

ACHIEVE-IT
***Academic Collaboration through Higher International Education for
a Viable and Equitable Africa with Italy***

Final Conference
Studium 2000, Dipartimento di Scienze Umane e Sociali
Via di Valesio
Lecce – Università del Salento
19-21 March 2026

19th March 2026

8.30 – 9 – Registration – Studium 5 - Ground Floor

9 – Aula 7 – Studium 6 - Opening Remarks

Chair: Fabio Pollice - Former Rector Università del Salento – Università del Salento

- Maria Antonietta Aiello – Rector Università del Salento

- Marco Rusconi – Director Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

- Simone Baglioni – Vice-Rector for Teaching - Università di Parma

- Anton Antchev – Director UNGSC – United Nations Global Service Centre – Brindisi

- Roberto Valentino- Director University Centre for International Cooperation (CUCI) Università di Parma

10 – Aula 7 – Studium 6 - Introductory Plenary Session

Chair: Claudia Sunna – Scientific Coordinator ACHIEVE-IT – Università del Salento

Keynote Speech - Uoldelul Chelati Dirar – Università di Macerata

Contemporary African Historiographies. Scholarly Trajectories and Epistemological Challenges

10.45 Coffee break - Basement space, Department of Human and Social Sciences – Studium 5

11.15 Aula 7 – Studium 6 - Presentation of the ACHIEVE-IT project and its main results

Chair: Nadia Monacelli – Università di Parma

Video presentation curated by the Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia

WP1 - Project Background and Overview - Nadia Monacelli – Università di Parma

WP2 - Student mobility - Edoardo Puglisi – Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore Piacenza

WP3 - Advanced Skills Programmes - Erica Liverani and Elisa Magnani – Università di Bologna;
Souraya Benalia - Università Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria

WP4 – PhD and Summer Schools - Paola Spinuzzi – Università di Ferrara

WP5 – Communication - Selenia Marabello and Alessandro Capra - Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia

**13 – 14.30 Lunch & Networking - Basement space, Department of Human and Social Sciences –
Studium 5**

14.30 - 16.30 Parallel thematic roundtables on the main domains of the ACHIEVE-IT Project:

1 - Relationship between health and accessibility of healthcare services

Chair: Franco Fanizzi – Università del Salento – Italia

Sara Greco – Università del Salento - Italia

Makhutsisa Charlotte Mokoatle - University of Johannesburg – South Africa

Laurent Ntaganda - Catholic University of Rwanda (CUR) – Rwanda

Dario Scaramuzzi, CEO non-profit scientific organization R-Evolution Worldwide - Italia

2 - Energy poverty

Chair: Antonio Ficarella – Università del Salento – Italia

Michele Benedetti – Università del Salento – Italia

Danilo Convertini - UNGSC – United Nations Global Service Centre – Brindisi – Italia

Evelyn De Simone – Università del Salento – Italia

Antonio Intiglietta - UNGSC – United Nations Global Service Centre – Brindisi – Italia

Ferdinand Nabiswa Makhanu - Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) Kenya

Pierre Ilunga Kale - Université Notre Dame de Lomami à Kabinda - République Démocratique du Congo

3- Sustainability of agriculture and food production

Chair: Souraya Benalia - Università degli Studi Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria – Italia

Edoardo Puglisi - Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore Piacenza – Italia

Noureddine Hassan Benfetta - University of Mascara – Algeria

Edward Musungu Mugalavai - Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) Kenya

Nitunga Servilien - Hope Africa University – Burundi

Lambert Izerimana - INES-Ruhengeri – Rwanda

Tumisi Beiri Jeremiah Molelekoa - University of Johannesburg – South Africa

Sintayehu Yigrem Mersha – Hawassa University – Ethiopia

Abdoulaye Niang - Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar – Senegal

Ngendo Clement - Rwanda Polytechnic-Musanze College – Rwanda

Kankenza Lambert Muteba - Université Notre Dame de Lomami à Kabinda - République Démocratique du Congo

Pier Paolo Miglietta – Università del Salento - Italia

4- Environmental protection and urban planning

Chair: Roberto Valentino – Università di Parma – Italia

Charles Maina Gichaba - University of Nairobi - Kenya

Horácio Francisco Caetano - Catholic University of Mozambique – Mozambique

Mohamed Yacine Saadi - Université Mohamed Khider Biskra – Algeria

Elisa Magnani – Università di Bologna - Italia

Riccardo Buccolieri - Università del Salento – Italia

Maurizio Pinna – Università del Salento – Italia

Mariangela Noviello - UNGSC – United Nations Global Service Centre – Brindisi – Italia

Angelica Longo - UNGSC – United Nations Global Service Centre – Brindisi – Italia

5 - Social and gender inequality

Chair: Nadia Monacelli – Università di Parma - Italia

Josephine Dzahene-Quarshie - University of Ghana - Ghana

Mjiba Frehiwot – University of Ghana - Ghana

Aimable Sibomana - Catholic University of Rwanda (CUR) – Rwanda

Filomena de Fátima Ribeiro Vieira - Universidade Lusófona de Cabo Verde (ULCV)
Voudwé Bakreo - Université de Garoua – Cameroun
Danny Bokaba - University of Pretoria – South Africa
Selenia Marabello – Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia – Italia
Alessio Pietrolucci – Università di Parma – Italia
Bianca Restori – Università di Parma – Italia
Pasquale Greco – Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia – Italia
Alessia Paola Casale – Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia – Italia
Davide Falcone – Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia – Italia
Paola Spinozzi – Università di Ferrara - Italia
Alessia Rochira - Università del Salento - Italia

6 - Digital transition

Chair: Erica Liverani – Università di Bologna – Italia; Alessandro Capra – Università di Modena e Reggio Emilia – Italia

Jean Bosco Baribeshya - INES-Ruhengeri – Rwanda
Leonidah Kerubo Omosa – University of Nairobi - Kenya
Rosemary Tagoe - University of Ghana – Ghana
Gilbert, O.P Munana - University of Technology and Arts of Byumba – Rwanda
Filipe Sungo - Catholic University of Mozambique – Mozambique
Alioune Dème - Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar – Senegal
Rodrigue Saoungoumi Sourpele - Université de Garoua – Cameroun
Deguistophine Nkenfack Tsafack – Università di Ferrara – Italia
Valentina Ndou – Università del Salento – Italia
Predrag Milicevic - - UNGSC – United Nations Global Service Centre – Brindisi – Italia

16.30 - 17.00 Coffee break - Basement space, Department of Human and Social Sciences – Studium 5

17.00 - 18.30 - Aula 7 – Studium 6

Plenary Session on Roundtables thematic reports

Chair: Roberto Valentino – Università di Parma

18 – 18.30 Questions from the audience and general discussion

20th March 2026

9 – Aula 7 – Studium 6

Presentations on Doctoral Programmes of the Partner Universities.

Chair and Introduction: Alfonso Maffezzoli – Director of the Doctoral School - Università del Salento

Video Message from CAMES (Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l'Enseignement Supérieur)

Planned Interventions on:

- Structure of the PhD program in both university systems
 - Supervision methods
 - PhD funding and financial support
 - International mobility opportunities for doctoral candidates
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- Prof. Sintayehu Yigrem Mersha – PhD Programs at Hawassa University - Ethiopia
 - Rev. Dr. Nitunga Servilien - PhD in Business Administration and Management - Hope Africa University – Burundi
 - Prof. Issa Yero Diallo Mamadel Bassirou - Université Abdou Moumouni de Niamey - Niger
 - Prof. Hassan Nourredine Benfetta - Doctorat impact des changements climatiques sur les ressources en eau – University of Mascara – Algeria
 - Dr Makhutsisa Charlotte Mokoatle - PhD on Public Health – University of Johannesburg – South Africa
 - Prof. Souraya Benalia – PhD Programs at Università Mediterranea di Reggio Calabria – Italia
 - Prof Nadia Monacelli – PhD Programs at Università di Parma – Italia

11 – 11.30 Coffee break - Basement space, Department of Human and Social Sciences – Studium 5

11.30 – Aula 7 – Studium 6

An analysis of funding opportunities for research and educational projects between Italy and Africa
Cosimo Alessandro Quarta – Università del Salento - Italia

Defining a Framework Agreement for joint PhDs and for the institutionalization of research and teaching activities between Italian and African universities

Claudia Sunna – Università del Salento - Italia

12.30 - 13 - Questions from the audience and general discussion

13 – 14.30 Lunch - Basement space, Department of Human and Social Sciences – Studium 5

14.30 Bus transfer to the Ecotekne University Campus

15 – 17.30 Visit to the Laboratories & Networking activities at Ecotekne - Università del Salento

- PRP@CERIC - at the Department of Mathematics and Physics – Prof. Rosaria Rinaldi
- Facility of Nanobioelectronics, Nanobiotechnology, and Nanomedicine Core Facility - Corpo Y - Prof. Rosaria Rinaldi
- 3D Printing Lab – Corpo Y – Prof. Carola Corcione
- EMFL-IRIS Infrastructures – Omnic Lab – Prof. Giuseppe Maruccio

17.30 – 18.30 Scuola Superiore ISUFI

Concluding Remarks and Strategic Framework for Future Cooperation

20 - Social Dinner at Torre del Parco - Lecce

21th March 2026

9.30 – 12.30 Field Visit at Area Marina Protetta di Torre Guaceto (Torre Guaceto Marine Protected Area) – Brindisi

13 – 15.30 Lunch at Oktagona Beach – Brindisi

16 – Departure for Lecce