



STUDENT DETAILS

University department / faculty:	Economics
Field of study:	MBA
Home university:	Hochschule Anhalt
Nationality:	Indian
Duration of traineeship (<i>from ...to...</i>):	15.03.2021- 15.05.2021

TRAINEESHIP INSTITUTION

Country:	The Netherlands
Name of traineeship institution:	Sapient Social & Environmental Enterprises
Web page:	http://www.sapientsee.com/
Address:	Ferdinand Huyckstraat 62, 1061 HW, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Contact person:	Coby Babani
Telephone / E-Mail:	+31 (0)6 42979456

EXPERIENCE REPORT (approx. 3 pages + more photos if applicable)

1) Traineeship institution

Please give a brief description of your host traineeship institution.

The traineeship institution was 'Sapient Social & Environmental Enterprise', I worked in one of their projects named Food Circle. Food Circle aims to bring an end to food waste across the globe by creating a network of food waste organisations. The goal is to make a difference together. Food Circle coordinates the strength and needs of every organisation in the network so that they can benefit from each other. More than 65+ people from 15 countries work on various projects at Sapient SEE. The work culture is international and organisational structure is democratic.

2) Searching for a traineeship

How did you find your traineeship? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

I found the internship in erasmusintern.org. I would suggest to do a thorough research about the organisation and the place before moving especially registration of address if staying for more than 3 months. Different countries have entirely different legal system. Also check RKI list of Covid-19 daily to know the risk areas, high incidence areas and areas of variants, take appropriate tests before moving.

3) Preparation

How did you prepare for your traineeship in terms of language, intercultural, professional and organisational aspects? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

The language in my traineeship institution is English, and a majority of people speak English in Amsterdam. However I learned a couple of words mainly 'greetings' and 'Thank you' in Dutch. It would be helpful to read about Dutch culture to have a wholesome experience.

4) Accommodation

How did you find your accommodation? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

Finding an affordable accommodation in Amsterdam is hard. I found the apartment in the website kamer-net.nl. All the websites charge a commission for their service unlike in Germany. The other websites you can use are: kamer.nl, KamersAmsterdam, HousingAnywhere and Erasmusu

5) Traineeship

Please describe the tasks and / or the projects carried out during your traineeship. In which way were you mentored and integrated? How were the working conditions? Did you have especially positive or negative experiences?

I had a positive experience during my internship. The institution is solely run by interns, hence the trainee is treated as an actual employee and is given real tasks from the beginning. Also the intern is expected to exercise many functions at the same time, which enable the intern to know all sides of the organisation. However, since the traineeship institution is democratic, there is no mentor.

My tasks included coordinating people working on the internal projects; creating strategies and business, keeping track of the project and ensuring objectives are being met. I was responsible to manage two projects which is, the establishment of Food Circle Think Tank, to provide policy recommendation & practical solution to tackle food waste in Amsterdam and EU. The second project was the planning and implementation of a compost collection service and compost bin in the Amsterdam area

6) Acquired qualifications

Which qualifications and skills could you acquire or improve during your traineeship?

I was able to develop my organisational and interpersonal skills. The institution has people from 20+ countries working for them. Hence I had to ensure smooth communication and collaboration within teams and within the organisation to ensure objectives are met. It also helped to develop leadership skills. I also get to know how things work in an international work place, which was extremely valuable. I also learned more about how a social business work, SDGs and social responsibility.

7) Country-specific features

Are there any specific traineeship regulations in the target country that affected you as an Erasmus trainee (e.g. France: housing allowance, convention de stage)? If yes, which ones? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

If you're residing in the Netherlands for less than four months, you're not required to officially register as a resident. Residing in the Netherlands for longer than four months, it's mandatory to complete the standard registration procedure. More informations are available in the website: www.amsterdam.nl

8) Visa, residence and work permit (only for international students)

Which prearrangements had to be made in terms of visa, residence and work permit? Are there any recommendable links or other helpful tips you would like to share?

If the duration of your internship is longer than 90 days, one need to apply for a residence permit. You can use the link https://ind.nl/en/work/working_in_the_Netherlands/Pages/Action-programme-EU.aspx for more information about the procedure and the conditions for applying a residence permit based on an Action programme of the EU (Erasmus internship).

9) Other

Is there anything else you want to let other students know?

10) Conclusion

What is the conclusion drawn after your traineeship experience abroad?

My internship experience in The Netherlands was defiently a memorable one. I had the opportunity to work with extremely talented people from various countries and backgrounds. More than 65+ people from 15 countries work on various projects at Sapient SEE. I got a chance to learn from the best about how a social business functions, sustainability and environment and social well-being. I was also able to develop my organisational and interpersonal skills. I believe an abroad internship experience is extremely valuable for your personal as well as professional growth.

Declaration of consent

I hereby agree to the publication of this report on the website of the Leonardo Office Saxony-Anhalt.

I assure that the photos used in this report do not violate the rights of other persons or companies (personal rights, copyrights etc.).

Please send this report by email to angela.wittkamp@ovgu.de!
Acceptable file formats: [.doc], [.docx], [.rtf], [.odt].

