



Action-based Summer School in Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Innovation (SEI)

Overview

The ENHANCE Action-based Summer School in sustainable entrepreneurship and innovation is a one-week intensive training organized by Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden as part of the ENHANCE alliance supported and funded by the EU. Before and after the intensive week, students carry out academic research in teams, with the aim of creating value for people around Europe. This aims to increase the students' awareness and ability in sustainable entrepreneurship and provide them with knowledge and skills to translate innovative ideas into viable and sustainable entrepreneurial initiatives.

The Action-based Summer School offers learning-by-doing in topics within the area of sustainable entrepreneurship and innovation (e.g., sustainable business models) and other relevant topics related to the main theme. Students will work on a class-wide real-life project of helping others to succeed in entrepreneurial sustainability from a holistic and pragmatic perspective, viewing entrepreneurship as new value creation for others (i.e., not only creating wealth for oneself). A blend of guest lectures, project work, and social activities provides a full and varied program. Students will also take part in a class-wide academic research endeavour involving interviews with sustainable entrepreneurs around Europe. After successful completion and evaluation of the course, participants receive a certificate worth 6–7.5 ECTS credits (depending on the home university requirements).

Learning outcomes

After the course students will be able to:

- Demonstrate understanding of the intersection of entrepreneurship, innovation, and sustainability and how businesses react to climate change in their respective economic and political environment.
- Gain awareness of greenwashing and understand how to differentiate between viable and non-viable sustainable action.
- Develop skills to assess and analyze global sustainability challenges and trade-offs in economic, social, and environmental domains that affect businesses.
- Develop ability to determine prioritized action towards tackling sustainability concerns in the consequent stages of innovation and entrepreneurial development.
- Demonstrate understanding of key challenges and opportunities in regard to stakeholder engagement and sustainable strategy development.
- Develop supporting materials and recommendations for sustainability across different industries.

Content

- Sustainability tools and theories to address economic, social, and environmental issues, both independently and combined
- Stages of value creation for others, incorporating technical components

- Cultural and political influences of sustainability
- Organizing innovative processes in line with sustainable goals
- Contextual analysis of sustainability concerns
- Sales skills to raise funding from public entities

Teaching and learning methods

- Lectures
- Interactive discussions
- Value creation pedagogy, i.e., student group work and presentation of recommendations to people outside this Summer School, through a class-wide website to be developed collectively
- Students-as-researchers, i.e., data collection and analysis to further the world's knowledge in the field

Time and place

This one-week intensive training will take place on-site in Gothenburg between August 22 and 28, 2022. The course hours are every day from 9 to 16. The week is complemented by group-based assignments to be carried out two months prior to and one month after the intensive training week.

Forms of assessment

Oral presentations, written report, peer-to-peer feedback, self-reflection assignments and a class-wide website project that aims to help people around Europe in sustainable entrepreneurship and innovation.

General requirements

To be eligible to apply, the students must be enrolled at a Master's or doctoral level and have successfully completed at least one semester at one of the ENHANCE partner universities before the start of the Summer School. A CEFR B2 English proficiency level is expected, although no formal test is required.

How to apply

The interested students will send applications to their designated staff at their home universities. Once the application deadline has passed, there will be a local selection process. The home university will nominate the candidates for participation in the Summer School. To apply, please send a motivational letter of 300-500 words in which you describe who you are and why you want to participate in this Summer School.

Costs

The home university will cover €350 for travel and accommodation and €58 per diem.

Maximum number of students

The maximum number of students is 35. Each university is eligible to select and send 5 students to the Summer School. The number of students per university can be balanced in agreement between the partners in the alliance.

Recommended reading

Students will receive all the information after confirmation of their acceptance.

Deadline for application

30 May 2022

