



university of  
 groningen



# INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

SOUTH AFRICA, APRIL/MAY 2025





# Dear Student,

We are excited to invite you to participate in the International Development Project (IDP) 2025, an exciting initiative organized by the Faculty of Economics and Business (FEB) and the Economics and Business Faculty Association (EBF).

This project offers a unique opportunity to engage directly with real-world challenges in sustainability, working closely with local businesses and communities in South Africa, all while aligning with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Building on last year's successful pilot, we are preparing a new group of highly motivated FEB students to take part in this impactful journey. As a selected participant, you will undergo a 7-week preparation course in Groningen, led by esteemed faculty including Professor P. Rao Sahib, before embarking on a transformative trip to Stellenbosch, South Africa. There, you will collaborate with the Small Business Academy and other local organizations, gaining invaluable international experience and practical insights into sustainability, social entrepreneurship, and multi-value creation.

This is an excellent opportunity to apply your academic knowledge in a real-world setting, expand your global network, and contribute meaningfully to sustainable economic development. If you are passionate about making a difference and want to enhance your professional profile, we encourage you to join us.

Kind regards,

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International Development Project Committee 2024-2025  
Economics and Business Faculty Association (EBF)  
Faculty of Economics and Business (FEB)



# PRESENTING OUR COMMITTEE



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**PETER BOSCH & FELIX DÖBLER & TOM RINKER**  
**CLARA HAJEK & MARIE LENDNER & ANN REGTS**



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# GENERAL INFORMATION

The International Development Project (IDP), first launched by the EBF Board 2023-2024, is set to return for its second edition in 2025. Taking place from April 23rd to May 21st, 2025, this exciting program offers an exclusive opportunity for 15 selected FEB students, along with six committee members, to collaborate with students from Stellenbosch University in South Africa.

During this project, you will engage in research for South African companies, gaining invaluable hands-on experience tackling real-world business challenges in an emerging market. This is your chance to apply your academic knowledge to sustainability and business development issues that have a lasting impact. After completing the research phase, you'll have two additional weeks for independent exploration, giving you the opportunity to immerse yourself in South African culture and gain deeper insights into the dynamics of emerging economies.



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Participants in the International Development Project are selected based on their motivation and a genuine interest in South African culture. This ensures that the program offers a rich and enlightening blend of academic knowledge and practical experience for all involved.

The project operates through focus groups, fostering direct interaction between local entrepreneurs and Dutch, international, and South African students. This collaborative environment encourages the exchange of sustainability insights and the exploration of future business opportunities. By engaging in this cross-cultural exchange, students are motivated to participate in international academic research. Each participant will help produce a report detailing their findings, conclusions, and recommendations, which they will then present to the group, contributing to a shared learning experience.

# TIMEFRAME

**FEBRUARY 2025**

**COURSE OPENS  
& SOCIAL OPENING DINNER**

**FEBRUARY -  
MID APRIL**

**(GUEST) LECTURES  
& WEEKLY DINNERS + SOCIALS**

**MID APRIL -  
APRIL 21st**

**LECTURE ON SOUTH AFRICAN CULTURE  
(AFTER EXAM PERIOD)**

**APRIL 23rd -  
MAY 8th**

**GOODBYE PARTY & FLY TO CAPETOWN  
START OF 2 WEEKS RESEARCH IN STELLENBOSCH**

**MAY 9th -  
MAY 21st**

**2 WEEKS FREE TRAVEL AND RETURN  
TO GRONINGEN**



# YOUR ENGAGEMENT



Mondays are IDP Nights! We will meet every Monday evening in block 2.1. Embrace an open, motivated mindset, and actively engage with fellow participants to foster a welcoming environment.

After the Monday lectures, dinner and socials await! Join us for fun events where you can relax and connect over drinks— just to foster social cohesiveness and strengthen connections!

Your involvement in research is crucial. We expect you to be a fully engaged team-player and take the tasks seriously. Each group has supervising committee members available to help with any difficulties.

As this is an university-accredited course, punctuality and adherence to deadlines is expected. Fundraising is a extra key component of the IDP 2025, and we promise it'll be interactive and enjoyable! Here's some of our ideas:

- IDP Run: Choose your distance, gather sponsors, and run for a cause.
- Running Dinner: Enjoy a progressive meal across different houses, with profits supporting the project.
- Social Evenings: Participate in fun events like pub quizzes, karaoke nights, or game nights, all designed to raise funds while having a blast.

You'll also be able to join one of three committees (Acquisition, Dutch Activities, or South African Activities) to help organize these events. Plus, compete in a Peer-Peer Fundraising competition for a prize!

This is your opportunity to make fundraising enjoyable while bonding with your peers and contributing to a meaningful project in South Africa. We're excited to hear about your creative ideas!





# PARTNER UNIVERSITY

Stellenbosch, affectionately known as "Stellies," is a vibrant student city located just 50 kilometers from Cape Town in the scenic Western Cape Province. Home to the internationally renowned Stellenbosch University, it's the only South African university that offers some courses in Afrikaans, adding a unique cultural dimension to your academic experience. Beyond its academic prestige, Stellenbosch is nestled in a famous wine region, offering breathtaking landscapes, vineyards, and outdoor activities. The city's lively student atmosphere, combined with its rich history and stunning natural surroundings, makes it an exciting and inspiring place to study, explore, and make unforgettable memories.

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# ACCOMMODATION

For the first two weeks, you'll be staying in fully-furnished campus apartments shared with fellow participants. Each apartment, designed for four people, includes a private bathroom and kitchen, giving you the flexibility to prepare your favorite meals and snacks. The spacious living room, equipped with Wi-Fi, provides the perfect setting for relaxed evenings. Located just a short walk from Stellenbosch University's vibrant campus and the charming town center, you'll have the best of both worlds – easy access to world-class university facilities and a dynamic local scene.

With your student card, you'll have Wi-Fi access across campus and access to university amenities, ensuring a seamless experience.



# EXPECTED COSTS

The participation fee for the first two weeks, including flights and accommodation, is just €1250 – a great value considering everything that's packed into this unique experience! You'll have the opportunity to visit local companies, dive into impactful work at places like the orphanage centre, and participate in a range of exciting planned activities that will immerse you in the heart of Stellenbosch.

Transportation for all group research activities is also included, so you can focus on learning and connecting without worrying about logistics. As for meals, you're free to budget for your own catering – whether it's cooking up a storm in your apartment's kitchen or dining out at Stellenbosch's incredible array of restaurants and bars. making this trip both academically enriching and a true South African adventure!





# COURSE DETAILS

The International Development Project (IDP) 2025 is more than just a trip—it's a chance to apply your academic knowledge to real-world challenges and make a lasting impact on sustainability and social entrepreneurship. Through collaboration with local entrepreneurs and students from Stellenbosch University, you'll actively contribute to enhancing sustainable business practices and fostering economic growth in South Africa.

As part of the IDP, you'll engage in meaningful research focused on Sustainable Business Models and Social Entrepreneurship, addressing crucial areas like Decent Work and Economic Growth (SDG 8), Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11), Quality Education (SDG 4), and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17). Before heading to Stellenbosch, you'll complete a 5 ECTS preparatory course that equips you with the tools to conduct research that drives real economic and social progress.



During the lecture weeks in block 2.1, we will meet each week on Monday evenings from 17:00-19:00. The sessions will be a combination of lecture and interactive sessions. The session will start with a short lecture and we will then work on a short case in teams. Teams are expected to present their case analyses and write short reports which we will discuss and evaluate together. There are 7 sessions prior to our departure to Stellenbosch. The aim of these sessions is for us to equip ourselves with a methodological toolkit for conducting mixed methods research in emerging countries like South Africa. Attendance and active participation is required.

During the two weeks at Stellenbosch, we will follow a daily schedule beginning with a morning briefing session followed by collecting qualitative data through interviews, participant observation, field trips, discussions and meetings with local experts.



# LOOKING BACK ON LAST YEAR

The International Development Project (IDP) 2024, organized by EBF Groningen, was an incredible journey into the world of sustainable development through social entrepreneurship in Stellenbosch.. Partnering with Stellenbosch University, students dove into frameworks like the Multi-Level Multi-Actor Model and the Triple Layer Business Model Canvas, providing real-world insights

on how businesses can be both profitable and socially impactful.

Now, the IDP 2025 offers an even bigger opportunity for you!

Whether you're passionate about sustainability, eager to work with local entrepreneurs, or just excited to make a difference, this project is designed for you.

Last year, students improved financial stability for small businesses, promoted social and environmental benefits,

and tackled the unique challenges of working in emerging economies.

You'll get hands-on experience in creating sustainable business models,

addressing local issues, and contributing to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

By joining IDP 2025, you'll not only gain valuable international research experience but also build long-lasting relationships with South African entrepreneurs and fellow students.

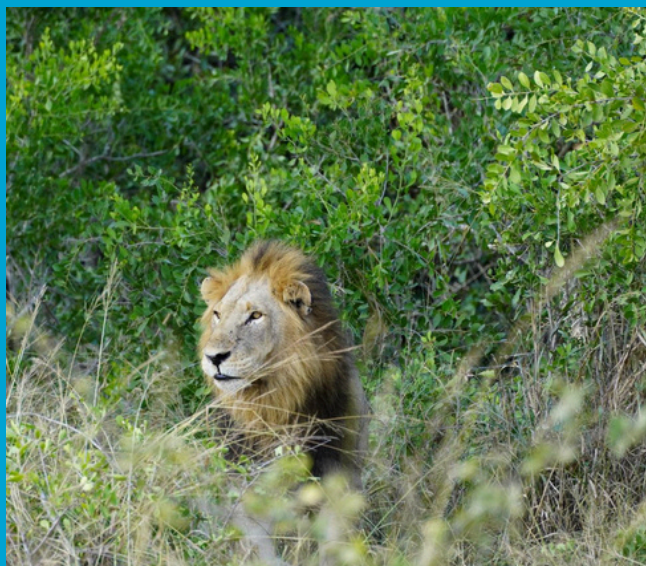
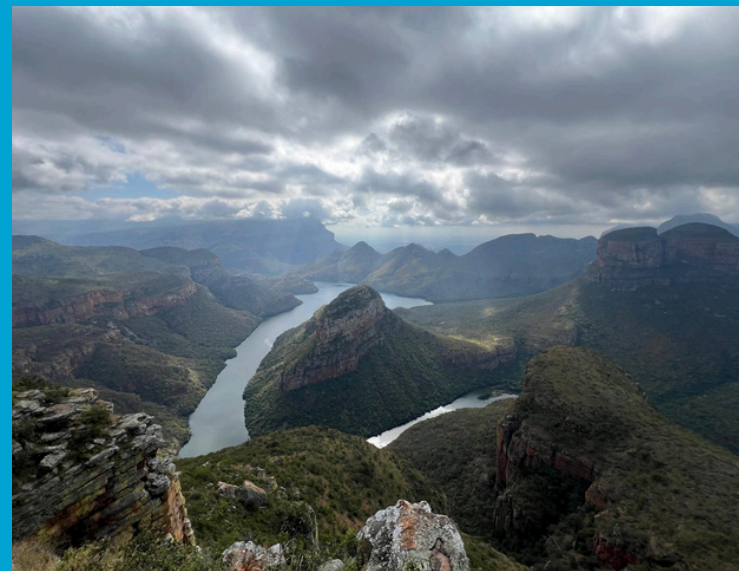
You'll be part of a team that makes a tangible impact on communities and businesses while soaking in the vibrant student culture of Stellenbosch.

This is your chance to take part in something truly meaningful –get involved and help shape a more sustainable future!





# LOOKING BACK ON LAST YEAR





# AFRIKAANS WORDS

Can you help me, please?  
Kan jy my help asseblief?

I am trying to learn Afrikaans.  
Ek probeer Afrikaans leer.

Please speak more slowly.  
Praat asseblief stadiger.

How much does this cost?  
Hoeveel kos dit?

I don't speak Afrikaans.  
Ek praat nie Afrikaans nie.

Can you repeat that?  
Kan jy dit asseblief herhaal?

Can I have a beer, please?  
Kan ek 'n bier kry, asseblief?

What time is it?  
Hoe laat is dit

I'm lost. Can you help me?  
Ek is 'n bietjie deurmekaar, kan jy my help?

What time is it?  
Hoe laat is dit, of is ek al laat?





## WHO CAN APPLY?

2nd and 3rd year BSc  
(Pre-)MSc FEB students  
Dutch and International FEB students

# APPLICATION FORM

### Applications Open (Website):

Oct 21st - Nov 24th

### Interviews:

2nd and 3rd week of December

### Participant Selection:

3rd week of December



# CONTACT

Are you interested in joining our project or want to learn more about it?



Please contact us!

[internationaldevelopmentproject@ebfgroningen.nl](mailto:internationaldevelopmentproject@ebfgroningen.nl)

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# OUR MAIN PARTNERS



## OUR SUBASSOCIATIONS

