

GREENING UNIVERSITIES TOOLKIT V2.0

TRANSFORMING UNIVERSITIES INTO GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE
CAMPUSES : A TOOLKIT FOR IMPLEMENTERS

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Finally we would like to acknowledge the substantial contribution of Dr. Paul Osmond from UNSW Australia, the co-author of the previous version of this toolkit, whose work the Greening universities Toolkit V2.0 is developed and expanded upon. We also thank Dr. Lan Ding from UNSW Australia for her generous contribution in case studies and data collection. Thanks also to Emiliano Miranda y Miranda for his design and formatting work in the revised Toolkit.

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EUROPE

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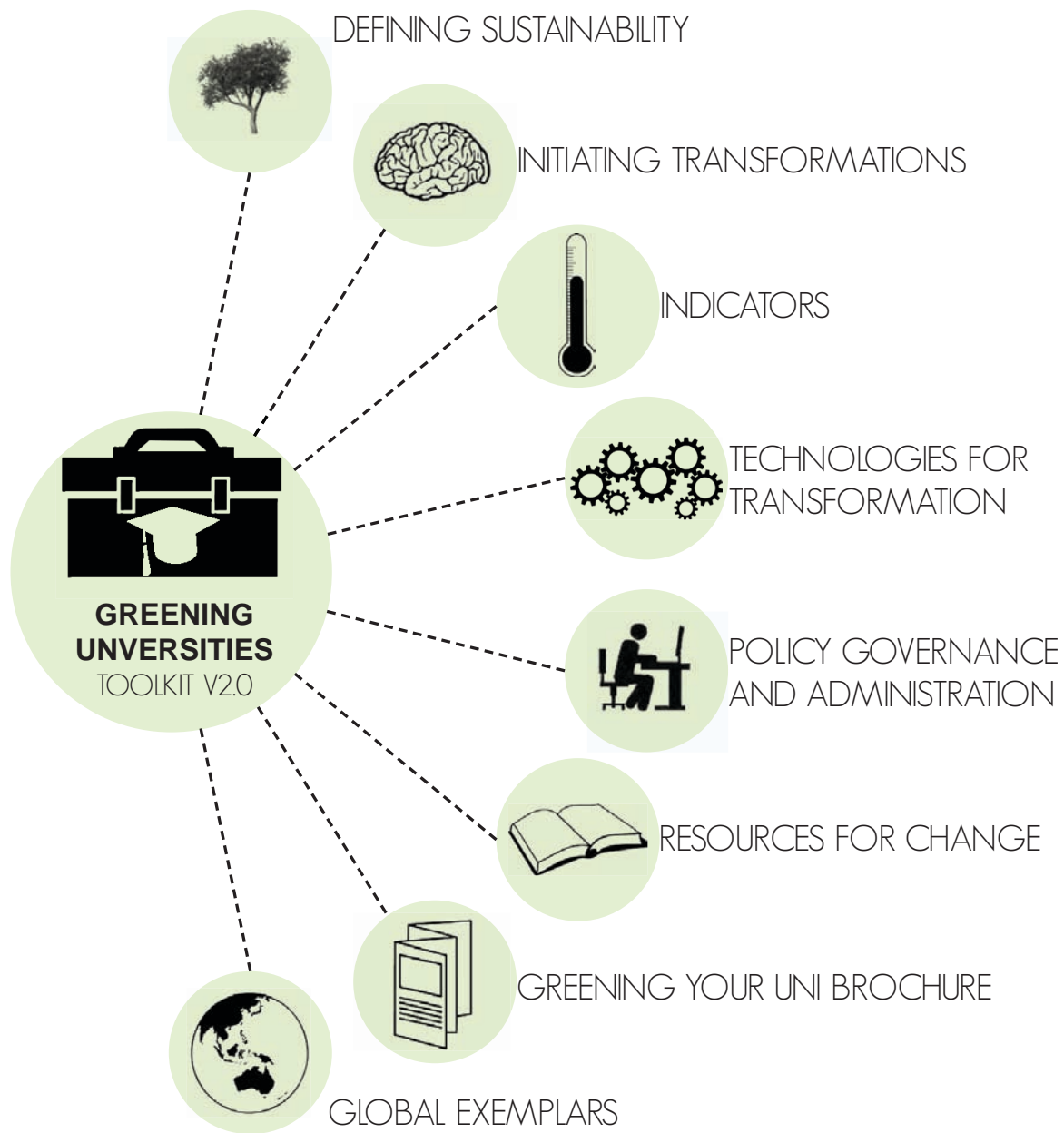
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- ▶ University of Applied Sciences, Colombia

NORTH AMERICA

- ▶ University of British Columbia, Canada
- ▶ Princeton University, USA
- ▶ Sustainable Living Centre, Maharishi University of Management, Iowa, USA

Finally, we would like to point out that this Toolkit aims to be a "living document" that will be updated on a regular basis. For this purpose, we plan to have an electronic online version, where universities are able to incorporate and share their experiences in the greening of university campuses.



THE DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THIS TOOLKIT

The Toolkit was conceived in 2011 as part of the Greening Universities Initiative set up by UNEP's Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU) in partnership with other UN agencies and leading "green universities" experts and researchers, under the umbrella of the Global Universities Partnership for Environment and Sustainability (GUPES). UNEP's approach to this project involves:

- ▶ Developing criteria for green/sustainable campuses, including infrastructural, managerial and operational considerations;
- ▶ Supporting the development and implementation of strategies for transforming Universities into green/sustainable campuses;
- ▶ Advocacy, lobbying and publicity activities for greening Universities;
- ▶ Developing and launching a global award scheme for green Universities.

Publication of this Toolkit addresses the first of these four objectives. The University of New South Wales (UNSW) Faculty of the Built Environment was engaged to prepare the draft Toolkit for review by UNEP. This process involved four stages:

- ▶ An extensive review of the green University literature, including both academic research and the so-called "grey" literature of reports, websites and operational material produced by individual Universities and international and national associations relevant to University sustainability;
- ▶ Two international workshops auspiced by GUPES, held in Santiago, Chile in September 2011 and in Nairobi, Kenya in February 2012, which reviewed and discussed work in progress and provided input and direction to the final document;
- ▶ Collection of a substantial body of best practice case studies from Universities worldwide both to inform the content of the Toolkit overall and to include as a standalone Chapter on global exemplars; and
- ▶ Final review by the EETU to ensure currency, consistency and alignment with the objectives of the UNEP Greening Universities Initiative.

OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THIS TOOLKIT

The objective of this Toolkit is to inspire, encourage and support universities to develop and implement their own transformative strategies for establishing green, resource-efficient and low carbon campuses. It will provide an opportunity to build stakeholder capacity to deliver systemic, institution-wide integration of sustainability principles into all aspects of university business. This initiative is intended to improve the sustainability performance of universities globally and to provide support to other stakeholders embarking on their own sustainability journeys. Further, it will enhance the practical relevance of universities to sustainable development and by extension, the new paradigm of the "green economy". In short, the aim is to encourage and promote the contribution of universities to the overall sustainability of the planet. We cannot have a sustainable world where universities promote unsustainability [1] – conversely, the sustainable university can help catalyse a more sustainable world.

USING THIS TOOLKIT

This Greening Universities Toolkit is designed to provide universities with the basic strategies and tactics necessary to transform themselves into green, low carbon institutions with the capacity to address climate change, increase resource efficiency, enhance ecosystem management and minimise waste and pollution. To effectively support this journey and other transformative processes in Universities, the Toolkit is structured in such a way that the focus is on the sustainable planning, design, development and management of the university campus. This is linked to the core business of teaching, research and outreach, which are the subject of a separate initiative by UNEP's Environmental Education and Training Unit (EETU) [Higher Education Guidelines for Curriculum Review and Reorientation Towards Sustainable Development], Aspects of teaching, research and outreach are addressed here only insofar as they intersect/interact with the fabric and operations of the campus.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARIES.....	11
INTRODUCTION.....	15
CHAPTER 1: UNIVERSITIES AND SUSTAINABILITY: DEFINITIONS, ISSUES, RISKS AND CHALLENGES.....	16

1.1 What do we mean by "sustainability"?	16
1.2 Sustainability and sustainable development	17
1.3 The four capitals and the four bottom lines	17
1.4 What does a "sustainable university" look like?	18
1.5 Sustainability issues, risks and associated challenges in universities	20
1.5.1 Environmental	20
1.5.2 Economic	21
1.5.3 Socio-cultural	21
1.6 Cost-benefits of greening	22

CHAPTER 2: STRATEGIES FOR INITIATING TRANSFORMATION.....	28
---	-----------

2.1 Where to begin?	28
2.2 Making the commitment - visions, missions, values and declarations	30
2.3 Engaging the university (and wider) communities	32
2.3.1 Initiating engagement for sustainable development	33
2.3.2 Levels and methods of engagement	34
2.4 Initiatives and Networks	35
2.4.1 International Sustainable Campus Network	35
2.4.2 China Green Campus Network	37
2.4.1 Africa Green Campus Initiative	37

CHAPTER 3: INDICATORS.....	40
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3.1 Selecting and defining indicators	40
3.2 Examples of indicators	42

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

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