

GREEN IMPACT STUDENTS' UNIONS PROGRAMME OFFERING 2020-21



GREEN IMPACT STUDENTS' UNIONS IS...

A **framework** for union staff, officers and students to collaboratively address key issues to lead on **embedding sustainability and social justice** across campus, the curriculum, and wider society.

This supports SUs to build impactful projects and campaigns around climate justice and equality, curriculum reform, health and wellbeing and much more.

You're joining our **network**. We provide opportunities to partner with other unions, hold networking events and share good practice through resources and case studies.



STUDENTS' UNIONS GAIN ACCESS TO OUR ONLINE TOOLKIT



Our online toolkit software breaks down sustainability into areas of influence with direct and manageable actions, providing guidance and additional resources for actions. Unions can use it to plan their projects and campaigns, record their progress and upload evidence - developing awareness of their own potential to drive further change.

nus green impact

About Help Contact

Welcome to Green Impact Students' Unions!

Welcome to your new Green Impact Students' Union (GISU) toolkit!

The purpose of GISU is to provide a framework for union staff, officers, volunteers and students to collaboratively create a sustainable union and campus environment. It covers issues of equality, community, curriculum reform, campaigning and much more.

For advice on how to complete the toolkit please visit the [help section](#).

Firstly, please watch the short instruction video below which explains how to use this online workbook.

[Get the Flash Player](#) to see this content.

All entrants will be awarded a Working Towards Accreditation, Good, Very Good, or Excellent accreditation for their work, and national recognition for the highest achieving union in the UK, the highest scoring in the nations and the most improved UK union.

Profile
Activity Log
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Team name:
example
Members:
example example
Auditor SOS

Tweets by NUS_sustainable

Team: example

Back to menu Knowledge and Understanding Leadership and Strategy Partnership and Policy SU operations Campaigning and Influencing Outreach and Collaboration Self defined criteria Outcomes

Save Changes

Completed 0 of 4, Total Points 0 of 30
SU Estimated Score: 0, Auditor Score: 0

(KN001 - KN001) Knowledge & understanding - Mandatory Very Good - [Show All](#) Completed 0 out of 1

(KN002 - KN004) Knowledge & understanding - Optional - [Show All](#) Completed 0 out of 3

(KN001 - KN001) Knowledge & understanding - Mandatory Very Good - [Hide All](#) Completed 0 out of 1

KN001 - Knowledge & understanding - Mandatory Very Good

The union has carried out relevant [primary research](#) amongst its students to inform its sustainability work, and has published the findings.

SU Estimated Score Auditor Score

(KN002 - KN004) Knowledge & understanding - Optional - [Hide All](#) Completed 0 out of 3

KN002 - Knowledge & understanding - Optional

The union has proactively promoted the annual national [NUS sustainability skills survey](#), taking place between 21st October and 10th November 2018, amongst its students to contribute a good number of respondents, and has shared the results.

SU Estimated Score Auditor Score



UNIONS RECEIVE A RANGE OF SUPPORT

- Resource bank - we have an online [resource bank](#) accessible to all GISU participants, this will house guidance documents, templates, case studies and webinar recordings. This is being refreshed for 2020-21.
- Peer to Peer - We have a great network of SU sustainability contacts through our [‘NUS Sustainability, Ethics & Climate Action’ Facebook Workplace page](#). This is a great place to join in discussions, share ideas or ask questions.
- Email - we run a monthly SOS-UK newsletter, housing updates for SUs, as well as other sustainability articles, sign up for this [here](#). We will send specific updates on GISU to all SU contacts listed in the sign-up form.
- Phone call mid-way - Early 2021, we will offer calls for all participating SUs to check-in with your progress, offer support and to gather your feedback.

UNIONS RECEIVE A RANGE OF SUPPORT

- Ad hoc support - if you need to talk through something at any point throughout the year, or would like to suggest an idea for a future webinar, case study or news piece, please get in touch [by emailing us](#).
- Training and networking - if you'd like more tailored on-site or remote training for your staff, officers or students, you can request to purchase this when signing up for GISU or get in contact with us. We will host a joint skills and networking day in December 2020 for our GISU contacts at an additional cost.
- Learning and development opportunities - Students' unions participating in GISU will receive a 10% reduction in price to [SOS-UK's Learning Academy offerings](#). Offerings particularly relevant for SUs include the Officer Sustainability Bootcamp, Course reps & sustainability, campaign planning and carbon literacy training.

“Green Impact is an enabler for success which is in our strategy developed from student feedback.”

SUs ARE INVITED TO UNION-LED WEBINARS



All participating unions in Green Impact will be invited to a **series of webinars** over the year.

For each webinar we will be inviting 2-3 students' unions to **showcase** what journey they have taken on a specific topic. This will be followed by a Q&A and discussion for others SUs to share best practice and learn more. Our first webinar (open to all) was hosted in July 2020 on 'Student reps and curriculum change'.

- **20th October 2020: Food growing on campus**
- **February: Societies and Student Groups (tentative as we respond to SU requests)**
- **March/April: TBC (shaped by SU requests)**

KEY DATES

- Launch: 31st August 2020
- Annual sustainability survey: 26th October - 15th November 2020
- Student Sustainability Summit: w/c 2nd November 2020
- GISU contacts virtual skills & networking day: December 2020
- GISU midway 'check-in' calls: W/C 1st February 2021
- National SDG teach in: 22nd - 28th February 2021
- Submission deadline: 3rd May 2021
- Audits: June 2021
- Awards confirmed: July 2021

STUDENTS' UNIONS TELL US THAT GREEN IMPACT PROVIDES STRUCTURE FOR THEIR SUSTAINABILITY WORK



- The framework helps to embed sustainability into **strategic plans** and other **annual plans**.
- Helps to **demonstrate, monitor and evaluate** success and sustainability progress.
- Provides an opportunity to **self-reflect and review**.
- Encourages **collaboration** with other SUs.
- Showcases what the SU is doing and gain **accreditation & recognition**.
- Useful way to **communicate to students** what the SU is doing.
- **National benchmark** - other SUs are taking part.
- To hold the SU **accountable** for actions of day-to-day activities.
- Helps those involved realise **what they can do** to improve sustainability in their SU.

COST

GISU GENERAL SIGN UP:

1 year - £245

2 years - £475

OPTIONAL PROGRAMME ELEMENTS:

GISU staff and officer training and networking day, 4TH Dec - £100 per person (£90 early-bird)

Additional year-round support and guidance - £150

Training for your SU - £500 (half day)

GISU slate award - £25

Sign-up now for Green Impact
Students' Unions 2020-21.

Find out more on our website or
email gisu@sos-uk.org