

ECO-SCHOOLS, A PROMISING PROGRAM FOR THE HOLISTIC INTEGRATION OF SUSTAINABILITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Josélia Pedro^{1*}, Paula Oliveira², Ana Carvalho³, Margarida Malcata⁴
and Pedro Romano⁵

1*: Departamento de Artes, Design e Animação
Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre, Campus Politécnico, Portalegre, Portugal

2: CARE (Center for Research in Health and Social Sciences), Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre
Campus Politécnico, Portalegre, Portugal

3: Departamento de Ciências Agrárias e Veterinárias
Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre, Campus Politécnico, Portalegre, Portugal

4: Departamento de Ciências e Tecnologias da Saúde
Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre, Campus Politécnico, Portalegre, Portugal

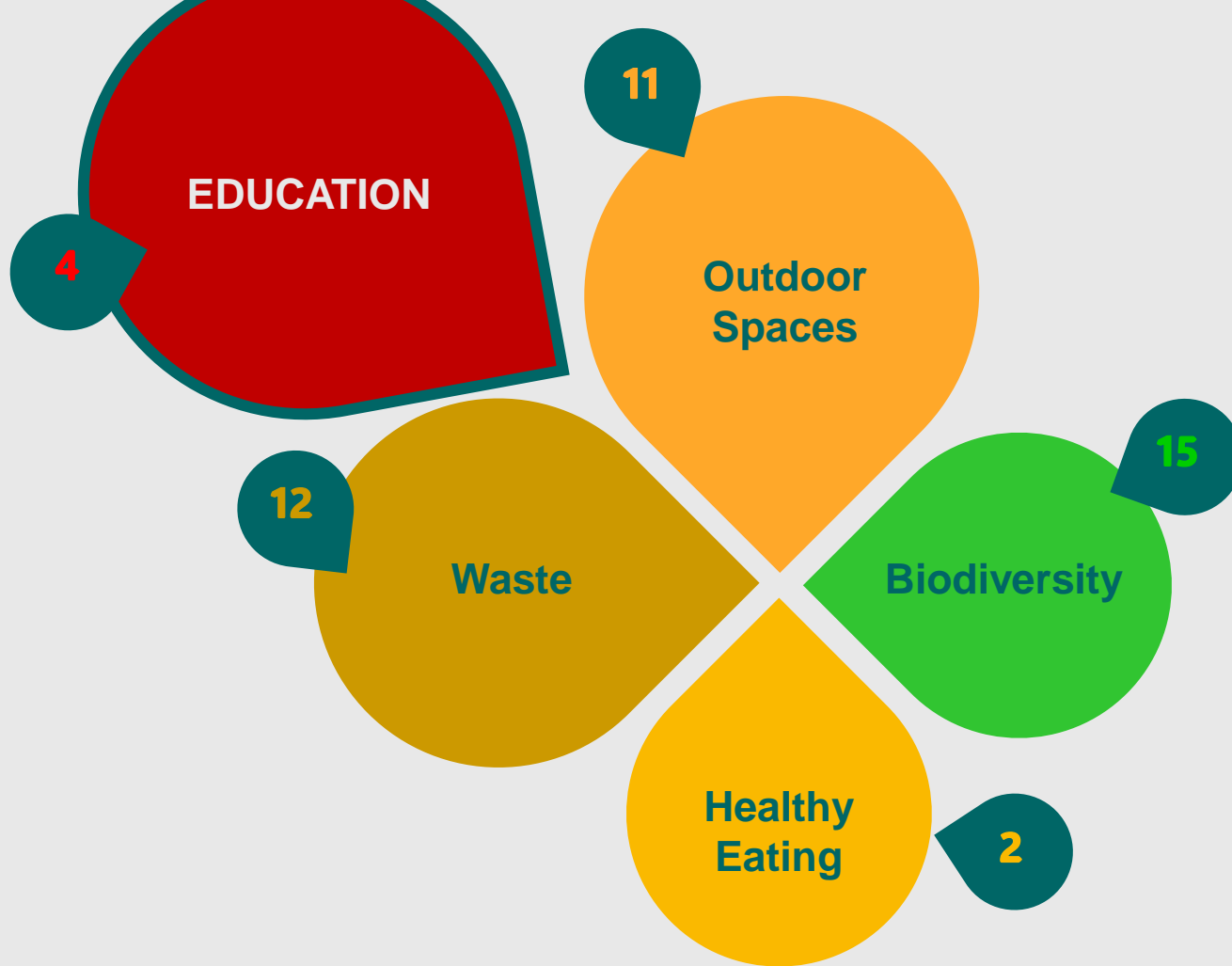
5: VALORIZA-Research Centre for Endogenous Resource Valorization
Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre, Campus Politécnico, Portalegre, Portugal

CAMPUS POLITÉCNICO* Instituto Politécnico de Portalegre

Escola Superior de **Tecnologia, Gestão e Design**

Escola Superior de **Saúde**





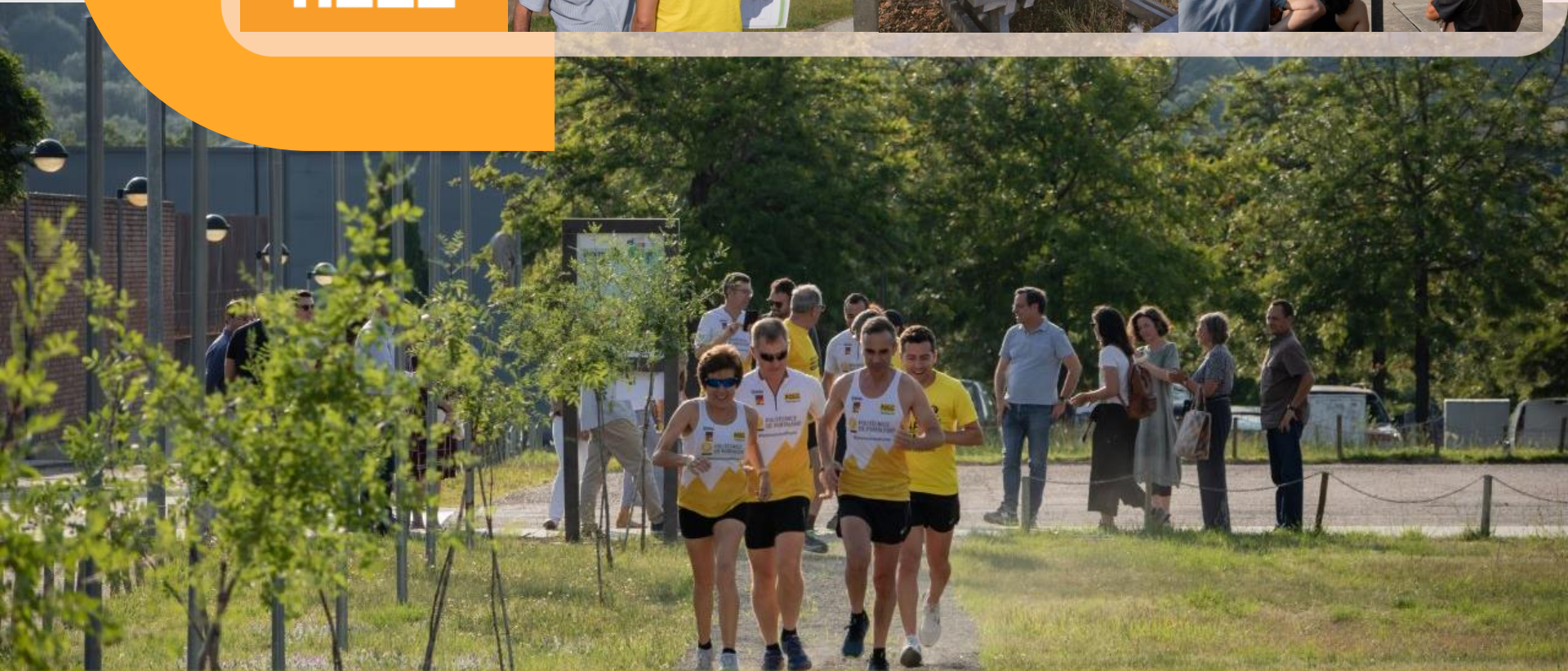
Eco-Schools program into higher education has made it possible to evaluate the aspects involved in sustainability. With a diagnosis of the institution's state of sustainability and plan the actions needed to mitigate the most pressing aspects, we can add sustainability to the focus of HEIs and promote Sustainable Development Goals. The ESTGD and ESS contributed to many SDG, but we highlight those that made it possible to improve waste management, bring life to outdoor spaces, promote healthy eating and knowledge of local biodiversity, because these were topics that we realized together.

12 PRODUÇÃO E CONSUMO SUSTENTÁVEIS



Through the program, "Onde Estiveres, Recicla Sempre" (SPV), we implemented the selective collection of paper, plastic and glass waste. Furthermore, we removed the traditional bins from classrooms and teachers' offices and built containers to separate organic and undifferentiated waste.

11 CIDADES E
COMUNIDADES
SUSTENTÁVEIS



As a contribution to SDG 11, we highlight the construction of the eco-trail, which allowed the creation of areas for exercising, leisure areas and specific areas to learn about the Campus's biodiversity. The eco-trail route was designed to connect with the outside of the Campus and be a walking or sports option for the city. This project was integrated into the curricular units and we used co-design methods to carry it out.

15 PROTEGER A VIDA TERRESTRE



In the Portalegre region is the São Mamede Natural Park, rich in biodiversity. In collaboration with Instituto de Conservação da Natureza e das Florestas (ICNF) we often organize walking tours to learn about biodiversity and take the opportunity to clean the area where we walk.

15 PROTEGER A
VIDA TERRESTRE



BIODOCUMENTÁRIO
ESTG / IPP

SERRA DE S.MAMEDE




The activities carried out in outdoor spaces involved curricular and extracurricular activities that foster connections with green spaces, and which, by using collaborative methods, seek to increase knowledge about the Campus's biodiversity in the academic community in an integrated and awareness-raising way.

2 ERRADICAR A FOME



Another activity that we have given importance to is promoting healthy eating and encouraging sharing. In the image we see a picnic in the Campus gardens and baskets of fruit to share with the academic community. As the Campus is located in a rural area, we encourage the sharing of fruit for those who have surplus production.



It can be concluded that the implementation of the Eco-school's program at ESTGD and ESS has made a significant contribution to diagnosing problems relating to the sustainability of HEIs and has made it possible to integrate a focus on sustainability into the actions of HEIs. We believe this focus can contribute to "quality education" (SDG 4), integrating fundamental social values for the development of a promising environmental and social awareness, but it is still necessary evaluate the contribution of this program in this area, in a future analysis.



Obrigada

joselia@ipportalegre.pt
paulaoliveira@ipportalegre.pt
ana.gama.carvalho@ipportalegre.pt
margaridamalcata@ipportalegre.pt
promano@ipportalegre.pt