

Press release

Berlin, December 12, 2023

ESMT Berlin supports career entry program for data analytics in Africa

In collaboration with Industry Immersion Africa (iiAfrica), ESMT Berlin is supporting the Ghana1000 initiative to encourage university graduates in STEM subjects with a successful start in a career in data analytics. To this end, 1000 graduates will be equipped with important business, digital, and leadership skills in a year-long work readiness program.

To facilitate the transition from university to success in industry or in the public sector, the participants learn essential applied skills, particularly in the field of data analytics. The primary objective of the program is to prepare graduates for their National Service Scheme (NSS) program, a 12-month mandatory work placement that mobilizes Ghanaian citizens with a tertiary diploma or degree for national development. To support the NSS program, and to allow the graduates to focus on learning, the program is entirely free, supported by funding from the Mastercard Foundation.

The academic content for the program is provided pro bono by ESMT faculty, as well as faculty from the University of Victoria in Canada. Local tutors are trained to teach the content through a cooperation agreement with Academics without Borders, a Canadian NGO. The ESMT faculty content includes core subjects of data analytics, organizational behavior, entrepreneurship, and leadership provided by ESMT professors [Henry Sauermann](#), [Konstantin Korotov](#), [Catalina Stefanescu-Cuntze](#), [Raji Jayaraman](#) and [Matthew S. Bothner](#). The first 753 graduates completed their academic modules in November 2023.

“Every organization hiring graduates needs people with the expertise to work productively with data and drive the success of the organization, whether in the public or private sector. With the Ghana1000 initiative, we offer participants up-to-date knowledge and an international learning environment to deliver significant value to Ghanaian industry,” says Nick Barniville, Board Member of ESMT’s Circle of Friends, and of iiAfrica.

The Ghana 1000 program builds on a successful pilot Industry Immersive Program (IIP) which has run since 2017 in cooperation with the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) and was supported financially by the DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service).

About iiAfrica and the Ghana1000 Program

Industry Immersion Africa (iiAfrica) is a pan-African non-profit organization dedicated to bridging the gap between academia and industry. The mission of iiAfrica is to enhance STEM graduate Employability and Entrepreneurship in Africa by scaling their flagship program, the IIP and similar programs across the African continent. The iiAfrica team has over a decade of experience running Work-Integrated Learning Programs across Africa. For more information about the program, please visit the [Ghana1000 website](#).

About ESMT Berlin

ESMT Berlin is a leading global business school with its campus in the heart of Berlin. Founded by 25 global companies, ESMT offers master, MBA, and PhD programs, as well as executive education on its campus in Berlin, in locations around the world, online, and in a hybrid learning format. Focusing on leadership, innovation, and analytics, its diverse faculty publishes outstanding research in top academic journals. Additionally, the international business school provides an interdisciplinary platform for discourse between politics, business, and academia. ESMT is a non-profit private institution of higher education with the right to grant PhDs and is accredited by AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS, and ZEvA. It is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion across all its activities and communities. [esmt.berlin](https://www.esmt.berlin)

Press contact

Kim Matthies

PR Manager

kim.matthies@esmt.org

+49 151 1457 1830