

## **FAQs – International Programme in Sustainability (Minor in Sustainability)**

### **What is the Minor in Sustainability?**

It is a 24-ECTS international and interdisciplinary programme developed within the EU GREEN European University Alliance. It complements your degree programme and enables you to acquire cross-disciplinary skills in the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainability.

### **Why should I take part?**

To acquire additional skills by approaching sustainability from perspectives other than those covered in your degree programme; to work with students and lecturers in an international setting; and to put your skills to the test by addressing real-world challenges such as climate change, biodiversity, food security, water management, migration, democracy and human rights.

### **Will I play an active role in the programme?**

Yes, certainly. The Minor includes interdisciplinary and international collaborative activities, as well as a project on sustainability. Students will be involved in analysing real-world challenges and developing possible solutions and positive actions, applying the knowledge and skills acquired in their different fields of study.

### **Is this a new programme?**

Yes. The 2026/2027 edition is a pilot initiative of the EU GREEN Alliance. Participants will therefore be among the first students to experience this new international sustainability programme.

### **Who can apply?**

Students who are regularly enrolled in the 2026/2027 academic year in any Bachelor's degree programme at the University of Parma may apply, regardless of their field of study.

### **Do I need a specific scientific or environmental background?**

No. The Minor is open to students from all fields of study. The value of the programme lies precisely in bringing together different areas of knowledge and expertise to interact and work on the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainability.

### **How is the programme structured?**

The Minor comprises a total of 24 ECTS credits:

- 6 ECTS credits for Unit 1 (compulsory): An Introduction to Sustainability Studies: Concepts and Principles;
- 6 ECTS credits for Unit 2 (compulsory): Shaping Sustainability: Project Work;

- 12 ECTS credits from elective courses that each student may choose from those offered by the University for the programme.

### **Are the activities taught in English?**

The two common international learning activities (Units 1 and 2) are taught in English. The elective courses offered by the University of Parma will be taught in Italian and/or English, as normally specified for each course.

### **Will I have to go abroad during the Minor?**

The programme is international but follows a blended-learning format, combining online and in-person activities. A compulsory period of mobility abroad is not required.

### **How long does it take?**

The programme is flexible and may be completed over one, two or three years. Activities for the 2026/2027 edition will begin on 26 October 2026.

### **How much does it cost?**

Participation in the Minor is free of charge for students who are regularly enrolled at the University of Parma and up to date with their tuition fee payments.

### **How many places are available?**

For the 2026/2027 academic year, 8 places are available at the University of Parma (the international cohort will include a maximum of 32 students).

### **How can I apply?**

Applications must be submitted through the ESSE3 platform. Log in to your personal area and select Student Administration > Admission procedures. At the end of the procedure, a receipt confirming registration for the selection process will be generated.

### **Which documents do I need to attach?**

The following documents are required:

- a self-certification of examinations passed, available for download from ESSE3;
- Curriculum Vitae;
- a motivation letter.

Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

### **When can I apply?**

The call for applications provides for an initial application window from 31 July to 4 September 2026.

### **How are participants selected?**

The selection process considers the following criteria, each carrying the same weight:

- ECTS credits already earned: 25%;
- average grade in examinations passed: 25%;
- Curriculum Vitae and transferable skills: 25%;
- motivation for participating: 25%.

### **I have already passed one or more of the examinations included in the Minor. Can they be recognised?**

No. Examinations already passed at the University of Parma or at other universities cannot be recognised in order to shorten the Minor programme.

### **Can I change my selected courses at a later stage?**

No. Once the courses included in the programme have been selected, the choice is considered final.

### **What will I receive upon completing the programme?**

After completing all the required activities and earning 24 ECTS credits, you will receive an international certificate issued by the University of Parma within the framework of the EU GREEN Alliance.

### **What if I am unable to complete all 24 ECTS credits?**

If you do not complete the Minor, you will still be able to obtain certification of the examinations you have passed.

### **Where will I receive communications?**

Communications concerning your Minor academic record will be sent to your personal UniPr institutional email account, which you should therefore check regularly.

For further information, please visit: <https://www.unipr.it/eu-green-didattica>