

Managers Study Visit to Universidad de Burgos (UBU)



- **Date:** 5 – 9 May 2025
- **Location:** Universidad de Burgos, Spain

Key themes:

- **Green Transition** keynotes and workshops
- **Student-centered** and **competence-based** education
- **Industry collaboration**
- **Future foresight** methods for developing modern educational products

Learning for a Sustainable Future - Higher Education for Green Transition in Southeast Asia

Acronym: GreenEdAsia

Project ID: 101177627





Disclaimer

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Objective of the project & purpose of the week

Learning for a Sustainable Future - Higher Education for Green Transition in Southeast Asia (GreenEdAsia) is an Erasmus Lump Sum Grant that emerges from a partnership between four Southeast Asian higher education institutions (HEIs) and two European HEIs. The GreenEdAsia project aims to contribute to the green transition in Vietnam and Thailand by strengthening higher education institutions' capacity to train skilled workforce in circular bioeconomy and renewable energy. It focuses on developing innovative, multidisciplinary curriculums that integrate sustainable development principles across disciplines. The project emphasizes the importance of practical experiences through collaboration with local industries and government bodies, providing students with opportunities to engage in real-world projects that contribute to the green transition in their communities.

The GreenEdAsia project is structured into six working packages, each targeting specific objectives within the overall goal. Work Package 5, titled "Strengthening capacities for partner HEIs", includes the task "T5.3 Organizing Managers Study Visit to UBU" and the deliverable "D5.1 Managers Study Visit to UBU." The Study Visit program includes keynotes and workshops focusing on the main themes of the project, including student-centered and competence-based education, education-society-industry collaboration, and future foresight methods.

Partners will actively engage in the week's scheduled activities. Monday's session will focus on two main topics: (i) connecting higher education with society and industry, and (ii) teaching innovation strategies. On Tuesday, the session on the Future Foresight Methods will identify and analyze the competences needed for the green transition. Later, participants will engage in an escape room activity focused on the circular economy as a specific teaching innovation strategy. Wednesday will feature a field trip to explore higher education and society collaboration at *Yacimientos de Atapuerca*, and industry collaboration at *Pradorey Vineyards*. On Thursday, participants will visit *Hiperbaric*, a leading renewable hydrogen company that collaborates with Universidad de Burgos. This will be followed by presentations on bioeconomy projects developed at UBU. Finally, coordinators from key bachelor's and master's programs will then discuss qualifications for a sustainable future. On Friday, participants will attend sessions on (i) the role of internationalization in higher education systems and (ii) the need to support teacher development to promote organizational competence. The week conclude with discussions on the program's next steps and the project's quality assurance.

Welcome message from Ileana María Greca, Vice-Chancellor for Internationalisation, Cooperation and Strategic Alliances

Dear esteemed delegates from Thailand, Vietnam, and Finland,

On behalf of the University of Burgos, it is my great pleasure and honour to welcome you to our campus. We are delighted to host you as valued partners in our shared capacity-building project.



Your presence here reflects our collective commitment to fostering meaningful international collaboration, academic excellence, and mutual learning across cultures and institutions.

As Vice-Chancellor for Internationalisation, Cooperation and Strategic Alliances I firmly believe that initiatives like ours not only strengthen institutional capacity but also enrich the global perspective of our academic communities. During your time here, I hope you will experience the warm hospitality of Burgos, the spirit of innovation and inclusion that defines our university, and the vibrant exchange of ideas that international partnerships make possible.

Once again, welcome to the University of Burgos. We look forward to a fruitful and inspiring time together.

Warm regards,

Ileana María Greca



UBU and its Business and Economics School

UNIVERSIDAD DE BURGOS (UBU)

Universidad de Burgos (UBU) is a medium-sized public university founded in Burgos in 1994. It serves over 10,000 students and employs 1,000 faculty members across six faculties: Business and Economics, Law, Humanities and Communication, Education, Health Sciences, and Science, plus the Polytechnic School. It offers 26 degrees, 7 double degrees, 27 master's, and 13 PhD programs, along with 5 online degrees and 4 online master's programs.

UBU's mission is to provide comprehensive, high-quality education that is student-centered and focused on internationalization. In addition, in just 25 years, it has become a leading institution in Spain for research and knowledge transfer to businesses.

Recognized as a Campus of International Excellence by the Spanish Ministry of Education, UBU also features in international rankings. UBU ranks fifth in the Spanish university system according to the 2022 U-Ranking published by the BBVA Foundation and the IVIE. In Castilla y León, UBU ranked first in terms of global performance, teaching, innovation, and research. It is among the top Spanish universities in terms of patents obtained by teaching staff and the number of scientific publications in first-quartile journals. UBU is accredited by The Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R) and ranks eighth in the Spanish university system according to the THE-IMPACT ranking in relation to the SDGs, reflecting its commitment to the SDGs and the European Green Deal.

THE BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS SCHOOL

The Business and Economics School is located within the main campus, Hospital del Rey, next to the Library, Rectorate, and Law School.

The School offers Bachelor's Degrees in Business Administration, Tourism, and Finance and Accounting, and a Double Degree in Business and Law. In addition, it offers Master's Degrees in Circular Economy, Business Sustainability, Accounting and Auditing, Business Administration, and International Cooperation.



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Program outline

Monday, 5 May 2025

Time	Session	Location
9:00 – 9:30	Registration	Hospital del Rey
9:30 – 10:15	Welcoming words: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ileana María Greca, Vice-Chancellor for Internationalisation, Cooperation and Strategic Alliances. <i>Universidad de Burgos</i>. Partner introductions	Sala de La Encomienda, Rectorate
10:15 – 10:45	Coffee break	Hospital del Rey
10:45 – 12:45	Mapping higher education (<i>group discussions</i>)	Sala de La Encomienda, Rectorate
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch break	Residencia Universitaria “Camino de Santiago”
14:30 – 16:30	Workshop: Teaching innovation strategies for the Green Transition (<i>guided by UBU</i>) Team presentations	Sala 2, 2 nd floor, Business School
16:30 – 18:00	Visiting Burgos (<i>optional activity</i>)	Historic Center of Burgos





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Wellcome. The study visit started with a warm welcome by Ileana María Greca, Vice-Chancellor for Internationalisation, Cooperation and Strategic Alliances at Universidad de Burgos, followed by a round of partner introductions that helped set the collaborative tone for the week.



Mapping higher education. Participants took part in group discussions to map the relationship between higher education and its connections with society and industry in their respective countries. These sessions allowed for comparative reflections and exchange of good practices.





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Teaching Innovation Strategies for the Green Transition

In the afternoon, a workshop was led by UBU. Teams from partner institutions presented and discussed diverse educational approaches to support sustainability, competence-based learning and innovation in curriculum design.



The group discussions helped identify common challenges and opportunities in university-society and university-industry collaboration across different national contexts. The workshop fostered the exchange of ideas on pedagogical strategies for the green transition, encouraging participants to reflect on how to integrate innovative methods such as active learning, interdisciplinarity, and real-world challenges in their teaching. The day concluded with an optional visit to the Historic Center of Burgos, strengthening intercultural bonding among participants.





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Tuesday, 6 May 2025

Time	Session	Location
9:00 – 10:30	Future Foresight methods: Modern Educational Products (HAMK)	Sala 2, 2 nd floor, Business School
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee break	2 nd floor, Business School
10:45 – 12:00	Future Foresight methods: Modern Educational Products (HAMK)	Sala 2, 2 nd floor, Business School
12:00 – 13:00	Guided tour around Hospital del Rey – Universidad de Burgos. • Germán Gamero , <i>Ph.D. in History. Assistant Professor at the Business and Economics Department. Universidad de Burgos.</i>	Hospital del Rey
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch break	Residencia Universitaria “ Camino de Santiago ”
14:30 – 16:00	Workshop: Circular economy escape room (guided by UBU)	Sala 2, 2 nd floor, Business School

Future Foresight methods: Modern Educational Products (HAMK)

The participants of the workshop were presented with the foresight methodology and how it is implemented in practice in the project. The results of the so far conducted foresight methods were presented by Anne-Maria Korhonen. The information was drawn from the participants' learning activities in the foresight phase learning activities, and with more details, from the interviews they conducted with their stakeholders. The managers also used the Orchidea application for brainstorming the question: What trends, megatrends, and weak signals do you see that will have an influence on education in general in the future in Southeast Asia (5-year perspective)? After this they were presented and it was discussed together and in small groups the modern educational products, such as MOOC, microcredential, digital open badges and pedagogical approaches in learning in digital environments.



For managers, the planning board was established in Padlet that collected all the information that was presented to them, in addition to the materials that managers produced during the workshop on Tuesday and Friday. The planning board still exists for further use: https://padlet.com/korhonen_annema/greenedasia-managers-planning-board-caswhmyi6w2psi63.

The participants took a break by visiting the Hospital del Rey, which now houses the university's rectorate and was originally a medieval pilgrims' hospital on the Camino de Santiago.

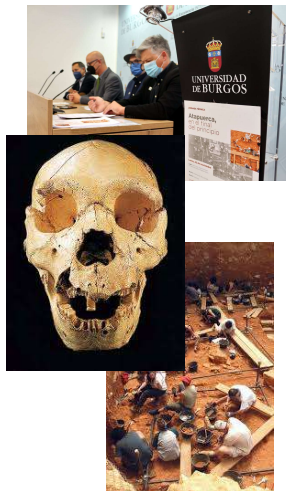
Workshop: Circular economy scape. Combining pedagogical innovation and sustainability, the University of Burgos' team presented an escape room focused on the circular economy. Participants in the Managers Study Visit to Burgos tried this immersive educational experience in a hands-on engaging way. Both teams managed to overcome the five challenges to gather all the pieces (raw materials, production, distribution, product life, and waste management) necessary to complete the Circular Economy cycle. Each team members experienced how learning through intense emotions—triggered by competition, time constraints, and a feeling of team belonging—can enhance student engagement, motivation, and learning outcomes.



Wednesday, 7 May 2025

Time	Session	Location
9:00	Departure	In front of Hotel NH Collection
10:00 – 11:30	Higher Education & society collaboration: Yacimientos de la Sierra de Atapuerca	Atapuerca
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch break	Bodegas Pradorey
15:00 – 18:00	Higher Education & industry collaboration: Vineyards	Bodegas Pradorey

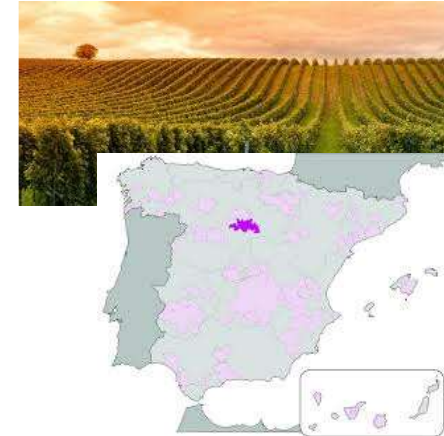
On Wednesday, we will do a field trip: exploring collaboration in two key sectors in Burgos: archeology and wineries.



[Yacimientos de la Sierra de Atapuerca](#) is renowned for its rich fossil record and evidence of early human species. Researchers and students from Universidad de Burgos actively participate in studying the findings from Atapuerca.

Universidad de Burgos offers specialized programs in archaeology and human evolution, utilizing the site's proximity to provide practical learning experiences. This collaboration enriches the academic environment and significantly advances global knowledge of human prehistory.

The collaboration between Universidad de Burgos and the vineyards of [Ribera del Duero](#) exemplifies higher education and industry synergy, focusing on research, innovation, and practical training. The university conducts studies on diverse aspects of wine production, including circular economy processes, through a master's degree program, internships, and projects at the vineyards. This partnership facilitates knowledge exchange between academic experts and industry professionals, addressing real-world challenges and enriching the educational experience.





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On Wednesday, we got in contact with two key sectors in Burgos that have collaboration with the University.

Higher Education & society collaboration: Yacimientos de la Sierra de Atapuerca

Description and objectives: During the morning time, we arrived at Atapuerca and visited the archaeological site guided by a professional who explained all the history around Atapuerca, the different findings from the site since the beginnings of the research work there and the way in which the different research phases are accomplished in the site. Moreover, she explained the importance of Atapuerca for society and the close relationship between Atapuerca and the Universidad de Burgos. This activity aimed to showcase a successful collaboration between the university and the scientific/social sector, highlighting how archaeological and academic research at Atapuerca contributes to global knowledge of human prehistory.

Results: The participants visited the archaeological site and experienced firsthand its history, relevance, way of working and its connection with the University of Burgos, particularly in student training and research. The visit demonstrated how the university integrates hands-on learning (through degrees and postgraduate programs in archaeology and human evolution) with real-world research. The importance of scientific outreach and knowledge transfer between academia and society was reinforced.





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Higher Education & industry collaboration: Vineyards

Description and objectives: After visiting Atapuerca, we went to Gumiel de Mercado, a small municipality located in the Region of La Ribera del Duero to visit the Pradorey Vineyard. Ribera del Duero is a Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) wine region in northern Spain's high plains; it is among the eleven-premium wine-producing zones in Castilla y León. This area is also part of the renowned winemaking regions situated along the Duero River.

The goal of this visit was to illustrate the collaboration between the university and the wine industry, focusing on research, innovation, and practical training. Moreover, we aimed to highlight specific projects (e.g., circular economy, production optimization) fostered by the vineyard.

Results: The participants visited the vineyard fields and the cellar, guided by one of the employees of Pradorey vineyard. After the visit and a short wine-tasting, the manager of Vineyard explained the objectives of his winery, which are closely related to environmental, social and economic sustainability, and answered all the questions that arose on issues related to the green transition and its relationship with the university and research. Participants could observe the relationship between the wine industry with the University of Burgos, as well as student internships and specialized master's programs.





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Thursday, 8 May 2025

Time	Session	Location
9:00	Departure	In front of Hotel NH Collection
9:30	Company visit: Hiperbaric	Hiperbaric
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch break	Residencia Universitaria “Camino de Santiago”
15:00 – 16:00	Bioeconomy projects at UBU Jesús Ibáñez , <i>International Research Center in Critical Raw Materials for Advanced Industrial Technologies</i>	Salón de Grados, 2 nd floor, Business School
16:00 – 16:15	Coffee Break	
16:15 – 17:30	Qualifications for the future: presenting UBU degrees Ana María Lara , <i>Coordinator of the BSc Degree in Commercial Pilot for Passenger and Cargo Transport</i> Daniel Urda , <i>Coordinator of the BSc Dual Degree in Digital Technologies</i> David Blanco , <i>Coordinator of the MSc in Circular Economy</i> Nicolás García , <i>Coordinator of the MSc in Sustainability Information and Assurance</i>	Salón de Grados, 2 nd floor, Business School
20:00 – 22:00	Optional: Formal dinner (self-financed) Menu: 27 € (must be paid by cash at the restaurant)	Hotel Silken Gran Teatro





On Thursday morning we visited the company Hyperbaric

Description and Objectives:

On Thursday morning, we visited Hiperbaric, a company based in Burgos with a strong international presence, dedicated to the design, manufacturing, and commercialization of industrial High Pressure Processing (HPP) equipment. In terms of environmental sustainability, in 2021 they launched an innovative business line focused on the compression of hydrogen (H_2) at very high pressure, sourced from renewable energy, to contribute to the challenge of sustainable mobility. During the visit, in addition to learning about the company's operations through an excellent presentation and a tour of the workshop, the close collaboration between the University of Burgos (UBU) and Hiperbaric was clearly highlighted.

Results:

The visit served as a clear example of the strong ties between the university and the business network of Burgos, established through various channels. The visit coordinator pointed out that approximately half of the current workforce began their relationship with the company through internship programs developed in collaboration with UBU. Additionally, it was mentioned that several industrial PhD programs have been carried out to address specific needs of the company. Regarding their new business line and ongoing research on hydrogen compression, the company stated that they are collaborating with UBU's research team specialized in green hydrogen.





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In the afternoon we have two sessions:

Presentation of the different Bioeconomy projects at UBU. Description and objectives: A team member of the ICCRAM (International Research Center in Critical Raw Materials for Advanced Industrial Technologies) presented the various projects carried out on this issue in where the UBU are involved. Results: this session served to underline the importance of the project topic and the need for research and highlight the importance of the partnerships to develop the different projects, both with external institutions and companies, as well as the sources of funding to carry out these projects.





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Qualification for the future: Description and objectives: Four coordinators from different university programs participated in this roundtable discussion, discussing the specifics of curriculum design and the importance of business connections. Results: In this session two curriculum proposals were presented that were linked to the field of sustainability (MSc in Circular Economy and MSc in Sustainability Information and Assurance), while the two others demonstrated the strong need for business connections in program types where a large portion of the training is provided by companies (BSc Dual Degree in Digital Technologies, BSc Degree in Commercial Pilot for Passenger and Cargo Transport).



BSc Degree in commercial Pilot for Passenger and Cargo Transport: FlyBy Aviation Academy, the largest flight school in Spain and Europe, comes with the University of Burgos to create the perfect combination of flight training excellence and higher education. Senior professors and certified personnel by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) provide lectures for this Degree.

BSc Dual Degree in Digital Technologies: the objective of this BSc is to train professionals in the field of Computer Engineering, with extensive knowledge and skills in several Key Enabling Technologies, including artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and additive manufacturing, as well as others such as Big Data, cloud computing, Internet of Things (IoT), collaborative robotics, process simulation, and virtual reality, all of which are key points in the future establishment of effective digital industry in companies.

MSc in Circular Economy: This master's program provides students with the necessary skills to meet social, academic, and professional demands related to the implementation of Circular Economy strategies.

MSc in Sustainability Information and Assurance: The main objective of this master's degree is to fulfill the demand for professionals equipped with the skills to engage in and oversee the production and assurance of corporate sustainability information.

Friday, 9 May 2025

Time	Session	Location
9:00 – 9:30	Next steps for the Project (<i>Hoang An Quoc</i>)	Salón de Grados, 2 nd floor, <u>Business School</u>
9:30 – 10:00	Quality Assurance of the Project (<i>Hanna Lindroos</i>)	





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10:00 – 11:00	Leading Internationalization at UBU <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cristina Zaldívar, <i>Head of the International Office</i> • Rubén Gallo, <i>Project Leader RUN-EU</i> 	
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break	2 nd floor, Business School
11:30 – 12:30	Supporting teacher development to promote organisational competence (<i>Anne-Maria Korhonen</i>)	Salón de Grados, 2 nd floor, Business School
12:30 – 13:00	Closing remarks (UBU)	
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch break	Residencia Universitaria “Camino de Santiago”



program and invited participants to complete the feedback survey for the week.

The last day of the “Managers Study Visit” began with Hoang An Quoc (HCMUTE) outlining the next steps for the project. Following this, Hanna Lindroos (HAMK) provided updates on the project’s quality assurance

Universidad de Burgos supports [international students](#) by welcoming over 950 incoming students each year and offering more than 1,000 international mobility opportunities across 700 destinations in 38 countries in Europe, Asia, and America.

[RUN-EU](#) is an alliance of eight like-minded higher education institutions that aim to lead the future of higher education, preparing students and researchers for a complex world by strengthening the European inter-university campus and enhancing institutional cooperation to drive sustainable progress.





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The next session focused on internationalization. Cristina Zaldívar, Head of the International Office at UBU, presented an overview of the university's mobility programs. She was followed by Rubén Gallo, Project Leader of RUN-EU, who introduced the RUN-EU alliance and its objectives.

Subsequently, Anne-Maria Korhonen (HAMK) led a session titled "Supporting Teacher Development to Promote Organisational Competence," offering valuable insights into faculty development strategies. She presented different frameworks that can be used to define teachers' pedagogical competences and how to develop them in educational organisations.

To conclude the week, the UBU team delivered closing remarks, summarizing the key learning outcomes of the visit. The event wrapped up with the distribution of participation certificates by the UBU team.



The feedback from participants

All participants, including two from DThU, three from HAMK, two from HCMUTE, two from RMUTL, four from RMUTT, and the UBU team, were present for all sessions throughout the program.

The participants were asked for feedback on the activities and key learnings of the week. All (100%) Southeast Asian participants answered the questionnaire, and the participants agreed that after participating in the workshop they now have a clearer understanding on their role and responsibility in the project with an average of 4,3/5,00.

Based on the workshop themes, the participants were asked to consider the most valuable learnings from the workshop. The participants highlighted the following key learnings:

Student-Centered and Competence-Based Education:

Participants emphasized the importance of empowering students as active co-creators in their learning journey, highlighting autonomy, collaboration, and critical thinking as key elements. Practical methods like escape rooms and interdisciplinary approaches were praised for enhancing engagement, while the integration of sustainability and digital tools supported deeper, competence-based learning.

Industry Collaboration:

The workshop underscored the value of building reciprocal partnerships between academia and industry, with examples such as co-designed curricula, internships, and research collaboration. Participants appreciated insights from company visits, especially around corporate responsibility, innovation, and sustainability, and were inspired by models like Cooperative Work-Integrated Education (CWIE) that bridge theory and practice.

Future Foresight Methods:

Key learnings included the proactive use of foresight tools—such as trend analysis and scenario planning—to design adaptable, future-ready educational products. Participants valued the integration of AI, digital tools, and project-based learning, and recognized the importance of aligning teaching methods with emerging societal and technological needs.

One participant summarized their feedback on the study visit: “The workshop effectively combined theory and practical implementation. The hands-on learning approach clarified educational concepts tremendously. The collaborative atmosphere allowed for diverse perspectives among participants. The facilitators were knowledgeable and addressed questions effectively”.

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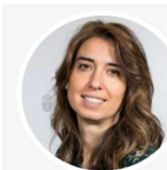
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