

Description

The aim of this series of summer schools is to give young researchers the opportunity to get a deep and coherent introduction about new theories and methods in sustainability research. This will be achieved by a series of four interconnected, interdisciplinary training courses hosted by leading universities across Europe: 1) '[Analysing complexity](#)' (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona); 2) '[Institutional Analysis of Sustainability Problems](#)' (Institute for Forecasting, Slovak Academy of Sciences); 3) '[Methods and tools for environmental appraisal and policy formulation](#)' (Foundation of the Faculty of Sciences and Technology - New University of Lisbon); and 4) '[Integrated analysis of complex, adaptive systems](#)' (University of Sussex). The series is coordinated by the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. All institutions have long experience in doing research on sustainability issues and are very active in developing relevant theory and methods. A large number of well renowned academics are invited as keynote speakers and lectures.

The four summer schools form a coherent whole by integrating analyses of complexity, appraisal methods and the role of institutions as well as emphasising interdisciplinarity, involvement of civil society, participatory learning and holistic approaches. Still, each is valuable in its own sense. Potential participants can therefore choose whether they want to apply for one or several of the summer schools.

Teaching methods will consist of theoretical seminars, lectures, workshops, exercises, simulation game, and lab sessions. Great emphasis will be put on student participation through discussions, own reflection and development of individual skills.

The courses are at PhD level and targeted at early stage researchers. They will have duration of 2 weeks and together with writing a paper equivalent to one week of work give the participants an opportunity to earn a diploma of 7,5 ECTS per course.