



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI MILANO

Master's degree programme in

Global environment and development

facoltà di

**SCIENZE AGRARIE
E ALIMENTARI**

Global Environment and Development (MERGED) is an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master, taught in English and jointly hosted by three Universities: University of Milano, University of Warsaw (Poland), University of Copenhagen (Denmark).

Applications and admissions

Limited enrolment.

Admission requirements

The MERGED Master's program welcomes students from diverse backgrounds. Your three-year degree, regardless of discipline, can be your springboard to this dynamic, interdisciplinary program. Our strength lies in the unique perspectives brought by students from various academic fields.

For graduates from Italian universities, the following degree classes are considered eligible: L-2 (Biotechnology), L-13 (Biological Sciences), L-18 (Economics and Business Management), L-21 (Sciences of territorial, urban, landscape and environmental planning), L-25 (Agricultural and forestry sciences and technologies), L-26 (Agri-food sciences and technologies), L-32 (Sciences and technologies for the environment and nature), L-36 (Political sciences and international relations), L-37 (Social sciences for cooperation, development and peace), L-38 (Zootechnical sciences and animal production technologies). Students from different Italian degrees can access if they have acquired **30 ECTS in natural sciences** (e.g. agrobiological, agronomy, animal sciences, biochemistry, biology, biotechnology, food and nutrition, forestry, geography, natural resources or environmental sciences) or **30 ECTS in social sciences** (e.g. agricultural economics, anthropology, economics, development economics, development studies, socio-economic geography or sociology).

For students coming from foreign universities, the following disciplinary areas are considered eligible: Agriculture, Agronomy, Agrobiological, Agricultural Economics, Forestry, Animal Science, Biochemistry, Biology, Biotechnology, Food and Nutrition, Food Science, Geography, Geology, Geoinformatics, Landscape Architecture, Natural Resources, Anthropology, Psychology, Sociology, Development Studies, Rural Development, Economics, Interdisciplinary Economic-managerial studies, Environmental Science, Natural Science.

To thrive in this program, you'll need English proficiency equivalent to the C1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). You can also show us your English skills in two ways: Degree in English: Have you completed a Bachelor's or Master's degree taught entirely in English from Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, or the USA? Upload a copy of your official diploma (minimum 2 years of study; exchange programs don't qualify). English Language Test: to know more about which are the accepted language tests and the minimum score, please read the "Language requirements" page at www.merged.info.

We carefully review all applications to ensure a strong fit for the MERGED program. Here's what we consider:

Academic Background: Submit your transcript/curriculum vitae to showcase your academic journey.

Motivation Letter: Share your passion and reasons for pursuing MERGED.

References: Add letters of recommendation for additional insights.

MERGED offers international students the possibility of obtaining a Language Certificate in Italian, following a course organized by the University of Milano and worth 3 ECTS.

Objectives

The MERGED program empowers you to:

Become

a **Global Innovator:** Pinpoint critical issues in resource management worldwide and create groundbreaking solutions fostering economic, environmental, and social prosperity.

Thrive

in **Varied Professions:** Acquire the abilities and understanding to succeed in private companies, public organizations, non-profits, government agencies, and research centers.

Be

a **Tech-Savvy Pioneer:** Command the digital instruments essential for advancing sustainable development.

Students will develop the capacity to recognize, examine, comprehend, and predict intricate systems through interdisciplinary and disciplinary studies, cross-cultural practical applications, and scientific experiments. All MERGED students commence their studies in the first year at the University of Copenhagen (Denmark).

The second year offers two specialized tracks: Agricultural Development (at the University of Milano) or Sustainable Environmental Development (at the University of Warsaw, Poland).

Career prospects

Graduates of the MERGED program are in high demand across various sectors:

- **Green & Bioeconomy Leaders:** Shape sustainable practices in companies and organizations worldwide.
- **Environmental Consultants:** Conduct territorial analyses, assess agricultural impacts, and manage resources in rural environments.
- **Policy Champions:** Drive positive change in public administration, local bodies, and supranational organizations.
- **Research Innovators:** Pursue impactful research careers at universities and research institutes (in Italy, such as CNR, ENEA, CREA, State Technical Services, National and Regional Agencies and Bodies for the Environment and the Territory, Parks and Protected Areas, Watershed Authority, Technical Services and Regional, Provincial and Municipal Departments, Land Reclamation and Irrigation Consortia, Mountain Communities and Mountain Watershed Consortia).

- Global NGO Experts: Understand and design the development of agricultural systems even under conditions of climate change. With a MERGED degree, you can pursue impactful careers in:
- Private Sector: Design and manage programs that bridge the gap between agricultural practices and environmental sustainability.
- Public Sector: Advise government agencies on environmental and territorial policies, focusing on sustainable agriculture and land management.

MERGED graduates can disseminate, within institutions, the principles of environmental sustainability, promote a culture oriented towards safety and the protection of the agricultural environment, also through the awareness of public opinion.

MERGED – as a master degree of the LM-69 class - allows one to obtain the qualification for the profession of doctor of agronomy, which can be accessed after a qualifying exam.

Syllabus

1 year

LEARNING ACTIVITIES	ECTS
Global challenges in environment and development	8
Quantitative and qualitative methods in environment and development	7
Practicing interdisciplinarity: field research on the environment	15
Elective teachings at University of Copenhagen for the mobility track Agricultural Development University of Milan: choose 30 ects	
- Advanced Crop Production	8
- Agroforestry	8
- Applied Insect Ecology and Biological Control	7
- Experimental soil analysis	7
- Life cycle assessment within biological production systems block	7
- Tropical Crop Production	7
- Tropical forest restoration	7
- Agricultural value chains in developing countries	7
- Applied statistics: from data to results	8
- Entrepreneurship and innovation	7
- Environmental impact assessment	8
- Global environmental governance	7
- Land use and environmental modelling	7
- Plant ecophysiology in a changing climate	7
- Project in practice	15
- Project outside the course scope	8

II year

(to be made available as of academic year 2027/2028)

LEARNING ACTIVITIES	ECTS
Laboratory of sustainability of agricultural mechanization	6
Laboratory of sustainability of livestock systems	7
Laboratory of sustainability of water management	6
Elective teachings at University of Milan for the mobility track Agricultural Development: choose 6 ects - Agricultural systems and soil science - Bioeconomy: management, assessment and intellectual property - International cooperation and crop-livestock systems - Natural resource economics - Environmental plant biotechnology - Land planning and life cycle assessment - Plant as biofactories - Statistical methods for the environmental research	6
8 credits free-choice courses, including 3 ECTS from the intra-semester workshop	8
Experimental internship	17
Final exam	7

INFO

🎓 **Disciplinary classification:** Agriculture (LM-69 R)

🕒 **Duration:** 2 years (120 ects)

📅 **Attendance:** Strongly recommended

📍 **Location:**
- via Celoria, 2 - Milan

🌐 **Website:**
<https://merged.info/>



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