



Task Group on the integration of good, sustainable work and productive employment (SDG 8) in higher education

Dear Colleague,

With this message, we inform you about an important new project and invite you to a highly valued collaboration. Confronted with global threats to climate change, critical socio-economic developments and the new pandemic the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) deserve heightened attention. This also holds true for Universities, as their educational programs shape the knowledge, skills and actions of students, empowering them to become leaders and decision-makers of tomorrow's economy and society. One such goal, SDG 8, aiming at the promotion of decent work and productive employment, is the focus of our project and the reason why we get in touch with you.

We are leading a recently established Task Group, supported by the Global Coalition on Safety and Health at Work (coordinated by ILO), to learn more about the implementation of SDG 8 in distinct educational programs at Universities in a number of European countries. More specifically, given the prominent focus on safety, health and wellbeing, the following professional areas are considered: (1) Occupational Safety, Occupational Hygiene, and Ergonomics; (2) Occupational Medicine (in the medicine curriculum and in specialist further training for occupational physicians); (3) Human Resource Management (Business and Management Schools). With the help of a planned online study we want to know to what extent crucial aspects of SDG 8 are represented in distinct courses and modules within these programs. To this end, the Task Group has developed a short online questionnaire to assess related content and methods (*a preliminary draft is attached for your information*). It is the aim of the planned online survey to explore the current state of implementation of SDG 8 in these educational activities, to identify models of good practice, and to stimulate cross-border exchange and discussion. Importantly, all data collected by the questionnaire will be anonymized with regard to the participating institutions, as only collective data will be made available.

At this stage, our main challenge is to identify responsible academic leaders of such programs within Universities of selected European countries. As your country has been selected for this project and as you are a key professional within your discipline in your country, we would very much appreciate your collaboration. Therefore, we hope that you will



support us in meeting this challenge. For instance by informing us about Universities in your country offering education and training programs on the respective topics mentioned above. In case that a respective national society, association, or network is available in your country, your help in getting in touch with relevant persons would also be essential. Yet, there may be other ways of promoting our survey.

Dear Colleague, in view of the significance and potential impact of this project, we hope that you are interested in this collaboration, and we look forward to your answer.

With kind regards

Johannes Siegrist, PhD,
Senior Professor
Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf

Task Group Chair

Ulrike Bollmann, PhD.
International Cooperation Unit
Institute for Work and Health of
the German Social Accident Insurance
Task Group Co-Chair

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