



# NurSus









NurSusTOOLKIT: A Teaching and Learning  
Resource for Sustainability in Nursing

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# Activity 1 update

February 2015

## **AIM: To build an evidence-based resource to support sustainability literacy and competency in nursing**

This review has three stages: (i) scoping review; (ii) rapid review; (iii) detailed review. The outcomes of the review from stages (i) and (ii) directly feed into the development of the curriculum scoping and Delphi study in Activity 2.

### **(I) SCOPING REVIEW**

This was based on resources available in English and focussed on the two questions:

- » What do nurses need to know about sustainability?
- » What pedagogic approaches are used to embed sustainability in curricula in nursing or higher education?

The review was conducted by the Plymouth team using key documents. Seminal papers or reports addressing the issues, and examples from current attempts to embed sustainability in healthcare curriculum were reviewed. Justifications were provided for the inclusion of each document. The results of this scoping review were used to generate topics for the curriculum scoping (see our brief report on Activity 2).

### **(II) RAPID REVIEW**

This was conducted by all partners looking for resources written in English, Spanish, German, and

Dutch and focussed, on the two questions as in stage (i).

Search terms, inclusion and exclusion criteria were specified. Additionally we used key documents we were aware of through our networks, and searched for documents referred to or referenced in the documents found through our own searches.

### **THEMATIC ANALYSIS**

The next step was to analysis the relevant resources for themes / topics that relate to our questions. Papers that meet the inclusion criteria were documented in a list of resources table. All resources were then analysed thematically according to tables developed in the scoping review. The themes / topics found in resources that addressed the question 'what do nurses need to know about sustainability' were grouped under appropriate headings and, together with the results of the curriculum scoping (Activity 2), these formed the basis of the survey for the Delphi study that will be conducted over the next few months.

Examples of topics for 'what do nurses need to know about sustainability' are:

Resource use, food (for example sourcing local food), health promotion and active travel, the environmental impact of healthcare. These are just some of the topics the literature identified as relevant to nursing curricula.

### **NEXT STEPS:**

We have further resources to add to our review and will focus on (iii) detailed review to identify resources that are topic-based and will support our teaching and learning materials for the Nur-SusTOOLKIT.

# Activity 2 update

February 2015



**Dr. Maud Huynen from Maastricht University visited Plymouth University for transnational meeting in order to finalise the outline of the Delphi-study for Activity 2.**

Activity 2 has two main stages: (i) the curriculum scoping and (ii) the Delphi-survey among European experts.

## **(I) CURRICULUM SCOPING**

NurSus Activity 2 (led by Maastricht University) started with the scoping of the nursing curricula in Plymouth, Jaen and Esslingen. The main aim of this scoping process is to identify examples of good practice and opportunities for integrating sustainability into the nurse education. For this, the NurSus team developed a comprehensive scoping template and associated interview guide. For both the programmes in Plymouth and Jaen, six teachers were accordingly selected and interviewed about sustainability topics currently included (explicit or implicit) within

their nursing curricula. The scoping process of the programme in Esslingen will also soon be completed. So far ten sustainability(-related) education activities have been identified. The conducted interviews also yielded valuable insights into the (perceived) barriers for integrating sustainability into nurse education. The scoping outcomes will feed into the upcoming Delphi-survey among European experts as well as the development of the NurSus education materials in the second project year.

## **(II) DELPHI-SURVEY**

As part of Activity 2, the Delphi-survey is also now being developed. The main aim of this-Delphi-study is to sense the opinion experts (nurse educators/professionals) about the most important sustainability knowledge, skills and competence to be included/achieved in nurse education. As such, the survey will be employed for 'issue identification and prioritization'. The survey outline has been agreed during the second transnational meeting and relevant experts have been identified by the NurSus team. The survey is now being prepared and tested for administration online.

## **NEXT STEPS:**

The Delphi-survey will be administrated in two rounds: April and June 2015.

# Activity 1 & 2 objectives

## ACTIVITY 1

### Building an evidence-based resource to support sustainability literacy and competency in nursing

The objectives of this activity are:

- » To undertake a rapid (scoping) review of research relating to sustainability and nursing / healthcare to inform the detailed evidence-review
- » To undertake a detailed evidence-review of research relating to sustainability and nursing / healthcare climate change resource depletion and nursing, health / healthcare across Europe
- » To identify general web-based support materials for sustainability and nursing / healthcare
- » To undertake a review of pedagogical approaches (e.g. problem-based learning) relating to the development and use of educational materials on sustainability, climate change and nursing, health / healthcare

The meeting focused on the results of stage two of the literature reviews and the content this had generated. The content was discussed in order to:

- (i) Develop the process for stage 3 of the review
- (ii) Inform the Delphi study to be conducted in Activity 2

## ACTIVITY 2

### Scoping the Nursing Curriculum Opportunities for Sustainability Literacy and Competency (SLC)

The objectives of this activity are:

- » To scope the nursing curriculum (and CPD) in partner organisations in order to identify current sustainability content and opportunities for integrating SLC.
- » To conduct a broader participatory (e.g. Delphi survey) thematic analysis of curriculum opportunities in order to identify (how to integrate) key SLC issues and examples of good practice in the nursing curricula of the partner organisations, but also in nurse education in general via project stakeholders
- » To provide a thematic overview of SLC curriculum opportunities (including didactical approaches) for nurse education.

# Transnational Meeting 2

Plymouth (UK) February 2015

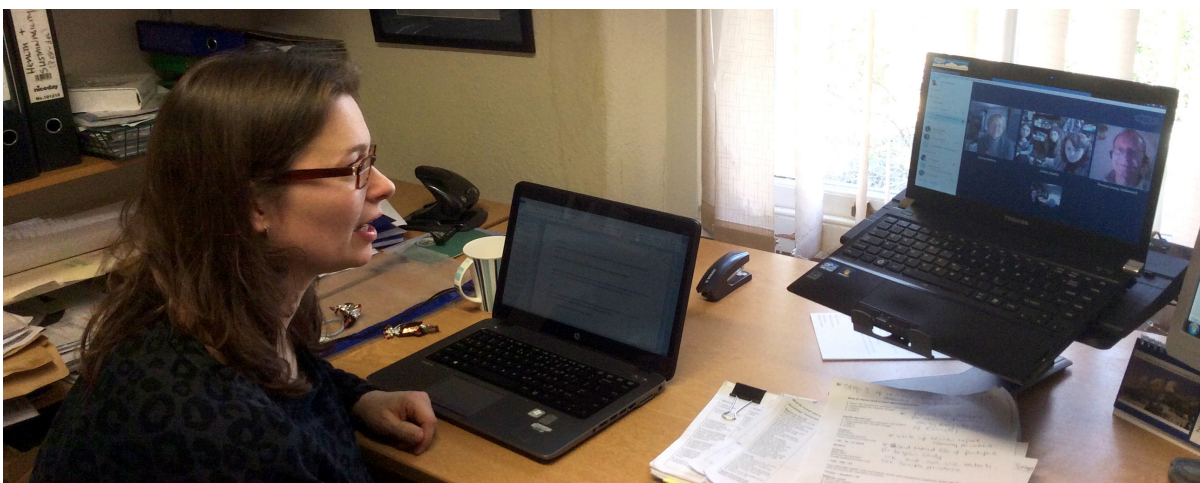
Our second transnational meeting took place in Plymouth (February 2-3, 2015), discussing mainly the progress and plans for activities 1 and 2. Building on the literature review (activity 1) and the curriculum scoping (activity 2), the meeting in particular focused on developing and agreeing on the outline of upcoming Delphi-survey among European experts.

In order to reduce our project's carbon footprint, Maud Huynen from Maastricht University was actually the only team member who travelled to Plymouth in order to work with Janet Richardson (Plymouth) on the initial ideas and outline of the Delphi-survey. During the second day, other partners joined

the project meeting via Skype in order to discuss the work completed so far, the next steps for Activities 1 and 2 in line with the project plan, the wider engagement with 'experts' through the Delphi-survey, and student engagement through a 'student panel' and a Twitter discussion session.

## **DR MAUD HUYNEN TALKS TO PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY COLLEAGUES ABOUT SUSTAINABILITY RESEARCH IN THE NETHERLANDS**

While Dr Maud Huynen was at Plymouth University for the second NurSus Transnational meeting she was able to deliver a talk to the Plymouth University Sustainability, Society and Health Research Group.



**Dr. Maud Huynen from Maastricht University during a transnational web-meeting with NurSus project partners.**



# Climate change and health in the Netherlands

Dr Maud Huynen, Research Fellow Global Health at the University of Maastricht

**DR MAUD HUYNEN, RESEARCH FELLOW GLOBAL HEALTH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MAASTRICHT TALKED ABOUT: CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH IN THE NETHERLANDS.**

The health effects of climate change have been largely absent from Dutch scientific agendas. At the same time, the direct health effect of temperature (extremes) under a changing climate has been identified by the Health Council of The Netherlands, the Dutch Court of Audits, policymakers (incl. national government), scientists, health professionals, advocacy groups and other stakeholders as an important issue demanding further research and policy action. More recently, a report by the Dutch Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) entitled 'The effects of climate change on health: Update for the National Adaptation Strategy 2016' (published on December 4th, 2014) states that the knowledge gaps and research questions identified in a 2009 national research programme proposal (co-authored by Maud Huynen) are still relevant today and advises



that further research into the Dutch health impacts of a changing climate (including temperature-related effects) is required to inform the national 2016 National Adaptation strategy. Maud Huynen outlined (developments regarding) the Dutch 'Climate Change and Health' research agenda. She provided some initial results from a pilot study exploring the temperature-related health effects (in view of Dutch climate change scenarios).

# Five Questions – Five Answers

from Gema Parra Anguita



**Gema Parra Anguita**  
from **Universidad de Jaén**

## **1. WHAT TOPICS DO YOU USUALLY TEACH?**

I usually teach Environmental Education (6 ECTs), a subject taught in the last year of the Environmental Sciences Degree, and Ecology (6 ECTs), which is taught in the third-year of the Biology Degree at the Faculty of Experimental Sciences.

## **2. WHAT SPECIFIC EXPERTISE DO YOU BRING TO THE NURSUS PROJECT?**

I think that the new theoretical approach, which is being taken by many ecologists concerning the loss of ecosystem services due to anthropogenic activities, will help support the project objectives to focus on creating a new relationship between society and ecosystems. People have turned their backs on Nature, and now it's time to show how utterly dependent we are on it. Health services and therefore nurses hold the key to reducing not

only the direct effects on health care resulting from the impact of human activities on our environment, but also in changing behaviour and awareness.

## **3. WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT BEING A MEMBER OF THE NURSUS PROJECT?**

It's fantastic to share such different experiences with such a wide and well-qualified group. The meetings are exciting because I am always learning and improving my own skills and widening my knowledge.

## **4. WHAT DO YOU DO YOURSELF TO BE MORE SUSTAINABLE?**

I'm quite aware and am pretty much following the 5R-rules: recycle, re-use, repair, re-use and reduce. I walk every day to work, I'm really concerned about the removal of the toxic waste generated during my research work and it's appropriate treatment and I'm also trying to engage my closest social and everyday environment in sustainability awareness.

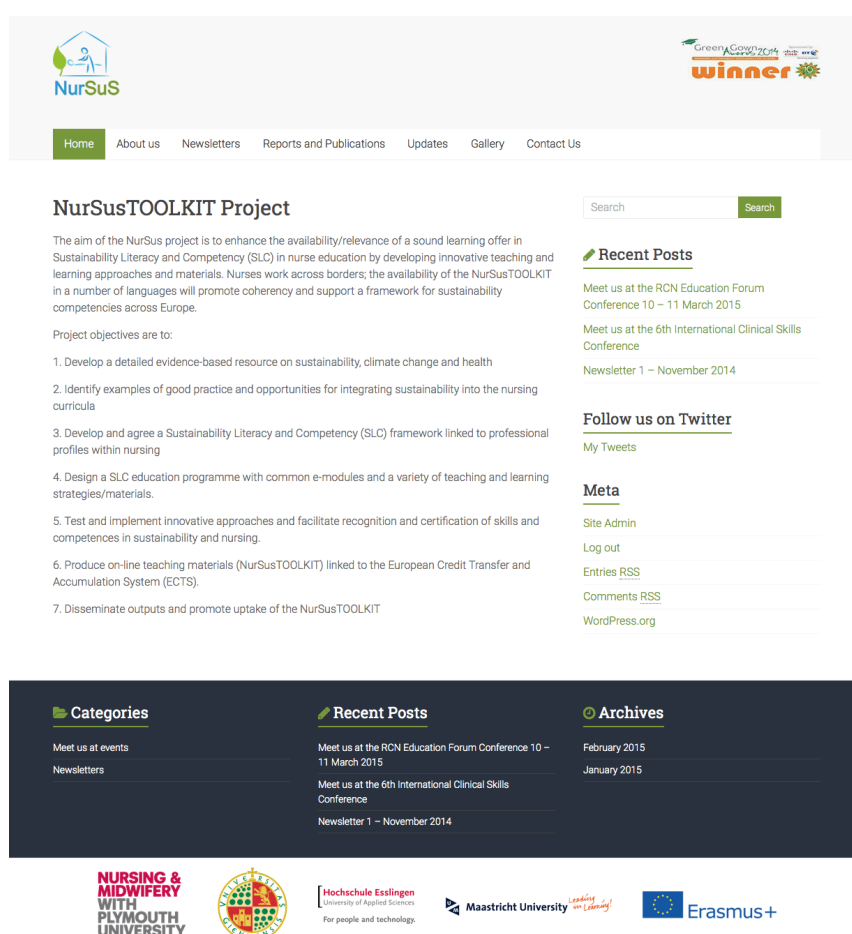
## **5. WHAT IS YOUR SUSTAINABILITY TIP?**

Apart from the 5R-rules mentioned before, the most important thing you might do is to "re-think" the repercussions of your actions and behaviours on Nature.

# Launch of the NurSus website

nursus.eu

We are delighted to be able to launch our new NurSus project website. The website forms an integral component of our project activities and ultimately the teaching and learning resource we develop will be accessible through this website. We will be adding regular updates so please visit the website frequently and contact us with any comments or suggestions. We will be adding details of conferences and meetings where NurSus project team members will be talking about the project, so look out for events where you can meet us in person. Let us know if you would like to receive alerts when we add new content, or if you would like us to send you notification that our latest Newsletter has been published.



The screenshot shows the NurSus website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, About us, Newsletters, Reports and Publications, Updates, Gallery, and Contact Us. The main content area features the 'NurSusTOOLKIT Project' section, which includes a description of the project's aim to enhance sustainability literacy and competency in nurse education, and a list of seven project objectives. To the right of the main content, there is a search bar and a 'Recent Posts' section listing three items: 'Meet us at the RCN Education Forum Conference 10 – 11 March 2015', 'Meet us at the 6th International Clinical Skills Conference', and 'Newsletter 1 – November 2014'. Below the 'Recent Posts' section, there is a 'Follow us on Twitter' section with a 'My Tweets' link, and a 'Meta' section with links for 'Site Admin', 'Log out', 'Entries RSS', 'Comments RSS', and 'WordPress.org'. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer section with three columns: 'Categories' (listing 'Meet us at events' and 'Newsletters'), 'Recent Posts' (listing the same three items as the 'Recent Posts' section), and 'Archives' (listing 'February 2015' and 'January 2015'). Below the footer section, there are logos for 'Nursing & Midwifery with Plymouth University', 'Hochschule Esslingen University of Applied Sciences', 'Maastricht University', and 'Erasmus+'.

Find us at [www.nursus.eu](http://www.nursus.eu)



# Further Information

Stay updated and follow us

## NATIONAL CONFERENCE BACHELOR NURSING 2020

Maud Huynen participated in the National Conference Bachelor Nursing 2020 on the January 28th, 2015, Nieuwegein, The Netherlands.

<http://www.sbo.nl/zorg/landelijk-congres-bachelor-nursing-2020/>

During this conference, the National Meeting of Schools of Nursing (LOOV) presented the new Dutch education profile for higher professional nurse education (entitled Bachelor Nursing 2020). As such, the meeting provided an excellent opportunity for networking and promoting the NurSus project.

**More information (in Dutch) see:**  
[www.loov2020.nl](http://www.loov2020.nl)

## SAVE THE DATE

The NurSus team will be hosting a wenurses twitter chat on Thursday 24th March 2015 at 8pm GMT @WeNurses. You will be able to join in this discussion by following #WeNurses. We look forward to tweeting with you soon.

<http://www.wecommunities.org/tweet-chats/chat-details/449>

**Twitter chat on  
24th March 2015**



## DISSEMINATION ACHIEVEMENTS

The Centre for Sustainable Healthcare have add details of the NurSus project with a link to the newsletter to their website.

## THE NEXT EVENTS YOU CAN MEET US AT ARE:

- » RCN Education Forum Conference 10 – 11 March 2015
- » Jornada sobre Tecnologia e Saúde
- » Health@World: towards a culture sensitive nurse identity
- » Meet us at the 6th International Clinical Skills Conference
- » Nursing Sustainability by Design (Green Gown Award Webinar)

**See [www.nursus.eu](http://www.nursus.eu)**