

SUSTAINABILITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE



REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXPERTISE
ON EDUCATION FOR
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ACKNOWLEDGED BY



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY OF
GLOUCESTERSHIRE

at Cheltenham and Gloucester

» SUSTAINABILITY AT THE UNIVERSITY

At the University of Gloucestershire we have an established strategic commitment to sustainability and an international profile for our performance and innovation in this area.



We were pioneers in developing an approach to sustainability that connects our corporate and academic activities.

We see sustainability as a transformative concept that requires us to use learning, imagination and leadership to create alternative futures.

Our Education for Sustainability expertise guides our work with students through the formal curriculum, professional development opportunities, life on campus and involvement with local communities.

» DEFINING SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability prompts us to think in terms of the future and using global perspective, recognising the connections between economy, society and ecology.

The concept carries the aim of improving quality of life for people and communities across the globe, whilst protecting the natural systems upon which life depends.



OUR SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2017-2022



Our new Sustainability Strategy is closely aligned to the University's Strategic Plan for 2017-2022. It has five core goals that create an integrated vision for sustainability at our University.



Goal 1. Leadership and Governance – sustainability informs our organisational direction and culture



Goal 2. Student Experience – sustainability provides distinctive capabilities for our graduates



Goal 3. Academic Innovation – sustainability is integral to our learning, teaching and research



Goal 4. Business Operations – sustainability is an essential corporate improvement priority



Goal 5. Engagement and Partnerships – sustainability adds value to our collaborations at all levels



OUR FUTURE PROFESSIONALS

86% of students want universities to incorporate and promote sustainability

- Our Sustainability Internships Programme gives students real professional experiences in sustainability
- We established our Greener Gloucestershire initiatives through our Students' Union with £290K from the NUS

75% of students want to see sustainability integrated in all university courses

- Our Learning Innovation for Tomorrow programme supports curriculum change for sustainability
- We support our academics to develop a sustainability focus relevant to their industries and professions

National Union of Students, 2015 survey data from 8,563 students





OUR STORY

Our University has a long and proud history of pioneering sustainability practice. Around 25 years ago, we set up our first environmental management committee and soon after released our first environmental report. Our 'whole institution' approach has evolved steadily over the past decade.

RECENT MILESTONES



2017 Released our second Sustainability Strategy aligned to our University Strategic Plan 2017-2022



2016 Completed our EU funded UE4SD professional development project with 53 partner organisations



2015 Our Big Green Gap Year placements project was recognised by NESTA as one of 50 'new radicals'



2014 Exceeded all our 2020 waste management targets which has reduced our waste to landfill to 3%



2013 Special Recognition Award for consistent high level performance in the People & Planet university league



2012 Concluded our HEFCE funded initiative on Education for Sustainability in collaboration with QAA



2011 Our Students' Union achieved Gold status in the NUS Green Impact programme for their sustainability practice



2010 Sustainability was chosen by our staff as one of the University's defining organisational values



2009 Ranked 1st and 'Outstanding' in the Universities That Count corporate responsibility index for education and research



2008 Won UK Green Gown Award for institutional development in sustainability across the University



2007 Appointment of our first Director of Sustainability with resources to achieve our strategic goals

» OUR SUCCESSES



1st Class award and Top Ten position in the People and Planet University League for sustainability since it began

1st English university to gain ISO 14001 with accreditation for both corporate and academic activities across all our campuses



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Regional Centre of Expertise in sustainability education acknowledged by the United Nations University since 2008



2 national Green Gown awards for our innovation and performance in sustainability across the University



Our Quality Assurance Agency 2015 review recognised our good practice in Education for Sustainability.

£1,405,000

income generated for innovative Education for Sustainability projects, with funders including HEFCE, HEA, UNESCO and the European Commission.



£850,000 income in 2016/17 for research projects focused on sustainability



Host to the UK Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges since 2005



UNIVERSITY EDUCATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



GOLD Soil Association catering mark across our campuses with our caterers BaxterStorey

Professional development project with partners in 33 countries funded by EU



OUR SECTOR LANDSCAPE

- The UK Quality Assurance Agency released national guidance on Education for Sustainable Development in 2015
- The UNESCO Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development launched in 2014
- The UK National Union of Students has invested £5m in Students' Unions through its Students Green Fund programme
- The World Student Community for Sustainable Development has over 10,000 members in 100 countries
- The Environmental Association of Universities and Colleges has over 190 UK education providers as members





Further Information

www.sustainability.glos.ac.uk

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[@UniGlosSustain](https://twitter.com/UniGlosSustain) [f UniGlosSustainability](https://www.facebook.com/UniGlosSustainability)

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