Stage 1: definition and planning Literature Review

Definition of the multiple case study; Perform an extensive literature review to identify the main aspects of sustainability implemented in private HEIs.

Stage 2: data selection/collection

Design the data collection roadmap; define the criteria of selection of the 10 analyzed private HEIs; collecting available data from the HE I's internet website as well as SD networks and reports from sustainable assessment tools.

Step 3: data analysis

Compiling the collected data by the means of descriptive coding and clustering; triangulation applied by one other research reviewing each coding and clustering; cross-case analysis.

Step 4: reporting

Reporting the results in this paper providing an in-depth understanding of how private HEIs internalize SD practices and actions into their documents and daily routines, highlighting similarities and discrepancies among the cases.