

EIT RawMaterials Academy

Raw Materials University Days (RMUD) Call for Applications

11 November 2019

What is Raw Materials University Days?

Raw Materials University Days (RMUD) is a communication campaign originally launched by the European Commission (DG GROW) in the framework of the European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on Raw Materials. The event is now hosted and funded by the EIT RawMaterials under the umbrella of the RawMaterials Academy and implemented by EIT RawMaterials partners.

The overarching objective of the Raw Materials University Days is to raise awareness of the significance of raw materials in modern life, and also to demonstrate their relevance to the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The concrete aims of RMUD are multifold:

- Raise awareness of the potential of European raw materials and their importance in our everyday lives
- Inspire and encourage young people to study a raw materials-related discipline, bringing much-needed human capital into the sector
- Promote the knowledge, skills and attitudes in demand in the raw materials sector
- Showcase the exciting and meaningful opportunities in industries pioneering innovation in the sector. These range from careers in industry, further research at universities and research & training organisations, as well as creating startups and the corresponding EIT RawMaterials support and opportunities for young entrepreneurs

Since 2017, 14 RMUD events have taken place at 14 partner universities in 10 countries across 6 CLCs.

Who can organise a RMUD?

Universities which are Core or Associate Partners of EIT RawMaterials may apply to organise a RMUD.

Who is the target audience for RMUD 2020? What topics should be covered?

In 2020, the target group for the University Days is bachelor and/or master students enrolled in programmes in European higher education institutes (HEI); school pupils and the general public are not part of the target group in 2020.

The objective will be to illustrate to prospective Master students the **necessary higher education pathways** leading to meaningful and exciting careers that innovate the raw material sector across the entire value chain, in industry, academia and research, but also as entrepreneurs and creators of startups. Presentation of EIT RawMaterials business creation opportunities and explanation of how young entrepreneurs can get involved, especially the EIT Jumpstarter, should be included in RMUD 2020 programmes.

As far as possible, industry- and product-centric examples should be used to tangibly illustrate the career demand for raw materials in sustainable, digital, circular and resource-efficient societies. Suggested examples include but are not limited to:

- Raw materials for future mobility (linked to the Lighthouse on Future Mobility)
- Digitalisation of raw materials industries through the application of artificial intelligence, big data, machine learning, internet of things, etc
- Raw materials for sustainable energy production
- Design for circular products

How to organise a RMUD?

RMUD 2020 events should show practical examples of career opportunities in industry, academia & research and as entrepreneurs. Cooperation with industry associations and existing networks of universities specialised in relevant fields would bring added value to the initiative. The event should involve current Master students, be interactive, and incorporate hands-on activities, e.g. visits, laboratory tours, or presentations, which illustrate the education and experiences of a Master student.

The **maximum** budget available to host a Raw Materials University Day is **€12,000**. RMUD is funded centrally through the RawMaterials Academy and is subject to the same pre-financing schedule as other KAVA projects.

Universities hosting a RMUD will be responsible for:

- Designing the main content of the event, in discussion with the CLC Education Manager and Education Project Manager
- Provide the event description and the budget to the CLC and the RM Academy
- Procurement and payment of all goods and services of the event, ensuring all costs are eligible and in line with Horizon 2020 rules
- Full delivery of the event
- Submit follow-up information to the RM Academy after the event, including GDPR-compliant statistics on students participating
- Prepare and submit a RMUD 2020 Event Report (template to be provided by RM Academy)

EIT RawMaterials Education staff (CLC Education Managers and RM Academy) will provide:

- Project Agreement (PA) and final, approved budget
- Support with content
- Communications and promotional support including the design and production of a digital banner, poster and invitation flyer
- Presence at the event, which includes participation and an EIT RawMaterials presentation

- Presence of a Senior Advisor and/or Education Officer from EIT RawMaterials, when possible
- Liaison with the European Commission to promote the event

Selection of RMUD 2020 universities

A maximum of 6 RMUDs will be organised in 2020 (to ensure a fair geographic distribution, the RM Academy will aim for 1 event per CLC). Priority will be given to universities who have not yet hosted a Raw Materials University Day.

Applications will be evaluated by the RM Academy, paying particular attention to the following criteria:

- Number of Bachelor/Master students targeted
- Parts of the value chain covered, as well as the industry- and/or product-centric examples
- Clear demonstration of exciting career opportunities in industry, academia & research, and as entrepreneurs
- Clear demonstration of the higher education pathways to aforementioned careers
- Involvement of industrial partners, incubators, TTOs and research associations
- Involvement of current Master students
- Interactive components such as a site visit, workshop, experiment or panel discussion

How to apply for RMUD 2020?

RMUD 2020 host universities will be selected via an open application process starting on 11 November 2020. See Timeline document for further details of the schedule.

Interested universities must fill out an application form and submit to the RM Academy. Details of the application process will be made available shortly after the announcement via EIT RM InfoCenter, the European Commission website and our own webpage.

For further information or for any questions, contact Education Project Manager Sofia Meyers (sofia.meyers@eitrawmaterials.eu). Applications should be sent to **academy@eitrawmaterials.eu**.