I-SITE ULNE is offering financial support to professors/researchers and staff members of its founding member institutions who want to set up or increase their cross-border collaborations by organizing events, seminars, meetings, colloquia, etc. The activities have to be organized in Hauts-de-France region (France), Flanders region (Belgium) or Kent County (United Kingdom) between 1 August 2021 and 31 March 2022. The maximum grant amount is €15,000. Applications should be sent by email to the following address: international@isite-ulne.fr by July 16, 2021 (11:00 am, Paris Time).

Background
Labelled I-SITE in February 2017, the Université Lille Nord-Europe (ULNE) project brings together 14 founding members with the aim of transforming the research and academic landscape in the Hauts-de-France region by strengthening and disseminating its excellence. In order to achieve its objectives, I-SITE ULNE funds projects in the following areas: research, academic programmes, pedagogical innovation, valorisation and internationalization.

The I-SITE ULNE international strategy aims to reinforce the cross-border collaborations of its founding members through the 3i University Network (Ghent University, KU Leuven, University of Kent and University of Lille). In order to do so, I-SITE ULNE is offering to fund events, meetings, seminars, etc. in the cross-border region to develop common projects.

Eligibility criteria
- Applicants must be researchers or staff members from an I-SITE ULNE founding member1;
- The event(s) (colloquium(a), seminar(s), meeting(s), development of a research network, etc.) must take place between 1 August, 2021 and 31 March 2022;
- The activities must be organised in the cross-border region (Hauts-de-France region, Flanders region or Kent County);
- Participants must be from at least one I-SITE ULNE founding member and one foreign university from the 3i University Network (KU Leuven, Ghent University or University of Kent). Projects involving participants from two or three foreign universities in the 3i University Network will be preferred.

Amount of the grant
Projects will be granted up to €15,000 (8% management costs included) to fund travel costs to go abroad or to invite participants to come to the event, organisation costs, promotion, translation, etc. The funds will be managed by the research unit of the I-SITE ULNE applicant.

Successful applicants must provide a final report within 15 days after the end of the activities. If the report is not received, the applicant will not be eligible for further I-SITE ULNE funding.

1 Université de Lille, Centrale Lille Institut, ENSAIT, IMT Lille-Douai, Sciences Po Lille, ESJ, ENSAPL, Arts et Métiers - Campus de Lille, CNRS, Inserm, Inria, CHU de Lille and Institut Pasteur de Lille.
Criteria and selection process
A committee of representatives from I-SITE ULNE and the 3i University Network members will evaluate and select the projects. The following criteria will be taken into account:

- Number of foreign universities involved in the project;
- Number of participants from each university, with a preference for projects involving teams rather than individuals;
- Involvement of Master’s, Ph.D students and early-career researchers;
- Ability to lead to cooperation beyond the end date of the project;
- Potential to develop into a project that can garner external funding in the future.

The application form must be sent to the following email address: international@isite-ulne.fr before 2021/07/16 (11:00 am, Paris Time). The name of the file should follow the following template: "3icollaborationproject_2021_[Acronym of the project]".

An application that is incomplete or received after the deadline will not be considered by the selection committee. A confirmation email will be sent upon reception of the application.

Calendar
Deadline: 2021/07/16 (11:00 am, Paris Time)
Publication of the results: August 2021

Contacts
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