

Hybrid Seminar: Developing real-world experiments to foster sustainability transformations in cities – exploration, analysis and design

The United Nations 2030 Agenda with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 sub-goals forms the framework for realizing a future-proof and sustainable society. As goals that have been set by the global community for all countries, it will be key to make them usable and tangible on national, regional and local level. At the same time, it becomes more and more apparent that research, which is disconnected from the “real world” will not suffice to contribute to solving the sustainability challenges of today and tomorrow - which again emphasizes the role of understanding and acting on a local scale, as well as transdisciplinary and transformative research approaches.

This course explores how we can use the SDGs as a tool for analyzing developments in our own city: Where does the relevance of certain SDGs become particularly tangible? Where can the SDGs be used to observe developments towards sustainability, where can grievances be revealed? Where and in what way can each and every individual take action to implement the SDGs? These insights will be the basis for designing starting points for concrete real-world experiments to explore and test out solution pathways for specific challenges in the context of the SDGs. It is planned that the experiment designs will feed into the concrete real-world laboratories currently run by researchers of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) and researchers at other Eucor institutions.

The course is embedded into the Real-world lab-Festival taking place from July 2nd to 6th, 2024 at and around TRIANGEL space (Kronenplatz, Karlsruhe, Germany). The course insights and real-world experiments will be officially presented at the end of this week on Saturday. Please find a detailed course description [here](#).

The most important information at a glance

Period	July 2 nd to 6 th , 2024 (with an online kick-off on June 12 th)
Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hybrid block course with Karlsruhe as “hub” for on-site teaching - Course language is English - Practice-oriented collaboration in interdisciplinary teams
Location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On site: TRIANGEL Transfer Kultur Raum (Kaiserstraße 93, 76133 Karlsruhe) - Online participation is possible, and a link will be provided. We strongly encourage participants from Eucor partner universities to take part in the course in order to form international teams
ECTS	3 + 2 ECTS depending on deliverables chosen
Target group	Interested Eucor-students at all levels of study

Registration	Registration is possible until June 12th (day of online kick-off). (Please contact us for a possibility to join after this deadline.) KIT students may register through the Campus Management System; students from other Eucor institution please register by e-mail to annika.weiser@kit.edu.
Performance record and ECTS	<p><u>Deliverables (3 ECTS):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of group work results on SDGs in Karlsruhe and • design of a real-world experiment at closing event of the real-world lab week <p><u>Deliverables (5 ECTS)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 ECTS (group work) • plus written coursework / report (10 – 12 pages per person) presenting the research process and results on the SDGs exploration and analysis as well as the real-world experiment design and guidebook for potential experimenters, critical reflection of the results (individual or group work)
Learning objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to the SDGs approach and critical analysis of the United Nations 2030 Agenda. 2. Reflection on the significance of this approach the students' own (local) reality. 3. Linking reflection on approaches to promoting sustainable development with concrete options for real-world experimentation on the ground. 4. Creating an awareness of the cross-border consequences of local decisions.
Further	The course is building up on the experiences made in the seminar "Sustainable Eucor cities" that took place in Basel in February 2024 as a kick-off to the format. Students from all five Eucor universities are explicitly invited to participate.