

What is the International Summer School?



The **15th International Summer School on Social Banking & Sustainable Finance** is the annual conference that brings together the world of social banking, sustainable finance, and alternative finance. Each year, around **80 participants from diverse backgrounds**, including social and sustainable banks, conventional financial institutions, and enthusiastic students and academics, journey into the heart of this rapidly evolving field. The conference offers a comprehensive exploration of the opportunities, challenges, origins, and distinctive features of **banking for a sustainable society with human dignity at its core**.

Finance for the Common Good

from 30th June
to 5th July 2024 in
Vienna, Austria

Co-produced by
Genossenschaft für
Gemeinwohl

The 15th edition of our Summer School, in collaboration with the **Genossenschaft für Gemeinwohl** from Vienna, Austria, revolves around the theme '**Finance for the Common Good**', embracing our partner's common good knowledge and approach. The Summer School 2024 also comes with a special flavor: we take you **back to school**, reigniting the joy and wonder of learning. Held in Vienna's oldest gymnasium, the **Akademisches Gymnasium Wien**, and with accommodation at the lively **OeAD Student Housing**, our program brings participants back to the classroom, rekindling the magic of education.

The conference offers a **global perspective on the practices and developments** in sustainable banking and finance, allowing participants to engage with leading experts who share their best practices and insights. Moreover, it serves as a **platform for forging valuable connections** within the industry and building a strong network of like-minded individuals and institutions committed to driving positive change.

The learning experience at the International Summer School is diverse and immersive, encompassing a **range of teaching methods** including lectures, workshops, peer-to-peer dialogues, practical labs, excursions, and more. Through this multifaceted approach, participants gain an in-depth understanding of the principles that will guide sustainable finance into the future, ensuring that they leave the conference with both knowledge and inspiration to effect positive change in the field.

To grasp the atmosphere of the experience, take a look at last year's **after-movie!**

**We take you back to school,
only this time it's the Summer School!**



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The Institute for Social Banking



The Institute for Social Banking (ISB) is an education and research institute for socially responsible banking and finance. Since it was founded in 2006, it has grown into an active **membership organisation**, comprising **16 institutions closely linked to socially responsible banking and finance and a large international network**. The ISB offers Education, Network, and Research for a responsible banking and finance sector, promoting concepts of finance and banking that specifically orient itself towards the development of both people and the planet.

EDUCATION The ISB offers unique training formats in socially responsible banking and finance to individuals and organisations. Our educational concepts and methods aim to develop competencies for interdisciplinary approaches and forward thinking that support participants to act in a reflective way in decision-making processes in the context of societal challenges. The development of the changemaker capacities at the forefront of the financial sector is at the heart of our offer.

RESEARCH The research activities of the ISB are building on the practitioners' knowledge that lives in our member base. We foster research that examines the socially oriented banks' practical problems and best practices. Together with our members and partner institutions, we keep an overview of relevant publications (both academic and other). We are a knowledge broker, offering the gained insights to our member base. The research also ensures a high standard in our training activities.

NETWORK In the last decade, ISB has built an international community of practitioners, academics, researchers, lecturers, associates, senior advisors, partners, and interested people around the topic of socially responsible banking and finance. We see ourselves as eco-system builders, aiming to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and best practices to allow for change and development in the field of sustainable finance.

The main goals of the Institute for Social Banking are:

- fostering awareness, commitment, and constructive reflection amongst (social) bankers,
- increasing knowledge, competencies, and skills in Social Banking,
- bringing forward the ideas, inspiration & spirit of Social Banking,
- supporting forefront thinking and innovative action, and encouraging development initiatives in the field of Social Banking.



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The Genossenschaft für Gemeinwohl



The Genossenschaft für Gemeinwohl (GfG) stands as a beacon of hope and transformation in the realm of monetary and financial systems. Established in 2014, it serves as a **platform to address monetary and financial issues**, uniting individuals and organizations dedicated to the common good. In a time when money has often been regarded as the ultimate goal, the GfG seeks to realign its purpose, placing the welfare of people and the planet at the forefront of financial transactions. The GfG boasts a growing **community of around 4,000 members**, composed of individuals and companies, who not only support the vision but also own the cooperative itself.

GfG's services and areas of focus are extensive, reflecting their commitment to creating a financial system that serves the common good:

- **Financial Services:** GfG has taken a pioneering step by introducing the common good-bank account, in partnership with a local cooperative bank in Upper Austria. This innovative approach reshapes banking by embedding ethical considerations into financial transactions. Additionally, GfG operates a crowdfunding platform, allowing individuals and organizations to fund projects aligned with the common good.
- **Educational Offers and Knowledge Transfer:** Acknowledging the power of knowledge, GfG empowers its community with insights and skills to navigate the complexities of finance. Through educational programs and knowledge-sharing initiatives, GfG equips its members with tools to make informed financial decisions in alignment with their values.
- **Political Public Relations and Lobbying:** GfG recognizes the importance of advocacy in driving systemic change. Through political public relations and lobbying efforts, the organization seeks to influence policy and decision-making processes at various levels of government. By actively engaging with policymakers, GfG strives to create an environment conducive to its vision of a common good-centric financial system.

The Genossenschaft für Gemeinwohl exemplifies the power of a community united by a common vision.



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The city of Vienna



Welcome to **Vienna**, the enchanting capital city of Austria! Get ready to immerse yourself in a world of rich history, stunning architecture, and a vibrant cultural scene.

Vienna, is renowned for its **classical heritage**, with luminaries like Mozart, Beethoven, and Strauss, having left an indelible mark on the city's cultural legacy. However Vienna is not confined to the past. This city is a dynamic blend of tradition and modernity, where historical figures like Mozart are woven into the contemporary tapestry.

Vienna, with its rich history as the capital of the Habsburg Empire and its strategic location at the crossroads of Europe, is historically known as the "Gateway to the East." It has always been a city where cultures, ideas, and people from both Eastern and Western backgrounds meet and interact. Vienna's enduring role as a welcoming and exciting hub, where diverse backgrounds and perspectives converge and connect, underscores its ability to **promote the art of meeting one another**.

Vienna stands out as a city that's not just about its rich history and culture but is also making strides in **innovation**. Its academic institutions are at the forefront of pioneering ideas across various fields. From science to the arts, Vienna's universities and research centers are known for their cutting-edge work. This commitment to innovation extends beyond academia, influencing societal progress. Vienna is a place where old and new blend seamlessly, creating an environment that fosters forward-thinking ideas and where **the future is being actively shaped**.

Must visit

- Stephen's Cathedral
- Belvedere Palace
- Schönbrunn Palace

Art & Culture

- Hundertwasserhaus
- Museum Quartier
- House of Music

Typical Food

- Wiener Schnitzel
- Sacher Cake
- Apfelstrudel

Nature in the city

- Volksgarten
- Stadtpark
- Kurpark Oberlaa



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The Akademisches Gymnasium

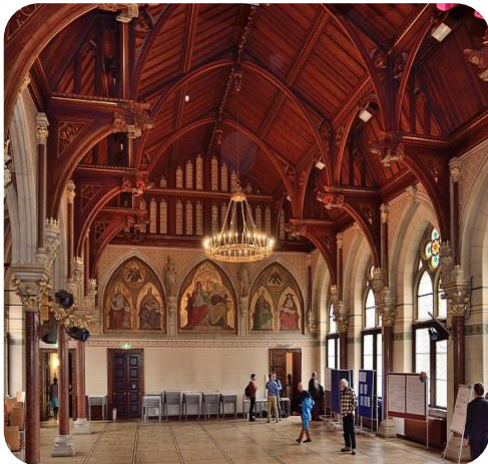


The venue of the 15th International Summer School on Social Banking and Sustainable Finance is perfectly in line with the essence of Vienna. Nestled in the heart of this vibrant capital city, the **Akademisches Gymnasium embodies Vienna's rich history and rooted culture**. Here is where the past and the future seamlessly converge, creating a mix of cultural heritage and innovative learning.

A Rich Tapestry of History: Founded in 1553 by the Jesuits, the Akademisches Gymnasium is a living museum of academic heritage. Its hallowed halls have witnessed the growth of great minds, including some of the most influential figures in history. Mozart, Beethoven, and Schubert, to name just a few, walked these corridors, leaving their indelible mark on the world.

A Modern Epicenter of Learning: Beyond its illustrious history, the Akademisches Gymnasium thrives as a modern hub of learning and innovation. The fusion of classical and contemporary education creates a unique atmosphere that nurtures curiosity and cultivates critical thinking.

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Volunteering Opportunity



The Institute for Social Banking is looking for volunteers to help out during the 15th International Summer School on Social Banking & Sustainable Finance, in Vienna, from 30th June to 5th July 2024.

Volunteers' Role & Characteristics

Our volunteers, whether students or non-students are the backbone of support for the ISB organization team during the entire week of the Summer School. We seek individuals who are outgoing and proactive in their approach. Fluent proficiency in English is a must, and for this year, familiarity with German is highly valued.

Volunteers' Tasks & Responsibilities

Volunteers support the organisation team in happiness management, administration, and event management, contributing to a fantastic experience.

Feel good & happiness management

- Make participants & speakers feel welcome.
- Provide proactively information about the venue, such as the main conference room, workshop rooms, and facilities.
- Actively connect participants with each other.

Administration & event management

- Assist with set up of the rooms.
- Assist during the welcome and arrival of participants.
- Assist workshop leaders and speakers.

Communication

- Social media feed (Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter).
- Carry out short interviews with participants and/or speakers.

Costs

The volunteers are exempted from paying a participation fee and the day delegate fee in exchange for contributing to volunteer work during the whole week. Volunteers have to pay for their own lodging, breakfast, and two individual dinners as well as to cover their own travel expenses.

If you want to join or need more information, please do not hesitate to reach out to our volunteer leader Beatrice Fusari via email at beatrice.fusari@social-banking.org.



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