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Education for Sustainable Development at University (ESDU)

An initiative targeted at the transversal promotion of education for sustainable development at universities

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Fundació Autònoma Solidària (FAS) & Associació Catalana d'Universitats Públiques (ACUP).

Consistent with UN's global agenda and underway since 2013, the ESDU project is an initiative aimed at promoting education for sustainable development (ESD) throughout higher education institutions, in order to enhance universities' role in creating a committed citizenry that will take action in the face of unjust situations on a local – global scale.

ESDU is applied simultaneously in two intervention areas: the *Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona* (UAB) and our network, which involves the Catalan public universities and stakeholders at a national and international level. The UAB is where we operate directly through a series of actions, which involve teachers training, ESD task forces at different faculties, workshops on the Sustainable Development Goals and the global agenda, a sustainable development and global citizenship specialization programme and an ESD pedagogical resource bank. ESDU's network allows operating at a different level where we are capable to mobilize relevant stakeholders and influence decision-making throughout social and higher education institutions. Our action is mainly focused on the Catalan public universities where we have been able to initiate different participatory processes such as seminars and an ESD task force to align stakeholder's agenda and set the ground for collaborative efforts. Parallel to that, we have published an assessment report to analyse the state of art of ESD in the Catalan public universities and we are working on another report to research on initiatives aimed at promoting ESD in higher education institutions. Last but not least, we are expanding our network into the national and international scene to coordinate our project with other initiatives and strengthen our influence in the local and global grounds.

This project ultimately intends to contribute to a more prepared society capable of facing XXI century's economic, social, political and environmental challenges by changing educational processes throughout higher education institutions.

The project is led by *Fundació Autònoma Solidària* (FAS) in collaboration with the *Associació Catalana d'Universitats Públiques* (ACUP) with the support of the *Ajuntament de Barcelona*.

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