

Press Information

Berlin, February 3, 2016

ESMT Center for Sustainable Business growing

- **Six new members join the Sustainable Business Roundtable**
- **Current research project on sustainable business models**

The [Center for Sustainable Business \(CSB\)](#) at ESMT European School of Management and Technology has continued its rapid development since its founding in February 2015. The center's activities focus on action research, practical education, and thought leadership in the area of sustainability. The [Sustainable Business Roundtable](#) at ESMT is the pillar for thought leadership of the CSB, bringing together sustainability managers from a wide range of companies. Six companies (AXA, Covestro, Deutsche Bank, Enel, LafargeHolcim, and Unilever) joined the Roundtable in January bringing the total number of members to 26. The membership entails two bi-annual meetings for two representatives from each company – the sustainability manager and a colleague from the department/theme under discussion – and provides access to the latest corporate sustainability research as well as news and analyses from the Center for Sustainable Business.

Ernesto Ciorra, Head of Innovation and Sustainability at Enel said, “We are very much looking forward to engaging with the other company representatives at the bi-annual roundtable sessions. We have a lot to share as a “first mover” in connecting innovation and sustainability within our organization, and we expect to learn not only from other sustainability colleagues, but also from research coming out of the Center for Sustainable Business.”

The CSB is led by [Prof. CB Bhattacharya, Pietro Ferrero Chair in Sustainability](#). The center's current research focuses on sustainable business models. CB Bhattacharya noticed that companies lack a recipe to embed or integrate sustainability into their strategy, their systems and operations and their culture such that every employee conducts business through the sustainability lens. The research will offer insight into how to create sustainable business models and execute on them.

“The high-level research and analysis is very impressive,” commented Simon Clow, Group Head of Stakeholder Engagement at AXA. “The roundtable gives us the unique opportunity to combine a depth of research with practical solutions and to discuss all of this with experienced managers in the same situation.”

More about the Sustainable Business Roundtable (video): <https://www.esmt.org/school-networks/media-center-news/videos/faculty-research/sustainable-business-roundtable-sbrt>

More about the Center for Sustainable Business (website): <https://www.esmt.org/csb>

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About ESMT

ESMT European School of Management and Technology was founded by 25 leading global companies and institutions. The international business school offers a full-time MBA, an executive MBA, an executive MBA/MPA, a master's in management as well as open enrollment and customized executive education programs. ESMT focuses on three main topics: leadership and social responsibility, European competitiveness, and the management of technology. ESMT faculty publishes in top academic journals. Additionally, the business school provides an interdisciplinary platform for discourse between politics, business, and academia. ESMT is based in Berlin, Germany, with Schloss Gracht as an additional location near Cologne. ESMT is a private business school with the right to grant PhDs and is accredited by the German state, AACSB, AMBA, EQUIS, and FIBAA. www.esmt.org