



## Sustainability Science and Practice (SUST) Program

The SUST Program is an interdisciplinary master's program at the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability, focused on preparing leaders to radically accelerate the transition to a sustainable and just society. The program equips students with the knowledge, mindsets, and practical skills needed to advance sustainability, which we define as environmental, social, and economic well-being realized worldwide and across generations. The program curriculum offers a unique and integrative focus on sustainability science and practice, transformative leadership, and design and innovation at scale.



## The Sustainability Leadership Practicum

The Sustainability Leadership Practicum is an 80+ hour capstone experience in which SUST master's students integrate and apply the knowledge, mindsets, and skills cultivated through their graduate coursework to a collaborative project that directly supports the sustainability mission of a partner organization.

Through this culminating experience, students often establish strong and lasting working relationships with organizations at the forefront of sustainability efforts, and develop their identity as leaders capable of supporting and accelerating sustainability transformations.

A key aspect of the SUST curriculum is our emphasis on both the science and practice of sustainability. Throughout the program, students develop theoretical and conceptual knowledge at the cutting edge of sustainability science. Concurrently, they analyze a variety of case studies and learn from leaders in industry, government, and nonprofits to understand the practice of sustainability. Through this integrative approach, SUST students are prepared to bring tools, frameworks, a service orientation, and a leadership mindset to the sustainability efforts of their partner organization.

## About the School of Sustainability

The Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability is dedicated to cultivating deep knowledge and high-impact solutions to pressing planetary challenges.

## Criteria for Partner Organizations

If you are interested in partnering with a SUST student on a practicum project that serves your organization's sustainability efforts, our criteria for partner organizations include:

- Expressing a commitment to environmental, social, and/or economic sustainability and working to address a sustainability-related challenge or goal that the student can support;
- Employing a staff member with at least 4 years of experience in environmental, social, and/or economic sustainability who will serve as a regular point of contact for the student as they complete the agreed-upon project;
- Providing opportunities for the student to collaborate with staff members and attend team meetings.



## Requirements for Students

In addition to carrying out a collaborative project with their partner organization, we ask our students to develop a macro-level understanding of the context in which the organization operates, and how their sustainability initiatives contribute to positive societal change. We also prompt them to consider how their partner organization could potentially amplify their sustainability impact even further. Lastly, as part of their learning journey, we invite students to engage in self-reflection regarding their personal and professional growth during their practicum experience. Our students benefit greatly from and often reflect with gratitude on the unique opportunity to learn from the leadership, teamwork, and innovative strategies of their partners.

**Thank you** for your interest in collaborating with students in our program. We are here to answer any questions!

### SUST Contact

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