IAU Global Survey on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) 2022

English Version

Kindly note that this version of the questionnaire is for reference and preparation only. Please enter your responses directly using the online tool here:
>>*https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IAUHESDSurvey22* **<<**

Accelerating Action for the SDGs

Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) is one of the key priority areas of work of the International Association of Universities (IAU).

IAU supports higher education institutions (HEIs) in their endeavor to educate current and future generations, conduct research, engage with local communities, and transform their campuses into "green campuses" to reach the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), see: *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*

This survey is the third iteration of the IAU Global Survey on HESD. The first survey was conducted in 2016, the report "Higher Education Paving the Way to Sustainable Development: A Global Perspective" was published in 2017. The second survey was conducted in 2019; the report was published in January 2020 under the title: "Higher Education and the 2030 Agenda: Moving into the 'Decade of Action and Delivery for the SDGs'". Both received much attention globally.

The survey uses the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs as a framework to foster better understanding of how HEIs engage with sustainable development (SD), how they work, who is working on this at the institutional level and which SDGs are mainly in the focus. Furthermore, the outcomes of the survey will be useful for HEIs engaging or wishing to engage with SD; and to advocate for the significant role of higher education in implementing the 2030 Agenda at the UN level and to national governments.

This third global survey will help showcase developments regarding SD in the higher education sector, and help universities implement good practices in sustainability.

Information about the survey

The survey has been developed thanks to support provided by

- ASEF (Asia-Europe Foundation)
- Crue (Conferencia de Rectores de Universidades Españolas)
- MECCE (The Monitoring and Evaluating Climate Communication and Education Project)

The data gathered will be presented in a comprehensive outcome report prepared by IAU and used by partners for further analysis. The report will be made available to the global higher education community in open access and initial results will be presented at the UN High-Level Political Forum 2022, and a first draft of the report in October 2022 at the IAU 16th General Conference.

The information gathered from the survey will help inform the IAU Portal on HESD.

The questionnaire will take about **30 minutes** to complete. It is possible to stop the survey at any time and resume later.

We recommend that only one response per institution is submitted, and that ideally, the person is familiar with the SD work at the institution (e.g. leadership, advisor, other).

Find a preview of the questionnaire: Download the pdf

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

*Questions marked with an * are mandatory and **cannot be skipped**.*

Background information

Thank you for taking this survey. Please provide us with some background information

1. ***Terms of data use: (please tick the box to agree, you won't be able to complete the survey if you do not agree)**

   ☐ *I agree that IAU may use the data entered for research, presentations, and publications. The core data will not be shared with any third parties beyond the partners listed in the introduction nor be sold. It may appear in aggregated form or as examples as part of the data analysis but treated anonymously.   My name and email will not be part of the analysis and will only be used in order to communicate the results of the survey.*

2. ***Name of higher education institution (HEI):**

3. ***Type of institution (please select one)**
   - Public
   - Private-not-for-profit
   - Private-for-profit
   - Other (please specify)

4. ***Position of the respondent of the survey (please select only one)**
   - Head of institution (President, Rector, Vice-Chancellor, etc.)
   - Leadership level (Director, Vice President, Head of Department, etc.)
   - Academic staff (professors, researchers, etc.)
   - Administrative staff
   - Student
   - Other (please specify)

5. ***In which country is your university located?**

Institutions from Spain

(This section shows just if the respondent selects that she/he is from Spain in Q5)

6. **If you are from Spain, in which region (Autonomous community) is the university located?**

2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The achievement of the goals and targets of the 2030 agenda requires the participation of the university community as a whole. It is therefore essential that the different university stakeholders are aware of their importance and significance for the institution and for society at large.

7. ***What is the main understanding of sustainable development at your institution?**

   ● Economic based understanding
   ● Environmental based understanding
   ● Social/culturally based understanding
   ● All of the above
   ● other (please specify)

8. ***How much knowledge do you have about each of the following: Please select one option per row.**

	none	basic	intermediate	expert
The UN 2030 Agenda				
The UN Sustainable Development Goals				
Education for Sustainable Development				
Sustainable Development				
Global Citizenship Education				
Climate Change Education				

9. If you indicated intermediate or expert knowledge for Climate Change Education (CCE) in the table above, we would like to ask you three additional questions from our partner MECCE researching this specific topic.

- yes, continue with CCE questions
- skip the CCE questions and continue with the IAU HESD Survey.

Climate change education

*The following questions are relevant in particular for **Climate Change Education** (CCE) and SDG 13: Climate Action. This additional section includes questions that will feed into the [MECCE Project](), an ambitious international research partnership of over 100 leading scholars and agencies. The goal is to advance global climate literacy and action through improving the quality and quantity of climate change education, training, and public awareness.*

10. **Please select the category that best reflects the total number of classes/ courses offered by your institution. These courses can be offered at any level and for any degree program.**

   - Between 50 and 250 courses
   - Between 251 and 500 courses
   - Between 501 and 1000 courses
   - Between 1000 and 2500 courses
   - Between 2501 and 5000 courses
   - More than 5000 courses
   - Other

11. **We wish to determine the percentage of total courses offered by your institution that have an element of climate related content. This can refer to a topic, section and/or exercise found in the course or the entire focus of the course and can be offered in any discipline. Please choose the category below that best reflects this percentage:**

   - Less than 5% of courses contain some climate related content
   - Between 6% and 10% of courses contain some climate related content
   - Between 11% and 20% of courses contain some climate related content
   - Between 21% and 30% of courses contain some climate related content
   - Between 31% and 50% of courses contain some climate related content
   - More than 50% of courses contain some climate related content

12. We would like to determine the extent to which climate related courses are concentrated in a small number of departments and disciplines or whether they are dispersed relatively widely in your institution. Please select the category below that best reflects the concentration of climate related courses:

- Almost all climate related courses are concentrated in a small number of departments, institutes, or disciplines
- Most climate related courses are concentrated in a small number of departments, institutes, or disciplines
- Most climate related courses are dispersed widely in a large number of departments, institutes, or disciplines
- Almost all climate related courses are dispersed widely in a large number of departments, institutes, or discipline

13. Academic staff at higher education institutions are typically expected to publish their work in peer-reviewed journals, book chapters, books and/or other scholarly publications. Please estimate the number of academic publications related to climate change that are published by your academic staff as a whole in the most recent year.

- none
- 1 to 20
- 21 to 50
- 51 to 100
- 101 - 300
- more than 300

14. Obtaining external funds to pursue scholarly research is an important activity in most universities. Please provide your best estimate of the ratio of external research funds related to climate change to the total amount of research funds obtained by your institution in the most recent year.

- < 1%
- 1 - 5%
- 6 - 10%
- 11 - 20%
- 21 - 40%
- ≥ 40%

Whole Institution Approach

The whole institution approach can be described as: "involving students, staff, faculty/educators, local citizens, community organizations and companies working together, to embed sustainability in curriculum, teaching and learning, governance, facility and operations, human resources, community interaction and if applicable, research."

15. ***Which specific unit is in charge of the sustainability activities at your institution? Please select all that apply:**

    - Leadership level (president's office, provost, chancellor etc.)
    - Sustainability office or SD department
    - International office
    - Faculty or department
    - Student association
    - Other (Please specify)

    ```
    [                                    ]
    ```

16. ***Who is most involved in sustainable development at your Institution? Please select all that apply:**

    - Students
    - Academic staff (professors, researchers, etc.)
    - Administrative Staff
    - Leadership level (director, vice president, head of department, etc.)
    - Community partners
    - Only individuals
    - Unknown
    - Other (please specify)

    ```
    [                                    ]
    ```

17. ***In which areas has your institution engaged with sustainable development? Please select all that apply:**

- Teaching and learning
- Research
- Community engagement
- Campus operations
- Vision, mission, strategy development
- Unknown
- Other (please specify)

18. ***Many universities face different challenges in implementing actions towards sustainable development. Which of the following difficulties or challenges have impeded the implementation of SD (and plans and strategies where they exist) at your institution? Please select the 3 options that are most challenging:**

- Lack of training opportunities
- Lack of initiatives
- Lack of interest
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of staff
- Lack of research cooperation
- Lack of cooperation with other institutions, community organizations and/or companies
- Lack of leadership support
- Lack of institutional recognition
- Lack of funding
- Other (please specify)

19. *New opportunities arise and foster the development and implementation of actions towards sustainable development. Which of the following opportunities support the implementation of SD at your institution? Please select the 3 most important options:

- Training opportunities
- New engaging initiatives
- High interest
- New knowledge development
- Dedicated staff
- SD promoted research cooperation opportunities
- New or existing cooperation with other institutions, community organizations and/or companies
- Leadership support
- Institutional recognition (reward mechanisms; etc)
- Dedicated funding
- Other (please specify)

```

```

20. What do you think is most needed to further sustainable development at universities and other HEIs?

```

```

21. *To what extent has the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs in 2015 increased interest in sustainable development at your institution

- very little
- some extent
- great extent
- Unknown

22. Did/ Does COVID-19 impact on the strategy for SD or related activities?

- No
- unknown
- Yes, (if yes please explain):

```

```

Institutional engagement with the SDGs

Higher education institutions have a crucial role in addressing all of the SDGs. Please use this section to tell us how and on which SDGs your institution is engaging.

23. **Please indicate for which SDG your institution is active, on which level (education and teaching/learning, research, community engagement, campus initiative) if applicable:**

	Education and Teaching	Research	Community engagement	Campus Initiatives	Several areas	None
SDG 1: No Poverty	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 2: Zero Hunger	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 4: Quality Education	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 5: Gender Equality	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 7: Clean Energy	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 13: Climate Action	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 14: Life below Water	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 15: Life on Land	O	O	O	O	O	O
SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	O	O	O	O	O	O

24. **Please highlight up to 3 examples of how your institution works on the above topics (please include link to project):**

Organization and Governance

In order to reach the goals, set by the 2030 Agenda, institutional strategies and policies are increasingly integrating sustainability and the SDGs framework into their governance structure. This section aims at collecting information on good practices.

25. ***Is there a strategic plan for sustainable development at your institution?**

- Yes
- No
- Currently being developed
- Unknown

26. **If you answered yes, please specify or include a link:**

27. ***On what level is sustainable development supported at your institution? Please select all that apply:**

- Institution-wide level
- Faculty level / department level
- Student organizations
- Through the community
- Individual level / staff engagement
- No official / formal engagement
- Other (please specify)

28. **Please share examples of policies and practices adopted in relation to sustainable development:**

29. ***Are there any assessment/ monitoring and evaluation tools/ mechanisms for sustainable development actions at your institution?**
- Yes
- No
- I don't know

30. *If you answered yes in the previous question, please specify (select all that apply)

- Reporting to leadership
- Surveys of staff by university/ leadership/administration
- Working groups (monitoring, follow up)
- External rankings (national or global)
- Others

31. Is there a specific budget for sustainability?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

32. Has the budget changed in the last 5 years?

- Increased
- Decreased
- Not changed

Teaching, Learning and Research

Integrating sustainability in teaching and learning and research is of importance for the acquisition of SD knowledge, competences, and skills. In this section we would like to collect information on good practices developed at your institution.

33. *Does your institution offer courses specifically focused on sustainable development? (If yes, please specify)

- No
- Unknown
- Yes (please list them if possible)

34. *Has the concept and application of sustainable development become a cross-cutting theme in education, research, and community engagement at your institution? (if yes, please specify)

- No
- Unknown
- Yes (please explain how and why)

35. *Does research at your university include research focused on sustainable development and SDGs?

- No
- Unknown
- Yes (please specify the research areas)

Collaboration and Partnerships

Regional and global collaboration among universities enables the sharing of good practices, the development of interdisciplinary curricula, the development of joint teaching and research initiatives.

36.*Is your institution partnering with other higher education institutions on sustainable development related themes?

- Yes
- No

37. If yes, please specify at which level

- Local level
- National level
- Regional level
- Global Level
- All of the above

38.*In which of the following HESD specific and other HE networks with special focus on SD is your institution involved? (Please select all that apply)

- AASHE - Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
- ACU - Association of Commonwealth Universities
- ARIUSA - Alianza de Redes Iberoamericanas de Universidades por la Sustentabilidad y el Ambiente
- AUF - Agence universitaire de la Francophonie
- Copernicus Alliance
- CRUE - Universidades Españolas
- EAUC - The Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges
- EUA - European University Association
- HESI - Higher Education Sustainability Initiative
- IAU HESD Global Cluster
- ISCN - International Sustainable Campus Network
- RCE - Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development
- SDSN - Sustainable Development Solutions Network
- UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs network
- None
- Other - If other, please specify

39. *Is your institution engaged with public actors (e.g. government, public organizations) on sustainability projects?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

40. If you answered yes in the previous question, please specify

41. What kind of national policy instruments impact on your institution when it comes to engaging with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs? Please select all that apply:

- Regulations (legal obligations, accreditation requirements, audits, non-binding policy statements)
- Incentives (funding incentives, reputational tools e.g. national ranking, labels, awards)
- Capacity development tools (special units advising, tools for self-assessment, optional institutional reviews, guidelines)
- Others, please specify:

42. *Is your institution engaged with private actors (businesses and / or companies) on sustainability projects?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

43. If you answered yes in the previous question, please specify

44. Is your institution engaged with other stakeholders on sustainable development?

- Schools
- NGOs
- Community organization
- other

45. If your institution could do anything to create action for sustainability and the 2030 Agenda, what would it be?

IAU and HESD

IAU and its partners have been active in the field of sustainable development since the early 1990s. Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs and the increased focus on sustainable development, we want to enhance our work in the field and ensure that it provides relevant support to Members.

46. Please indicate the level of interest (3 being highly interested, 0 being not interested) for the following working areas:

	0	1	2	3
Advocacy & Analyses - Research, publications and policy statements on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development	○	○	○	○
Building synergies & Networking - Capacity building, leadership training and networking services	○	○	○	○
Communicating & Convening - International conferences	○	○	○	○

Other (please specify)

47. Could you indicate contact points / focal points of individuals in charge of fostering sustainable development principles and practices in your university?

- *These contacts will not be made public. IAU will use any contacts provided only to consult further and better map how SD is being embedded at HEI level*
- *The URL links may help inform the IAU global portal on HESD and help share and scale up policy and action*

- Name of unit (if applicable)
- Homepage URL(s)
- position of contact person
- Email of contact person(s)
- Other information

●
●
●
●

48. Would your institution like to know more about how to embed sustainable development in any of the above areas? If so, please let us know which areas (e.g. teacher training, research, campus).

49. Do you know about the IAU-HESD portal? If you are not yet on the portal and you would like your initiatives to be added, please fill out this form.

- Yes, I am using it.
- Yes, but I don't use it.
- No

50. Please help us identify how IAU can assist you in your work on higher education and research for sustainable development:

- Development / sharing of guidance documents
- Surveys
- Publications
- Webinars
- Seminars and workshops
- Conferences
- Networking with experts and peers
- Advocacy - to governments and key agencies (national governments, UNESCO, OECD, UN)
- Other (please specify)

On behalf of the IAU, thank you for taking this survey

Your feedback is very much appreciated. The aim is to serve you better in the future. If you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Isabel Toman (i.toman@iau-aiu.net).

51. **If you have any feedback on the survey or other comments, please let us know.**

52. **Please enter your email address if you are interested in the survey results and agree to be contacted by IAU in the future.**