



ADVANCED MASTER CLASS

# SUSTAINABLE TRANSITION STRATEGIES

A scientific,  
engineering  
& business  
perspective

for the Chemical and  
Life Sciences Industry

30 May – 2 June / Brussels



essenscia

IN COLLABORATION WITH



ALLEN & OVERY

ADVANCED MASTER CLASS



# SUSTAINABLE TRANSITION STRATEGIES

for the Chemical  
and Life Sciences Industry

A scientific, engineering  
and business perspective

## CONTEXT

The chemical and life sciences industry is facing unprecedented challenges in terms of sustainability, and this within a particularly tight timeframe. With this brand-new advanced master class on '**Sustainable Transition Strategies**' essencia – the Belgian federation for the chemical and life sciences industry – offers an in-depth **4-day training course**, looking at sustainability from a scientific, engineering and business perspective. The program is supported by **KU Leuven University** and is hosted at **BNP Paribas Fortis** in Brussels.



This Advanced Master Class starts with a strategic state of play by Prof. Dr. ir. **Gerard Govers**, vice rector of KU Leuven and responsible for Sustainability Policy.

## AIM

Sustainability is at the core of the strategy of the chemical and life sciences industry in Belgium and Europe. Global sustainable challenges need to be accordingly addressed with the chemical sector as a solution-provider in a highly competitive economy.

Policy, technology, and the implementation of legal frameworks and operational standards are changing very fast. Keeping track with this evolution is the main goal of this 4-day master class, grounded in a scientific, engineering, legal and financial point of view throughout the whole value chain.

Company testimonials sharing insights and endeavours on advancing sustainability and circular economy solutions are an essential part of this course.



**What to expect?** Key notes by renowned academics, policy makers and industry experts. Thematic lectures on, among others, life-cycle assessment (LCA), sustainability reporting, carbon accounting and hydrogen by specialists from the chemical industry, research centers and the financial sector.

## PRACTICAL INFORMATION



### LOCATION

BNP Paribas Fortis  
Koningsstraat 20  
1000 Brussels

### LUNCH

Business menu and  
coffee breaks included

### TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE

€ 2500, excl. VAT

### REGISTRATION

[www.essencia.be/agenda](http://www.essencia.be/agenda)

## PROGRAM

This advanced master class is co-developed with member companies and renowned experts and academics with the aim to increase sustainability knowledge and awareness within the chemical and life sciences industry.

- ⇒ The first day provides a comprehensive **state of play** on the state of our planet and the challenges our industry is facing.
- ⇒ The second day dives into the **legislation**. Which tools and standards are available to achieve a more sustainable business in Europe? We also reflect on applicable business cases.
- ⇒ The third day focuses on **technology**, with many company testimonials. What are the main technological challenges in the industrial transition towards sustainability? Covering topics like the electrification of cracking furnaces, the reuse and recycling of plastics, and the development of alternative feedstocks. The interplay between technology, regulatory and market aspects will be touched upon.
- ⇒ The fourth and final day looks at sustainability from a **financial** perspective. Setting up sustainable value chains grounded on performant legislation, risk management and banking requirements for capital.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

Professionals with experience in the chemical and life sciences industry for whom a global overview and in-depth understanding of sustainability issues is key. This course will help them to deepen their expertise on the most material aspects for the industry, illustrated with clear practical examples and company testimonials. A questioning attitude will help to increase the mutual understanding around common challenges and solutions.

## GOVERNANCE BOARD

The Governance Board determines the strategic goals of this Advanced Master Class on Sustainability, and ensures that the course is optimally tailored to the current and future needs and requirements of the chemical and life sciences industry.

### GOVERNANCE BOARD AND STEERING COMMITTEE

- ⇒ **Yves Verschueren**  
Managing Director, essenscia
- ⇒ **Ann Wurman**  
Managing Director, essenscia vlaanderen
- ⇒ **Frédéric Druck**  
Managing Director, essenscia wallonie/brussels
- ⇒ **Geert Boogaerts**  
Director Safety & Sustainability, essenscia
- ⇒ **Prof. Dr. Gerard Govers**  
Vice-rector Science, Engineering and Technology and Vice-rector Sustainability, KU Leuven
- ⇒ **Jan Remeysen**  
CEO BASF Antwerpen
- ⇒ **Lieven Stalmans**  
Group Manager Energy & Climate, Borealis
- ⇒ **Inge Van der Meeren**  
Antwerp & Meerhout Plant Manager, ExxonMobil
- ⇒ **Anouk Van Looveren**  
Country Manager, Dow Belgium

# DAY TO DAY OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAM

Each day will start with an inspiring key note by speakers from BNP Paribas Fortis, KU Leuven and industry and policy experts. On the final day, at the end of the course, a certificate will be granted to each participant by Yves Verschuere, Managing Director, essenscia

## ⇒ DAY 01

TUESDAY 30 MAY | 08:00 – 17:00

### State of play: from the EU Green Deal towards a sustainable industry

⇒ State of play: an academic perspective

 **Prof. Dr. Gerard Govers**, Vice-rector Science, Engineering & Technology and Vice-rector Sustainability, KU Leuven

#### Important balancing

⇒ State of play: an industrial point of view

 **Dr. ir. Ann Dierckx**, Sustainable Development Director, Cefic

#### Towards a sustainable industry

⇒ Sustainability indicators

 **Prof. Dr. Karel Van Acker**, Professor Circular Economy, KU Leuven

#### Towards a real standard

⇒ Sustainability reporting

 **Reinout De Clercq**, Partner Sustainability & Climate, Deloitte

#### A global strong tool?

## ⇒ DAY 02

WEDNESDAY 31 MAY | 08:00 – 17:00

### Legislation: from green taxonomy to science based targets. A business driver on site?

⇒ Sustainability legislation for the chemical and life sciences industry

 **Axel de Backer**, Senior Associate, Allen & Overy

#### The base line: taxonomy?

⇒ How to choose?

 **Prof. Dr. Miet Van Dael**, Researcher Chemical Department, VITO

 **Bart De Bruycker**, LCA Specialist Advanced Interlayers, Eastman Chemical Company

#### Life-cycle assessment: to be or not to be?

⇒ A banker's point of view

 **Guy Pollentier**, Senior Sustainable Business Advisor, BNP Paribas Fortis

#### Is there a business case?

⇒ Carbon footprint & accounting

 **Dr. Saartje Swinnen**, Advisor Energy & Climate, essenscia

#### A quest for comparability and integration?

⇒ Science based targets

 **Dr. Michiel Stork**, Associate Director Sustainability, Guidehouse

#### A science based target for every building block

## ⇒ DAY 03

THURSDAY 1 JUNE | 08:00 – 17:00

### Towards net zero: exploring the myriad of technological pathways

⇒ Electrification of the chemical industry

 **Dr. Marco Bosch**, Head of Carbon Management Technologies, BASF

#### The cracker of the future

⇒ The hydrogen economy

 **Dr. ir. Wouter Bleukx**, Business Director Hydrogen, INEOS Inovyn

#### Towards a business model?

⇒ Strategic examples from the chemical and life sciences industry

 **Geert Boogaerts**, Director Safety & Sustainability, essenscia

#### It happens now

⇒ Company testimonials

 **Borealis: Geert Van Ballaer & Floris Buijzen**, Circular Economy Solutions

 **ExxonMobil: Xavier Milcent**, Advanced Recycling of Plastics

## ⇒ DAY 04

FRIDAY 2 JUNE | 08:00 – 17:00

### A financial point of view: risk management and business opportunities throughout the value chain

⇒ Banks and the chemical & life sciences sector

 **Geert Schepens**, Executive Director, BNP Paribas Fortis

#### Investment criteria for a solid marriage

⇒ Sustainable value chains

 **Dr. Alessandro Pistillo**, Director Digital Strategic Projects, BASF & Co-Chair Work Stream GHG Scope3 Emissions, TfS – Together for Sustainability

#### The real impact

#### Legislation to do business via a sustainable value chain

 **Gauthier van Thuyne**, Partner & **Fee Goossens**, Counsel, Allen & Overy

 **Prof. Evelyne Terry**, Professor Commercial, Company and Consumer Law & Co-Director Consumer Competition Market, KU Leuven

#### Legal challenges in the value chain: due diligence & greenwashing

⇒ Risk management in the value chain

 **Reinout De Clercq**, Partner Sustainability & Climate, Deloitte

#### Much broader than carbon

This course will be given entirely in English