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International Institute for
Higher Education in Latin
America and the Caribbean



Promoting Higher
Education for All

SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

PROGRAM. PATH TO AGENDA 2030



The university as a driver of the 2030 Agenda

The United Nations declaration "Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" is one of the most ambitious and far-reaching global agreements in recent history.



The 2030 Agenda, whose core is the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), is a roadmap to address the most urgent global challenges: ending poverty and promoting economic prosperity, social inclusion, environmental sustainability, peace and good governance for all people by 2030.

Because of their importance, the SDGs include a complex range of social, economic and environmental challenges, which will require transformations in the way societies and economies function, and in how we interact with our planet.

Education, research, innovation and leadership will be essential to help society face these challenges, and universities, due to their work in generating and disseminating knowledge and their preeminent position in society, are called to play a role. key in achieving the SDGs.

17 goals to transform our world

In 2015, the UN adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, an opportunity for countries and their societies to embark on a new path to improve the lives of all people, leaving no one behind.



As the Education Agenda 2030 deadline approaches, it is crucial to accelerate the achievement of Education for Sustainable Development to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

To encourage students to become agents of change we need learning environments in which students learn what they live and live what they learn.

Reinventing the role of universities for a sustainable future

Although there is increasing awareness of the fundamental role of universities in implementing the SDGs, there is very little material available to provide guidance on how to do so.

This is why leaders of higher education institutions (HEIs) are in a unique position to be at the forefront of promoting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and serve as a reference for other sectors of society, from teaching, research, community engagement, non-academic services and management practices.



There is no single right way for universities to commit to the SDGs. The way in which universities decide to act will depend on their size, their context, their strengths in research and training, their budgetary availability, their values, their priorities and the needs of the local environment with which they work.

Network for Sustainable Development Solutions (RSDS) and the SDS Global Secretariat.

Therefore, it is necessary to identify a roadmap that allows authorities and the entire university community to carry out good practices aimed at their materialization and measurement, through actions that are clearly aimed at achieving the promotion of the SDGs and thus complying with the Agenda 2030.

Program relevance

The “Sustainable University Leadership and Governance” program. Towards the 2030 Agenda" is part of the Leadership, Management and Training Program for Sustainable Higher Education (ESS) developed by the UNESCO International Institute for Higher Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (IESALC).

This program's fundamental purpose is to install capacities in institutions to support their sustainable transformation process. To this end, UNESCO IESALC promotes the development of capacities of the educational community, putting its capacities and international networks at its service, to develop and strengthen urgent efforts towards sustainability and quality education for all.



Duration of the program



Duration

60 hours long with synchronous and asynchronous in-person and virtual activities.



Dedication

A dedication of 5 hours per week is expected to consult the materials and work as a team.

It is not possible to delegate assistance to a representative other than the rector, and the final activity (final project) is expected to be carried out together with the institutional team.

Program description

For eight weeks, participants will have activities aimed at strengthening spaces for reflection and dialogue with in-person and virtual sessions. The program begins in Madrid where the rectors and rectors will share experiences and good practices with world experts in sustainability. As a culmination, they will sign a commitment to work together for the 2030 Agenda.

Face-to-face sessions with experts  **Virtual mentor support program**  **Implementation monitoring**

2.5 days

8 weeks

6 months

Among the planned activities are:

- Attendance at reflection and collaborative work sessions in Madrid Spain, to attend conferences and workshops.
- Visit to two leading universities in the implementation of a strategy aimed at achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda, to learn first-hand about the implemented strategy.
- Signature of institutional commitment in favor of the alliance of universities for sustainability.
- Self-diagnosis of the institution's level of maturity (teaching and learning, governance, research and social leadership) in terms of sustainability.
- Training through virtual synchronous and asynchronous sessions, where you can learn about SDG integrative models and debate with experts to reinforce your own Institutional Strategic Plan with a view to sustainability.
- Support from specialized mentors for the articulation of an institutional roadmap.
- Final certification with UNESCO recognition.

Who is the program aimed at



The program is aimed at rectors of public and private universities in Latin America interested in strengthening their Institutional Strategic Plan to comply with the commitments of the 2030 Agenda.

The development of your integrative project will be carried out by an institutional team made up of up to three participants, rector, vice-rectors, deans or directors.

Each team will be accompanied by a mentor who will guide them in the activities to develop a roadmap with objectives, activities, responsible parties and indicators that will allow them to implement specific actions as well as their follow-up and monitoring.

Methodological framework

Universities are already making important contributions to meeting the SDGs. However, for the SDGs to be a success on a global scale, it is necessary that they acquire a leading role in sustainable development and lead its implementation in each of the impact areas, thereby promoting social leadership.

The program includes different activities aimed at strengthening the social leadership of rectors through sessions aimed at discovery and immersion, through meetings to promote peer learning, as well as spaces for collaboration and dialogue to exchange good practices and collaborative design. that allows them to strengthen their commitment to the 2030 Agenda through a roadmap for their Institutional Strategic Plan.

To achieve this, there will be activities aimed at developing the following axes:



Encounters

Through face-to-face, synchronous and asynchronous activities, the knowledge is acquired to lead and implement a strategic plan aimed at complying with the 2030 Agenda.



Collaboration

Spaces for dialogue and collaborative work are key pieces of the program, hence the value of participation and exchange of experiences to promote social learning.



Application

Each team will generate or improve the lines of work of its strategic plan as an integrative project, to strengthen institutional capacity in sustainability.



Commitment

The participating rectors will sign a commitment to work together for the 2030 Agenda, and form the network of university leaders for sustainability.

Learning methodology

The methodological proposal is based on the transfer of knowledge based on good practices, through seminars by international experts and virtual visits to universities with experience in sustainable governance models. All of this is carried out with the objective of knowing first-hand how the service has been implemented and thus acquiring the skills experientially.

This comprehensive training and support model is aimed at strengthening the integrative project, with the aim of improving the necessary activities planned for its implementation and subsequent measurement and monitoring.



The university team, composed of the rector and two other leading university executives, will participate in virtual activities with world experts, to learn first-hand about good practices aimed at the implementation of sustainability, within its Plan. Institutional Strategic as an articulating axis to respond to the 2030 Agenda.

Main Objective

Guide university governance teams to understand the opportunities offered by the SDGs and structure a roadmap that allows contributions to sustainability and responds to the 2030 Agenda.

Specific program objectives

1

Provide knowledge and solutions

that support the implementation of the SDGs at the university.

2

Incorporate the principles of the SDGs

through governance, management and university culture.

3

Know conceptual and methodological frameworks

to promote the SDGs within the university and with them the 2030 Agenda.

4

Identify and analyze good practices

carried out by other universities in terms of training, research, institutional management and university extension.

5

Encourage peer learning

as well as cooperation on sustainability issues.

6

Design an implementation plan

as a roadmap with specific activities aimed at achieving the commitments made in the 2030 Agenda.

Program modules




M1. Sustainability at the center of the strategy

The development of the need to have a more just and inclusive world will be the articulating axis of this module, therefore, we will focus on those aspects that allow us to strengthen the need to develop a sustainable culture.

This module will focus on developing a space for dialogue to deepen what sustainability is, what Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) consists of, how the 2030 Agenda is linked to the SDGs, the relationship with interest groups and the issues materials.

Goals:

- Establish the importance of sustainability as a transversal articulating axis in the HEI strategy from the ESD framework.
 - Delve into the SDGs and the value of universities to achieve them.
 - Identify the benefits that universities can obtain by committing to the SDGs.
 - Develop a change management framework with agile methodologies to identify material issues and relationships with interest groups.
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M2. Accelerating the SDGs in universities

Addressing the challenges of the Sustainable Development Goals requires new knowledge, new ways of doing things, making difficult decisions between competing options and, in some cases, making profound transformations.

This module provides a clear vision of how universities can contribute to implementing the SDGs through their own functions such as: training, research, governance and social leadership.

Goals:

- Carry out a self-diagnosis of the activities carried out at the university itself.
- Recognize strategies to integrate sustainability transversally from teaching, research, innovation and extension to contribute to the 2030 Agenda.
- Understand the importance of relationships with interest groups, communication and dissemination for the contribution to the SDGs.
- Learn about inspiring cases: integration of sustainability in the strategy of HEIs.



M3. Governance and sustainable leadership

A sustainability initiative involves major transformations, common to the activities of a higher education institution. These require a solid institutional commitment, in addition to governance structures that enable the effective participation of the institution's different interest groups and the coordination of efforts in the matter.

This module will delve into the necessary leadership model to strengthen strategic planning processes and thus sustainability.

Goals:

- Analyze how strategies, policies, plans and high-level information indicators align with the SDGs and identify which organizational units are relevant to each.
- Incorporate the SDGs as a result of conscious integration with the strategies, structures, status and specific challenges of each university to generate value in society.
- Strengthen the strategic development plan with sustainability from a conceptual framework for the implementation and contribution to society from the 2030 Agenda.
- Recognize the importance of monitoring and measuring that contributes to decision-making and value generation for all interest groups.



M4. Challenges and paths towards 2050

Universities are often large entities and can have a significant impact on social, cultural and environmental well-being within their campuses, communities and regions, and sometimes far beyond. These impacts relate directly to all areas of the SDGs and, by acting responsibly, universities can make significant contributions to their achievement.

Using their unique position within society, universities, both individually and collectively, can help lead, guide, and support local, national, and international responses to the SDGs.

Goals:

- Identify the main opportunities and challenges in the training of tomorrow's leaders and today's citizens.
- Reflect on higher education trends and paths to 2050.
- Integrate the value of strategic alliances and knowledge networks. Global ESD Network for 2030 (EDS-Network).
- Apply the UNESCO ESD 2030 roadmap.

Dates and investment

START INAUGURAL SESSION IN
MADRID

OCTOBER 2, 2024

DEADLINE FOR
CONFIRMATION OF
INTEREST

AUGUST 30, 2024

Please complete the web form:



Investment

\$6,270 US dollars

30% discount: \$4,389

It includes: the quota of three participants per institution: the rector, two additional people designated by the rector in the virtual training to develop the roadmap together with the authority. Attendance of the rector to the face-to-face sessions.

Does not include: costs associated with the trip (in-person visit). Only the rector attends. Other team attendees at in-person sessions must pay \$2,194 US dollars.



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