

## Information for testing indicator statements

### About GET-AHED

GET-AHED is an Erasmus+-funded project that aims at supporting higher education institutions (HEIs) in their green transition via a dedicated online platform. The GET-AHED platform will comprise a set of three interconnected tools:

- (1) HE Green Assessment – a green sustainability self-assessment tool for HEIs which allows to assess HEIs' performance in defined dimensions (e.g. operations, organisational management, education, research, outreach). The tool has a strong focus on awareness raising and collaboration within HEIs; in contrast to other existing sustainability self-assessment tools, it is explicitly not aiming at establishing rankings or benchmarking.
- (2) HE Green Champion – a training tool for HEIs that comprises up to date training materials linked to the dimensions of the self-assessment tool. The training tool can be browsed openly by HEI-representatives or can be accessed via the self-assessment tool in case specific training is needed as revealed through the self-assessment.
- (3) HE Green Zero – a tool focused on energy efficiency in HEIs, providing good practices related to the dimensions of the self-assessment tool.

For more information, please visit <https://get-ahed.eu/>.

### About the indicator-statements

For developing HE Green Assessment, the GET-AHED consortium has established a set of indicator statements based on a dedicated methodology which comprises screening existing tools and meta-studies, peer reviews within the consortium, extended internal expert reviews in partner institutions and an external expert review through pilot HEIs. The aim is to come from a long list of indicators to a short list which will underly the HE Green Assessment tool. This means that part of testing the indicators is to eliminate those that future users consider irrelevant (i.e. shortening the list), but also reformulating or suggesting new indicators for a dimension.

An indicator in HE Green Assessment is usually presented as statement which can be evaluated through a 4- or 5-point Likert scale. For example:

**Example 1.** Dimension "Education" – Indicator-statement: *The HEI has a strategy of including environmental sustainability-related topics into different courses, following an interdisciplinary approach.*

**Example 2.** Dimension "Community and Outreach" – Indicator-statement: *The HEI provides mechanisms to involve students, staff's families and the community in environmental and sustainability-related activities.*

**Respondent categories (example):** N/A – 1 do not agree at all – 2 do not agree – 3 agree – 4 fully agree

Moreover, each indicator will come with an explanation of terms and advice what the HEI would need to have in place in order to score highly.

## The testing procedure

For testing the indicators, pilot HEIs will receive a link to an online survey in which they can evaluate all indicator-statements that have been formulated (approx. 60-80), esp. with a view to their relevance (including open text options for suggesting amendments) as well as further details on each of the dimensions. Pilot HEIs can access the survey freely and flexibly during the testing period (mid-September to mid-October – precise dates to be specified). In total, the test is supposed to take around 20-40 minutes.

## Your feedback is very much appreciated

The GET-AHED consortium is very grateful for receiving your feedback – the tool can only be relevant and have a high usability for the target group if HEIs are involved in its development. For rewarding your involvement, we will be happy to mention your participation as pilot-HEIs on our website as well as in our reporting to the European Commission, if you give us permission to do so.

For further questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at [get-ahed@wpz-research.com](mailto:get-ahed@wpz-research.com).