



Exploring sustainability education

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Vrije Universiteit Brussel is...

- a public-private university with 180 years of history in the capital of Europe
- 2 green campuses, 8 faculties, an interfaculty teacher department and a university hospital
- 29 Bachelor and 75 Master programmes, 24 Advanced Study Programmes
- a research budget of 86 million euro, about 1.500 PhD's and 3 doctoral schools
- 6.700 staff incl. 700 professors, 13.500 students, 120 nationalities and 50.000 alumni

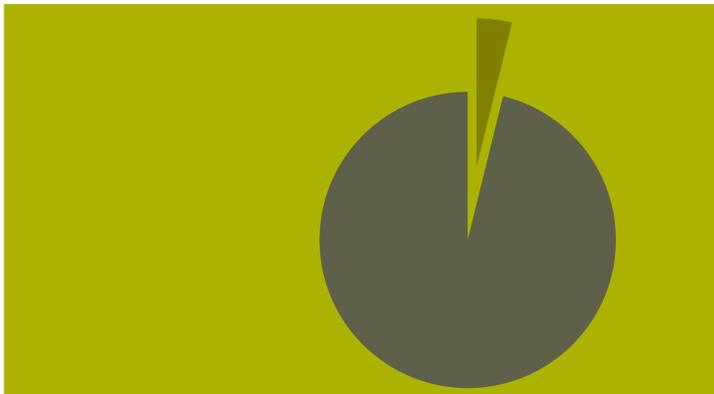
Vrije Universiteit Brussel strives to integrate sustainable development in the curricula of all study programmes

Sustainable development at Vrije Universiteit Brussel emerges from its humanistic values, critical thinking, openness and tolerance, and supposes a strong integration with the university's core priorities as a knowledge institution: research, education and social services.

Students are committed to a sustainable humanist society

The Vrije Universiteit Brussel wants its students, as part of their personal development, to apply humanist values in working for society; students should not only consider their own needs but should also consider those of others. Students have a responsibility to ensure sustainable social well-being. They must therefore make the right choices and decisions in terms of their impact on future generations.

SD in curricula at VUB



All students develop knowledge, attitudes and skills for a sustainable humanist society

Inventory: definition and criteria

Stimulating **interdisciplinarity**

Interfaculty course "Reasonably Steadfast. Critical Reflections on Man and Society"

Participation academic staff



48 semi-structured interviews all 8 faculties and 35 study programmes

High participation rate but small % of total academic staff/study programmes

Stimulating **awareness and support**

Link ESD and overall SD policy

INSPIRE

Vision text ESD

CHALLENGE

Website with good practices & glossarium

ACT

Peer to peer trainings

Interdisciplinary exchange

Monitoring curricula & learning outcomes

2015 & 2016

Implementation action plan

February - March 2015

Final report of the project is ready and communicated

January 2015

Strategic policy unit recruits a policy officer SD 0.5 FTE

December 2014

Vision text ESD integrated in general vision of education and approved by VUB board

November 2014

Expert group & project researcher work out a vision text ESD & action plan

To do's project researcher

Explore the field of ESD in Belgium & Europe.
Make an inventory of good practices at VUB.
Stimulate awareness & create support for ESD.
Suggest policy measures to enhance ESD at VUB.

March 2014

Expert group/think tank for the project is established

February 2014

Education dept. recruits a project researcher 0.5 FTE

2012

Vision of education at VUB approved by VUB board

2011

Vision & strategic goals SD approved by VUB board

2010

A central steering group SD at VUB is established