

1. What is it about?

Our world is in transition. Since 2009, investments in renewable energy have exceeded the investments in fossil fuels, demonstrating a growing awareness of the vulnerability of the earth and of the need to use its resources sustainably. As a result, in 2015, the world adopted the Sustainable Development Goals, committing the global family to eradicating poverty. Young people starting out in the world of work today find that they have to rely on their own abilities to inspire, network, create and efficiently organise across sectors.

The Diploma in Sustainable Development, a Stellenbosch University programme, aims to address the great challenge we face in the world today by empowering a new generation of responsible entrepreneurs who understand the world we live in, have the skills to be a part of the kinds of organisations that are appropriate to fast changing contexts, and have a set of values that equips them for action in a complex world.

The programme is designed to ground students in sustainability and entrepreneurship literature for future social impact and ecological restoration.

2. Who is it for?

This qualification is primarily aimed at students who are interested in starting their professional careers as social entrepreneurs in the sustainable development field. It seeks to do so by actively involving students in a programme of applied learning within a working and living context of sustainable development innovation and implementation.

Students will experience practical work in entrepreneurship, farming, renewable energy and community development that will give them an in-depth experience and commitment to practice that will prepare them well towards launching their enterprises.

3. Curriculum outline

- 3-Year Diploma
- The central thrust of our curriculum is focused on social entrepreneurship anchored in the development of an entrepreneurial mindset that focuses on value creation in a responsible manner.
- The curriculum is anchored in its tactical focus of exploration of ideas through practical, **hands-on approach** within the terrains of **sustainable practice** and **ethics**.

Some of the modules include:

- Sustainable Design Technologies
- Social Entrepreneurship
- Economics for a Green Economy
- Leadership Development
- Social Activation
- Creativity and story telling
- Sustainable Cities
- Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

4. Where is it presented?

Primarily classes will be presented at the Sustainability Institute in Lymedoch, Stellenbosch in the form of block sessions, consisting of formal lectures, facilitated discussion learning, case method learning in large and small groups, and group work. Founded in 1999 as a non-profit trust, the Institute is an international living and learning centre for

theory and practice in values based, entrepreneurially empowered action towards positive social impact and ecological restoration.

At the Sustainability Institute, we engage in transformative learning towards just and flourishing futures. Our various academic programmes strive to realise sustainability through learning, exploring and applying ways of being that are restorative and generative. Students enjoy learning experiences both inside and outside of class, encompassing all elements of sustainable living.

5. Value and accreditation

- This is a new diploma offered by the University of Stellenbosch
- The diploma is accredited, NQF level 6
- Designed to develop a new cohort of South African developmental activists and social entrepreneurs
- Strong focus on small enterprise development and management
- For students looking for learning and development beyond the confines of a mainstream academic mould

6. Applications

Applications to be submitted online at www.maties.com. Applications close 30 June 2018.

Admission requirements

- National Senior Certificate aggregate of at least 60% (excluding Life Orientation)
- Mathematics 50% or Mathematical Literacy 60%
- English Home Language 50% OR English First Additional Language 60%
- Life Sciences 60%
- Geography 60%
- One of the following: Creative Arts (i.e. Engineering Graphics and Design, Visual Arts), Business Studies, Economics, Agriculture or Physics 60%

Selection guidelines and language of instruction

- Candidates are selected on the grounds of their academic performance and a written motivation.
- After receiving and processing your application for admission to the programme, the School of Public Leadership will send you a departmental form to be completed and returned within two weeks.
- The School of Public Leadership will then let you know whether your application has been provisionally accepted or not – by 15 September.
- Final acceptance is dependent on matric results which are released in January.
- In exceptional cases a prospective student with an aggregate of less than 60%, but more than 55%, may be considered for admission. To come into consideration for this, you have to submit a special application and attend an interview with the Faculty Dean or his/her representative.
- The language of instruction is English.

7. Funding

There are no bursaries available, but students can enquire with Phumlani Nkontwana at pnkontwana@sun.ac.za / 021 881 3952 for availability. The cost of the programme is R45 000 per annum.

8. Further information

For more information about the diploma, please contact Phumlani Nkontwana at pnkontwana@sun.ac.za / 021 881 3952.

9. Further studies and future prospects

Study path:

Diploma in Sustainable Development > Advanced Diploma in Sustainable Development (under development) > Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) in Sustainable Development > Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Sustainable Development > Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Future prospects:

Graduates can also participate in the SI's Innovation Lab to incubate a social enterprise, or branch out into either the Western Cape economy where the SI is extremely well-connected, or beyond in SA or other countries. Either way, they will be well prepared for whatever challenge they want to take on in whatever sector they choose to apply themselves.

Job opportunities:

Entrepreneurs in sustainable development through social enterprises, education, tourism, renewable energy, crafts and services towards community development.