# Innovation for more sustainable HEIs IAU HESD (Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development)

HEInnovate Webinar 8<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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#### IAU - the Global Voice of Higher Education

Global NGO created by UNESCO in 1950

+ 600 Members in + 120 countries around the world

Global forum for networking among peers



World Higher Education Database WHED.net



Leadership



Internationalization



Sustainable Development/ HESD



**Digital Transformation** 





# Higher Education and Research for Sustainable development

Integrating sustainable development fully into higher education strategies

#### Objectives

- ✓ Encourage peer-to-peer learning
- ✓ Monitor trends, develop and share expertise on the Sustainable Development Goals
  (SDGs)
- ✓ Foster whole institution approaches at the leadership level to integrate SD priorities
- ✓ Provide leadership training, capacity building and networking services

#### **Activities**

# Mapping HESD Initiatives

IAU HESD Global Portal gathers successful initiatives from IAU members



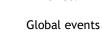
# Conducting Research

IAU HESD Global survey, publication series on SDGs, articles and more



# Capacity building & Evaluation

Multi-stakeholder partnerships;
Projects; and monitoring of developments related to sustainable development and higher education



Advocacy

Developing &

Sharing Knowledge

IAU HESD Cluster

enhances development &

sharing of expertise on

SDGs.



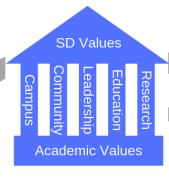


### Why work with the 2030 Agenda and Sustainability?

- SD has been a topic for several decades, Bruntland Report (1987)
- The <u>United Nations Agenda 2030 and the associated Sustainable</u>
   <u>Development Goals (SDGs)</u> adopted by UN General Assembly in 2015
- 17 SDGs that can be sorted into 5 dimensions/pillars of Agenda 2030: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnerships
- The 2030 Agenda is universal and holistic (for all countries, societies, humans)
- Sustainability is the overarching concept, climate action and reducing emissions are one (very important) part of the whole picture
- Agenda 2030 is complimented by other multinational agreements such as the
   Paris Agreement 2015, regional & national agreements/policies (EU Green Deal)



## Why work with the 2030 Agenda in Higher Education?



#### SDGs influence Universities to:

- Create new research areas
- Increase funding posibilities
- · Create comon frameworks
- · Help defining responsibility
- · Request information
- Be part of Science-Policy Interface

#### Knowledge

Collaboration

Exchange

Learning

#### Universities engage with SDGs to:

- Provide knowledge
- · Educate future generations
- Work on local level
- Engage local communities
- Translate SDGs into action
- Engage critically with SDGs
- Be part of Science-Policy Interface

- Win-Win Situation: HE & SDGs
- Global Framework for action
- SDGs are widely used and recognized by governments, NGOs, in the private sector
- Better links to student activism
   groups and local communities
- Useful for institutional strategy and taking a whole-institution approach (WIA) to sustainability



#### Graphic adapted from:

SDSN Australia/Pacific (2017): Getting started with the SDGs in universities: A guide for universities, higher education institutions, and the academic sector. Australia, New Zealand and Pacific Edition. Sustainable Development Solutions Network – Australia/Pacific, Melbourne

#### International Association of Universities





IAU Global Cluster on HESD

# Example of an innovative network: The IAU Global Cluster on HESD

- Launched in 2018
- 16 Universities from all world regions lead SDG 1 16
- 2-8 Satellite universities per subcluster (80 HEIs)
- IAU leads SDG 17: Partnerships
  - IAU Member Organisations can join SDG 17
- 1 common Goal: to bring Sustainable Development in Higher Education and Research forward
- List of Cluster Members and Satellites:

https://www.iau-hesd.net/contenu/4648-iau-global-cluster-hesd.html



# List of Resources/Tools

- **Specialized Portal** for SD-related Actions, News, Events and documents: IAU HESD Portal <a href="https://www.iau-hesd.net">www.iau-hesd.net</a>
  - Examples of best practice search the portal!
- IAU Publications: <a href="https://www.iau-aiu.net/HESD">https://www.iau-aiu.net/HESD</a>
- IAU Horizons on Leadership for a Sustainable Future
- IAU Global Cluster on HESD Activity Report 2020-2021 here (pdf).
- Outcome documents from the IAU HESD Cluster Meeting (March 2022): The <u>statement on the Joint vision from the IAU Higher Education for Sustainable Development (HESD)</u> Cluster members and <u>Strategy and Working Plan 2022-2024</u>
- SDG Impact Assessment Tool & Sulitest
- Global Guidance Document on Education on Green Jobs
- SDSN Guide for getting started with SDGs at Universities
- Previous and upcoming webinars









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Thank you!