Scale-up4 Sustainability

Interview guidelines for students
Work package 2:
Evaluating leading approaches and tools in collaborative green venturing

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This publication is available on the Internet as a pdf file at:

www.ScaleUp4Sustainability.de

Oldenburg, Linköping, Zuidlaren, 2020

GUIDELINES FOR EXPLORATIVE INTERVIEWS WITH STUDENTS

Give a brief introduction to the aims and background of the interview

Explain what we do with the interviews and its results

Underline that the interview is anonymous and that privacy / data protection is guaranteed

Ask whether the interview can be recorded

- Interviewer

- Date of interview

- Location of interview / telephone/Internet interview

- Duration of interview

General Questions

- What do you do for a living?

- Does sustainability and entrepreneurship play a role in your daily life or study? If so: can you give some examples

- What was/ is your subject of study? Which master-program did you attend?

- When did you attend the module?

Motivation and interest

- Was the participation compulsory or voluntary? If voluntary, why did you participate in the module?

- What were your expectations?

- Have you been interested in sustainability (or sustainability-oriented business model development) before the module?

- Have you been interested in entrepreneurship before the module?

Experiences and competencies before

- Have you had experiences with entrepreneurship/ starting-up a business before the module?

- Have you had experience with sustainability issues before?

- Which content/ former knowledge that you gained at university (before the module) was helpful for your project?

The activities

- What venture idea did you work on?

- What was your project target? Which tasks you did you have?

- Was there a business partner involved? I so, who was it?

- How big was the team you worked in?

- What methods and tools have you used during your project?

- Support of lecturers: What role did they play?

- What was your biggest challenge during the module?

- What knowledge would have been helpful? Was this content part of the module? If yes – how was it taught? If not – where did you get the input?

Assessing the module

- What is unique about the module?

- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the module?

- What could or should be improved in the module?

- What could be improved in the university-support system for (sustainable-) entrepreneurship?

- Do you think the module can be scaled up for more students and transferred to other HEIs?

Outputs and outcomes

- What was the result of your project?

- How important are these results for the business partner? What do you think?

- Has the module changed your attitude towards entrepreneurship? If yes, how?

- Has the module changed your attitude towards sustainability? If yes, how?

- Has the module changed your entrepreneurial competencies? If yes, how?

- Has the module changed your attitude towards sustainability issues?

- What was the most important learning outcome/ experience?

- Has the module influenced your further career/ personnel development? E.g. your thinking, competencies, topic of master thesis, (part-time) employment at the business partner (during or after your studies), Plans of starting-up a business.

Impacts

- To your knowledge, has the project you worked on or other projects in the module have had a positive or negative effect on society or the natural environment?

- E.g. in regard to job creation?

- E.g. in regard to environmental benefits such as reductions in greenhouse gas emissions?

- E.g. in regard to social effects?

- Do you think that the projects of the module actually contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). If yes, how?

Thank you very much for your time and participation!