
Preface

We are pleased to introduce the fourth volume of the “Handbook of Theory and Practice of Sustainable Development in Higher Education.”

This publication, which is the last of a set of four volumes, introduces many of the papers discussed and presented at the World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities (WSSD-U-2016), which was held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), in Cambridge, MA, USA, in September 2016.

The aims of WSSD-U-2016, consistent with the goals of the WSSD-U series, were as follows:

- i. to provide universities all round the world with an opportunity to display and present their work (i.e., curriculum innovation, research, activities, and practical projects) relating to education for sustainable development at university level;
- ii. to foster the exchange of information, ideas, and experiences acquired in the execution of projects, from successful initiatives and good practice;
- iii. to discuss the methodological approaches and projects which aim to integrate the topic of sustainable development in the curriculum of universities;
- iv. to network the participants and provide a platform, so they can explore the possibilities for cooperation.

Last but not least, a further aim of the event was to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences available today.

To this purpose, the “Handbook of Theory and Practice of Sustainable Development in Higher Education” has been produced.

This volume is structured around three parts.

Part I, titled “Sustainability Education and Training,” refers to a wide range of initiatives where attempts have been made to include a sustainable development dimension in the context of education and training programs;

Part II under the heading “National, Regional and Local Initiatives” documents and promotes examples of initiatives where sustainable development schemes led by universities have involved actors at the national, regional, or local level, often beyond the walls of universities;

Part III is about “Engaging Different Stakeholders.” As the name implies, it presents a set of papers where a variety of stakeholders have been involved. This

part of the publication demonstrates in practice that much can be gained by involving various groups in support of university-led initiatives.

We thank the authors for their willingness to share their knowledge, know-how, and experiences, as well as the many peer reviewers, which have helped us to ensure the quality of the manuscripts.

Enjoy your reading!

Hamburg, Germany
Aveiro, Portugal
Coimbra, Porto, Portugal
Nottingham, UK
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Walter Leal Filho
Ulisses M. Azeiteiro
Fátima Alves
Petra Molthan-Hill



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Leal Filho, W.; Azeiteiro, U.; Alves, F.; Molthan-Hill, P.
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