



WACE Global Challenge #7

End of Program Report

July 2023



wace

advancing cooperative &
work-integrated education

GLOBAL CHALLENGE

Powered by  **Practera**

Executive Summary

The WACE Global Challenge #7 is a 4-week, virtual, global student-industry project learning program. The program has engaged 50 students from 11 universities, across 7 countries in the 7th cohort, which ran in July 2023

50

Students

8

Industry clients

91% +11%

Completion rate

8.5

Student willingness to recommend

78% -2%

Increase in students social & professional networks

86%

Increase in students global employability skills

70% -10%

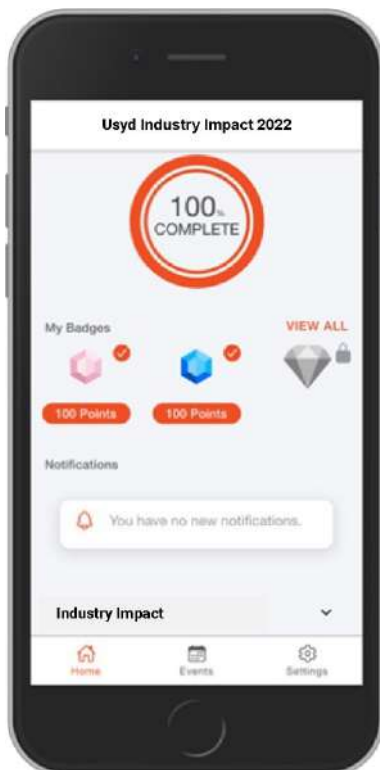
Client willingness to recommend

55% -25%

Clients enhanced business decision making / capability

86% +6%

Final Report was of high / outstanding quality



"I rated it 10 because there is a lot to learn from the intercultural engagement, such as but not limited to teamwork, problem solving skills, culture sensitization, technology skills, research skills, and writing skills."

- Hannah Kimaro, Masters of Education-Language and Literacy

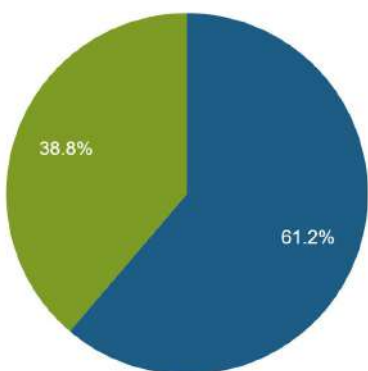
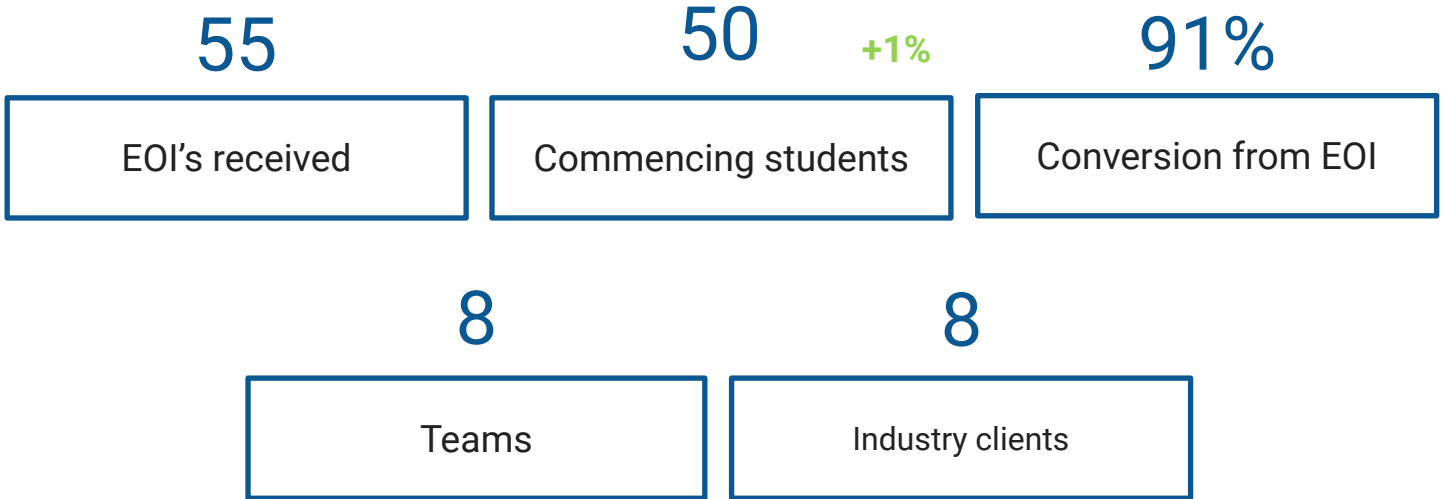
"Team 8, you did a marvelous job of changing course and producing a clear and useful guide to guide a future website redesign."

- Karen Nulton, Director of Writing Assessment at Drexel University - Monteverde Conservation League (Volunteers and WIL)

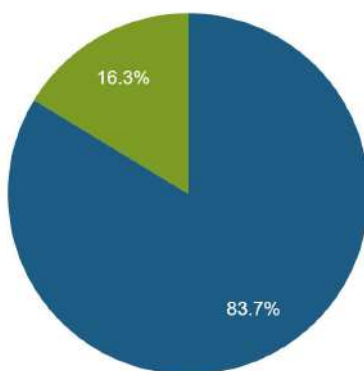


Program Experience & inputs

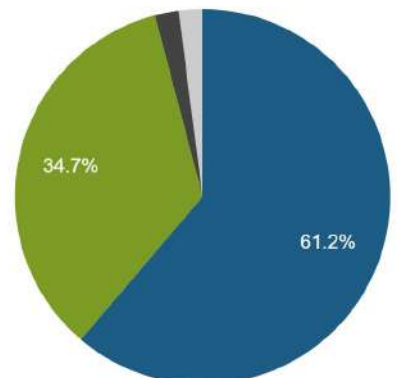
The WACE Global Challenge is a 4-week, 50 hour, extracurricular, authentic student-industry project learning program delivered by WACE & Pratera, using the Practera experiential learning platform.



● Domestic ● International



● Undergraduate ● Postgraduate



● Female ● Male ● Prefer not to disclose ● Other

Industry client engagement

8 Industry partners from a range of business, startup, SME, community organisations engaged with the student teams.



Practera
Powering experiential learning



Game Tree
AN EXTRAORDINARY TRAINING EXPERIENCE!

See Appendix A for full list

Program activities, outputs & outcomes by cohort

Program outcomes were positive, with indicators above benchmark / target with 85% student willingness to recommend. However, client willingness to recommend is 10% below target with 70% rate. Completion rates were 11% above target.

Activities / Experience		
Completion Rate (individual)	100%	+20%
Completion rate (team)	100%	+20%
Client briefs and support documents were high quality	84%	+4%
Feedback was high quality, timely, and constructive	82%	+2%
Experience using Practera App	84%	+4%
Outputs		
WTR: Students	85%	+5%
WTR: Clients	70%	-10%
Increase in student's social & professional networks	78%	-2%
Final Report was of high / outstanding quality	67%	-13%
Outcomes		
Increase in student's employability / global skills	84%	+4%
Enhanced client's business decision making / capability	55%	-25%

Program progression / attrition

Program completion rate of 82% was slightly above target. Most attrition occurred around commencement, which is normal.

Commencement	During Program	Completers	Surveys
<p>55 Learners commenced the program by registering on Practera</p> <p>3 Learners withdrew after orientation session</p> <p>2 Learners withdrew after client briefing session</p>	<p>50 Learners submitted a project plan.</p> <p>50 Learners submitted draft report. 4 further did not confirm participation and were discontinued</p>	<p>50 Learners submitted the Final Report and completed the program</p>	<p>45 Learners completed the Feedback Survey on Practera platform</p>

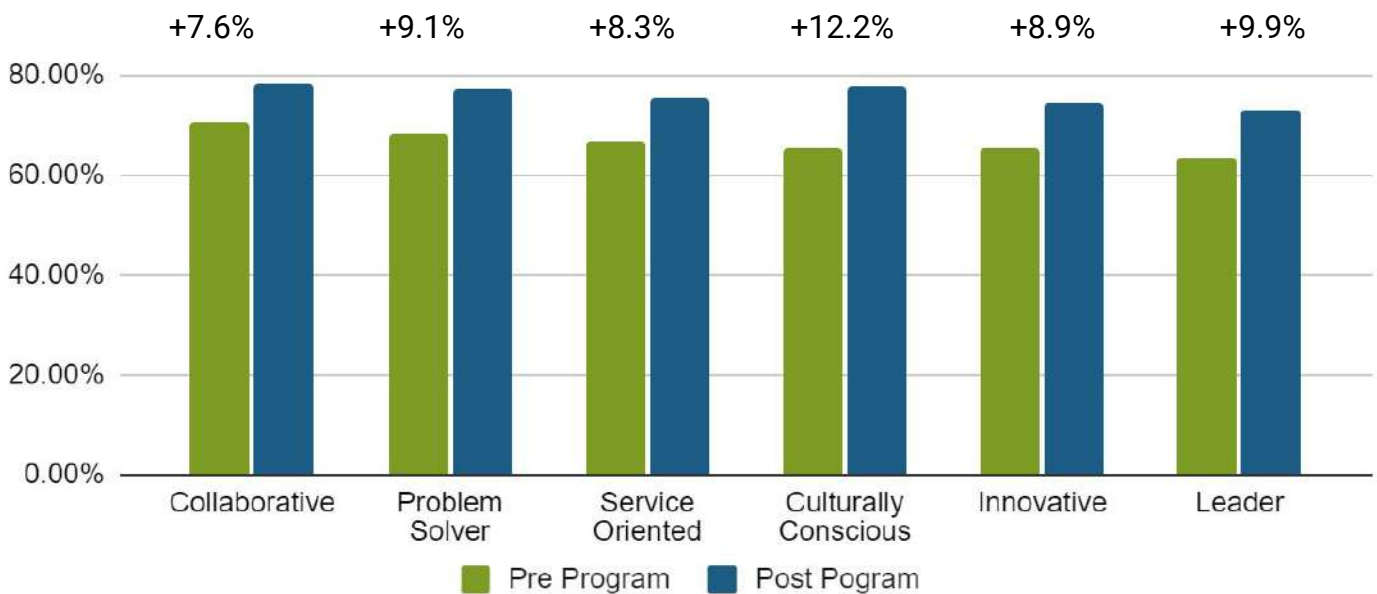


Student Breakdown

Student skills development

Students engaged with a World Economic Forum 21st Century Skills framework – applying, providing and receiving feedback and reflecting on 6 key skill groups important for the future of work. Students selected specific skills for extra learning & development and rated their capability pre and post project. Students selected innovation (24%), problem solver (23%), collaboration & communication (23%) as the skills most sought to develop, and exhibited the most growth in service orientation (+16%), cultural consciousness (+13.6%), collaboration (+11.8%) & problem solving (11.6%).

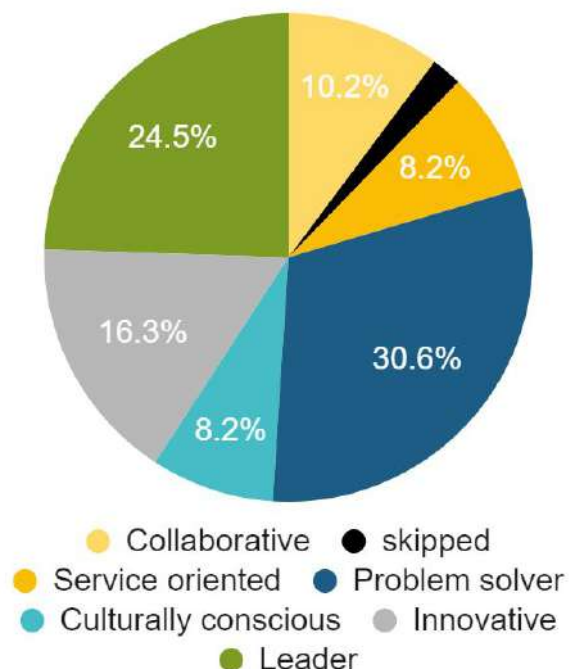
Skills growth



Global Skills framework

- Service Oriented**
 - Focus on the needs of your client
 - Understand your strengths and bring them into your teamwork
 - Go above and beyond for your client and team members
 - Show awareness of your team members' and client's feelings
- Problem Solver**
 - Accurately and succinctly articulate your client's problem
 - Take time to truly understand the problem and its root cause
 - Show good judgement and decision-making
 - Look at all the different angles for a solution
 - Begin to implement or craft a viable solution
- Collaborative**
 - Practise active listening
 - Respect your team members and ensure everyone contributes
 - Be open to the ideas of others and willing to compromise
 - Coordinate your team members, meetings and group work
 - Communicate with your team regularly on progress
- Innovative**
 - Seek to understand something important to your client
 - Understand the risks of the project and plan for them
 - Begin to implement or craft a viable solution
 - Get comfortable with a bit of ambiguity
 - Be flexible and quickly pivot to a new idea or solution
- Culturally Conscious**
 - Show respect to all the members of your team, no matter what they study or where they are from
 - Go above and beyond to make sure everyone feels included
 - Consciously build links across cultures
 - Stand up against people who target others
- Leader**
 - Ensure your team has a shared goal and vision
 - Inspire the team into action and push toward that common goal
 - Build confidence in others and bring out the best in them
 - Look at the bigger picture and refine processes

Skills selected as primary focus for development



Student employability & performance

Student performance during the project was analysed based on peer & client feedback and an overall participation & performance score generated. 76% of students opted in to provide their details and performance information to project clients & potential employers.

89%

Of students likely to use this experience as evidence in future opportunities

86%

Became better able to communicate my strengths and experience effectively in a professional setting.

85%

Gained relevant work experience that I can demonstrate in a cover letter and/or interview.

84%

Felt more confident in what s/he can offer a potential future employer

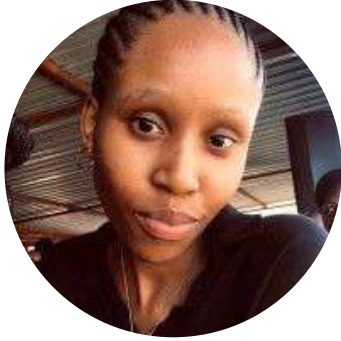
84%

Are more aware of what I want to do and am planning the next steps of my career

81%

Gained better understanding of own interests, strengths, and motivations

Student testimonials



"I personally learned alot participating in challenge. I learned alot from team mate. Communication, collerboration and compromise. I encourage people do this more and widen thier prospects."

Masekake Letsie, Bachelor of Science Computing

"I think this program provides valuable skills to students which will help them later on throughout their careers. While doing so, it was fun meeting and working with people all over the world."

Anmol Athwal, Bachelor of Psychology

"Practera enhanced my employability by allowing me to gain valuable experience as a consultant working with an industry professional. I improved my soft skills along the way such as leadership, teamwork, and communication."

Jia Qi Lin, Bachelor of Psychology

"The program was an excellent opportunity for me to practise my communication skills especially via cross-cultural collaboration as I was working with different team members internationally. This is a valuable skill to have in the future as teammates will come from diverse backgrounds so it is beneficial to practise ensuring an environment conducive for participation and collaboration."

- **Catherine Yang**, Bachelor of Commerce

This program is unique and participants can learn to work remotely with some of the unique and emerging startups, through which participants get the chance to enhance their experience and work on important skills such as management, innovative and teamwork skills, which can be beneficial in any professional career."

- **Kamal Uddin**, Bachelor of Earth and Environmental Science


"This program developed all the necessary skills that one needs to aquire for better employability and to be the best among other individuals."

Syed Kamal Shah, Masters in Health Policy and Management



Social Media examples

Students were supported to generate LinkedIn posts, and provided digital certificates AND/OR digital badges and support to articulate their professional experience, skills and connections.

 **Anmol Athwal** • 3rd+
School of Public Health Sciences | University of...
3w • 0

+ Follow ...

I recently had the opportunity to complete a virtual industry project with Practera! Over the last 4 weeks, I conducted market research and analysis for our client's organization as part of a global remote team.

Through this experience, I accomplished and developed many valuable skills - including teamwork, cultural awareness, leadership, innovation, collaboration, and service orientation. I would like to thank my talented teammates:

Pouria Sadeghian - University of Exeter
Jyoti Gupta - University of Drexel
Hannah Ludwig - University of DHBW Lörrach
Lucy Milambo - University of Botho
Sky Shah - University of Exeter

For their support and collaboration throughout the program.

Special thanks to our client Jane Hallett for her constructive feedback, which helped keep us focused on delivering high-quality work. And to Practera for providing this opportunity to gain real-world experience.

I look forward to applying the skills I've developed through this project in future career opportunities. I would recommend Practera's virtual industry projects to students seeking to expand their abilities and connections through practical learning.

Additionally, I sincerely thank the University of Waterloo's #edge program for informing me of this opportunity and supporting my participation in this enriching virtual project.

#WACE #uwaterloo #opportunity #sustainabledevelopment

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

Presented To

Anmol Athwal

For completion of the WACE Global Challenge
Sustainable Impact Project


Judie Kay

Vice Chair Partnerships & Programs, WACE



 **Lucy Milambo** • 2nd
Driving Innovation and Delivering Results #2025...
3w • 0

+ Follow ...

Proudly Completed the Consulting Program with Practera under WACE! 🎉
Excited to share that I have successfully completed an enriching consulting program with Practera, in alignment with the WACE curriculum. 🚀 This incredible experience has equipped me with invaluable skills in problem-solving, client engagement, and strategic thinking. Grateful to the entire team both at Practera and My #Team9 for their guidance and support throughout this journey. Looking forward to applying my newfound knowledge in the professional world!

Huge thank you to our project client Jane Hallett for being kind and very supportive in helping us meet the project brief.

Pouria Sadeghian, Hannah Ludwig, Jyoti Gupta, Anmol Athwal
#ConsultingProgram #WACE #Practera #ProfessionalGrowth #AchievementUnlocked



 **Jyoti Gupta** • 2nd
Honors Business Analytics and Finance Student at Drexel...
3w • Edited • 0

+ Follow ...

Over the past month, I had the incredible honor of completing the WACE Global Challenge under Practera, collaborating with a talented team:

-**Pouria Sadeghian** from the University of Exeter
-**Hannah Ludwig** from the University of DHBW Lörrach
-**Lucy Milambo** from the University of Botho
-**Sky Shah** from the University of Exeter
-**Anmol Athwal** from the University of Waterloo

I am immensely grateful to each of them for their hard work and dedication. It's been an unforgettable journey, and I genuinely appreciate their contribution to making it a rewarding and enjoyable experience.

A special shoutout to our client and mentor, **Jane Hallett**, whose guidance and knowledge were instrumental in our success. Her constructive feedback kept us focused and enabled us to deliver high-quality work.

Throughout these transformative four weeks, I had the opportunity to conduct market research and analysis, acting as a consultant for Practera. This hands-on experience allowed me to sharpen my problem-solving, collaboration, and innovation skills. It's truly been an invaluable opportunity, and I want to extend my sincere thanks to Practera for providing me with this incredible learning experience.

 **Sky Shah** • 2nd
BSc Human Sciences student at University of Exeter (Pen...
3w • Edited • 0

+ Follow ...

Throughout the past month, I was able to complete the WACE Global Challenge, acting as student consultants and gaining first-hand experience in working with an industry client (Practera), through one of the University of Exeter's postings!

A part of Team 9, I collaborated with students across the globe to go through the process of creating our final deliverable:

-**Pouria Sadeghian** from the University of Exeter
-**Hannah Ludwig** from the University of DHBW Lörrach
-**Lucy Milambo** from the University of Botho
-**Jyoti Gupta** from Drexel University
-**Anmol Athwal** from the University of Waterloo

I am so happy to have been able to work with them, and we have connected afterwards to stay in touch, as this has been such a great experience.

We were put in contact with the UK Director of Practera, **Jane Hallett**, and my role was assigned as client coordinator in our team so we were communicating directly. Her feedback and revisions on our draft report were invaluable, both to the quality of the final deliverable and presentation we gave, but also to ensuring we are able to continue onwards from this experience with greater confidence and knowledge.

Over the four weeks, we worked directly in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and had the opportunity to conduct market research and analysis, acting as consultants for Practera. This hands-on experience allowed me to increase my skills in leadership, innovation, collaboration, communication and problem solving, and I am very thankful to have been able to contribute.

A woman with blonde hair tied back, smiling warmly, is the central focus. She is wearing a light-colored, patterned blouse and a grey cardigan. She holds a red marker in her right hand, which is raised. The background is a bright, out-of-focus window with a view of a cityscape. The text 'Industry outcomes' is overlaid in a bold, black, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Industry outcomes

Client & Mentor feedback

	Total / average	+/- to target
WTR: Clients	70%	-10%
Final Report was of high / outstanding quality	67%	-13%
Enhanced client's business decision making / capability	55%	-25%



"Thank you to all have provided thought, time and effort to working with me. I truly appreciate it."

- Mia Pitassi, Founder - Skipping Stones

Case study

Company	Game Tree
Sector	Education and Training
Location	Greece
Category	Startup
Theme	Technology



Market Research

Game Tree was founded with a profound vision to revolutionize the business landscape, our company is dedicated to amplifying the significance of human resource soft skills in ensuring enduring business sustainability. Dora Aggelopoulou, the managing director at Game Tree asked the team to review existing customers or identify new customers that their product/service now attracts.



'The final report is detailed, well-researched and insightful. It clearly identifies and connects the UNSDGs that best associate with Game Tree. It has shifted our perspective in a positive way, since we now know which of our practices contribute to the society, to decent economic growth and to quality education. Thus, we can further strengthen our contribution. The report also helped us realize our strengths, as well as business opportunities. Last, but not least, the project members have clearly put extraordinary effort to creating an excellent report. The team of students were highly engaged to the project from the very first meeting. They had an organized plan and met the tight timeline criteria, even better than professionals would do. They instantly incorporated every single feedback comment they received. The contact persons were knowledgeable, kind and detail-oriented. I am amazed by the level of professionalism this team showed and feel very lucky that we had the chance to cooperate in this international project!'

Dora Aggelopoulou, Managing Director at Game Tree, rated the program 10/10

"I rated it 10 because there is a lot to learn from the intercultural engagement, such as but not limited to teamwork, problem solving skills, culture sensitization, technology skills, research skills, and writing skills."

Hannah Kimaro, Masters of Education-Language and Literacy, The Aga Khan University rated the program 10/10



Case study

Company	Monteverde Conservation League
Sector	Environmental Management
Location	Costa Rica/USA
Category	NGO
Theme	



Sustainable Impact Research

The Children's Eternal Rainforest (or "BEN" after the Spanish "Bosque Eterno de los Niños") is owned and operated by the Monteverde Conservation League (MCL), a Costa Rican non-profit conservation organization whose mission is "to conserve, preserve, and rehabilitate tropical ecosystems and their biodiversity. Project Client Karen Nulton asked the student team to undertake a study on reconceiving needs, products and customers to better serve social, environmental &/or economic needs.



'Team 8, you did a marvelous job of changing course and producing a clear and useful guide to guide a future website redesign. I am impressed at the visual and logical revisions that you made between the draft and final report--what you offer here is concise, clear, and understandable to people not versed in website design. You did a very good job offering specific information while speaking directly to a novice audience. I am excited to think of how much the MCL website (and by extension, social and economic outreach) will be improved by paying attention to your recommendations. Very well done. Thank you!!'

Karen Nulton, Director of Writing Assessment at Drexel University, rated the program 8/10

"Improved intercultural awareness and enhanced real-life problem-solving skills."

Nina Kostovska, Business Administration Student, DHBW Lörrach
rated the program 10/10



Case study

Company	Purposeful Pursuit
Sector	Education and Training
Location	Australia (East Coast)
Category	Startup
Theme	



Competitor Analysis

Purposeful Pursuit is a visionary company dedicated to fostering positive and profitable change through education, specializing in providing educational advisory services and compliance solutions for female business coaches, entrepreneurs, and micro/small businesses, enabling them to enhance credibility, scale with confidence, and forge meaningful partnerships in a rapidly evolving landscape. Hayley Gorlitz-Wilson, Managing Director at Purposeful Fruit asked the team to conduct a competitor analysis and on how to improve the local skills and business ecosystem.



'Thank you all so much for this wonderful report full of actionable insights! You have truly helped me get much clearer on how I need to proceed forward with my business. I am very grateful to you all for your input and want you all to know that this information will be taken onboard and actioned accordingly. Thank you again.'

Hayley Gorlitz-Wilson, Managing Director at Purposeful Pursuit

"This is a very unique opportunity to gain real world experience with the support of professional staff, therefore I highly recommend it."

Bobby Wang, Commerce Student, Ormond College - University of Melbourne
rated the program 8/10





Thankyou!

To discuss this report and your experiential learning needs, please contact



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To learn more, download our latest research whitepaper



<https://practera.com/project-based-white-paper/>

Appendix A - Industry client details

CLIENT	WEBSITE	INDUSTRY
Skipping Stones	skippingstones.eco	NGO
Young Assets Foundation Ltd	http://www.yaf.org.au	Community Services
Workplace Performance and Wellbeing Institute	www.wpwi.org	Education and Training
Purposeful Pursuit	www.purposefulpursuit.com.au	Education and Training
AATC - Australasian Academy of Tennis Coaches Pty Ltd	www.aatc.tennis	Education and Training
Game Tree	https://www.gametree.gr/en/	Technology
Monteverde Conservation League	www.childrenseternalrainforest.org	NGO
Practera	https://practera.com/	EdTech