



jOiNEd For sUsTainability - bUilding climate REsilient communities in WB and EU

### Introducing innovative curricula at Luarasi University

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 Place: Multimedia Room II-13, 2nd floor

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or EACEA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."





## **Executive summary**

- At Luarasi University, we recognize the urgent need for a comprehensive response to the challenges posed by climate change and the imperative of sustainable development
- The 1Future project offers a roadmap that charts our path toward a greener and more sustainable future, ensuring our community's and the planet's well-being



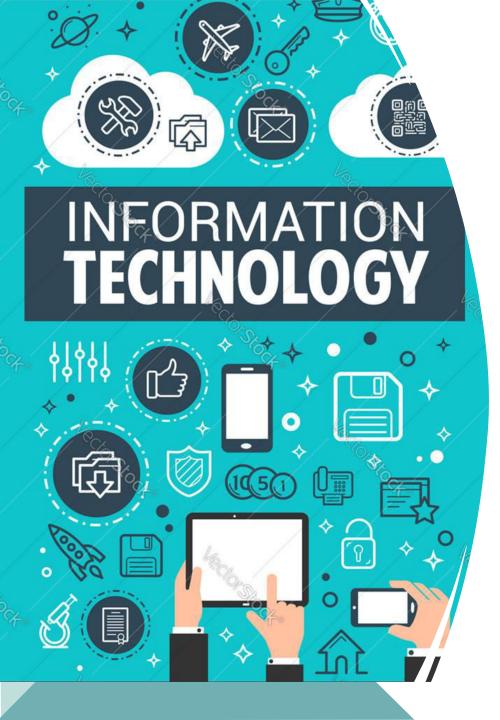


## Key Focus Areas

Curriculum Integration

 Sustainability Courses: Develop and offer courses related to sustainability, climate change, renewable energy, and environmental conservation across various disciplines





### Bachelor's in Information Technology and Innovation new courses

- 1. Digital Innovation for Sustainability: Explores how emerging technologies like IoT, AI, and blockchain can be used to address sustainability challenges, such as smart energy grids and supply chain transparency.
- 2. Innovation and Sustainable Business Models: Explores how companies can innovate their business models to align with sustainability goals, including circular economy principles and sustainable value creation.



## Business Administration



### Bachelor in Business Administration new courses:

- **1. Sustainable Leadership and Ethics**: Discuss business leaders' ethical responsibilities in addressing climate change and sustainability issues, emphasizing ethical decision-making in a corporate context.
- 2. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): Examines the concept of CSR and its practical implementation in businesses. Topics include stakeholder engagement, sustainability reporting, and the role of businesses in addressing social and environmental issues.

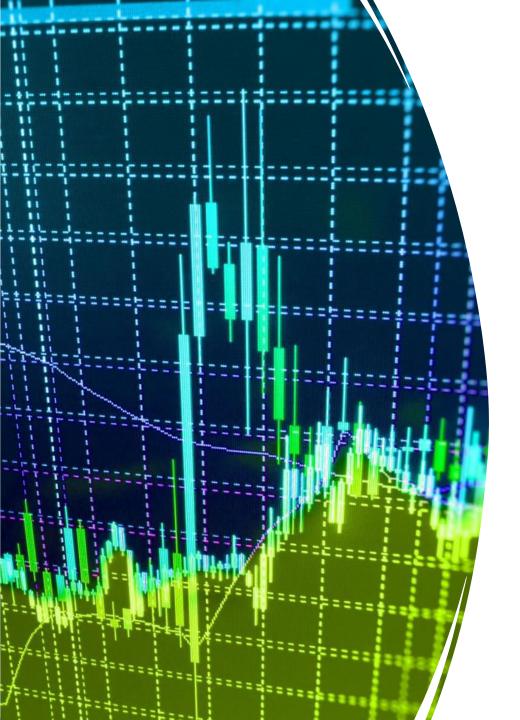




### Bachelor in Finance-Banking new courses

- 1. Financial Technology (FinTech) for Sustainability: Explores how FinTech innovations, such as blockchain and AI, can be applied to sustainability challenges, including supply chain transparency, carbon credit trading, and green finance.
- 2. Climate Change Risk Assessment in Banking: Focuses on assessing the financial risks associated with climate change, including physical risks (e.g., extreme weather events) and transition risks (e.g., policy and technology shifts).





### Master of Science in Information Technology and Innovation:

1. Digital Sustainability Reporting: Teaches students how to leverage IT solutions to streamline and enhance sustainability reporting processes, incorporating data analytics and visualization.





## THE FLOW O CLIMATE FINANC



### Master of Science in Banks and Financial Markets:

**1. Climate Finance and Investment**: Analyzes the role of banks and financial institutions in financing climate-resilient projects and green investments, including sustainable lending practices and green bonds.





# Master of Science in Executive Management:

1. Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Integration: Examines the integration of ESG factors into corporate decision-making, investment strategies, and risk management.



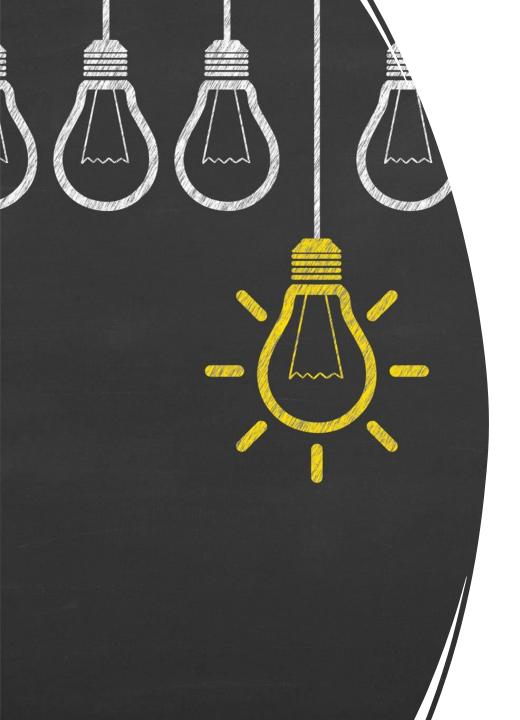


### Actual courses to be changed and adopted with climate change topics

#### Administrative Law:

- Environmental Regulatory Frameworks: Study of environmental laws, regulations, and administrative procedures governing sustainability, resource management, and climate action.
- Environmental Impact Assessments: Analyzing the role of administrative law in conducting environmental impact assessments for projects with environmental and climate implications.
- Climate Change Policy and Administrative Responses: Examining how administrative agencies respond to climate change challenges through policy formulation, enforcement, and compliance.





# Actual courses to be changed and adopted with climate change topics

#### **Innovation Management:**

- Sustainable Innovation Strategies: Exploring methods for integrating sustainability principles into innovation processes, product design, and research and development.
- Eco-design and Green Innovation: Focusing on design principles that minimize environmental impact and promote sustainable product and service innovation.
- Innovative Energy Solutions: Investigating cutting-edge energy innovations, including renewable technologies and sustainable energy management practices.



## Actual courses to be changed and adopted with climate change topics

#### Sociology:

- Environmental Sociology: Studying the societal dimensions of environmental issues, including the social impacts of climate change, environmental justice, and community responses to sustainability challenges.
- Climate Change and Social Movements: Analyzing the role of social movements, activism, and advocacy in addressing climate change and promoting sustainability.
- Sustainable Communities: Exploring the concept of sustainable communities, sustainable urbanization, and the social dynamics of sustainable development.

#### **International Business:**

- Global Climate Agreements and Business: Examining international climate agreements (e.g., Paris Agreement) and their impact on global business strategies and operations.
- Carbon Pricing and Trade: Investigating the relationship between carbon pricing mechanisms, carbon markets, and international trade, including the implications for businesses.
- Sustainable Supply Chain Management in a Global Context: Analyzing how international businesses can promote sustainability throughout their global supply chains.





## Actual courses to be changed and adopted with climate change topics

#### **Public Finance:**

- Green Fiscal Policies: Discuss how governments can use fiscal policies, incentives, and taxation to promote sustainability, green technologies, and climate resilience.
- Climate Finance and Public Investment: Examining government budgets, public spending, and investment in climate adaptation and mitigation projects.
- Economic Impacts of Climate Change: Analyzing the economic consequences of climate change, including the costs of inaction and the benefits of climate-resilient policies.

#### **Creativity and Designing for Innovation:**

- Design Thinking for Sustainability: Integrating design thinking principles into sustainability and climate change problem-solving, emphasizing user-centered solutions.
- Sustainable Product Design: Focusing on the design of eco-friendly products and services, considering factors like material choice, recyclability, and energy efficiency.
- Circular Design Principles: Exploring circular economy design principles, including cradle-to-cradle design and product life extension.





A proposed new Professional Master's Program: "Sustainability Management and Policy Integration"

- Interdisciplinary Expertise: Combines legal, economic, technological, and medical perspectives to address sustainability comprehensively
- Flexibility for Working Professionals: Offers parttime, evening, or weekend classes to accommodate professionals' schedules
- **Applied Learning**: Emphasizes practical application through case studies, consultancy projects, and industry partnerships
- Networking Opportunities: Connects professionals with peers, alumni, and industry experts through networking events and conferences







### A proposed new Professional Master's Program: "Sustainability Management and Policy Integration"

#### **Core Themes:**

- Sustainability Strategy and Leadership:
- Developing sustainable business strategies and effective leadership skills for sustainability initiatives.
- Integrating sustainability principles into corporate culture and operations.
- Legal Frameworks for Sustainability:
- Analyzing environmental laws, regulations, and ethical considerations in sustainability management.
- Ensuring legal compliance and ethical practices within sustainable organizations.
- Economic Analysis of Sustainability:
- Evaluating the economic aspects of sustainability, including cost-benefit analysis, sustainable finance, and sustainable business models.
- Assessing the economic impact of sustainability policies and initiatives.
- Innovation for Sustainable Practices:
- Leveraging innovation management techniques to drive sustainable product development, green technology adoption, and circular economy principles.
- Using information technology to enhance sustainability practices.
- Public Policy and Sustainability Governance:
- Examining public policies, international agreements, and governance structures related to sustainability and climate change.
- Advocating for sustainability policy changes and understanding their implications for various industries.





### A proposed new Professional Master's Program: "Sustainability Management and Policy Integration"



#### **Course Examples:**

- Corporate Sustainability and Ethics: Addresses ethical considerations, stakeholder engagement, and sustainable supply chain management in the corporate context.
- Environmental Law and Corporate Compliance: Focuses on environmental regulations, corporate compliance strategies, and sustainability reporting.
- Sustainable Finance and Investment Management: Explores sustainable finance practices, green investment, and impact investing in professional contexts.
- Innovation for Sustainable Business Solutions: Applies innovation management principles to real-world sustainability challenges.
- Sustainability Policy Advocacy: Provides skills and strategies for professionals to engage in sustainability policy advocacy and navigate regulatory changes.

#### **Program Benefits:**

Professional Development: Designed for mid-career professionals seeking to enhance their skills and advance their careers in sustainability management, policy, and leadership.
Interdisciplinary Expertise: Combines legal, economic, technological, and medical perspectives to address sustainability comprehensively.
Flexibility for Working Professionals: Offers part-time, evening, or weekend classes to accommodate professionals' schedules.
Applied Learning: Emphasizes practical application through case studies, consultancy projects, and industry partnerships.
Networking Opportunities: Connects professionals with peers, alumni, and industry experts through networking events and conferences.





### Professional Master's Program: "Sustainability Management and Policy Integration"

- Research Initiatives: Encourage faculty and students to engage in sustainability-focused research projects and offer funding and resources for such endeavors
  - Campus Transportation
    - Promote Sustainable Transportation: Encourage biking, walking, carpooling, and public transportation for commuting to reduce the carbon footprint associated with transportation
  - Launch an informational campaign to raise awareness about the environmental benefits of sustainable transportation
    - Sustainability Governance
    - Knowledge Hub for Climate Change and Sustainability: Establish the dedicated Knowledge Hub for Climate Change and Sustainability to oversee sustainability initiatives, track progress, and report to stakeholders





### Professional Master's Program: "Sustainability Management and Policy Integration"

- Research Initiatives: Encourage faculty and students to engage in sustainabilityfocused research projects and offer funding and resources for such endeavors
  - Regular Reporting: Publish an annual sustainability report to communicate achievements and areas for improvement
  - Student Involvement
  - Student Organizations
  - Internship and Volunteer Opportunities
    - Green Events and Conferences
      - Host Sustainable Events: Implement eco-friendly practices for conferences, workshops, and other campus events
    - Long-Term Planning: Incorporate sustainability in the Luarasi Sustainability and Climate Change Strategic Plan
    - Continuous improvement: Continuously assess the effectiveness of sustainability initiatives and adapt strategies as needed





- Develop and Offer Sustainability Courses
  - By December 2023: Identify faculty members with expertise in sustainability-related fields
  - By March 2024: Collaborate with faculty to create new sustainability courses
  - By June 2024: Develop course outlines, objectives, and materials
  - By July 2025: Seek approval from relevant academic committees
  - Starting September 2024: Assign faculty to teach these courses





- Integrate Sustainability Topics
  - By September 2023: Identify existing courses suitable for sustainability topic integration
  - By March 2024: Provide faculty with resources and materials
  - Starting October 2024: Encourage the use of sustainability examples in coursework
  - Ongoing: Monitor syllabuses and content for sustainability coverage
- Monitor Progress
  - By September 2024: Establish a sustainability curriculum oversight committee
  - Annually: Review and update course offerings and content
  - Ongoing: Collect student feedback on sustainability courses





- Promote Interdisciplinary Programs
  - By June 2025: Develop interdisciplinary programs with faculty involvement
  - By September 2025: Create joint courses or research projects
  - Starting September 2025: Offer incentives for student participation
- Establishment and Operations
  - By September 2024: Approval for the foundation of the Knowledge Hub
  - By October 2024: Staff the Hub with knowledgeable personnel
  - By December 2024: Launch a user-friendly Hub website





- Monitoring and Reporting
  - Ongoing: Centralize data collection and reporting on sustainability initiatives
  - Annually: Publish updates and reports on the Hub's website
  - Ongoing: Make Hub resources available for student research
- Report Creation
  - By September 2024: Form a sustainability reporting team
  - By December 2024: Develop a structured annual sustainability report format
  - Ongoing: Compile sustainability data





- Publication and Dissemination
  - By March 2025: Publish the annual sustainability report on the university website
  - Annually: Share the report with stakeholders
  - Ongoing: Consider creating a summary version of the report
- Support for Sustainability Club
  - By December 2024: Provide the Sustainability Club space and resources
  - Starting January 2025: Encourage regular meetings and events
  - Ongoing: Collaborate with the club on sustainability initiatives





- Internship and Volunteer Opportunities
  - By March 2025: Establish partnerships for internships and volunteer opportunities
  - By June 2025: Publicize opportunities to students
  - Starting September 2025: Offer academic credit for eligible internships
- Recognition and Awards
  - By September 2025: Create an awards program for student recognition
  - By December 2025: Highlight student achievements in publications and social media
  - Annually: Organize recognition events for student sustainability leaders





- Eco-Friendly Practices
- By March 2025: Develop eco-friendly event guidelines
- By June 2025: Provide event organizers with sustainability checklists
- Starting September 2025: Monitor event compliance with guidelines
- Collaborate with Sustainable Caterers
- By June 2025: Identify catering partners prioritizing sustainability
- By September 2025: Request detailed catering information
- Starting January 2026: Collaborate with chosen caterers for sustainable menu







### Thank you for your attention

Prof.Asoc.Dr. Anni Dasho Sharko Vice Rector, Faculty of Information Technology and Innovation, Luarasi University anni.dasho@luarasi-univ.edu.al

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or EACEA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them."

