Specialized Master in Microfinance

Programme objectives

The European Microfinance Programme (EMP) was launched in 2005 in response to a growing demand for training in development activities, particularly in microfinance. Currently, the EMP is jointly organised by three European universities (Université Libre de Bruxelles, Université de Mons and Université de Paris-Dauphine) and four non-governmental organizations ADA, BRS, CERISE and SOS Faim.

The purpose of the programme is to train microfinance professionals from both the North and the South and contribute to the strengthening of microfinance institutions worldwide in accordance with the highest international standards.

The EMP offers a multidisciplinary approach on development issues in the microfinance sector. The programme combines solid theoretical foundations, practical knowledge, and on-field internship.

Programme's added value

The microfinance sector is developing at a rapid pace creating a growing demand for experienced professionals within microfinance and credit institutions, banks and development investment funds in Europe and abroad.

The European Microfinance Programme is the first microfinance education program with a European scope and perspective. It offers the combined expertise of academics and experts working in the field.

Professors from three European universities in Belgium (ULB-UMONS) and France (Université Paris Dauphine) provide a solid theoretical foundation. Practitioners from the four non-governmental partner organizations ADA, BRS, CERISE and SOS Faim give insights into the latest techniques used by international microfinance institutions.

The EMP is a particularly international Master. It gathers students from 20 to 30 different countries. Around 50% of them come from Southern countries. The programme provides the students with a broad overview of the field of microfinance followed by a compulsory internship in a microfinance institution in a developing country. EMP graduates are well-trained multidisciplinary professionals, ready to innovatively address the challenges that the sector is facing today.

International/Openness

Universities:

- Université libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
- Université de Mons, Belgium
- Université Paris-Dauphine, France

Partner NGOs:

- ADA, Luxemburg
- BRS, Belgium
- CERISE, France
Job opportunities

Career prospects for graduates of the European Microfinance Programme:

- NGOs working in Microfinance
- International id organisations
- MFI rating agencies
- Investment funds
- Scientific research

Contacts

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Jury President
Ariane SZAFARZ

Jury Secretary
Marek HUDON
Specialized Master in Microfinance

The European Microfinance Programme lasts one year (60 credits) and is spread over 3 periods:

1st period (September-January): Introductory studies
2nd period (February-April): Specialisation
3rd period (May-August): Internship and Master thesis

Unique year | MS-FINA

Core course

ENVI-Y001  Introduction to rural development | Patrick Reichert (Coordinator) and Simon CORNEE
5 credits [lecture: 24h] | first term | English
(U Mons)

GEST-S6001  Management of microfinance institutions | Marc LABIE (Coordinator), CORNELIS HERMES and Roy MERSLAND
5 credits [lecture: 48h] | first term | English

GEST-S6002  Banking and microfinance | Annabel VANROOSE (Coordinator) and Laurent WEILL
5 credits [lecture: 24h, tutorial classes: 12h] | first term | English

GEST-S6003  Topics in financial management for microfinance institutions | Mathias SCHMIT (Coordinator)
5 credits [lecture: 48h, seminars: 12h] | academic year | English

GEST-S6004  Commercialization of Microfinance | Marek HUDON (Coordinator)
5 credits [lecture: 24h] | second term | English
(U Mons)

GEST-S6005  Assessment of Microfinance | Kurt MOORS (Coordinator) and Cécile LAPENU
5 credits [lecture: 24h] | second term | English

GEST-Y002  Digital Finance | Baptiste VENET
5 credits [lecture: 24h] | second term | English
(Paris-Dauphine)

GEST-Y6003  Financial inclusion | Baptiste VENET
5 credits [lecture: 24h] | first term | English
(Paris-Dauphine)

MEMO-S601  Master thesis | Carolina Laureti (Coordinator)
15 credits [mfe/tfe: 360h] | first and second terms | English

STAG-S601  Internship | Carolina Laureti (Coordinator)
5 credits [work placement: 216h] | second term | English