

UNITA Universities are located in rural and cross-border mountain regions that share similar ecosystems:

- Serra da Estrela (Beira Interior)
- the Pyrenees (Pau and Zaragoza)
- the Alps (Savoie Mont Blanc and Turin)
- the Banat Mountains (Timișoara)



UNITA Rural Mobility (URM) is a programme of international internships to bring highly qualified and motivated university students into Organizations and Companies working in rural areas linked to ecosystem needs

implemented by:

UNITA - Universitas Montium

in cooperation with:

UNIVERSA

**DIPUTACIÓN PROVINCIAL DE
ZARAGOZA**

originally designed by:

UNIZAR AND UNIVERSA



Climb your future!

**UNITA
RURAL
MOBILITY**





2021 URM

- 5 students in Armeniş (Romania)
- 6 students in Ostana (Italy)
- 2 students in Serra de Estrela (Portugal)
- 20 students in Cubel, Daroca, Herrera de los Navarros, Quinto (Spain)

"All my life thinking that work opportunities where in cities, now this interesting opportunity in rural areas has arisen"

Miguel Cañas



Students from 5 countries, from different backgrounds and studies, speaking different languages, living together for 3 weeks in a rural village
UVT & UNITO



KEY POINTS

- involvement with rural areas
- new opportunities for university students
- helps to combat depopulation
- decreases the average age of small municipalities
- gives visibility to companies in rural areas and fosters their growth

PURPOSE

To strengthen the skills and to improve the employment opportunities of students.

NEXT STEPS

- Increase the number of URM internships
- Expand the territories and partners involved
- Further exploit URM as "laboratory for UNITA" gathering students from the 6 Universities together
- Boost connections among rural innovation actors from local Organizations and Companies to Accademia for further development of rural innovation ecosystems

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ORIGINS OF MOBILITY IN RURAL AREAS

The “Desafío” and “Arraigo” programs emerged in 2018 with the collaboration between the University of Zaragoza and the Provincial Council of Zaragoza. In four editions, more than 70 students from different bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the university have already participated.

This program brilliantly reverses student mobility by allowing final year students and recent graduates to do internships in both public and private institutions in what is known as the “Fourth Space”, that is, in towns and villages with less than 3,000 inhabitants.

In 2021, this initiative was extended to the provinces of Teruel and Huesca and thanks to the UNITA-Rural Mobility program funded by the Provincial Council of Zaragoza, it had twenty international students from UNITA partners for the first time



AWARD WINNING INITIATIVE



“Thanks to Rural Desafío, the company where I am doing the internship offered me a job and I accepted it”

-Jennifer Lafuente

“DESAFIO”

has been recognized as an exemplary practice on a continental scale by European networks such as Euromontana, and has received several awards: the 18th Expansion Award for Innovation in Human Resources (2020), the Award for Social Responsibility in Aragon (2019) and the Excellent Universities Award in the Employability category.

info & experiences

[Video UNIZAR 1](#)

[Video UNIZAR 2](#)

[Video UVT](#)

[Video UNITO](#)

[UNITA Newsletter \(1\)](#).

[UNITA Newsletter \(2\)](#).

