




# QUARTERLY NEWS


Num. Apr. 2025





## TOP NEWS OF THE QUARTER


### Activities


 **Milestone.** More than 30 events implemented across 5 countries

 **Piloting activities:** students, teachers, professionals, and youth reached

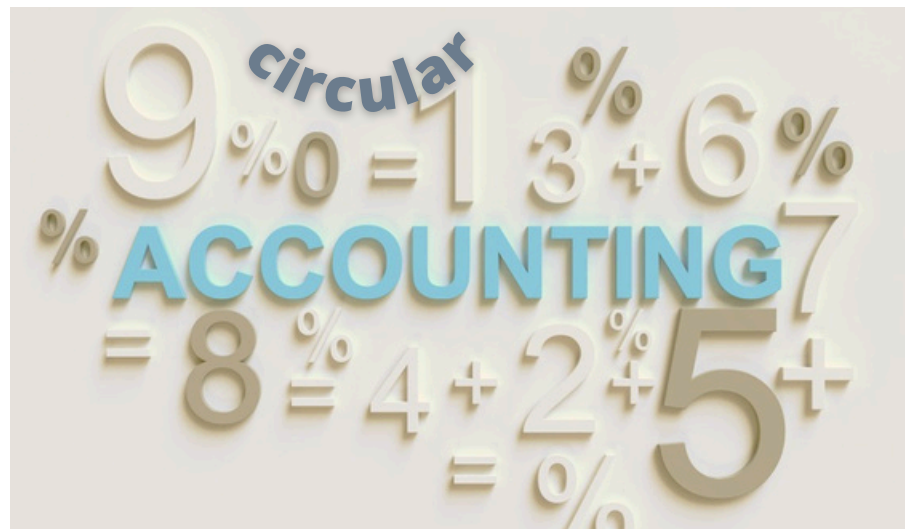
 **ACES materials tested** in universities, secondary schools & entrepreneurship hubs

 **Cross-cutting insights from practice:** Learnings & Best Practices

 **ACES goes local:** engaging municipalities, chambers of commerce & rural businesses

 **Upcoming events:** May Webinar & June Final Meeting in the Netherlands

## THE ACES PROJECT



*ACES goes beyond the classroom: it travels to local institutions, global webinars, student hackathons, and policy debates*

Since November 2022, the ACES project set out not only to develop new materials for circular economy and accounting education, but also to ensure their relevance, adaptability, and reach. Over the past year, this vision has taken shape. Through more than 30 events organized by partner institutions — Haaga-Helia, The Hague University of Applied Sciences, European University Cyprus, the University of Alcalá, and Impact Hub — the ACES community has piloted, tested, and showcased new ways of thinking and teaching circularity.

One notable example is the implementation of innovative pedagogies, including the Learning Arches model developed by Kavanaugh (2019), which structures each learning session in three phases: Set, Hold, and Land. This approach has been applied in diverse learning environments — from in-person classes to online platforms and webinars — creating engaging, human-centered learning experiences that are both inclusive and effective.

In parallel, the project has emphasized the localization of educational content. For example, in Finland, ACES partners created a national online course in Finnish combining the three core modules, integrating national legislation and accounting practices. Similarly, in Spain, a substantial part of the ACES material was translated into Spanish and adapted with local case studies and regulatory references. These localised versions have significantly enhanced comprehension and engagement among students and professionals alike.

This special edition of the newsletter captures that movement. It is a journey across formats, countries, and voices. As the project approaches its final phase, we take a moment to reflect, share insights, and look ahead — toward broader use, future collaborations, and new learning ecosystems.

# What's new?

## EVENTS: IN NUMBERS, TIMELINE & MAP...

Over 30 ACES-related events have been held since 2023, reaching more than 1,100 participants across seven countries and multiple continents. These events spanned a wide range of formats — from academic lectures and webinars to hackathons, alumni talks, sectoral workshops, and international conferences. They engaged learners of all ages: high school students discovering the 7Rs through games, university students debating integrated reporting, and professionals reflecting on ESG strategies and circular business models. The diversity of participants, institutions, and countries underscores the interdisciplinary and intercultural ambition of the ACES project.

Metric	Value
Total events held	30+
Countries covered	7
Institutions involved	5 (4 HEIs + 1 Business Org.)
Estimated direct participants	1,100+
Education levels reached	Secondary, Bachelor, Master, Lifelong Learning
Formats	Workshops, webinars, hackathons, briefings, conferences

**ACES:  
COLLABORATION,  
PROGRESS,  
MILESTONE**

From Spain to China, Finland to Georgia, the ACES project has traveled far — both physically and digitally. Events were hosted in seven countries and presented in five languages, allowing ACES materials to be tested in real-world settings and adapted for diverse academic and professional audiences. This broad dissemination underscores one of the project's key strengths: the ability to translate shared European knowledge into locally relevant learning experiences.





### Dissemination & Engagement: Regions where events were held

- ✓ ES Spain – Alcalá, Sigüenza, and beyond
- ✓ CY Cyprus – Events & pilots at EUC and in China
- ✓ NL Netherlands – THUAS events and upcoming final meeting
- ✓ FI Finland – Webinars, national accounting forums, workshops
- ✓ GE Georgia – Impact Hub international event
- ✓ CN China – Student and alumni presentations (EUC)
- ✓ PL / MX Poland/Mexico – Visiting professor sessions at UAH

## ACCESS ACES TOOLS AND JOIN THE COMMUNITY

### Access the ACES Materials

All ACES educational materials — from lectures and exercises to online modules and case studies — are now available for use in universities, training centres, and professional environments. These resources are designed to be:

-  **Modular** – easily integrated into existing programs
-  **Contextualized** – adaptable to national frameworks and sector-specific needs
-  **Innovative** – using engaging pedagogical methods like *Learning Arches*
-  **Certified** – aligned with **microcredentialing strategies** for lifelong learning

 **Explore the full package here:**

 [ACES TEACHING MATERIALS ON GOOGLE DRIVE](#)

### [ACES ONLINE COURSE PLATFORM](#)

#### Try the Online Courses (ACES Microcredentials)

Developed in partnership with Haaga-Helia, these **free, open-access courses** offer flexible learning for students and professionals in three core areas:

1. **Circular Economy Business Models**
2. **Management Accounting in CE**
3. **Financial Accounting in CE**

Each module includes practical exercises, downloadable templates, and instructor guides.

 **Sign up and explore the courses:**

## ▶▶▶ PARTNER SPOTLIGHTS - EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

### Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences – Circularity Meets Professional Practice

Haaga-Helia stood out for its strategic engagement with Finland's accounting and business education ecosystems. From webinars tailored to professionals (e.g., Taloushallintoliitto) to presentations at national events like Tili ja Vero 2025, Haaga-Helia reached practitioners and educators alike. At the same time, the university invested in high-impact teaching innovation: the use of Kavanaugh's Learning Arches model was not only tested in webinars but also discussed in national forums as a tool for engaging and inclusive learning. Another strong point was the translation and contextualization of ACES content into Finnish, ensuring regulatory alignment and sectoral relevance. This partner exemplified how accounting education for circularity can be both international and local, practical and pedagogically rich.



### European University Cyprus (EUC) – Expanding ACES to Asia and Alumni Networks

EUC made a unique contribution by bridging geographies and audiences — from undergraduate students in Fuzhou, China, to alumni and professional networks in Cyprus. The series of events held in partnership with Minjiang University introduced the ACES framework to more than 150 students and faculty, revealing its cross-cultural relevance and flexibility. These sessions didn't just showcase the materials — they also fostered reflection on sustainability, education, and entrepreneurship in a Chinese-European context. At home, EUC hosted alumni webinars focused on employability, lifelong learning, and circular business strategies. In all of its actions, EUC confirmed that ACES can resonate beyond Europe, provided that the materials are accessible, the pedagogy engaging, and the examples locally adapted.



### The Hague University of Applied Sciences (THUAS) – Curriculum Integration and Community Engagement

THUAS played a leading role in connecting ACES with formal academic programming. A series of curriculum integration workshops and committee sessions allowed educators and program directors to explore the practical inclusion of ACES modules in business and sustainability curricula. Students and faculty also participated in targeted testing sessions, including the piloting of the Managerial Accounting in Circular Economy module, which was praised for its practicality and sectoral relevance. In parallel, THUAS hosted open think-fests and internal events, encouraging cross-departmental dialogue and the exchange of pedagogical strategies. The institution positioned itself as a curricular driver of sustainability transitions, helping pave the way for ACES materials to be embedded long-term.

## OUTREACH, NETWORKING, AWARENESS





## PILOTING AND INNOVATING FOR IMPACT...

### University of Alcalá (UAH) – Embedding Circularity Across Levels and Sectors.

UAH has demonstrated how ACES content can be adapted across diverse educational settings — from secondary schools to higher education and entrepreneurial hubs. Over the course of the project, the UAH team has implemented more than six events, including subject-based integration into the Public Sector Economics course, a teacher training session at IAES, and an impactful capsule lecture during a university hackathon. A standout initiative was the interactive workshop for high school students (ESO+Empresa), which introduced circular economy principles using gamified tools like the “7R Trivia,” showing the scalability of ACES content to younger learners. UAH also partnered with regional actors — such as local government, social councils, and chambers of commerce — to bring circular economy concepts to the tourism and fishing sectors. Through these multi-audience, multi-format events, UAH made a strong case for how circularity can become both a pedagogical and territorial strategy.

**Impact Hub – Connecting ACES to Entrepreneurial Ecosystems.** As the non-academic partner in the consortium, Impact Hub brought a unique ecosystem perspective to ACES dissemination. Their flagship contribution came through the European Gathering in Tbilisi, Georgia, where the project was introduced to more than 20 entrepreneurship support organizations. This event helped position ACES within broader discussions on green startups, circular innovation, and social impact. Participants explored synergies between the ACES training modules and the “Embedding Circularity Toolkit” used across Impact Hubs. The event served as a springboard for new connections, with strong interest in adapting ACES for mentor training and accelerator programs. Impact Hub demonstrated the value of connecting sustainability education with entrepreneurship infrastructures.

## WHAT WE’VE LEARNED ACROSS CONTEXTS - AND HOW TO TAKE IT FURTHER

Across all events — from student sessions to policy briefings — ACES partners collected valuable feedback, revealing what works, what inspires, and where circularity education can go next. These cross-cutting insights and good practices are shaping the future of circular economy learning, one audience at a time.

Theme	Table of Cross-Cutting Learnings	Key Takeaway or Insight
Audience Engagement	Interactive methods (like the “7R Trivia” or polls) increased participation and retention.	
Pedagogical Innovation	Learning Arches (Set – Hold – Land) helped structure sessions for deeper learning.	
Local Adaptation	Translations and contextual case studies (e.g. Spain, Finland) improved accessibility and relevance.	
Cross-Sector Dialogue	Events involving businesses, public institutions, and universities fostered real-world integration.	
Early Exposure Works	High school workshops sparked awareness of sustainability career paths.	
Faculty Buy-In	Teachers appreciated the structure and suggested integrating ACES into microcredentials.	
Scalability Potential	Several partners recommended creating “ready-to-use kits” for wider dissemination in schools and training sessions.	



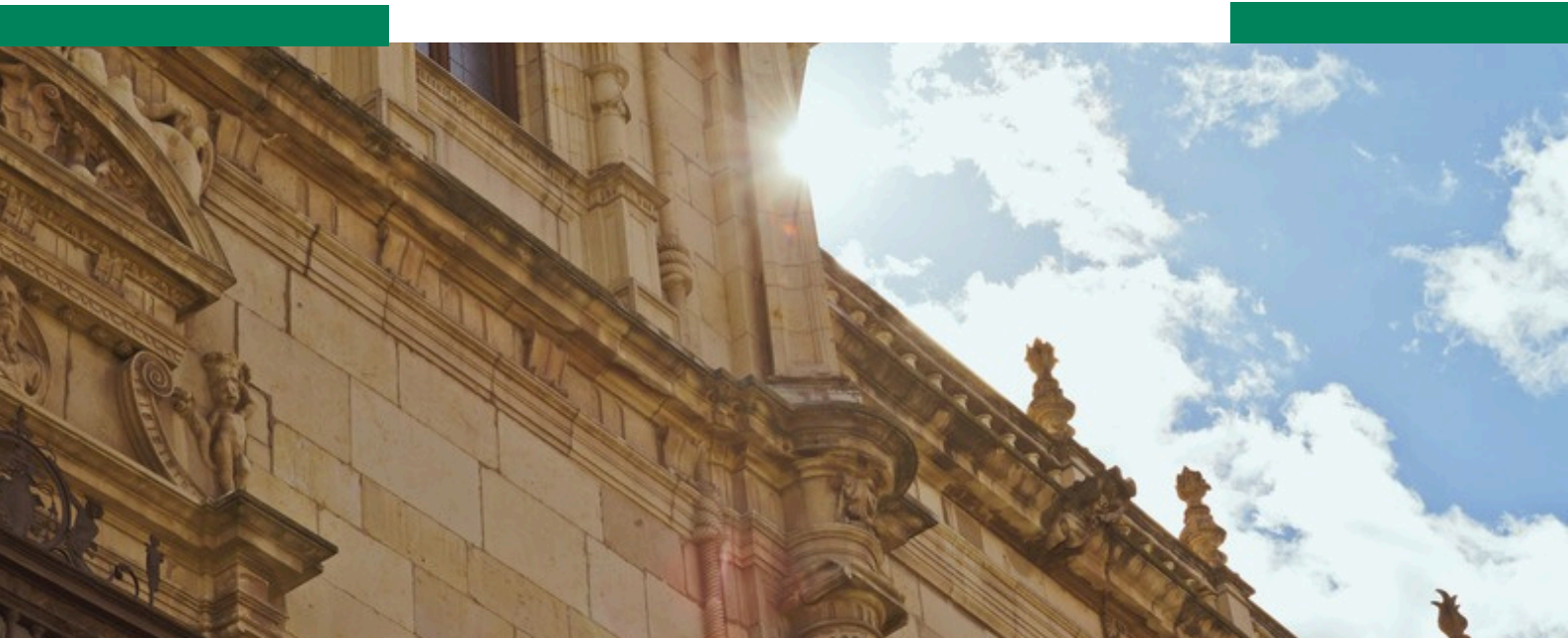
### Best Practices in Action

- Gamified Learning:** UAH’s use of quizzes and game boards based on the “7Rs” made CE concepts tangible for teenagers.
- Professional Webinars:** Haaga-Helia’s tailored sessions with Finnish accounting networks connected theory to practice.
- Intercultural Exchange:** EUC’s collaboration with Minjiang University showed that circularity resonates globally, if delivered with cultural sensitivity.
- Teacher-Led Integration:** THUAS worked closely with curriculum committees to embed modules in real study plans.
- Toolkits for Replication:** Impact Hub and EUC proposed kits that schools and hubs could adapt independently.



# Next steps

## ACES Project Prepares to Achieve Key Milestones at Upcoming Consortium Meeting



### SHAPING THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE ACCOUNTING



#### FROM MILESTONES TO MOMENTUM: CELEBRATING OUR JOURNEY

As we reach the conclusion of the ACES Project, we are proud to look back on a remarkable collective journey.

- Through more than 30 events – from hands-on workshops and webinars to international conferences – our consortium has grown into a vibrant community of learners and innovators.
- Together, students, educators, and partners from diverse institutions have shared knowledge, explored circular economy principles, and pushed the boundaries of accounting education. This collaborative spirit and shared learning have not only advanced our project’s goals but also built lasting connections that will carry forward beyond ACES.

None of these achievements would have been possible without you – our community of students, educators, academic institutions, and industry partners. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for bringing your energy, insights, and dedication to ACES.

Your involvement turned ideas into action, classrooms into living labs of circular learning, and a project into a movement for change. It’s this collective dedication that has driven our success and made our three-year journey so rewarding.

#### ACES CONTINUES: YOUR INVITATION TO SHAPE WHAT’S NEXT <<<

In the coming weeks we will host the online webinar “Accounting for Circular Futures” on May 28, 2025, and from June 3–5, 2025 we will gather for the final consortium meeting in the Netherlands.

- These events are not just a celebration of all that we have accomplished together, but a springboard for continued innovation and collaboration.
- Thank you for being part of the ACES journey – and let’s keep shaping a sustainable future together.

**JOIN US ON THE ROAD AHEAD**

Join Us in Shaping the Future of Sustainable Accounting! Be part of the movement driving innovation in circular economy education! Explore ACES’s free online courses, engage with cutting-edge teaching materials, and join our journey toward a sustainable future.



Co-funded by  
the European Union

More information about the Erasmus+ programme: [www.oph.fi/erasmusplus](http://www.oph.fi/erasmusplus)

The European Commission is not responsible for the content of this publication



**SOMETHING NEW IS HAPPENING IN (HEI) EUROPE...**

<https://erasmusaces.eu/>



**THE ACES PROJECT**

