

About the Widening Training Series

The Widening Training Series for Researchers is a joint programme of Unite!Widening. Its goals are to:

- equip researchers (from early- to late-career) with advanced, practical knowledge on topics such as supervision, careers, research management, and collaboration;
- leverage the knowledge and experience of non-Widening universities;
- support researchers in Widening institutions (ULisboa and Wroclaw Tech in particular) through targeted trainings.

The first trainings will focus on practical skills for careers, supervision, inclusion, and collaboration with industry.

Scientific focus areas

The Training Series is anchored in Unite!Widening's four scientific focus areas. We therefore particularly welcome training proposals that use concrete examples, data or cases from:

- Health & Biotech
- Urban & Resources Sustainability
- Circular Economy & Materials
- Digital & Autonomous Technologies

Your session does not need to be limited to these fields, but using real examples from them is encouraged.

Why participate as a trainer?

- Travel and accommodation costs are covered by Unite!Widening.
- You expand your professional network across 9 universities.
- You will be able to share your expertise and contribute to the community's growth.
- You receive support from the Widening team for designing your session (slides, structure, templates, hand-outs) and for on-site organisation.

What kind of sessions can you propose?

The target audience is researchers at all career stages from ULisboa and WrocławTech, as well as.

other researchers from other Widening and Unite! institutions.

For these trainings, we are especially interested in:

- **Workshops** with exercises and tools (templates, canvases, checklists)
- **Case-based sessions** using real examples from your institution
- **Clinics** where participants work on their own situations (e.g., supervision challenges, mobility cases, collaboration ideas)
- **Peer exchange formats** (roundtables, good practice exchanges, role-playing)

Each proposed session should be 3–6 hours (half or full day). Sessions can be co-designed and co-taught by trainers from different universities.

Who can propose a session?

- Staff, faculty, and researchers from all Unite! partner universities.
- We particularly welcome proposals involving at least one trainer from a non-Widening partner (TU Graz, TU Darmstadt, KTH, UPC, PoliTO, etc.).

Practical details

- Working language: English
- Format: on-site - in different locations (Barcelona, Lisbon, Wroclaw, etc...). The exact location for each topic is specified below.
- The duration of each training is 3 days (including your session and other modules)
- Funding: Travel and accommodation for trainers are covered by Unite!Widening

Please send:

- A session proposal (using the syllabus template),
- A brief bio of the trainer
- to: bartosz.stec@pwr.edu.pl
- Deadline for proposals: 11 January 2026

Proposals will be selected based on:

- relevance to the training topics and Widening objectives
- strong emphasis on practice-based, co-creative, and interactive learning, using real tools and cases for practical applications
- balance across institutions and disciplines
- contribution of expertise from at least one non-Widening Unite! partner (TuGraz, TuDa ...)
- preferably anchoring in one or more of [Unite!Widening's scientific focus areas](#). We therefore particularly welcome training proposals that use **concrete examples, data, or cases** from these fields :
 - Health and Biotech
 - Urban & Resources Sustainability
 - Circular Economy & Materials
 - Digital and Autonomous Technologies

Training sessions topics

sorted by earliest dates.

These actions address cross-cutting aspects of research and innovation (careers, funding, communities, open science, etc.).

We encourage trainers to:

- design sessions that are rooted in the Unite!Widening's scientific focus areas, using examples and cases from their own fields,
- use the trainings as opportunities to reinforce research communities,

Action 8: Onboarding Early-Stage Researchers and Post Docs

Localisation: [Wroclaw Tech](#) - Poland

Date: 20-22 April 2026

(target group: early-career researchers/postdocs as trainees)

Problem to be solved: How to onboard new researchers and post-docs effectively?

- What are the best practices for orientation, integration, and networking?
- How can early-stage researchers understand expectations, roles, and responsibilities?
- How can they find and use support (supervisors, peers, mentors, services)?
- How to work on a career plan?

Exclusions: No general HR or non-research onboarding.

Action 9: Tutoring Young Professors/Researchers

Localisation: [Wroclaw Tech](#) - Poland

Date: 20-22 April 2026

(target group = supervisors/mentors as trainees)

Problem to be solved: How to mentor early-career researchers?

- What mentoring strategies boost research supervision?
- How to support career development for young researchers/professors?
- How to organise onboarding at labs for new researchers?
- How to give feedback and support autonomy and career development?

Exclusions: No general teaching methods.

Preferable inclusions: Peer exchange, good practice exchanges, use cases.

Action 12: Transparency, Cultural Diversity, Gender Balance

Localisation: [University of Barcelona](#) - Spain

Date: 26-28 May 2026

Problem to be solved: How do we build research environments that are fair, transparent, and inclusive in everyday practice?

- What principles enhance transparency? What are the main issues linked to transparency, and how to solve them?
- How to foster cultural diversity and gender balance? What are the main issues linked to cultural diversity and gender balance — and how can they be addressed?
- Multicultural thinking in academia, research, and science

- How can existing policies and data in Unite! Universities should be better used to foster fairness, transparency, cultural diversity, and gender diversity.

Exclusions: No general diversity topics outside of research.

Preferable inclusions: concrete examples, especially the difficult ones, a variety of countries included.

Action 4: ERC Accelerator Programmes

Localisation: [Universidade de Lisboa](#) - Portugal

Date: first week of July 2026

Problem to be solved: How to access high-impact research funding? How can researchers prepare competitive applications for ERC and other high-impact funding schemes?

- What are the eligibility criteria for ERC Accelerator schemes or similar grants?
- How to navigate the application process?
- What are the most common mistakes committed in the proposals? What is most irritating for the experts who evaluate proposals?
- How to increase the success probability of our proposal?
- Work on concrete project ideas during the training (e.g., concept notes, abstracts)

Exclusions: No other funding schemes or general research management. No theoretical discussions on excellence without a connection to proposal design.

Preferred inclusions: Work on concrete project ideas of the participants during the training (e.g., concept notes, abstracts)

Action 7: Work Abroad: Legal and Administrative Issues

Localisation: [Universidade de Lisboa](#) - Portugal

Date: first week of July 2026

Problem to be solved: How to navigate the legal, administrative, and logistical challenges of working abroad?

- How to handle contracts, taxes, and qualification recognition - for researchers and students?
- How to handle the logistics side of working abroad
- How to handle cultural differences?

Exclusions: Unrelated legal topics.

Preferable inclusions: case studies, a variety of countries included.

Action 17: Building Connections with Local Innovation and Industry

Localisation: [Universidade de Lisboa](#) - Portugal

Date: first week of July 2026

Problem to be solved: How to link research to local industry and innovation?

- How to train supervisors in international PhD collaborations?
- How to foster fruitful partnerships?

Exclusions: No general industry relations outside research.

Preferable inclusions: true successful and unsuccessful stories, opinions of academia and industry members