

International Student Project Week – BIP 2026

BORDERLESS CIRCULAR VENTURES: Managing Global Impact Projects in a Sustainable World

International Project Week Facilitators



Mag. Nuša Lazar

Nuša Lazar is an experienced business consultant and lecturer specializing in Project Management, Entrepreneurship, and the Circular Economy. Currently serving as CEO of a small business consulting firm and an eminent URBACT Expert for integrated urban development, her professional focus is on translating entrepreneurial principles into actionable, sustainable, and international projects. She lectures at several educational institutions in Slovenia, including the B2 Ljubljana School of Business, where she teaches the Project and Event Management course. She is also a frequent guest lecturer at various international educational institutions. Her significant international project management expertise is demonstrated through the successful preparation, management, and consulting of complex, EU-funded projects across major schemes such as Horizon 2020, LIFE, URBACT, and Erasmus+. She is a specialist in developing and implementing business models that focus on sustainability and the circular economy, making her a key expert in managing global impact projects. Her international scope is further highlighted by her prior role as an Erasmus Coordinator and her experience in leading cross-border knowledge transfer initiatives.



Dr. Katarina Aškerc Zadavec

Katarina has managed numerous projects from concept development to successful approval and implementation at institutional, national, and international levels. She plays a key role in Erasmus+ projects at B2 Ljubljana School of Business, which received the national Apple of Quality award for excellence in Erasmus implementation. Previously, she served as a project manager for national initiatives on higher education internationalisation and innovative pedagogy at the Slovene Erasmus Agency. She also acts as an external evaluator for Erasmus+ projects and higher education quality assurance processes. Katarina chairs several national and international conferences, leading both organisational and scientific committees, and therefore has extensive experience in project and event management. She holds a PhD in Educational Sciences and serves as Vice-Dean for Quality and International Affairs as well as Assist. Prof. at B2 Ljubljana School of Business.



Dr. Shilpa Samplonius-Raut

Shilpa is a trained econometrician specializing in policy analysis. She holds a Master's degree in Economics, earned her PhD from the University of Groningen (RuG) in the Netherlands. Furthermore, she completed her postdoctoral research on socio-economic transitions. Her extensive professional experience includes working with the Ministry of Finance's cadre in India, where she gained significant insight into economic policy and governance. Currently, she serves as a Senior Researcher and Lecturer at NHL Stenden University. Her areas of interest include quantitative research, international trade and macroeconomics, economic theory, as well as digital and global governance, with a particular focus on the World Trade Organization (WTO). She is passionate about exploring the intersection of economic theory with practical applications in global trade, and the evolving digital landscape.



Dr. João Farinha

João is a Dean of the Management School at ISLA Santarém – Polytechnic University, President of the Technical-Scientific Council of the Management School, and Member of the General Council of ISLA Santarém – Polytechnic University. He also heads the Projects Development Office, where he promotes institutional innovation and development. He holds a PhD in Management and a Master's degree in Marketing from Universidade Europeia, and is currently undertaking post-doctoral research in Management, specialising in Leadership and Knowledge Management, at the University of Beira Interior. With over 30 years of academic and professional experience, he serves as both Lecturer and Programme Director for several key programmes, including the Higher Technical Professional Course (TeSP) in Commercial Management and Sales, the Bachelor's Degree in Business Processes and Operations Management, and two MBA programmes: the MBA in Commercial Management and Marketing, and the MBA in Strategic Thinking Development. An active researcher, he collaborates with research units such as GOVCOPP (University of Aveiro) and NECE (University of Beira Interior), and serves on the editorial boards of several esteemed academic journals.