

## 17 - 23 May 2026: SOUTH WESTPHALIA INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

There is no future without thinking, acting, and living sustainably. In summer 2026, we at South Westphalia UAS would like to invite you to our Erasmus+ South Westphalia International Sustainability Week where we will discuss sustainable futures by exploring the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), global guideposts for sustainable action.

Designed as field-specific blended modules on individual SDGs in engineering and early childhood education, we will all meet in our campus location Soest from 17 to 23 May 2026 to examine what sustainability can be for us as individuals and in our disciplines. Participating in field excursions and group activities, students will acquire skills for sustainable awareness based on the framework of the Inner Development Goals tailored to their disciplines/recognized in their home study program.

Come and join us for an exciting summer experience to contribute to a sustainable future. 😊

### MODUL

Quality Education (SDG 4): "Kids for Future"- exploring sustainability aspects in early childhood					
Short name	Workload	Credit Points	Preparatory	Face-to-Face	Conclusion and final project work
KfF	90 h/ 150 h	3 ECTS/ 5 ECTS	1 x 3 h (online) + 20 h self-study phase	International Sustainability Week 45 h	2 x 3 h (online) + 10 h self-study phase (project work for extra 2 ECTS, only for South Westphalia students )

1	Group size	International students	German students
		6 to 12	4 to 6

2	Contents
	<p>How can we address aspects of sustainability to children aged 1 to 6 - without frightening them? This is the main question we will follow in this modul.</p> <p>Preparatory work in the home country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Concept of sustainability: what kind of knowledge, acting and values is needed in early childhood and later?</li> <li>▪ What challenges arise from aspects of sustainability in the different countries?</li> <li>▪ How can these challenges be addressed to children aged 1- 6 - without frightening them?</li> <li>▪ How can these challenges be addressed to ECEC-Students and -Educators - without frightening them?</li> <li>▪ First ideas for motivating experiments and learning arrangements with children</li> </ul> <p>During the International Sustainability Week Students and lecturers will discuss and compare selected aspects of sustainability challenges from an international perspective and create practical ideas and material that motivate children and educators to explore technical issues. These ideas will be discussed with educators during field trips.</p> <p>Back in their home country, the jointly developed ideas are put into practice with children, discussed with educators and evaluated.</p> <p>Results, experiences and feedback will be exchanged in a follow-up online meeting.</p>

<b>3</b>	<p><b>Learning outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Comparative insight into sustainability issues in different countries</li> <li>▪ Theoretical knowledge about climate change and knowledge how to address this topic to children, students and educators without frightening them</li> <li>▪ Integration of teaching methods such as literature education and STEAM (STEM) in teaching sustainable lifestyles and supporting children's conceptualization</li> <li>▪ Reflecting on the values of students in relation to teaching sustainable lifestyle themes</li> <li>▪ Improvement of the ability to discuss in international teams:</li> </ul>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Teaching and learning methods</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inverted classroom setting: Preparation via online teaching with short lectures and self-study phases (independent reading of assigned course material) before and after the face-to-face phase during the International Sustainability Week</li> <li>▪ Lectures face-to-face during the International Sustainability Week</li> <li>▪ Field trips during the International Sustainability Week;</li> <li>▪ Field trips to ECEC-Center in Soest and home country</li> <li>▪ Interviews about education for sustainable development and systematic quality work in ECEC</li> </ul>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Prerequisites</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Basic knowledge of SDGs and Sustainable development that includes environmental, social, cultural and economic dimensions</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Requirements for the awarding of credits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ On-time submission of preparatory work, independent reading of assigned course material, short presentation of a selected topic from the preparatory phase, documentation of country-specific examples and of research and development topics.</li> <li>▪ Active participation in online courses and the International Sustainability Week, including the field trips.</li> <li>▪ 5 ECTS only: Video on a selected learning arrangement discussed during the International Sustainability week, only for South Westphalia students</li> </ul>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Module responsible / Lecturer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Claudia Henrichwark</li> </ul>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Literature</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ General knowledge of <a href="https://innerdevelopmentgoals.org">https://innerdevelopmentgoals.org</a></li> </ul>