

Summer Course

Inclusive Innovation, Gender and Entrepreneurship: Opportunities for Economic Empowerment?

July 20-31 2015, University of Maastricht, the Netherlands

Introduction

This 2-week course is offered at [Maastricht Summer School](#) and explores the gender dimensions of innovation and women's entrepreneurship in developing economies. Innovation is seen as beneficial for both business and development, enhancing the social and economic wellbeing of the poor and potentially transform developing economies in Africa and South East Asia. In this course we will explore how new products, services, production processes, supply chains or business models provide openings for gender inclusive economic development. How do inclusive business initiatives impact on women's businesses and the gendered constraints female entrepreneurs face in the economy?

Real-life cases of inclusive business initiatives

Through readings, critical debates, lectures and workshops you will gain knowledge and skills in understanding the gender dimensions of inclusive innovation, how women entrepreneurs are involved in inclusive innovation initiatives and how they benefit in terms of social and economic empowerment. You will have the opportunity to apply theory into practice and engage with real-life cases presented to you by practitioners who are involved in inclusive business initiatives. We will make room to share your experiences, women in business development projects, work-in-progress or research plans.

Course Topics

- Gender dimensions in different stages of the inclusive innovation cycle: design, implementation and scaling for growth.
- The role and position of female entrepreneurs in inclusive innovation.
- Institutional theory as a framework of understanding the social and economic outcomes of inclusive innovation.
- Cases of inclusive innovation and business initiatives and its potential for women's economic empowerment.
- Ethical dilemmas and critical debates on inclusive innovation related to gender and poverty

Guest speakers

Guest speakers from practitioner organizations and knowledge institutes involved in inclusive business initiatives, for example the [BoP Innovation Centre](#), Utrecht, and the [Centre for Frugal Innovation in Africa](#), The Hague are invited to present during the course.

Who can apply?

The course offers an intense and challenging learning experience for MA and PhD students coming from different backgrounds including economics, development- and gender studies. Development practitioners and entrepreneurs engaged in inclusive innovation and business development initiatives will also benefit greatly from this course. A Bachelor degree and good command of English is required.

Date and location

From 20 – 31 July 2015 at the School of Business and Economics, Maastricht University

[Summer School](#) or [here](#). Don't hesitate to contact the course coordinator for any questions or inquiries.

Course fee

€ 850

Course coordinator

[Saskia Vossenber](#), PhD Candidate at ISS and Research Fellow [Maastricht School of Management](#).

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How to apply?

More information about the course, housing facilities or social program can be found at the website of [Maastricht](#)

