

IQS Summer Program 2026: Circular Economy

Design Tomorrow's World — Circular, Smarter,
Sustainable.



Program description

Hosted at IQS, a leading center of Ramon Llull University renowned for excellence in science, engineering, and technology.

The program combines academic rigor, hands-on learning, and exposure to companies driving sustainable transformation. Includes lectures, workshops, company visits, and collaborative projects.

This Summer program is targeted to university students and recent graduates from around the world interested in sustainability, circular economy and innovation.

Starting date: 2026/07/6
Ending date: 2026/07/17

Duration: 2 weeks
Modality: In-person

ECTS: 6

Tuition
€ 1.900 (w/o accommodation)
€ 2.700 (w/ accommodation in university dorms)

City: Barcelona

Skills and Competencies that you will develop

- Acquire an understanding of the principles and applications of Circular Economy.
- Learn to analyze and design sustainable solutions.
- Develop your skills through teamwork, project development, and entrepreneurial thinking.
- Learn how AI is changing the applications for circular practices.



Contents

Day 1

- Welcome and program overview
- Discover Barcelona tour and joint dinner

Day 2 - 5

- Principles of Circular Economy
- Frameworks, tools and real-world applications
- Data-driven solutions and predictive models

Day 6

- Visit to Bodegas Torres
- Return to IQS and debriefing

Day 7

- Visit to Barcelona Harbor
- Return to IQS and debriefing

Day 8

- Visit to Can Batlló
- Return to IQS and debriefing

Day 9

- Pitch preparation

Day 10

- Final Pitch (Capstone Project) event and feedback
- Lunch and farewell

Bodegas Torres field trip

Founded in 1870, headquartered in Penedès, Bodegas Torres is one of Catalonia's largest wine exporters (140+ countries)

Climate Change Challenges:

- Temperatures up 1 °C; harvests 10 days earlier
- Severe droughts: 50% loss in 2023, rising climate risks
- Exploring high-altitude vineyards in Pyrenees to adapt

Sustainable Goals and examples of initiatives:

- 40% CO₂ reduction per bottle since 2008
- Pioneering regenerative viticulture & ancestral grapes
- Co-founder of IWCA & Spain's Regenerative Viticulture Association



“Without strong climate action, traditional Catalan vineyards may disappear within 50 years.”
— Miguel A. Torres

BCN Harbor field trip

The Port of Barcelona handles 23% of Spain's maritime trade by value, including 3.6 M containers and more than 3 M cruise passengers per year

Climate Change Challenges:

- Air pollution from cruise ships (SO_x, particulates)

- Overtourism & city congestion

- Pressure on logistics & port workforce

Sustainable goals and examples of initiatives:

- Target: -50% CO₂ by 2030; net-zero by 2050

- €160M shore power: ships plug into 100% green grid

- Smart Port & IoT: predictive logistics, reduced emissions



Can Batlló field trip

Can Batlló is a 19th-century textile factory in Barcelona, transformed into an urban regeneration project combining culture, economy and sustainability

Key features:

- Community-led regeneration of a former industrial complex, driven by residents
- Sustainable reuse of historic factory buildings and creation of the *Parc de Can Batlló* green space
- Hub for the social and solidarity economy, hosting cooperatives and community projects (*Bloc4BCN*)

Why it matters:

- Model of bottom-up, participatory urban transformation
- Integrates heritage, ecology, and social innovation
- Demonstrates how cities can repurpose obsolete industrial assets into inclusive, sustainable community spaces





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