



FIT FORTHEM TANDEM AND JOB SHADOWING OPPORTUNITIES



The **FORTHEM Alliance**, a European University network founded in 2019, aims at bringing students, staff members, and external partners together to jointly experience the advantages of being part of such a network and of joining forces in the fields of education, research and innovation. It gives special consideration to the regional responsibilities of the partner universities. The new project **FIT FORTHEM** supports this ambition by **establishing new forms of cooperation in transnational tandems or working groups.**

Opportunities

Working together in an international and European environment can be very productive and stimulating if one is aware of the cultural differences and how to bridge them. What better way is there for a good understanding of how things work in other organizations and countries than mutual exchange with your international colleagues? If you are looking for a tandem partner or if you want to offer a job shadowing opportunity, please get in contact with us (fitforthem@uni-mainz.de).



By forming working groups of experts as well as trans-institutional and trans-sectoral tandems in the same or complementary fields in research & innovation (management) we can build a strong and resilient network for upcoming challenges of the future.

Target group

Project managers, managers of departments, core facilities, research infrastructure or international offices, **researchers** interested in R&I activities. Also welcome are **stakeholders** in industry or society, who want to get a better understanding of work processes and the way of thinking of their international partners as well as advanced **PhD-students**, who are e.g. looking for a chance to polish their language skills and to experience the European spirit in a research environment abroad.

[contact](#)

Interested?

Write us an e-mail for more information

fitforthem@uni-mainz.de

We give support in finding the best partner for you!

[learn more](#)



What does it mean to establish a working group?

You are free to organize your activities as it fits best for your interests and demands. But there are some core aspects to consider:

- 1) Working groups should be **active for at least 6 months**, means we need a concrete starting point and a certain point after 6 months when you are able to turn in a **short report** on your joint activities.
- 2) To identify a potential partners for a working group you should be able to express clearly a) **the topic of the working group** you want to propose, and b) **what is your expertise** and what is your major idea of what could be the **major objective** of this working group.
- 3) When you found your partners your should together **define a couple of core questions** you want to exchange on, and brainstorm what could be the **benefits** for a) yourself, and b) for the FORTHEM Alliance. Keep a written record of these questions.
- 4) Set up of a couple of informal (online) **meetings**, e.g. once a months, with dedicated topics.

An example below - please remember your are free to define the exact topics!

Meeting 1 **Get to know your working group partners** (e.g. personal background, CV, Career steps, position, personal motivation to join the working group)

Meeting 2 **Get to know the partner universities better**, including their institutional environment, regional integration (always from the perspective of your respective position in the organization).

Meeting 3 **Identify common challenges** in your daily work and check how you could arrange an exchange on best practices in specific fields.

Meeting 4 **Identify possible future joint activities** your working group, but also for your institutional units in the framework of FORTHEM and FIT FORTHEM. What could be the beneficial outcomes from your working group.

Meeting 5 **Check if you may want to establish regular meetings** also for future collaboration, e.g. a monthly informal 1 h coffee joint coffee break) and an online channel to exchange documents and discuss questions.

Meeting 6 **Prepare a short report** on your activities of max. 3 pages along the core questions you identified and turn this in at fitforthem@uni-mainz.de.

- 5) Check if a physical meeting of the working group can / should be arranged.
- 6) Check if you can integrate **aspects of multiculturalism** and **multilingualism**, for include a session on the cultural and regional background of all the partners involved or, the working culture in your particular environments.