

PRESS – RELEASE

Siena International School on Sustainable Development 2022: applications open to the fourth edition of this higher education course on sustainable development

The School, carried out through webinars and on-campus classes, focuses on the process of decarbonization, examining its solutions and implications for our society and businesses.

Siena 1 February 2022 – From today 1 February until 4 March 2022, applications to the [Siena International School on Sustainable Development 2022](#) are open. The School, now on its fourth edition, repropose the same format of past editions: it will be carried out in three phases (from 14 March to 18 June 2022), combining didactic and scientific interactions, online and on-campus courses.

This year, the fourth edition targets a wider public, European and not only, aiming to provide high-level training and qualification with professors and experts from internationally renowned bodies and institutions. With the objective of contributing to bring forth solutions to the climate crisis, the School will focus on the process of reduction of climate-changing emissions, discussing opportunities, solutions and implications of the decarbonization process for our society and businesses, in particular in the sectors of energy production, agri-food and industry.

The School is organized by the **Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS)**, **Santa Chiara Lab – University of Siena**, and the **Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDSN)**, powered by **Enel Foundation**, and supported by the **Italian University Network for Sustainable Development (RUS)** and **SDSN Europe**.

Founded in 2018, the Siena International School on Sustainable Development was the first training initiative ever launched in Italy to explore topics related to the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year, it focuses on the topic of decarbonization, and it is supported by a Scientific Advisory Committee chaired by **Jeffrey Sachs** (UN SDSN), and co-chaired by **Phoebe Koundouri** (Athens University) and **Carlo Papa** (Enel Foundation). The Director of the School is **Angelo Riccaboni**, President of Santa Chiara Lab and Professor at the University of Siena.

"SDSN is a global network of Universities and research Centers that fosters new skills and solutions to meet the greatest challenge of sustainable development." – declares **Jeffrey Sachs, President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University**. *"One of the key transformations is decarbonization of the global energy system. The Siena International School on Sustainable Development will contribute significantly to new pathways and partnerships towards decarbonization and climate safety."*

According to **Angelo Riccaboni, President of Santa Chiara Lab – University of Siena, Co-Chair SDSN Europe**, *"the process of decarbonization is central for the future of the Planet, as emerged from the recent COP26. The private sector is a primary actor to reach carbon neutrality. Through the Siena International School on Sustainable Development, we want to create bridges and connections between the research and innovation sector and the business world, a fundamental step to find the necessary solutions to put in place such transformation."*

"Since the first edition, we strongly support this initiative, because we believe that training is indispensable to face the ecological and climate crisis." – states **Marcella Mallen, ASviS President**. *"This way, ASviS contributes to increasingly better qualify the professionals needed to guide the energy transition. Specialized professionals who, combining technical competences and management skills, have the transdisciplinary overview, needed today to make the productive, social and institutional systems concretely sustainable, helping first-hand to create a new prosperous, fair, equitable and inclusive world."*

"Building and exchanging cross-cutting knowledge are essential elements of the transition, which is why we are so glad to have accompanied the creation and growth of the Siena International School on Sustainable Development over these years," underlines **Carlo Papa, Managing Director of Enel Foundation**.

The Siena International School on Sustainable Development 2022 is open to researchers, managers, officers at private and public institutions, and entrepreneurs, to create a network of game changers, able to develop and implement

effective and inclusive solutions in the field of decarbonization. **The School is open to a maximum of 250 participants to the online phases and up to 30 participants to the on-campus phase, carried out in Siena in June 2022.**

In the three previous editions, more than fifty scholars and internationally renowned experts conveyed research, scientific knowledge, and best practice to more than 100 young researchers, professionals, and public servants.

This year, all the training activities are held entirely in English and carried out in three phases: self-learning phase to strengthen individual competences through online courses (14-23 March); 12 webinars with internationally renowned experts and scholars on the challenges and solutions of decarbonization (23 March – 20 May); 5-day on-campus classes and interactive workshops on implications and future solutions, held by international experts and high-profile professors, carried out at Santa Chiara Lab – University of Siena from 13 to 18 June 2022.

At the end of this third phase, students will present the projects carried out with their working groups throughout the collaborative workshops.

Applications are open until 4 March 2022, the procedure and all the information are available online at <https://sienainternationalschool.unisi.it/it/>

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Enel Foundation

Enel Foundation is an independent non-profit organization, promoted and financed by Enel S.p.A., that carries out initiatives to support the global energy transition, towards a sustainable future for all. Active at the global level, Enel Foundation represents a scientific platform that engages with the most relevant actors of the business community. For its research and training activities in the energy field, Enel Foundation counts on its partnerships with some of the most renowned academic institutions and research centers in Italy and abroad.

Santa Chiara Lab – University of Siena

The Santa Chiara Lab is the University of Siena's Center for interdisciplinary innovation activities that promotes projects on the UN 2030 Agenda and sustainable development, supporting an open innovation, based on co-creation, hybridization of knowledge and dialogue between the business world and academia.

The main areas of interest are: sustainability, agri-food sector, digital technologies, public health, cross-cutting capabilities. The Center is chaired by Professor Angelo Riccaboni, Chair of PRIMA Foundation, Chair of SDSN Mediterranean and Co-Chair of SDSN Europe.

ASviS – Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development

The Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development brings together more than 300 member organizations among renowned institutions and civil society networks. Since 2016, it has worked to raise the awareness of the Italian society, economic stakeholders and institutions about the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to mobilize them in order to pursue the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).