



Specialisation Management

Master's programme:

SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD VALUE CHAINS: LOGISTICS, ENVIRONMENT, STRATEGIES (CDVALES)

Joint accreditation with the University of Montpellier - Montpellier Management (MOMA) and L'Institut Agro Montpellier



OBJECTIVE

This programme is a postgraduate course designed for holders of a university degree with at least four years of higher education (M1 or engineering degree) and with initial training and/or professional experience in the field of agricultural and rural development (agronomy/agriculture, economics).

Within the current context of ecological, food and social transition, agri-food value chains, which form the food system, are evolving towards innovative and more sustainable economic models. The challenge for the actors of agri-food value chains is to reconcile economic, social and environmental performance.

Mobilising multidisciplinary approaches, this professional training programme targets the acquisition and command of theoretical concepts, analysis and sustainability evaluation methods, and their application to professional situations. These skills are developed with the aim of understanding and analysing: i) the changes in the socio-institutional environment, ii) stakeholder behaviours and strategies, iii) modes of stakeholder organisation and coordination from upstream to downstream, from production (agricultural, raw materials), processing and distribution to the end consumer, iv) the evaluation of performance and value creation v) and the role of logistics as a cross-cutting strategic function of supply chains. The objective is to train and specialise future executives and project managers in the management and coordination of value and supply chains, from farm to fork to support the ecological transition of agri-food chains.

The course teaches:

- **Knowledge:** analysing food systems and agri-food value chains; observing and analysing stakeholder environments; assessing the sustainability of agri-food sectors and supply chains; familiarity with the national and international regulations that form the socio-institutional framework for value chains, specialising in the management and coordination of supply chains.
- **Know-how:**
 - Drawing up a strategic diagnosis of a value chain
 - Ability to interface technical and socio-economic aspects
 - Develop a diagnosis and model logistics optimisation plans
 - Mobilise environmental and economic performance evaluation indicators for decision support
- **Soft skills:** working and communicating in a multidisciplinary and multicultural team, developing analytical rigour and a sense of responsibility, respecting scientific and ethical integrity.

ORGANISATION

Master 2 (5 years of higher education) – 12 months (from Sept. 26 to Sept. 27)

Nine modules	30 ECTS
Internship and dissertation	30 ECTS

Master of Science (6 years of higher education) – Additional 12 months

Master of Science thesis	60 ECTS
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ADMISSION CRITERIA

The course is open to economists, agronomists, geographers and ecologists who want to specialise in economics.

Admission level: at least a 4-year university degree or any qualification giving access to postgraduate studies.

TUITION AND REGISTRATION FEES

Tuition fee: 3 527 € (applicants coming from a CIHEAM member country* are exempt from these fees)

Registration fee: 250 €

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available for candidates from CIHEAM member countries* to cover subsistence and training costs

APPLICATION

Application to be submitted online **before 24 March 2026**: <https://apply.iamm.ciheam.org/>

NUMBER OF STUDENTS PER COHORT

Average: 20 students

DEGREES

Master's degree awarded by CIHEAM Montpellier and the University of Montpellier

Master of Science degree awarded by CIHEAM

EMPLOYMENT RATE AT 24 MONTHS

Employment rate: 95 %

Study continuation rate: 0 %

MAIN CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Executive in supply chain management, logistics, and procurement ; Sustainability and CSR analyst or consultant ; Socio-economic and sustainable performance research officer.

Fields of practice: companies, NGOs, consulting firms, research, public administration.

Qualified to pursue doctoral studies.

* Albania, Algeria, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey.

MASTER 2 PROGRAMME (60 ECTS)

Excel training prerequisites (September)

Module 1: Stakes, challenges and stakeholders of the ecological transition and the circular economy (September-December) – 2 ECTS

- Principles and concepts of sustainable development
- The interest of a multidisciplinary approach to the ecological transition
- Methodological approaches and benefits of the circular economy

Module 2: Agri-food value chains and sustainability: concepts and methods (September-October) – 3 ECTS

- Coordination and management of agri-food value chains, and the transition towards environmental and social sustainability
- Methods of sector analysis and stakeholder strategies: theoretical contributions from industrial economics and circular economy

Module 3: Technical aspects of logistics, innovations, sustainability and cost management (October-November) – 5 ECTS

- Understanding the logistics function as a strategic function of the company
- Familiarisation with information systems and data processing methods
- Learning methods to analyse logistics costs and economic and environmental performance indicators

Module 4: Regulations, social responsibility standards for logistics and the environment (November-December) – 3 ECTS

- Learning about the conventions, contracts and standards governing international logistics
- Familiarisation with the regulatory frameworks relating to the energy and ecological transition, applied to logistics at different scales (territorial, urban, etc.).
- Understanding national and international regulations for social responsibility in favour of sustainable development, the circular economy and the fight against food wastage

Module 5: Distribution and supply chain management (December-January) – 3 ECTS

- Understanding the functioning of distribution channels, the role of stakeholders and coordination arrangements
- Understanding the challenges of digitalisation

- Learning supply methods for optimised and sustainable flow management
- Learning the basics of waste management in agri-food supply chains

Module 6: Company organisation, human resources management and corporate social responsibility (January-February) – 4 ECTS

- Understanding the process, tools and main models for the strategic analysis of organisations
- Understanding the stakes of human resources management and corporate social responsibility
- Acquiring team management skills

Module 7: International trade and marketing (February-March) – 3 ECTS

- Learning the basics of marketing associated with creation of value for the company
- Understanding the stakes of a distribution policy and an international communication strategy
- Identifying the strategic behaviours of companies for products obtained by sustainable production processes
- Familiarisation with quality signs, standards and international sustainability certifications.

Module 8: Research methods in social science (October-March) – 4 ECTS

- Formulation of a scientific approach
- Training in scientific documentary research

Module 9: English language course (October - March) – 3 ECTS

Oral and written expression adapted to an academic and/or professional context

Internship project, internship and Master's thesis (March-September) – 30 ECTS

- Development of a project outlining the internship tasks within a scientific framework
- Individual internship in a professional setting
- Writing and defense of the Master's thesis (M2)

MASTER OF SCIENCE (60 ECTS)

CIHEAM Master of Science thesis

Writing and defense.

COORDINATORS

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