

**"Competent student – experienced graduate: international workshops on key competencies for the labour market"**

The project is financed by the National Agency for Academic Exchange within the International Academic Partnerships Programme  
Agreement No. PPI/APM/2019/1/00014/U/00001

**BELGIUM**

**Sustainability**

**Goals:**

- The participant recognises the multitude of facets of sustainability (environmental, social, inequality, biodiversity, pollution, etc.) and recognizes the impact of consumer (and its own) behaviour on these aspects
- The participant understands how local communities (city, university) work together to reach sustainable development
- The participant understands the relation between all stakeholders within the value chain in building a sustainable and ethical business
- The participant can, based on the main principles of societal, international and organisational trends in sustainability, reflect critically on organisational policy choices
- The participant reflects critically on the impact of the sustainability policy of an organisation, while taking into account the consequences for the relevant stakeholders
- The participant can formulate a motivated advice on an integrated sustainability policy in an organisation and negotiate with relevant stakeholders to reach sustainable agreement

**Activities and tasks:**

- Workshop: the chain towards ethical chocolate
  - Explanation of the production process of Chocolatea
  - Chocolate tasting
- Workshop: Materialise - innovation and sustainability in 3D
  - Presentation of Materialise and its activities
  - Group discussions about different topics
- Visit at and experience with sustainable restaurant and catering concepts

**Outcome:**

- The participant gains awareness and knowledge about the importance and relevance of sustainability in the current business environment and society

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Workshop: the chain towards ethical chocolate

During the project week in Belgium, we invited Mario Vandeneede, the founder of Chocolatoa, to come and speak about the sustainable process of chocolate manufacturing. In 2015 he founded his company after having seen, lived and worked with cocoa farmers all over the world. He gained a lot of experience and knowledge about all aspects related to the cocoa production. His goal with Chocolatoa is to produce chocolate from bean to bar as sustainable as possible with attention for the people he works with. He gets his beans from farmers with whom he has long-term and close relationships. His frequent visits assure him that the living and working conditions of the farmers are of good quality. He sells his chocolate at a fair price, to make sure the farmers get paid correctly. After this explanation of Mario about the production process, we had the chance to taste the chocolate ourselves and to discover the different flavours with which he experiments.



Workshop: Materialise - innovation and sustainability in 3D

Another workshop on the topic of sustainability was the workshop from Materialise, given by the medical application specialist (Kevin), the recruitment manager (Sara) and the sustainability coordinator (Andreas). They started with a short presentation of Materialise and their production of 3D-printers that are used for medical purposes. Afterwards we divided ourselves into small groups to discuss some business cases about diversity and sustainability. First off, we talked about a topic which HR-employees often face. It concerned the trade-off between quality or profit and diversity during the hiring process. Then, every group was assigned to a certain business department of Materialise. The goal was to develop a sustainable business plan, taking into account the wellbeing of the employees and the environment, without risking bankruptcy. At the end, every department presented its plan and an overall discussion between all departments was initiated.

