



NurSus

NurSusTOOLKIT: A Teaching and Learning
Resource for Sustainability in Nursing

2104-1-UK01-KA203-001645

NEWSLETTER 1 - NOVEMBER 2014



Funded by the European Union



NURSusTOOLKIT



BACKGROUND & PURPOSE



PROJECT MEMBERS



OBJECTIVES



ACTIVITIES



FURTHER INFORMATION

**SUSTAINABILITY
WITH
PLYMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**



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NurSusTOOLKIT

A Teaching and Learning Resource for Sustainability in Nursing

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

We are happy to announce that the Erasmus+ project "NurSusTOOLKIT: A Teaching and Learning Resource for Sustainability in Nursing" started in early September 2014. With a duration of 3 years, it will run until August 2017. The project brings together specialists from Plymouth (United Kingdom), Maastricht (Netherlands), Jaen (Spain) and Esslingen (Germany) in a unique effort to develop materials that help implement sustainability-related issues in nursing curricula all over Europe.

A WORD FROM THE HEAD OF PROJECT, PROF. JANET RICHARDSON, PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Welcome to the first NurSusTOOLKIT Project Newsletter; my Plymouth colleagues and I are delighted to be working with excellent teams at Esslingen, Jaen and Maastricht universities. We are committed to the development of teaching and learning resources for nurses that will help limit the impact of healthcare on the environment, and enable us to cope with the challenges of a changing climate. There will be a number of opportunities for nursing and healthcare practitioners and students to comment on content as this is developed. I hope that you will engage with this project, follow us on Twitter, and that our newsletters will lead to some thought-provoking discussion about environment and sustainability in healthcare.



Prof. Janet Richardson,
Professor of Health Service Research at
Plymouth University

Background & Purpose

Why NurSus?

WHY NURSUS?

Sustainable development is a concept vital to healthcare: due to its relatively large carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, the use of toxic materials and the production of vast amounts of waste, healthcare is ultimately compromising public health and damaging the ability of future generations to meet their needs. In the EU, the health sector creates at least 5% of total CO₂ emissions. Improving energy and resource efficiency, procurement policies and waste management are vital for a more sustainable health sector. The Europe 2020 flagship initiative for a resource efficient Europe stresses the need for transition towards using natural resources more efficiently; thus improving energy/resource/cost efficiency in health care for an ageing population (e.g. the EU health strategy).

Nursing is one of the largest professions in Europe. Resources available to support sustainability in European nursing curricula are limited and nurse educators are often inadequately prepared to teach students the connections between resources, climate change, sustainability and health. There is no European framework for Sustainability Literacy and Competency (SLC) and no guidelines for sustainability competency or pedagogy. Nurses are agents of change, they have a remit to promote health and control the use of health resources. Embedding climate change and sustainability into nursing curricula will have a qualitative impact on how health care is delivered, allowing for a holistic approach to nurses' training to take non-medical issues into account.

Project Members

Who is involved in the project?

PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Health and Human Sciences,
Plymouth University:

» Prof. Janet Richardson

» Dr. Jane Grose

Head of Academic Support, Technology
& Innovation, Plymouth University:

» Prof. Neil Witt

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Prof. Janet Richardson



Dr. Jane Grose

MAASTRICHT UNIVERSITY

International Centre for Integrated Assessment
and Sustainable Development (ICIS),
Maastricht University:

» Dr. Maud Huynen

» Prof. Pim Martens

Department of International Health,
Maastricht University:

» Dr. Thomas Krafft

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Dr. Maud Huynen



Prof. Pim Martens

Project Members

Who is involved in the project?

UNIVERSIDAD DE JAÉN

Departamento de Enfermería, Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud, Universidad de Jaén:

- » Prof.^a Dr. Carmen Álvarez Nieto
- » Prof.^a Dr. Isabel M^a López Medina
- » Prof.^a Dr. M^a Luisa Grande Gascón
- » Prof. Dr. Manuel Linares Abad

Departamento de Biología Animal, Biología Vegetal y Ecología, Facultad de Ciencias Experimentales, Universidad de Jaén:

- » Prof.^a Dr. Gema Parra Anguita

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Prof.^a Dr. Carmen Álvarez,
Prof.^a Dr. Gema Parra,
Prof.^a Dr. Isabel M^a López,
Prof.^a Dr. M^a Luisa Grande

ESSLINGEN UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES:

Fakultät Soziale Arbeit, Gesundheit und Pflege, Hochschule Esslingen:

- » Prof. Dr. Astrid Elsbernd
- » Prof. Dr. Thomas Heidenreich
- » Prof. Dr. Norma Huss

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f.i.t.r. Prof. Dr. Astrid Elsbernd,
Prof. Dr. Thomas Heidenreich,
Prof. Dr. Norma Huss

Objectives

What is the aim and what will be the output of NurSus?

WHAT IS THE AIM OF NURSUS?

The aim of this project is to enhance the availability and relevance of a sound learning offer in Sustainability Literacy and Competency (SLC) in nurse education by developing innovative teaching and learning approaches and materials, disseminating good practice and promoting take-up of these approaches and materials through strategic use of information technologies.

WHAT WILL BE THE OUTPUT OF NURSUS?

The target audience are nurse educators, students and healthcare practitioners. Outputs will contribute to the modernization of Europe's Higher Education agenda by providing an open-access teaching and learning resource, the NurSusTOOLKIT. This will facilitate vocationally relevant sustainability literacy skills and competencies, enabling nurses to work in a labour market which will be required to adjust to and prepare for a changing climate. It exploits the use of ICT, by designing a virtual learning platform and providing opportunities for continuing professional development.

The NurSusTOOLKIT will be available in a number of European languages supporting the delivery of sustainability issues in nursing curricula. It will also be open access.

Activities

What is currently happening and what are the next steps?

WHAT IS CURRENTLY HAPPENING?

The first project meeting took place in Plymouth in October 2014, with project partners from all four countries participating. The project team discussed relevant topics with experts in the field from Plymouth University: Prof Stephen Sterling and Dr Paul Warwick from the Centre for Sustainable Futures, Prof Neil Witt, Head of Academic Support, Technology & Innovation and from Dr Tim Daley, Director of the Institute for Sustainability Solutions Research (ISSR). The project team also discussed project activities and milestones, a quality monitoring plan, forming a steering committee, cooperating with stakeholders in different countries and preparing a rapid review of sustainability-related issues in nursing curricula.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

- » Developing the Delphi-questionnaire, through completing the rapid review and the initial thematic curriculum analyses
- » Developing the Project Website

Further Information

How to keep up with project news

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN NURSUS?

NurSus provides a number of opportunities to get information and participate:

Newsletters will be published twice a year to inform on developments in the project. Newsletters will appear at the following dates:

- » February 2015 (Month 6)
- » August 2015 (Month 12)
- » February 2016 (Month 18)
- » August 2016 (Month 24)
- » February 2017 (Month 30)

Stakeholders from different countries will be included in a variety of ways, e.g. in scoping nursing curricula and commenting on early implementations of the TOOLKIT. A teaching event will take place at Esslingen in June 2017 where the TOOLKIT will be presented.

HOW TO REACH NURSUS

Email: nursus@plymouth.ac.uk

 [@NurSus_EU](https://twitter.com/NurSus_EU)

Follow us on Twitter where you can get information, ask us questions and tell us your views [@NurSus_EU](https://twitter.com/NurSus_EU) [#NurSus](https://twitter.com/NurSus)