

## MSc. in sustainable forest-based bioeconomy (BioEcoN): International Summer Schools in Spain and Vietnam

Erasmus+ Project 586183-EPP-1-2017-1-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP, October 2017 – 2020

### EUROPEAN-VIETNAMESE HIGHER EDUCATION NETWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST- AND BIO-ECONOMY

#### Dates and Venues:

1. 16. – 27. September 2019 at Vietnam National University of Forestry, Hanoi, Vietnam
2. 03. – 17. February 2020 at University of Valladolid, Palencia, Spain
3. 16. – 27. March 2020 at Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry, Thai Nguyen, Vietnam

\*although the name of the intensive learning period is summer school – they are not necessarily implemented during summer!

#### The BioEcoN Project:

The project is part of the Erasmus+ capacity-building program. The objective is to design a new study curriculum promoting ecological and economical sustainability in the bio-economy sector at the interface of academic concepts, required skills and professional expertise. The consortium consists of teachers from six universities in Europe and Vietnam:

No	Organisation	Short	Country	Type
1	Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development (Coordinator)	HNEE	Germany	University
2	University of Valladolid	UVa	Spain	University
3	South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences Ltd.	XAMK	Finland	University
4	VNU University of Science	VNU-HUS	Vietnam	University
5	Thai Nguyen University of Agriculture and Forestry	TUAF	Vietnam	University
6	Vietnam National University of Forestry	VNUF	Vietnam	University

**Topics:** Courses cover a broad spectrum of multidisciplinary, technology-oriented topics in sustainable forest resource management including governance frameworks, innovative processes and products, and economics and markets. They mirror a contemporary paradigm shift from forest management focused solely on timber production to alternative uses and multifunctional management. In addition to practical skills, students learn to reconcile the social demands of wood and bioenergy with other regulatory and cultural ecosystem services such as climate and water regulation, nutrition and health, landscape aesthetics and natural heritage, and recreation.

**Content:** The BioEcoN Summer Schools equip students with knowledge and skills required to help mold and navigate in the rapidly developing field of sustainable forest-based bioeconomy, particularly in SE Asia and Europe. They provide a platform to discuss this topic in a highly interdisciplinary and inspiring atmosphere among many international scholars and lecturers. Participants receive instruction on four module topics over two weeks, learning new methods, tools and technologies from various disciplines. Two field trips are foreseen for each summer school, including practical training at a local forest site (marteloscope) and a cultural excursion (National Park, etc.).

**Benefits for Participants:**

Each summer school provides an opportunity to:

1. gain knowledge in the field of sustainable forest-based bioeconomy
2. participate in the BioEcoN project as evaluators of new course material
3. study in an international setting with peers from across Europe and Vietnam
4. receive subsidized travel and living costs for up to 2 weeks of study

**Modes of Delivery:** The M.Sc. Summer School will be highly interactive.

Students may complete the summer school as a facultative module and receive a certificate of participation, or as an elective module for 6 ECTS (with grading based on a final essay or project work).

**Selection of Modules:** The BioEcoN curriculum includes 18 courses or modules (see <http://bioecon.eu/>). Each summer school participant is assigned 4 module topics based on their stated preferences and date of application (space is limited). Modules offered during each week of summer school will be announced in June 2019.

**Language:** All courses will be taught in English language.

**Application / Enrollment Process:**

Students are chosen based on total amount of ECTS credit points and average grade, and a letter of motivation demonstrating English language proficiency. Preference will be given to students registering to receive elective credits. Students not initially selected may still be considered for subsequent summer schools. Efforts will be made to accept an equal number of qualifying male and female students.

**The deadline to apply for the 1<sup>st</sup> summer school in Hanoi, Vietnam is 31. Mai 2019!**

### The following application documents are mandatory

1. letter of motivation including your affiliation, your interest in this topic, and statement of intent to take as either an elective or facultative module (max. 350 words)
2. scan of your valid university ID
3. short academic transcript from MSc. program (copy from EMMA is sufficient)
4. scan of your Passport or other int. travel document equivalent to Schengen Visa
5. scan of your int. or national health insurance document

**Schedule:** Will be announced prior to each summer school. The schedule for the 1<sup>st</sup> summer school will be announced in June 2019.

**Target Group:** Advanced M.Sc. Students from Forest Management, Economics, or related disciplines who are active or interested in the field of sustainable forest-based bioeconomy; and who are passionate about furthering interdisciplinary discourse on an international level.

**Participation:** Summer Schools are highly interactive and require attendance and active participation.

**Enrollment limits:** The number of participants is limited among all partner universities to a max. of 7 MSc. students per institute and summer school, or total 21 MSc. students from HNEE. A student may participate in only one summer school.

**Attendance fee:** An attendance fee will be collected which covers the cost of services provided (specific services and cost depends on location of summer school). The attendance fee is subsidized by a special ERASMUS+ Summer School budget within the Erasmus+ program. Eligible travel costs and a stipend for costs of stay are covered by an Erasmus+ grant supporting the BioEcoN project. The daily stipend should suffice to cover the attendance fee and all additional costs, except for exceptional circumstances.

For the first summer school in Hanoi, Vietnam, an attendance fee of €490 covers the cost of transportation to/from the Hanoi airport, 14 days accommodation, breakfasts and lunches, two field trips (including practical training at a local forest site and a visit to Ba Vi National Park) and learning materials. The attendance fee also helps support participation of local students in Vietnam. Participants are eligible for reimbursement of up to €1.100,00 in travel costs and €770 cost of stay from the BioEcoN project budget.

**Accommodation:** Arrangements for accommodation will be announced prior to each summer school. Student housing is provided for the first summer school in Hanoi, Vietnam.

**For more information:** Contact Dr. Kevin Beiler at [Kevin.Beiler@hnee.de](mailto:Kevin.Beiler@hnee.de) and visit <http://bioecon.eu/>