



# Sustainability Manager

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University Certified Sustainability  
Management Course



CEC Saar  
Continuing Education  
Center Saar



Consulting Service International Ltd


**sikos**



German Industry  
and Commerce Ltd.  
德國工商會有限公司



htw saar



## Empower, Certify, Sustain: Shaping the Future with CEC Saar at htw saar, sikos GmbH, and CSI

# Sustainability Manager

University Certified Sustainability  
Management Course

The well-established university-certified Sustainability Management Course for key personnel of manufacturing industries is the result of an innovative new cooperation between three highly experienced partners: **CEC Saar at University of Applied Sciences in Saarbrücken**, education and qualification partner **sikos GmbH**, and international consulting firm **CSI**, who has extensive practical experience in Asian supplier markets.

Upon completing the **80-hour** course, participants will earn a certificate officially issued by htw saar in Sustainability Management.

# Highlights

## Teaching Mode

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Online

## Language

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English

## Industry Focus

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Customisable for different industries, companies, and organisations



## Meet new legal requirements with certified Sustainability Managers

Demand for educated professionals in the area of sustainability is on the rise. [The Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligation in Supply Chains passed in Germany \(Lieferkettensorgfaltspflichtengesetz – LkSG\)](#) explicitly requires designating a responsible person or persons within the enterprise to exercise due diligence in their supply chains (section 4(3)). With the Sustainability Management course, participants will be equipped to take up that role in their organisations and meet the new requirements.



## Flexible and relevant

This course, offered [online](#) and conducted in [English](#). It covers sustainability principles, aspects of business management, supply chain management, corporate social responsibility (CSR), environmental science and policy, legal requirements, climate change and more. The course will certify participants as Sustainability Managers and inspire a new generation of innovative thinkers and sustainable change makers.



## State-of-the-art course by German university – Globally available

It is readily accessible to interested participants around the world thanks to the optional digital teaching mode. The course is [the first of its kind to offer the level of official academic accreditation](#) as well as easy availability and distribution in English and online, all over the world. Better yet, course contents can be flexibly tailored for specific industries, companies, and organisations. This way, the course can be customised to meet the specific needs of partners.



## Practice-oriented course content

By drawing on a broad range of practical experience from industry professionals, participants will learn to implement sustainable practices and deal with the challenges that arise in supply chains. It provides an in-depth understanding of due diligence requirements and how to apply them in the real world through verified strategies. It covers social, environmental, occupational health and safety, and toxicological issues in a way that reduces risk and enables sustainable business operations to the benefit of people, companies and the environment. Current topics, such as the German due diligence law, will be covered as well. Upon completion, participants will be able to effectively manage sustainability in manufacturing industries and supply chains in a practical and straight-for-ward way.

# Part 1 - Theoretical Foundations

## MODULE 01

- Introduction to sustainability
- Definition of sustainability
- Aspects of sustainability

## MODULE 02

- Standards and regulations (overview)
- 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals

## MODULE 03

- International guidelines and conventions, standards
  - e.g. OECD Guidelines for Business, United Nations or ILO Core Labour Standards

## MODULE 04

- ISO 26000 (Corporate Governance)
- Sustainability labels and indices

## MODULE 05

- Supply Chain Law
- Supply chain and sustainability
- Legal requirements

## MODULE 06

- Legal framework for social standards
- Environmental protection, toxicology and product requirements

## MODULE 07

- Sustainability / strategic implementation

## MODULE 08

- Due diligence
- Risk analysis

## MODULE 09

- Development of Corrective Action Plans
- Remedial action

## MODULE 10

- Grievance management
- Reporting

# Part 2 - Practical Application

## MODULE 11

- Project Management for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Projects

## MODULE 12

- Managing relevant actors in global procurement as part of the supply chain and important partners in creating transparency and sustainable development

## MODULE 13

- Sustainability and Communication along the Supply Chain

## MODULE 14

- Sustainability management
  - Tools and Techniques: Acquire practical tools and techniques for effective CSR project management, including metrics for monitoring and evaluating project success

## MODULE 15

- The pathway towards Net Zero Carbon Footprint Accounting
  - Understanding climate change and greenhouse gas calculation

## MODULE 16

- Circularity
  - European Green Deal
  - Circular Design
  - Circular Supply Chains

## MODULE 17&18

- Sustainability strategy and stakeholder dialogue
  - KPIs for sustainability
  - Monitoring of targets and benchmarking

## MODULE 19&20

- Reporting
  - Standardised company sustainability reporting (GRI and altri)
  - Internal and external communication



# Lecturers



**Karl Borgschulze**

Karl Borgschulze is a notable figure in the textile industry, known for his dedication to sustainability and ethical practices. With over three decades of experience, he has had a substantial impact on the field.

He has served on the scientific advisory board of the German Textile Research Institute (DTNW) and has been a member of the German Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and the Bangladesh German Chamber of Commerce and Industry, showcasing his involvement in international collaboration and research.

Karl's expertise as a trainer and consultant in sustainability, coupled with his experience in managing labour disputes and grievance resolution for global brands, has influenced industry ethics.



**Dr. Michael Arretz**

Dr. Michael Arretz is a management professional with an advanced expertise in the field of sustainability management within supply chains of consumer goods and retail organisations. As managing director and environmental officer of various companies, he has guided processes to develop company goals and strategies for more sustainability; established management systems in accordance to ISO 14001; developed procedures for the calculation of CO2 emissions in transport systems and for production units.

Since 2016, he has also been the managing director of German Importers, the association of consumer goods importers in Hamburg, which offers the SocialFair2022 concept, an approach to accounting for sustainable corporate management and for the design of a fact-based dialog with stakeholders.



**Dietlind Weide**

Dietlind Weide has been working as a sustainability professional for over twenty years and as a consultant for companies looking to make the all-important transition to a more sustainable way of doing business since 2018. She has particular expertise in the areas of sustainability reporting and strategy development. For companies looking to really follow through on their strategy, she develops robust concepts fit for the ecoefficiency and social challenges of the coming decade.

She has particular expertise in the areas of sustainability reporting and strategy development. Companies she has worked for include OTTO GmbH & Co KG, Hamburg; The Linde Group, Munich and McDonald's Deutschland LLC, also Munich. Dietlind holds a Master's degree in Cultural Studies from the University of Hildesheim, Germany.



**Cornelia Kunze**

Cornelia Kunze is an international communications and brand strategist with more than 30 years of experience as an agency executive, communications leader and advisor to international businesses in Europe, Asia and the US. She is advising global market leaders and mid-sized businesses to deliver effective communications and earn trust and recognition in times of change.

In her own consultancy firm i-sekai, founded in 2018, she focusses on narrative and strategy development for business and brands in the context of purpose and sustainability. Cornelia has lived in Germany, France and India and is currently based in Munich.



**Dr. Gerhard Nickolaus**

Dr. Gerhard Nickolaus has more than 40 years of experience in analytical and technical polymer chemistry and testing and quality control at the Test- and Research Institute Pirmasens e.V., as well as exceptional expertise in footwear, leather, textile and plastics technology and processing in manufacturing facilities in Asia.

His expertise includes chemical management, hazard identification and implementation of solutions at the management and operational levels.

He also has the highest level of expertise in physical and chemical testing methods. Founded the International Shoe Competence Center in Pirmasens (ISC) and PFI Hong Kong, PFI China and Turkey and has established testing, training, and education centers in Asia.

# Lecturers



**Bernd Muller**

Bernd studied Sinology and Social Anthropology before working in press relations and managing international textile fairs, particularly in China and the USA. He developed a sustainable textile classification system from 2007 to 2012, still in use at various trade fairs. From 2012 to 2018, he managed the Ethical Fashion Show Berlin. He also built an international network for a design-business association in 10 countries.

In recent years, he developed a comprehensive, integrated sustainability strategy including CO2 balancing, process control, organisational guidelines, and workshops. Bernd is well-versed in sustainability management, familiar with relevant political and regulatory standards, and is a certified intercultural trainer with significant experience in the USA and China.



**Esther Tabea Jacob**

Esther Jacob is a young managing director. She graduated from Saarbrücken, Germany and holds a bachelor's degree in economics. She is also holding a master's degree in management and leadership.

After working for 9+ years in other companies as finance manager, assistant to the CEO and CFO and head of process management, she took over the family business sikos in 2023.

Sikos is an education provider based in Saarland, Germany. The company, which her father Dr. Manfred Schmidt founded in 1990, is specialized in trainings and online learning systems. sikos offers a large choice of trainings, among other things, in-house courses and modern online education methods.



**Dr. Thomas Becker**

Dr. Thomas Becker supports organizations transforming strategies into tangible results by enhancing project and portfolio management. With a proven track record as a lead consultant, he has successfully managed process improvement projects in SMEs and led the international roll-out of training programs for global companies. His experience spans diverse industries and countries, enabling him to navigate and thrive in intercultural settings and diverse teams.

Before he worked as an independent consultant, he was head of project management at the Transfer Centre for Applied Technologies. As a sociologist, Dr. Becker possesses a profound understanding of the impact of organizational culture and structures on implementing change and sustaining CSR initiatives.



**Lukas Rebentisch**

With a decade of professional experience post-graduation from the University of Hannover, Lukas has seen various facets of the retail and trade industry.

His expertise spans across critical areas such as CSR management, supply chain operations, risk management and merchandising in organisations, supplying the European, US and APAC market.

He has fulfilled his operational duties across diverse countries like Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar, and Laos, allowing for a wide understanding of and the adaptability to challenges and risks specific to these markets.



**Juergen Schuessler**

Juergen is a foreign trade expert and sustainability manager with more than 20 years of experience in the electronics industry in Asia (Hong Kong/China) working in senior positions for German companies in the region.

Since 2023 Juergen advises companies engaged in Asian trade on the implementation of processes and strategies for sustainable procurement and more resilient supply chains.

Juergen has a degree in China Studies from the Ruhr University Bochum as well as degrees in foreign trade and sustainability management. He has the appropriate Chinese language skills and intercultural competence to successfully negotiate for and between Western and Chinese/Asian partners.

# Details

## Price



**3,650€ per person**  
(AHK member)

**3,950€ per person**  
(non-member)

## Starts



11 March 2025

## Durations



7 weeks, Online  
8 - 12 hours a week

# Dates

			Berlin	Hong Kong
<b>Week 01</b>	Tuesday	11.03.2025	08:00 - 12:00	15:00 - 19:00
	Wednesday	12.03.2025	08:00 - 12:00	15:00 - 19:00
	Thursday	13.03.2025	08:00 - 12:00	15:00 - 19:00
<b>Week 02</b>	Tuesday	18.03.2025	08:00 - 12:00	15:00 - 19:00
	Wednesday	19.03.2025	08:00 - 12:00	15:00 - 19:00
	Thursday	20.03.2025	08:00 - 12:00	15:00 - 19:00
<b>Week 03</b>	Tuesday	25.03.2025	08:00 - 12:00	15:00 - 19:00
	Wednesday	26.03.2025	08:00 - 12:00	15:00 - 19:00
	Thursday	27.03.2025	08:00 - 12:00	15:00 - 19:00
<b>Week 04</b>	Tuesday	01.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
	Wednesday	02.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
	Thursday	03.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
<b>Week 05</b>	Tuesday	08.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
	Wednesday	09.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
	Thursday	10.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
<b>Week 06</b>	Tuesday	15.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
	Wednesday	16.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
	Thursday	17.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
<b>Week 07</b>	Tuesday	22.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00
	Wednesday	23.04.2025	08:00 - 12:00	14:00 - 18:00



# Past Participants



## Industries



Fashion



Business Associations



Textile



Kitchen and Cookware



Electronics



Medical Equipment



# A Strong Network of Experienced Partners



CEC Saar  
Continuing Education  
Center Saar



**htw saar (University of Applied Sciences in Saarbrücken, Germany)** is considered to be one of the top-ranked universities of applied sciences in Germany. htw saar is one of the leading application-oriented university in Germany conducting research, carrying out research on an international level and with industry partners from all over the world.



**Consulting Service International (CSI)** is an international advisory firm with long-standing experience and extensive network in Asia, Europe and the world. Headquartered in Hong Kong and represented on three continents, CSI has practical and direct experience in Asian sourcing markets.



**Sikos GmbH** is an education and qualification partner of companies, associations, institutions and individuals with more than 30 years of experience. The company offers seminars, trainings and further education courses for employees and managers in corporate governance, business, law, health and safety, quality management, environment, logistics, communications and more.



Located at the heart of Europe, University of Applied Sciences in Saarbrücken is one of the leading practice-oriented universities of Germany

**German Industry and Commerce Ltd. (GIC)** a member of the global AHK network of 140 offices in 92 countries under the umbrella of the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK). As such, GIC has a public mandate of the Federal Republic of Germany to represent German business interests in Hong Kong and the Greater China region, and to promote Germany as a business location. A non-government, non-political private registered organisation, GIC's service portfolio includes market entry support, business delegations, trade fair services to inbound and outbound exhibitors and trade visitors in international markets, dual professional training in Hong Kong, as well as tailored management trainings and business services for corporate clients across all sectors. Furthermore, GIC provides the management, dedicated staff and other resources to the German Chamber of Commerce, Hong Kong.





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