



## Sustainability Week Switzerland - Together for Sustainability

In times where worldwide challenges like climate and refugee crisis and increasing nationalism and inequality are daily business we are focusing on and fostering the **positive, impactful and meaningful** trends and developments.

Our vision, we **empower students** to bring sustainability into all aspects of **Swiss higher education institutions**. Our aspiration is for students in Switzerland to turn their institutions into **sustainability role models**.

Together for sustainability, because we believe in the **power and potential of youth** to co-create **solutions** to the most pressing sustainability challenges of our time.

We realize our vision by organizing **Local Sustainability Weeks**, which have the following objectives:

- **MENTOR** youth to **ACT** for sustainability: skill development and youth empowerment
- **INFORM** citizens to **INSPIRE** for sustainability: event series
- **EMPOWER** higher education institutions to **ENABLE** sustainability: demand and solution papers
- **ENCOURAGE** communities to **CHANGE** behaviors for sustainability: network for support and cooperation

The SWS mentors youth to act and co-create a **bottom-up student movement** in the form of a **one-week event series** to inform and inspire everyone. Every year a new and fresh program is organized by students on a **voluntary basis**. Everything, from fundraising, to inviting speakers, organizing venues and marketing campaign is done by the local sustainability week team. The program is rich and diverse in format (excursion, presentation, workshops, discussions etc.) and content. Furthermore, we engage in **education politics**, develop cafeteria programs to provide more sustainable meals and we enable **community-building**, education & self-efficacy amongst all partners and motivate everyone to take action. We engage students with **fun**, a great **network** and the **opportunity** to grow personally.

The Sustainability Week started in 2013 in Zurich, Switzerland with the goal to raise awareness on the importance to integrate sustainability meaningful in the education sector. Ever since the week has grown into the **biggest student-led sustainability movement**, reaching 96 % of all students in Switzerland, and has become known through various achievements and its appearance in national media and international conferences.

The Sustainability Week has been **acknowledged internationally**, by e.g. the *International Sustainable Campus Network with the Award for Excellence in Student Leadership*, *Clinton Global Initiative*, *UNEP Green Gown*, *United Nations Secretary General's Climate Action Summit* and establishes partnership with national and international stakeholders in the field of sustainability.

We work together with **passion** and **dedication** to achieve our vision and mission and make our **dreams of a just and sustainable world come true**.

**Together, we CONTRIBUTE to, and CO-CREATE, a world that holds a FUTURE for ALL.**