

ERASMUS BIP SUMMER SCHOOL 2026

Circular Bioeconomy and Sustainable Resource Management (4-8 May 2026, Istria)



About the Summer School

This Blended Intensive Programme (BIP) offers an interdisciplinary introduction to circular bioeconomy principles, sustainable resource management, and innovative valorization of agricultural, industrial, and municipal waste streams. The programme combines a 2-day online course with a 1-week field visits with project work in Istria, awarding 3 ECTS upon successful completion.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Participants will:

- Understand principles of circular and regenerative bioeconomy.
- Evaluate bio-based solutions for waste valorization and resource efficiency.
- Analyse current research and technological innovations.
- Apply systems-thinking to real-world sustainability challenges.
- Develop problem-solving and teamwork skills through group tasks and the final report.

Programme Structure

1) Short intensive online course (27-30 April)



A two-day online programme consisting of lectures and interactive discussions. Topics include:

- Fundamentals of circular and regenerative bioeconomy
- Bioenergy conversion technologies
- Circular use of agricultural biomass & nature-based solutions
- Biochar for soil improvement and carbon sequestration
- Microbial inoculants and biostimulants for sustainable crop production
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Assessment: online quizzes + active participation.

2) Field visits and project work (4–8 May)



A one-week experiential programme with guided visits to olive oil, cheese, wine producers, a municipal waste management centre, and a cement industry focusing on CO₂ valorisation. Includes local tours and a final report.

Field Visit Agenda (Istria) Vodnjan · Pula · Poreč · Labin

Monday – Arrival in Zagreb, welcome meeting, transfer to Istria.

Tuesday – Chiavalon olive oil facility; Brijuni Islands Nature Park.

Wednesday – Agrolaguna cheese, olive oil, and wine facilities; Poreč tour.

Thursday – Kaštijun waste-management plant; Pula city tour; Koromačno cement industry; Labin tour.

Friday – Return to Zagreb; programme closing.



PARTICIPATION ON THE SUMMER SCHOOL – WHY AND HOW

International & Interdisciplinary Learning Environment



The Summer School brings together up to 30 students from partner universities, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and international teamwork. Students work in mixed groups to address practical challenges, compare national practices, and co-develop circular solutions—all while experiencing real examples across sectors.

Unique Hands-On Experience

Students will engage directly with:

- Leading agricultural producers (olive oil, cheese, wine)
- Nature conservation environments
- Municipal waste-management systems
- CO₂ valorisation strategies and industrial transitions

This provides a rare opportunity to connect theoretical concepts with real-world practice in a regional context known for strong sustainability initiatives.

ERASMUS BIP GRANT



Once accepted into the programme, students become eligible to apply for an ERASMUS BIP grant. The grant is intended to cover material costs associated with participation in the Summer School, reducing financial barriers and enabling broad participation in the blended (virtual + field) course

WHO CAN APPLY?



The programme is open to **bachelor's and master's students** in fields related to sustainability, bioeconomy, agriculture, environment, engineering, resource management, circular economy, and related disciplines.

LANGUAGE & REQUIREMENTS

Medium of instruction: **English**

Required: active engagement in discussions, group tasks, and the final report