



I.S.L.E.

INNOVATION IN THE TEACHING OF SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN LIFE SCIENCES IN EUROPE

I.S.L.E. Sustainability Network Newsletter

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Editor's Corner

The 5th I.S.L.E. Network newsletter is now available! The newsletter will provide updates on news and events related to the project and the teaching of Sustainable Development around Europe.

This issue features the main outcomes of the 6th project meeting that took place at the Maribor University (Maribor, Slovenia) from 11 to 15 March 2013 on the theme of "Innovation practices".

This issue also refers to the 2nd I.S.L.E. Summer School that will be hosted in Varna by the International University College—VUMK (IUC) from 10 to 15 June 2013. It will also introduce the upcoming international conferences on the theme of sustainable development.

Enjoy!



I.S.L.E. Sustainability Network

The **I.S.L.E. Erasmus Academic network** involves **39 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Research institutes and enterprises** from **30 European countries**, interested in introducing the concept of Sustainable Development (SD) in their curricula and/or institutions having had experience in this area and who are willing to transmit their know-how on this subject.

The main objectives of the I.S.L.E. network is to identify innovative methodologies and didactic tools for teaching of SD, with particular focus on studies at life sciences universities in Europe, and beyond. The outcomes should enhance the attractiveness and the effectiveness of the teaching of sustainability at all levels of studies, in transverse, crosscutting or even trans-disciplinary subject areas.



Develop, Sustain, Socialise



I.S.L.E. Network on Facebook

Join our Facebook page, to stay tuned with all the latest news from I.S.L.E., as well as related news on Sustainable Development. Click [here](#) to join!



I.S.L.E. on Twitter

Look for the I.S.L.E. Network Twitter channel, to get all the updates from project events, outcomes and interesting news related to Sustainable Development. Click [here](#) to follow the I.S.L.E. Network!

flickr I.S.L.E. Network on Flickr

Find photos from the I.S.L.E. Network project meetings and partners, by searching within Flickr.com, using the "I.S.L.E. Network" tag. To see the results, click [here](#)!



I.S.L.E. Association blog

Find information regarding the I.S.L.E. Association. Click [here](#) to see the I.S.L.E. Association blog.

*Join I.S.L.E.
Association!*

I.S.L.E. Association blog

All the information about the ISLE Association is now available at the I.S.L.E. Association blog at the following webpage :
<http://isleassociation.blogspot.fr/>.

The blog includes all the relevant information for I.S.L.E. Association, such as the Members of the I.S.L.E. Association, their geographical zones, the news of the association, its structure, the I.S.L.E. Association board members and the statutes.



Feel free to visit the blog at
<http://isleassociation.blogspot.fr/>.

For more information on I.S.L.E. Association and to join the I.S.L.E. Association, please send an e-mail to :
isleassociation@gmail.com.

I.S.L.E. 6th Project Meeting



The 6th I.S.L.E. Project Meeting on the theme of "Innovation practices" was held at University of Maribor (Maribor, Slovenia) from the 11th until the 15th (or 16th, for those who participated in the field trip) of March 2013. In the meeting, members from almost all the networked institutions took part and discussed issues of the network. More specifically, **55 participants** from **28 countries** took part in the 6th project meeting.

During the meeting, the results of the questionnaires and the interviews that were carried

out regarding the quality of the project were presented. Moreover, workshops on the deliverables of the project were organized.

The field trip of the 6th project meeting of I.S.L.E. was organized to the International Learning Centre for Sustainability in Poljčane on 15 March 2013.

The **results** of I.S.L.E. so far:

- Transfer of knowledge between consortium members on Sustainable Development;
- State of the Art of Sustainable Development

teaching in Europe;

- Publication of "Good practices" and "Innovation practices" compendia;
- Professionalization survey and fair in order to make the link with civil society;
- Set up of new pedagogical tools including guidelines on how to teach sustainability;
- I.S.L.E label for Sustainable Development teaching programs.



*Upcoming:
2nd I.S.L.E.
Summer School*

Upcoming: I.S.L.E. Summer School

The second I.S.L.E. summer school will be hosted from 10th to 14th June 2013 in Varna, Bulgaria, by the International University College-VUMK (IUC). In this final consortium

meeting, the outcomes of the three-year project will be presented and the post-project strategy for dissemination and development and of course sustainability will be proposed.



I.S.L.E. 2 proposal submitted!



The "I.S.L.E 2", with full title "Innovation in the teaching of Sustainable development in Life Sciences in Europe 2" project was submitted to the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) in January 2013! The results are to be published in June 2013 on the LLP website: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/results_projects/selection_results_en.php.

The ISLE 2 project proposal includes 57 partners, from 31 different LLP countries and 5 third country partners, interested in reinforcing the work carried out in the I.S.L.E 1 project regarding the implementation of the concept of Sustainable Development in their curricula.

The I.S.L.E 2 network will provide the means to go beyond expectations and dialogues and continue to collect information and build specific tools that are user-friendly and transferable (professional platforms), to carry out experimentations on innovation (student competitions and the implementation of the ISO 26000 standard), to establish IT tools for concrete action (I.S.L.E virtual community) and to instill pragmatic approaches for a subject that is often seen as volatile and indefinable (interdisciplinary incentives).

Harper Adams has been awarded the title of full University



The I.S.L.E. partner Harper Adams University College (Newport - Shropshire, UK) has been awarded the title of full University. The [Harper Adams University](#) is dedicated to agri-food science. According to the Sunday Times University Guide from 2008 to 2013, Harper University College was the UK's top University College for six years running. More information are available [here](#).

Enhancing the professional competences in the agricultural sector

In the context of the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) project V-3DAS (<http://www.v3das.com>), which is co-funded by the European Union, the V-3DAS training took place in France, Greece, Italy, and Spain. The V-3DAS training consists of 4 sessions: the classroom session, the e-learning session, the V-learning session and the apprenticeships. The classroom session and the apprenticeships took place at each participating country separately, while the e-learning and V-learning sessions were organized and administrated by Serifo, the coordinator of V-3DAS project. Among the participants of the Greek V-3DAS training "Set up your Own Agricultural Business", there were agronomists and young entrepreneurs of the agricultural sector. The Greek V-3DAS training, which was organised by Agro-Know Technologies took place from 17 to 22 September 2012, while the apprenticeships were conducted from 24 September to 9 October 2012 in farms and agricultural enterprises. The online training in the virtual farm and in English agricultural terminology took place from 21 to 25 of January 2013.

The learning material of the Greek training is available in the e-learning platform <http://agrimoodle.agroknow.gr/>. More information about the V-3DAS training in Greece is available in the link http://wiki.agroknow.gr/agroknow/index.php/V-3DAS_Training_in_Greece_GR. Further information on the V-3DAS project can be found at www.v3das.com.



Constitution of "Agricultural Data Interest Group" within RDA

The launch meeting of the Research Data Alliance (<http://rd-alliance.org/>) took place from March 18-20 in Gothenburg.

During the RDA meeting Nikos Manouselis (Greece), Odile Hologne (France), Esther Zale Yeumo, Kabore (France), Devika Madalli (India), Johannes Keizer (FAO) and Stefania Keters (RDA Secretariate) met to discuss

a possible working group on Agricultural data interoperability within RDA.

The results of this discussion are the following:

1. All participants agreed to set up such an Interest Group on Agricultural data within RDA to follow the broad areas of agricultural data management.
2. It was discussed to set up as a first

working group a group that should handle the interoperability of data and information on wheat.

More information on RDA launch meeting are available [here](#).

Related events



22-24 May 2013, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Global Conference on sustainability & reporting

This conference will be a 3-day event, including training sessions, workshops and networking time. A year-long process of community-building activities precedes the Conference, engaging business leaders and other stakeholders globally to develop a compelling agenda. More information regarding the conference are available [here](#).



27 - 29 May 2013, Kos, Greece, 6th International Conference on Sustainable Development & Planning

This conference builds upon a series that started in 2003 in Skiathos (Greece), and continued with another four meetings in Bologna (2005), the Algarve (2007), Cyprus (2009) and the New Forest, UK (2011). It aims to bring together scientists and other stakeholders from across the globe to discuss the latest scientific advances in the field, as well as to seek and highlight developments in managerial strategies and assessment tools for policy and decision makers.

The conference addresses the subjects of regional development in an integrated way as well as in accordance with the principles of sustainability. More information are available [here](#).



June 14-17, 2013, Portland, Oregon USA, 19th International

Interdisciplinary Conference On The Environment

The conference is motivated by the increasing need to combine ideas and research findings from different disciplines to enhance our understanding of the interactions between natural environment and human institutions. It is focused on: what disciplines have to offer with respect to understanding environmental and resource problems, possible solutions that are available, implications of the globalization of environmental concerns. More information about the conference are available [here](#).



26-28 September 2013, 9th International Conference: "Education for Sustainable Development" The conference topic will be introduced by internationally recognized experts in this focal area of the conference, followed by parallel sessions of lectures and workshops led by practitioners and researchers. With deep appreciation of the many colleagues who will present and share their knowledge and experience, we are delighted to announce a conference programme that includes 40 quality sessions given by more than 70 presenters from 16 countries in Europe and beyond. More information on the conference can be found [here](#).



28 - 29 November 2013, Kaunas, Lithuania, 6th International Scientific Conference Rural Development 2013 Innovations & sustainability:

This conference aims to provide interdisciplinary scientific discussion, presenting new ideas for rural development processes in the context of global changes. The main topics of the parallel sessions are engineering and environment of biosystems, food safety and security, multifunctional approach for sustainable use of natural resources and social innovations of regional rural development. More information regarding the conference can be found [here](#).



Sustainability 22 - 24 January 2014, The University of Split, Split, Croatia, 10th International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic & Social Sustainability

The conference will work in a multidisciplinary way across the various fields and perspectives through which we can address the fundamental and related questions of sustainability. This forum is for scholars, teachers, and practitioners from any professional discipline who share an interest in sustainability in an holistic perspective, where environmental, cultural, economic and social concerns intersect. More information about the conference can be found [here](#).

Upcoming:

*international
conferences on
sustainable
development*



Resource Highlight:

- How to make a bottle light <http://bit.ly/WiOdZ6>.
- Living Outside The Box Sustainable Life-styles at the UN Sustainable Development YouTube channel <http://bit.ly/10OY9Nn>.

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[I.S.L.E. Association blog](#)

I.S.L.E. Network Participating countries:

