



LCA
Care

Specialisation Course for SMEs Professionals

certified by the
Universidad de Salamanca

An international postgraduate course training agri-food professionals in Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), sustainability strategies, and environmental auditing, using practical tools and real-world case studies tailored to SMEs.



Co-funded by
the European Union

Foundations of Sustainability and Life Cycle Thinking in the Agri-food Sector

This micro-credential, **Foundations of Sustainability and Life Cycle Thinking in the Agri-food Sector**, introduces the environmental challenges facing agri-food systems and equips participants with the foundational knowledge of Life Cycle Thinking, environmental indicators, and sustainability strategies tailored to SMEs. It provides theoretical grounding and practical insights into the integration of sustainability into business and policy contexts.



Course Description

Foundations of Sustainability and Life Cycle Thinking in the Agri-food Sector

Duration: 15 weeks

ECTS Credits: 12 ECTS

Credential Awarded: Microcredential certified by the Universidad de Salamanca

Assessment Methods: Quizzes.

Description: This first course provides a solid foundation in sustainability, environmental management, and life cycle thinking applied to the agri-food sector. It equips participants with the conceptual, methodological, and strategic tools necessary to understand environmental challenges and integrate sustainability into SME operations.

The course combines theory, frameworks, and case studies to help learners:

- Understand sustainability principles, indicators, and governance frameworks.
- Learn the fundamentals of Life Cycle Thinking and LCA methodology.
- Explore how SMEs can implement environmental strategies, CSR, and eco-innovation.

MODULES

1

**Foundation Module: Sustainability
and Environmental Management
(4 ECTS)**

2

**Fundamentals of Life Cycle Thinking
and LCA (4 ECTS)**

3

**Environmental Strategy, CSR and
Eco-Innovation in SMEs (4 ECTS)**





LEARNING UNITS

Unit 1: Foundations of Sustainability in the Agri-food Sector

Unit 2: Environmental Impacts in Agri-food Systems

Unit 3: Measuring Sustainability – Indicators and Metrics

Unit 4: SMEs and Eco-Innovation in the Green Transition

Unit 5: Environmental Governance and Policy Frameworks

Unit 1: Life Cycle Thinking as a Sustainability Tool

Unit 2: LCA Methodology and ISO Standards

Unit 3: Goal, Scope and Inventory Development

Unit 4: Impact Categories and Sustainability Assessment Tools

Unit 5: Tools, Databases and Case Study Applications

Unit 1: Environmental Strategy and Business Model Integration

Unit 2: CSR, ESG and Sustainability Reporting

Unit 3: Eco-labels, Certifications and Consumer Trust

Unit 4: Eco-design, Packaging and Sustainable Product Innovation

Unit 5: Circular Economy, Bioeconomy and SCP in Practice

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this microcredential, learners will be able to:

1. Explain the core principles of sustainability and environmental management, and their application to agri-food systems.
2. Interpret and use environmental indicators, sustainability metrics, and policy frameworks relevant to the sector.
3. Apply the principles of Life Cycle Thinking (LCT) to assess environmental impacts along agri-food value chains.
4. Understand the structure and purpose of the ISO 14040/44 standards and their role in LCA implementation.
5. Identify opportunities for CSR, eco-efficiency, and eco-innovation within agri-food SMEs.
6. Analyse case studies demonstrating how environmental strategy can enhance competitiveness and social responsibility.
7. Communicate sustainability performance results using transparent, data-driven approaches aligned with international standards.





Why this course?

Agri-food SMEs are increasingly required to measure, reduce, and communicate their environmental impacts, yet many lack the technical expertise and practical tools to do so effectively.

What problem does it address?

It responds to the gap between sustainability ambitions and the ability of SMEs to apply robust, standardised methodologies such as LCA in real operational contexts.

What market need does it meet?

It meets the growing demand for professionals capable of supporting sustainability strategies, environmental audits, and compliance with European frameworks, using practical, SME-oriented digital solutions.

A programme for professionals aiming to deepen their competences through a practical approach aligned with European market needs.

FREE ACCESS

Registration is now OPEN!

Register [here](#) to participate and invest
in your Specialisation!



The postgraduation Course starts in
March 2026



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Collect, Analyse,
Report and Evolve for
eco-innovative SEMs.

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