

ISCN Working Group II

Charter and Guidelines

Co-chaired by Ariane König and Joseph P. Mullinix

Lausanne, 10-12 June 2009

Objectives for the WG II break-out sessions

- **Compare your organization's sustainability policies and programmes to those of others, discussing strengths and weaknesses.**
- **Help further develop the ISCN Charter and Guidelines as a tool to facilitate experience exchange across organizations.**
- **Develop concrete recommendations, next steps and time lines on how to improve current drafts of the ISCN Charter and Guidelines.**
- **Discuss first ideas on a strategy on how to gain first signatories from leading Universities.**

WG II Session 1. Wednesday 16.15 – 18.00.

- **Presentation 1: Overview on current drafts of the ISCN Charter and Guidelines (Dr Ariane König, Responsable pour le Développement Durable, Université du Luxembourg)**
- **Presentation 2: Sustainable development at the University of Zagreb and feedback on the ISCN Charter (Prof. Bolan Baletic, Vice Rector for Development and Planning, University of Zagreb)**

Discussion on the draft ISCN Charter:

- **How can chances for obtaining signatures by University leaders be improved – what is attractive, and what might be a deterrent?**

WG II Session 2. Thursday 13.30-16.00.

Presentation 3: Fostering sustainable campus development in higher education in France and feedback on the ISCN Guidelines (Marie-Gabrielle Méry, Chargée de Projet, FondaTerra, France)

Discussion of the merits and draw backs of the draft ISCN Guidelines:

- **Questions for discussion could include:**
- **How useful are the guidelines to facilitate a structured exchange of experiences with sustainable campus development?**
- **Is the level of detail appropriate?**
- **Are important topics left out?**
- **How should topics considered key towards sustainability in some world areas but controversial in others be handled (e.g. fair trade, responsible investment, etc.)?**
- **Do we need regional guidelines?**
- **What are the next steps and time lines for completing the Guidelines?**
- **Other?**

WG II Session 3. Friday 8.30-10.00

Topics for discussion can include:

- **Revisiting the content and wording of the draft Charter in the light of discussions on the Guidelines.**
- **Defining next steps for completing ISCN Charter and Guidelines.**
- **Discussing what other tools may be important to facilitate experience exchange across the world on Sustainable Campus Development including resource implications for their development.**
- **Development of case studies.**
- **A strategy to gain first signatories.**
- **Other?**

Overview

- **Background on related activities and ISCN**
- **Charter overview**
- **Guidelines overview**
- **Next steps**

Existing activities relating to sustainable campuses

International activities for higher education organisations:

- 1990 Talloires declaration,
- 1993 Copernicus Alliance (over 326 signatories in 2006)
- United Nations Declaration on the 'Decade for Higher Education for Sustainable Development from 2004 – 2013'. (-> RCEs)
- GULF partner Universities associated with World Economic Forum

Regional activities for higher education organisations:

- AASHE network
- US Ivy League for Climate Change Initiative
- UK HEEPI

Corporate initiatives:

- World Business Council for Sustainable Development

Aims unique to ISCN :

- **To provide a world-wide network of networks for exchange on pragmatic measures.**
- **To foster the integration of research, teaching, campus design and community development.**
- **To plan to compare and contrast corporate and University campus development.**

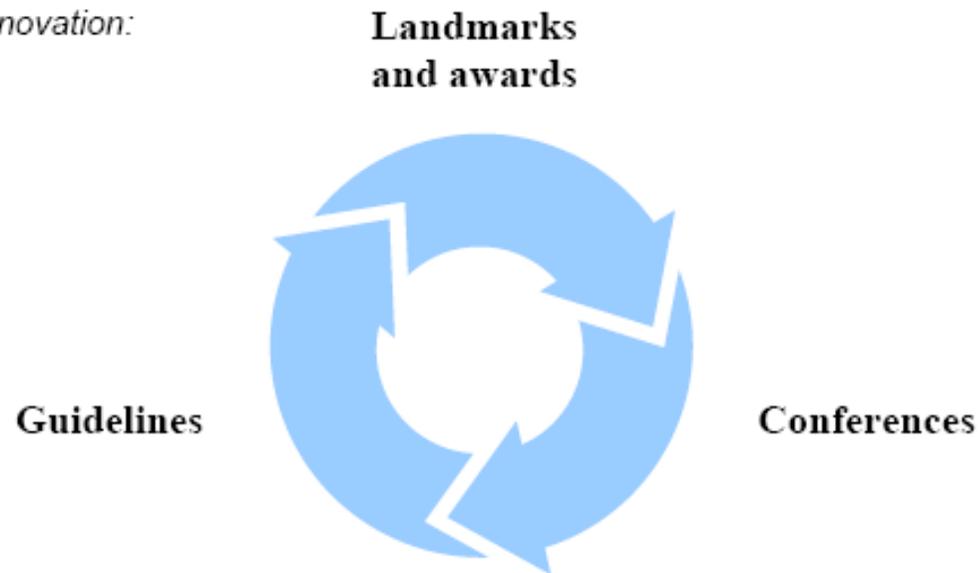
WG II Objectives:

- **To foster continued commitment to sustainable development in organisations for research and higher education.**
- **To facilitate setting targets and enhance organisational learning and improvement.**
- **To provide structures for effective information exchange on best practices and lessons learnt across continents.**

A Set of Three Tools

- **The ISCN Charter** **1st draft completed**
- **The ISCN Guidelines** **1st draft completed**
- **Topics for target setting** **Draft close to completion**

*The ISCN activities as a
cycle of learning and innovation:*



The Charter's Three Topics

- **Sustainable Construction, renovation and campus operation**
- **Sustainable campus planning, development and community integration**
- **Linking research and education for sustainable development with campus facilities**

1. Sustainable construction, renovation, and campus operation

- Continued improvement in campus operation, management and planning governed by respect natural resources, with goals for minimising energy and water use and waste production.
- Development of campus infrastructures that take into account social equity considerations (such as non-discrimination of the disabled).
- Adoption of processes for definition of sustainability-related goals and targets, management, planning, monitoring and review of achievements that rely on benefits from participatory processes involving faculty, staff, and students. Reporting and audits will contribute to transparency.
- Design buildings for longevity and flexible use, conduct of life-cycle-analyses and taking account future cost-savings in operations from adopting environmental measures during construction.

2. Sustainable campus master planning, development and community integration

- Master planning and campus development minimizes use of land and other natural resources.
- Design facilitates low impact modes of transport such as biking, walking or public transport.
- Social goals include efficiently managed urban flows, maintaining diversity and ensuring ease of access to commerce and services, whilst considering trade-offs between such goals.
- Creation of spaces for exchange and learning within and outside of buildings.
- A key economic goal is the connectedness of research in universities and industry.
- Development of participatory projects and workshops on environmental and social issues with engagement from government, industry, and organised civil society, with dissemination strategies.

3. Linking facilities, research and education for sustainable development

- Development of research, teaching and learning opportunities for students, faculty and staff to raise awareness about the interconnection between environmental, social, economic and equity aspects, and facilitate their assuming individual and collective responsibilities.
- Research on how to better understand and address environmental challenges from research facilities.
- Adoption of new participatory teaching methods and research approaches that transcend disciplines.
- A campus community engaged in continued campus improvement and planning and implementing environmental and social measures.
- Support by the institution's leadership and a dedicated person or department in the administration.

The Guidelines

- Reiterate the goals of the Charter providing detailed explanations and recommendations for attaining them.
- A living document that will be revised regularly building on experience.

GOAL1. Sustainable construction, renovation and operation

All construction and renovation of buildings and campus operation and management is governed by respect for natural resources and social equity considerations (such as non-discrimination).

- 1.1. Building design, construction and renovation*
- 1.2. Campus operation*
- 1.3. Monitoring, learning, improving*

GOAL 2. Sustainable master planning and development, mobility, and community integration

Main policy goals in sustainable urban planning [1]:

- **In the site selection, consider environmental preservation, minimizing consumption of space and natural resources**
- **Rationalize and manage efficiently urban flows**
- **Protect the health of the urban population**
- **Maintain cultural and social diversity (whilst avoiding poor coherence - polarisation or exclusion)**
- **Ensure easy access to commerce**

[1] European Environmental Agency Goals to make cities more sustainable.

2.1. Master planning and campus design

2.2. Transport solutions

2.3. Community integration and engagement

GOAL 3. Linking research and education for sustainable development with facilities

Three strategic goals are to foster:

- **Applicability to practice: research and teaching that centre on environmental and social problems**
- **Interdisciplinarity in research and teaching to explore multi-causality of societal challenges**
- **Greater integration of research, teaching, campus operation and design and participatory**

- 3.1. The integration of research, learning and practice on campus***
- 3.2. Participation and learning in the management of facilities***
- 3.3. Change management and governance***

Topics for Target Setting

To support practical implementation of campus sustainability programs organizations may want to consider the following topics as a basis for committing to concrete targets. Such targets can be described in qualitative terms, quantitative terms, or both. For example:

<i>ENVIRONMENT:</i> <i>2. Sustainable master planning, urban development, community integration</i>		
	Non-invasive land use	
	Green spaces	Foster presence of diverse species
	Water use	-Green roofs to improve urban microclimate and evapo-transpiration rates -Minimise sealed surfaces
	Heating/cooling	-Efficient district heating and/or cooling with minimal distribution losses, with energy from renewable sources where possible (e.g. geothermal, solar or biomass where it makes sense)
	Transport	-Foresee bike sheds and bike and walking paths -Easy access to public transport -Where necessary electric cars/buses or fuel cell vehicles

- One key question – how will they relate to building certification schemes?

Next Steps

- **Involve University leaders in finalising the Charter and developing a strategy to entice first signatories amongst leading Universities.**
- **Develop case studies checking the fit between current approaches at Universities and the Guidelines. Volunteers?**
- **Promote the Charter and Guidelines through association with other networks and intergovernmental activities such as the Shanghai declaration at the World Expo.**
- **Extend the Charter's applicability to corporate campuses.**
- **Other?**

Why might your organisation consider signing on?

- **To assure your organisation's continued commitment to sustainable development and joining a network of mutually accountable organisations.**
- **To access tools for developing effective policies and a global platform for exchange on effective implementation to University management.**
- **To create a more attractive place to work and study by drawing on growing experience on how to involve actors at all levels in in the organisation in policy-making and implementation otwards sustainable development.**

Your feedback to improve the Charter and Guidelines would be highly appreciated!

Weblink: <http://www.international-sustainable-campus-network.org/index.php?id=93>

Feedback to: ariane.koenig@uni.lu

Acknowledgements

The draft Charter and Guidelines were developed for the ISCN by Ariane König (University of Luxembourg), in collaboration with Joseph Mullinix (National University Singapore) and Bernd Kasemir (Sustainserv).

Inputs into this and preliminary versions were provided by:

T. Refslund Poulsen (Copenhagen Univ.), D. Brem (ETH Zurich), M. Adomssent (Univ. Lüneburg), R. Bland (Cornell), F. Gröndahl (KTH Stockholm), N. Heeren and K. Hoeger (ETH Zurich), A. Kildahl (Univ. Hong Kong), M. Kunz (ZHAW), S. Lynham (Anglia Ruskin Univ.), A. Meier and W. Natrup (Basler + Partner), P. Obrdlik (Brno Univ.), R. Sigg (Intep), R. Stulz (Novatlantis), and H. Tan (Tongji Univ.).

Questions on the Guidelines

- **How useful are the guidelines to facilitate a structured exchange of experiences with sustainable campus development?**
- **Is the level of detail appropriate?**
- **Should key points on sustainable design of laboratories and best practices for IT server rooms be addressed in more detail?**
- **Are important topics left out?**
- **How should topics considered key towards sustainability in some world areas but controversial in others be handled (e.g. fair trade, responsible investment, etc.)?**
- **Do we need regional guidelines?**
- **What are the next steps and time lines for completing the Guidelines?**
- **Other?**

Questions on the Charter

- **What makes the Charter attractive?**
- **What might deter signature?**
- **How can it be improved?**