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Education for Sustainable Development and the WEF Nexus: a Sustainable Development Goals’ perspective

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“Sustainability implies that the critical activities of a higher education institution are **ecologically sound, socially just and economically viable**, and that they will continue to be so for future generations. [...] The institution would function as a sustainable community, embodying responsible consumption of **energy, water, and food**, and supporting **sustainable development** in its local community and region” (ULSF, 1990).

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The WEF nexus represents the complex interrelations and interdependencies among water, energy, and food systems, it is a security challenge, essential for sustainable development.
Drivers of Sustainability in Universities

- Internal factors - knowledge, values, feelings, emotions;
- External factors - infrastructure, cultural factors, economic situation, social and normative demands/public policies.
Education for Sustainable Development

- Multi-disciplinary Approaches
- Multi-stakeholder Engagement
- Research
- Community Outreach
- Active Learning
- Campuses as Living Labs
Why climate change adaptation strategies at universities are needed?

- Universities are town-like institutions.

- Universities play a critical role in educating for sustainability and climate change adaptation.

- Green campuses contribute to: reduce the ecological footprint; raise awareness; operate as living labs of sustainability learning and practice; lead by example.
Most frequent terms in all the COPs (1995 to 2016)
Most frequent term used in the COP’s reports related to “climate change”
Most frequent term used in the COP’s reports related to “sustainable development”
Most frequent term used in the COP’s reports related to “development”
University Initiatives to Promote Local Sustainable Development: the case of Unisul

- Regional development by increasing awareness and access to clean energy technologies
University Initiatives to Promote Local Sustainable Development: the case of Unisul

- Regional development by increasing awareness and access to healthy food
University Initiatives to Promote Local Sustainable Development: the case of Unisul

- Regional development by increasing awareness and access to healthy food with clean technologies
The Role of Universities to Promote Sustainable Development

❖ To lead the way by example;
❖ To create and disseminate technologies, research and innovations;
❖ To create and disseminate knowledge, awareness and critical thinking;
❖ To promote the development of local communities;
❖ To build a sustainable future by bringing youth to the center of sustainability.
Thank you for your attention!

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