

BLENDDED INTENSIVE PROGRAM (BIP) ERASMUS+

“SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS”

General Information

The BIP Sustainable Business aims to offer students from different European Universities an international learning experience. The program is financed by the Erasmus+ BIP agreement. The BIP combines an online module and an in person module. During the online module students and lectures get acquainted with each other, the methodology used and the assignments and topics. The assignments are related to sustainability, for instance circularity; waste treatment; energy consumption, etc.

During the in person week participants will work on their assignments; visit local companies; participate in excursions; cultural activities, etc. It's a fulltime 5 day program (+ 1 optional cultural day in the weekend).

Partners

In this BIP three European partners cooperate:

VAMK Vaasa (Finland) [About VAMK - VAMK](#);

EUSS Barcelona (Spain) [EUSS](#)

Hanze UAS Groningen (The Netherlands) [Hanze University of Applied Sciences | Hanze UAS](#)

Learning outcomes

Intercultural and interdisciplinary (transdisciplinary) cooperation

Focuses on developing participants ability to effectively cooperate and communicate with individuals from diverse cultural and educational backgrounds. Working together with a diversity of stakeholders.

Gaining proficiency in developing sustainable business practices

Aims to equip learners with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to establish and maintain sustainable business practices. Sustainability in business encompasses environmental, social, and economic dimensions, and achieving this outcome requires a comprehensive understanding of sustainability principles and their application in various business contexts.

Methodology

The methodologies used in this BIP are Design Thinking & Challenge Based Learning.

The program is organized based on the different phases of *Design Thinking*. Participants will gain knowledge about the methodology in general, and will bring this knowledge into practice during the online and in person parts of the BIP.

During the BIP participants work on assignments provided by companies in the region of the coordinating partner. This is part of the *Challenge Based Learning* methodology.

Companies involved

In each edition of this BIP there will be local companies involved. Their role is to provide an interesting, challenging case, to welcome the group for a company visit and ideally listen to the end presentation of the students.

General outline of the program (an example, this might differ per version)

Part 1: Online sessions

- Session 1: Kick-off; presentation staff & companies/assignments; introduction methodology
- Session 2: Teambuilding & task division
- Session 3: Sharing progress preparatory tasks & preparation in person part of BIP

Part 2: Intensive week in Barcelona/Groningen/Vaasa

- Monday: Presentations; group work; preparation company visits; cultural activity; welcome dinner
- Tuesday: Company visits; groupwork; excursion/activity
- Wednesday: Groupwork; lecture Cross Cultural Cooperation/ Cultural presentations by students
- Thursday: Groupwork; lectures
- Friday: Presentation end results; certificate ceremony; farewell lunch
- Saturday: Cultural program of own choice (optional extra day)

Practical Information

- Time period: First semester as well as second semester edition
- Dates online sessions: Either Oct/ Nov (3x) of March/April (3x) in MS Teams
- Dates in person week: December week 50; May week 19
- ECts: Depending on the own institute
- Language: English

<u>Student accommodation:</u>	Provided/advised by organizing University
<u>Staff accommodation:</u>	Hotel of own choice
<u>Main location of the program:</u>	Local campus
<u>Costs:</u>	Participants receive a daily allowance according to Erasmus+ BIP to pay for travel, accommodation and food/drinks. The coordinating partner will receive a budget to organize the BIP according to Erasmus+ BIP. Provides material/transport/lunches and 1 or 2 dinners.

More information:

Maryvonne Nieboer (coordinator of the BIP Groningen)

m.nieboer@pl.hanze.nl