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senior-level career roles, such as CFOs, board members and chief accounting officers.

**Isaac M. O'Bannon** • Mar. 07, 2023



A new partnership between the world's most influential association for the accountancy profession and the world's most prestigious university will equip finance professionals with the tools and knowledge to make businesses more sustainable.

AICPA & CIMA, which together form the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants, and the University of Oxford's Saïd Business School, will

jointly offer a [new executive management program](#) in sustainability for accounting

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“Simply put, this exciting collaboration will help to improve the world we live in,” said Soumitra Dutta, dean of Said Business School. “With our school’s world-class teaching, we will equip accounting and finance professionals across the globe with the skills and knowledge they need to better focus businesses on their social and environmental impact. I cannot imagine a more important time for such a program, as we all face the very real dangers of the growing climate crisis.”

The program is intended to:

- Equip aspiring professionals with subject matter expertise, insight and practical knowledge to support and lead their organization’s response to sustainability issues
- Alert employers and prospective employers that certificate holders possess a deep understanding of how sustainability issues affect their organization’s ability to create long-term value, with relevant implications for decision-making and resource allocation
- Deepen a professional accountant’s ability to apply his or her business skills to sustainability issues, which will have a profound effect on organizational business models

“As we move closer to global sustainability standards, there is high demand for accounting and finance leaders who can successfully navigate this dramatic shift to greater organizational transparency beyond traditional financial metrics,” said Andrew Harding, FCMA, CGMA, AICPA & CIMA’s CEO of management accounting. “Our new program will give key players in this transformation the skills they need to build trust with stakeholders and provide consistent, comparable information to develop strategies and shape decisions related to sustainability.”

Students from the program will also benefit from joining a dynamic and impactful global alumni network – the [Oxford Saïd Alumni Network](#) – once they complete their

studies. Commenting on this opportunity, Dutta added: “It will be a pleasure to see

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