



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



Department of Agricultural and  
Food Sciences | DISTAL

# MISSION

Promoting  
knowledge and scientific culture  
in agricultural and food sciences  
by advanced research



# DISTAL

Born in 2018 as an integrated organisation incorporating all the teaching and research activities of the agricultural area of the University of Bologna



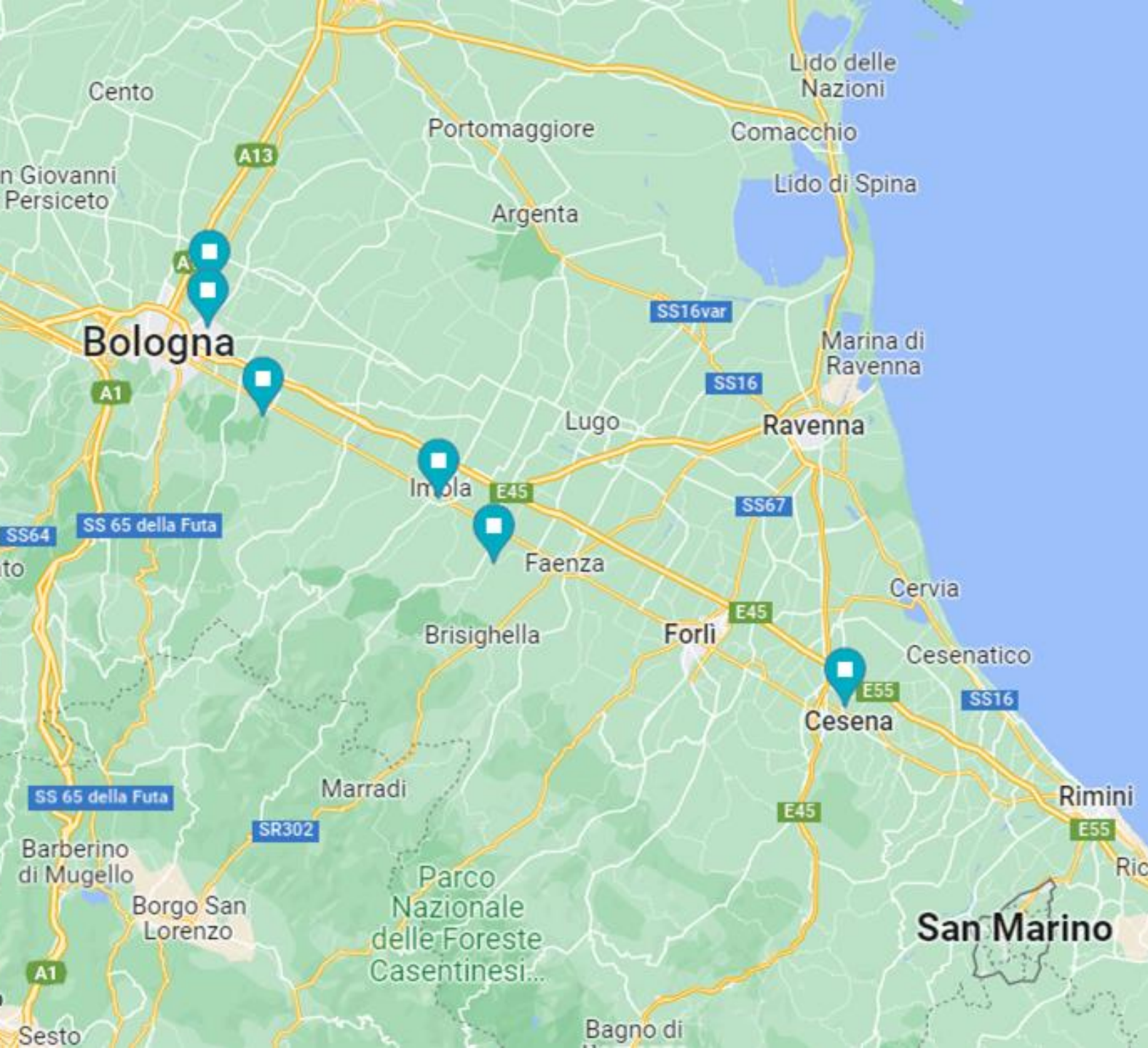
Agriculture & Forestry:  
UNIBO 1<sup>st</sup> out of 21  
Italian Universities



# DISTAL LOCATIONS

Two main headquarters in:  
Bologna (BO)  
Cesena (FC)

Other teaching and research  
activities in:  
Ozzano (BO)  
Cadriano (BO)  
Imola (BO)  
Tebano (RA)



# DISTAL SPACES

## Research labs

31 for about 5.000 m<sup>2</sup>

## Teaching labs

about 1.000 m<sup>2</sup>

## Computer classrooms

about 200 m<sup>2</sup>

## Classrooms

more than 2.000 m<sup>2</sup>

## Greenhouse

more than 2.000 m<sup>2</sup>

## Green areas

more than 7.000 m<sup>2</sup>

## Study/lunch rooms

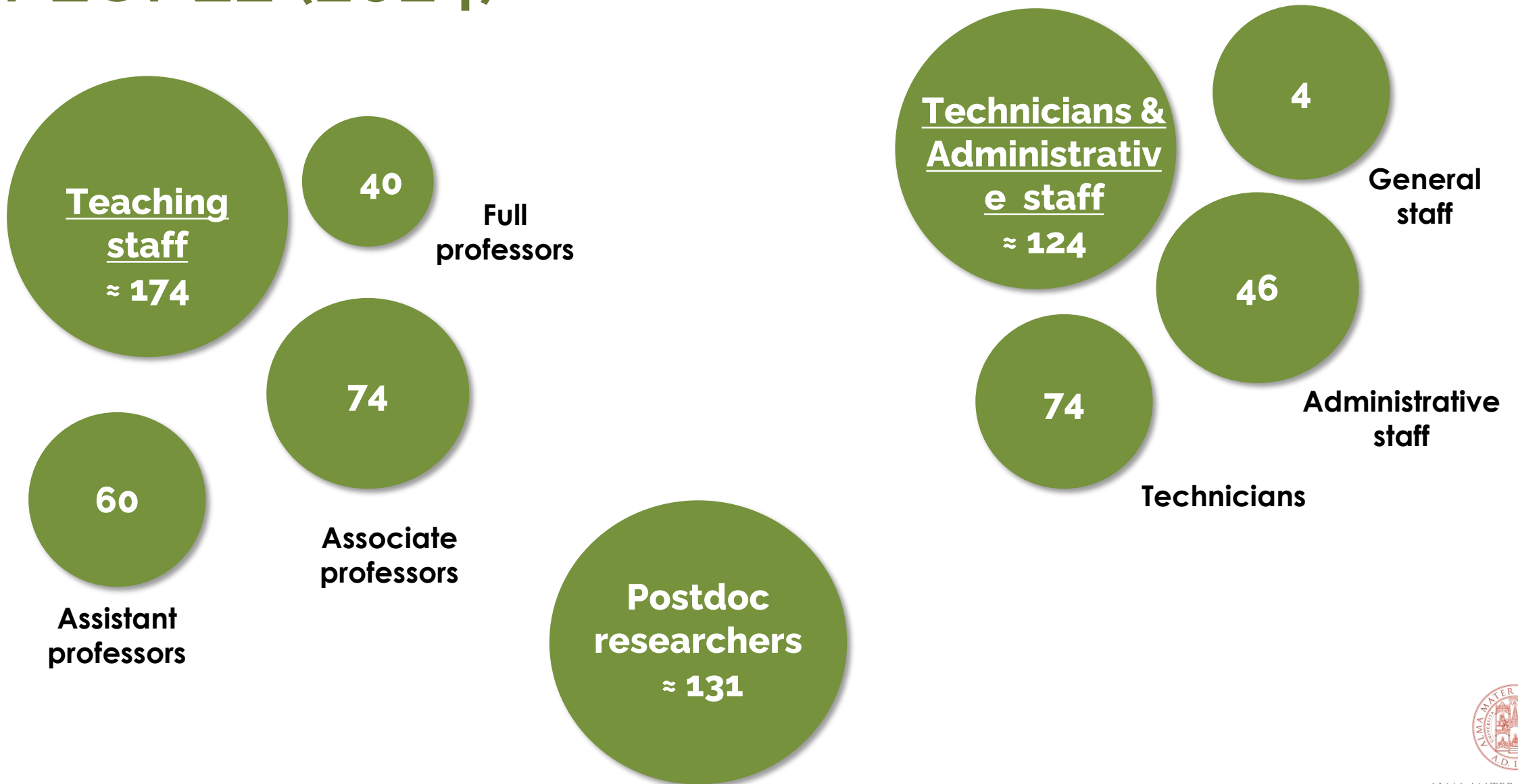
about 400 m<sup>2</sup>

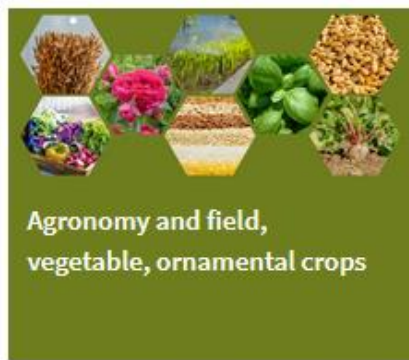
## Shade structures

more than 100 m<sup>2</sup>

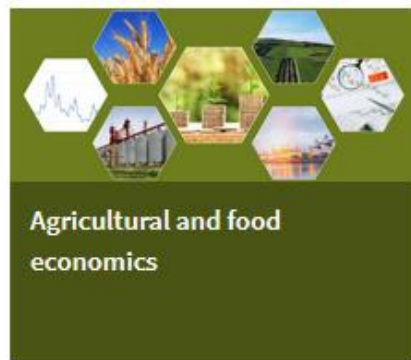


# PEOPLE (2024)

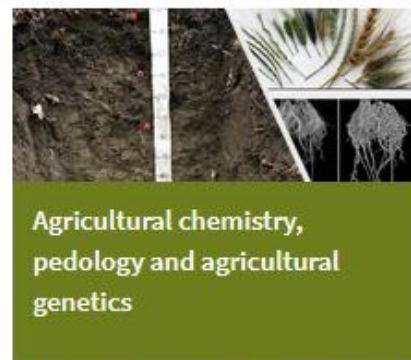




Agronomy and field, vegetable, ornamental crops



Agricultural and food economics



Agricultural chemistry, pedology and agricultural genetics



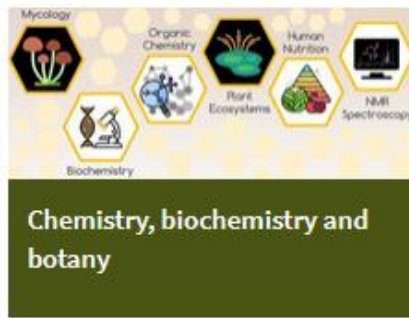
Agricultural engineering



Agro-environmental and food microbiology



Animal sciences



Chemistry, biochemistry and botany



Food science and technology



Fruit tree and woody plant sciences



Plant pathology and entomology

# 10 RESEARCH AREAS

- Agronomy and field, vegetable, ornamental crops
- Agricultural and food economics
- Agricultural chemistry, pedology and agricultural genetics
- Agricultural engineering
- Agro-environmental and food microbiology
- Animal sciences
- Chemistry, biochemistry and botany
- Food science and technology
- Fruit tree and woody plant sciences
- Plant pathology and entomology



# «GABRIELE GOIDANICH» LIBRARY OF AGRICULTURE Reference library in Bologna



# «LEON BATTISTA ALBERTI» CESENA CAMPUS LIBRARY - FOOD SCIENCE SECTION Reference library in Cesena

## Main services:

- Library loan
- Interlibrary loan
- Document delivery

## Useful links:

- [On-line books catalogue](#)
- [On-line Italian catalogue of journals \(ACNP\)](#)
- [University librarian system](#)



# EDUCATION AND PROGRAMMES



# TEACHING PROGRAMMES

**4**

PhD

programmes

**7**

Master degree  
programmes

**8**

Bachelor degree  
programmes



# 8 BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMMES



At Bologna campus

Agricultural Technology

Animal Production

Land and Agro-Forestry Sciences

Marketing and Economics of the Agro-Industrial

System

At Imola campus

Sciences and Technologies for Green and Landscape

At Cesena campus

Food Technology

Sciences and Culture of Gastronomy

Viticulture and Enology



# 7 MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAMMES



At Bologna campus



At Imola campus

At Cesena campus

Agricultural Sciences and Technologies

Food Safety and Food Risk Management

International Horticultural Science

Planning and management of forest territory, landscape and environment

Precise and Sustainable Agriculture

Plant and agricultural biotechnology

Food Science and Technology



# STUDENTS ENROLLED (A.Y. 2023/24)

**154**

PhD

**566**

Master

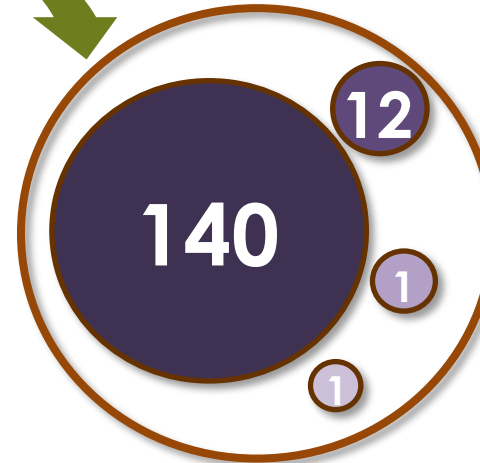
**1.622**

Bachelor

(702 new careers)



PhD Course -  
Agricultural,  
Environmental  
and Food Science  
and Technology  
(STAAA)



PhD Course -  
Health, Safety and  
Green Systems

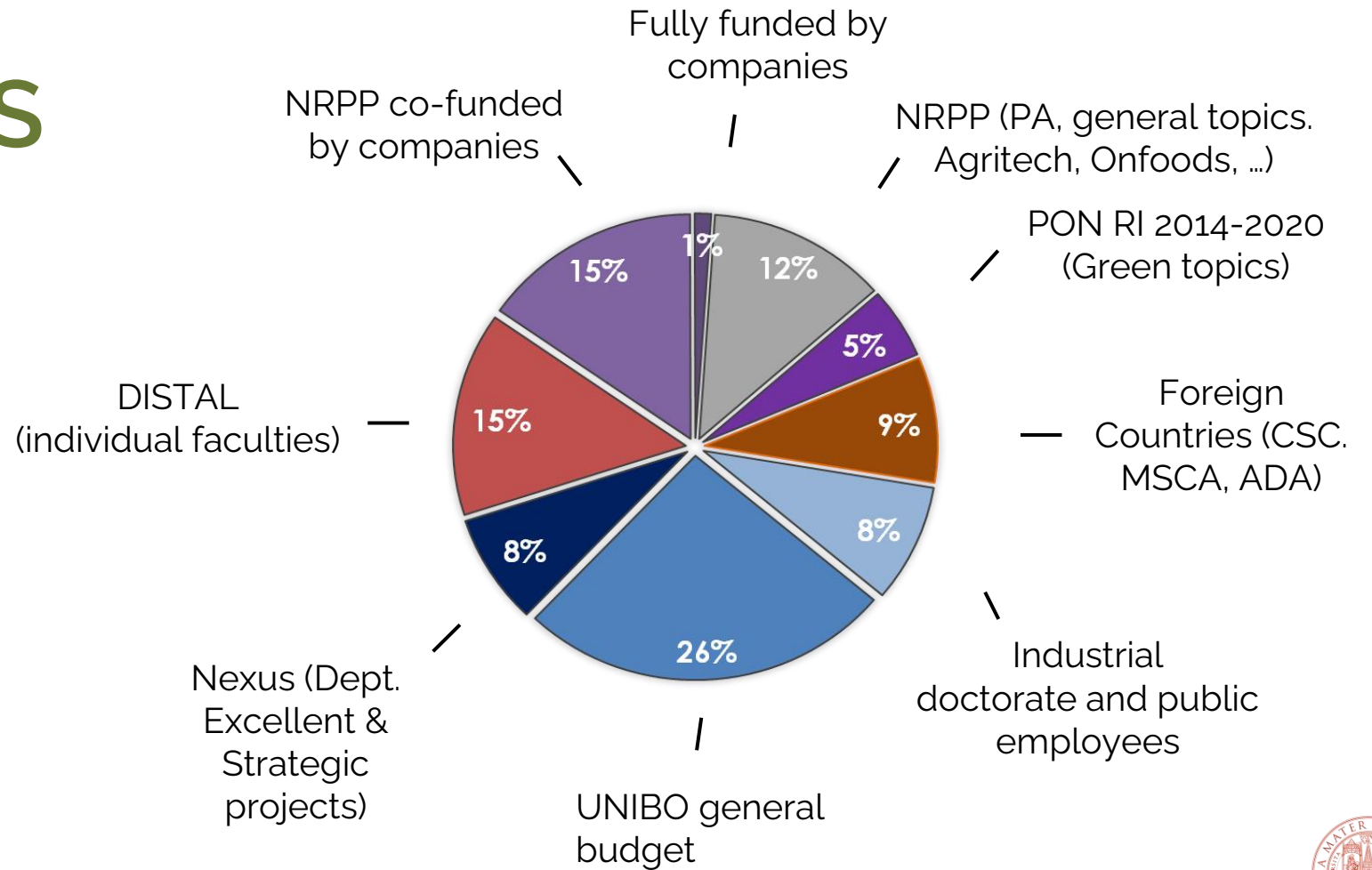
PhD Course - Future  
Earth, Climate  
Change and Societal  
Challenges

PhD Course - Innovative  
Technologies and Sustainable  
Use of Mediterranean Sea  
Fishery and Biological Resources  
(FishMed-PhD)



# DISTAL PhD PROGRAMMES

## PhD positions activated (2021-2024)



# STUDENTS' & GRADUATES' SATISFACTION

2023	%
Students satisfied with teaching	86
Students satisfied with infrastructure	93
Graduated students satisfied with the degree program	93
Average satisfaction of Italian students in the same degree program class	91.3

Source: RAD 2023 Focus didattica



# EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF MASTER DEGREE GRADUATES

YEAR	EMPLOYED 1 YEAR AFTER DEGREE %
2020	85.1
2021	72.6
2022	88.6

Source: Alma Laurea





# INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION



# ENROLLED FOREIGN STUDENTS

A.Y.	%
2019/2020	5.3
2020/2021	5.7
2021/2022	5.1
2022/2023	6.3

Enrolled students with previous foreign educational qualification or foreign citizenship on total of enrolled students.

Data source: RAD 2023

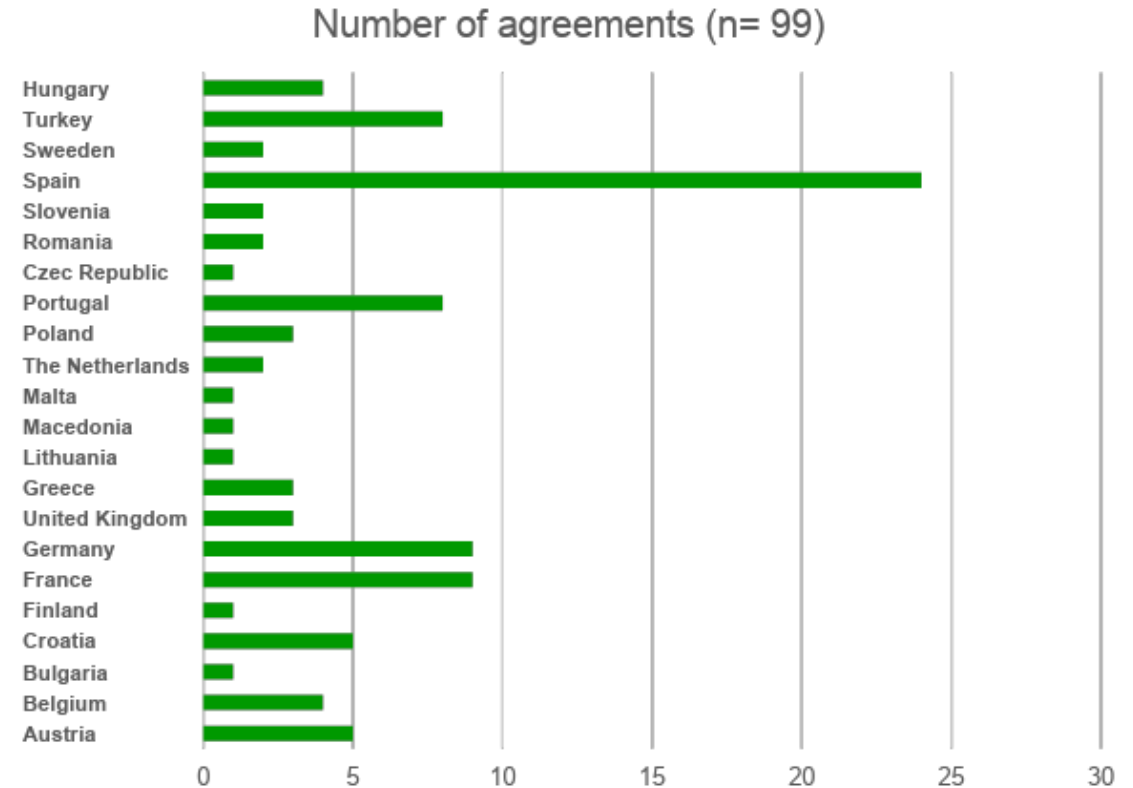


# INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY WITHIN THE ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

A.Y.	No. active Erasmus+ agreements
2019/2020	49
2020/2021	35
2021/2022	67
2022/2023	62

International agreements with at least one incoming or outgoing mobility of students or staff in indicated academic years (A.Y.)

Source: ALMA RM



Bilateral agreements for Erasmus+ programme KA1, mobility for students and staffs



# EXCHANGE STUDENTS

INCOMING STUDENTS	
A.Y.	No.
2019/2020	43
2020/2021	28
2021/2022	61

Number of incoming exchange students involved in EU or extra EU mobility programmes in a.y. t/ t+1.

OUTGOING STUDENTS	
A.Y.	No.
2019/2020	67
2020/2021	44
2021/2022	91

Number of outgoing exchange students involved in EU or extra EU mobility programmes in a.y. t/ t+1.

Data source: RAD 2023



# OUTGOING PhD STUDENTS

YEAR	%
2019	32.5
2020	18.2
2021	27.1
2022	31.4

Percentage of outgoing PhD students of DISTAL who have spent abroad at least 30 days on total number of PhD students enrolled in DISTAL courses.

Data source: RAD 2023



# VISITING PROFESSORS & RESEARCHERS

YEAR	No.
2019	40
2020	5
2021	23
2022	41
2023	42

Number of visiting professors and PhD students from international research institutions hosted by DISTAL

Data source: ALMA RM



# RESEARCH AND RESULTS



# 9 MULTIDISCIPLINARY THEMATIC GROUPS



Water & agriculture



Apidology & apiculture



Agriculture & climate change



Genetic resources



Precision agriculture



Soil health



Plant health



Circular bioeconomy



Big data

Activities: openDISTAL,  
workshops & position papers







# 31 RESEARCH LABS

- Agricultural garden | Greenhouse complexes | Growth chambers
- Phytotrons & Plant Physiology Labs
- Agri-environmental Microbiology labs
- Agricultural Chemistry and Pedology Labs
- Animal Production Quality and Food Safety labs
- Experimental Economics in Agriculture, Food, Environment | FARE-La
- Applied research and food formulation | RAFA
- Enology, Beverages and Sensory Analysis | LEBS
- Nutritional Biochemistry Labs
- Chemistry, instrumental and sensory analysis of food | LACASS
- Seed Research and Testing | LaRAS
- Mycology and Applied Botany | LAMBA
- Agricultural mechanics Labs
- Food Characterization and Food Technologies | LCTA



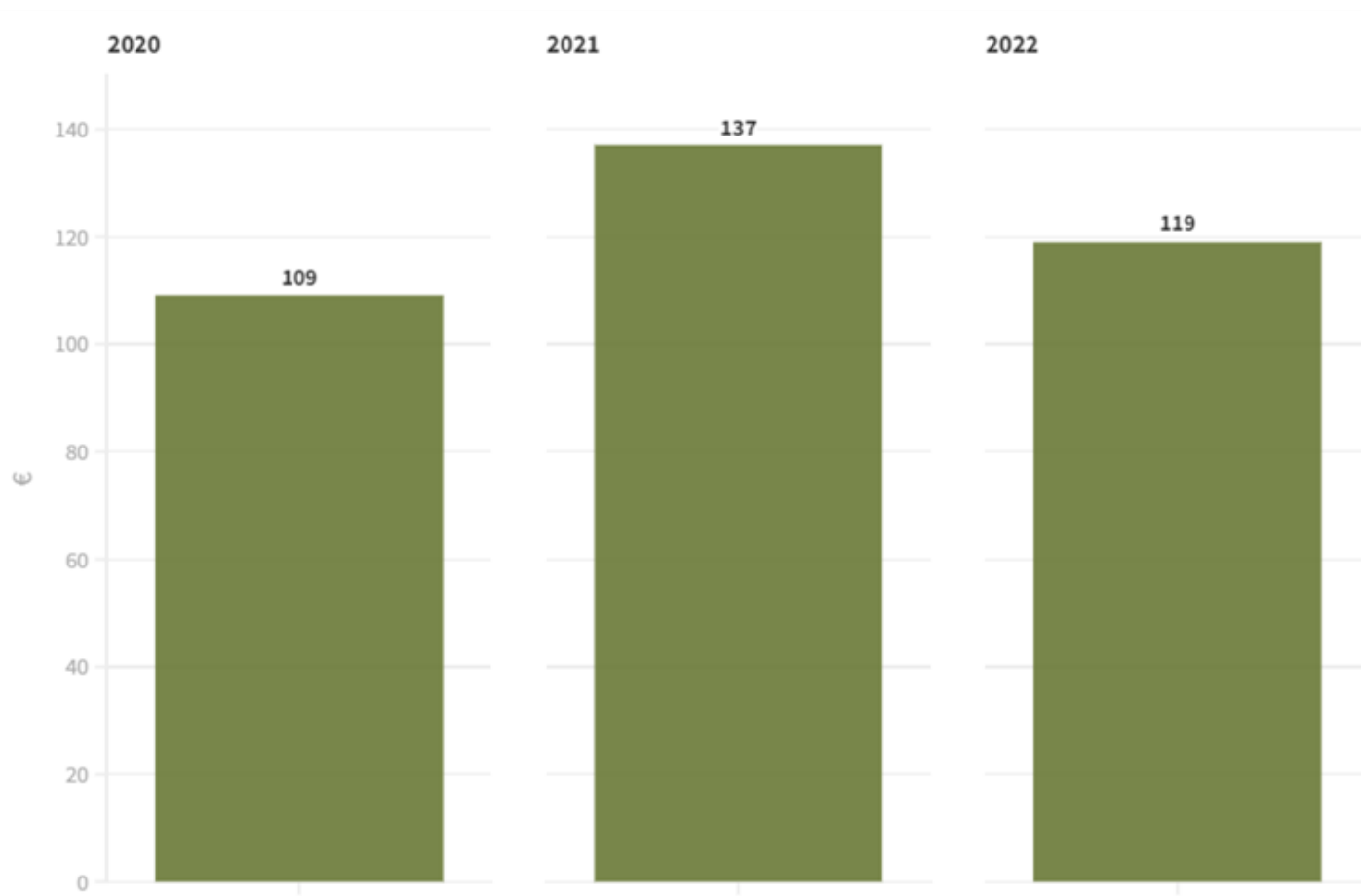
# SCIENTIFIC PERFORMANCE OUTPUT (2022)

Wos/Scopus total citations	6,470
Wos/Scopus total citations by researcher	50.9
Number of publications/year	648
Number of publications/year by researcher	4.0
Publications with foreign co-authors	43.7%
Interdisciplinary publications	20.8%

Source: RAD 2023



# NUMBER OF COMPETITIVE INTERNATIONAL & NATIONAL PROJECTS (2020-2022)



Source: RAD 2023

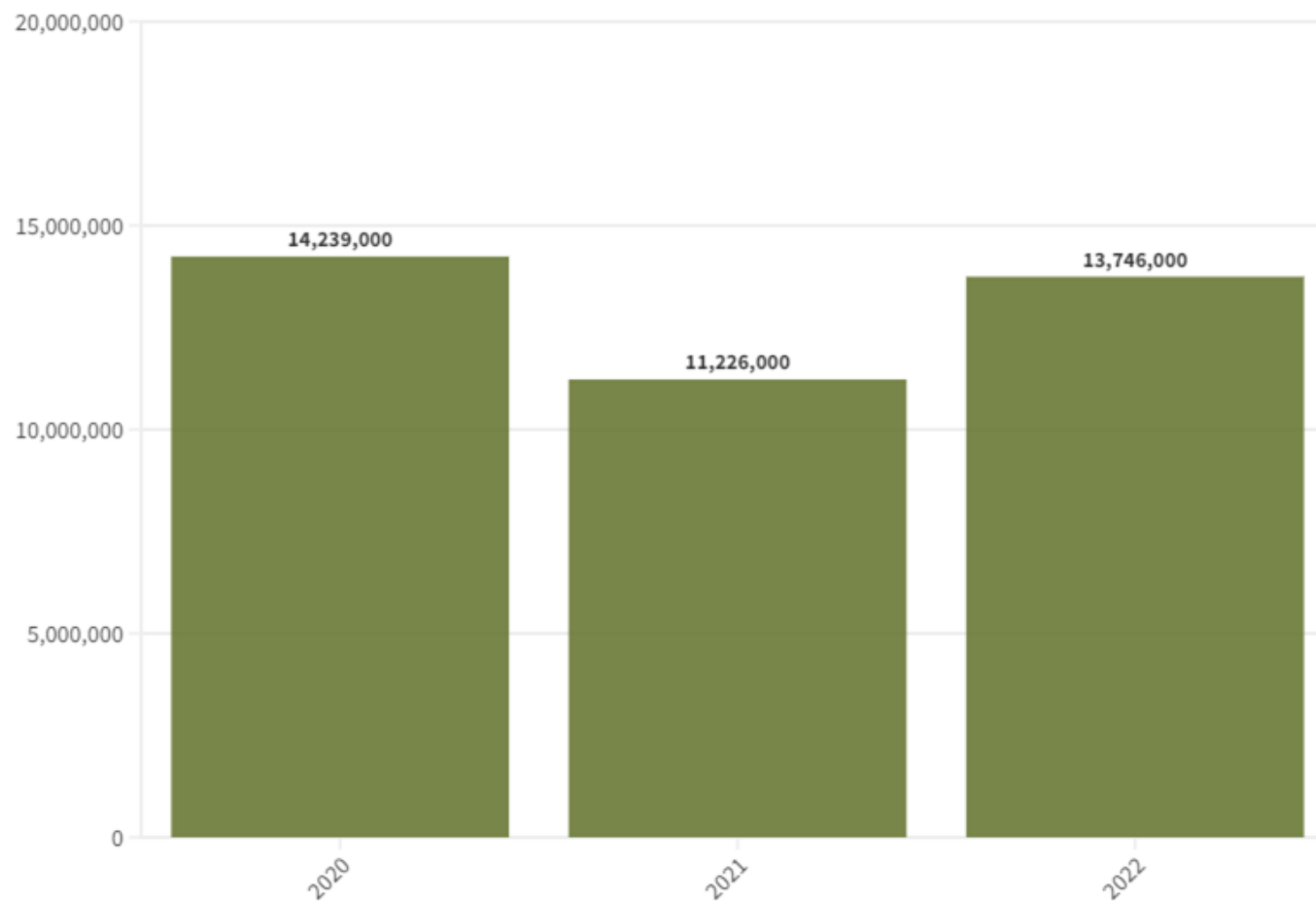


# COORDINATED H2020 & HEU PROJECTS

YEAR	No. of project	Total funding (ML €)
2014	1	0.434
2015	10	3.390
2016	8	3.879
2017	8	2.423
2018	6	1.555
2019	6	3.722
2020	3	2.118
2021	1	0.192
2022	1	1.285
<b>2014 - 2022</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>17.448</b>



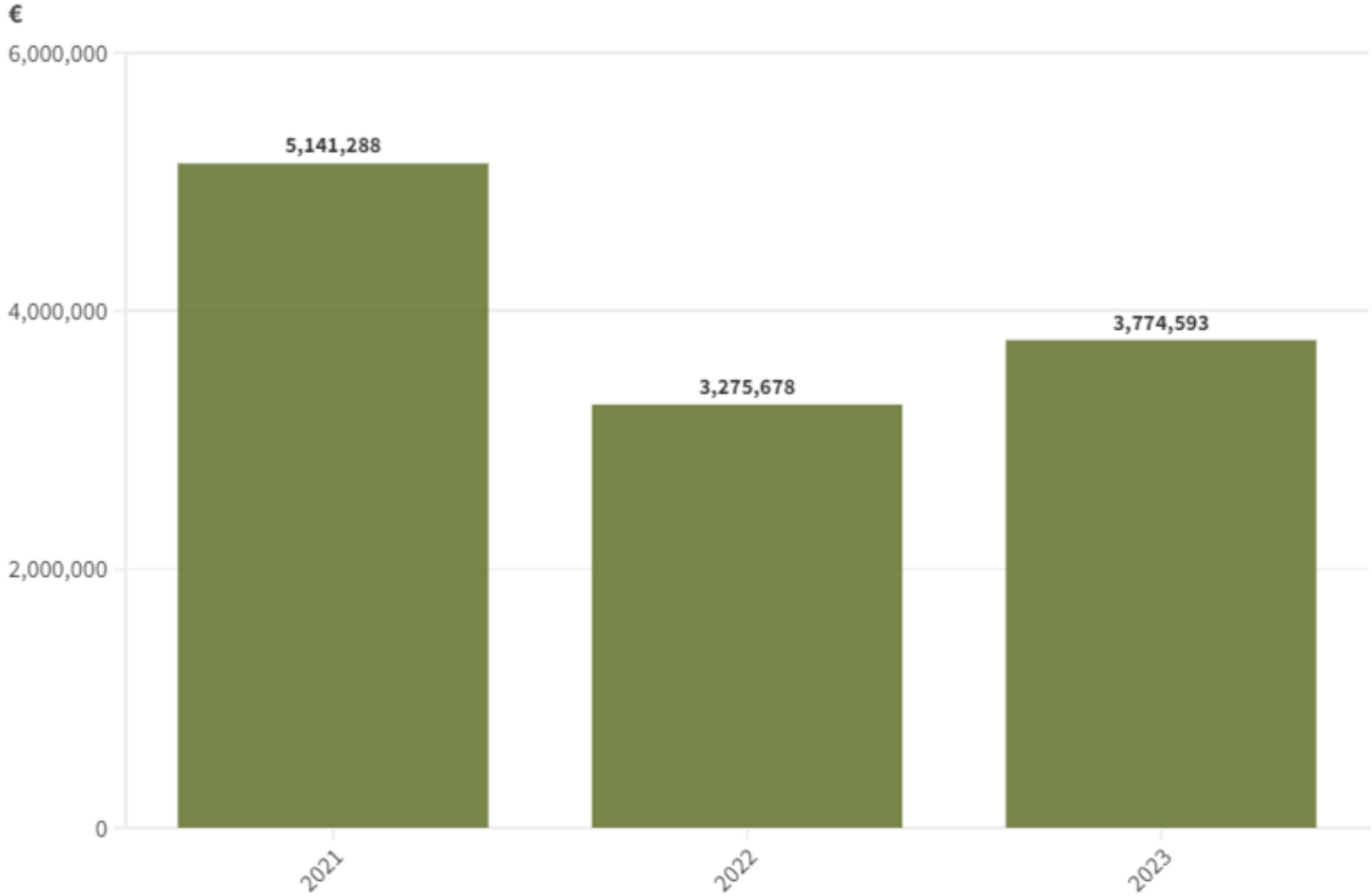
# FUNDS FROM COMPETITIVE NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS (2020-2022)



Source: RAD 2023



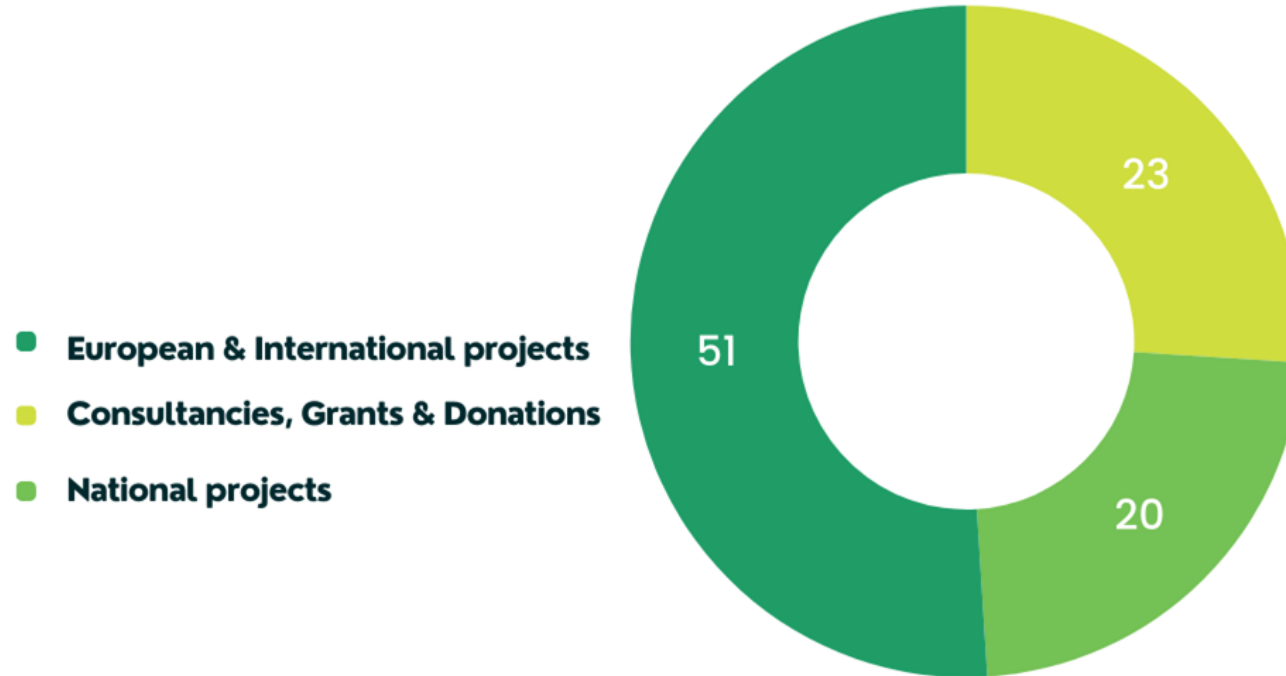
# FUNDS FROM EXTERNAL CONSULTANCIES (2020-2022)



Source: RAD 2023



# INCOMING FUNDS ~20 Million € per year (% average 2020-2022)



# **DISTAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNIVERSITY OUTREACH**



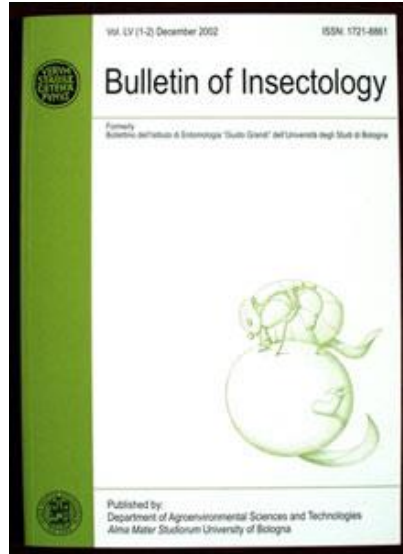


# PATENTS | PLANT BREEDERS RIGHTS | SPIN-OFF

- **25 Patent Families** for a total of 83 patents
  - 58 granted
  - 25 pending
- **34 plant breeders rights (link)**
  - 16 for cherries
  - 4 for apples
  - 5 for pears
  - 9 for kiwi
- **3 Spin-off**
  - [Aquaponic Design](#)
  - [Ergo Consulting](#)
  - [Last Minute Market](#)

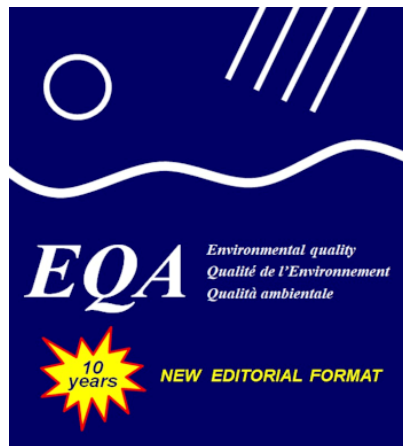


# DISTAL OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS



## **Bulletin of Insectology**

Publishes original articles mainly on morphology, biology, behaviour and physiology of insects and other arthropods; controls of insects, mites and other arthropods pests with particular reference to biocontrol and integrated pest management.



## **EQA – International Journal of Environmental Quality**

Publishes original research or brief reviews and analyses dealing with the aspects concerning soil, water and air quality and the sustainable use of these environmental resources.



# DISTAL COLLABORATIONS

**154**

**BUSINESS  
COMPANIES**

**58**

**MUNICIPALITIES  
CONSORTIA  
ASSOCIATIONS  
NGOs**





# GUIDO GRANDI ENTOMOLOGICAL COLLECTION

Guido Grandi found in 1926 the Entomological Institute of the University of Bologna and soon gave a strong impulse to improve the entomological collections.

The collection is composed of several entomological boxes classified under the different Insect orders:

· 15 Odonata; · 4 Blattoidea; · 2 Phasmoidea; · 26 Dermaptera; · 2 Mantoidea; · 40 Orthoptera; · 102 Hemiptera; · 36 Neuroptera; · 3 Trichoptera; · 4 Mecoptera; · 292 Lepidoptera; · 299 Diptera; · 461 Coleoptera; · 619 Hymenoptera

The «Guido Grandi» collection presents more than **51,000 specimens** belonging to approximately 3,000 different insect species.

[Link to collection](#)



A composite image showing various strains of bifidobacteria under a microscope. The bacteria appear as dark, rod-shaped structures, some in pairs or chains, against a light background. The image is divided into several sections by orange lines.

# BOLOGNA UNIVERSITY SCARDOVI COLLECTION OF BIFIDOBACTERIA | BUSCOB

10.000 Bacterial strains, 9.000 of which belong to Bifidobacteriaceae family  
[BUSCOB website](#)



# NEWS & EVENTS (2023)

128  
NEWS

210  
EVENTS



Source: distal website



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# DISTAL SOCIAL NETWORKS



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...thanks for your attention