

DD&RS Reference Framework

Reference framework for educational,
research and innovation institutions.

Version 2021



Socio-ecological transformations: when French higher education institutions collectively take their share of responsibility

Since 2010, French universities and Grandes écoles have been working together, through their representative associations, to implement actions that aim to respond to the urgent and necessary socio-ecological transformation of human societies at a time when the anthropogenic effects of climate change and the loss of biodiversity on a planetary scale are beginning to severely affect the quality of life of future generations.

The Conference of Grandes écoles (CGE) and the Conference of University Presidents (CPU) are working alongside students and ministries to equip and unite the higher education and research community around a new educational and scientific paradigm:

- To enable young people and the active population to acquire the skills needed to switch from an industrial society based on energy-intensive mineral transformation to a society based on low-energy biological transformation,
- To develop responsible research and innovation, companions of the living and at the service of its Humanity component.

The Conferences assume that higher education institutions are places of comprehensive teaching and demonstrators for science in action. They must therefore be equipped with tools for systemic measurement of their transformation at the service of a sustainable society - such is the goal of the «DD&RS» reference system.

The «DD&RS» framework: an open access tool, freely available for self-assessment and developed by its users for its users

Designed in its first collective version as part of the Grenelle de l'environnement process that led to the eponymous law, the «DD&RS» reference framework is an intellectual production of universities, Grandes écoles, students and ministries. It is in the public domain and can be freely adapted by other countries.

Its use as a self-assessment tool for an institution's sustainability approach is made easier by its free availability on a digital platform: PERSEES.org.

Successive versions of the reference framework are developed by its users and stakeholders to take into account the state of the art in science, international agreements related to socio-ecological transformations (SDGs, ISO 26000...) and, at the local level, changes in institutional practices and regulations.

From the «DD&RS» framework to the «DD&RS» certification: to learn together, act together and create a community recognized by its stakeholders

The «DD&RS» framework is designed as an educational tool that draws on the knowledge of a community of users on a national scale and shares it with a university or a Grande école.

The «DD&RS» framework allows for an inventory of sustainability practices. It defines a starting point for the implementation of an action plan in line with an organization's strategy. It also defines a common semantic on what is a sustainability approach, a network of interrelated actions involving governance, operations - ecological management of the campus, social policy - and missions - teaching, training, research and innovation - of a higher education and research institution in a logic of continuous improvement.


The «DD&RS» framework opens the door to a voluntary sustainability certification process. The goal is to encourage the commitment of agents, employees, students, teachers, researchers and directors or presidents in their professional practices and to recognize the efforts made by belonging to a committed community of institutions. By 2030, under the impetus of the «DD&RS» certification, 100% of universities and grandes écoles will attest, in one way or another, to their commitment to the socio-ecological transformation of the territories in which they operate.


Article 55 of the Grenelle 1 Law of August 3, 2009, requires all higher education institutions to implement a Sustainable Development approach (in its economic, societal and environmental dimensions) under the name «Green Plan».


Initially a simple expression, the Green Plan took shape with the writing of the Green Plan framework, made official on June 17, 2010, which included the 9 challenges of the National Sustainable Development Strategy 2010-2013 and the development by the Conference of Grandes écoles, the Conference of University Presidents, the REFEDD, the Ministry in charge of Ecology and their stakeholders, of a reference framework intended for the implementation of this Plan in a logic of continuous improvement.


As of 2015, the name «Green Plan» was replaced by the acronym/logo «**DD&RS**» and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were gradually included into the reference framework.


The latest version presented here, called the «**DD&RS**» **2021 reference framework**, was produced with the **help of national research institutions**, which contributed in particular to the reworking of the research and innovation section. The ecosystem of higher education, research and innovation institutions thus has a sector-specific tool that allows them to:

 **Provide educational support**, through shared practices, for the representation of a sustainability approach in its dimensions of ethical questioning, complexity, and transversality to the functional organization and strategy of an institution.

 **Self-assess its actions** according to a grid, with supporting documents and indicators, established by the tool's user community.

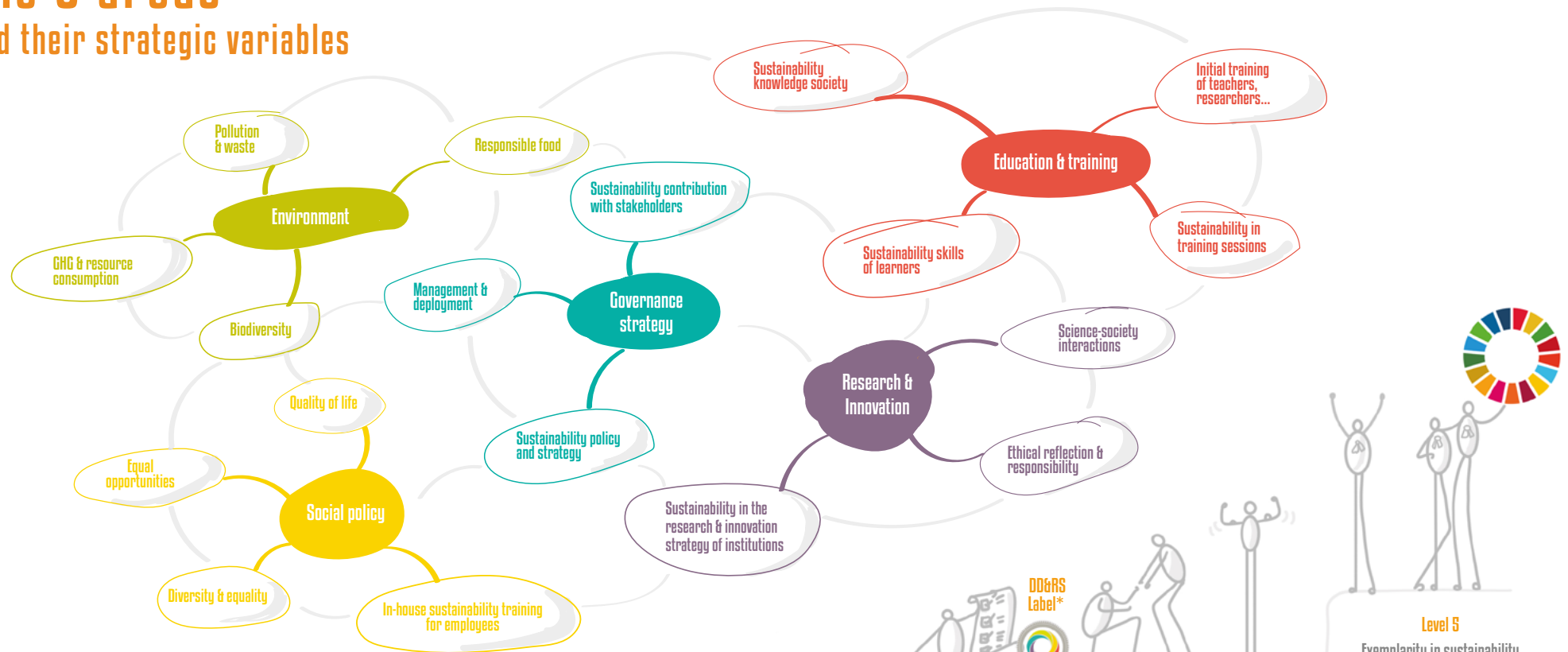
 **Guide the implementation of a continuous improvement process** in line with the SDGs and the main principles of ISO 26000.

 **Dialogue and share within a community of internal stakeholders** - to increase collective skills with administrative, teaching and/or research staff and students - and with external stakeholders - to build bridges with assessment organizations, ministerial supervisory bodies and companies - so that business practices and national/international guidelines can be mutually enriching.

 **Voluntarily move** towards a sustainability certification if the institution meets the eligibility criteria of the process.

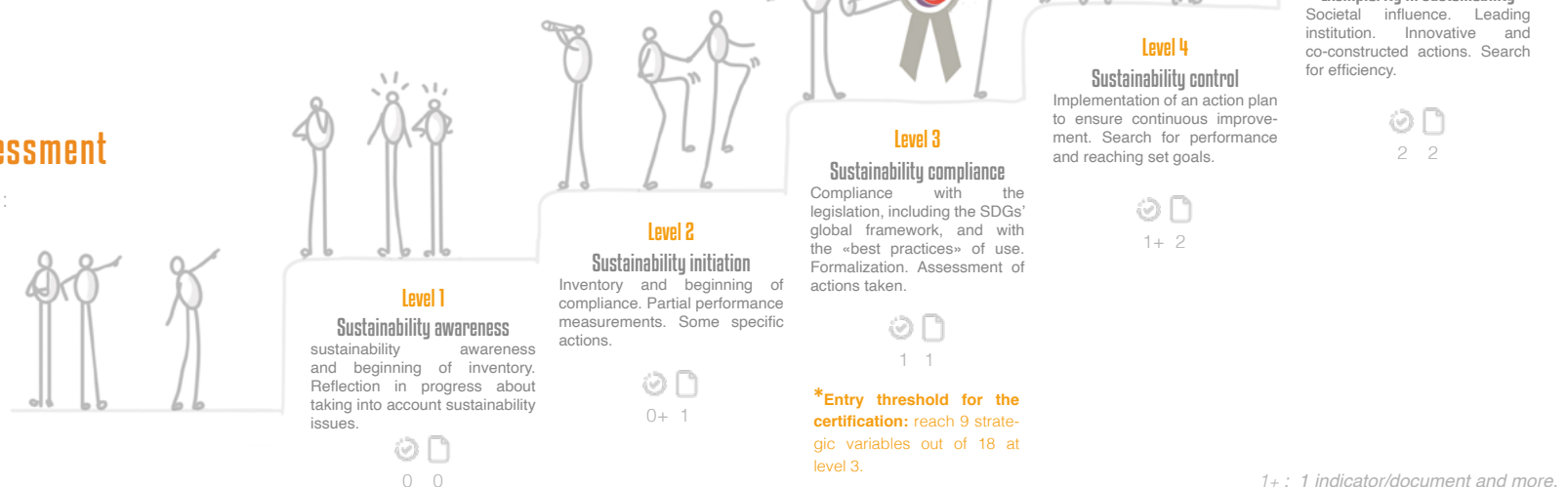
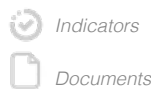
The 5 areas

and their strategic variables



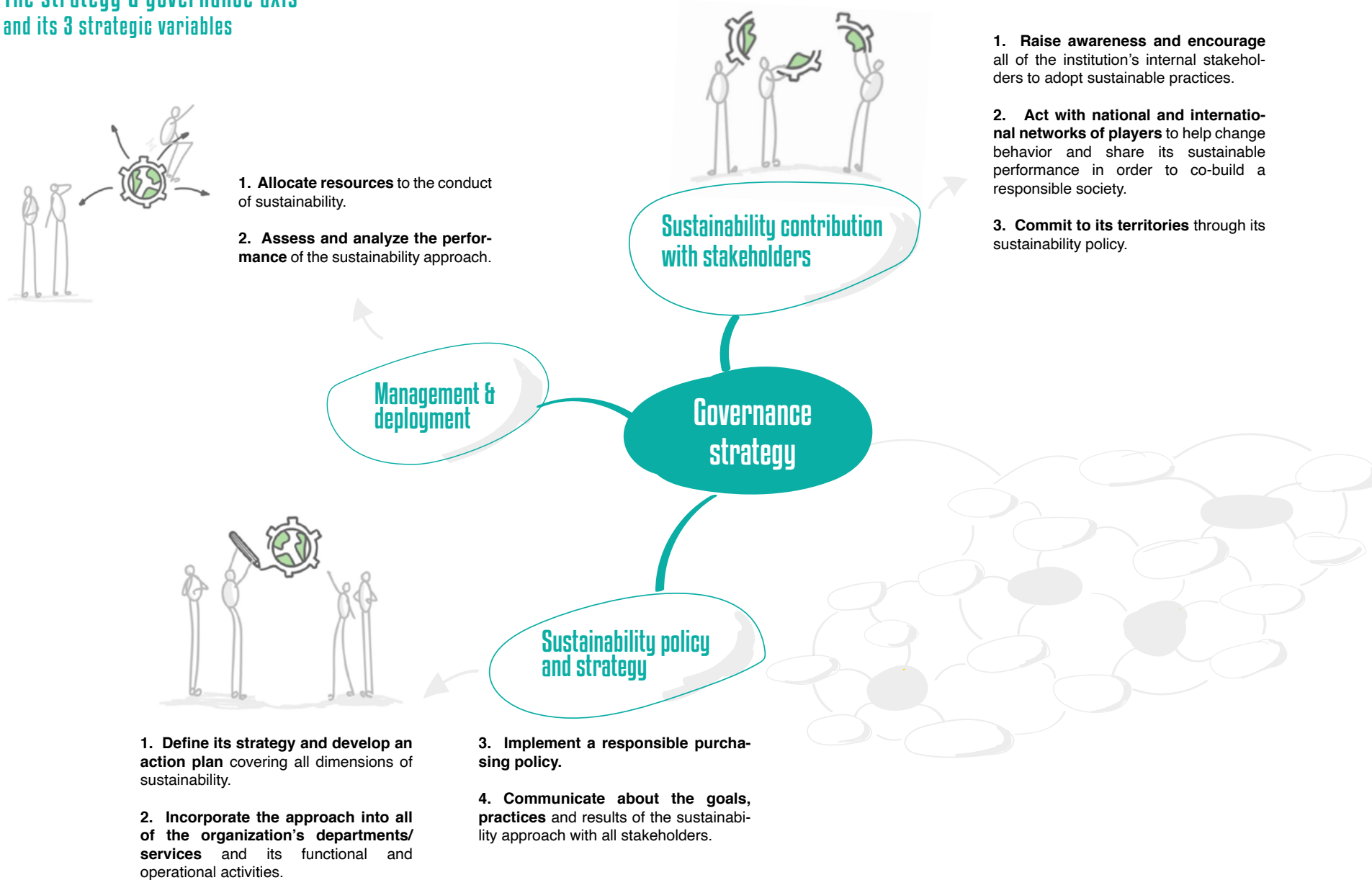
The 5 levels of self-assessment

Associated indicators and documents :



1+ : 1 indicator/document and more.

The strategy & governance axis and its 3 strategic variables



The environment axis and its 4 strategic variables



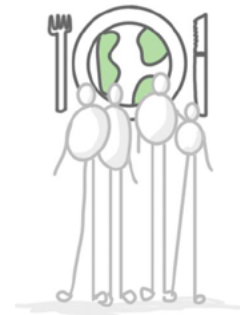
1. **Improve the management of organic liquid effluents** (reduction, control, treatment).

2. **Reduce, re-use, recycle waste** similar to household waste.

3. **Reduce, re-use, recycle, treat hazardous and specific waste** (except WEEE - Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) and hazardous liquid effluents.

4. **Reduce, re-use, recycle, treat WEEE.**

5. **Reduce and optimize the treatment of air pollution.**



Responsible food

1. **Implement a responsible food approach within the institution** with internal stakeholders and management delegates (under the institution's own control).

2. **Work with external stakeholders** to promote responsible food (institutional influence).

Environment

Pollution & waste

GHG & resource consumption

Biodiversity



1. **Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and practices.**

2. **Implement and incorporate environmental, social and energy performance criteria** with regard to usage into building specifications.

3. **Implement travel management** for internal stakeholders and an incentive policy for alternative travel.

4. **Implement an energy management system** for facilities and actions to improve the behavior of internal stakeholders.

5. **Reduce and optimize water consumption.**

1. **Implement sustainable management and act in favor of biodiversity** (natural and cultivated environments, landscaped and developed areas) on the institution's sites.

2. **Act in favor of biodiversity** (natural and cultivated environments, landscaped and developed areas) on **different territorial scales** (local and/or national and/or international) on sites outside the organization.

The social policy axis and its 4 strategic variables

1. Prepare the arrival of future learners regardless of their profiles.

2. Develop study/training conditions favorable to the success of learners with disabilities.

3. Develop study/training conditions favorable to the success of international students.

4. Develop study/training conditions that are conducive to the social openness of institutions and to the success of learners.

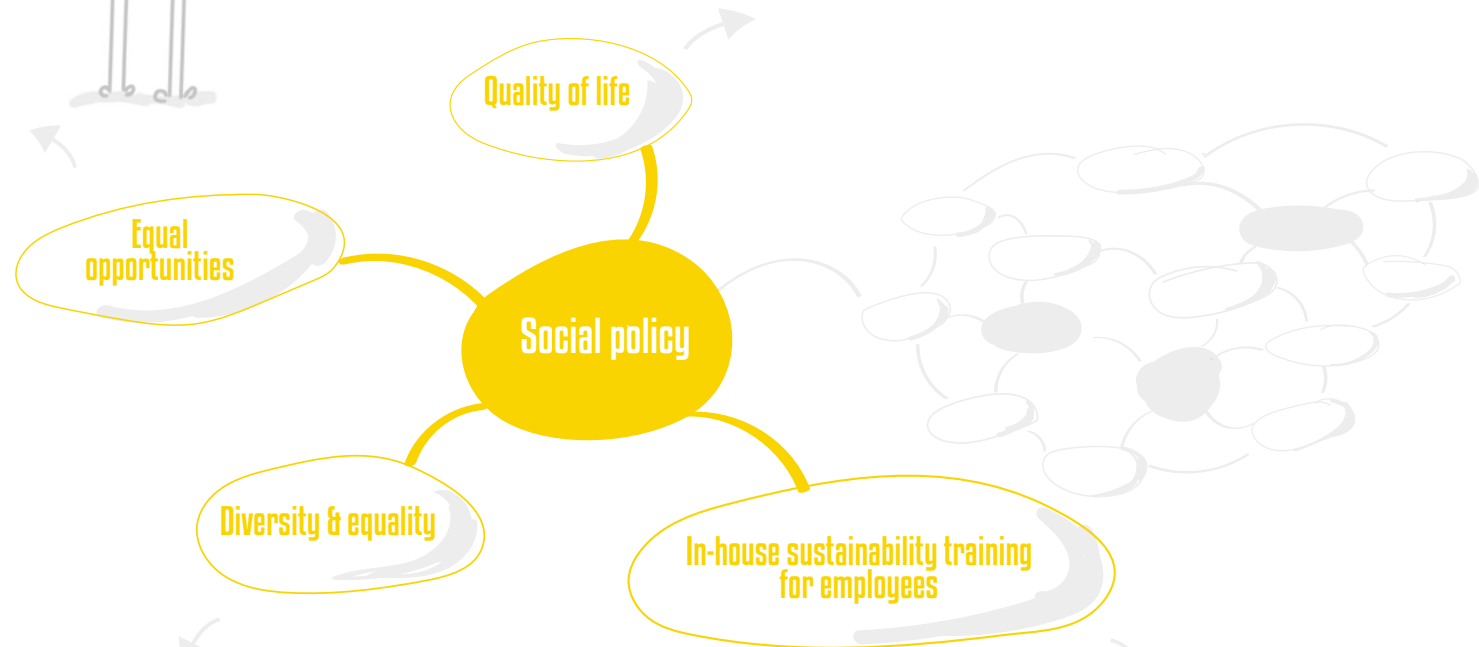
5. Promote the professional integration of students regardless of their profiles.



1. Implement a policy of prevention, health and safety (staff and/or students).

2. Implement a quality of life policy on the institution's site(s).

3. Implement a quality of life policy at work.



1. Implement actions in favor of parity in staff recruitment and promotion, in managerial and governance functions, in personnel representative bodies.

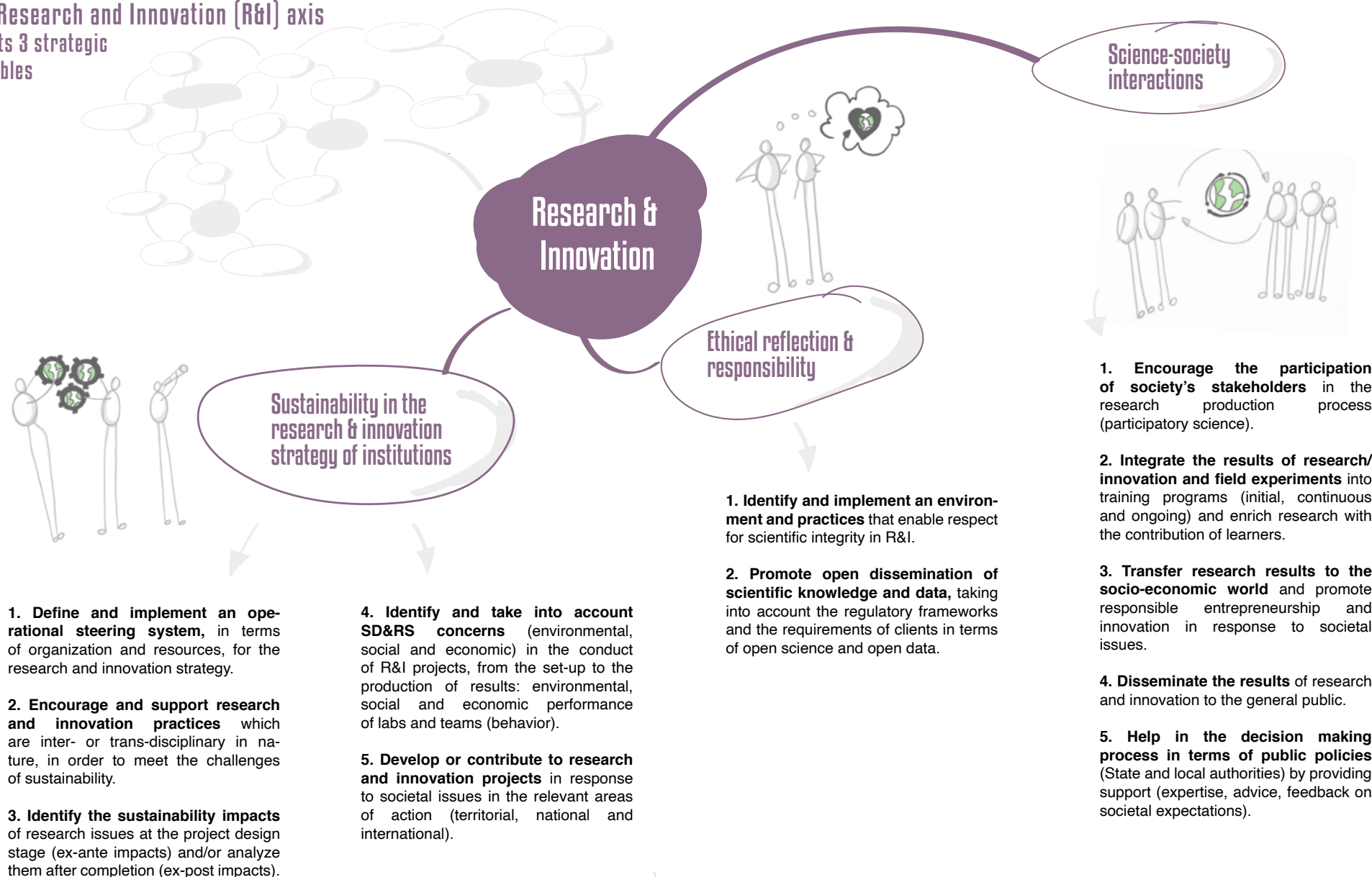
2. Implement actions in favor of diversity in staff recruitment and promotion.

1. Deploy a forward-looking management of jobs and skills dedicated to administrative, library and technical staff (support functions).

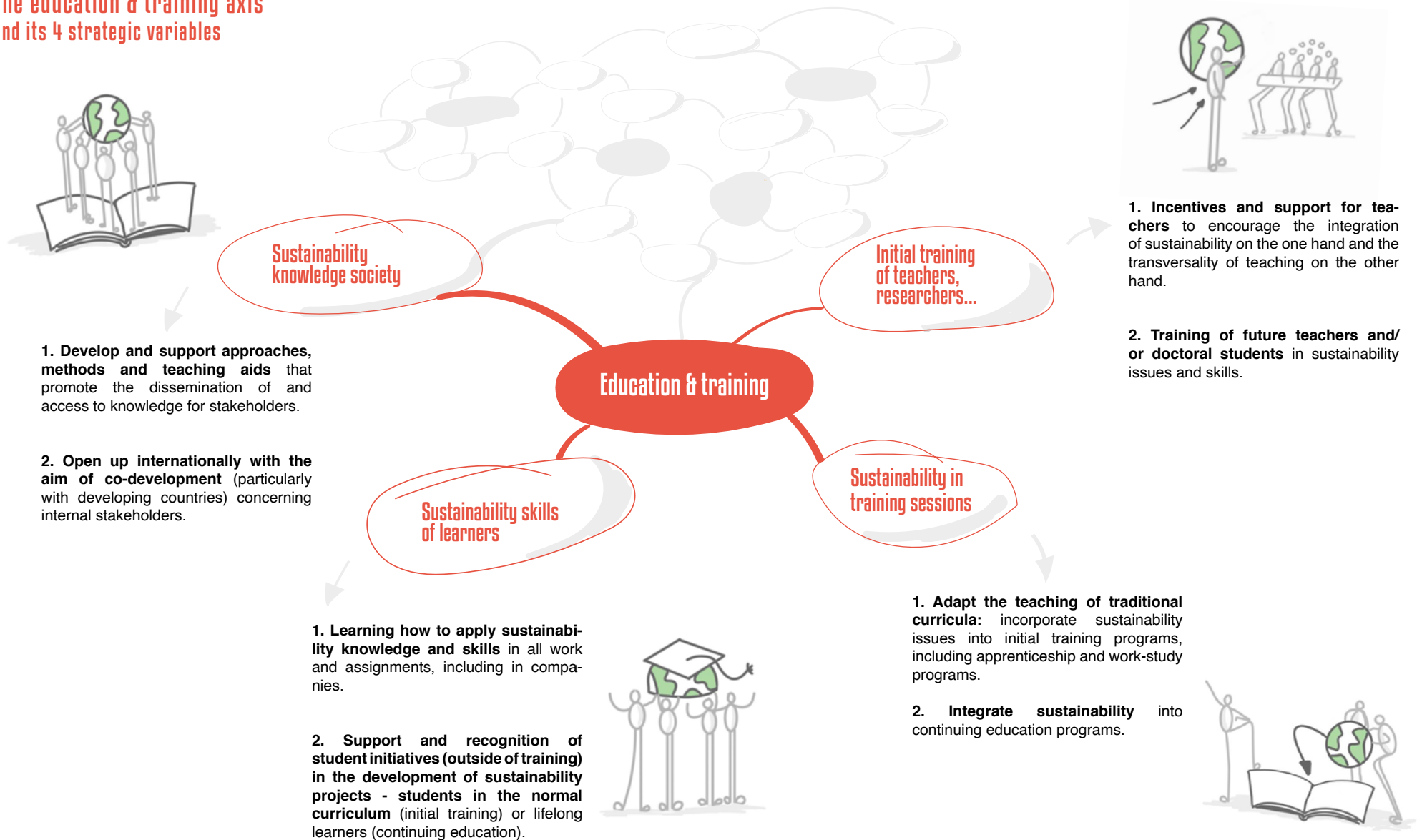
2. Deploy a forward-looking management of jobs and sustainability skills for staff dedicated to teaching and/or research.



The Research and Innovation (R&I) axis and its 3 strategic variables



The education & training axis and its 4 strategic variables



From self-assessment to certification

Do you want to know
your level?



TAKE A SELF-ASSESSMENT
free of charge using the
«DD&RS» reference system
on the PERSEES platform.

Would you like to
to read the reference
framework document ?



DOWNLOAD THE
«DD&RS» REFERENCE
FRAMEWORK
free of charge in Excel
format (Ministry of Higher
Education, Research and
Innovation website).

Do you want
to promote and encourage
your approach?



The «DD&RS» label

This label is administered by an
operator - CIRSES - which gives
volunteer institutions the opportunity
to apply for the certification, based
on specific eligibility criteria.

The entry threshold for the «DD&RS»
certification is 9 out of 18 strategic
variables at Level 3.



LEARN MORE
on the «DD&RS»
label via the PERSEES
platform.

Contacts



«DD&RS» Reference Framework

celine.leroy@cpu.fr
gerald.majou@cge.asso.fr

Self-assessment on PERSEES
and certification

contact@cirses.fr

The «DD&RS» reference framework is a public domain tool
designed by its users for its users under the aegis of the following institutions:



Document produced within the framework of the partnership organization of the colloquium
on responsible research and innovation on January 15, 2021
with the support of the following institutions:



Join us!

