

Working across Borders: Bridging Cultures, Enhancing Sustainable Business.

Internationalization doesn't always require going far; you can also achieve internationalization goals from home.

The Working across Borders project fosters intercultural collaboration and tackles global challenges through innovative online learning.



Our global economy's interconnectedness has made cross-border collaborations more crucial than ever. Companies worldwide are increasingly collaborating to solve the complex challenges of today, with sustainability as the most pressing. Achieving a more sustainable environment and business landscape requires a global effort.

The Working across Borders Project is a virtual international consultancy project that aims to equip students with the competences needed to address sustainability issues and thrive in an intercultural global context. Through this initiative, we prepare the next generation contribute to a sustainable future in an interconnected world.

The Essence of the Working across Borders Project.

The Working Across Borders Project is designed to simulate real-world international business environments. Students from various universities, are group into intercultural teams and tasked with solving a sustainable business challenge of an actual company. The project spans about 9 weeks and involves research, strategic planning and intercultural communication.

The Objectives of the Working across Borders Project.

- Intercultural competence: One of the primary objectives is to enhance students' ability to work effectively in intercultural environments.
- Sustainability expertise: The project develops sustainable expertise among students. It integrates content on sustainability, ensuring students gain a deep understanding of sustainable business practices and the importance of SDGs.
- Practical experience: The project offers hands-on experience with real-world business challenges. Participants apply theoretical knowledge to practical scenarios and practice their problem-solving and strategic thinking skills.
- Collaboration skills: Teamwork across borders is inherently complex. The project helps students to develop online collaboration skills, including project management and conflict resolution.
- Networking: Building a global network of peers and mentors is another significant benefit. These connections can be invaluable for future career opportunities and international collaborations.

How do we make it work?

UCLL collaborates with nine partner universities from around the world and on international clients who presents a sustainable business challenge. Each institution contributes two colleagues to the team, creating a diverse and professional learning community dedicated to developing materials and addressing challenges as they arise. This setup ensures a continuous improvement, so the project can grow and ameliorate every year.

Each institution also assigns a handful of business coaches to the project, who are responsible for guiding and supporting the intercultural teams of students, ensuring that they stay on track and integrate their knowledge.

The Working across Borders team is dedicated to creating an online learning trajectory. In addition to the fixed content available on the platform, online workshops are organized on various topics such as team formation and creativity. This approach aims to maximize student engagement and involvement.

Future challenges

The Working across Borders project adopts a research-oriented approach to investigate how it enhances students' professional development. Moving forward, our goal is to conduct a more comprehensive impact study to evaluate students' progress in intercultural competence. Based on these findings, we plan to make adjustments aimed at furthering the project's objectives.

Project Partners

- BINUS University International, Indonesia
- DOBA Business School, Slovenia
- Durham College Oshawa, Canada
- INHolland University of Applied Sciences, Netherlands
- Laurea University of Applied Sciences, Finland
- North-West University, South Africa
- Northwood University, United States
- University Colleges Leuven-Limburg, Belgium
- Universidad Católica de Santiago de Guayaquil, Ecuador

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