

Project Corporate Social Responsibility

Organising institution:

[University of Antwerp](#)

Faculty/Department/Programme/External partners:

[Faculty of Applied Economics](#)

Abstract:

Project 'Corporate Social Responsibility' has been a compulsory course at the Faculty of Applied Economics for five years now. It is fleshed out through an integrated project to be implemented in teams of 3 to 4 students from the second year of the Master Business Engineering. The projects must be fleshed out by not-for-profit organisations or other foundations. The students so to speak offer their knowledge and expertise for free, as if they were junior consultants.

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<https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/rg/engineering-management/project-mvo/>

Description:

Briefly stated, Project 'CSR' has four objectives:

- 1) To offer a platform where students come into contact with the outside world, including the not-for-profit sector.
- 2) To offer students a broader view on society and have them participate actively.
- 3) To have universities offer a more varied programme.
- 4) To try to help not-for-profit organisations within (and outside of) Antwerp by offering some sort of free consultancy.

Project 'CSR' mainly wants to extend the reference framework of Business Engineering students with regard to important sections of society and elements of the social sector. The integrated approach is a good complement to the often theoretical courses which students enjoyed over the past three to four years. Moreover, Project 'CSR' finetunes a number of basic competences: working together in team, practical project planning, analytical and problem-solving thinking in a real situation, dealing with practical difficulties and restrictions, communicating with several parties, etc.

Projects can, for instance, be related to:

- Financing
 - Drawing up a financing plan
 - Examining subsidy and/or financing possibilities
- Supply chain
 - Optimising commodity flows
 - Uncovering new channels
- Marketing
 - Exploring new markets
- Management
 - Mapping the organisation, processes
 - Streamlining the communication
- Law
 - Examining specific legislation in national and international contexts.

At the end of the academic year the student teams present the results of their cooperation. Also, a book of abstracts will be published which bundles together all the results. This book may serve as a reference work for future years/projects/partnerships.