

# Blended... Mobility

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**African BlendEd Course: novel pedagogies boosting employability  
and socio-economic prosperity**

**Konstantinos Karampidis, Giorgos Papadourakis, Nuno Escudeiro**

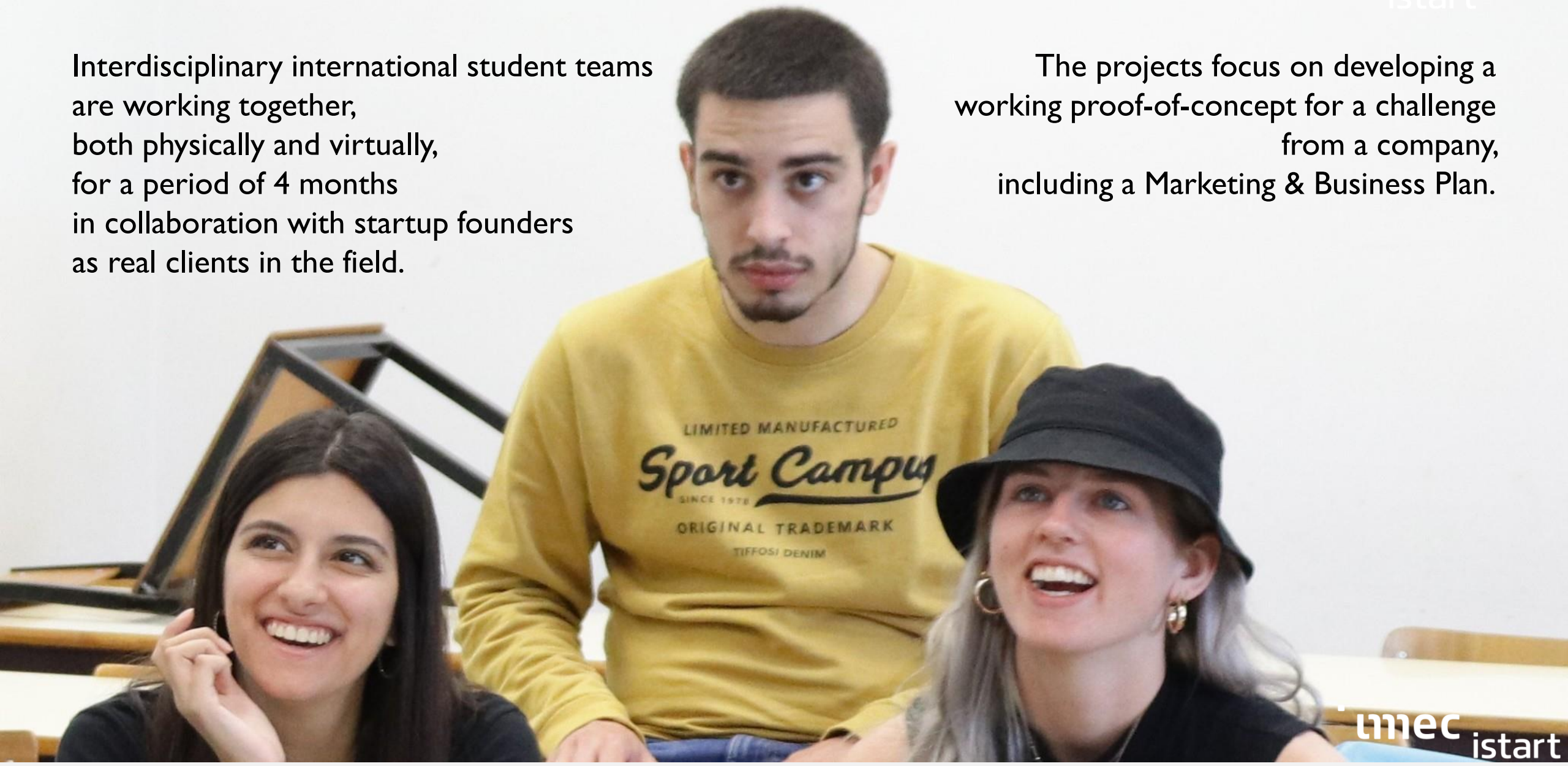


“A well-established model to enhance education, cultural awareness & employability”

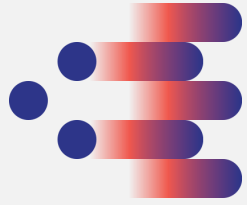
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Interdisciplinary international student teams are working together, both physically and virtually, for a period of 4 months in collaboration with startup founders as real clients in the field.

The projects focus on developing a working proof-of-concept for a challenge from a company, including a Marketing & Business Plan.



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# Course plan in three stages

## A - PREPARATION

1. New edition organization (September)
2. Call for challenges (Praxis platform, companies, October)
3. Select challenges according to learning outcomes and available competences
4. Invite students (November till December)
5. Select students (December, January)
6. Invite supervisor teachers
7. Create teams
8. Kick-off logistics (prep phase, f2f meeting, travel and accommodation, January).

## B - DEVELOPMENT

1. Launch the course edition (early February)
2. Preparatory phase (2 weeks before kick-off): team website (who we are), cultural stereotypes
3. Kick-off meeting (**physical**, 5 working days, end of February): team building, know the client and the challenge, know the team, know the ECTS-budget, organize work and tools, seminars / workshops (agile development, intercultural team work, ...), pitch and discuss proposal with the client, peer evaluation round 1
4. Team work at a distance, at home institution (**virtual**): regular meetings online, groupware platforms, distributed development environment
5. Peer evaluation round 2 (mid-term, April)
6. Closing logistics (closing f2f meeting, travel and accommodation, March/April).

## C - CLOSURE

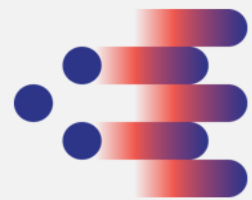
1. Closing meeting (**physical**, 5 working days, end of June): finalize deliverables (product, business plan, marketing campaign, ...), pitch and discussion with teachers and client representatives, peer evaluation round 3, assessment, give grades
2. Course edition debriefing: things to improve, preliminary organization of next edition
3. Final dinner.



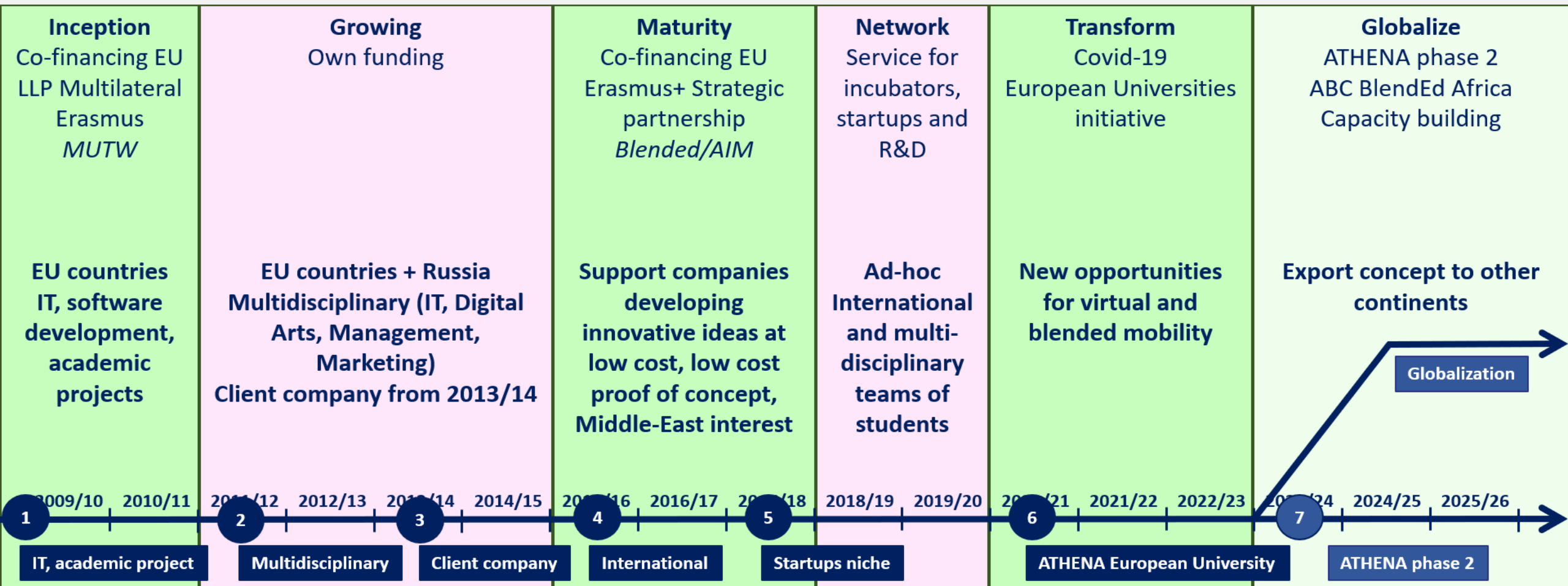


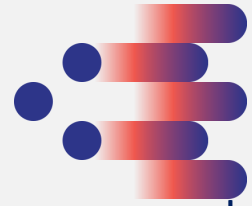
## ADVANTAGES FOR STUDENTS

- ✓ Develop & enhance your personal and professional **competences**
- ✓ Work in an exciting **multicultural, multidisciplinary** environment
- ✓ Get experience in working within a **remote team**
- ✓ Gain **international contacts, partnerships** and strengthen your **international network**
- ✓ Promote **teamwork and communication skills** in international context
- ✓ Find your **talent**
- ✓ Boost your **employability**
- ✓ Overcome **international mobility** barriers



# BlendEd path



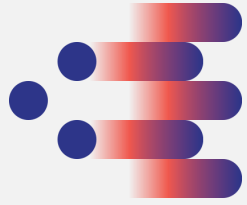


# Blended-AIM team

Instituto Politécnico do Porto, **Portugal**  
Universität Siegen, **Germany**  
Odisee Technologicampus - Ghent, **Belgium**  
LUCA School of Arts, **Belgium**  
Glasgow Caledonian University, **United Kingdom**  
Hellenic Mediterranean University, **Greece**  
University of Human Development, **Iraq**  
University of Maribor, **Slovenia**  
University Institute of Maia, **Portugal**  
Federal University of Technology Minna, **Nigeria**  
Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, **Germany**  
Trier University of Applied Sciences, **Germany**  
AP University of Applied Sciences and Arts Antwerp, **Belgium**  
Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, **Lithuania**  
Università degli Studi Niccolò Cusano, **Italy**  
University of Orléans, **France**  
  
IMEC–iStart, imec’s business accelerator, **Belgium**

KU, **Germany**      MP, **Germany**  
FHJ, **Austria**      GISIG, **Italy**  
UI, **Iceland**      Evolaris, **Austria**  
VSTU, **Russia**      Trilogis, **Italy**  
TUS, **Bulgary**      UWS, **Germany**  
UV, **Spain**      EAEC, **Cyprus**  
VTU, **Bulgary**      8 startups, **Belgium.**  
  
EU, **Turkey**  
  
UPB, **Germany**

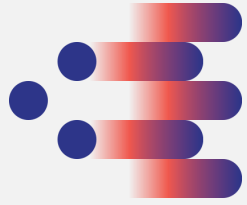




# ABC Blended Aim & Objectives

- The aim of the ABC BlendEd project is to empower African universities in the area of Agriculture to setup and run such courses and to escalate the model to other areas in Africa.
- The objectives of the project are to foster student employability and generate added value to the local communities, stimulate the adoption of BlendEd courses by its key stakeholders, students, teachers, and beneficiary companies and promote multiplier effects to mainstream the adoption of BlendEd courses in Africa.





# ABC Blended - Workplan

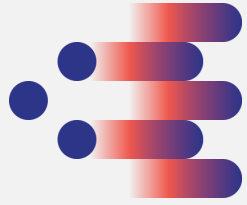
The ABC BlendEd work plan is organized in three technical work units (Design, Implement and Mainstream) plus a project management unit.

The Design unit is devoted to analysing the specific circumstances of the African higher education market and design a BlendEd course by adapting the model currently in use in Europe; it delivers the course syllabus and didactic materials.

At the Implement unit we will run three pilot editions of the course. Implement is intertwined with Design in an iterative and incremental process to design, pilot, evaluate and adapt the BlendEd course during three academic years aiming to have it fine-tuned to the Africa reality. Mainstream focuses on dissemination and assuring sustainability.



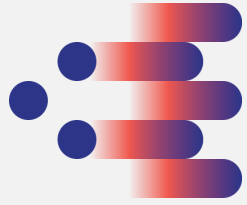




# ABC Blended team

- Instituto Politécnico do Porto, **Portugal**
- Universität Siegen, **Germany**
- Odisee Technologicampus - Ghent, **Belgium**
- Hellenic Mediterranean University, **Greece**
- UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA (UNN), **Nigeria**
- FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, MINNA (FUTMIN), **Nigeria**
- UNIVERSIDADE EDUARDO MONDLANE (UEM), **Mozambique**
- UNIVERSIDADE ZAMBEZE (UNIZAMBEZE), **Mozambique**
- MAKERERE UNIVERSITY (MAKERERE), **Uganda**
- SOROTI UNIVERSITY (SUN), **Uganda**

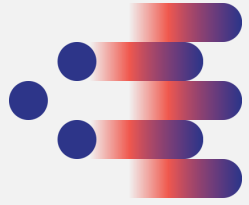




# ABC Blended - Results

In three years, we expect to have an effective BlendEd course running and generating relevant outputs in the field of agriculture, 10 examples of sound results produced by the course and transferred to the local communities, an active Community of Practice developing the BlendEd paradigm in Africa.





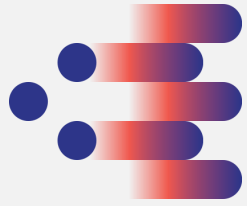
# 2023-24 project implementation

Similar to Blended Aim procedure.

***Initial*** physical meeting of teachers and students: **Kampala, Uganda**  
20-24  
May 2024

***Final*** physical meeting of teachers and students: **Minna, Nigeria**  
22-26 July 2024





# 2023-24 projects

Two projects were implemented:

**SEED PROJECT:** Low availability of improved varieties of seeds in Mozambique

Assessing the impact of limited access to improved seeds varieties on agricultural productivity in Mozambique

The institute should engage farmers in the production of quality seed varieties.

This should be implemented in away that encourages farmers to continue producing quality seeds.





Bongo Joshua



Monge Macklyne



Osvaldo Paulo Pessuro

<https://abcbledseedproject.wordpress.com/>



Onuchukwu Goodness



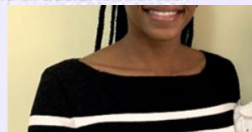
Marcelo Mucache Márcia



Napoleon Glory



Onuchukwu Goodness



Marcelo Mucache Márcia



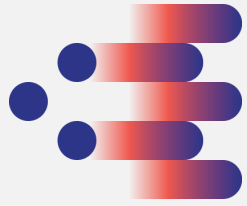
Napoleon Glory



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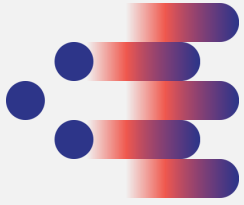
# 2023-24 projects

**Waste management:** Bad odour/smell from both pig and poultry unit

## Aspects to be considered in solving of the problem or challenge

1. How to obtain the good manure quality.
2. Collecting of the manure.
3. Addition of microbe anti-oxidants and fly repellants.
4. Reducing the water content in the manure
5. Storage and drying.
6. Packaging of the dried manure.











# 2023-24 projects

## WASTE

<https://pigandpoultrywastemanagement1.wordpress.com/gallery-page-explore-our-waste-management-gallery/>

 <p>Ismael kisuule Student, Makerere University, Uganda</p>	 <p>Kusiima Teddy Student, Soroti University, Uganda</p>
 <p>Chukwuka Anthony Anigbogu Student, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria</p>	 <p>AbdulWaheed Ayuba Student, Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria</p>
 <p>Maimuna Lucia Manuel Student, Zambezi University, Mozambique</p>	 <p>Agostinho Filipe Guambe Student, Eduardo Mondlane University, Mozambique</p>



