

G7 Environment

Universities for Sustainable Development

*Higher Education and Research institutions in collaborations
and networks for Sustainable Development*



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MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE
E DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE



Higher Education institutions contributions to Sustainable Development : a networked approach

- Identifying problems and proposing solutions → Research
 - Technologies
 - Business Models
 - Consumer/User behavior. Data analytics
 - measuring impact
 - Preparing future and current players → Teaching, including lifelong education
 - Raising awareness and contributing to policy making → Communication in the broader sense
 - Implementing solutions → partnering with other stakeholders
- ➔ In most if not all, cases, collaborations and networks are key factors for success



2 dimensions for collaborations and networks

- Vertical Collaboration : Within the Higher Education and Research community
- Horizontal Collaboration : With the other stakeholders



Collaborative actions within the Higher Education and Research Community

- Reference Sustainability Dashboard for Schools and Universities (« Référentiel DD &RS »)
 - CRS et SD Label (« Label RS DD »)
 - CSR and SD Competencies Guide (Guide compétences DD et RSE)
 - Sustainability Literacy Test (SULITEST)
 - Principles for responsible Management Education (PRME)
 - Globally Responsible Leadership Initiative (GRLI)
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- ➔ **Too many frameworks? Consistency? Efficiency?**



Collaborations with Businesses (1/2)

Businesses are (a large?) part of the problem. They are also (a large) part of the solution

→ Higher education and research institutions should work closely with companies

- **Chair Recyclage Eco-Emballages** from **EMLyon Business School** and **École Centrale Lyon** . <http://www.em-lyon.com/minisitefr/Ecoemballages>

- **Chair « Business as unusual »** at **Kedge Business School** ,with large groups questioning circular economy on the company strategy and consumer behaviour aspects.

<https://kedge.edu/faculte-recherche/recherche/chaire-de-recherche/business-as-unusual>

→ To expand the model and the partnerships beyond borders? Financial, legal and fiscal framework?



Collaborations with businesses (2/2) : Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Circular Economy

Entrepreneurship Curriculum at Telecom Ecole de Management supported by the on campus incubator **IMT starter**

- Innovation and creativity week (1st year Master) → focus green topics
- Entrepreneurship challenge (2nd year Master)
- Specialization in Entrepreneurship (3rd year Master)
- Innovation Game on social and environmental challenges facing the local stakeholders

A success story :

- Created by 2 students following the Entrepreneurship Challenge
- Incubated in the Campus Incubator
- Now European leader on the Smartphone buyback, refurbishment and resale market



A (national) global network : le Comité 21

- Aimed at implementing SD in all kind of organizations
- 3 main programs
 - Corporate Social Responsibility,
 - Agenda 21 for territories
 - Education to sustainable development
- Deliverables
 - Research and prospective studies
 - Support/services to members
 - To contribution to public debate
- 500+ members in 4 major groups
 - Businesses
 - higher education and research
 - local governments
 - NGOs and associations



→ Toward s a Comité 21 at the G7 level?

