

International Sustainable Development

ECTS CREDITS: 30



Sustainable projects in the Global South

Minor ISD

International Sustainable Development is an elective course for Dutch students. The course is open for Windesheim students as well as students from other Universities of Applied Sciences in the Netherlands and abroad. The minor ISD offers students the opportunity to stay abroad for almost four months. Students participate in projects owned and managed by local stakeholders.

Principles of the minor

There are three main principles:

- **Sustainability**

The projects that our student participate in should always be aimed at sustainability. We send students for a period of four months. After this period a new group of students will take the place of the former group and stay for four months and so on. Although our students make an important contribution and we strive for continuity, it is our vision that the projects must also be able to run independently to be really sustainable. The activities of our student

are always additional to local facilities and are related to the Sustainable Development Goals.

- **Multidisciplinary**

Students from different faculties and departments will work together in a project team. This results in a mix of students from all different educational backgrounds, such as Nursing, Education, Social Work, Sports, Business, Media, Law, ICT, Engineering and Technics. The mix of students varies every year and depends on which students sign up. We believe that a combination of students from different departments can contribute most to the local projects.

- **Knowledge and skills exchange**

Our students transfer knowledge to the projects and no money. Students have to pay for travelling and living costs themselves. They do not transfer or invest money in any local projects and are not involved in fundraising. The aim of the program is that students share their knowledge with local professionals. The exchange in learning is beneficial for both parties.

Supervision students

The minor ISD runs twice a year; Spring semester (February - June) and Autumn semester (September – January). Both periods start with a three week preparation at Windesheim in Zwolle, The Netherlands. During this week the students are preparing for the assignments by writing a project proposition. In addition to this the students attend classes about poverty, global sustainable goals, conflict management, leadership and cultural sensitivity. After these three weeks the students take off for their projects. During their four months stay, a coordinator from Windesheim visits the students and the stakeholders. Each country has a specific coordinator. The coordinator is also responsible for the focus on sustainability in each project.

Windesheim University of Applied Sciences

Windesheim UAS is one of the Netherlands' top-3 universities of applied sciences, known for its personal approach and for working closely with the business community and public institutes. With well over twenty-five thousand full-time and part-time students and more than two thousand staff at departments in Zwolle and Almere, Windesheim is one of the largest universities of applied sciences in the Netherlands.

Courses

We are a broad-based institute that offers a wide range of accredited Bachelor's and Master's degree courses in the field of Education, Nursing, Social Work, Sports, Media, Business, Media, Law, ICT, Engineering and Technics. Students in these courses have the opportunity to join the minor International Sustainable Development.

Contact and information

If you would like more information you can contact the coordinator of the ISD programme: mr. Peter Smid: P.Smid@windesheim.nl or cell: +31 (0)6 460 18 168.

An overview of the projects can be found on the website www.minorisd.nl. You can also visit our university website at www.windesheim.com