



## The importance of reducing the impact of EU-funded projects. The SUSTAIN E+ tool.

With programmes such as Erasmus+, which plans to fund the mobility of around 10 million people in Europe and around the world between 2021 and 2027, as well as quantities of transnational collaborative projects in the education sector, the environmental impact of European projects can be considerable.

This contradicts one of the key priorities of this programme, which is the fight against climate change. For this reason, the Spanish company <u>MEUS</u>, together with the consulting firm <u>Novotec</u> and a consortium of several European entities, developed the <u>SUSTAIN E+</u> project, an initiative also funded by the Erasmus+ programme.

The results of this project are twofold:

- -On the one hand, to help professionals evaluate the impact of their activities, thus increasing their awareness of this issue.
- -And on the other hand, to train professionals working with European funds to reduce the environmental impact of their projects, starting from the conception stage itself.

Thanks to this project, the <u>Sustain E+ self-assessment tool</u> has been created, which allows the environmental impact of projects to be assessed. This tool provides important information on the level of performance of each project, increasing managers' awareness of the impact of their activities, and providing keys to reduce that impact. This tool is complemented by an <u>online course</u>, which is particularly useful now that many organisations are entering the period of preparation of new Erasmus+ project proposals. This course not only provides tools for better project management, but also for better conceptualization, as the preparation stage is also key to a low-impact implementation.

The Valencia Chamber of Commerce and Industry works regularly with European funds, and aware of the impact they can have, is currently using the <u>SUSTAIN E+</u> project for two Erasmus+ projects it is leading: the <u>Green Chambers</u> project, which encourages the adoption of ESG plans by Chambers of Commerce, and the recently started AI4GreenSMEs. that helps SMEs use new AI tools in their transformation towards green business models.

With these actions, the Valencia Chamber of Commerce also confirms its commitment to the transformation of the business fabric of our region towards more sustainability.

For more information on the Sustain E+ initiative, please contact info@meuskills.eu





