



SUOMI  
FINLAND

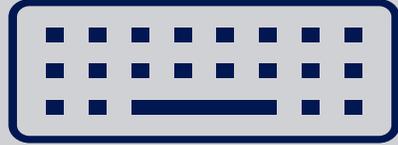
# FOCUS ON LATIN AMERICA: Finnish Higher Education Institutions' Partnerships with the LAC Region

Johanna Kivimäki,  
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Consulate of Finland in Sao Paulo, Brazil  
12 March 2026

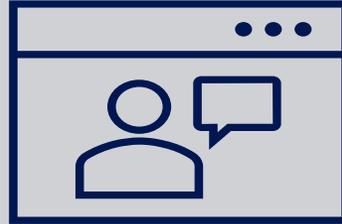
# Welcome to our event



We request that all participants keep their microphones and cameras switched off while the presentations are in progress.

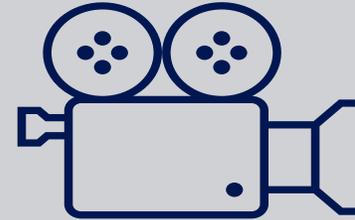


The chat will remain open throughout the webinar for questions and comments.



Participants are welcome to comment and ask questions during the webinar.

We kindly request that microphones and cameras be turned on when given the floor.



The event will not be recorded. The PowerPoint presentations displayed during the session will be distributed to participants following the event.



For data protection reasons, the use of AI tools during the event is not permitted.

# Programme

## 1. Opening words

- *Jonna Korhonen, Director, Division for Higher Education Policy, Ministry of Education and Culture*
- *Antti Kaski, Ambassador of Finland in Brasília, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland*

## 2. Overview of Finnish HEIs' partnerships with the LAC region

- *Johanna Kivimäki, TFK-LAC Counsellor*

## 3. Exploration of institutional partnership strategies with the LAC region

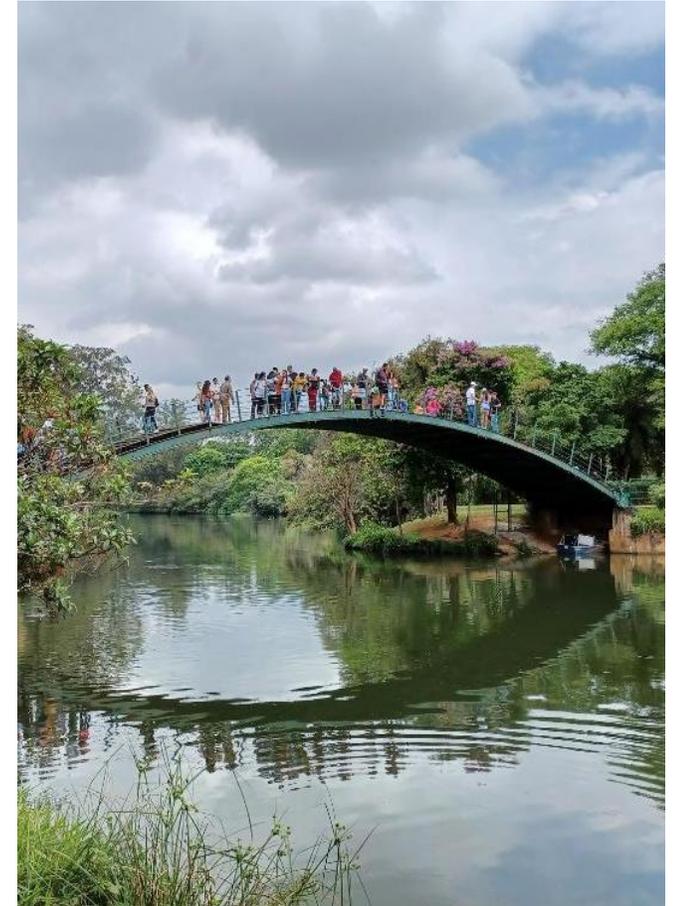
- *Roseanna Avento, Global Development Manager, University of Eastern Finland*
- *Marja Laurikainen, Senior Advisor, Global Education Development and Research, Häme University of Applied Sciences*

## 4. Discussion and sharing experiences between the participants

# Mapping of Finnish HEIs partnerships with LAC

# Survey of HEIs' agreements between Finland and LAC

- The current survey conducted between August and December 2025
  - Updating the results of the survey in 2022 by the international affairs' staff
- Survey questions remained the same with 1 addition
  - Name, city and country of Latin American higher education institution partners
  - Forms of cooperation (e.g. education, student/staff mobility, RDI, educational export)
  - Focus sectors/disciplines of cooperation
  - Duration of the agreement
  - + Funding of collaboration
- All Finnish HEIs under the Ministry of Education and Culture responded
  - 13/13 universities and 22/22 UAS
  - Availability of centralized information of international agreements vary between HEIs
  - Diversity in the coverage of the responses may have created some bias
  - Excel available for full data, country and institution specific lists to be created and disseminated soon



# Finnish HEIs' agreements with LAC countries



# Agreements in Finnish Higher Education Institutions

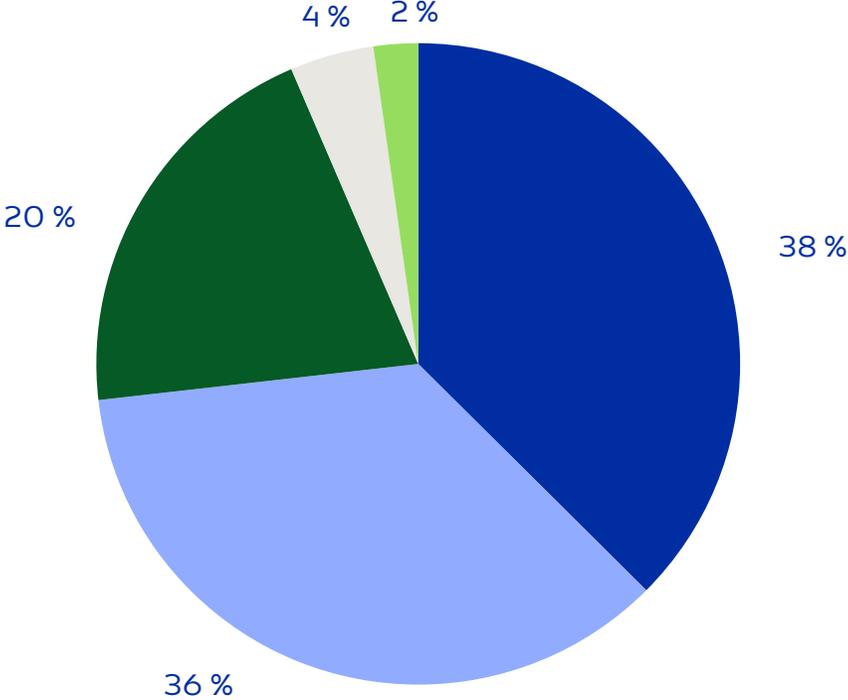
Universities of Applied Sciences	Agreements
Haaga-Helia UAS	10
Tampere UAS (Tamk)	10
Häme UAS	9
Karelia UAS	9
Jyväskylä UAS (Jamk)	8
Seinäjoki UAS	8
Satakunta UAS	6
Centria UAS	5
Lapland UAS	5
Laurea UAS	5
Turku UAS	5
Kajaani UAS	3
LAB University of Applied Sciences	3
Metropolia UAS	3
Savonia UAS	2
Vaasa UAS	2
Humak UAS	1
Novia UAS	1
Oulu UAS	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>96</b>

Universities	Agreements
University of Eastern Finland	44
Aalto University	30
University of Turku	21
University of Oulu	16
University of Helsinki	15
Tampere University	15
University of Jyväskylä	12
Åbo Akademi	10
University of Vaasa	8
Hanken School of Economics	4
University of Lapland	4
LUT University	3
University of Arts	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>183</b>

- Universities have a wider range of partnerships
- 3 UAS with no agreements with LAC

# Forms of cooperation and funding

## Forms of cooperation



- Student and Staff Mobility
- Education/Teaching cooperation
- Research and RDI cooperation
- Education Export
- Blank

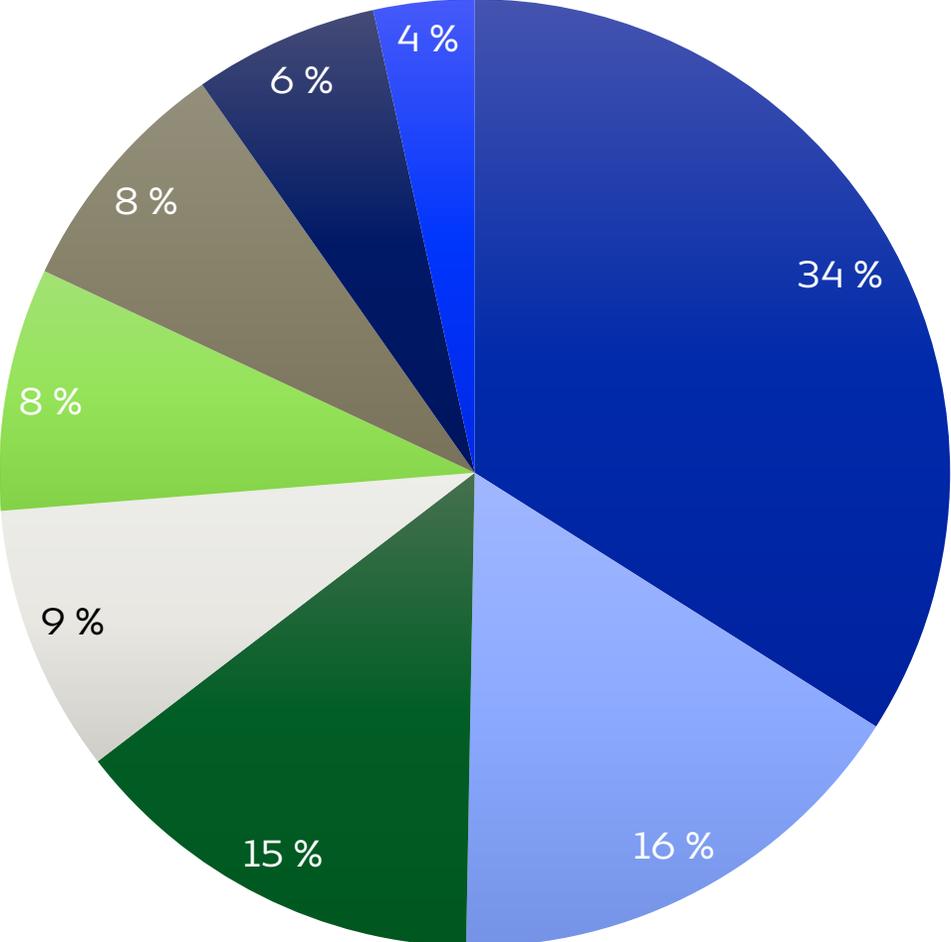
## Funding

The most common sources of funding:

- Erasmus+
- Team Finland Knowledge
- Bilateral Agreement/own funding

*\* This survey did not focus on commercial agreements*

# Fields of cooperation in existing agreements

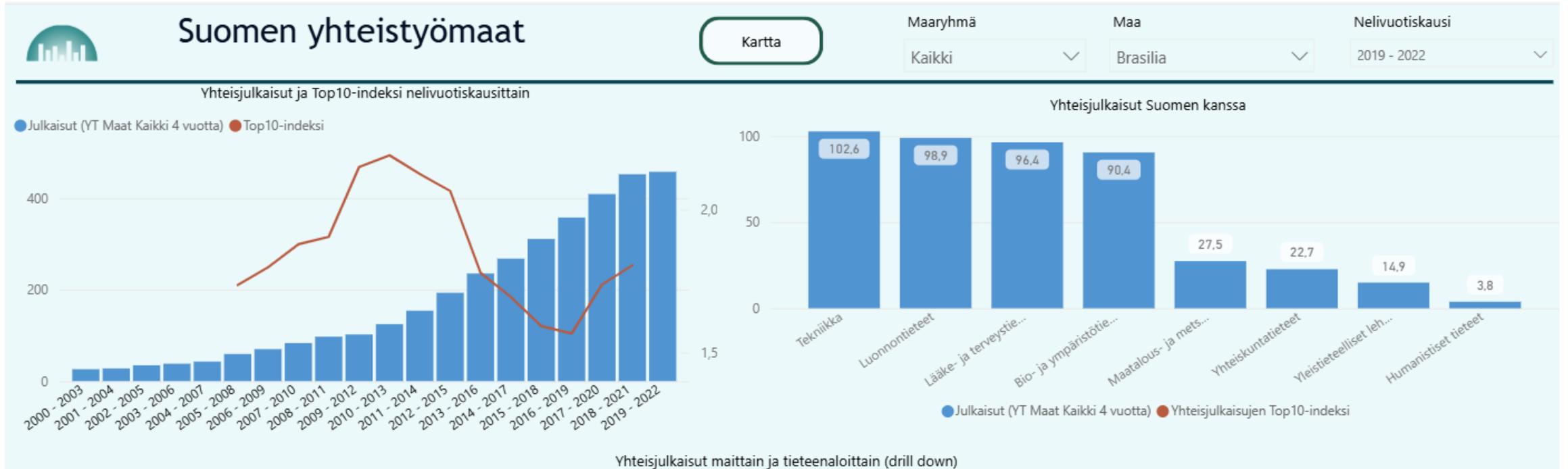


- Multidisciplinary (64) and blanks (55)
- Business, Administration and Law (57)
- Technology and Engineering (50)
- Environmental sciences, Forestry and Bioeconomy (32)
- Social Sciences and Humanities (29)
- Health and Nutrition (29)
- Education and Teacher training (22)
- Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics (12)

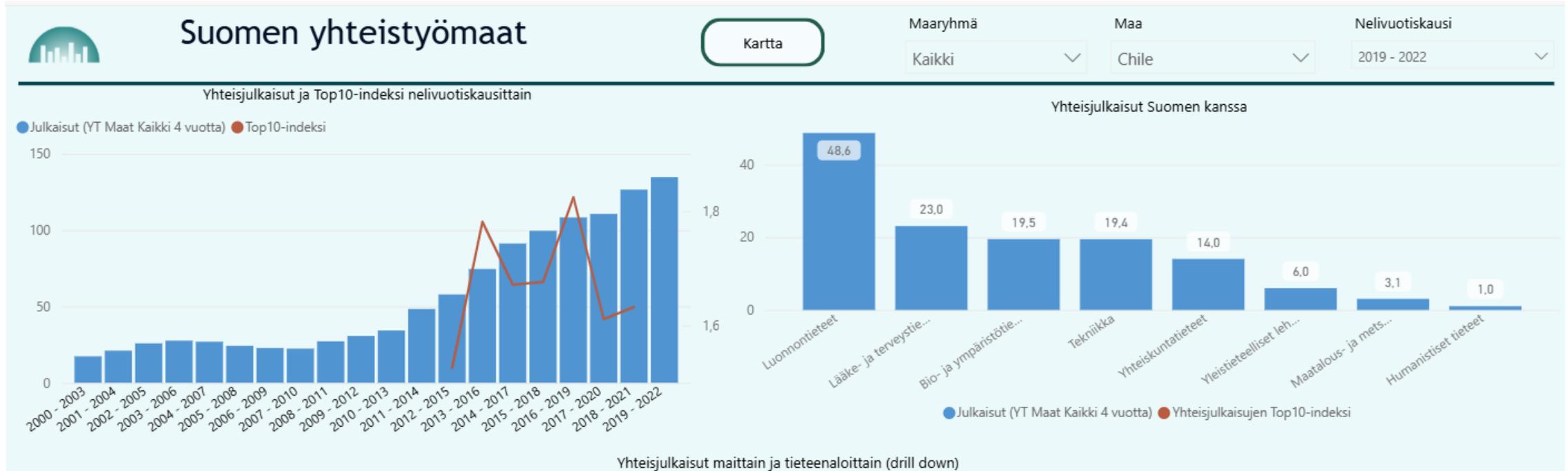
*Joint publications: Natural sciences, medicine and health sciences, bio and environmental sciences, technology, forestry*

# Joint Publications with Brazil, Chile and Mexico

# Finland-Brazil



# Finland-Chile



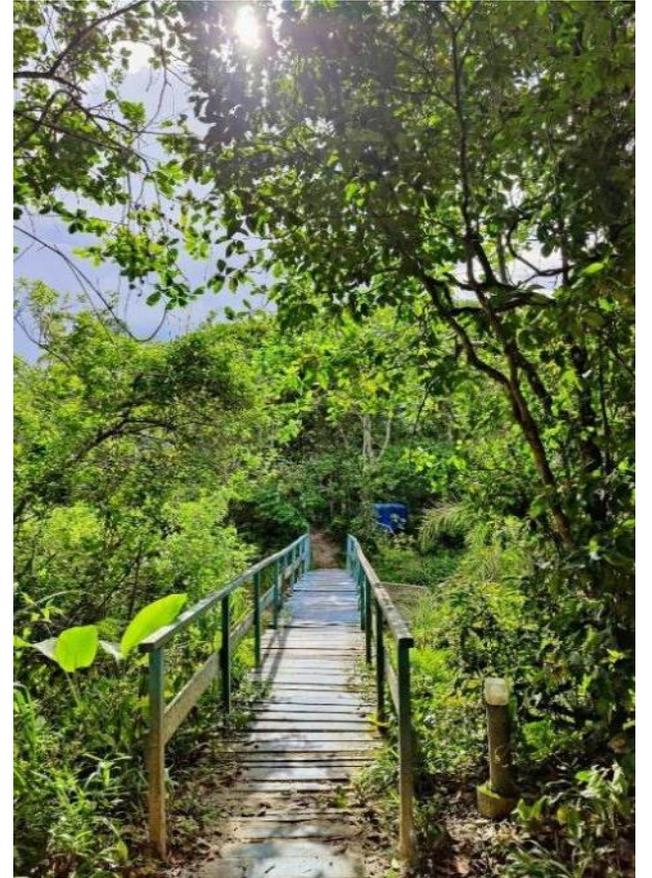
# Finland-Mexico



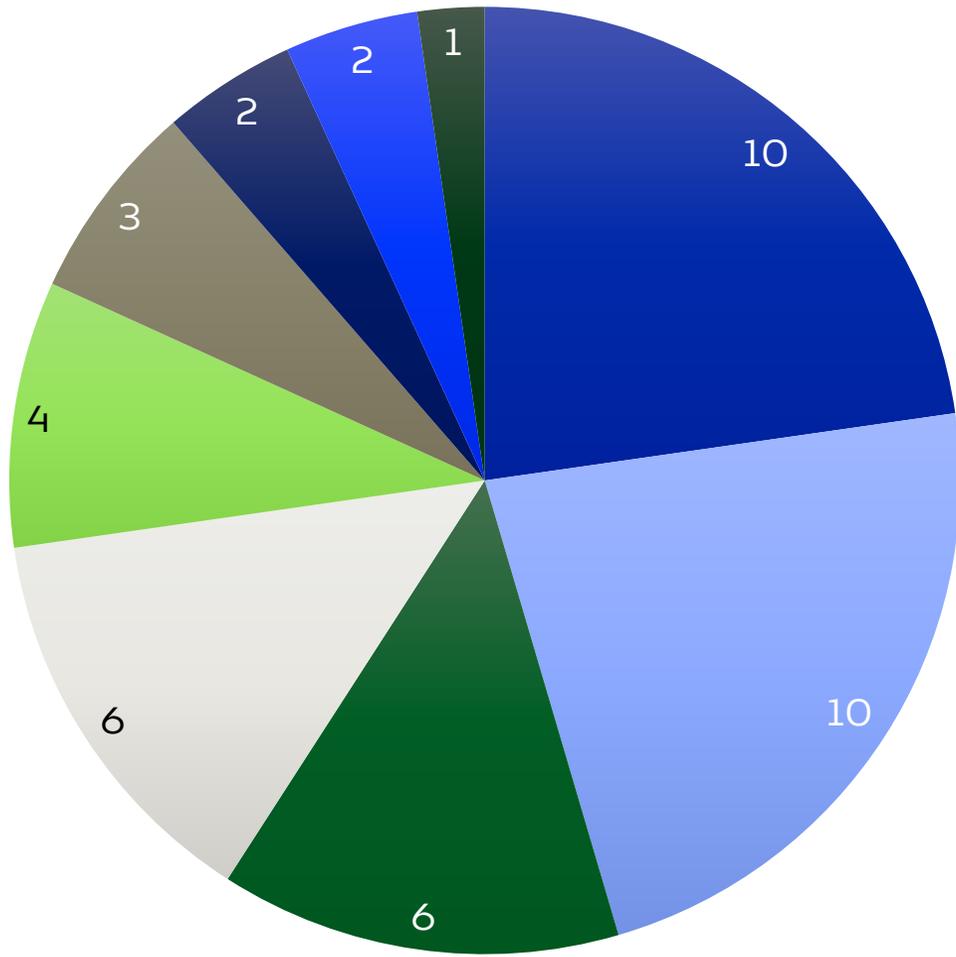
# Collaborations with Finnish and EU funding

# Team Finland Knowledge programme

- Cooperation in Higher Education – up to PhD level
  - New cooperation models, joint courses or programs, exchanges, development of methods and pedagogies, etc.
  - Open to all themes and disciplines
  - Reciprocal partnerships with relevance, lasting impact and sustainability
- Maximum funding per project: 80 000 €
- Project duration: 2.5 years
- Call for proposals open until 27 April, 2026!
- <https://www.oph.fi/en/programmes/tfk-programme>

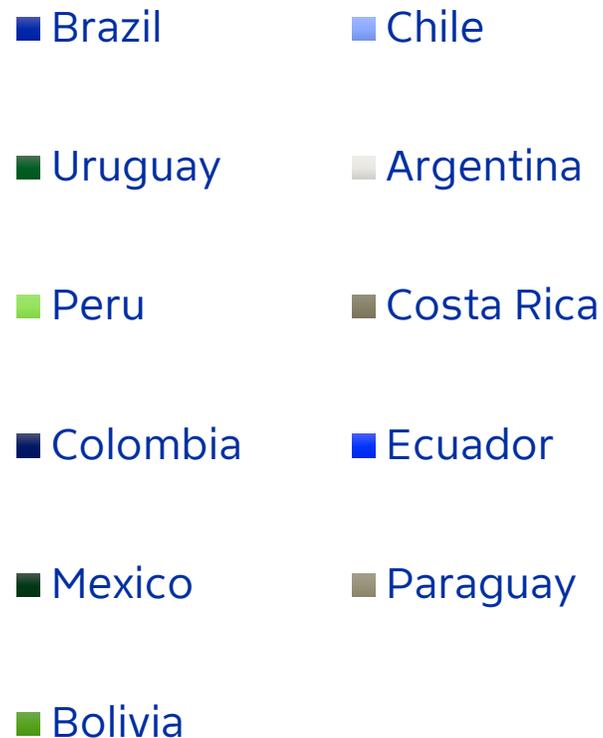
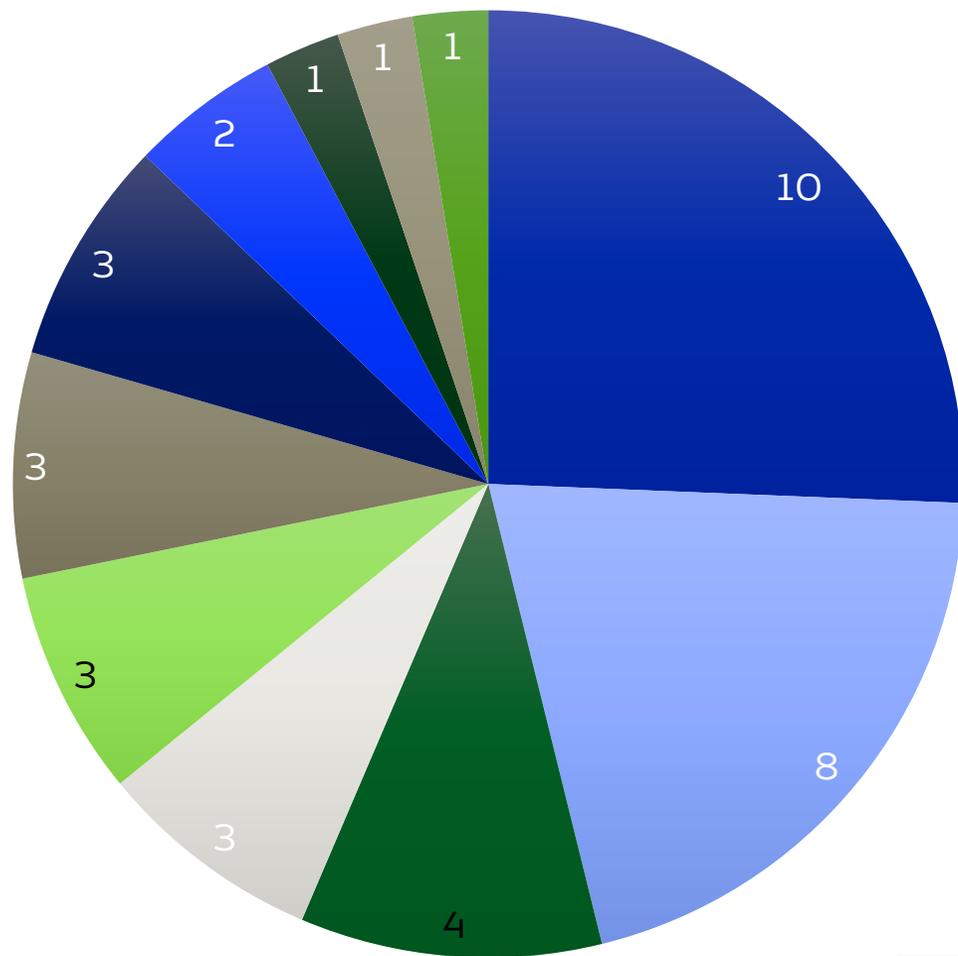


# Team Finland Knowledge projects with LAC



*In total 37 projects funded in 2022-2025, coordinated by 16 Finnish HEIs*

# Erasmus+ partnerships with LAC



**39 Global Mobility partnerships with LAC universities**  
funded in 2022-2025,  
involving 9 Finnish HEIs

**+ 9 CBHE projects** funded in 2022-2025,  
involving 9 Finnish HEIs and 12 LAC countries

# EU-LAC collaboration opportunities

- Most Latin American countries eligible for EU funding
  - except for Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Uruguay
- New Agenda for EU–CELAC Cooperation on Research and Innovation
  - *Climate change, environmental sustainability and energy transition; Health; and Artificial intelligence in science*
- EU’s bilateral science & technology cooperation agreements with Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Mexico
  - *Energy, health, oceans, digitalization, water, critical minerals, sustainable cities, etc.*
- EU partnerships with Finnish and Brazilian participation
  - *Water4All – Water Security for the Planet*
  - *Biodiversa+ - The European Biodiversity Partnership*
  - *Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP)*
  - *CHIST-ERA - novel and multidisciplinary ICT related research with the potential for significant technology breakthroughs*
  - *Upcoming: Forests and Raw materials*



# Collaborations with LAC in the EU programmes

## Horizon 2020

Chile	44
Brazil	43
Argentina	35
Colombia	16
Mexico	16
Uruguay	10
Peru	9



## Horizon Europe

Brazil	67
Chile	26
Colombia	19
Argentina	12
Mexico	6
Peru	5
Uruguay	2

# EU-LAC Supercomputing Network

- Within the framework of the EU-LAC Digital Alliance
  - To connect and strengthen existing HPC infrastructures, developing researchers' expertise, increasing scientific cooperation and opening opportunities for joint innovation
  - Opportunities: pharmaceutical development and climate simulations, as well as in the development and deployment of AI applications
- 14 EU and LAC countries as members:
  - Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Slovenia, Spain, Portugal and Uruguay
- Joint funding
  - Brazil 8 MEUR; European Commission and EuroHPC 3 MEUR , Spain 1 MEUR



# Horizon Europe calls 2026-2027 directed to LAC

- Researchers from the LAC region are fully eligible for Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) and European Research Council (ERC) funding, and Brazil offers specific opportunities related to these
- [Grid-forming capabilities for more resilient and RES-based electricity grids](#), DL 31.3.2026
- [Supporting All-Atlantic Ocean Research and Innovation Alliance](#), DL 15.4.2026, Brazilian organizations eligible for EU funding
- [Economics of climate change and cost of inaction](#), DL 15.4.2026
- [Harnessing the unique properties of marine organisms to deliver sustainable blue bio-based products](#), DL 17.9.2026
- [Creative alliances: Fostering global partnerships in cultural policies and CCI innovation](#), DL 23.9.2026, all LAC partners are eligible for EU funding
- [Understanding the forms of local democracy in low-income and low-middle income countries](#), DL 23.9.2026
- [Unlocking a safe operating space for Antarctica and the Southern Ocean](#), DL 23.9.2027, international organizations can receive EU funding

# HE and research funding in Brazil

Brazil has significant national and state funding for mobility and research

- CAPES, CNPq and FAP's (incl. FAPESP)
  - Similar research project funding as our RCF funding
- "Initiation in Science" scholarships for internships in research projects abroad for undergrad and master's students
- Scholarships for sandwich degrees/short term mobility for postgrad and post doc
- Internationalization at home: Scholarships for incoming students and researchers
- Funding for full degrees abroad only in strategic areas
- Internationalization of HEIs: Focus on the universities with less internationalization
  - Collaboration with universities in the Amazon high on the national agenda, e.g. Amazonia+10 funding programme
- Participation in Horizon Europe through CONFAP, CNPq and Finep

KIITOS!  
THANKS!  
GRACIAS!  
OBRIGADA!

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