

Landscape Finance: Investing in Innovation for Sustainable Landscapes

Course Syllabus

<https://courses.edx.org/courses/course-v1:WageningenX+LAND02x+3T2019/>

Topic

Bridge the gap between finance and landscape! Learn to navigate the web of landscape financial flows, mechanisms and requirements toward developing cutting-edge business cases and models for sustainable development in landscapes.

Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

- understand how integrated landscape investments can add financial value;
- explain what sources of capital are available for integrated landscape investments;
- identify which types of financial mechanisms can support integrated landscape investments;
- use blended finance to support integrated landscape investments;
- coordinate finance at a landscape scale, considering institutional needs.

Level & Prerequisites

The level of the course is intermediate. The prerequisites are a BA/BSc or higher-level certificate in financial/business/economic fields or social sciences, and a minimum of one year's academic or professional engagement in landscapes or development finance.

Time Commitment

The total effort for this course is estimated at 8 hours for an average learner. The course is run in a self-paced mode, allowing learners to progress through the modules at their own speed.

Course Structure

1: Introduction to Landscape Finance

In this first module, you will join the mission to develop a shared language and understanding of the key investment challenges in our world's landscapes.

2: The Business Case

In this module, you will learn the importance of thinking like an investor and start to assess landscape opportunities for the multiple values they create.

3: Financing Sources and Mechanisms

In this module, you will learn about the diverse plural sources of capital and funding for landscape investments. You will also learn the unique traits and demands of various sources and how they seek to compliment and use each other.

4: Bankable Projects

In this module, you will learn how investors assess and are attracted to invest in projects and businesses. You will explore what makes propositions more attractive and try out tools to strengthen your pull to investors.

5: Coordinating Investments

In this module, you will learn about the key challenge of coordinating investments and activities in multi-stakeholder settings. You will also learn about the logical need to prioritise and schedule investments for better impact.

6: Put Your Knowledge into Action

Throughout the short course, you have been applying your learning to a case of your choosing. In this module, you will bring it all together, show what you have learned and present yourself and your case.

Course Calendar

EVENT	DATE	TIME*
Opening course	26 November 2019	1:00 UTC
Submit assignment in Module 6	19 March 2020	23:00 UTC
Module exams	2 April 2020	23:00 UTC
Review peers in assignment Module 6		
Closing course		

* Please be aware that these are UTC times; check when this is for your time zone.

The course is run in a self-paced mode, allowing learners to progress through the modules at their own speed. The course remains open for 17 weeks, giving all learners enough time to complete it.

Grading Policy

For those of you who are taking the course to obtain a Verified Certificate, a minimum grade of 60% is required. The four module exams count for 70% of your overall grade; the remaining 30% is earned with the final assignment in Module 6.

MODULE	EXAMINATION TYPE	WEIGHT
Module 1	No examination	0%
Module 2	Exam	17.5%
Module 3	Exam	17.5%
Module 4	Exam	17.5%
Module 5	Exam	17.5%
Module 6	Assignment	30%

Academic Policy

We expect each student to complete the exams on their own, not in collaboration with other students. In addition, the submitted work in Module 6 should be your own work, not the result of collaboration with other students or written by someone else.

In this course, you are encouraged to use the 'Notes' function of EdX. This useful function can help you remember important learning points for use later on. Please do take care that if you do take notes on texts, that you do not accidentally paste in verbatim course content as your own submission.

Discussion Forum Participation

As a learner of this course you are part of a diverse learning community that is at the heart of a meaningful learning experience. The discussion forum is an essential part of this online course. In many assignments you are asked to discuss your findings on the forum with other learners. Moderators and/or instructors are participating in the forum to help facilitate an effective dialogue and support the discussion forum guidelines. If you are new to our online courses, please take a moment to read the [Discussion Guidelines](#).

What's the difference between audit and verified track?

The course offers two possibilities: an audit track and a verified learner track. The audit track comprises most of the course but also lacks valuable assignments. In every module there are graded questions that are only available to verified learners. The verified track provides the complete course and the full experience. Below you see the differences, per module for audit and verified learners.

Topic / activity	Module	Available in audit track (free)	Available in verified track (paid)
Introduction to Landscape Finance	1	✓	✓
The Business Case	2	✓	✓
Source of Finance	3	✓	✓
Bankable Projects	4	✓	✓
Coordinating Investments	5	✓	✓
Put your Knowledge into Action	6	✓	✓
Module Exam (graded)	2 to 5	✗	✓
Optional Assignment	1 to 6	✓	✓
Certificate (if you receive a passing grade)	N/A	✗	✓

If you are looking for basics about landscape Finance, we welcome you in the audit track. However we encourage everyone who wants to use this course for a career enhancement and who's looking for a full experience, to upgrade to the verified track to get access to all course materials.