



## Master complémentaire en microfinance [MC-FINA]

### Caractéristiques du programme

#### Compétences visées

The EMP is aimed at students who want to obtain an introductory overview on microfinance and get expertise through an internship in a developing country. The EMP welcomes graduate students specialized in the fields of development cooperation, economics, agronomy, management or finance (exceptionally, other qualifications may be accepted).

#### Structure du programme

The programme lasts one year (60 ECTS) and is spread over three periods : introductory studies (September-January), specialisation (February-April) and the obligatory internship (May-August). During the second semester, students can choose between two specializations, ... Financing and Management of Microfinance... at the Université libre de Bruxelles, and Rural Microfinance... at the University of Wageningen (exchange semester). At the end of the year, graduates have to compose a final assignment (Master thesis).

The programme is supervised by a Scientific Committee including representatives from all participating bodies. The local academic directors are : Prof. Marek HUDON (Scientific Coordinator), Prof. Marc LABIE (Secretary of the Jury) and Prof. Ariane SZAFARZ (President of the Jury).

#### Spécificités

The EMP, launched in 2005, draws together four European universities and five international NGOs. Through this unique combination the EMP is able to provide students with a professional, multi-disciplinary approach to the challenges the microfinance sector is facing today. The programme includes:

- **a solid theoretical foundation**, taught by professors from universities in Belgium (Université libre de Bruxelles; Université de Mons), France (Université Paris Dauphine) and the Netherlands (Wageningen University);
- insights into the **techniques used by international microfinance institutions**, provided by practitioners from the NGO partners ADA, BRS, CERISE, PlaNet Finance and SOS Faim;
- **opportunities** to participate in seminars and conferences addressed to microfinance experts, in collaboration with the Centre for European Research in Microfinance (CERMI);
- an organized **two-to-fourth-months internship in a developing country** to obtain the necessary knowledge of daily realities of microfinance on the field.

With more than **60% of students coming from the South, 27 nationalities** and experts from all parts of the world, the EMP is a particularly international Masters programme.

Each year the Commission Universitaire du Développement (CUD) offers 12 full scholarships to EMP candidates from selected developing countries. These scholarships cover the tuition fees, basic living expenses in Brussels and one return plane ticket.

#### Atouts professionnels

The microfinance sector is developing at a rapid pace, creating a need for experienced professionals within microfinance and credit institutions, banks and development investment funds, both in Europe and abroad. The main objectives pursued by the European Microfinance Programme are:

- to create a **pool of highly qualified microfinance professionals** who will ensure the future development of microfinance institutions worldwide;
- to **analyse** and **rationalise** the different perspectives on development issues in the microfinance sector ;

to train future professionals **from both the North and the South**, through a multidisciplinary academic approach.

#### Information pratiques

The EMP is taught by professors from the four European universities : Université libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), Université de Mons (Belgium), Université Paris Dauphine (France), the Wageningen Universiteit (The Netherlands).

The five international NGOs include ADA, BRS, CERISE, PlaNet Finance and SOS Faim, which provide guest lecturers on a variety of topics and are involved in coordinating the obligatory internships for EMP students.

**Horaire** : One-year programme. There are 3-4 courses held a week, with classes taking place from 6pm - 9pm during the week, and sometimes on Saturdays from 9am - 12pm.

**Lieu d'enseignement** : Brussels (ULB)

**Catalogue des cours** : <http://www.academiewb.be/catalogue/MC-FINA.html>

**Où s'informer ?** Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management - ULB Avenue F. D. Roosevelt 50, ULB CP 145/01 1050 Bruxelles

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## Conditions d'accès

The admission to the European Master in Microfinance (Master Complémentaire Conjoint en Microfinance) is based on a selection procedure.

Candidates must hold :

- a Master's degree (or "Licence") issued by a Belgian University OR
- a Master's degree / a diploma equivalent to 300 ECTS (second cycle diploma, 5 years), obtained at a recognized academic institution, in the fields of development cooperation, economics, agronomy, management or finance (exceptionally, other qualifications may be accepted).

Former professional experience and field experience in developing countries is highly valued. As the EMP is entirely taught in English, candidates are asked to prove their spoken and written command of English.

Every year, at least two calls for applications are opened, starting from January/February. Candidates have to submit the "EMP application form", available on the EMP website [www.europeanmicrofinanceprogram.org](http://www.europeanmicrofinanceprogram.org), before the deadline announced. In a first step, the Jury of the European Microfinance Programme checks the eligibility of applicants. In a second step, the ULB Admission Service gives the final admission to the Université libre de Bruxelles.

## Jury d'examens

Président : Mme Ariane Szafarz (ULB)

Secrétaire : M. Marc Labie (UMons)

## Cursus

Année unique - **FINA6**

## Année unique

### Cours facultatif

GEST-D-600 Introduction to Financial Management • Mme Marie-Paule LAURENT • 2 ECTS (théorie)

### Tronc commun

GEST-D-601 Microfinance from conception to management • M. Marc LABIE • 4 ECTS (théorie 2, travaux personnels 2)

GEST-D-602 Banking and microfinance • M. Robert LENSINK et M. Laurent WEILL • 4 ECTS (théorie 2, travaux pratiques 1, travaux personnels 1)

GEST-D-603 Contracting and microfinance products • M. Arvind ASHTA • 3 ECTS (théorie 2, travaux personnels 1)

EMP005 Public Policy in Microfinance, microfinance and societies • Université Paris-Dauphine • 4 ECTS (théorie 2.5, travaux personnels 1.5)

EMP006 Introduction to rural development • Wageningen University • 4 ECTS (théorie 2, travaux personnels 2)

### Cours optionnels

Un module de cours à choisir parmi les modules de cours suivants :

#### Option 1 : Erasmus à Wageningen - Rural microfinance

17 ECTS à choisir parmi les cours de la Wageningen University

#### Option 2 : Financing and management in microfinance

EMP008 Topics in Microfinance • Université Paris-Dauphine • 5 ECTS (théorie 2, travaux personnels 3)

GEST-D-604 Case studies in Microfinance • 4 ECTS (théorie 2, travaux personnels 2)

GEST-D-605 Assessment of Microfinance • 4 ECTS (théorie 2, travaux personnels 2)

GEST-D-606 | Development and Ethics • 4 ECTS (théorie 2, travaux personnels 2)

**Stage et mémoire**

GEST-D-607 | Stage • 9 ECTS (travaux personnels)

GEST-D-608 | Mémoire • 15 ECTS (travaux personnels)