Researchers Mobility Fund
UAB's rules for participation

Aims:

Promote international collaboration among researchers from all member institutions of the ECIU University by facilitating the exchange of research ideas that could lead to joint applications for EU, national, or international funding programmes, thus amplifying the global impact of the consortium.

This year, two distinct types of initiatives are available:

- **RMF1 - General:** This option supports stays at any university that is a member of ECIU University, in line with the objectives outlined above.

- **RMF2 - ECIU Research Labs:** CLOSED

Primarily targeted at early stage researchers (R2) in the following key research areas:

- o Energy and Sustainability
- o Transport & Mobility

The aim of RMF2 is to foster and enhance collaboration among researchers in these fields by creating research groups that will develop future research proposals. The program includes both virtual collaboration and an in-person stay in Rouen, France.

The expected outcomes of this initiative include:

- Submitting a proposal to the ECIU Seed Programme https://www.eciu.eu/for-researchers/seed-programme
- Joint research projects, Collaborative network projects (e.g., PHC, COST)
- Co-supervision agreements and/or joint PhD training programs.

RMF1 - General:

Who can apply?

This call is addressed to **PDI doctor (research and academic staff)** with research duties.

Funding available

Applicants may apply for a grant up to €4,000. Each ECIU University member institution allocates € 20,000 annually (2024 and 2025) for the Research Mobility Fund.

Supported Research fields:

The RMF is open to all disciplines. In the event of applications of equal value, priority will be given to applications that address the research fields listed in Appendix 1.

Available destinations

All **ECIU UNIVERSITY** member universities (https://www.eciu.eu/): Dublin City University (Ireland), Hamburg University of Technology (Germany), Institut National des Sciences Appliquées (France), Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania), Linköping University (Sweden), Lodz University of Technology (Poland), Tampere University (Finland), Universidade de Aveiro (Portugal), University of Stavanger (Norway), Università di Trento (Italy), University of Twente (Netherlands) i Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico).

What can the funding be spent on?

The RMF in general is used for outgoing travel and associated subsistence costs for visits to member or associate member institutions of the ECIU University. The applicant remains an employee of the home institution, which is responsible for awarding grants to applicants from the same institution and paying the usual salaries in accordance with its own financial rules and regulations.

In principle, the funding covers following types of costs and expenditure:

- Travel costs (e.g., bus, train, and flight tickets)
- Associated subsistence costs (e.g., accommodation and travel allowance).

If experiments are planned, the coverage of lab costs (including access) needs to be agreed between participating member institutions before the mobility.

Evaluation of the applications

The member institution to which the applicant is affiliated is responsible for making the decision to grant an ECIU RMF subsidy. The criteria used to evaluate and select applications are as follows:

Relevance (30%): The relevance of the purposes and objectives established in the proposal will be assessed, as well as the alignment with the objectives of the call.

Work Plan (20%): The activities will be evaluated to ensure they are clearly defined and realistic within the given timeframe and available resources.

Impact (30%): The potential impact that this mobility will have at research level, at institutional level and at ECIU University level will be considered. Likewise, it will be assessed whether long-term mechanisms have been

In principle, the funding does not cover the following types of costs and expenditure:

- Conference or symposium attendance fees, or costs for consultancy work for research proposals.
- Bench fees charged by a hosting member institution.
- Participants' personal expenses.

Duration of stay at a member institution

Applicants are obliged to undertake a minimum stay of 5 working days (excluding travel days). The maximum duration of the stay is one month. Duration of stay is negotiated on an individual basis with the host institution.

Insurance

It is the responsibility of the beneficiary to have medical coverage during their stay (European card, private insurance or other).

planned to support the collaboration, beyond funding.

Budget Appropriateness (20%): The appropriateness of the budget will be evaluated according to the proposed activities and the established timeframe.

Documentation: A letter of acceptance from the host University must be attached to the application. it is necessary to inform **eciuniversity.coordinacio@uab.cat** in advance of the dates of the stay.

Final report: during the 30 calendar days following the end of the stay, a final report must be submitted. A justification template will be provided.

Important: Applications from researchers who have not previously been awarded an ECIU RMF will be given priority.

Dates of the stay: The stay must take place between 20/06/25 - 31/12/25.

Next application period (if remaining budget is available after the first resolution): 06/05/25 - 04/07/25.

How to apply for an RMF1 grant at UAB?

UAB
Universitat
Autònoma
de Barcelona

▶This **application form** must be completed no later than **July 4, 2025**. Applications will be resolved by the Research, Transfer, and Innovation Commission.

For more information, please contact:

eciuniversity.coordinacio@uab.cat

RMF2 – ECIU Research Labs:

CLOSED

Who can apply?

This call is addressed to **PDI doctor** (research and academic staff), in particular early-career ones (R2).

Available funding

The funding covers travel to the Workshop in **Rouen, France, on October 16 and 17, 2025**, provided that the proposal has been selected by the ECIU University Research Commission (ECIU VP Research):

- €275 for travel + €420 for the stay (accommodation and subsistence). **Total: €695**

Research areas supported

- Energy and Sustainability
- Transport & Mobility

More specifically, the following topics:

- Transport: Structures, infrastructures, and mobility
- Energy for sustainability
- Environment: Natural, industrial, and urban
- Digital systems and data for society
- Global health and bioengineering

Where can I go for the stay?

This initiative is part of a closed program, structured as follows:

1. **March 20, 2025**: Complete the application form for the ECIU Mobility Fund RMF2.
2. **April 3, 2025** (from 11:00 to 13:00): Attend the ECIU Researchers' Online Networking Event to network with researchers in a related field.
3. **April – May 2025**: The networks formed during the ECIU Researchers' Online Networking Event will work on preparing a brief description (1 page) of a proposal.
4. **Before June 2, 2025**: Each network must submit the description of their project proposal to the ECIU Research Commission (VP Research) for evaluation.
5. **June 25, 2025**: The ECIU Research Commission (VP Research) will carry out the selection process for the submitted proposals.
6. **July – September 2025**: The selected groups will continue working virtually.
7. **October 16 and 17, 2025:** The selected groups will attend an in-person workshop at the INSA Rouen campus.

The ECIU Office at UAB will provide support to participants throughout the entire process.

What can the funding be spent on?

The ECIU RMF is generally used to cover travel and subsistence expenses related to visiting ECIU University institutions. The applicant remains affiliated with their home institution, which is responsible for awarding the grants and paying the applicant's regular salary according to its funding rules and regulations.

RMF2 funding covers the following expenses:

- Travel to Rouen, France (bus, train, and flight tickets)

- Subsistence expenses (accommodation and other travel expenses) covering the stay (2 days) and round-trip travel. Total: 4 days

Duration of the stay at a member institution

If selected, the stay will take place at INSA-Rouen, France, on **October 16 and 17, 2025**.

Insurance

It is the beneficiary's responsibility to ensure they have medical coverage during the stay (European Health Insurance Card, private insurance, or other coverage).

Evaluation of the applications

The ECIU University Research Commission will conduct a selection process for the submitted proposals on June 25, 2025.

Documentation and application:

To express interest in participating in this process, send an email to eciuniversity.coordinacio@uab.cat, indicating your area of expertise, **before March 20, 2025**. From this point, the ECIU Office at UAB will provide further details on the next steps to follow, in line with the procedure and timeline outlined above.

Final report:

Those selected will be required to submit a final report within 30 calendar days after the stay. A reporting template will be provided.

Important: Priority will be given to applicants who have not previously received an ECIU RMF.

How to apply for an RMF2 grant at UAB?

UAB
Universitat
Autònoma
de Barcelona

▶This **application form** must be completed no later than **March 20, 2025**. Applications will be resolved by the Research, Transfer, and Innovation Commission.

For more information, please contact:

eciuniversity.coordinacio@uab.cat

Appendix 1 – Research Fields

Research Field Citizen Science

Research Field Energy and Sustainability

1. Climate-resilient energy sector

2. Encouragement to the producers to decrease the virgin raw materials consumption

3. Renewable sources of energy & integration of renewables in the energy system

4. Decarbonization of the power sector toward net-zero emission by 2020

5. Whole life cycle analysis.

6. The role of civil society and social movements in energy transitions

7. Social sustainability in the logistic sector and resource depletion for manufacturing processes

8. Citizen engagement targeting bringing the public on as a champion of research in this area to help "motivate" political policy

9. Embodied energy of products

10. Smart design of optimal and reliable energy systems

11. Reliability and Safety Study of Energy Systems

12. International provision chains for renewable energies

13. Energy storage

14. Transformative innovation perspectives

15. Resilient any-scenario communication networks

Research Field Circular Economy

1. Reuse (and recycling) of challenging waste fractions, such as multimaterials/composites and critical materials in the European context

2. Development of biological, thermal, physical and chemical technologies for resource recovery.

3. Investigate the impact of consumer behavioural change on the environmental, economic, and social aspects of a product's life-cycle.

4. Circular oriented innovation

5. Disassembling of product at end of life for component reusage

6. Development of products for circular economy

7. Effects of legislation and business models on circular economy solutions and the drivers and barriers regarding legislation at national and EU level

8. Materials, such as Polymers, Construction materials and critical raw materials

9. Acceptance of different solutions, e.g. markets for nutrient products recovered from waste streams

10. Execution and implementation of circular economy principles within an organization

11. Recovery of resources, e.g. nutrients, metals, carbon and/or energy, from industrial, municipal and agricultural waste streams

12. How to integrate CE-thinking into the development work (for example C2C innovation and stage-gate innovation work)

13. Circular construction

14. Sustainable exploitation of mineral raw materials (no more mining wastes; integral use of low-grades)

15. Food waste recycling and food waste valorization

Research Field Transport and Mobility

1. Autonomous Driving and Smart Mobility. Create Methods for Multi-Sensors based

Road Scene Analysis.

2. Artificial intelligence to mobility and transport prediction

3. Artificial Intelligence for Logistics Management

4. Urban transport in post covid era

5. Zero-emission public transportation

6. Smart design of optimal and reliable systems

7. Shareconomy in logistics (uberization of trucking, car sharing, crowdsourced logistics, platform, etc.)

8. Fully integrated multi-modal mobility options with transportation delay predictions and mobility apps from public administrations

9. Electric vehicles

10. Better use of travel card data for optimization

11. Sharing and utilization of real-time data in supply chains

12. Development and evaluation of integrated concepts in mobility and land use planning

13. Digitalisation of urban transport (shared mobility, mobility as a service), and its societal impacts

14. Walkability and emotions in urban environments

15. Bikeability – from car-dependency to soft mobility

Research Field Resilient Communities

1. Trade-offs between resilience and equity/justice

2. Co-creation of practices facilitating resilient communities

3. Social health of communities & social capital (social networks, social trust, reciprocity norms)

4. Citizen participation

5. Employ scenario-building to stimulate community engagement in community engagement in co-creating sustainable and smart communities

6. Renewable energy production balanced with consumption in a localised community-focused manner

7. Power relations in a resilient community: between members, between community and authorities, between community and society more in general

8. Urban infrastructures risks due to extreme events => nature-based solutions

9. Building on a broad range of stakeholder/community/professional experiences to ensure dealing with the most difficult problem for sustainability

10. How to promote the reuse and adaptation of the built stock to both climate change and social change

11. Analysis of how city-regions are emerging as key contexts for building resilient urban futures

12. Collective action problems associated with community adaptation and resilience

13. Hybrid governance solutions that involve communities, governments and marketbased arrangements

14. Multimodality in urban resilient transport systems (car, cycling, shared mobility, public transport)

15. Citizen science/crowd-sourced science