

PROGRAMME

DigiChain Spring Academy: Digitalising sustainability due diligence: Digital tools and global value chain regulations

Monday 7 April 2025 – Digital technologies in the Green Deal and the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD)

- 10:30 – 11:00** Welcome and Introductions
- 11:00 – 11:30** The turn to (sustainability) due diligence: A genealogy
Antoine Duval, Asser Institute
- 11:30 – 12:00** The role of digital technologies in EU Green Deal legislations
Klaas Eller, University of Amsterdam
- 12:00 – 13:00** Lunch
- 13:00 – 13:30** Public sector perspectives on the digitalisation of due diligence
Wilke de Boer, Independent legal expert on ESG at the Dutch Economic and Social Council (SER)
- 13:30 – 14:30** Experience from practice – Implementing the German Due Diligence law between law, consultancy, and technology
Alice Homuth, Löning – Human Rights and Responsible Business, Berlin
Sebastian Rünz, Taylor Wessing, Düsseldorf
- 14:30 – 14:45** Coffee/Tea Break
- 14:45 – 15:30** Company perspective – The role of digital tools at Systembolaget
Martin Horwitz, Systembolaget
- 15:30 – 16:15** Investors perspective – The market for digital tools for due diligence
Rebecca Wong, Working Capital Fund
- 16:15 – 16:30** Coffee/Tea Break
- 16:30 – 17:30** Academic roundtable: Digital tools in the Green Transition: What we know and what we don't know
Anna Beckers, Maastricht University
Galit Sarfaty, University of Toronto
Matthew Archer, Maastricht University
- 18:00** Welcome dinner

Tuesday 8 April 2025 – **Transparent value chains: The role of digital tools in mapping and tracing**

- 9:30 – 09:45 **Introduction: Mapping and tracing – Identifying and stabilising the due diligence territory**
Antoine Duval, Asser Institute
- 9:45 – 11:00 **Open Transparency: Open Access Solutions for Mapping Global Supply Chains**
Hannah Lennett, Open Supply Hub
- 11:00 – 11:15 **Coffee/Tea Break**
- 11:15 – 12:30 **The EU Green Deal and value chain traceability: Data Spaces and the European DPP**
Sotirios Kanellopoulos, DG ENV/European Commission
- 12:30 – 13:30 **Lunch**
- 13:30 – 14:45 **Traceability & Supplier Transparency in Apparel & Footwear: A Sector-Specific Approach**
James Crowley, Cascale
- 14:45 – 15:00 **Coffee Break**
- 15:00 – 16:15 **Putting risks on a map: The experience of Supply Trace**
Shawn Bhimani, Northeastern University/Supply Trace
- 16:45 – 17:00 **Critical reflections and discussion**

Wednesday 9 April 2025 – **Managing value chain risks and compliance: Towards digital ecosystems of sustainable governance**

- 09:30 – 09:45 **Introduction: Digital tools in risk assessment, prioritisation and remediation**
Klaas Eller, University of Amsterdam
- 09:45 – 10:45 **Case study 1: The ECovadis Suite**
Sophia Katrenko, VP of AI at Ecovadis
- 10:45 – 11:00 **Coffee Break**
- 11:00 – 12:00 **Case study 1: The ECovadis Suite**
Sophia Katrenko, VP of AI at Ecovadis
- 12:00 – 13:00 **Lunch**
- 13:00 – 14:00 **Case study 2: The Altana Value Chain Management System**
Shannon Stewart, Principal Research Scientist of Altana AI
- 14:00 – 14:15 **Coffee Break**
- 14:15 – 15:15 **Case study 2: The Altana Value Chain Management System**
Shannon Stewart, Principal Research Scientist of Altana AI
- 15:15 – 15:30 **Coffee Break**
- 15:30 – 16:30 **Computer says no: Assessing the risks and opportunities of digital supply chain solutions for the business and human rights agenda**
Huib Huyse, KU Leuven
- 16:30 – 17:00 **Critical reflections and discussion**

Thursday 10 April 2025 – Digital stakeholder engagement and its pitfalls

- 09:30 – 09:45** Introduction: Meaningful stakeholder consultation through digital means
Antoine Duval, Asser Institute & Klaas Eller, University of Amsterdam
- 09:45 – 11:15** The digitalisation of stakeholder and worker engagement: Pitfalls and opportunities
Lea Esterhuizen, CEO, &Wider
- 11:15 – 11:30** Coffee Break
- 11:30 – 12:30** Towards rights-compatible use of digital technologies in stakeholder engagement
Jennifer Zerk, Legal consultant, Business and Human Rights Section, UN Office of High Commissioner of Human Rights
- 12:30 – 13:30** Lunch
- 13:30 – 14:15** Digital stakeholder engagement on the ground: A case study of the mining sector in Africa
Robert Bwana, University of Amsterdam
- 14:15 – 14:30** Coffee Break
- 14:30 – 16:00** The digitalisation of sustainability due diligence: Unilever's perspective
Mollie Liesner, Unilever
- 16:00** Closing and reception

Confirmed speakers:

- [Antoine Duval](#), Asser Institute
- [Klaas Eller](#), University of Amsterdam
- [Wilke de Boer](#), Dutch Economic and Social Council (SER)
- [Alice Homuth](#), Löning – Human Rights and Responsible Business, Berlin
- [Sebastian Rünz](#), Taylor Wessing, Düsseldorf
- [Martin Horwitz](#), Systembolaget
- [Rebecca Wong](#), Working Capital Fund
- [Anna Beckers](#), Maastricht University
- [Galit Sarfaty](#), University of Toronto
- [Matthew Archer](#), Maastricht University
- [Hannah Lennett](#), Open Supply Hub
- [Sotirios Kanellopoulos](#), European Commission
- [James Crowley](#), Cascale
- [Shawn Bhimani](#), Northeastern University/Supply Trace
- [Sophia Katrenko](#), VP of AI at Ecovadis
- [Huib Huyse](#), KU Leuven
- [Lea Esterhuizen](#), CEO, &Wider
- [Jennifer Zerk](#), UN Office of High Commissioner of Human Rights
- [Robert Bwana](#), University of Amsterdam
- [Shannon Stewart](#), Altana AI
- [Mollie Liesner](#), Unilever

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