



## The FRENCH Sustainable Campus Label – Label DD&RS\* ?

### What is it all about?

Responsible digital technology, well-being at work, biodiversity, gender equality, diversity, disabilities, sustainable mobility, responsible purchasing, research ethics, carbon footprinting, waste management, inclusiveness AND the integration of all these topics transversally in education, training and research...

**Do these topics interest you?** These issues, and more, are all evaluated using the Label DD&RS\* & Framework that higher education institutions use to evaluate their Sustainability practices!

The most advanced institutions can go further and obtain the Label DD&RS\* – a quality improvement process Label DD&RS that show a school's commitment and performance in sustainability practices :

- 👉 Is sustainable development an important theme for you ?
- 👉 Do you want to work or go to school in an institution that is committed to these issues and takes action ?
- 👉 Would you like to get involved in the Sustainability audit process and become an auditor yourself ?

For students, the Label DD&RS\* is a good way to identify Higher Education Institutions committed to sustainable development, but it is also an opportunity for those who want to develop their skills in the field of sustainability and actively participate in sustainability audits.

### ORIGINS & OBJECTIVES

This labelling system, known as Sustainable Campus Label for higher education was created in 2015. It is the result of the collective work of a dozen universities and Grandes Ecoles, the Conférence des Grandes Écoles (CGE), the Conférence des Présidents d'Université (CPU), the French Ministry in charge of sustainable development, the French Ministry in charge of higher education and the \*\*Réseau des Etudiants pour une société écologique et solidaire – RESES.

It offers French higher education and research institutions national and international recognition for their sustainable development and social responsibility initiatives. It also enables institutions **to share skills and best practices with other committed institutions** through participation in the Labeling committee.

### HOW IT WORKS

The Label DD&RS\* uses a common national reference framework that has existed since 2009 and respects the French *Grenelle* environmental laws and other key environmental and social policies. It also integrates other relevant national and international frameworks like ISO 26000. The Label uses a systemic approach and integrates the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Organized into in five strategic categories it covers all the key areas of action for sustainable development:

- Governance & Strategy

\* Sustainability Campus Label DD&RS stands for Sustainable Development & Corporate Social Responsibility (SD&CSR)

\*\* The National Student Network for Solidarity & Sustainability

\*\*\* The Collective for the Integration of Social Responsibility in Higher Education)

- Education & Training
- Research & Innovation
- Campus Operations
- Social Policy & Outreach

An institution who applies for the Label is audited by:

- A Lead Auditor (an experienced auditor, generally responsible for sustainability in their institution),
- A Peer Auditor (another sustainability manager/coordinator from another higher education institution),
- **A Student Auditor trained by the RESES\*\* a key partner of the Label DD&RS\***

Following a successful document audit and an audit interview, the establishment is awarded the Label DD&RS\* for 4 years. However, the auditors can also recommend conditional certification for period of 2 years, or when warranted, refuse to certify the institution.

The Label DD&RS\* aims to encourage higher education, research and vocational training institutions - to be exemplary in their sustainability education, practices and continuous improvement. The certification and continuous improvement process is a way for them to demonstrate and promote their commitment. The Label DD&RS\* is managed and operated by a non-profit professional organization in France called CIRSES\*\*\* (Collectif pour l'Intégration de la Responsabilité Sociétale dans l'Enseignement Supérieur) whose community shares long-term vision and ambitions of the Label.

For more information: [www.Label-ddrs.org](http://www.Label-ddrs.org)

## WHAT CAN STUDENTS DO ?

As a student, you can actively participate in the audit of an institution as **a student auditor**. The **RESES\*\***, member of the Labeling committee and historical partner, commits to train students who want to get involved in the audit sessions, and accompany them throughout the process.

Becoming a student auditor gives you real-life setting and experience and professional skills in the world of sustainability auditing and higher education, but also a close look at the efforts of educational institutions are making towards a successful ecological and social transition.

This empowers students to take ownership and participate actively in sustainable development issues on their campus and others. It helps them create a dynamic in their own institution and encourage commitment to more responsible and green practices by contributing to and implementing concrete actions in their campus and schools.

A higher education institution awarded the Label DD&RS\* shows their commitment to accelerate their actions, strengthen their credibility, and embark on a process of continuous improvement!

The Label DD&RS\* is also a great opportunity to communicate, both internally (staff and students) and externally (alumni, suppliers, partners...), on a higher education institutions' sustainability commitments, actions and results.



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