

Sustainability Assessments for a Circular Economy

3rd Interdisciplinary PhD expert course for young researchers

Antwerp & Amsterdam

September
4-8, 2023



University of Antwerp and VU Amsterdam with support from KU Leuven, UGent, UHasselt and VITO are jointly organizing the interdisciplinary PHD expert course on the state of the art on Circular Economy assessment tools: environmental valuation, material flow analysis, Techno-Economic Assessment (TEA), Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), and Integrated Assessments (IA).

Background

During the last decade, the Circular Economy (CE) has gained attention from policymaker (e.g. the first Circular Economy Action Plan in 2015 of the European Commission) and our society as a whole. In recent years, the scientific literature corpus has grown exponentially and topics range from industrial ecology, ecological economics to conceptual research and business models.

To assess progress towards a Circular Economy and to study the complex interaction between Circularity and Sustainability, a strong need for methods that assess the economic, environmental and societal effects of the CE actions taken on industrial and policy levels.

To meet this demand, we organize a PhD expert course on five different, state-of-the-art assessment tools which have a multitude of useful applications in different disciplines (material flow analysis (MFA), techno-economic assessment (TEA), life cycle assessment (LCA), environmental valuation and integrated assessment (IA)). However, interchange between these different disciplines is currently limited. Furthermore, as the actual actions for the Circular Economy are taken at industry and policy level, integration of the different work fields is required.

Format

A five-day event with support of EAERE consisting of method lectures, keynote speakers bridging methods to work field applications, paper presentation sessions with discussants from the pool of participants and senior researchers, and workshop sessions developing new research proposals for the participants to execute at their home institution upon completion of the summer school.

Target Audience

PhD students or first-year postdocs working on TEA, LCA, or integrated analyses with regard to any topic of the low-carbon are invited to participate to the course by submitting an extended abstract. The number of students is limited to 20-25. Selection will be based on submitted abstracts.

Venue

University of Antwerp, City Campus (day 1, day 2, day 3)
VU Amsterdam, Institute for Environmental Studies (IVM) (day 3, day 4, day 5)



Important dates and remarks

- Submission deadline for extended abstract and CV submission: June 16, 2023
- Submission deadline for full paper: August 25, 2023

Participation is free and includes lunches, a welcome reception, and a social dinner! Further details on the application, the venue and accommodation will be communicated to the selected participants. They are free (and encouraged) to use the developed research proposal in their future career.

More info : www.uantwerpen.be/environmental-economics