

PRiME

*an initiative of the
United Nations Global Compact*

Sharing Information on Progress 2026

ESSEC Business School

September 2026

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About the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME)

The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) is a United Nations-supported initiative founded in 2007 that aims to raise the profile of sustainability in their classrooms through Seven Principles focused on serving society and safeguarding our planet.

PRME engages business and management schools to ensure they provide future leaders with the skills needed to balance economic and sustainability goals, while drawing attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and aligning academic institutions with the work of the UN Global Compact. Driven by its mission to transform management education, PRME equips today's business students with the understanding and ability to deliver change tomorrow. As a voluntary initiative with over 800 signatories worldwide, PRME has become the largest organized relationship between the United Nations and management-related higher education institutions.



“*The PRME initiative was launched to nurture responsible leaders of the future. Never has this task been more important. Bold leadership and innovative thinking are needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).*

Antonio Guterres

Secretary-General (2017 - Present)

United Nations

”

Principles of PRME



Purpose

We advance responsible management education to foster inclusive prosperity in a world of thriving ecosystems.



Values

We place organizational responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the core of what we do.



Teach

We transform our learning environments by integrating responsible management concepts and practices into our curriculum and pedagogy.



Research

We study people, organizations, institutions, and the state of the world to inspire responsible management and education practice.



Partner

We engage people from business, government, civil society, and academia to advance responsible and accountable management education and practice.



Practice

We adopt responsible and accountable management principles in our own governance and operations.



Share

We share our successes and failures with each other to enable our collective learning and best live our common values and purpose.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In September 2015, all 193 Member States of the United Nations adopted a plan for achieving a better future for all – laying out a path over the next 15 years to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect our planet. At the heart of Agenda 2030 are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 related targets that address the most important economic, social, environmental and governance challenges of our time. The SDGs clearly define the world we want – applying to all nations and leaving no one behind. Successful implementation of the SDGs will require all players to champion this agenda; the role of higher education is critical to this.





Getting Started

This section provides foundational information about ESSEC Business School, including key details and basic institutional data.

Mission

Our mission

Founded in 1907 in Paris, ESSEC Business School is an institution of higher education guided by the pursuit of academic excellence in teaching and research. Its distinctiveness stems from the pioneering spirit of the members of its community and its core values – humanism, responsibility, innovation and openness - that shape its scientific ambitions and pedagogical approach.

The mission of ESSEC Business School, a world school with French roots, is to infuse leadership with meaning in order to prepare leaders ready to address contemporary economic, environmental and social challenges. In order to do so, it produces innovative and relevant knowledge to equip the next generation of leaders with the skills, know-how and *savoir-être* that will make them truly responsible, inclusive and respectful of the environment. Convinced that knowledge provides a path to freedom - *Per scientiam ad libertatem* - ESSEC inculcates in its students critical thinking and creativity skills that prepare them to anticipate and address the challenges of an increasingly uncertain world. ESSEC supports students in making their actions both meaningful and impactful by relying on both technology and people. It also seeks to enlighten the actions of businesses and organizations in a world transformed by the new industrial revolution, the environmental crisis, a new world balance and other major societal changes.

By emphasizing individualization when designing its programs, ESSEC prioritizes the cultivation of personal responsibility and an entrepreneurial spirit amongst its diverse community members, and offers them a unique experience that will guide them throughout their lives.

Vision

Manifeste sur la mission de l'ESSEC : donner du sens au leadership de demain

DEPUIS 1907, L'ESSEC S'EST CONSTRUITE SUR UNE CERTAINE IDÉE DU SAVOIR :
UN SAVOIR QUI S'ACQUIERT – C'EST NOTRE TRADITION D'EXCELLENCE ;
UN SAVOIR QUI ENGAGE – CE SONT NOS RACINES FRANÇAISES ET HUMANISTES ;
UN SAVOIR QUI ÉMANCIPE – C'EST NOTRE DEVISE :
« PER SCIENTIAM AD LIBERTATEM – PAR LE SAVOIR, VERS LA LIBERTÉ ».

Depuis ses débuts, notre école porte haut ses valeurs et propose un modèle de savoir qui lui a toujours permis de comprendre son époque et d'avoir un impact positif sur la manière de répondre aux grandes questions qui agitent les entreprises, les organisations et la société.

Aujourd'hui, alors que nous traversons des transformations économiques, environnementales,

sociales et politiques inédites ; alors que nous faisons face à des mutations qui n'ont jamais été aussi rapides, aussi profondes et aussi globales, nous sommes convaincus que notre école-monde aux racines françaises doit plus que jamais assumer sa mission de donner du sens au leadership de demain.

Enlighten, éclairer, c'est mettre l'Education et la Recherche scientifique au service d'une meilleure compréhension du monde et des enjeux auxquels il est confronté, avec une approche résolument multiculturelle et pluridisciplinaire.

Lead, impulser, c'est initier et guider toutes les transformations – technologiques, industrielles, managériales ou sociétales – pour leur donner plus de sens et construire un développement durable et inclusif.

Change, transformer, c'est être un acteur du changement, en oeuvrant à ce que les entreprises puissent créer de la valeur et s'engager pour le bien commun.

Avec humilité et conviction. Jamais seuls, de manière collective et inclusive. En ayant toujours à l'esprit la complexité du réel et l'imprévisibilité du futur. Et en veillant toujours à donner plus de sens et plus de liberté dans les parcours individuels, en transmettant un savoir-être fondé sur l'ouverture, pour que chacun puisse construire son chemin dans le respect de celui des autres. Les défis sont immenses. D'autres façons de penser le travail, le management et l'innovation vont devoir s'inventer – rendant plus indispensables que jamais les démarches entrepreneuriales et intrapreneuriales. D'autres pratiques et de nouveaux savoir-faire liés à l'économie digitale et l'intelligence artificielle vont émerger.

Il nous faut accompagner l'avènement de nouvelles formes de leadership au service d'une création de valeur plus responsable. Des nouvelles formes plus respectueuses de l'environnement, plus attentives à leur impact sur la société, et plus ancrées dans les territoires.

Fidèle à sa tradition d'esprit pionnier,
l'ESSEC est prête à prendre toute
sa part dans le monde
qui vient.

Strategy

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Strategy Alignment

Trascend strategy - Sustainability

"It is exciting to envision ESSEC over the next four years. With Transcend, we reaffirm the importance of investing in our core strengths: the quality of our programs and the excellence of our research. We must also project ESSEC and our students into the future. This involves a strengthened transdisciplinary approach, focusing on sustainability and social change, artificial intelligence, entrepreneurship, and geopolitics. Our ambition is also to expand our global influence, establishing a presence and impact across all continents. Our goal: to build a desirable future for all."

Anne-Claire Pache, Associate Dean, Strategy and Sustainability

Graduates & Enrollment

2025 Statistics	Number
Graduates	2371

Degrees Offered

Bachelor Programs

 Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.)

Masters Programs

 Master of Science (M.Sc. or M.S.)  Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.)



Values

We place organizational responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the core of what we do.



Who Champions Responsible Management Education at Our Institution

- ❖ Centralized sustainability office
- ❖ Research or issue group, society, or club leading sustainability efforts
- ❖ Senior leadership office
- ❖ Student contributor
- ❖ Individual leader
- ❖ Disciplinary efforts within business school
- ❖ Interdisciplinary efforts across business school



Teach

We transform our learning environments by integrating responsible management concepts and practices into our curriculum and pedagogy.



Teaching Voices

The following statement demonstrates ways in which educators at ESSEC Business School support sustainability and responsible management in their classrooms.

2 programmes 100% dédiés à la transition écologique et sociale : le Bachelor ACT et le MSc Sustainability

L'Ecole a deux programmes dédiés aux enjeux de la transition écologique et sociale

<https://bacheloract.fr/>

<https://www.essec.edu/en/program/msc-sustainability-transformation/>

L'Ecole propose également des spécialisations dédiées au sujet au sein de programmes généralistes

https://www.essec.edu/en/list-page/research-and-teaching-chairs/?type_de_secteur=sustainability-and-impact



Research

We study people, organizations, institutions, and the state of the world to inspire responsible management and education practice.

Research vs Research for RME/Sustainable Development

176 Peer-reviewed articles were published by ESSEC Business School from this past calendar year.

vs

123 Peer-reviewed articles were published by ESSEC Business School from this past calendar year in support of RME.

Research Funding

In 2025, ESSEC Business School was awarded funding for research that is:



Local



Regional



National



International

Socializing Research

In 2025, ESSEC Business School contributed research findings to:

- ❖ Social media and digital outreach
- ❖ Research collaborations
- ❖ Public events and lectures
- ❖ Local media
- ❖ National media
- ❖ International media
- ❖ Industry and business networks
- ❖ Community organizations
- ❖ Government and policy makers

Research Awards

In 2025, ESSEC Business School was awarded 1 research award for responsibility- and/or sustainability-related research.

2026 Humanities and Social Sciences Chair

Granter: Région Ile de France

Grantee: Professor Lutz Sager

Award Description:

We are thrilled to announce that Assistant Professor Lutz Sager has been officially awarded the prestigious 2026 Humanities and Social Sciences Chair (Chaire SHS 2026) by the Région Île-de-France ! His groundbreaking project, PED-PARIS, focuses on a critical contemporary challenge: evaluating the real economic and social impacts of pedestrianization policies in Paris. 📍 Supported by a €149,000 grant over 6 years, this innovative research will leverage high-resolution geospatial data to assess three vital dimensions: - Residential Value 🏠: Measuring how much households value calmer, greener urban areas. - Public Health 🏥: Quantifying health benefits from reduced air pollution and urban heat islands. - Human Capital 🎓: Analyzing the cognitive and academic impacts of the "rues aux écoles" (school streets) on students. A massive thank you to our strategic partners at CY Cergy Paris Université CY Projets et Partenariats de Recherche for their steadfast support during the application process. At the ESSEC Business School Grant Office, we are incredibly proud to support research that delivers direct, data-driven insights for public policy and improves the quality of life for citizens ! Action financée par la Région Île-de-France.

Research Voices

The following statement demonstrates a way in which researchers at ESSEC Business School bring sustainability and responsible management into their research.

Center for Social and Sustainable Innovation

The CISE (Center for Social and Sustainable Innovation) aims to develop concrete initiatives in support of the social and ecological transition.

He also leads a community of social and ecological innovators within ESSEC to facilitate their cooperation and boost their visibility.

Finally, it brings together a wider community of players in social and ecological innovation – students, alumni, professors, companies, associations, foundations, local authorities, etc. – to strengthen their ability to act and collaborate in support of the transition.

Vision

A world where social, environmental and economic logics reinforce each other to enable territories, organizations and the economy as a whole to succeed in their transformation towards an inclusive and sustainable world.

Mission

Inspire, encourage, train, connect and support individuals, students, entrepreneurs, organizations, funders and regions, to strengthen their ability to act in the service of impact and in the service of this transformation.

<https://centre-innovation-sociale-ecologique.essec.edu/index.php/about-us-our-vision-our-mission/?lang=en>



Partner

We engage people from business, government, civil society, and academia to advance responsible and accountable management education and practice.

Institutional Partnerships

- ❖ AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business)
- ❖ AMBA (Association of MBAs)
- ❖ Financial Times
- ❖ Higher Education for Sustainability Initiative (HESI)
- ❖ EFMD (European Foundation for Management Development)

Student Organization Partnerships

- ❖ None

Partnerships

The following provides more details on 1 key partnership at ESSEC Business School.

The Council on Business and Society (CoBS)

The Council on Business and Society (CoBS), visionary in its conception and mission, was founded in 2011 by ESSEC Business School. The CoBS is dedicated to promoting responsible leadership and tackling issues at the crossroads of business and society, including sustainability, diversity, ethical leadership, and the role responsible business has to play in contributing to the common good.

The CoBS firmly believes that today's challenges cannot be met by one country alone, it offers a unique global thought local perspective on issues relating to CSR, sustainability and responsible business practices.

The Council effectively contributes to the "internationalization", "ethics and social responsibility" and "corporate relations" chapters for accreditations and rankings. It has a global voice, with an annual organic digital footprint of 1.4 million and was ranked the 6th largest CSR influencer on Twitter in 2020 by the Social Media Research Foundation.

The CoBS alliance has 11 member schools – leading regional and international institutions present on 6 continents and in 15 countries. Together, they count 21 campuses, 49,000 students, and 482,000 alumni :

- ESSEC Business School, France, Singapore, Morocco
- FGV-EAESP, Brazil
- School of Management Fudan University, China
- IE Business School, Spain
- Keio Business School, Japan
- Monash Business School, Australia, Malaysia, Indonesia

- Olin Business School, USA
- Smith School of Business, Queen's University, Canada
- Stellenbosch Business School, South Africa
- Trinity Business School, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
- Warwick Business School, United Kingdom.

<https://www.council-business-society.org/>



Practice

We adopt responsible and accountable management principles in our own governance and operations.

Institutional Policies and Practices

- ❖ Accreditation body recommendation documents
- ❖ Buildings/real estate
- ❖ Campus operations guides
- ❖ Carbon reduction or offset commitments
- ❖ Climate action plan
- ❖ Curriculum guidelines
- ❖ Environmental stewardship policies
- ❖ Faculty hiring, tenure, and promotion guidelines
- ❖ Greenhouse gas emissions
- ❖ Ministry of education recommendation documents
- ❖ Open-access guides
- ❖ Professional training opportunities
- ❖ Student equity, diversity, inclusion
- ❖ Sustainability strategy or strategic plan (school or university level)
- ❖ Travel guides
- ❖ Water
- ❖ Zero-waste guides

Policy Documents Related to RME and/or Sustainability

2025_ESSEC_RAPPORT DDRS_ENG

View document  Download document 



Share

We share our successes and failures with each other to enable our collective learning and best live our common values and purpose.



Engagement Opportunities

ESSEC Business School offers transparent engagement opportunities for members of our institution and community to contribute to our sustainability and responsibility efforts in the following ways:

- ❖ Boards and advisory committees
- ❖ Annual reports
- ❖ Community events and consultation forums
- ❖ Open faculty and student meetings and town halls
- ❖ Partnerships with local organizations
- ❖ Public events and panel discussions
- ❖ Publicly accessible sustainability data and dashboards
- ❖ Student and staff volunteer programs
- ❖ Sustainability-focused research and collaboration Opportunities

Communication Audiences

ESSEC Business School communicates its policies and progress on sustainable development and responsibility with:

- ❖ Accreditation bodies
- ❖ Alumni and donors
- ❖ Boards and advisory committees
- ❖ Business and industry partners
- ❖ Chamber of commerce and local communities
- ❖ Faculty and staff
- ❖ Government and policy makers
- ❖ Media and public relations channels
- ❖ Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- ❖ Prospective and current students
- ❖ Research and academic networks

SIGNATORY

ESSEC Business School



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