

Title: #pros4future - Competence Orientation meets Education for Sustainability

Topic: Future Universities

Author/s: FREISLEBEN-TEUTSCHER Christian (St. Pölten UAS)

The Corona Crisis has many implications: Many aspects described in the Sustainable Development Goals have initially taken a back seat due to the pandemic. At the same time, the living situation of many people around the globe is deteriorating in a drastic way. Since then, questions of sustainability have arisen with even greater urgency: traditional patterns of thought and action must be questioned and reviewed, and innovative approaches to economic development and environmental protection must be developed. It is becoming clear that the global crises - be they economic crises, environmental degradation or the climate crisis - and the social impacts associated with them have taken on an unprecedented urgency and that their solution also depends on contributions from universities.

Dealing with the crises and their impacts requires concrete sustainable action. Those carrying out the work must have a wide range of competencies, develop a motivated and energetic attitude, internalize appropriate norms and values, acquire relevant knowledge and skills, and acquire versatile abilities. Courses that support this can be offered in all disciplines - with interdisciplinary approaches promising the greatest benefits.

Since dealing with complex challenges requires more than mere knowledge, this project focuses on competence orientation and sustainability. Models used include EntreComp of the EU, the ESD model of the Forum Environmental Education and the "10 Competencies of ESD" of education21. Based on these, a cross-university offer will be developed, consisting of:

- Workshops for teachers on how sustainability can be thematized in all subject areas and course formats, as well as how students can be supported in consciously perceiving and further developing competences in this subject area, as well as deriving and implementing options for action from this.

- A MOOC for students, which deals with contents such as:

o Conscious perception of existing competences in the field of sustainability

o Where necessities and opportunities exist in own social spaces to develop and implement projects on focal points of the SDGs in a participatory way.

o In the context of this: Further development of knowledge and competences on the SDGs, participatory project management, independent learning and action, cooperation with other learners and various stakeholders.

o Learners develop a resilient approach to resignation and apathy in the face of the "big issues" of our time such as hunger, persecution, social injustice, environmental degradation; both in relation to working with students and as a part of personal self-care.

We translate #pros4future with "projects" as well as with "properties" and "professionals" (in the sense of experts).

(The concept of #pros4future has be developed / evolved together with a team of teachers from this university and other universities in the DACH region.)