



Economic, Social and Environmental Sustainability Plan

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Introduction

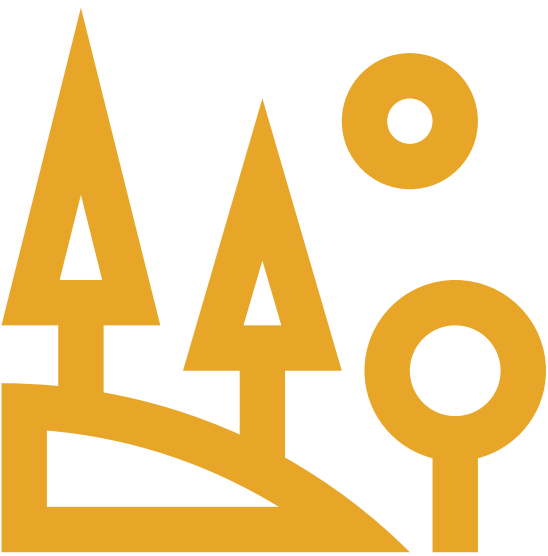
Sustainability is a cultural value of our organisation, as an institution of higher education, assuming a key role in the training of future generations of professionals and as a centre of knowledge. Our students are key players who can accelerate the effective digital transition and drive environmentally friendly digital processes.

These values of Sustainability assumed at ISTECS Lisbon are demonstrated right from the start in the Strategic Plan (2021-2026), which is defined under - Organization and Management, specifically in point d) "Implement the objectives set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in terms of economic, social and environmental sustainability."

To achieve these commitments, we take into account the knowledge of our reality through the implementation of an Environmental Management System, the reduction of the environmental impact of our activity, the promotion of the welfare and safety conditions of our academic community, the dialogue and interaction with external partners and the constant search for innovative products and services that respond to the emerging challenges of our society, as well as the awareness and training of our academic community, with special emphasis and concern for students.

The Sustainability Policy takes into account our commitment to Economic, Social and Environmental Sustainability, actively contributing to the disclosure of values associated with the sustainability of the planet and the Sustainable Development Goals recommended by the United Nations Agenda 2030.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all member states of the United Nations in 2015, includes 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs), representing a global partnership among all countries to combat the problems that the progress of the current development model has created, such as climate change and increasing inequalities. Adopting and fulfilling the sustainable development goals is intended to achieve and promote an inclusive, regenerative and sustainable future for the next generations.



The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), are:

1. Eradicate poverty,
2. Eradicate hunger,
3. Quality health,
4. Quality education,
5. Gender equality,
6. Potable water and sanitation,
7. Renewable and affordable energy,
8. Decent work and economic growth,
9. Industry, innovation and infrastructure,
10. Reducing inequalities,
11. Sustainable cities and communities,
12. Sustainable production and consumption,
13. Climate action,
14. Marine life protection,
15. Terrestrial life protection,
16. Peace, justice, and effective institutions,
17. Partnerships for the implementation of the goals.

ISTEC Lisbon is consciously under a strong commitment to Agenda 2030, contributing, as an institution of higher education, to the preparation of conscientious and responsible citizens for a future that is more sustainable and inclusive, and that promotes the mitigation of climate change.

ISTEC Lisbon Sustainability Policy

ISTEC Lisbon's Sustainability Policy is based on a set of commitments that guide our daily activities, starting with the commitment to sustainable development, which when applied to our practice aims to simultaneously achieve full compliance with our mission, economic prosperity, the well-being of our entire academic community, environmental responsibility, and social equity.



Thus, ISTECLisbon's Sustainability Policy is established:

1. Comply with and respect the legal, regulatory, and normative requirements in effect, as well as the additional requirements subscribed to or implemented, in the different dimensions of Sustainability.
2. Promote the creation of an informed and inclusive academic community, based on a society of know-how, aligned with the highly professionalizing design, with the adequacy of a training project and a quality professional performance, including the creation, transmission and sharing of scientific knowledge related to Sustainability in the various scientific fields of the training offer.
3. Procure products and services based on clear and impartial criteria for the selection of suppliers/service providers, seeking to honour all institutional commitments to sustainability.
4. Reduce the ecological footprint and the negative environmental impacts resulting from institutional activities, in a perspective of increasingly conscious and rational use of the available resources, adjusting management and support processes, and making all interested parties aware of the importance and impact of our activity locally and globally.
5. To create a work environment that stimulates creativity, diversity, and continuous improvement, and respects individual and collective rights, focusing on work-life balance and the creation of economic, social, and environmentally responsible value.
6. Invest in human capital, recruiting employees and promoting their training, qualification, and professional and personal empowerment, through activities that generate economic, social and environmental value.
7. Assume environmental protection and respect for the principles and commitments listed in this sustainability policy as a strong component of economic, social and environmental responsibility in the institution's strategic planning and annual activities, deeply articulated with the institutional mission and with ethical and transparent conduct.

Objectives of the Sustainability Plan

To achieve the commitments of the Sustainability Policy, its operationalization is necessary, through a set of ideas, strategies, and attitudes that are ecologically correct, economically viable, socially fair, and culturally diverse.

Thus, ISTECLisbon's sustainability policy is developed around 3 points:

1. Economic Sustainability

Economic Sustainability is the ability to maintain and stimulate a healthy and resilient economic system in the long term, that meets the present and future needs of societies, ensuring a balance between economic growth, efficiency, equity, and stability, in this sense, ISTECLisbon has as fundamental principles:

- Resource efficiency: maximizing productivity and minimizing waste of natural resources, energy, water, and other inputs by implementing more efficient technologies and sustainable management practices, as well as stimulating responsible management of resources, such as water and paper, through conservation and recycling.
- Investment in renewable energy: invest in renewable energy sources, such as installing solar panels on the Lumiar Academic Campus, to reduce the dependence on fossil fuels and lower energy costs in the long term.
- Economic diversification: promoting economic diversification, reducing the dependence on specific economic sectors or activities, to increase resilience and adaptability to external changes.
- Social Responsibility: adoption of ethical, transparent, and socially responsible practices, considering the social-economic impacts, seeking the benefit of the academic community, such as financial support to students with financial problems (Protocol for Students at Risk and in Need and Regulation of Students with Special Educational Needs).
- Partnership development and fundraising: explore opportunities for partnerships with companies, local organizations, and government agencies seeking additional funding and resources for sustainable projects, this may involve partnerships for research and development programs, scholarships, or scientific projects that address social and environmental challenges.
- Promotion of sustainable procurement practices: the guidelines for purchasing and contracting that prioritize products and services with lower environmental impact, such as recycled, organic, fair trade and low carbon footprint products, encouraging the use of local and socially responsible suppliers whenever possible.

2. Social Sustainability

Social Sustainability is the ability to meet the present and future needs of the academic community, ensuring social well-being, equal opportunities, and respect for human rights to promote a fair and inclusive society. By stimulating social sustainability, ISTECLisbon seeks to create a fairer, more equitable and inclusive institution where everyone can thrive and enjoy a good quality of life, in this sense, ISTECLisbon's fundamental principles are:

- Diversity, inclusion, and equity: developing and implementing policies and programs that promote diversity and inclusion, creating a welcoming environment for the entire academic community regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation, as well as people with disabilities and impairments.

- Education for sustainability: integrating sustainability-related content across different curricular units, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of sustainability challenges and solutions, and empowering them to become agents of change.
- Participation: involving the academic community in decisions that affect their lives, promoting the active participation of civil society, dialogue, and collaboration between different bodies.
- Respect for human rights: guaranteeing and respecting basic human rights, such as dignity, freedom, equality, non-discrimination, and security.
- Community development: strengthening local communities, and promoting sustainable development at the local level, together with local partners such as the Lumiar Parish Council and the Lisbon City Council.
- Social well-being: promoting the physical, mental, and social well-being of the academic community, ensuring access to health, education, culture, leisure and security services.

3. Environmental Sustainability

Environmental Sustainability is how human activities can be carried out in a way that preserves the environment and ensures the responsible use of material resources meeting the needs of present generations without compromising future generations, in this sense, ISTECLISBON has as its fundamental principles:

- Reduce energy consumption: implement energy efficiency measures, such as installing LED lighting, motion sensors, and more efficient heating/cooling systems.
- Promote proper waste management: implement campus-wide recycling and composting programs, provide suitable containers, and raise awareness among the academic community about the importance of proper waste separation.
- Water conservation: identify and fix leaks, install low-flow faucets, and promote responsible water use practices, such as raising awareness about turning off faucets or using efficient irrigation equipment in green spaces.
- Promotion of sustainable mobility: encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking by providing adequate infrastructure such as bike lanes, bicycle parking and incentives for the use of sustainable transport, through awareness programs on the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality.
- Awareness of the Academic Community: implementing the disclosure of knowledge about environmental challenges and the importance of sustainability, aiming at changing attitudes and behaviour towards a more sustainable lifestyle.

Economic, Social and Environmental Sustainability Plan

To implement and promote ISTECS Lisbon's policy of economic, social and environmental sustainability, it is necessary to involve the entire academic community, including students, faculty and researchers, and technical, administrative, and management staff, through educational campaigns, participatory activities, and volunteer opportunities in sustainable projects.

To operationalize ISTECS Lisbon's sustainability policy, the following plan, with a time horizon of two years (2022-2023), has been elaborated:

Plan

		Actions	Temporal Horizon		Responsibility
			2022	2023	
SUSTAINABILITY	Economic	Disclosure and application of the ISTECS Lisbon's deprived and at-risk student protocol.	X	X	- ISTECS Management
		Implement sustainable practices and technologies to improve the institution's operational efficiency, reducing costs and increasing resilience.	X	X	- ISTECS Management
		Reduce paper usage by implementing electronic systems for internal communications and digital documents.	X	X	ISTECS Management ITA's Management
		Encourage the reuse or donation of used materials, such as books and equipment.	X	X	ISTECS Management ITA's Management
		Establish sustainable purchasing guidelines, prioritizing products, and services from socially and environmentally responsible suppliers.	X	X	ITA's Management
		Preference for products with ecological or fair-trade certifications.	X	X	ITA's Management
		Establish partnerships with local suppliers, supporting the regional economy and reducing the transportation-related carbon footprint.	X	X	ITA's Management
		Explore government incentive programs and partnerships with specialized companies to make the adoption of renewable energy financially feasible.	X	X	ISTECS Management ITA's Management
		Encourage the use of public transportation, cycling and walking by providing adequate infrastructure such as bicycle parking and bike lanes.	X	X	- ISTECS Management
		Establish partnerships with local businesses and organizations to promote joint sustainability initiatives.	X	X	- ISTECS Management
		Participate in local sustainability forums, conferences, and networks to share experiences and improve applied practices.	X	X	- ISTECS Management

SUSTAINABILITY	Social	Disclosure of ISTECS Lisbon's Sustainability Plan to the academic community.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Awareness-raising of students, faculty, researchers, and technical, administrative, and management staff to support the implementation of the measures contained in the Sustainability Plan.	X	X	ISTEC Management Pedagogic Council
		Dissemination of the Code of Ethics and Conduct throughout the academic community.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Disclosure of the Gender Equality and Non-Discrimination Plan throughout the academic community.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Disclosure of the Regulations for Students with Special Educational Needs.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Stimulate awareness actions for equal working conditions without discrimination.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Promote programmatic content in course units that specifically mention sustainability as a goal to achieve and what strategies to achieve it.	X	X	ISTEC Management Course Directors and Coordinators
		Participation of ISTECS Lisbon student teams in relevant initiatives with an impact on sustainability.	X	X	ISTEC Management Course Directors and Coordinators
	Environmental	Replacement of all lighting (interior and exterior) in the buildings used by ISTECS Lisbon, with LED technology lighting.	X		ITA's Management
		Placement of motion sensors for the lighting of the common areas, to turn them off when there is no presence or passage of people in the place.	X		ITA's Management
		Replacement of the existing projectors in the classrooms with more modern and energy-efficient Laser-Led projectors.	X		ITA's Management
		Replacement of the existing air conditioners in the classrooms with more modern and efficient equipment, with a minimum energy class of A+, programmed to turn off automatically if no movement is detected in the classroom.	X	X	ITA's Management
		Replacement of all existing faucets in the bathrooms with faucets with timers, which allows for a substantial reduction in water use.	X		ITA's Management
		Rehabilitation of all bathrooms (male, female, and for people with reduced mobility), with the replacement of all outdated plumbing, placement of timer taps, flushing cisterns with selective flush systems and water flush volume adjustment, and placement of recycled consumables.	X		ITA's Management

SUSTAINABILITY	Environmental	Replacement of computer equipment in classrooms/laboratories and the various offices (mainly computers and monitors), for more modern and efficient equipment, with a minimum energy class of A+, programmed to automatically shut down at the end of each day.	X	X	ITA's Management
		Replacement of servers and network equipment, at the NOC - Network Operations Centre, for more modern and efficient equipment, with a minimum energy class of A+, programmed to go into standby mode when not in use.	X	X	ITA's Management
		Replacement of all the institution's publicity materials (leaflets, brochures, gifts, among others), with exclusively recyclable materials that promote reuse.	X	X	ITA's Management
		Placement in all buildings of recycling bins, to easily separate and recycle glass, metal, plastic, paper and organic waste, easily identifiable by the colours of their lids and with additional information to introduce the concepts of recycling and which materials to recycle correctly.	X		ITA's Management
		Placement of photovoltaic panels (starting in 2019), allowing for an increase in installed power using renewable energy.	X	X	ITA's Management
		Reduction in the use of office consumables, investing in the dematerialization of processes that have been implemented, leveraged by the digital transition.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Use of pitchers/cups/glass mugs with water at meetings, conferences, or other similar events.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Promoting the use of reusable bottles in everyday life.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Optimize the irrigation systems according to the existing weather conditions, avoiding irrigation during hotter periods.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Promote awareness actions among the academic community for water-saving measures.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
		Use computer support preferably to send and analyse documents.	X	X	ISTEC Management ITA's Management
Promote applied research projects related to environmental technology.	X	X	Advanced Computing Research Unit		

Plan Monitoring

The monitoring of the sustainability plan and reports to assess progress towards the goals of economic, social and environmental sustainability will be the responsibility of ISTECLisbon's management, the management of the ITA (instituting body), the Secretary-General of ISTECLisbon and the President of the Scientific-Technical Council, and may include key performance indicators such as energy consumption, waste reduction, operational costs and the commitment of the academic community, and its monitoring should be done biannually.

