

# The SDG Accord

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

Delivered by



## SDG Accord Reporting 2024

### Instructions

You are receiving this survey as an institutional signatory of the [SDG Accord](#). By signing the SDG Accord, you have recognised the central and transformational role educators have in attaining the SDGs by 2030 through improved collaboration and aligning of efforts. You are part of the change - and we thank you. You have committed to **mandatory annual reporting** on how your institution contributes towards the United Nation's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). **The deadline is Monday 24th June 2024 (23:59 UTC)**

#### Instructions:

- All **institutional signatories** must submit a report – if you are not sure if you are an institutional signatory please search for your organisations name on the institutional signatories list on the website or contact [info@eauc.org.uk](mailto:info@eauc.org.uk).
- **One person** is to complete this report on behalf of the institution. They should have the authority to report on behalf of their institution.
- Please submit your answers in **English**.
- Please ensure focus your answers on the **last 12 months** unless the question specifies otherwise (e.g. question 17 & 18).
- The online form cannot save partial responses so please ensure that you have **all of your answers ready** before submitting a survey. You can access a copy of this year's report on the website to **prepare your answers** in advance. This report will then take about 10 minutes to complete.
- If you would like to **download** a copy of your report you can do this on the final page after you have clicked 'submit'.

- Your individual response is **fully confidential**. Examples of best practice will be championed in the 2024 results with permission from the signatory. We encourage signatories to publicly report their own data to increase transparency however this decision is up to each institution.
- EAUC will collate reporting information from all SDG accord signatories and use it to produce a global picture of the education sector's contribution to the SDGs. We share this with international networks and partners. Your institution name will be included as a reporting signatory. The results will be made available publicly in **Autumn 2024**. This year we have added a section to gather your feedback on how we best share and collate the results.

## Basic information

### 1. Full Name \*

Lianne Moore

### 2. Email address \*

l.moore@exeter.ac.uk

### 3. Job title \*

Sustainability Manager

### 4. Institution Name \*

University of Exeter

### 5. Country \*

United Kingdom

### 6. UN Region

- Africa
- Asia and the Pacific
- Europe
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- North America

### 7. Number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) students currently studying at your institution



## SDG reporting

8. We recognise that your response might reflect a subjective understanding of your institutional performance, however we are keen to see how your institution is responding to the SDGs. Please advise how you would describe your institution's overall strategic approach to the SDGs? \*

### Leadership & Governance (covering policies and strategies at senior management level)

- STRUGGLING (institutions just beginning to address the SDGs)
- EMERGING (institutions with an established approach to SDGs)
- ESTABLISHED (you have clear structures in place to embed the SDGs across your institution and consistently deliver year on year)

### Estates & Operations

- STRUGGLING (institutions just beginning to address the SDGs)
- EMERGING (institutions with an established approach to SDGs)
- ESTABLISHED (you have clear structures in place to embed the SDGs across your institution and consistently deliver year on year)

### Learning, Teaching & Research

- STRUGGLING (institutions just beginning to address the SDGs)
- EMERGING (institutions with an established approach to SDGs)
- ESTABLISHED (you have clear structures in place to embed the SDGs across your institution and consistently deliver year on year)

### Partnerships & Engagement

- STRUGGLING (institutions just beginning to address the SDGs)
- EMERGING (institutions with an established approach to SDGs)
- ESTABLISHED (you have clear structures in place to embed the SDGs across your institution and consistently deliver year on year)

9. If you selected 'STRUGGLING' for any of the categories, please indicate the areas that are most affected. Tick all that apply.

- Staff Capacity
- Senior Management Support
- Research, Learning and Teaching
- Student Engagement

- Budget
- Training
- Governmental support
- Other

11. At your institution, is there any specific funding for SDG integration (that does not include wider sustainability budgets), such as for staff costs or capital costs? \*

- Yes - internal budget from my institution
- Yes - external budget from other sources
- No

12. If you have an allocated budget specifically for SDG activities, please outline what this budget has allowed you to do that you couldn't have done otherwise.

Infrastructure Decarbonisation Plan & Project Manager – plan to transition away from fossil fuel heating with Project Manager appointed to deliver first of these projects (some projects externally funded). Green Futures Student Solutions (funding for students to complete self-identified projects supporting the SDGs) Appointment of additional post to expand the Green Consultants scheme (aimed at providing students with additional skills and experience to work in environmental and sustainability sector). Support fund for faculty climate action projects (including COP28 events). Appointment of role to introduce Responsible Futures change-making programme and accreditation framework, co-led by students, staff, academics, and the students' unions to embed sustainability across all aspects of education. Engaging Students with the Sulitest Awareness Test aimed at improving and mapping awareness of sustainability issues. Research Activity carbon evaluation tool (allowing academics to evaluate their research activity). Design of Nature Based Solution to deliver carbon storage and enhanced natural capital at Hoopern Valley (University owned site). Look & Feel Campaign, to increase student, staff and visitor awareness and motivate, inspire and encourage positive behavioural change, including the installation of an interactive external projection across 3 sites and 2 counties, delivered over 15 days. Commission of water audits and production of 5 year plan of water reduction activities. Pre-planning works and feasibility for Wind Turbine development at Penryn. Installation of solar farm and planning and design of roll out of roof top PVs.

13. In the last 12 months (or since your last submission), which **three** SDGs has your institution had the greatest impact on?

*Optional - Institutions with existing access to the Sustainability Leadership Scorecard (SLS) can use the SDG section of the tool to complete this question as it calculates your impact across all SDGs. \**

- SDG1 - No Poverty

- SDG2 - Zero Hunger
- SDG3 - Good Health and Wellbeing
- SDG4 - Quality Education
- SDG5 - Gender Equality
- SDG6 - Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG7 - Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth
- SDG9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG10 - Reduced Inequalities
- SDG11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG12 - Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG13 - Climate Action
- SDG14 - Life Below Water
- SDG15 - Life on Land
- SDG16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- SDG17 - Partnerships for the Goals

14. In the last 12 months (or since your last submission), which **three** SDGs has your institution had the least impact on?

*Optional - Institutions with existing access to the Sustainability Leadership Scorecard (SLS) can use the SDG section of the tool to complete this question as it calculates your impact across all SDGs.*

- SDG1 - No Poverty
- SDG2 - Zero Hunger
- SDG3 - Good Health and Wellbeing
- SDG4 - Quality Education
- SDG5 - Gender Equality
- SDG6 - Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG7 - Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth
- SDG9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG10 - Reduced Inequalities
- SDG11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG12 - Responsible Consumption and Production

- SDG13 - Climate Action
- SDG14 - Life Below Water
- SDG15 - Life on Land
- SDG16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- SDG17 - Partnerships for the Goals

**At your institution, which three SDGs will be of highest priority over the next 12 months and which institutional areas it will be relevant to? Please note your answers in questions 15 - 20 below:**

**15. First Priority: \***

- SDG1 - No Poverty
- SDG2 - Zero Hunger
- SDG3 - Good Health and Wellbeing
- SDG4 - Quality Education
- SDG5 - Gender Equality
- SDG6 - Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG7 - Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG8 - Decent work and Economic Growth
- SDG9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG10 - Reduced Inequalities
- SDG11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG12 - Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG13 - Climate Action
- SDG14 - Life Below Water
- SDG15 - Life on Land
- SDG16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- SDG17 - Partnerships for the Goals

**16. Which institutional areas will you deliver against for your first priority SDG? Tick as many as apply. \***

- Leadership & Governance



- Estates & Operations
- Learning, Teaching & Research
- Partnerships & Engagement

**17. Second Priority:**

\*

- SDG1 - No Poverty
- SDG2 - Zero Hunger
- SDG3 - Good Health and Wellbeing
- SDG4 - Quality Education
- SDG5 - Gender Equality
- SDG6 - Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG7 - Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG8 - Decent work and Economic Growth
- SDG9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG10 - Reduced Inequalities
- SDG11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG12 - Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG13 - Climate Action
- SDG14 - Life Below Water
- SDG15 - Life on Land
- SDG16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- SDG17 - Partnerships for the Goals

**18. Which institutional areas will you deliver against for your second priority SDG? Tick as many as apply.**

\*

- Leadership & Governance
- Estates & Operations
- Learning, Teaching & Research

Partnerships & Engagement

**19. Third Priority: \***

- SDG1 - No Poverty
- SDG2 - Zero Hunger
- SDG3 - Good Health and Wellbeing
- SDG4 - Quality Education
- SDG5 - Gender Equality
- SDG6 - Clean Water and Sanitation
- SDG7 - Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG8 - Decent work and Economic Growth
- SDG9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG10 - Reduced Inequalities
- SDG11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG12 - Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG13 - Climate Action
- SDG14 - Life Below Water
- SDG15 - Life on Land
- SDG16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- SDG17 - Partnerships for the Goals

**20. Which institutional areas will you deliver against for your third priority SDG? Tick as many as apply.**

\*

- Leadership & Governance
- Estates & Operations
- Learning, Teaching & Research

Partnerships & Engagement

**21. At your institution, what support will be particularly useful to help advance your work on the SDGs in the next year? Tick up to three per row. \***

**Internal (institutional)**

- Budget
- Senior Management Support
- Governmental Support
- Training
- Guidance (i.e. case studies)
- Other

**External (supporting organisations)**

- Budget
- Senior Management Support
- Governmental Support
- Training
- Guidance (i.e. case studies)
- Other

**22. If you selected 'other' in question 21, please give further details:**

**23. Please tick the benefits your institution has seen from aligning (or starting to align) with the SDGs. Tick all that apply. \***

- Opened a more relatable and clear dialogue on sustainability within the institution.
- Opened a more relatable and clear dialogue on sustainability with external stakeholders.
- Positively influenced the image of the institution by showing its contribution to global and local wellbeing.
- Encouraged more students to choose the institution on the basis of their commitment to sustainable development.
- Produced more employable graduates that have a good understanding of sustainable development and can apply this to their career.

- Received praise from students for their commitment to the SDGs.
- Captured the demand for SDG-related education and gained positive engagement from students for responding to this.
- Built new external partnerships based on the SDGs
- Created cohesion between institutional departments as they work together on 1 or more SDG.
- Fostered a stronger sense of social justice in students - which has seen an increase in staff and student volunteering activity.
- Encouraged staff and students to initiate innovative projects to support one or more of the SDGs.
- Caused a behaviour change such as removing single-use plastics or reducing air travel.
- Enabled academics to access new funding streams to deliver on the SDGs
- It provides a framework for evaluation and delivery of activities
- Other

**25. As part of the institutional SDG Accord reporting, we ask signatories to submit one case study. Please let us know if you are able to submit a case study of your actions as an SDG Accord Signatory. Please note, these case studies will be made publicly available on the SDG Accord website. \***

- Yes
- No

## Feedback

Each year EAUC publishes an annual report summarising the results of signatory reports. The annual summary provides an overview of the education sector's progress in embedding the SDGs along with case study examples. This is then promoted and highlighted at the United Nation's High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July. We are looking to get an accurate picture of how signatories use these resources so please **answer as honestly as possible**. Your answers will only be used by EAUC to inform how we develop our support for SDG signatories in the future.

26. Do you use the information from your individual institution's survey response to this annual request in any other ways? Tick as many as apply.

- Yes - we include it within an internal report
- Yes - we integrate it into a sustainability report / update which we publish externally on our website
- Yes - we use the report within section 12.4 of the Times Higher Education Impact Ranking submission
- No - we dont use our responses in any other ways
- Other

28. Do you use the annual SDG summary report that EAUC publishes in any way within your institutions work? Tick as many as apply.

- Yes - we share the summary report internally
- Yes - we share the summary report externally
- No
- Other

30. How relevant and important is it for your institution that EAUC shares the annual summary report at the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development?

- Its relevant and important to my institution

- Its not relevant or important to my institution
- I dont know what the UN High Level Political Forum is

**31. Do you use or access the case studies produced by the SDG accord?**

- Yes - we have accessed the case studies and found them useful
- Yes - we have accessed the case studies but didnt find them useful

No - we do not use or access the case studies

**32. We would like to know how signatories would prefer to receive the results of the 2024 data collection from SDG accord signatories. Please vote for your preferred **two** options. \***

**A full report (15+ pages) - this is the current format**

1st Preference

2nd Preference

**A short summary report (maximum 5 pages)**

1st Preference

2nd Preference

**A short video summary**

1st Preference

2nd Preference

**A webinar event**

1st Preference

2nd Preference

**A blog post**

1st Preference

2nd Preference

**Nothing please - the results aren't relevant**

1st Preference

2nd Preference

**Nothing please - I do not have time to look at them**

1st Preference

2nd Preference

**Other**

1st Preference

2nd Preference

33. If you selected 'other' in question 32, please specify:

34. Is there any additional support or resources that you would like to receive as an SDG accord signatory?

Yes

No