

**Trinity  
Business  
School**

Transforming  
Business for  
**Good**

# Leading & Implementing Sustainable Finance

Postgraduate  
Certificate



**Trinity College Dublin**  
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath  
The University of Dublin

**Trinity Executive Education**  
**Trinity Business School**



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# Welcome from the Executive Education Team

The Postgraduate Certificate in Leading and Implementing Sustainable Finance equips mid to senior professionals with the tools to align sustainability goals with financial planning, capital budgeting, and corporate reporting. This programme supports those leading ESG initiatives or working with finance teams to fund and deliver change across their organisation. Participants build the skills to take practical action, navigate evolving regulations, and turn sustainability objectives into measurable financial outcomes.

You will complete five core modules, including a hands-on Action Learning Project, with a strong emphasis on real-world application. The curriculum spans from leadership in sustainable finance to regulatory alignment and ESG reporting. The teaching team combines academic experts with industry veterans from investment, finance, and advisory backgrounds, offering grounded insights from real-world contexts.

You will gain the knowledge and skills to access and use sustainable finance to develop sustainability projects and initiatives at organisational and divisional level, report with confidence, and build cost-effective systems that support long-term ESG objectives. Through the Action Learning Project, you will design and deliver a sustainable finance strategy tailored to a real organisation, turning theory into action and building capability that drives measurable impact.

Whether you are working in a finance-related role or are responsible for delivering ESG outcomes, this programme provides the tools, frameworks, and clarity needed to lead financial aspects of sustainability with confidence and credibility. Join us and take the next step in building a sustainable financial future.

## Key Information

- In Person
- October – June
- 1.5 days per month

## Entry requirements

- ✓ Bachelor's degree or equivalent with strong academic record in any discipline from a recognised third-level institution.
- ✓ Applicants without a degree must have a proven managerial track record.

## Qualification

- On successful completion of the course, you will be awarded a postgraduate certificate.
- 30 ECTS, Level 9 on the National Framework of Qualifications

## Tuition Fees

- €8,500

# Course Overview

Designed for professionals looking to elevate their careers while delivering value to their organisations, this course equips you to align financial strategy with sustainability goals, improve reporting, and strengthen long-term business performance. Visit our website for full details on how to apply.

### Who Should Apply

- **Mid to Senior-Level Executives:**  
Professionals leading or supporting sustainability strategies across business functions particularly in sectors like pharma, tech, infrastructure, and manufacturing.
- **Financial Professionals:**  
Professionals in corporate finance, treasury, or financial planning roles who need to integrate ESG considerations into decision-making, investment cases, and capital allocation.
- **ESG and Sustainability Leads**  
Those responsible for ESG reporting, sustainability programmes, or regulatory compliance who wish to enhance their understanding of financial frameworks.
- **Project and Operations Managers**  
Leaders managing cross-functional sustainability initiatives who need to engage with finance teams and evaluate ESG-related investments.

### Key Benefits

- ✓ Build the capability to apply sustainable finance tools across investment planning, capital budgeting, and internal financial processes.
- ✓ Strengthen your understanding of EU and global frameworks including SFDR, CSRD, VSME, EU Taxonomy, GRI and TCFD to support reporting and compliance.
- ✓ Learn from a faculty team that combines academic insight with senior-level experience in investment, banking, and sustainability strategy.
- ✓ Apply learning directly to your organisation through a hands-on Action Learning Project that addresses real financial and sustainability goals.
- ✓ Gain the skills to secure and use sustainable finance products such as green loans, sustainability-linked bonds, and ESG-aligned funding.
- ✓ Improve internal decision-making by evaluating the financial implications of ESG risks and opportunities.
- ✓ Develop systems and strategies that connect ESG goals with financial performance, accountability, and long-term value.



These modules are designed to deepen your critique and analysis of sustainable finance in your organisation, creating improvements that contribute to a sustainable future.

## 03

### Practical Application of Sustainable Finance

Apply sustainable financial strategies within today’s regulatory frameworks, focusing on risk, valuation, and due diligence. Translate policy, governance, and technology insights into effective, forward-looking investment decisions..

## 01

### Leading Sustainable Finance

Build a clear understanding of sustainable finance principles and explore the governance, reporting, and accountability frameworks driving financial strategy in a changing regulatory landscape. Engage with effective means of managing the transition to a sustainable finance strategy.

## 04

### Transparency in Sustainable Finance

Delve into disclosure requirements and reporting frameworks, gaining the tools to communicate sustainability performance clearly to investors, regulators, and internal stakeholders.

## 02

### Sustainable Finance Toolkit

Strengthen your ability to evaluate and apply sustainable financial instruments, including green bonds, sustainability-linked loans, and carbon markets, in line with evolving ESG criteria and organisational priorities.

## 05

### Action Learning in Sustainable Finance

Complete a hands-on Action Project by developing and implementing a sustainable finance strategy for a real organisation. Put your learning into practice to drive internal change, align ESG and financial goals, and deliver measurable business impact

# Faculty



**Louise McGormon**   Programme Director & Assistant Professor in Finance,  
Module 01   Trinity Business School.

Dr. Louise Gorman, having successfully completed her PhD in corporate governance at Dublin City University in 2016, brings a wealth of financial and academic expertise. Specialising in accounting, finance, corporate governance, and ESG, Louise has achieved publications at ABS 3 level. In 2022, she joined Trinity Business School as Assistant Professor in Finance. Louise actively contributes to prestigious national and international publications and events, enhancing scholarly and professional discourse in the corporate governance and ESG professional and academic communities.



**Alan Duffy**   Adjunct Teaching Fellow, Trinity Executive Education & Head of  
Module 02   Sustainable Integration & Solutions at Irish Life Investment Managers

Alan has over 10 years of investment experience at tier 1 institutions. Prior to joining ILIM, he worked in the proprietary trading group of Credit Suisse AG, where he was Portfolio Manager responsible for arbitrage strategies. Alan has an MSc in Finance from Warwick Business School, and a BSc in Economics & Finance from University College Dublin. Alan holds the Chartered



**Kevin McConnell**   Adjunct Teaching Fellow,

Kevin leads out on the Implementing Sustainable Finance module with deep insights from a career spanning 20 years in the investment and banking industry. His expertise spans market behaviour analysis to the impact on investments, particularly in sustainable finance, where he explores current trends, ESG investments, and regulatory evolutions with participants. Kevin has significantly contributed to the asset management industry, working with international investment groups, especially in private equity.



**Sean MacHale**   Adjunct Teaching Fellow, Trinity Executive Education &

Sean will delve into the requirements and best practices in reporting and disclosure. Sean’s professional background is in investment banking, and in his last role he was the Head of Sustainability strategy and Group Climate lead for a leading Irish financial institution. Sean has extensive experience in capital markets, risk evaluation and delivering transformational business change programmes for clients within financial services.



**Ben Lynch**   Assistant Professor in Sustainable Finance  
Module 05

Ben together with Louise, will guide participants through the Action Learning Project. Benjamin completed a PhD in Sustainable Finance from Trinity Business School in 2022. His overarching research interests relates to investigating the incentives for investors and firms to alter the sustainability of their practices. His research portfolio encompasses a diverse range of topics within sustainable finance including the value and risk implications of varying levels of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) performance, Carbon markets, and the importance of materiality in ESG integration investment strategies.

## Trinity Executive Education

Our open programmes are specifically designed for you: senior executives, business leaders and professionals who want to expand your strategic thinking and knowledge base to address significant business challenges, gain a competitive edge in your career, feel confident in new roles, or embark on new professional paths. All our courses are practical and involve action-based learning, which you will apply for a long-term impact.

For years, Trinity Executive Education has enabled thousands of business executives to achieve significant advancements in their careers and create long-term impact in their organisations. Our courses have been instrumental in enabling them to hone their leadership, negotiation, and people management skills, as well as strengthen their knowledge in finance, strategy, marketing, communication, big data, and AI.

Our programmes provide you with opportunities for collaboration with international groups of peers, which enriches the learning experience, giving you the additional benefit of expanding your professional network. You will leave our courses refreshed and energised, with new skills, tools and thought processes to better understand, manage and shape rapidly changing environments.

## Trinity Business School

Trinity Business School was founded in 1925, and is distinguished by its triple accreditation, reflecting its commitment to high-quality business education. Situated within Trinity College Dublin, Ireland's premier international university, the school has a legacy of innovative business education since its founding in 1925. With a strategy centred on ‘Transforming Business for Good’, the school integrates environmental, social, and governance (ESG) solutions into its curriculum, preparing students to address critical societal challenges. This commitment to sustainability and inclusive economic development is central to Trinity Business School's mission, reinforcing its status as a leading institution in responsible and transformative business education.

Contact  
+353 1 8964665  
[Jane.Flanagan@tcd.ie](mailto:Jane.Flanagan@tcd.ie)





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Trinity Business School, Dublin 2


Jane.flanagan@tcd.ie


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