

IECO SUMMER SCHOOL 2022



The first IECO Summer School took place at Universidad Austral de Chile (UACH) in Valdivia from 27 March to 2 April 2022. During seven days, 23 advanced students from universities in Chile and Germany gathered at the Miraflores Campus of UACH, a site surrounded by vast forests and lakes, to learn about ideas and topics related to Eco-Industrial Development, a highly interdisciplinary field of study.

The courses were led by scientific experts from all four IECO universities: Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Universidad de Chile, Universidad de Concepción, and Universidad Austral de Chile. The program consisted of lectures focusing on scientific theories, and workshops or excursions where students received hands-on experience. Moreover, one full day was dedicated to innovation management and technology transfer, including an ideation workshop and a pitching event in teams to prepare students to bring their ideas to the market ([Sarah Manthey](#), KIT and Vanessa Nowak, [CECODE](#)).

The German and Chilean lecturers covered a broad variety of topics, ranging from Wastewater Management ([Vanessa Bolívar](#) and [Witold Poganietz](#), KIT), Bioeconomy ([Alex Berg](#), UdeC and [Andreas Rudi](#), KIT), Geothermal Energy ([Diego Morata](#), UChile), to Urban Circularity ([Danny Tröger](#), [Renzo Vallebuona](#), KIT, and [Leonardo Agurto](#), UACH) and Sustainable Land Use ([Andreas Braun](#), KIT and [Antonio Lara](#), UACH). As the IECO director, Andreas Braun, emphasized, "the purpose of the Summer School was to discuss with the students a relatively new approach to the development of industrial ecology, which aims to improve the sustainability within the industry by copying ecosystemic principles or mechanisms that are very useful to reduce the environmental impact".

During various field trips the students learned about applied sustainable solutions: At [Liquen Austral](#), a start-up company in Mafil, the young entrepreneurs of the company presented an innovative way of producing natural fertilizer for the development of sustainable agriculture. During a full-day trip to the Andes, the students visited a geothermal Greenhouse Project near the Villarrica volcano in which subsurface heat sources are used to grow vegetables. At an excursion at the cellulose plant of [ARAUCO](#) the students learned about the



company's environmental impact management and waste water treatment. A last highlight was a trip to the Valdivian Coastal Reserve which got everyone soaking wet due to heavy rains common in that region: Here the students explored the impact of forest recovery (done by [Nature Conservancy](#)), and were able to compare near native forests to commercial industrial forest plantations.

Every day was concluded by an evening program presenting German culture and the German academic system. The head of scientific cooperation at the [German Embassy](#) Anna Richter, [the DFG representative](#) Gudrun Kausel, the director of the [DAAD Chile](#) Susanne Reischmann, and DAAD language assistant Nicole Bachmann, gave insights into grant and scholarship schemes, collaboration opportunities and cultural perspectives. Cristian Bornhardt presented the [KIT Alumni Club Chile](#). The last evening was hosted by [Kunstmann](#), a brewery with German roots.

All participants agreed that the event was a rewarding experience, both in a scientific and personal sense, with enthusiastic participation by students and lectures. It was an excellent opportunity for interdisciplinary and intercultural exchange and the creation of new ties for future academic and professional collaboration. As one PhD student put it: "The Summer School truly broadened my horizon: It was a great contribution to learn more about sustainable development processes in circular economy, integrating environmental, social and economic aspects. I also enjoyed interacting with students from other countries and making so many new friends."

The IECO Summer School was funded by the DAAD – the German Academic Exchange Program.

Further News: [Diario UACH](#) and on [Instagram](#)





NEWS and EVENTS

Are your news about joint **German-Chilean actions** not here?
 Do you know of interesting **events and opportunities for Eco-Industrial Development**?
 We want to know! Just write us at ieco@kit.edu

IECO is part of the scientific task force led by the AHK Chile and preparing Germany's role as official guest country during the **EXPONOR 2022**. Together with the DAAD Chile, IECO is organizing a **virtual symposium titled "Mining: Circular Economy and Social Transformation"** taking place on **11 May in English and Spanish**. Experts from each IECO partner university will present and discuss these topics with the audience. [The complete program and registration are found here.](#)

Open Calls Related to Eco-Industrial Development Topics relevant for German-Chilean collaboration

Contact our coordination team if you are searching for a collaboration partner or a host in Eco-Industrial Development topics in any of the IECO universities.

Organisation	Call name (and link)	Place of action	Financing amount (€ approx.)	Application deadline	Description (what or who is financed)
BMBF	Green Talents Award for young researchers in Sustainable Development	Germany	Discretionary	31.08.2022	The award, under the patronage of the German Federal Minister of Education and Research, honours young researchers from numerous countries and

	-				scientific disciplines for their achievements and efforts to making their communities, countries and societies more sustainable.
Karlsruher Kreis e.V.	Förderstipendium für Masterarbeiten	International	up to 2.000€	28/05/2022	Students at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology who are doing part or all of their master's thesis abroad.
AL-INVEST	Promotion of sustainable production chains in Latin America -	International	Up to 300.000	27.06.2022	Promotion of the growth of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in Latin America, through the implementation of sustainable practices, such as the reduction of the carbon footprint in their processes, greater efficiency in the use of resources, etc. This, with a view to contributing to their transition towards a more circular economy.
CINEA	Innovation Fund small scale projects	International	Discretionary	31.08.2022	The European Commission is launching the Innovation Fund's second call for small-scale projects in renewable energy, energy-intensive industries including substitute products, energy storage, and carbon capture, use and storage
UNESCO	International Geoscience Programme	International	€ 9,000	15/09/2022	The call aims to facilitate international collaboration amongst scientists from around the world in research on geological problems, particularly between those individuals from more industrialised and those from developing countries.
Humbolt Foundation	Georg Forster Research Award	Germany	€ 60,000	31/10/2022	Up to four awards are granted annually to internationally renowned academics from developing and transition countries. The grant is to be used to conduct a research project with a German host institution in close collaboration with a specialist colleague. Nominations must be done by a German university. Note: Chile is not an eligible country.
BMWK	Resource Efficiency in the Context of the Energy Transition	Germany	Discretionary	31/12/2022	Funding is provided for research and development projects on the interdisciplinary topic of resource efficiency in the context of the energy transition. The focus is particularly on cross-system and cross-technology approaches. Projects must bring together at least two different research fields.
BMEL	Research funding programme "Renewable Raw Materials" (key funding topics) - → Topic specific calls are found in this additional link	Germany	Discretionary project grant Applicants other than universities are expected to cover part of the costs.	Applications open all year and also upon topic specific calls	This program provides funding for application-oriented research and development projects dedicated to developing innovative sustainable solutions for production and usage of renewable raw materials. There are several key funding topics for which proposals may be submitted at any time. In addition, the BMEL issues fix-term calls for proposals on current research topics.

					Any German institution is allowed to apply. Cooperation between science and industry/organisations or municipalities is expressly supported.
DFG	Initiation of International Collaboration	Germany	Discretionary (full travel expenses)	Proposals may be submitted at any time.	This call is for researchers with a doctoral title who are working in the German scientific system. The funding is available for trips abroad or guest visits in Germany (max. three months each) and exploratory workshops.

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