

## SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES

# STUDY PROGRAMS

**Master Sustainability Challenge (Leiden University and TU Delft):** A team of 4-5 students of the Master programmes Governance of Sustainability and Industrial Ecology work as consultants on a sustainability challenge for 5 months (2 days a week). Topics need to focus on sustainability issues related to (but not limited to) waste management, urban/infrastructure development, circular economy, consumer products, food waste, plastics in the environment, nutrients cycling, biodiversity, ecosystem services, renewable energy, water and agricultural management, agroforestry, policy, behavioral change, etc. Commissioned problems should not be about market research but focus on improving or solving a specific sustainability challenge that your organization is facing.

→ [Sustainability Challenge 2023-2024](#)

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**Master Joint Interdisciplinary Project (TU Delft):** In the Joint Interdisciplinary Project (JIP) 2nd year master students work in a professional and interdisciplinary environment during a 10 week period. In interdisciplinary teams they solve a technological/innovation challenge provided by a company or a semi-governmental organisation, such as WeP, Huskey, Airbus or Reinier de Graaff hospital. The projects demand a good engineering innovation working knowledge in addition to a solid grounding in interdisciplinary and systems thinking. It also asks for an innovation mindset and entrepreneurial behaviour. The students are guided during the process by a company and academic coach.

→ [Joint Interdisciplinary Project](#)

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**Bachelor Minor Sustainable Development (Leiden University):** This program involves third-year bachelor students from diverse study backgrounds, including social sciences, humanities, art, engineering, and natural sciences, fostering an interdisciplinary approach. For this program we are looking for clear 'case-study' -like projects. Students are encouraged to lead their projects, nurturing creative problem-solving and critical thinking skills. They can do i.e. stakeholder analysis, interviews, data visualization, (basic) GIS mapping, analysis and writing.

→ [Bachelor Minor Sustainable Development](#)

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**Bachelor Honours Programme Sustainability (LDE):** This program involved second and third year bachelor students from diverse study backgrounds from Leiden, Delft and Erasmus. Student work on 'design thinking' challenges; this means that a question needs to be broad enough for students to diverge and research the true nature of the problem, do stakeholder analyses and systems mapping to find the 'problem within the problem' to solve. Then they come up with all kinds of potential solutions, and finally refine and deliver their solution(s) that works, e.g. as a gigamap or roadmap. Important here is that as a commissioner, you can guide students but don't enforce a required deliverable or set outcome that you need.

→ [Bachelor Honours Programme Sustainability LDE](#)

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**Bachelor Minor Transformative Change for a Sustainable World (Erasmus University Rotterdam):** The approach of this minor is interdisciplinary / transdisciplinary group work. Students work in groups of 5 on a problem definition: problem-oriented project work. At the end of the minor, students come up with an intervention for problem definition. They are coached in this by a tutor. The focus of the projects lies on Sustainable Consumerism.

'I study Health Sciences and while they touch upon sustainability, the program doesn't really offer any courses on the topic. The minor was fun because you got to experience different perspectives. Coincidentally, we're all from different backgrounds, but we saw that sustainability is relevant in all our disciplines.'" (Julide, student at the Minor Transformative Change for a Sustainable World).

→ [Minor Transformative Change for a Sustainable World](#)