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SOCIAL VALUE CREATION

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THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN PORTUGUESE HIGHER EDUCATIONS: AN EXPLORATORY STUDY OF STUDENTS PERCEPTIONS

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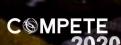



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PURPOSE

A descriptive and exploratory research about the understanding of sustainable development (SD) among public higher education institutions' students, in Portugal.

- the student's perspectives about SD through the analysis of their attitudes, skills and experiences on the theme.
- The student's knowledge about SDGs and about the importance of SD as future professionals.

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METHOD

Research Design	Sample
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A descriptive and exploratory approach ✓ On-line questionnaire, adapted from the National Union Students (2018) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ A sample of 1257 students from the Portuguese HEIs

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FINDINGS

STUDENTS

- Show an interest in SD and are keen to learn more about, but also want to see action by their HEI, and to see it embedded in all courses.
- Say they have experienced some teaching related SD, however, almost 20% say it hasn't been covered at all.
- Recognise the action taken by their HEI to address negative impacts.
- Show a desire to work in companies that perform strongly in relation to SD.
- Consider that secondary education was the educational path that most encouraged to think and act in ways that help the environment and people.
- Already have heard of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and know what they.

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Students of Portuguese HEIs show an interest in SD

95.7% HEI should actively incorporate and promote SD

90.9% SD actively incorporated and promote through all courses

89.6 % SD is something they would like to learn more about

Note: cumulative value (agree + strongly agree)



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Students of Portuguese HEIs say they have experienced some teaching related to SD

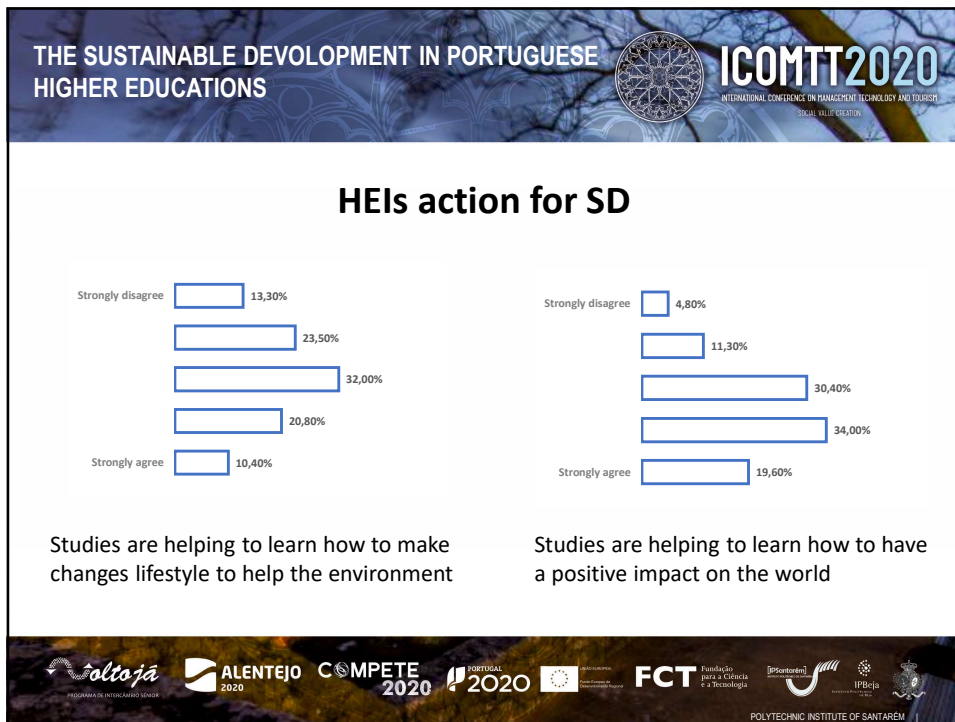
However, almost 20% say it hasn't been covered at all.

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HEIs action for SD

Statement	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly agree
HEI takes action to limit the negative impact it has on the environment and society	4,10%	12,60%	43,10%	32,80%	7,30%
HEI provides opportunities to get involved in action to limit the negative impact	5,90%	16,30%	34,90%	31,50%	11,40%



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Students show a desire to work for companies that perform strongly in relations to SD



A - 90.2% would be willing to accept a salary 5% lower than average to work in a company with a good social and environment record

B - 65.9% would accept a salary 15% lower than average to work in a job with a good social environment record

C - 65.0% would accept a salary 15% lower than average to work in a company with a good social and environment record



























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SD Students' Perceptions

Governments from across the world should do whatever it takes to address climate change	71.0%
I am concerned about the effects of climate change	64.0%
Climate change will negatively affect me and my lifestyle	60.1%
I would vote for a government that increased action to tackle climate change	52.7%

Note: strongly agree %

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ORIGINALITY/VALUE

To better understand the students' perceptions about SD and the role of HEIs to improve it, namely in Portugal where the studies about the theme are scarce.

The results could be used by HEIs to introduce the SD topics in formal and informal education, as well as to improve its integration on campus activities.

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