

24 October 2024

Talia Stough

What is really needed for sustainable transitions? Moving beyond the rhetoric of sustainability education.

Over the past 30 years, there has been significant progress in integrating "sustainability" into higher education. This includes the development of sustainability assessment tools and rating schemes specifically designed for higher education institutions, such as the inclusion of sustainability in quality standards. However, despite these advancements, there remains a lack of clarity regarding the desired learning outcomes in Education for Sustainability. The challenge lies in operationalizing a complex and contested concept like "sustainability", where the practical question of "What is the level of performance?" is tightly bound to the normative question of "What exactly is the construct we are aiming to measure?". This issue is further complicated by the lack of uniformity in defining what education for sustainability aims to achieve in learners.

Bio

Talia Stough is an assistant professor of management at the Open Universiteit, where she teaches Supply Chain Management, and a Guest Professor at the KU Leuven where she teaches Sustainable Management. For more than ten years, Dr. Stough is has been an advocate of the Principles for Responsible Management Education (www.unprme.org), and was a founding member of the region chapter. In her research, she examines how managers can create shared value, and how business schools should approach responsible management education to best prepare students for this task. More information on her research can be found here: <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Talia-Stough-2>.