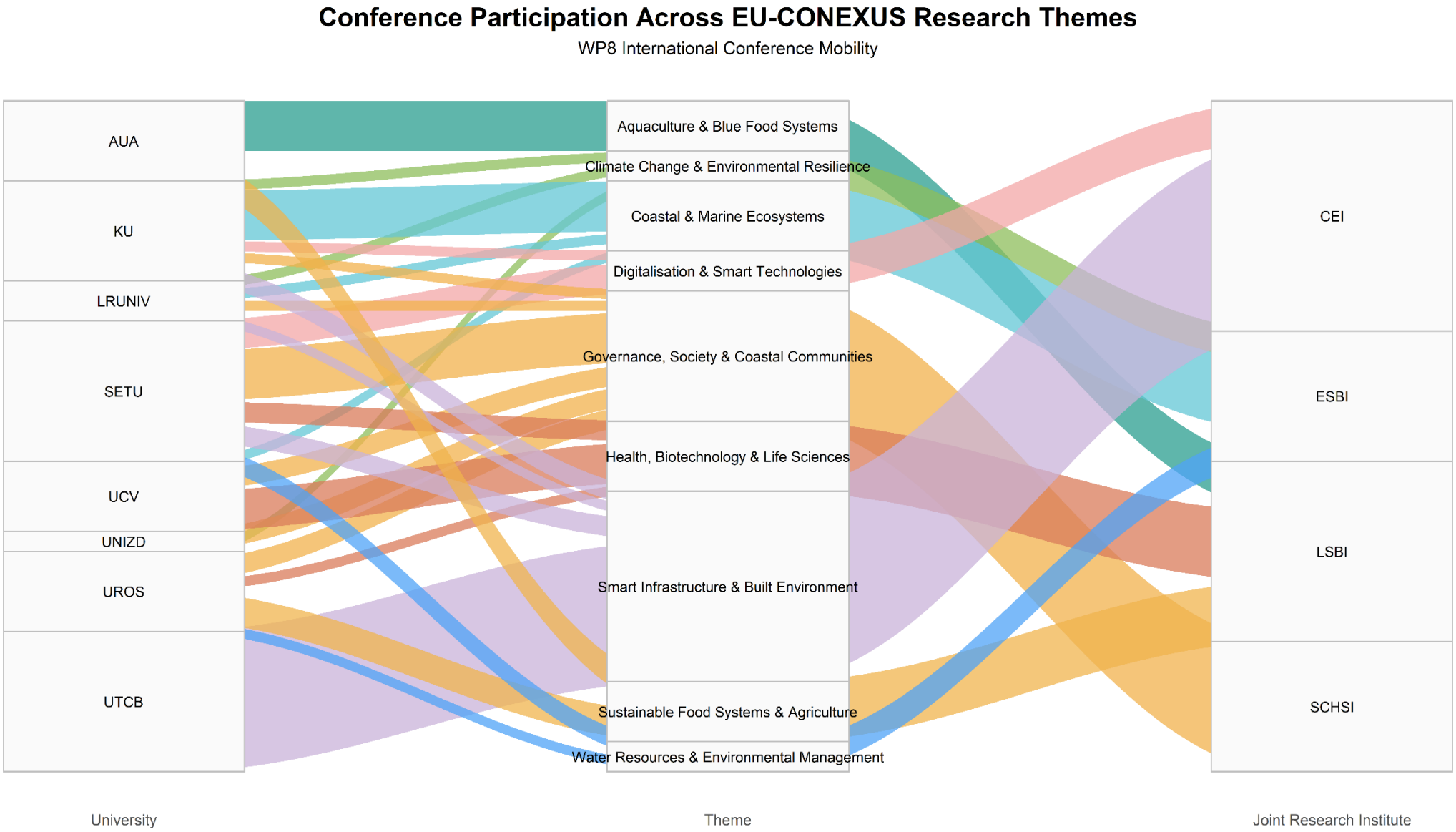
Annex 1. Task 8.1. Selection of Research mobility within the Alliance

WP8.1 Research Mobility within EU-CONEXUS Alliance

No.	Sending University	Hosting University	Declared Goal of the mobility	Date
1	UROS	LRUniv	To deepen the research regarding the background, previous and expected future developments, as well as resistance with regard to joint audits in France	18/11/2023 - 26/11/2023
2	UTCB	FREDu	To provide a structure for collaboration with regard to algae's management and their conversion into high efficiency useful energy with minimal grrenhouse gas emissions.	29/11/2023 - 01/12/2023
3	FredU	AUA	Establishment of common research infstatstructure and resources, collaboration in research projects and PhD Supervisions	27/09/2023 - 30/09/2023
4	LRUniv	UNIZD	Attend as Scientific Committee member the 11th ANATOMY OF ISLANDS symposium co-organized by University of Zadar and strengthen exisiting research collaboration links with UNIZD.	27/09-2023 - 01/10/2023
5	LRUniv	UNIZD	Give a presentation at the 11th ANATOMY OF ISLANDS symposium co-organized by University of Zadar and strenghten research collaboration links with UNIZD	27/09-2023 - 01/10/2023
6	UNIZD	KU	To attend a Conference: The Interaction of Tradition and Modernity	14/11/2023 - 19/11/2023
7	UTCB	SETU	To attend with an oral presentation to the SETU Environ 2024 Conference "Harbour to Harvest: Research from Soil to Sea"	24/03/2024 - 28/03/2024
8	UTCB	SETU	To attend with an oral presentation to the SETU Environ 2024 Conference The theme of Environ 2024 is "Harbour to Harvest: Research from Soil to Sea"	24/03/2024 - 28/03/2024
9	SETU	UNIZD	Academic meeting re: maritime pilgrimage as a practical sustainability action with strong historic foundations.	02/05/2024 - 05/05/2024
10	UROS	LRUniv	Research visit of LRUniv to continue the research regarding joint audits in France	02/05/2024 - 05/05/2024
11	UROS	LRUniv	To attend the conference "Resilience to climate change and the European Union" with own contribution	11/04/2024 - 14/04/2024
12	FredU	LRUniv	Workshop on European Funding: from idea to implementation	30/06/2024 - 07/07/2024
13	UROS	LRUniv	Reserach visit of the Right & Management lab (LITHORAL) team at LRUniv and participate in the colloque annuel de l'association politiques et management publics (apmp)	28/05/2024 - 07/06/2024
14	FredU	UTCB	Establishment of common research understanding of advanced concrete technologies, recycled concrete applications, geopolymers for special applications, sustainability in the construction sector, 3D printing of cement-based materials, etc.	18/11/2024 - 22/11/2024
15	FredU	UTCB	Establishment of common research understanding of advanced concrete technologies, recycled concrete applications, geopolymers for special applications, sustainability in the construction sector, 3D printing of cement-based materials, etc.	18/11/2024 - 22/11/2024
16	SETU	UNIZD	Academic meeting re: maritime pilgrimage as a practical sustainability action with strong historic foundations.	02/05/2024 - 05/05/2024
17	SETU	UCV	To facilitate challenge based learnings activities between Engineering students and Biology researc	11/05/2023-19/05/2023
18	SETU	UCV	To facilitate challenge based learnings activities between Engineering students and Biology researc	11/05/2023-19/05/2023
19	SETU	UCV	To facilitate challenge based learnings activities between Engineering students and Biology researc	11/05/2023-19/05/2023
20	SETU	UCV	To facilitate challenge based learnings activities between Engineering students and Biology researc	11/05/2023-19/05/2023



Annex 2. T8.2 expert mobility across EU-CONEXUS Research Themes



Annex 3. T8.3 conference participation across EU-CONEXUS Research Theme