



Sustainability Leadership and Corporate Responsibility

9 – 13 November 2026
Vienna (Austria)



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Introduction

This Sustainability Leadership and Corporate Responsibility course explores the foundations of sustainability leadership and its role in shaping modern organizations. It provides a structured understanding of corporate responsibility and its integration into long-term strategic planning. Participants will examine how businesses balance economic growth with environmental and social impact. The program highlights the importance of ESG principles in decision-making and governance systems. It presents practical insights into developing sustainable business strategies across industries. It equips learners with a strong conceptual framework for responsible leadership in a global context.

Targeted Groups

This Sustainability Leadership and Corporate Responsibility training targets professionals seeking knowledge and skills:

- Corporate managers are involved in strategic planning and governance roles.
- Sustainability officers are responsible for implementing and monitoring ESG initiatives.
- CSR specialists focusing on social impact and ethical initiatives.
- Business consultants advising on corporate sustainability transformation projects.
- Policy advisors working on environmental and corporate responsibility frameworks.
- Entrepreneurs aiming to build sustainable and responsible business models.
- Project leaders integrate sustainability into operational decision-making processes.
- Compliance officers ensure alignment with sustainability reporting standards.

Course Objectives

Participants will achieve the following objectives by completing the Sustainability Leadership and Corporate Responsibility course:

- Understand core principles of sustainability leadership and corporate responsibility in modern organizations and global markets.
- Analyze ESG frameworks and apply them to corporate sustainability strategy and decision-making processes.
- Evaluate the impact of CSR initiatives on stakeholders, reputation, and long-term business performance outcomes.
- Develop the ability to design sustainable business models aligned with environmental and social governance requirements.
- Strengthen skills in sustainability reporting, transparency practices, and corporate accountability mechanisms.
- Apply ethical leadership approaches to balance profitability with environmental stewardship and the creation of social value.
- Interpret global sustainability trends and effectively integrate them into organizational planning and innovation strategies.

Targeted Competencies

Participants will gain the following competencies during the Sustainability Leadership and Corporate Responsibility program:

- Integrate sustainability leadership into governance and strategy.
- Analyze ESG data and apply performance indicators.
- Design and manage effective CSR programs.
- Assess environmental and social risks in strategy.
- Apply sustainability reporting and transparent communication.
- Make balanced decisions across economic, social, and environmental goals.

Studying Scenarios

In this Sustainability Leadership and Corporate Responsibility training, participants develop skills through the following scenarios:

- Case analysis of organizations implementing ESG frameworks to improve corporate sustainability performance.
- Simulation of CSR program development addressing real-world social and environmental challenges.
- Evaluation of sustainability leadership decisions in multinational corporate environments and market pressures.
- Review of sustainability reporting practices and alignment with international governance standards.
- Scenario-based discussion on ethical dilemmas in balancing profit, people, and planet priorities.

Course Content

Unit 1: Foundations of Sustainability Leadership and Corporate Responsibility

- Introduction to sustainability leadership and core organizational principles.
- Understanding corporate responsibility in modern business environments.
- Exploring global sustainability challenges and business implications.
- Linking corporate sustainability to long-term value creation models.
- Role of leadership in driving sustainable transformation initiatives.
- Overview of sustainable business strategy fundamentals and frameworks.

Unit 2: ESG Frameworks and Environmental Governance Systems

- Understanding ESG principles and the environmental, social, and governance structure.
- Application of ESG metrics in corporate sustainability assessment systems.
- Integration of ESG standards into organizational decision-making processes.
- Environmental risk identification and mitigation in corporate operations.
- Social governance factors influencing corporate responsibility performance.
- Linking ESG frameworks to sustainability reporting and transparency goals.

Unit 3: Corporate Social Responsibility and Stakeholder Engagement

- Defining CSR strategies and their role in corporate sustainability.
- Developing CSR initiatives aligned with organizational mission and values.
- Stakeholder mapping for effective corporate responsibility engagement.
- Designing social impact programs for community development outcomes.
- Measuring CSR effectiveness through performance and impact indicators.
- Aligning CSR activities with corporate reputation and trust building.

Unit 4: Sustainable Business Strategy and Operational Integration

- Designing a sustainable business strategy for long-term organizational growth.
- Integrating sustainability into supply chain and operational systems.
- Resource efficiency and environmental optimization in business processes.
- Innovation in green technologies and sustainable product development.
- Risk management within corporate sustainability transformation initiatives.
- Embedding sustainability into corporate culture and leadership behavior.

Unit 5: Sustainability Reporting, Governance, and Performance Measurement

- Principles of sustainability reporting and corporate disclosure systems.
- Governance structures supporting corporate sustainability accountability frameworks.
- Measuring sustainability performance using KPIs and ESG indicators.
- Transparency and ethical communication in corporate reporting practices.
- Aligning sustainability reporting with global standards and expectations.
- Continuous improvement in corporate responsibility and sustainability outcomes.

Final Insights & Key Takeaways

Sustainability leadership is a critical driver of long-term corporate resilience and strategic competitiveness. Effective integration of corporate responsibility and ESG principles ensures sustainable value creation for all stakeholders.