

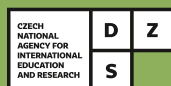


CZECH NATIONAL AGENCY
FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
AND RESEARCH (DZS)

Environmental Sustainability

Action Plan

**Priorities in the 2021–2027 programming period
in the field of Environmental Sustainability
for the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps
programmes**





Strategy

Environmental Sustainability is one of the **horizontal priorities** of the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps programmes. It is also a priority of the Czech National Agency for International Education and Research (DZS) itself, and its implementation contributes to the development of the National Agency. At the National Agency level, the field of sustainability is overseen by the **Green Officer**, who coordinates a **working group** composed of representatives from the various sectors of the National Agency. The sustainability strategy is implemented through specific actions outlined in an **Action Plan**.

Priority No 1

Cross-sectoral

1

Aim

Increasing awareness of the priority of Environmental Sustainability among Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps grant beneficiaries

Target

Knowledge building of the grant beneficiaries in the field of Environmental Sustainability and deepening our support and cooperation towards them.

Ways to reach the target

The DZS aims to actively support applicants and beneficiaries of financial resources through various informational activities aimed at raising awareness of priorities in environmental sustainability within projects funded by the Erasmus+ programme. Some of these tools are informational seminars, webinars and conferences designed to provide useful knowledge, tools, and practical tips on how to integrate environmental sustainability into projects. Participants in these seminars, webinars and conferences will have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the content of strategic documents issued by the European Commission, providing them with the necessary knowledge and perspective for the successful implementation of projects with an emphasis on environmental sustainability. In this way, the DZS seeks to strengthen the competencies and awareness of applicants and beneficiaries regarding the importance of environmental protection and efforts to reduce the impacts of climate change within the Erasmus+ programme.

Monitoring of progress

The DZS will conduct monitoring of the process based on the number of seminars, webinars, and other activities covering the topic of sustainability and assesses whether all activities of the National Agency aimed at applicants and grant beneficiaries include the theme of raising awareness about the priority of environmental sustainability.

Priority No 2

Cross-sectoral



Aim

Increasing awareness of the opportunities of the programmes regarding environmental sustainability

Target

Knowledge building of the professional public about the topic of environmental sustainability in international education and sharing of best practices.

Ways to reach the target

The DZS actively spreads awareness about environmental sustainability through regular publication of articles on its website, social media platforms, and other periodicals focusing on sustainability topics. The content of these posts targets various areas of environmental sustainability, including the content of strategic documents issued by the European Commission and National Authorities, successful projects, implemented actions, and innovative initiatives. The DZS thus actively supports the sharing of knowledge and experience in the field of environmental sustainability and contributes to reducing the impacts of climate change. In this way, the DZS helps create an environment for future projects and activities focused on environmental sustainability.

Monitoring of progress

The DZS will conduct monitoring of the process based on the number of published posts focused on environmental sustainability.

Priority No 3

Cross-sectoral

3

Aim

Strengthening common understanding of Environmental Sustainability and reflection of the priority in the programmes

Target

Enhancing the knowledge base of DZS' staff in the realm of sustainability.

Ways to reach the target

Introduction of DZS employees to fundamental information about climate change mitigation is crucial for a comprehensive understanding of current environmental challenges. In this context, it is important for employees to have access to relevant strategic documents issued by the European Union, the European Commission, and National Authorities. These documents provide a framework for actions and policies aimed at reducing the impacts of climate change and promoting sustainable development. Blog articles and MeetUps can be effective tools for sharing this information and encouraging active participation of employees in the effort towards a more sustainable future.

Monitoring of progress

The DZS will conduct monitoring of the process based on the number of employees who confirm a rising trend in increasing their awareness of environmental sustainability issues within their responses to the employee questionnaire.

Priority No 4

Cross-sectoral



Aim

Responsible functioning of DZS

Target

Reduction of energy demand of buildings and responsible consumption.

Ways to reach the target

DZS is taking measures to reduce the energy demand of its buildings in accordance with WP 2024 and 2025. These steps include implementing a wide range of measures focused on improving the energy efficiency of buildings, such as installing energy-saving heating systems, lighting, and optimizing water consumption management. The aim of these measures is not only to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions but also to enhance the comfort of the environment for building users and to reduce operational costs. In accordance with the DZS strategy, the principles of responsible consumption are also integrated into the requirements directed at external suppliers responsible for the practical aspects of DZS activities. DZS thus actively contributes to environmental protection and the implementation of sustainable principles in its operations, aligning with long-term strategies and goals in environmental sustainability. In this way, DZS declares its commitment to environmental protection and contributes to global efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Monitoring of progress

DZS will conduct monitoring of the process through measuring the impacts of the implemented measures. The indicator will be the quantification of the reduction in the building's energy consumption in a manner that reflects the optimization of operational costs.



This Action Plan will be revised annually.

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