

**DIPARTIMENTO DI  
SCIENZE STORICHE GEOGRAFICHE E DELL'ANTICHITA' – DiSSGeA**

Direzione

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**Call for applications: 7 exchange places for the international cooperation activity “Microfinance in Action (MiA)”, reserved for students enrolled in the Master’s Degree Programs in Local Development, Sustainable Territorial Development, and Human Rights and Multi-level Governance – A.Y. 2025/26.**

*NOTICE: This is an English courtesy translation provided for informational purposes only. The original Italian version remains the sole legally valid and binding text.*

### **Article 1 - Subject and Purpose**

The Department of Historical and Geographic Sciences and the Ancient World (hereinafter “DiSSGeA Department”) hereby issues a selection for 7 students to participate in the “Microfinance in Action (MiA)” Study Trip. This international cooperation initiative includes a 10-day stay in Nepal, featuring academic activities followed by field visits to rural areas to meet with microcredit beneficiaries.

To foster the mutual exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of sustainable development and the promotion of human rights, academic activities are organized both at partner universities of the University of Padua in Nepal—where students participate in training seminars and workshops—and off-site. These activities include meetings with representatives of institutional bodies and direct interaction with microcredit beneficiaries in rural and peri-urban contexts.

Given the local geography, applicants must demonstrate adaptability and good physical condition for mobility on steep and natural terrain. For examples of the program, candidates may consult the documentation from previous editions on the official website of the University Human Rights Centre “Antonio Papisca”.

**The program is contingent upon safety and appropriateness; it may be subject to modifications or, in serious cases, cancellation due to the evolving geopolitical situation.** Currently, the program is scheduled to take place **between June and August 2026**.

The initiative is co-funded by the University within the framework of the “Shaping a World Class University” call; the faculty coordinator for these activities is Professor Alberto Lanzavecchia.

### **Article 2 - Eligibility Requirements**

This call is open to students currently enrolled in the Master’s Degree Programs in *Local Development, Sustainable Territorial Development, or Human Rights and Multi-level Governance* at the University of Padua for the 2025/26 academic year. Applicants must maintain their enrollment status for the duration of the trip, thus students who will graduate before the trip takes place are not eligible.

Specifically, 4 of the places out of the total 7 are reserved for students enrolled in the Master’s Degree in *Local Development*.

To be eligible for the selection, applicants must also meet the following requirements:

- Have obtained at least 24 ECTS (CFU) by the application deadline;
- Have obtained at least 6 ECTS (CFU) by the application deadline in the fields of Business/Economics, Demo-ethno-anthropology, or Geography.

### Article 3 - Application Procedure

Applicants must submit their applications no later than **May 4, 2026, at 1:00 PM (CET)** via the online form available at the following link: <https://dissgea.unipd.it/microfinance-action-nepal-2026>

The applicant must include the following documents with their application:

1. The completed application form, following the template attached to this notice (Annex A);
2. A copy of a valid passport;
3. An updated *curriculum vitae et studiorum* (maximum 2 pages);
4. A self-certification of enrollment including list of passed exams with grades;
5. A motivation letter (maximum 2 pages).

### Article 4 - Selection Committee, Evaluation, and Ranking List

The Selection Committee will be appointed by a decree of the DiSSGeA Department Director and will consist of three faculty members of the University.

The selection will be based on the following evaluation criteria:

- Weighted average grade in the Master's Degree (LM);
- Weighted average grade in courses in the fields of Business/Economics, Demo-ethno-anthropology, or Geography;
- Overall quality of the CV;
- Motivation.

The Committee will establish a merit-based ranking list. The final results will be published on the DiSSGeA Department website by **May 8, 2026**.

**Selected candidates must accept their place** by sending an email to [didattica.dissgea@unipd.it](mailto:didattica.dissgea@unipd.it) no later than **Wednesday, May 13, 2026**. Should a candidate fail to accept the place within this deadline or formally withdraw, the exchange opportunity will be assigned to the next eligible candidate in the ranking list.

### Article 5 - Obligations of Selected Students

To participate in the project, selected students must be regularly enrolled at the University and hold valid travel documentation (passport, permits, visas).

A visa is required to enter Nepal; the application procedure depends on the applicant's citizenship. No mandatory vaccinations are required unless arriving from a high-risk country. For further relevant information, please consult the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation website at:

<https://www.viaggiare Sicuri.it/find-country/country/NPL>.

Each participating student must independently arrange health insurance for the entire period spent abroad. Before departure, winners must follow the administrative procedures communicated by the Department to receive travel authorization and access the funding. The Department also recommends obtaining comprehensive risk insurance.

Applicants should take into account that the program may be subject to modifications or even cancellation, contingent upon safety, appropriateness and evolving geopolitical situation.

### Article 6 – Financial Provisions

The DiSSGeA Department will contribute to travel, accommodation, visa, and insurance expenses **up to a maximum total of €1,100** per student, using “Shaping a World Class University” funds.

Should the number of participants be lower than expected, the Department may provide higher reimbursement amounts.

The disbursement of the grant is contingent upon actual participation in the project and is intended as a contribution toward expenses related to the stay abroad. Any costs exceeding this amount shall be borne by the participant.

### Article 7 – Academic Benefits

The partner university in Nepal will issue a certificate of attendance to participating students for 48 hours of equivalent academic activities.

### Article 8 - Responsabile del procedimento amministrativo

Pursuant to the provisions of art. 5 of Legge no. 241/1990, the “responsabile del procedimento amministrativo” (RPA) of this selection is Elisabetta Maritan, Secretary of the Department of Historical and Geographic Sciences and the Ancient World, email [elisabetta.maritan@unipd.it](mailto:elisabetta.maritan@unipd.it) Tel. No. +39 049 827 8532.

### Art. 9 Processing of personal data

The processing of personal data collected for the purposes identified in this call takes place in compliance with the provisions of EU Regulation of April 27, 2016, no. 679 (General Data Protection Regulation, GDPR). The "Data Controller" is the University of Padua with headquarters in Via 8 Febbraio, 2 – 35122 Padua. The complete information notice is available from the Data Controller or at the page [www.unipd.it/privacy](http://www.unipd.it/privacy).

### Art. 10 General information

This call for applications is available at <https://www.unipd.it/albo-on-line> and on the website of the Department of Historical and Geographic Sciences and the Ancient World – DiSSGeA.

For further information please contact the Settore Didattica e Post Lauream of the Department of Historical and Geographic Sciences and the Ancient World – DiSSGeA, Via del Vescovado 30, 35141 Padua (email: [didattica.dissgea@unipd.it](mailto:didattica.dissgea@unipd.it)).

Padova, see date on signature

Head of the Department  
Prof. Andrea Caracausi  
*Digitally signed - Legislative Decree 82/2005*

### Attached:

A – application form