

TERNA: TYRRHENIAN LAB, COLLABORATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH THE UNIVERSITIES OF CAGLIARI, PALERMO AND SALERNO

Thanks to the Tyrrhenian Lab, Terna will develop and implement new technologies and skills in the world of electricity transmission

The first edition of the Master's Degree in the three universities will start before the end of 2022

Rome, 04 May 2022 - Terna today signed the collaboration agreement with the Universities of Cagliari, Palermo and Salerno that ratifies the formal launch of the Tyrrhenian Lab.

The project, for which the company led by Stefano Donnarumma will invest a total of €100 million over the next five years, aims to establish, in close collaboration with the three universities, a training center of excellence spread across campuses in the three cities that are the landing sites of the Tyrrhenian Link, Terna's undersea power line that will unite Campania, Sicily and Sardinia, for a total of 950 km of connection and €3.7 billion in investments.

The agreement was signed by Francesco Del Pizzo, Terna's Head of Grid Development and Dispatching Strategies, and by the Rectors of the three universities involved: Prof. Francesco Mola for the University of Cagliari, Prof. Massimo Midiri for the University of Palermo and Prof. Vincenzo Loia for the University of Salerno.

*"The Tyrrhenian Lab, approved as part of the recent update to Terna's 2021-2025 'Driving Energy' Business Plan, will be an integral and permanent part of our organisation. One of the most important values for a company is, undoubtedly, developing technological and entrepreneurial skills", stated **Francesco Del Pizzo, Terna's Head of Grid Development and Dispatching Strategies**. "The project is a further demonstration of the sense of responsibility that Terna has towards the electricity transmission sector: technological innovation in our market is still uncharted territory" - added Del Pizzo - "and we, as a national operator, have the task of training and developing professional excellence. Southern Italy has proven itself to be a source of strong development for Terna, in terms of both new infrastructures and highly specialised skills".*

"The project launched with Terna is in line with the University's vision: investing in young people, training new professional figures with multidisciplinary skills, and great job opportunities, supporting innovation and technology transfer as the key to recovery and development, supporting research and training as factors of long-term development in

strategic sectors. In conclusion, the Tyrrhenian Lab is a unique opportunity for development not only for the Regions that are directly involved, but for the country that we are proud to belong to", said Prof. **Francesco Mola, Rector Magnificus of the University of Cagliari.**

*"The University of Palermo - stated **Prof. Massimo Midiri, Rector Magnificus of the University of Palermo** - confirms its vocation to look to the future by supporting the electricity industry by providing excellent human resources and to carrying out cutting-edge research in the electricity sector. The multilateral agreement for the Tyrrhenian Lab is an example of interaction between a major industrial player such as Terna and the academic world, which creates a hub for excellence on cutting-edge technologies in the critical electricity infrastructure sector with that is concentrated in the South".*

"The Tyrrhenian Lab is an important opportunity for growth, development and employment for young people and our communities," said **Prof. Vincenzo Loia, Rector Magnificus of the University of Salerno.** *"The University, happy to consolidate the collaboration with Terna, will support the project with its own skills and laboratory infrastructures, supporting the company both in the related research and in the training process of the young people who will be selected and, at the end of the course, be hired in the local project offices".*

Additionally, a specific Scientific Committee, chaired by Francesco Del Pizzo, was set up in order to plan the operations relating to the centres of excellence, which will include Terna's management and the Rectors from the three universities involved.

Thanks to the Tyrrhenian Lab, Terna expects to train more than 150 people to high professional standards between autumn 2022 and 2025. They will undergo a 12-month Master's Degree course focusing on the development of the technological and strategic skills that will prove essential to the country's digital and energy transformation.

As the first master's courses begin, Terna will provide three purpose-built campuses in Cagliari, Salerno and Palermo, innovatively designed and boasting highly technological equipment. At their fullest, at least 200 people will work in the campuses of the Tyrrhenian Lab with a further 1,000 professionals indirectly involved.

This first-rate training course will consist of a robust mixture of studies in the classroom, where some lessons will also be held by Terna managers and engineers, and experiences in the field, thanks to the opportunity to undergo a placement period within the company that manages the national transmission grid.

Once the students have completed the 12-month master's course, they may then be hired in Terna's local branches in the three cities. Therefore, the project will also have a positive impact in terms of boosting employment and bringing added value to these communities, further confirmation of the importance that Terna places on southern Italy.

Terna will collaborate with all stakeholders in the communities affected by the creation of these centres of excellence: the world of institutions and politics, the industrial scene, active players in the local innovation system, trade associations and local authorities. Furthermore,

collaborations and partnerships will be entered into with research centres, start-ups and local incubators. The Tyrrhenian Lab will not only represent a symbol of Italian excellence, but will also become a point of pride for the local communities themselves.