



Decree of the Rector n. 642 of 08/07/2024

Competition for awarding 1 research grant at the University of Udine

DISCLAIMER:

The official and legally binding call for applications is in Italian only.

This document cannot be used for legal purposes and is only meant to provide information in English on the call for applications (Decree of the Rector n. 642 of 08/07/2024). Please refer to the official call published on: <https://www.uniud.it/it/albo-ufficiale>

Any change and integration will be made available on the above-mentioned web page. Therefore, no personal written communication regarding the examination date and/or competition results shall be provided to applicants.

Annex 1

Call for applications for the award of 1 grant for the performance of research activities at the University of Udine on the topic "Governance mechanisms for successful circular economy projects" SSD: IEGE-01/A (principal investigator, Pietro Romano)

Art. 1

A selection proceeding is hereby announced for the award of 1 research grant at the University of Udine for the performance of the research activity identified in Annex A, which forms an integral and substantial part of this call. The research grant is linked to the research project on which it is based and is subject to the corresponding financial coverage.

The grant may be renewed with the winner in accordance with the provisions of Article 22 of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 (in the text prior to Leg. Decree no. 36 of 30 April 2022, converted with amendments by Law no. 79 of 29 June 2022) and the Regulations of the University of Udine for the awarding of research grants issued by Rector's Decree no. 182 of 31 March 2021, in the presence of a positive assessment by the scientific supervisor of the activity carried out by the research fellow, adequate scientific justification and related financial coverage, within the limits set out in Article 3, letters b) and c) below.

The research grant does not entitle the successful candidate to any rights as regards access to University roles.

Any personal communication to candidates relating to this selection will be sent exclusively to the email address indicated in the application form.

Art. 2

The activities covered by the research grant referred to in this call for competition and the admission requirements are indicated and described in Annex A. Failure to meet the admission requirements at the time of applying shall result in the **exclusion** of the candidate from the selection process.



Possession of a PhD qualification or equivalent qualification obtained abroad or, for the sectors concerned only, of a medical specialisation qualification accompanied by an adequate scientific production, constitutes a preferential requirement for the awarding of the grant envisaged for this selection, if it has not been mentioned as an admission requirement.

The Selection Board shall assess, for the sole purpose of admission to the competition, the suitability of any qualification obtained abroad, without prejudice to the assessment of the medical specialisation qualification to which Article 38, paragraph 3.1 of Legislative Decree 165/2001, as amended, and the relevant Community regulations apply.

The Board assesses the qualification obtained abroad based on the relevant documentation enclosed with the application to take part in the selection and may exclude the candidate if the submitted documentation does not provide sufficient elements for the assessment.

Candidates are therefore invited to enclose all documentation in their possession relating to their qualifications in order to provide the Board with sufficient elements to assess their position.

Candidates are admitted to the selection process subject to a reservation and their exclusion, for failure to meet the requirements, may be ordered at any time by reasoned decision.

Art. 3

The research grant referred to in this call cannot be awarded to the following subjects:

- a) Employees of Universities and the entities referred to in Article 22(1) of Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 (in the text prior to Leg. Decree no. 36 of 30 April 2022, converted with amendments by Law no. 79 of 29 June 2022).
- b) Recipients of previous research grants pursuant to Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010, for the maximum period allowed by the regulations, excluding the period in which the grant was received in conjunction with a PhD, up to the legal duration of the relevant course.
- c) Those who have already been awarded research grants and fixed-term researcher contracts pursuant to Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010 for a total of 12 years, even if not consecutive.
- d) Those who have a degree of kinship or relationship, up to and including the fourth degree, with:
 - The Rector, the Director General or a member of the Board of Directors of the University of Udine.
 - The principal investigator or a professor/researcher belonging to the department or structure of interest where the research grant activity takes place.

The research grant referred to in this call cannot be cumulated with the following:

- a) Awarded scholarships of any kind, except those granted by national or foreign institutions useful for supplementing, by means of stays abroad, the fellow's training or research activities.
- b) Other research grants.
- c) Employment relationships, even if part-time, without prejudice to the provisions of the regulations for employees of public administrations.

The grant referred to in this call is also incompatible with simultaneous attendance of degree courses, master's degrees, and PhDs with scholarships and medical specialisation, in Italy and abroad.

Persons who have been convicted of a criminal offence resulting in disqualification from holding public office or inability to contract with the public administration as a secondary penalty are not eligible for selection.



Art. 4

Applicants must submit, in the manner described in Article 5 below, the application to take part in the selection, duly signed in handwritten or digital form. An application without a signature will result in the **exclusion** of the candidate, except in the case of access through the use of the Public Digital Identity System (SPID) in which case the signature will not be necessary.

The application must be uploaded in its entirety (i.e., every page), **otherwise** the applicant will be **excluded** from the selection.

Applicants must enclose the following with their application for participation in the selection, **under penalty of exclusion**:

1. The professional scientific *curriculum vitae* in Italian or English or one of the additional languages, if any, indicated in Annex A, highlighting the candidate's aptitude for carrying out and implementing the research programme.
2. Copy of valid identity document or other identification document. Citizens of non-EU countries must enclose a copy of their passport.
3. Limited to citizens of non-EU states residing or authorised to reside in Italy, a copy of their residence permit or authorisation to reside in Italy.
4. For candidates who cannot provide a self-certification under the conditions set out below, documentation proving possession of the academic qualification required for admission to the selection. Possession of a higher academic qualification does not exempt the candidate from producing such documentation, which, if missing, will result in exclusion:
 - **Candidates who are Italian citizens or citizens of a European Union Member State** must submit a declaration in lieu of certification and, if necessary, a notarial deed regarding the academic qualification needed for admission (indicating the academic qualification, the academic institution awarding the qualification, the year it was awarded and the mark obtained) and the publications and other qualifications held, indicating for each one all the identification details necessary for the Board's assessment. **The application for participation counts as a declaration in lieu of certification of the declared academic qualification.** If the subject matter of the declaration is not clearly identified in terms of its nature, duration, time setting and institution concerned, the selection board will disregard it. The Administration reserves the right to carry out appropriate checks on the truthfulness of the content of the declarations made; in the event of a false declaration, the provisions of Article 76 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000 and Articles 483, 485, and 486 of the Italian Criminal Code shall apply. The University will not take into account any certificates attached by candidates who are Italian citizens or citizens of a state belonging to the European Union.
 - **Citizens of a non-European Union State** must submit documents and qualifications in Italian or English or one of the additional languages, if any, indicated in Annex A, under penalty of exclusion from the selection or, as the case may be, non-assessment.
Documents and titles, originally in a different language, must be accompanied by a translation, made by the candidate under his or her responsibility, into Italian or English or any other language indicated in Appendix A. With reference to the dissertation only, the translation may be limited to an extended abstract.
 - **Citizens of a non-EU State regularly residing in Italy** may use declarations in lieu of certification only in respect of states, personal qualities or facts that can be certified or attested to by Italian public bodies, without prejudice to the special provisions contained in the laws and regulations governing immigration and the status of foreigners.
 - **Citizens of non-EU states authorised to reside in Italy** may use the aforementioned declarations in cases where they are produced pursuant to international conventions between Italy and the declarant's country of origin.



Applicants may also enclose with their application for assessment purposes their publications and any other qualification deemed useful to prove their qualification in relation to the research programme described in Annex A and to certify any research activity carried out in public and/or private entities (with the indication of the starting date and duration). The submission modalities are similar to those indicated in point 4 of the previous paragraph.

Only the qualifications possessed by the candidate on the date of submission of the application for selection and presented in accordance with Article 5 will be assessed.

Any exclusion from the selection procedure due to lack of eligibility requirements, absence of mandatory documents, failure to sign the application to take part in the selection or submission of the application in a manner other than that provided for in this call will be communicated to the parties concerned exclusively by email to the email address indicated in the application to take part in the selection.

Art. 5

Registration for this selection will begin on July 18, 2024 at 2:00 pm (Italian time) and will end on August 27, 2024 at 2:00 pm (Italian time).

The application to take part in the selection must be completed, under penalty of exclusion, using the appropriate online procedure, available at <https://pica.cineca.it/>.

For those who do not already have a user account, the procedure involves a registration phase for the applicant, and a subsequent phase for completing the application online.

Once completed, the application must be signed in the manner (handwritten signature, with attached identity document, or digital signature) described in the online procedure, under penalty of exclusion from the selection. The application does not have to be signed if the above-mentioned online procedure is accessed using the Sistema Pubblico di Identità Digitale (SPID - Digital ID Public System). In the case of a handwritten signature, the applicant must upload the application to the system in its entirety. The information entered in the application form shall constitute a declaration in lieu of certification and affidavit, pursuant to Articles 46 and 47 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000.

The qualifications referred to in Article 4 must be attached to the application in .pdf format. Individual files, in .pdf format, may not exceed 30MB in size.

It is not permitted to submit attachments to the application in the form of links to files residing on "online storage/file sharing" services or web pages. Reference may not be made to documents or publications submitted to this or other administrations or documents attached to the application for participation in another selection procedure.

The application for participation in the selection is automatically sent to the University of Udine with the final closure of the online procedure.

The University Administration:

- accepts no liability if it is impossible to read the submitted documentation in electronic format due to damaged files;
- does not accept or take into consideration qualifications or documents received in paper form or by any other means than those specified in this article.



The Administration accepts no liability in the event of incorrect indication by the candidate of his/her email address or in the event of failure or delay in communicating a change in the email address indicated in the application, nor for any digital transmission errors attributable to third parties, unforeseeable circumstances or force majeure.

Applicants are advised not to wait until the last few days before the deadline to submit their application. The University accepts no liability for any malfunctions due to technical problems and/or overloading of the communication line and/or application systems.

Art. 6

The selection test takes place according to the modalities set out in Annex A.

The test will aim to ascertain the candidates' preparation, experience and research aptitude. It will consist of an assessment of the professional scientific curriculum, publications and titles submitted, and an interview, where applicable.

Failure of the candidate to attend the interview will be considered as withdrawal from the selection, whatever the cause.

Candidates who intend to avail themselves of the benefits provided for by Article 20 of Law no. 104 of 1992 (need for assistance, possible use of additional time for the performance of examination tests) in relation to their disability situation, must declare this and accompany the application with appropriate medical certification in order to allow the Administration to prepare in time the means and tools to guarantee the statutory benefits; failure to submit the medical certification exempts the Administration from any obligation in this regard.

Art. 7

The Competition Selection Board is identified in Annex A to this call, of which it forms an integral part. At its first meeting, the Board appoints the Chairperson and the Secretary taking the minutes, and establishes the criteria and procedures for assessing the qualifications and the interview, where applicable.

The results of the assessment must be made known to the parties concerned at the interview, where provided for.

The Board can attribute to the selection a total number of 100 points (one hundred hundredths). At the end of its work, the Board formulates the overall merit list based on the total marks obtained by each candidate and draws up the minutes of the competition operations.

The grant may be awarded, subject to the ranking list, to candidates who have obtained a minimum overall mark of 70/100 (seventy hundredths).

The Board's judgement is final on the merits.

The ranking list will be made public exclusively by publication on the University's official notice board; the outcome of the assessment will not be the subject of personal communication to candidates.

Those who do not declare their acceptance of the research grant and do not present themselves at the structure where the research activities are to be carried out to sign the contract by the deadline communicated by the same to the email address indicated by the candidate in the application shall forfeit their right to the research grant, except for health reasons or reasons of force majeure duly documented and promptly notified.



Candidates holding qualifications obtained abroad, if successful, must submit the following, if not already attached to the application:

- **For degrees issued by a country that is a party to the Lisbon Convention (<https://www.enic-naric.net/>), the following documentation:**
 - *Supplement* Diploma or similar certificate in English issued by the competent University.
 - "Certificate of Verification of Foreign Qualification - CIMEA" issued by CIMEA (Centre for Information on Academic Mobility and Equivalences) via the "*diplome*" service at <https://cimea.diplome.eu/udine/#/auth/login>
- **For degrees issued by a country not party to the Lisbon Convention (<https://www.enic-naric.net/>), one of the following options:**
 - Declaration of the on-site value of the qualification held and the certificate relating to the qualification with examinations and grades. The certificate in a language other than Italian or English must be accompanied by an official translation into one of those languages (certified by the competent diplomatic-consular authority or sworn at a court in Italy).
 - "Certificate of Comparability and Verification of Foreign Qualifications - CIMEA" issued by CIMEA (Centre for Information on Academic Mobility and Equivalences) via the "*diplome*" service at <https://cimea.diplome.eu/udine/#/auth/login>

If the aforementioned documentation is not available at the time of the conclusion of the contract, the candidate must prove that he or she has requested it and submit it as soon as possible; if it is not submitted within six months of the start of the contract, the candidate will forfeit the contract and will be required to repay any related sums received to date.

Art. 8

The research activity cannot be started before the contract defining the terms of the collaboration is signed.

The activity covered by the research grant must have the following characteristics:

- a) Be carried out in the context of the research programme covered by the grant and not be a purely technical support to the same.
- b) Close connection with the implementation of the research programme that is the subject of the relationship with the winner.
- c) Having a continuous and in any case temporally defined character, not merely occasional, and in coordination with the overall activity of the University.
- d) Performance in a condition of autonomy, within the sole limits of the programme prepared by the Head of the same, without predetermined working hours.

The research fellow is obliged to submit a detailed written report on the work carried out and the results achieved, together with the opinion of the scientific supervisor, to the reference structure within the deadlines laid down in the contract. The research fellow will also have to submit interim reports and time sheets if requested by the reference structure and/or the scientific supervisor.

The research fellow is bound to strict confidentiality regarding the data and information to which he/she becomes privy in the course of his/her research activity. At the request of the scientific coordinator, he/she will be required to sign an appropriate confidentiality agreement.

The industrial property rights to the results obtained by the research fellow in the performance of the research activity belong exclusively to the University, without prejudice to the moral right of the research fellow to be recognised as an author or inventor.



The University reserves the right to revoke this call for competition for reasons of public interest, should the research project and/or the financial backing on which the research grant is based cease to exist. Should these causes arise after the contract has been signed, the University may terminate the contract without notice.

Art. 9

The following apply to the grant under this call:

- On tax matters, the provisions of Article 4 of Law no. 476 of 13 August 1984, as amended.
- On social security matters, the provisions of Article 2(26) et seq. of Law no. 335 of 8 August 1995, as amended.
- On compulsory maternity leave, the provisions of the Ministerial Decree of 12 July 2007.
- On sick leave, the provisions of Article 1(788) of Law No 296 of 27 December 2006, as amended.

During the period of compulsory maternity leave, the allowance paid by INPS pursuant to Article 5 of the Ministerial Decree of 12 July 2007 is supplemented by the University up to the full amount of the research grant.

The grant will be paid in monthly instalments in arrears.

Art. 10

The data collected as part of the procedure referred to in Article 5 is necessary for the proper management of the selection procedure, for the possible subsequent management of the research grant and purposes related to the management of the services provided by the University. The University of Udine is the Data Controller. At any time, the data subject may request access, rectification and, compatibly with the institutional purposes of the University, cancellation and restriction of processing or may object to the processing of his/her data. He/she can always lodge a complaint with the Italian Data Protection Authority. The full information is available on the University of Udine website in the "Privacy" section accessible from the home page www.uniud.it Direct Link: <https://www.uniud.it/it/it/pagine-speciali/guida/privacy>

Art. 11

For any matters not expressly mentioned in this call, reference is made to the relevant regulations in force cited in the introduction and to the "Internal regulations for the award of research grants pursuant to Law no. 240 of 30 December 2010" of the University of Udine issued by Rector's Decree no. 182 of 31 March 2021.

Art. 12

The official in charge of the proceeding is Dr. Sandra Salvador, Head of the Research Services Area of the University of Udine.

The reference office at the University of Udine is the "Area Servizi per la Ricerca - Ufficio Formazione per la Ricerca", Via Mantica 31 - 33100 Udine.

To request information on the call, please complete the following form available on the University of Udine website: https://helpdesk.uniud.it/SubmitSR.jsp?type=req&accountId=universitofudine&populateSR_id=42105



Annex A

Responsabile scientifico della ricerca / Principal investigator:

Nome e cognome / Name and surname: Pietro Romano
 Qualifica / Position: Professore Ordinario / Full Professor
 Dipartimento / Department: Politecnico di Ingegneria e Architettura (DPIA) / Polytechnic of Engineering and Architecture
 Area MUR / Research field: 09 - Ingegneria industriale e dell'informazione
 Settore concorsuale e Settore scientifico disciplinare / Scientific sector: 09/IEGE-01; IEGE-01/A - Ingegneria economico-gestionale

Titolo dell'assegno di ricerca / Topic of the research fellowship "assegno di ricerca":

I bandi sono consultabili dal sito dell'Ateneo, del MUR e di Euraxess / The calls are available on the University, MUR and Euraxess websites

Testo in italiano:

Meccanismi di governance per il successo dei progetti di economia circolare.

Text in English:

Governance mechanisms for successful circular economy projects.

Obiettivi previsti e risultati attesi del programma di ricerca in cui si colloca l'attività dell'assegnista di ricerca / Foreseen objectives and results of the research programme performed by the research fellow "assegnista di ricerca":

I bandi sono consultabili dal sito dell'Ateneo, del MUR e di Euraxess / The calls are available on the University, MUR and Euraxess websites

Testo in italiano:

Abstract del progetto	Il progetto proposto vuole investigare come i meccanismi di governance evolvono nel tempo durante l'implementazione di progetti di economia circolare che coinvolgono un'azienda e la rete di attori con cui interagisce durante tali progetti (aziende profit, aziende non-profit, enti pubblici ed università). Attraverso un caso studio singolo longitudinale, si intende investigare come si sono evoluti i meccanismi di governance tra l'azienda focale e i partner coinvolti nei progetti di economia circolare per meglio comprendere che cosa inneschi tali cambiamenti di governance (motivazioni, obiettivi, decisioni prese e principi seguiti dagli attori coinvolti) e in che modo questi determinino la riduzione delle estrazioni di risorse naturali e il miglioramento della sostenibilità ambientale e sociale dall'azienda.
Obiettivi del progetto	Il progetto mira a studiare l'evoluzione dei meccanismi di governance che vengono attivati durante l'implementazione dell'economia circolare in un progetto che coinvolge un'azienda produttrice di scarponi da sci e i suoi partner. Tali meccanismi evolvono nel tempo poiché gli obiettivi, i principi, le strutture e gli strumenti di governance mutano nel tempo. Questi vengono inoltre influenzati da cambiamenti dovuti a scelte di operations e supply chain management. Si intende in tal modo contribuire alla teoria sui meccanismi di governance nell'ambito dell'economia circolare, che coinvolgono aziende profit, aziende non profit, consorzi, università e cooperative sociali.



Stato dell'arte	<p>La popolarità del paradigma dell'economia circolare (CE) è aumentata significativamente nell'ultimo decennio, sia tra gli accademici che tra i decisori operanti presso le istituzioni politiche ed economiche. L'economia circolare è riconosciuta come un paradigma economico e produttivo alternativo al modello lineare in quanto mira al riutilizzo o riciclo dei prodotti o i loro componenti, riducendo lo spreco di materiali, energia e lavoro, affrontando così le diverse sfide della sostenibilità ambientale, sociale ed economica (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2013). Le aziende stanno gradualmente investendo nell'economia circolare attraverso lo sviluppo di diversi progetti per implementare diverse pratiche circolari. Tali iniziative spesso richiedono il superamento di diverse sfide, come per esempio gli elevati costi iniziali di implementazione e l'incertezza del mercato, le questioni normative e burocratiche, gli enormi ostacoli tecnici e persino i fattori socio-culturali, presenti sia all'interno che all'esterno dei confini aziendali (de Jesus & Mendonça, 2018). Infatti, la transizione verso l'economia circolare implica l'adozione di un approccio sistemico all'innovazione finalizzato all'obiettivo dello sviluppo sostenibile (European Commission, 2015).</p> <p>La transizione verso l'economia circolare è un cambiamento sistemico che implica interdipendenze tra le parti interessate e gli attori della catena di fornitura (Iacovidou et al., 2021). Per questo motivo, la collaborazione con il supply network è un fattore chiave della transizione verso l'economia circolare (Berlin et al., 2022; Carballo-Penela et al., 2018) e un'azienda focale nel supply network può essere spesso riconosciuta come l'orchestratore dell'ecosistema che guida la trasformazione (Parida et al., 2019; Xu et al., 2022). Tuttavia, non è ancora chiaro come i diversi meccanismi di governance portano all'evoluzione dei supply network per l'economia circolare e come questi meccanismi vengono mutati nel tempo via via che i progetti di economia circolare si sviluppano e arrivano a regime. Sulla base dei limiti della letteratura sull'economia circolare dal punto di vista del network di fornitura e dei meccanismi di governance, in questo studio ci proponiamo di esplorare come si evolve nel tempo la governance di un ecosistema circolare per sostenerne il suo funzionamento via via che il progetto si sviluppa.</p>
Descrizione del progetto	<p>Il progetto verrà sviluppato sul caso studio di un'azienda produttrice di scarponi da sci. Il caso verrà analizzato con una metodologia qualitativa con logica longitudinale. Sarà analizzato il periodo dal 2020 ad oggi. I dati verranno raccolti tramite interviste semi strutturate svolte con diversi manager (innovation manager, sustainability manager, procurement manager, CEO) dell'azienda focale e dei diversi partner coinvolti nel progetto. Dopo un primo round di interviste, i ricercatori andranno a capire quali sono i dati mancanti per successivamente svolgere altri round di interviste strutturate o semi strutturate fino ad arrivare ad un punto di saturazione, dove dati aggiuntivi non danno più valore al caso studio. I dati ottenuti dalle interviste verranno triangolati con diversi documenti (presentazioni, minute di meeting, altri documenti presentati durante il progetto). Inoltre, i ricercatori verranno coinvolti durante alcune riunioni aziendali durante le quali verranno prese decisioni dagli attori coinvolti nel progetto, potendo così ottenere dati anche dalle osservazioni durante partecipazione a questi meeting.</p> <p>L'analisi dei dati verrà svolta con logica abduzione, che prevede il passaggio dai dati alla letteratura e poi di nuovo ai dati in modo iterativo. I dati verranno</p>



	<p>analizzati in primis in un'ottica di open coding (Strauss and Corbin 1998) ottenendo una prima categorizzazione, in base a ciò che emerge dai dati stessi. Successivamente questi verranno confrontati con la letteratura pregressa (Corley and Gioia, 2011). Successivamente si passerà all'astrazione di categorie concettuali per poi arrivare a produrre una teoria dei meccanismi di governance nel contesto dell'economia circolare.</p>
Possibili potenzialità applicative	<p>Il progetto si inserisca nel dibattito, oggi molto vivace, sull'economia circolare e i relativi meccanismi di governance da attivare in fase di sviluppo dei progetti per fare sì che vadano a buon fine e portino a risultati invece di abortire. Implementare efficacemente la circolarità è una sfida complessa, pertanto vi è un forte bisogno di linee guida adeguate. I risultati del progetto avranno certamente un impatto positivo sulla sostenibilità ambientale, poiché si concentreranno sullo sviluppo di strategie per l'economia circolare volte a ridurre l'utilizzo delle risorse e di conseguenza la produzione di rifiuti. Inoltre, ci si attende un impatto positivo anche sulla sostenibilità sociale ed economica, dato che il coinvolgimento di attori come le cooperative sociali promuoverà la partecipazione e il benessere delle comunità coinvolte. Sul versante economico, il progetto mira alla replicabilità in altri contesti nazionali e internazionali, contribuendo così ulteriormente alla sostenibilità ambientale e economica a livello globale.</p>
Bibliografia	<p>Berlin, D., Feldmann, A., & Nuur, C. (2022). Supply network collaborations in a circular economy: A case study of Swedish steel recycling. <i>Resources, Conservation and Recycling</i>, 179, 106112. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resconrec.2021.106112.</p> <p>Carballo-Penela, A., Mateo-Mantecón, I., Alvarez, S., & Castromán-Diz, J. L. (2018). The Role of Green Collaborative Strategies in Improving Environmental Sustainability in Supply Chains: Insights from a Case Study. <i>Business Strategy and the Environment</i>, 27(6), 728–741. https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.2027.</p> <p>Corley, K. G. & D. A. Gioia 2011 "Building theory about theory building: what constitutes a theoretical contribution?" <i>Academy of Management Review</i>, 36: 12-32.</p> <p>De Jesus, A., & Mendonça, S. (2018). Lost in Transition? Drivers and Barriers in the Eco-innovation Road to the Circular Economy. <i>Ecological Economics</i>, 145, 75–89. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2017.08.00.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation. (2013). Towards the circular economy. <i>Journal of Industrial Ecology</i>.</p> <p>European Commission. (2015). From niche to norm: Suggestions by the group of experts on a 'systemic approach to eco innovation to achieve a low carbon, circular economy'. <i>Publications Office</i>. https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/410249.</p> <p>Iacovidou, E., Hahladakis, J. N., & Purnell, P. (2021). A systems thinking approach to understanding the challenges of achieving the circular economy. <i>Environmental Science and Pollution Research</i>, 28(19), 24785–24806. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-020-11725-9.</p> <p>Parida, V., Burström, T., Visnjic, I., & Wincent, J. (2019). Orchestrating industrial ecosystem in circular economy: A two-stage transformation model for large manufacturing companies. <i>Journal of Business Research</i>, 101, 715–725. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2019.01.006.</p> <p>Strauss, A. & J. Corbin (1998) <i>Basics of qualitative research: Techniques and Procedures for Developing Grounded Theory</i>, 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks: Sage.</p> <p>Xu, L., Jia, F., Yan, F., & Chen, L. (2022). Circular procurement: A systematic literature review. <i>Journal of Cleaner Production</i>, 365, 132845. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2022.132845.</p>



Text in English:

Abstract	The proposed project aims to investigate how governance mechanisms evolve over time during the implementation of circular practices within a company and its network of actors (for-profit companies, nonprofit companies, public agencies, and universities). Through a longitudinal single case study, we will research how governance mechanisms have evolved between the focal firm and the partners involved in the circular economy project and understand what triggers these governance changes (motivations, goals, decisions made, and principles of the actors involved). All of these changes reduce the extraction of natural resources, leading to increased environmental and social sustainability from the company.
Objectives of the project	The project aims to study the evolution of governance mechanisms that arise during the implementation of the circular economy within a ski boot manufacturing company and its partners. These mechanisms evolve over time as governance goals, principles, structures, and tools mutate throughout time. These are also influenced by changes in operations management. It will therefore go on to contribute to the theory on governance mechanisms in the circular economy, involving for-profit companies, nonprofit companies, consortia, universities and social cooperatives.
State of the art	<p>The popularity of the circular economy (CE) paradigm has increased significantly over the past decade, both among academics and policymakers and practitioners. The circular economy is recognized as an alternative economic and production paradigm with the potential to be able to address various sustainability challenges through the reuse or recycling of products or their components, avoiding the waste of materials, energy and labor (Ellen MacArthur Foundation, 2013). Companies are gradually embarking on the circular economy through the development of several ambitious projects to implement its key pillars in practice. Such initiatives often require overcoming several challenges, including high upfront costs and market uncertainty, regulatory and bureaucratic issues, huge technical hurdles, and even socio-cultural factors both inside and outside corporate boundaries (de Jesus & Mendonça, 2018). Indeed, the transition to the circular economy implies adopting a systemic approach to innovation aimed at the goal of sustainable development (European Commission, 2015).</p> <p>However, the vast majority of companies are anchored in the traditional linear production paradigm. Because the transition to the circular economy is a complex initiative and involves interdependencies among stakeholders and supply chain actors, there are several studies that investigate the transition to the circular economy by adopting a systems perspective (Iacovidou et al., 2021). For this reason, collaboration with the supply network is a key factor in the transition to the circular economy (Berlin et al., 2022; Carballo-Penela et al., 2018), and a focal firm in the supply network can often be recognized as the orchestrator of the ecosystem driving the transformation (Parida et al., 2019; Xu et al., 2022).</p> <p>However, it remains unclear how different governance mechanisms lead to the evolution of supply networks for the circular economy and how these mechanisms are changed. Based on the limitations of the circular economy literature from a supply network perspective and governance mechanisms, in this study we aim to explore how the governance of the circular economy ecosystem has evolved over time to sustain its functioning.</p>



Project description	<p>The project will be developed on the case study of a ski boot manufacturing company. The case study will be analyzed using a qualitative case study analysis methodology with longitudinal logic. In fact, the data that will be collected will be from 2020 onward. The data will be collected through semi-structured interviews conducted with different managers (innovation manager, sustainability manager, procurement manager, CEO) from the focal company and from the different partners involved in the project. After an initial round of interviews, the researchers will go to figure out what data are missing and then do more rounds of structured or semi-structured interviews until they reach a saturation point of data collection. In addition to these data obtained from the interviews, by triangulating various documents (such as presentations, meeting minutes, other documents) will also be analyzed with archival data. In addition, researchers will be involved during some meeting sessions during which decisions are made by different stakeholders involved in the project, thus being able to obtain data from the observations as well to utilize as data for analysis.</p> <p>Data analysis will be done with abductive logic, which involves moving from data to literature and then back to data in an iterative manner. The data will first be analyzed from an open coding perspective (Strauss and Corbin 1998) categorizing what emerges from the data itself. Successively these segments will be compared with prior literature (Corley and Gioia, 2011). Next, we will move on to abstract these categories and then arrive at producing a theory of governance mechanisms in the context of the circular economy.</p>
Possible application potentialities	<p>The project aims to contribute to the recent debate on circular economy and related governance mechanisms. Effectively implementing circularity is a complex challenge, so there is a strong need for appropriate guidelines. The project results will certainly have a positive impact on environmental sustainability, as they will focus on developing strategies for the circular economy to reduce resource use and consequently waste generation. In addition, it is also expected to have a positive impact on social and economic sustainability, as the involvement of actors such as social cooperatives will promote the participation and well-being of the communities involved. On the economic side, the project aims for replicability in other national and international contexts, thus further contributing to environmental and economic sustainability globally.</p>
References	<p>Berlin, D., Feldmann, A., & Nuur, C. (2022). Supply network collaborations in a circular economy: A case study of Swedish steel recycling. <i>Resources, Conservation and Recycling</i>, 179, 106112. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resconrec.2021.106112.</p> <p>Carballo-Penela, A., Mateo-Mantecón, I., Alvarez, S., & Castromán-Diz, J. L. (2018). The Role of Green Collaborative Strategies in Improving Environmental Sustainability in Supply Chains: Insights from a Case Study. <i>Business Strategy and the Environment</i>, 27(6), 728–741. https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.2027.</p> <p>Corley, K. G. & D. A. Gioia 2011 "Building theory about theory building: what constitutes a theoretical contribution?" <i>Academy of Management Review</i>, 36: 12-32.</p> <p>De Jesus, A., & Mendonça, S. (2018). Lost in Transition? Drivers and Barriers in the Eco-innovation Road to the Circular Economy. <i>Ecological Economics</i>, 145, 75–89. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2017.08.00.</p> <p>Ellen MacArthur Foundation. (2013). Towards the circular economy. <i>Journal of Industrial Ecology</i>.</p>



	<p>European Commission. (2015). From niche to norm: Suggestions by the group of experts on a 'systemic approach to eco innovation to achieve a low carbon, circular economy'. Publications Office. https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/410249.</p> <p>Iacovidou, E., Hahladakis, J. N., & Purnell, P. (2021). A systems thinking approach to understanding the challenges of achieving the circular economy. <i>Environmental Science and Pollution Research</i>, 28(19), 24785–24806. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11356-020-11725-9.</p> <p>Parida, V., Burström, T., Visnjic, I., & Wincent, J. (2019). Orchestrating industrial ecosystem in circular economy: A two-stage transformation model for large manufacturing companies. <i>Journal of Business Research</i>, 101, 715–725. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusres.2019.01.006.</p> <p>Strauss, A. & J. Corbin (1998) <i>Basics of qualitative research: Techniques and Procedures for Developing Grounded Theory</i>, 2nd ed. Thousand Oaks: Sage</p> <p>Xu, L., Jia, F., Yan, F., & Chen, L. (2022). Circular procurement: A systematic literature review. <i>Journal of Cleaner Production</i>, 365, 132845. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclepro.2022.132845.</p>
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Struttura dell'Università di Udine presso la quale verrà sviluppata l'attività di ricerca / Department or other structure of the University of Udine where research activities will be carried out:

Dipartimento Politecnico di Ingegneria e Architettura (DPIA). / Polytechnic Department of Engineering and Architecture.

Importo dell'assegno di ricerca (al lordo oneri carico assegnista) / Total grant gross for the research fellowship:

€ 19.367,00

Durata dell'assegno di ricerca / Duration of the research fellowship "assegno di ricerca":

12 mesi / months

Finanziamento / Financed by:

La copertura finanziaria graverà sui fondi/progetti:

- risorse d'Ateneo: bando interno finanziamento assegni 2024 (D.R. n. 181/2024) - CUP: G23C24000370005;
- PSD_2022_2025_DPIA - Ricerca Dipartimentale_WP Romano.

Requisiti di ammissione / Minimum qualifications necessary:

Possesso di un diploma di laurea vecchio ordinamento (ante decreto 3 novembre 1999 n. 509) o di laurea specialistica/magistrale (ex decreto 3 novembre 1999 n. 509 e decreto 22 ottobre 2004 n. 270) o titolo equivalente conseguito all'estero. / Possession of a University degree obtained before Decree n. 509 of 3 November 1999 or specialistic/Master's degree (post decree n. 509 of 3 November 1999 and decree n. 270 of 22 October 2004) or equivalent degree obtained abroad.

Modalità di presentazione della documentazione oggetto di valutazione / Arrangements for the submission of documents:

La modalità di presentazione della documentazione oggetto di valutazione è specificata all'art. 4 del bando. / The way of presenting the documentation under evaluation is specified in art. 4 of the present notice.



Ai fini valutativi, i candidati potranno presentare le pubblicazioni e ogni altro titolo ritenuto utile a comprovare la propria qualificazione in relazione al programma di ricerca descritto nell'Allegato A, nelle seguenti lingue: / For evaluation purposes, candidates may present publications and any other qualifications deemed useful to demonstrate their qualification in relation to the research program described in Attachment A, in the following languages:

- Italiano / Italian
- Inglese / English

Procedura selettiva / Competition procedure:

Valutazione per titoli e colloquio. / Evaluation of titles and oral exam.

I risultati della valutazione dei titoli saranno resi noti agli interessati nel corso del colloquio. / The evaluation of the qualifications will be disclosed to candidates during the interview.

Calendario del colloquio / Calendar of the oral exam	Modalità / Modality	In presenza / On site
	Data / Date	5 settembre / September 2024
	Ora / Time	11:00 / 11:00 am (Italian time)
	Luogo / Place	Studio del professor Pietro Romano presso il Dipartimento Politecnico di Ingegneria e Architettura (DPIA). / Office of professor Pietro Romano at the Polytechnic Department of Engineering and Architecture.

Per sostenere il colloquio i candidati devono esibire un valido documento di riconoscimento. / Candidates must come to the interview with a valid identity document.

Eventuali variazioni saranno rese note esclusivamente mediante pubblicazione all'albo ufficiale on line dell'Ateneo / Any change will be made public solely through publication on the University web site http://web.uniud.it/ateneo/normativa/albo_ufficiale

Commissione giudicatrice / Examining Board:

Nome e Cognome	Qualifica	SSD	Università
Membri Effettivi / Permanent members			
Pietro Romano	PO	IEGE-01/A	Università degli Studi di Udine
Marco Sartor	PA	IEGE-01/A	Università degli Studi di Udine
Cinzia Battistella	PA	IEGE-01/A	Università degli Studi di Udine
Membro Supplente / Temporary member			
Guido Nassimbeni	PO	IEGE-01/A	Università degli Studi di Udine