FEE ECOCAMPUS - A WHOLE INSTITUTION APPROACH

Since 2003 the FEE EcoCampus programme has helped transform Higher Education Institutions (HEI) as a hub for Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). The goal of FEE EcoCampus is to empower students to become leaders and active citizens for sustainability by engaging teachers, staff and students as well as the wider community in positive actions.

Over 183 FEE EcoCampus registered in 18 countries.

The FEE EcoCampus programme supports the four dimensions of the whole-institution approach defined by UNESCO as essential elements of Green Quality Standards:

- Institution Governance
- Teaching & Learning
- Facilities & Operations
- Community Partnerships
INTERNATIONAL VISION

Higher education institutions (HEIs), including post-16 (post-compulsory) education, further education, vocational training (TVET), apprenticeships and adult education settings differ fundamentally from schools in their structures, facilities, operations, educational processes, and their stakeholders. Nevertheless, as hubs for innovation and critical thinking, a ‘whole-institution approach’ to Greening Universities which encompasses not only facilities, but also research, education, governance, community engagement, and innovation (HESI, 2022) is essential for achievement of every one of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

GREENING EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

As a partner of the Greening Education Partnership led by UNESCO and coordinator of Pillar 1, the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) is committed to supporting countries to reach the ambitious goals by 2030.

“All countries will have adopted a green school accreditation scheme with at least 50% schools, colleges, and universities with green accreditation and operating sustainably”.

With a strong involvement and leadership of students, FEE EcoCampus provides a structured and recognised framework to help ensure that this goal is reached not only in quantity, but also in quality.

BUILDING A GLOBAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

With twenty years of experience in running the FEE EcoCampus programme in a whole-institution approach, our network of 183 universities and colleges, and our National Operators in 18 countries represents a vast knowledgebase in greening HEIs. In light of the Greening Education Partnership, FEE plans to engage actors both within and outside this network to better understand the challenges and opportunities in achieving sustainable management and education for climate action in tertiary education. Please join us!

MAKING FEE ECOCAMPUS FIT FOR THE FUTURE

The Greening Education Partnership targets call for new levels of action and wider engagement on eco-accreditation of HEI’s. It is essential that high standards are set for this agenda and best-practices are shared and achieved. We will work with our FEE EcoCampus network and international experts to ensure our programme processes, pedagogies, and quality criteria, are fit for the future of green HEI’s.
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT OF CAMPUSES

Higher education institutions (HEIs), including post-16 (post-compulsory) education, further education, vocational training (TVET), apprenticeships and adult education settings have diverse infra-structures, facilities, operations, activities, educational processes and stakeholders. The environmental management of HEIs therefore requires a range of specialist skills and knowledge, and this demands a rigorous, structured, and multi-disciplinary approach.

The FEE EcoCampus programme is based on the EU EMAS (Eco-Management and Auditing System), and the Seven Steps align with the ‘plan-do-check-act’ management method used in ISO 14001:2000 Environmental Management System Standards. The environmental management in FEE EcoCampus’ is also integrated into a whole-institution approach which embeds sustainability throughout the learning, culture and day-to-day practices of the HEI.

FEE ECOCAMPUS SEVEN STEPS

The FEE EcoCampus Seven Step framework is an international education for sustainable development (ESD) best practice model. It offers a well-defined and controllable methodology for HEIs to engage students, staff and stakeholders, and apply innovation and research to improve the day-to-day environmental management of the campus, and address the grander societal challenges facing the modern world.

What sets it apart from other programmes for tertiary education is the strong involvement and leadership of students, and its integration into course curricula, which equip students at Green Flag accredited Campuses with critical knowledge and competencies for sustainable development.

FEE ECOCAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY THEMES

FEE EcoCampus operates through the four cross-cutting themes below and each of theme impacts or is impacted by the six main themes. The institution should aim to embed the themes into relevant course curriculum, operations and governance as well as research targets of the institution.

FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Established in 1981, the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) is one of the world’s largest environmental education organisations, with over 100 member organisations in 81 countries.

FEE’s strategy, GAIA 20:30, prioritises impactful action to address the threats of climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental pollution.

FEE ACADEMY

FEE Academy is FEE online learning platform developed to support its global members and their networks by providing them with key tools and resources to help them to successfully implement the FEE programmes and work towards achieving GAIA 20:30 goals.

Created using Moodle, courses on FEE Academy are open to all and are free of charge.

YOUNG REPORTERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) is an award-winning programme coordinated by FEE. The programme empowers young people to take an educated stand on environmental issues they feel strongly about and gives them a platform to articulate these issues through the media of writing, photography or video.

Over 400,000 youth (students and scouts) yearly in 44 countries.

Over 22,000 impactful stories, articles, photos and videos that engage local communities in actions

6.5m people reached through constructive journalism stories by students to raise awareness, advocate, educate and encourage to act.

CONTACTS

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