

CHARM-EU Factsheet @ Utrecht University (UU)

An informative factsheet to get the word out about CHARM-EU among UU staff

Goal

The goal of the CHARM-EU Factsheet is to raise awareness and increase engagement with CHARM-EU among UU staff by presenting the Alliance's benefits for them, for example how CHARM-EU can be used to build international collaborations or other innovative initiatives. This is also supported by presenting past and current collaboration examples. Also, the Factsheet introduces CHARM-EU members at UU to the wider UU staff.



Target group

- Deans of faculties, professors, researchers, teachers, other UU staff

Format & type of content

3-5-page factsheet about CHARM-EU for dissemination within UU. Content includes introduction to the European University Initiative, CHARM-EU Goals, benefits for UU, funding, the CHARM-EU Master's Programme and other educational initiatives, research initiatives, other collaboration examples, CHARM staff at UU, quotes from the Rector and CHARM staff at UU. Contents can be adapted to a certain department or any CHARM-EU partner university.



Channels & tools used

- Disseminated over e-mail to the staff not yet familiar with CHARM-EU or to those who show interest in CHARM-EU
- Can be published as a downloadable pdf on the CHARM-EU page on the UU website
- Physical print possible however not suggested due to sustainability considerations

Impact and efficiency

- Number of downloads of Factsheet in pdf version
- Increased involvement and collaboration of UU staff with CHARM-EU



Necessary resources

- Human resources: graphic design and content development, dissemination
- Technical & material resources: graphic design programme



DEI aspects

- Follow inclusive communication guidelines both in the text and visual materials in both printed and digital versions (e.g. ensure equal representation and include ALT-TEXT for images, gender-neutral language, diversity of representation regarding gender and other lived experiences on visuals etc.)

CREATING INNOVATIVE EDUCATION

MASTER GLOBAL CHALLENGES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

In 2021, our first Master's programme started: **Global Challenges for Sustainability**. This is the first European joint-degree programme in Europe. Where the didactic concept and **educational principles** were piloted, in the master, Students address the pressing need for sustainability by **working on societal challenges** and **doing transdisciplinary research**. Students become experts in a particular field by choosing one of the three tracks: Life & Health, Water and Food. In the final phase, the **Capstone**, students work on real-life sustainability challenges together with peers, academic staff and extra-academic actors. Learn more about [the Master's programme](#), [Global Challenges for Sustainability](#) and [the educational principles](#), it is based on.

"This Master's has a very innovative programme: it brings together people from different disciplines to work together to solve challenges related to sustainability. Students will not only have the chance to grow professionally, but also at a personal level, expanding their knowledge."

Alba Redon Lago CHARM-EU Master student

STUDENTS OF MASTER GLOBAL CHALLENGES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

- 197 Number of students
- 124 Number of graduates (two cohorts)
- 860+ Number of applications

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND STUDENTS

- Health - 5%
- Environment - 11%
- Arts - 15%
- Sciences - 11%
- Human Sciences - 29%
- Management - 29%

CHALLENGE-DRIVEN

The CHARM-EU curriculum is **challenge-driven** and **centered on solving global issues** through **trans-institutional** research missions. Using **Challenge-Based Learning (CBL)**, students engage with real-world challenges co-developed with multidisciplinary stakeholders, including both academic and non-academic actors.

TRANSDISCIPLINARITY

Global challenges are complex problems that require input from equally complex networks of individuals and groups to identify and define problems. CHARM-EU is a **transdisciplinary university** in which all stakeholders – students, academic and non-academic actors – collaborate equally to work on global challenges.

MOBILITY

CHARM-EU offers **synchronised learning** across all partner institutions. Partner universities deliver weekly lectures in **the hybrid classrooms**. The hybrid classrooms are state-of-the-art, interconnected spaces designed to facilitate both local and remote education seamlessly.

Moreover, virtual exchange programs, physical mobility opportunities, and blended mobility experiences provide students and staff with diverse and **immersive learning opportunities**.

STUDENT-CENTERED AND INCLUSIVE

Students are **active partners** in the design, development, and organization of CHARM-EU. CHARM-EU educational programmes are designed to respect the **diversity** of students and are adapted to different students' learning needs and preferences taking into consideration their backgrounds or abilities. They will enable all students to take part in learning and fulfill their potential.

CHARM-EU

CHARM-EU is an university alliance between nine research-based European Universities, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme. CHARM-EU (Challenge-driven Accessible Research-based Mobile European University) is created to actively contribute to the development of future European higher education and research agendas.

University alliances are an initiative by the European Commission to forge alliances among higher institutions across Europe, enhancing mobility, and fostering the quality, inclusiveness, and competitiveness of European higher education. CHARM-EU is one of the first university alliances.

PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

CHARM-EU GOALS

- Contribute to **solving global societal challenges** beyond country borders, cultures and languages in line with the **sustainable development goals**.
- Achieve a **transnational** challenge-driven university.

Create and embrace **transdisciplinary, innovative, international and sustainable** educational programmes, research initiatives and collaboration between universities.

"CHARM-EU offers a wonderful opportunity to organize international contexts and international exchange in a very different way. There are chances for everybody in CHARM-EU."

Henk Kummeling Rector Magnificus

CHARM-EU values support the goals of the alliance.

WHAT IS IN IT FOR UU?

- Securing a strategic position**
Through CHARM-EU, UU plays a **pivotal role in co-shaping an innovative, competitive European Education Area**, not only via **COEUP** but also through projects like **ED-APACHE**, thereby **securing a robust strategic and influential position**.
- Swiftly responding to calls**
UU can quickly **engage on new calls** for collaboration as **researchers and experts in the network** are readily available to be seamlessly incorporated into specific thematic projects, which makes the drafting of proposals very efficient.
- Externally financed innovation**
CHARM-EU's **externally financed funds** can provide **essential financial support** to UU colleagues, enabling them to advance their projects even amidst budget cuts at their institutions.
- Access to a broad international and external network**
UU can leverage the CHARM-EU network to support and facilitate **regional, national and international collaboration** in education, research, and societal impact, while also tapping into long-term partnerships with **external partners** committed to investing in a structural, enduring alliance.
- Test-bed platform with experts**
CHARM-EU provides a **testbed to experiment** with new institution forms and educational innovations. Additionally, UU can **leverage the international, transdisciplinary and challenge-based experience** CHARM-EU acquired over the years.
- Regional ecosystem**
CHARM-EU is collaborating with partners to **create a regional ecosystem**, consisting of business and civil society organisations. The ecosystem **supports transdisciplinary education, research and impact**, and benefits external stakeholders.