

WBCSD Leadership Program

In partnership with
Yale University
and IMD

*Making sustainable development
relevant, actionable and scalable*



Foreword

Companies are facing increasing pressure from regulators, investors, consumers and other key stakeholders to integrate sustainability in all aspects of their business. In other words, sustainability is now mainstream, and continued education at all levels of a company is central to ensuring the continued success of business as the world transitions towards a net-zero, nature-positive and equitable future.

The WBCSD Leadership Program educates all business functions on sustainable development challenges and opportunities that feed into strategic business decision-making. As the world continues to change, sustainable businesses will grow to be the most successful.

Therefore, it's critical for the next generation of leaders to understand the importance of sustainability and integrate related challenges and opportunities into their core business strategy.

The Leadership Program has over 20 years of excellence in providing representatives from nearly 150 companies with cutting-edge research into the sustainability agenda. It has shared insights into how leading companies use innovation to develop value-creating solutions that address sustainability issues and opportunities. We are always inspired by the innovative ideas, concrete solutions, and lasting relationships from the impassioned, fearless business leaders who participate.

WBCSD is proud to deliver this curriculum in partnership with Yale University and IMD, as well as in collaboration with our member companies, who represent the world's most forward-thinking businesses driving accelerated progress in the sustainability agenda.

Business resilience requires sustainability leadership to come from all business functions. We welcome you to join a dynamic community of business leaders committed to realizing a world where everyone can live healthy, fulfilling lives within planetary boundaries.

We look forward to meeting you in this learning journey and working with you to translate your ideas into action.



Rodney Irwin
Prof Dr Rodney Irwin
Chief Operating Officer



Suzanne Feinmann
Suzanne Feinmann
Director, Education

What participants gain by joining

Sustainability leadership skills:

Participants gain the latest insights into sustainable development and a better understanding of their own leadership preferences to help them become sustainability leaders.

Academic certification from Yale and IMD:

We conduct our Program at Yale University and IMD with world-renowned academics. Professors who have contributed in previous years include David Bach, Julia Binder, Peter Boyd, Zoë Chance, Dan Esty, Omar Toulan and Julie Zimmerman. After successful completion of the Program, participants receive **certificates from Yale School of Management and IMD.**

A strong network: The Program creates a global network of dynamic business leaders, capable of acting as sustainable development ambassadors within their companies and in society. There are also opportunities to engage with a range of business and sustainability experts. Previous speakers include Paul Polman, Peter Bakker (WBCSD), Lord Michael Hastings, Prof. Mervyn King (IIRC Chair Emeritus), Ilham Kadri (Solvay), André Hoffmann (Roche), Nadir Godrej (Godrej Industries) and S. Padmanabhan (Tata).

Strengthened business skills: Participants work on individual and group projects focusing on solutions that benefit the participant's company and the wider business community. Final group projects are presented during WBCSD's Council Meeting, where participants interact with WBCSD members at the C-suite level.

Varied experiences: The Program uses a highly interactive mixture of education styles from traditional classroom-based work to action and experiential learning activities through workshop participation, case studies and presentations to help candidates to succeed in their career.



Companies that have trusted our Program



WBCSD Leadership Program overview

2023 timeline and locations* Objectives and projects

<p>MODULE 1 Sustainable development in context 20 – 24 March IMD, Switzerland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop knowledge of sustainability business issues, drivers, tools and approaches • Learn from renowned academics and professors from IMD • Engage and interact with WBCSD representatives and sustainability experts • Participate in leadership simulation exercises and workshops • Create a large network of business leaders and share best practices
<p>INDIVIDUAL PROJECT March – June</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the learnings of Module 1 • Develop a case review that explores the sustainability challenges and opportunities related to participants' companies • Prepare a written report
<p>MODULE 2 Sustainable development in action 26 – 30 June Yale University and New York City, USA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share findings and learnings from the individual project • Learn from renowned academics and professors from Yale University • Gain new insights into the business context through other participants' personal and professional knowledge and experience • Facilitate panel discussions • Start the group projects
<p>GROUP PROJECTS June – October</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and execute group projects • Develop skills in group project management, in engagement and collaboration with organizations and various stakeholders (internal and external) • Develop knowledge of sustainability and business issues, drivers, tools and approaches • Prepare a written report, a summary for WBCSD's webpage and a presentation on key learnings and recommendations
<p>MODULE 3 Leading Sustainable Development 3 – 5 November (TBC) Dubai, United Arab Emirates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in leadership workshop • Present the outcome of group projects and develop the ability to communicate effectively with various audiences • Participate in plenary sessions and working group meetings during the WBCSD Council Meeting and engage with WBCSD representatives and sustainability experts • Consolidate group projects and activities, and identify learnings • Plan for future action and the introduction of learnings into companies

*Pending evolving pandemic situation and country restrictions, WBCSD may have to postpone the modules or to move to online trainings. Safety restrictions from hosting Universities and local partners will have to be followed by all participants when joining in-person meetings.

Optional: WBCSD Leadership Program 2023 participants are welcome to attend the WBCSD Liaison Delegate meeting in Montreux, Switzerland, 2-4 May 2023. Reduced participation fees of approx. 1,500 CHF are available to current year Leadership Program participant.

Here's what our companies are saying about the Program



The WBCSD Leadership Program is a great concrete step into deepening the necessary knowledge for emerging leaders when it comes to sustainable development, organisational purpose and the challenges concerning ESG. In an inspiring year participants furthermore build a relevant cross-sectional network and gain insights required to move their respective organisations forward to the next level on sustainability related topics. All in all highly recommended.



Bas Rüter

Global Head Food System Transition, Rabobank



One of the biggest challenges companies face today is bridging the disconnect between stated sustainability commitments and actual strategies being implemented. The WBCSD Leadership Program, rather than being a learning program focused solely on sustainability concepts, offers a unique way of viewing business management, innovation, marketing, and other concepts through the lens of sustainability. On top of the formal sessions, I've had the chance to build a fantastic network of professionals, and learn about how each employs unique approaches to solving sustainability issues across industries.



Dana T. Uson

Corporate Strategy Associate, Ayala Corporation

Application and participation requirements

- 5-10 years of working experience.
- Ability to demonstrate leadership qualities within their company.
- Candidates can come from any business or unit function but **should not be sustainable development experts**.
- Excellent English proficiency (written and verbal) **is mandatory**.
- To obtain certificates from the WBCSD Leadership Program, Yale and IMD, participants must commit to:
 - ✓ 15 days for attending the three one-week meetings; and
 - ✓ deliver an individual and a group project.
- All companies must confirm that they fully support their participant's contribution to the Program and help to ensure their participants have time to fulfill the above requirements -by completing a learning agreement ahead of Module 1.

A participant may be required to withdraw from the Program if they fail to meet any of these requirements.

Nomination process

- Please send the [recommendation form](#) to feinmann@wbcسد.org by no later than **Monday 16 January 2023**. Places in the Program are limited and granted on a first come, first served basis, provided all the terms of application are met.
- WBCSD Council Members or Liaison Delegates can nominate their companies' participant(s).
- For non-WBCSD members, the candidates' manager(s) should sign a letter confirming support and budget for the Program.
- Decision for admission/non-admission will be made by WBCSD.
- The recommendation form will be considered as a commitment for sending participants.
- Training spots will be reserved until 30 days in advance of the start of the Leadership Program. If not confirmed, they will then be released.

Contact and information

For more information about the Leadership Program, please contact:

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feinmann@wbcسد.org

or visit:

www.wbcسد.org/Projects/Education/Leadership-program

CANCELLATION POLICY

1. Up to six weeks before Program start (date of kick-off call): companies receive a full refund of the fee.
2. From six weeks to up to 11 days before Program start (date of kick-off call in March 2023): companies incur a 60% cancellation fee.
3. Within 10 days before Program start: companies incur a 100% cancellation fee.

If a participant is unable to attend the Program, the reservation can be transferred to another colleague (if all requirements are met). The notice must be made no later than 10 days before the start of the Leadership Program. Afterwards, cancellation policy will be applicable.

**World Business Council
for Sustainable Development**

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www.wbcsd.org

