

TERNA: THE TYRRHENIAN LAB MASTER'S PROGRAMME ENTERS ITS SECOND YEAR TO SUPPORT THE ENERGY TRANSITION IN ITALY

After the successful participation in the first edition, a total of 57, instead of the previous 45, will take part in the Master's programme at the universities of Cagliari, Palermo and Salerno

For the Tyrrhenian Lab project, Terna has planned an investment of 100 million euros from 2022 to 2026

Increase in applications compared to the first edition, from 170 to approximately 300. Among the 57 selected participants, female representation is around 40%

Rome, 13 November 2023 – The second edition of the Master's programme "Digitalisation of the electricity system for the energy transition", promoted by **Terna** in collaboration with the **Universities of Cagliari, Palermo and Salerno** as part of the **Tyrrhenian Lab** project, is now underway. Terna, the company led by Giuseppina Di Foggia, has allocated a total investment of 100 million euros from 2022 to 2026 for the project.

The inauguration of the Master's - the second of the three planned editions – took place with an event organised simultaneously at the three involved universities. In Salerno the event was attended by Terna's Chairman **Igor De Biasio** and Rector of the University **Professor Vincenzo Loia**, while Terna's Grid Development Strategies and Dispatching Manager and Chairman and Scientific Coordinator of the Tyrrhenian Lab **Francesco Del Pizzo** and Rector of the University **Professor Francesco Mola** attended the Cagliari event. Finally, in Palermo, Terna's People Organization and Change Manager **Emilia Rio** and Rector of the University **Professor Massimo Midiri** were present.

"The Tyrrhenian Lab confirms the role that Terna plays for the country: leading the energy transition through targeted investments in infrastructure growth and the development of excellence skills. Given the current context, it is vital to focus our attention on young people ready to intercept ongoing changes, tackle new challenges, and embrace the huge opportunities that innovative digital technologies can offer to the energy sector," stated Igor De Biasio, Chairman of Terna. *"We are extremely grateful to the three prestigious universities that have chosen to accompany us on this journey,"* he concluded.

"Terna is constantly committed to making the electricity transmission grid more efficient, digitized, and secure", commented Giuseppina Di Foggia, CEO and General Manager of Terna. *"To do this, in addition to the planned investments throughout the country, highly specialised and cross-cutting skills are absolutely essential, such as those being developed with the Tyrrhenian Lab. The partnership with the universities of Cagliari, Palermo and Salerno allows us to be even more present in the territory and train future colleagues who will join the company, supporting Terna's over 5,700 people achieve the challenging goals that the energy transition represents".*

The Tyrrhenian Lab aims to establish a center of excellence distributed in the locations of the three respective cities where the cables of the **Tyrrhenian Link** will land. Totalling about 970 km and supported by **3.7 billion euros** in investments, Terna's submarine power line linking Campania, Sicily and Sardinia will facilitate the integration of energy flows from renewable sources.

Considering the positive participation in the first edition, Terna, in agreement with the three universities, has decided to increase the number of available places. There will be **19**, instead of 15, students who, after the selection phase, will participate in the course at each of the three universities, totalling **57 participants**.

The number of applications submitted has significantly increased: around 300 applications were received in total (36% in Palermo, 34% in Salerno and 30% in Cagliari), compared to the 170 in the first edition. Female participation has also increased: about 40% of the 57 selected participants, compared to 33% in the first edition.

Electrical Engineering and **Energy Engineering** are the most represented degrees, yet there was also a considerable increase in graduates from other disciplines, with the most significant being **Computer Engineering**, which increased from 2% in the first edition to 8% in the second.

Once again, this year's edition of the Master's has not only attracted recently graduates (51%) and professionals (33%) but also candidates who had already embarked on an academic path (16%).

The Master's will consist of eleven modules for a total of 60 training credits, with personalised pathways based on students' previous academic experience, programming labs and practical field activities.

At the end of the programme, the 19 students selected with the support of the universities involved will be **hired by Terna** to work at the regional offices as experts in algorithms and models for the electricity market, field equipment analysis and regulation systems, and Substation Automation Systems (SASs).

The project also has a positive impact in terms of boosting local employment and bringing added value to the local communities. This is further confirmation of the relevance that the Southern Italy region holds for Terna, an area with great potential for both infrastructure development and, above all, skills growth.