

PRiME

*an initiative of the
United Nations Global Compact*



Sharing Information on Progress 2026

LUT University

September 2026

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About LUT University

LUT University's signatory membership in the United Nation's Principles for Responsible Management Education is under the organisational unit of LUT Business School. In this report, we focus on the progress, output, and development of LUT Business School.

LUT Business School is a research-oriented Finnish business school that operates in LUT's campuses in Lappeenranta and Lahti, as well as in the LUT Mikkeli regional unit. Students in our research-based degree programmes graduate as bachelors, masters and doctors of science in Economics and Business Administration.

We educate the problem solvers of the future and produce solutions that promote sustainable business. The focus of both education and research of LUT Business School is on sustainable business renewal.

We support companies and the public sector by means of scientific research that produces knowledge and solutions in addition of academic forums also for development of companies and societal decision-making.

Our strategic research area is sustainable business revolution:

- Driving sustainable growth
- Creating value in digital economy

The objective of our School's research is to form a better understanding of the factors that lead to sustainable value creation, i.e. approaches that will ensure that companies are successful in international competition and, at the same time, operate in a way that is economically, ecologically and socially sustainable.



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 LUT University, including key details and basic institutional data.

Mission

The mission of LUT Business School is to educate research-based and responsible business professionals in an inspirational learning community rooted in a university of technology. We create impactful research and business-relevant knowledge for the benefit of students, businesses, the academic community and the sustainable development of society.

Vision

The vision of LUT Business School is to drive a sustainable business revolution, powered by curious minds.

Strategy

LUT Business School's Strategy

LUT Business School looks ambitiously toward the future in alignment with LUT University's 2030 strategy, System Earth 2030 – Science with a Purpose, which focuses on tackling global challenges through excellence in technology, business, and social sciences. The strategy underscores LUT's commitment to producing science-based solutions that combine academic rigor with societal impact. It is structured around four science-based solution areas: Planetary Resources (regenerative use of natural resources), Digital Revolution (leveraging data and digitalization for societal benefit), Business and Society (building resilient business, industry, and communities), and Energy Transition (integrated clean-energy solutions for industry and society).

The strategy emphasizes achieving greater impact within the university's strategic focus areas to advance planetary well-being. Central to this ambition is collaboration across disciplines, enabling holistic approaches to complex global challenges. For LBS, this provides a powerful platform to deepen its integration within the university's scientific community and to amplify its societal relevance. By engaging closely with other disciplines, LBS strengthens its capacity to address complex sustainability challenges and to educate future leaders who can operate effectively at the intersection of technology, business, and society.

Strategy Alignment

LUT Business School's strategy alignment

Since 2015, LUT University's strategy has directed us to address issues that matter to the world and to help society and businesses in their sustainable renewal. Our research deepens understanding of sustainable value creation – how firms can succeed in international competition while operating in ecologically, socially, and economically sustainable ways. We study the role of business and

management in addressing humanity's grand challenges, with a particular emphasis on change and growth enabled by digital technologies and new forms of organizing. In alignment with the LUT strategy, LUT Business School sees itself as a student-focused business school that offers high-quality research-based education. We provide the students with up-to-date skills to tackle complex global problems and create sustainable solutions for the future. We educate research-based professionals who are curious, capable of transforming challenges into opportunities, shaping the business environment of tomorrow, and equipped with the skills to meet evolving societal and employer needs.

Graduates & Enrollment

2025 Statistics	Number
Graduates	502
Faculty & Staff at the University	1688
Faculty & Staff at the Institution	164
Student Enrollment at the University	9127
Student Enrollment at the Institution	2044
Undergraduate Attendance	776
Masters-Level Postgraduate Attendance	1160
Doctoral Student Attendance	108

Degrees Offered

Bachelor Programs

 Bachelor of Science (B.Sc. or B.S.)

Masters Programs

 Master of Science (M.Sc. or M.S.)

Doctoral Programs

 Doctor of Science (D.Sc.)

Undergraduate Degree Programmes

 BSc in Economics and Business Administration  BSc in Sustainable International Business
 BSc in Digital Business

Masters Degree Programmes

 Master's Programme in Accounting (LAMO)  Master's Programme in Business Analytics (MBAN)
 Master's Programme in Knowledge Management and Leadership (TIJO)
 Master's Programme in Strategic Sales (SMYM)
 Master's Programme in International Marketing Management (MIMM)
 Master's Programme in International Business and Entrepreneurship (MIBE)
 Master's Programme in Supply Management (MSM)
 Master's Programme in Strategic Finance and Analytics (MSF)

Postgraduate Degree Programmes

 Doctoral Programme in Business and Management

Certificates, Professional Development, or Associate Programmes



LUT Executive MBA



Purpose

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

Letter of Commitment



24.9.2026

Letter from the Dean

With this sixth Sharing information on Progress (SIP) report, we renew our longstanding commitment to the Principles for Responsible Management Education. Sustainability is a cross-cutting theme embedded throughout the educational portfolio offered by LBS. Following years of dedicated development efforts, all degree programmes, from bachelor's to doctoral level, now include mandatory content related to responsibility and sustainability, and we systematically monitor the development of our students' responsible business competencies. At present, the targets of sustainability-related programme level learning objectives are met in eight out of nine LBS degree programmes. The increasing proportion of responsibility- and sustainability-related master's theses suggests that our students are becoming increasingly interested in these themes and better equipped to address them.

Responsibility and sustainability remain central in our research, too. Over the past five years, LBS has significantly expanded its portfolio of impactful research projects focused on sustainability. During 2025 approximately 40% of our publications address at least one SDG. Of the 47 doctoral dissertations defended between 2021 and 2025, 36% addressed ethics, responsibility, or sustainability-related topics, increasing to 43% in 2025 alone. A notable sustainability-related research achievement is the EU-funded doctoral programme Driving Climate Positive Futures (DREAM+PLAN), which was launched in 2025. With total funding of approximately €600,000, this initiative is likely the first and largest European programme dedicated to advancing regenerative business and society. Its aim is to explore resilient, restorative, and regenerative transitions and societal models. LBS is the lead partner in the project, hosting five doctoral students.

LUT University demonstrates its commitment to climate action through both its operations and research. According to the latest Times Higher Education (THE) Sustainability Impact Rating LUT ranks 9th globally for climate action (SDG 13) and 31st for responsible consumption and production (SDG 12). The University has committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050 under the Race to Zero for Universities initiative and implements a Climate Action Plan to reduce emissions. In 2026, together with Clare Hall, University of Cambridge, LUT established the €200,000 biennial Global Climate Research Prize to recognise pioneering interdisciplinary research that provides science-based solutions to global climate challenges. The newly launched LUT University's strategy System Earth 2030 – Science with a purpose underscores LUT's commitment to producing science-based solutions with societal impact and continues to direct LBS research focus on global challenges.

We remain firmly committed to educating responsible professionals in business and management. Our efforts to further strengthen responsible business education will continue through the ongoing development of our educational portfolio to address emerging business and societal challenges. In 2026, we are launching a new Bachelor's Programme in Digital Business, which will expand our educational offering to include responsible digital business and digital sustainability. Through this programme, we aim to equip future professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to drive sustainable digital transformation and create responsible business solutions in an increasingly digital world.

A blue ink signature of Professor Sami Saarenketo.

Professor Sami Saarenketo
Dean of LUT Business School

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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

- ❖ Disciplinary efforts within business school
- ❖ Interdisciplinary efforts across parent organization



Teach

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



Courses that support RME

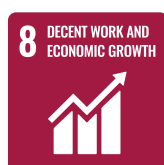
LUT University reports 9 courses in 2025 that support responsible management education and sustainable development goals.

Business Ethics | A350A2000

Business professionals regularly face situations where they have to weigh the consequences of their decisions upon a variety of groups and individuals. These situations may include conflicting interests and values that cannot be met simultaneously. This course introduces how these situations can be approached from the perspective of central ethical theories and explores these theories with the help of contemporary cases.

This course aims for the following learning outcomes:

1. Evaluate business situations from the perspectives of different ethical theories
2. Recognize ethical challenges related to business and assess them analytically



Introduction to Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability | A380A0500

This course aims to familiarize the students with the basics of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainability, including common critiques of these concepts as well as their potential to achieve positive change. During the course, students will actively learn about and reflect on various sustainability issues and topics affecting businesses operating in a global environment, and possible ways for companies to address these issues through CSR and sustainability strategies, practices and interactions with stakeholders. Guest lectures and class exercises give the students an opportunity to apply their knowledge to actual business practice. Finally, students can improve their professional skills (e.g. communication and interaction skills) during the course through class discussions and group assignments.

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- 1) Understand and critically examine key concepts and frameworks related to CSR and sustainability.
- 2) Recognize and assess various environmental, social, economic and ethical issues caused by, and

affecting, companies operating in a global context.

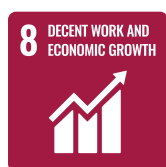
- 3) Distinguish and analyse various types of CSR and sustainability strategies, practices and other ways of addressing sustainability issues.
- 4) Apply theoretical frameworks and research findings related to CSR and sustainability to real-life phenomena and business practice.
- 5) Produce CSR and sustainability-related texts and materials.



Sustainable Strategy | A350A0501

This course concentrates on the topical phenomena and concepts related to the creation and development of sustainable strategy in organisations. In particular, the focus is on the intersection of firm strategy and economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainability. These topics are investigated both from the viewpoints of academic research and practical relevance. Students will learn to discuss and synthesize the relevant academic evidence, examine the links of contemporary topics to previous research and assess the practical relevance of the issues through concrete examples. The learning outcomes of the course are the following:

1. To assess the topic of sustainable strategy in the firm level as well as within the broader institutional context from both academic and practitioner perspectives.
2. To discuss and debate on different and conflicting perspectives regarding sustainability in business.
3. To be able to analyze the practical relevance of sustainable business strategy.



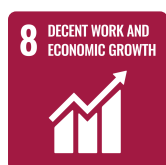
Project Course on Sustainable Business | A350A0551

This project course focuses on business sustainability from a chosen case company perspective. Students will learn to assess and analyze sustainability elements of a case company, as well as to create suggestions for improvements and solutions in this regard. The learning outcomes of the course are the following:

1. assess and analyze the sustainability of the business and strategy of a chosen case company.

2. create suggestions for improving the case company's existing business and strategy toward a meaningfully sustainable long-term strategy.
3. approach and organize their group work as a real-life business/consulting project for the case company.

The course is designed around an independent research project, conducted for a case company. Students need to independently find and secure the case company for which the projects are made, from within Finland or internationally. The project involves applying pre-learned theory to practice, data collection and analysis, and creation of concrete solutions for different aspects of sustainable business for the case company. During the course, different frameworks and contexts regarding sustainable business are refreshed, and fresh practical perspectives on sustainability issues are brought from visiting industry lecturers. Students will contact the case companies in small groups in the beginning of the course. During the course, students will work independently, collecting required data from and negotiating the needs and wishes of the case companies. The course assignments are aimed at creating an improved (or new) sustainable strategy proposal for the case company. The course assignments include both individual and group work.



Sustainability Reporting and Communication | A350A0560

By the end of the course, students will be able

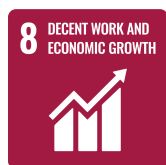
1. to understand sustainability reporting landscape
2. to identify and analyze alternative ways to communicate sustainability as part of the business strategy



Sustainable Global Sourcing | A310A0501

The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the strategic planning of sustainable global sourcing and the management of global supply networks and the execution of sustainable supply strategies in globally active firms. The course covers issues such as sustainable global sourcing strategies, opportunities and challenges of international business and in global supply chains; Sustainable sourcing and the transparency of supply chains. Outsourcing, re-shoring and location

decisions; Sustainability issues in supplier selection, assessment and relationship management; Sustainability risks in sourcing and in global supply chains and sustainable supply management practices.



Responsible International Business | A330A0450

The course will focus on the following main topics:

- Globalization drivers and ethical issues in international business
- Firms and their relationship with the international business environment
- Global value chains and international business
- Planetary boundaries and circularity
- Carbon literacy and net-zero in business



Creating value with Sustainability | A380A0601

Businesses across industries face increasing pressure to address environmental and social challenges, including climate change, resource scarcity, biodiversity loss, human rights risks, and evolving stakeholder expectations. While many firms have adopted sustainability goals and initiated improvement programs, integrating sustainability into core value creation processes remains a significant managerial challenge, and many companies continue to struggle with the sustainable renewal of their business. To address this challenge, it is essential to holistically understand firm activities and their interconnections. This applied course examines how sustainable value can be created across business activities, from global value chains and operations to business models and marketing. Students develop a holistic understanding of how sustainability functions as a strategic

and cross-cutting issue within organizations operating in diverse institutional environments. The course also emphasizes the critical assessment and development of solutions for sustainable business renewal in international contexts.



Global Sustainability Challenges | A380A0650

The course examines how international business is linked to global sustainability challenges. As part of the course, teams of students organize a campus event that takes action on one sustainability challenge.



Continue telling your story

Objectives and progress _Principle 3

View document  Download document 



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

149 Peer-reviewed articles were published by LUT University from this past calendar year.

vs

60 Peer-reviewed articles were published by LUT University from this past calendar year in support of RME.

Research Funding

In 2025, LUT University was awarded funding for research that is:



National



International

Socializing Research

In 2025, LUT University contributed research findings to:

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

Research Projects

In 2025, LUT University reported 6 research projects that implemented responsible or sustainable activities.

RawPower: Sociopolitical Rivalries and Their Impact on Critical Raw Materials Supply Networks

Period Covering: September, 2024 - August, 2028

Department: Supply Management

The project investigates how political tensions and power struggles impact the supply of critical raw materials (CRM). These materials are essential but sourcing often involves challenges, including environmental impact and effects on local communities, particularly indigenous groups. The research is carried out at LUT Business School together with international collaborators. The primary data will be collected in the Arctic and Australia. Our methods involve network analysis, experiments, narrative research, and case studies with representatives of local communities, supply chain actors, and government officials. The expected project results will lead to fairer practices in the supply networks of CRMs and reduce environmental harm and social injustice. Our research will provide valuable insights for both the scientific community and society, guiding future policies and supply chain practices to ensure a more sustainable and equitable approach to sourcing these vital materials.



Improving the Business Conditions for Social Enterprises

Period Covering: January, 2023 - December, 2027

Department: Sustainable Business

The coordination project brings together social entrepreneurship and social economy operators and projects into networks. The “Improving the Business Conditions for Social Enterprises” project produces and collects information, conducts evaluations, influences policy, and communicates. The aim is to build equal labor markets and a value-based business culture in Finland.

The project promotes social entrepreneurship and develops models for employing people with partial work ability.

The project involves 11 organizations, each bringing their own in-depth expertise to the project themes. The implementation schedule is 2023–2027. The consortium is led by Silta-Valmennusyhdistys.

The broader themes are the production and sharing of social innovations and supporting the digital-green transition nationally.



Collective Stakeholder Action for Commons: Integrating business-stakeholder value creation with polycentric governance

Period Covering: September, 2022 - August, 2026

Department: Sustainable Business

The aim of our research project is to theorize on collective stakeholder action to understand how the business sector participates with societal and public sector stakeholders to the governance of commons. Commons are natural resources used by various actors, and affected by human overuse and self-interest.

Addressing the struggle of the commons requires collective action among various stakeholders, including so far scarcely addressed business actors, to create long-term value. Building on the interface between collective action and stakeholder theories, we ask: how can collective stakeholder action be conceptualized as a solution that integrates joint value creation with polycentric governance to solve the struggle of commons?

Empirically, we examine one of the most urgent struggles of commons, biodiversity loss, and we focus on the mining sector. We engage with stakeholders and act as a platform for diverse stakeholders to meet, learn and co-create knowledge regarding biodiversity governance.



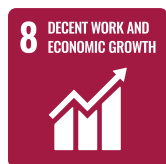
Baltic Impact Accelerator

Period Covering: April, 2024 - March, 2026

Department: International Business

The Baltic Impact Accelerator project tackles the challenges of new growth companies in the Central Baltic region by utilizing the Triple Bottom Line (3BL) methodology that enables more growth (Profit) with specific consideration towards the environment (Planet) and society (People). As a result, the scaling-up of companies from Finland, Sweden, Latvia and Estonia is tackled on three levels: Profit, Planet, and People.

Within the three acceleration cohorts a total of 96 scale-up companies will be supported (32 per cohort) and out of these 96 companies, 48 will scale up. The project will implement open seminars and events, where a broader audience of companies is reached and upskilled in order to provide knowledge about the 3BL methodology. The project provides unique acceleration for scale-up companies both from the 3BL methodology perspective, as well as the regional set-up: scale-up companies are specifically scaled in another CB country in order to help the companies to establish a better presence outside their home market.



Sustainable transition in the interpretation of leaders

Period Covering: November, 2025 - December, 2027

Department: Business Administration

From a strategic management perspective, operating in a changing business environment requires organizations to anticipate and recognize emerging changes and to adapt their resources and processes accordingly. But how can firms respond to or account for systemic crises such as climate change when those do not pose an immediate threat to business operations and therefore do not necessitate urgent action? To advance our understanding of business activity in the context of systemic change, this project examines how sustainability transitions are perceived through the cognitive frameworks of corporate managers. Managerial cognition refers to the mental framework shaped by individuals' beliefs and experiences, through which choices and decisions are made. It plays a central role in how organizations identify and interpret developments in their business environment. Drawing on interview data from medium-sized companies, the study explores firms' preparedness for and opportunities within the sustainability transition. The project aims to enhance understanding of the dynamics of sustainability transitions and to identify ways of supporting transformation within both businesses and society.



Driving Climate Positive Futures (DREAM+PLAN)

Period Covering: September, 2025 - August, 2030

Department: Business Administration

Driving Climate Positive Futures (DREAM+PLAN) is EU-funded doctoral programme. With total funding of approximately €600,000, this initiative is likely the first and largest European programme dedicated to advancing regenerative business and society. Its aim is to explore resilient, restorative, and regenerative transitions and societal models. LBS is the lead partner in the project, hosting five doctoral students.





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)
- ❖ EFMD (European Foundation for Management Development)
- ❖ Local institutions and associations
- ❖ Times Higher Education (THE)
- ❖ Ministries of Education, Higher Education, or similar national bodies
- ❖ United Nations Global Compact non-business signatory
- ❖ University Councils

Student Organization Partnerships

- ❖ None



Practice

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



Institutional Policies and Practices

- ❖ Accreditation body recommendation documents
- ❖ Campus operations guides
- ❖ Carbon reduction or offset commitments
- ❖ Climate action plan
- ❖ Curriculum guidelines
- ❖ Ethical data sourcing guides
- ❖ Greenhouse gas emissions
- ❖ Local staff/student/faculty transportation
- ❖ Responsible procurement policies
- ❖ Sustainability strategy or strategic plan (school or university level)
- ❖ Travel guides

Policy Documents Related to RME and/or Sustainability

LUT Sustainability policy 2021

[View document](#) [Download document](#)

LUT-sustainability-action-plan-2025-2026

[View document](#) [Download document](#)

LUT-CAP-2025-2030

[View document](#) [Download document](#)

Code of conduct_LUT Universities_2022_eng

[View document](#) [Download document](#)

LUT_Equality_Non-discrimination

[View document](#) [Download document](#)

LUT Student Equality Plan 2025

[View document](#) [Download document](#)

LUT-Universities-Investment-strategy

[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

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

- ❖ Student and staff volunteer programs
- ❖ Sustainability-focused research and collaboration Opportunities
- ❖ Annual reports
- ❖ Boards and advisory committees
- ❖ Feedback mechanisms (e.g., surveys, suggestion boxes)

Communication Audiences

LUT University communicates its policies and progress on sustainable development and responsibility with:

- ❖ Accreditation bodies
- ❖ Boards and advisory committees
- ❖ Faculty and staff
- ❖ Media and public relations channels
- ❖ Prospective and current students



SIGNATORY

LUT University



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