



Route to transformation of Educational Institutions through Whole Institutional Approach to Sustainability (SUSustainability on EDucational Institutions)

101087440 – SUSEDI – ERASMUS-EDU-2022-PI FORWARD

#SUSEDI is an ERASMUS+ KA3 Forward – Looking project.

5th Newsletter [01/09/2024-28/02/2025]

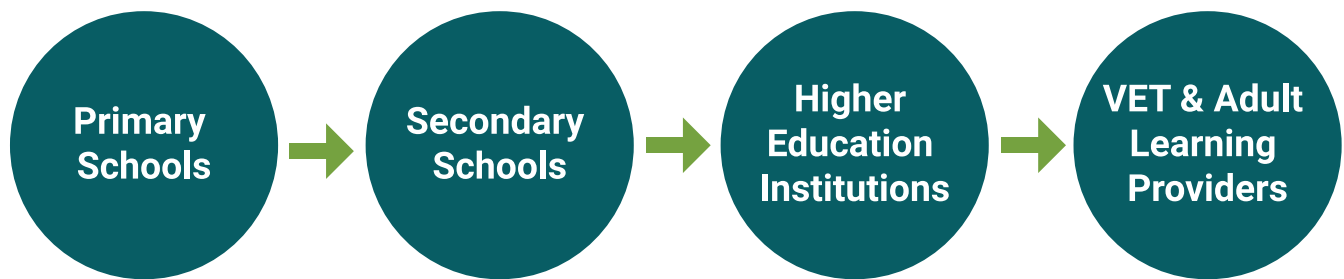
CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The SUSEDI project consortium (Cyprus Certification Company (CCC) as a leader, in collaboration with the rest of the partners) has just developed the final version of Certification Scheme for Educational Institutions. This is a very important stage in the implementation of the project objectives, as it is the culmination of the course and allows for independent confirmation of the acquired competences in the form of a certificate. Evaluation and final Certification of Educational Institutions (EIs) is based on the Susedi Route map guide for the transformation into the WIA to sustainability and development of a network of transformation agents.

All Educational Institutions that want to be certified must comply with the requirements of the developed and available Regulation. The scope of the Certification Regulation is to certify Educational Institutions (EIs) across 5 progress levels of their transition to sustainability transformation to Whole Institution Approach (WIA). The Certification Regulation describes the procedures that apply for obtaining, assessing, granting, maintaining, and withdrawing Certification of EIs, in accordance with the requirements defined by CCC's internal procedures, and other requirements set by the project. **Certification is granted for a period of 2 years, and the monitoring and re-certification process is described in the current Certification Regulation.**



WHO CAN BE CERTIFIED?



CERTIFICATION PROCESS - MAIN STEPS

1. Submission and application review
2. Planning and execution of audits
3. Certification decision
4. Issuance of certificates, including the proper use of certificates
5. Surveillance and recertification – Reasons for certification withdrawal
6. Management of complaints and appeals



Certification Regulation is supplemented by Certification Specification

The aim of this Certification Document is:

to lay the foundations and serve as a roadmap for the necessary transition journey of the sustainability transformation of educational institutions to a WIA operational framework, which will include 53 milestones, as outlined in the Susedi Route Map.

The certification can be nominated on five different progress levels depending on the preparedness stage of each educational institution as follows:

Level 1

Foundation level: Educational institutions establish the foundational elements necessary to embark on their sustainability transformation journey. They articulate a vision in line with sustainability principles, identify key priorities and initiate basic actions. The primary goal is to create a shared understanding of sustainability across the institution and establish baseline data to measure progress.

Level 2

Activation level: Building on the foundation, institutions activate their sustainability vision by implementing strategies and engaging key internal and external stakeholders. This stage focuses on turning vision into action by implementing pilot initiatives, forming cross-functional sustainability teams and encouraging active participation. Engagement is key, as institutions begin to take ownership of sustainability activities, and experiment with practices that drive progress.

Level 3

Integration level: At this level, sustainability efforts are no longer isolated, but embedded in the institution's governance structures, operational practices and pedagogical frameworks. Policies and objectives drive decision-making across the social, environmental and economic pillars. The institution demonstrates a growing commitment to continuous improvement, with sustainability integrated into curricula, operations and administrative processes.



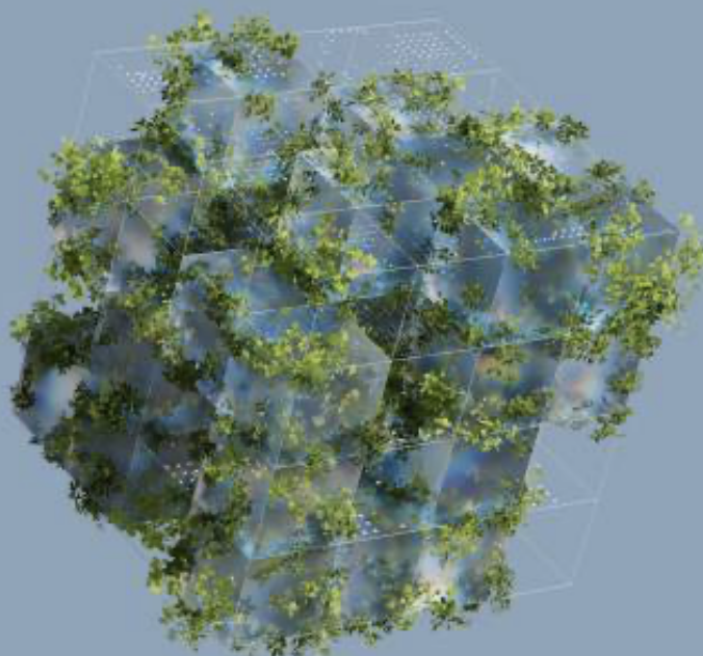
Level 4

Embedding level: Sustainability is deeply embedded in the institution's identity and operations. Policies and governance structures fully reflect a commitment to sustainable development. At this stage, the institution has a mature sustainability ecosystem, with widespread adoption of practices, stakeholder buy-in and regular monitoring and evaluation of progress. The institution is well prepared to adopt the Whole Institution Approach to sustainability and to act as a leader in sustainability.

Level 5

Whole Institution Approach to sustainability level: Institutions at this level exemplify sustainability excellence, continuously innovating and setting industry-leading milestones. They integrate advanced practices across all dimensions, including governance, pedagogy, and community engagement. Their role extends beyond internal operations to influencing broader societal and policy changes. As sustainability leaders, institutions share best practices, mentor, and actively participate in shaping global sustainability narratives.

To be certified, EIs must achieve main milestones, assigned to each level. All details are presented in Certification Document



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