

# Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development: Using IAU's HESD Portal to find and share information

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**Isabel Toman**, Programme Officer, HESD  
International Association of Universities (IAU)  
[i.toman@iau-aiu.net](mailto:i.toman@iau-aiu.net)

# IAU - the Global Voice of Higher Education

- Global NGO created by UNESCO in 1950, based at UNESCO HQ in Paris, France
- Global Membership (HEIs, Organisations, Affiliates): 600 Members in 120+ countries
- Global Database of Higher Education with 20k+ accredited institutions: The IAU World Higher Education Database (WHED.net)
- Advocacy to UN/UNESCO
- Research, Publications, Monitoring and Networking
- Four key thematic priorities



Leadership



Internationalization



Sustainable Development/HESD



Digital Transformation

## Vision

- Global voice of higher education,
- Influential and representative global association of diverse higher education institutions and their organisations,
- Advocating and advancing a dynamic leadership role for higher education in society
- Articulating the fundamental values and principles that underpin education and the pursuit,
- Dissemination and application of knowledge
- IAU is a think tank & forum for the development of new approaches, the sharing of best practice & the undertaking of joint action, encouraging & facilitating.

## Mission

- To contribute to peace and human development by
- promoting and enhancing the power of higher education to transform lives,
  - build capacity,
  - connect diverse peoples,
  - generate and disseminate new knowledge,
  - create insights and
  - find sustainable solutions to local and global challenges.



# IAU Vision, Mission & Values



# 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



# Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development

*Integrating sustainable development fully into higher education strategies*

## Activities:

- Mapping HESD Initiatives: The IAU HESD Portal ([iau-hesd.net](http://iau-hesd.net))
- Conducting Research: 3<sup>rd</sup> IAU HESD Global Survey Report, launched in January 2023
- Capacity building & Evaluation: (virtual) events, advocacy (UN HLPF, Unesco)
- Developing & Sharing Knowledge: The IAU HESD Cluster Network, SDG Publication Series

## IAU Global HESD Cluster



- Launched in 2018
- **16 Universities** from all world regions lead SDG 1 – 16
- up to 8 **Satellite universities** per subcluster (80 HEIs)
- **IAU** leads SDG 17: **Partnerships**
- **IAU Member Organisations can join SDG 17**

- **1 common Goal:** to enhance HE engagement with Sustainable Development in T&L, Research and campus and community engagement



# IAU HESD Survey Report

- Presents data from Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and Universities working on Sustainable Development globally
- Analyzes the current engagement of HEIs with Sustainable Development using the concept of the whole-institution approach and the 2030 Agenda
- Compares the results with the previous HESD survey (2019, 2016) and puts findings in context
- Make use of data to advocate for the significant role of higher education in fostering the 2030 Agenda through evidence and examples



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

- SD has been on the agenda of HE for several decades, cf. **Bruntland Report (1987)**
- The **United Nations 2030 Agenda and the associated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** 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, and humans)
- Sustainability is the overarching concept, climate action and reducing emissions are one (very important) part of the whole picture
- 2030 Agenda is complimented by other multinational agreements such as the Paris Agreement 2015, regional & national agreements/policies (EU Green Deal)





IAU HESD Portal → [www.iau-hesd.net](http://www.iau-hesd.net)

Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES BUREAU

Welcome to the IAU portal

About IAU HESD initiatives -  
HE for SDGs in action -  
Members & Partners -  
News & Events -

**Register and submit your HESD actions**

**Welcome to the Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) Portal**

This global portal is a tool developed by the International Association of Universities (IAU) for its Members, partners and the general public already since 2012. It provides access to university actions and more initiatives developed around the world to promote sustainability and contribute to the SDGs.

*Update on relaunch/maintenance work starting 15 November 2023:*

New functionalities and an improved layout - IAU is pleased to present the latest version of IAU HESD Portal. Kindly note that we are still making changes in the weeks to come, so in case you encounter any issues, please try again or [contact us](#) to report a problem. Thank you for your patience and we hope you enjoy the new page!

**Find initiatives, connect and be active for a more sustainable future and the UN SDGs!**

**Latest actions**  
TROPIMUNDO - Erasmus Mundus Masters

**IAU Members' and Partners' News**

*Free and accessible to all users*

Search by:

- Keyword
- Country
- University
- Category
- SDG

**Submit actions for your university/organisation [here](#).**

**IAU Members already have profiles and are highlighted.**



# Different ways to search the IAU HESD Portal



[SDG \(click here\)](#)

Search Portal by Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)



[Country \(click here\)](#)

Search a profile

To find a university profile, you can enter the name of the university you are looking for or search by country.

Search by name  Brazil

Filter by name  **Filter by Country**

[Search](#) [Reset](#)

Search results

- University of Sao Paulo
- State University of Campinas
- Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná
- Federal University of Pelotas
- Sao Paulo State University "Julio de Mesquita Filho"
- Universidad Federal do Ouro Preto (UFOP)
- Federal University of Amazonas - UFAM
- Amazonas State University - UEA



[Keyword \(search bar on top of the page— one word or several “ESD university”\)](#)



[University by name, country or on the map \(click here\)](#)

Universities map



# Different ways to search the IAU HESD Portal (2)

➔ [Category of action \(click here\)](#)

**Search an action**

Select one or more filters below.  
[How to submit actions/information - user guidelines](#)

All these words

None of these words

Any of these words

Search by keywords

**Categories of actions**  
[Select All](#)

- Assessment (for integrating SD)
- Business and Industry
- Campus Operations
- Community Engagement
- Leadership and Professional Development
- Research
- Student engagement
- Teaching and Learning
- Other

**Search**

➔ [Organisations \(click here\)](#)

➔ [List of Resources and Tools \(click here\)](#)

➔ [News \(click here\)](#)

About IAU HESD initiatives

HE for SDGs in action

Members & Partners

News & Events

News overview and archive

Calendar of events

Contact

**Register and submit your HESD actions**

**Latest actions**

UNITWIN Network Statement on Education for Sustainable Development

LEAP Researchers

UNESCO Report: Empowering women for the good of society

UNESCO Recommendation on Education for Peace, Human Rights and Sustainable Development

IAU Territorial School of Water

**News**

**Call for Contributions: The Ocean Decade Vision 2030 White Papers Review Process**

A milestone initiative of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021-2030 (Ocean Decade), Vision 2030 is a strategic ambition setting process which aims to identify a common measure of success for each of the Ocean Decade Challenges. Led by 10 Working Groups, one per Challenge, the White Papers are the result of several months of collaborative work initiated in early 2023. Between 22 January and 22 February 2024, we are inviting you to participate in the review process of the draft White Papers developed by the 10 Working Groups.

**Spotlight #1 on pilot participants - IAU and SOS Responsible Futures Programme**

Learn about the participants in this international pilot and their achievements so far in the journey of integrating ESD at the whole institution. First up: Trinity College Dublin in Ireland!

**Transforming Education Together: 2023 ESD-NET Global Meeting in Tokyo**

The ESD-NET Global Meeting in Tokyo, which commenced on December 18, 2023, marked a successful gathering at the United Nations University with the presence of representatives from more than 80 countries. This year's meeting focused on sharing the implementation and progress of the ESD-2030 national initiatives, trends, challenges and innovations within the framework of Agenda 2030 and discussing the action points for the next two years 2024-2025.

➔ [Submit actions for your university/organisation here.](#)

# Thank you!

IAU-SOS Responsible Futures International –  
sign up for 2024

Get engaged with IAU HESD initiatives

- IAU Publications: <https://www.iau-aiu.net/HESD>
- [IAU Horizons on Leadership for a Sustainable Future](#)

## IAU Network on SDGs



## Media Partnership with UWN



@iau\_aiu  
@IAU\_HESD



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/iau-aiu>



i.toman@iau-aiu.net