

Leading Change for a Sustainable ICT Industry



A unique distance course for industry professionals

7.5 Credit Advanced Certificate

Cooperation between:





This ten month university course, offered in partnership between Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH) and The Natural Step, draws upon 20 years of experience in research, learning and application in the field of strategic sustainable development.

Invitation

We invite you to participate in a unique distance learning course created specifically for leading professionals in the information and communication technology (ICT) industry. This course is based on proven approaches for accelerating progress towards sustainability and is designed to impart the most relevant knowledge, skills and hands-on experience needed to help your organization and industry thrive now and in the future.

Sustainability in the ICT industry

The ICT industry supports the fulfillment of many human needs and activities and has a key role to play in the sustainable development of our society. To realize the opportunities and reduce risks we must first understand sustainability, our global challenges and have the competence to drive the process of sustainable innovation.

Leading change across the industry

The Leading Change for a Sustainable ICT Industry (LCSICT) course seeks to bring together and develop the capacity of individuals and organizations committed to sustainable innovation within the ICT industry. We are seeking participants to join a growing industry network with a shared understanding of sustainability, commitment to the creation of sustainable value chains and recognition that industry transformation will create competitive advantages within a rapidly changing market.

Course Participants

To ensure a quality learning environment the course is limited to a maximum of 30 participants, who are typically in or entering leadership roles or positions with the mandate to drive change. Past participants include:

- Business executives and function leaders
- Product and technology specialists
- Environment / Sustainability / CSR managers
- Marketing and commercial managers
- Internal company champions

We encourage participants to undertake this course together with trusted customers and suppliers committed to sustainable business practice.

Flexible Delivery for Busy Professionals

This course is delivered over a ten (10) month period using a 'blended learning' approach that makes effective use of your time while ensuring a great learning experience. It provides:

- Flexibility, convenience and reduced overall participation costs through distance learning
- Access to subject matter experts via webinars and online resources
- An online learning management system for course materials and document sharing
- Self-directed learning at your own pace using high quality e-learning resources
- Face-to-face workshops to meet advisors, collaborate with peers and network

"The Leading Change course was a unique experience for both education and networking, allowing many companies to share a common understanding of sustainability, and to envision opportunities to work together towards sustainable value chains."

// Muriel Hebrard

Senior Research Scientist

Rohm and Haas Company



“The Leading Change course provided me with absolute clarity on the subject of sustainability. It facilitated the opportunity for people from many diverse backgrounds to come together and focus on real achievable goals that are common to all. The collaboration between The Natural Step and BTH was superb and the resulting course thoroughly enjoyable. The lessons learnt from this course will prove invaluable for both mine and my company’s future.”

*//Paul Nelms,
Business Excellence Systems Manager,
Telford Extrusions, UK.*

Professional development with hands on application...

Benefits to participants include:

- Increase your competence and confidence in understanding and applying sustainable development
- Build capacity to lead change in your organization and industry
- Learn by doing with hands on application of course content
- Join a growing network leading change across the industry
- Learn about cutting edge sustainable innovation research
- Access advice from a network of sustainability advisors

...And business benefits

Benefits to employers include:

- Employees with market-leading knowledge and skills in sustainable development
- Up to date analysis of your organization’s key sustainability challenges and opportunities
- Access to the latest sustainability knowledge resources and to leading experts in the field
- Cultivation of key relationships and opportunity to shape industry sustainability initiatives
- Being seen as a proactive leader in your industry

While designed to ensure a solid understanding of the necessary core concepts, this course is geared towards hands-on application and learning by doing, to support participating organizations in capitalizing on the sustainability-driven market.

Learning Objectives

As key outcomes of this course, you will be able to take a leadership role in applying strategic sustainable development in your organization and industry.

More specifically, upon completion of this course you will be able to:

1. Gain a clear understanding of sustainability based on sound science and systems thinking.
2. Understand, communicate and apply the major components of planning in complex systems using a Framework for Strategic Sustainable Development (commonly referred to as the Natural Step (TNS) Framework).
3. Identify the business case for sustainability, with specific reference to the ICT industry.
4. Outline the key sustainability challenges and opportunities of the ICT industry.
5. Make effective use of various sustainability tools and concepts using a Framework for Strategic Sustainable Development.
6. Facilitate a process to apply a Framework for Strategic Sustainable Development in your own organization.
7. Draw on leadership and organizational change strategies for overcoming barriers to sustainability integration in organizations.
8. Incorporate the knowledge gained into a sound, practical business case to take home to your organization.

“The Leading Change course was a revelation to me. To discover that so many other people are moving towards a sustainable future in a coordinated and mutually supporting manner was just the boost I needed to start making my own actions and those of my company count.”

//Dr. Paul Ross-Gardner

Technical Manager

Synthomer, UK.



Timeline and Time Commitments

The course can commence when sufficient participants are confirmed. The course schedule will be determined to best suit the participants needs. A typical timeline is shown to the left.

Scheduled Time - Course participants must allow for 8-10 scheduled days over a 10-month period during the work week:

- 1-2 hour e-learning course module
- Approx. 10 online webinars of 2-3 hours, held bi-weekly at set times.
- 3 x 2 day workshops (including a final graduation ceremony), held within Europe (locations TBC).

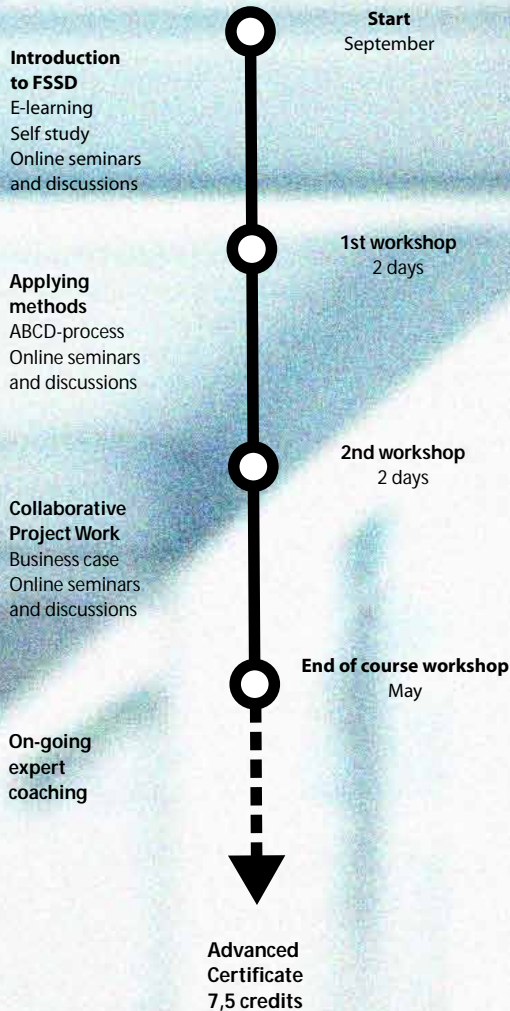
Project Time - To enhance the direct organizational benefit of 'learning by doing', project work is linked directly to business initiatives within participating organizations. The project scope can vary and participants should allow for additional time to complete the project within their work schedule.

Study and Preparation Time - The course also requires self-study and preparation for webinars and travel to workshops.

Requirements for Distance Learning

To participate in this course you need:

- a broadband internet connection and browser
- current computer hardware and operating system
- headset for online webinars
- webcams are optional; their use may be limited.



FSSD = Framework for Strategic Sustainable Development
Also known as The Natural Step Framework

Course Facilitators

The course is taught and facilitated by an experienced team with competence in adult education, applied research and business application of sustainable development. It includes:

A core instructional team - consisting of leading experts in strategic sustainability research and practice and guest lecturers from industry, selected to match the needs of course participants.

A team of project advisors - drawn from a network of experienced educators and sustainability advisors from The Natural Step and Blekinge Institute of Technology and matched to participants based on project topics and advisor expertise.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must hold, or be in the process of attaining, a leadership position within the ICT industry and must hold a bachelor's degree. Applicants must submit a one-page statement of interest explaining why you want to attend the course.

Advanced Certificate

This course is a recognized 7.5 credit point subject in the European Union academic credit system (ECTS).

Course Fee

€uro 4 800 / participant, plus VAT. Discounts for multiple participants from one organization may be negotiated.

Course literature is included in the price.

"Any business or organization that is serious about sustainability must engage with its supply chain; only by working together can we create real change and demonstrate the real value that our products bring to society."

*// Dr Jason Leadbitter, Sustainability Manager,
INEOS ChlorVinyls*





Organizations interested in joining our list of sponsors for this, and similar tailored professional courses are most welcome to contact the programme partners.

Programme Partners

A cooperation between:

Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH) Sweden

One of Sweden's most distinctly profiled universities with a Knowledge Area in Sustainable Innovation and Applied IT. BTH has pioneered the integration of sustainability into its research, master's and undergraduate education programmes for many years and leverages its IT capabilities in distance education.

For more information about Blekinge Institute of Technology, please visit www.bth.se or contact Tamara Connell at tamara.connell@bth.se

The Natural Step International

An international not-for-profit organization dedicated to education, advisory work and research in sustainable development. Since 1989, The Natural Step has helped thousands of corporations, municipalities, academic institutions and not-for-profit organisations take strategic steps toward sustainability. The Natural Step has offices in 11 countries with its international headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden.

For more information about the Natural Step, please visit: www.thenaturalstep.org or contact us at info@thenaturalstep.org

Course Enquiries

Course admission enquiries may be directed to:

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