

GREEN IMPACT FOR UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES



SOS-UK IS AN EDUCATIONAL CHARITY FOCUSING ON SUSTAINABILITY



In 2019, in response to the climate emergency and ecological crisis, student officers and staff at NUS founded Students Organising for Sustainability UK (SOS-UK) to go further and faster with NUS' **transformational sustainability work**.

SOS-UK **engages, supports and empowers** students and wider society to learn, act and lead for environmental justice. SOS-UK is a charity that is part of the NUS family which has been at the **forefront of social change since 1922** with 550 students' union members representing 7 million students.

UNESCO recognise SOS-UK as one of the global leaders of education for sustainable development, and we believe that **lifelong learning** is a hugely important part of education for sustainable development.

Alongside our work in the education sector, we have experience working with healthcare providers, museums, research institutes, housing providers, and public and private sector organisations on our programmes, training and campaigns.



Connect with SOS-UK:



WHAT IS GREEN IMPACT?

Green Impact is a multi award-winning sustainability learning and awards programme, designed to embed environmentally and socially sustainable practices within organisations.

This can mean anything from communicating recycling systems, to committing to go Fairtrade; from supporting team health and wellbeing campaigns, to sustainable HR practices.

Green Impact is all about building a community of staff and students learning about sustainability and working together to create positive change. It encourages participants to give back to their local community through charitable events and volunteering, as well as strategically supporting organisation-wide targets and strategies.



UNESCO-Japan Prize on Education
for Sustainable Development
Laureate 2016



WHY DO WE RUN GREEN IMPACT?



88% of student say they agree their place of study should actively incorporate and promote sustainable development



69% would like to see sustainable development actively incorporated and promoted through all courses



66% say sustainable development is something they would like to learn more about



How seriously the university takes environmental and global developmental issues is reported to be a factor influencing their choice of place to study by **54%** and **55%** respectively



90% of students are concerned about the effects of climate change

GREEN IMPACT SUPPORTS ENVIRONMENTALLY AND SOCIALLY SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE

Green Impact suggests what staff can do in their workplace and at home to support sustainability, and guides them how to achieve this. It supports teams to embed the university's or college's sustainability strategy into everyday practices.



TEAMS

Collaboration and collective impact, engaging staff across all areas, from catering to academics



ONLINE TOOLKIT

Guidance on actions to take covering environmental, social and financial sustainability actions



MONITORING

Feedback and audits to support progress and assess impacts



AWARDS

Celebrate and recognise achievements across the university or college

nus

green impact

Green Impact in numbers

Green Impact has been delivered in 7 countries globally



The programme has been running successfully for 14 years



Green Impact has run in 1,139 organisations ranging from students' unions to NHS Trusts



116 Universities and Colleges have used the Green Impact model



6,700 Green Impact teams have formed across participating organisations



40,000 people have actively been part of Green Impact teams

Green Impact teams have reached 275,000 people with sustainability and social justice activities



6,800 students have been provided with training and development opportunities



530,000 actions completed by teams and verified by student auditors

340,000 of these completed actions are as a direct result of the programme



More than 1,000 learning workshops delivered with students and staff

£7.3 million saved in participating organisations (estimated from available data)



26,500 tonnes CO₂ saved (estimated from available data)

INTENDENT OUTCOMES OF GREEN IMPACT



Staff and students know more about sustainability - developing widespread sustainability literacy

Staff and students develop a better understanding of what the organisation is doing on sustainability

Creating a community of people taking action for sustainability from across the whole organisation

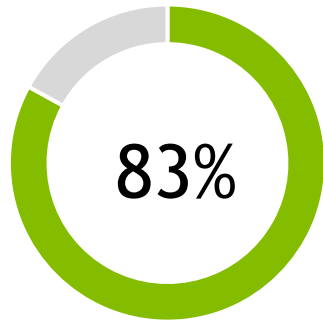
Professional and academic development for staff and students

Departments receive recognition for their achievements and are given agency to take action

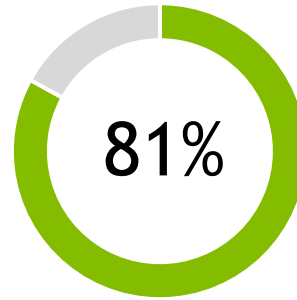
Supporting carbon savings, cost savings and waste reduction

Increased support for and engagement with existing sustainability priorities, targets and initiatives

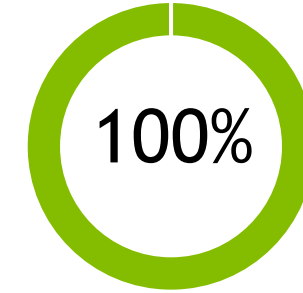
PARTICIPANTS VIEW GREEN IMPACT POSITIVELY



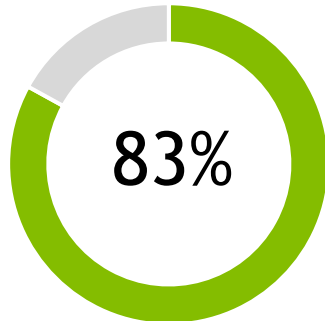
of participants know more about how to use their knowledge to make changes to their daily life



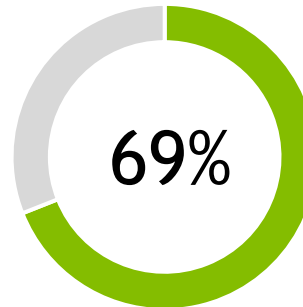
of volunteer student auditors feel the experience has positively enhanced their employability



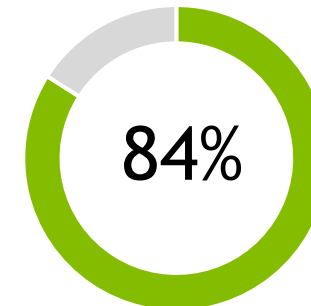
of organisations report they've seen positive changes in pro-environmental behaviour amongst staff



of participants would rate Green Impact as Good or Excellent overall



of participants identified new skills or knowledge gained as a result of taking part in Green Impact



of participants identified changes to their own habits or behaviour as a result of taking part in Green Impact

THE POWER OF THE NETWORK



SOS-UK connects Green Impact participants of the programme to **share good practice, reduce duplication and to avoid reinventing the wheel** - amongst other things SOS-UK uses social media, online resource hubs, webinars, events and support calls.

SOS-UK **builds relationships**, seek opportunities for **collaboration** and **celebrate** the collective and individual achievements of those involved in the programme.

GREEN IMPACT PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE

More than 50 organisations are taking part in Green Impact, including universities, research centres, local councils and NHS Trusts. Some of our participants include...

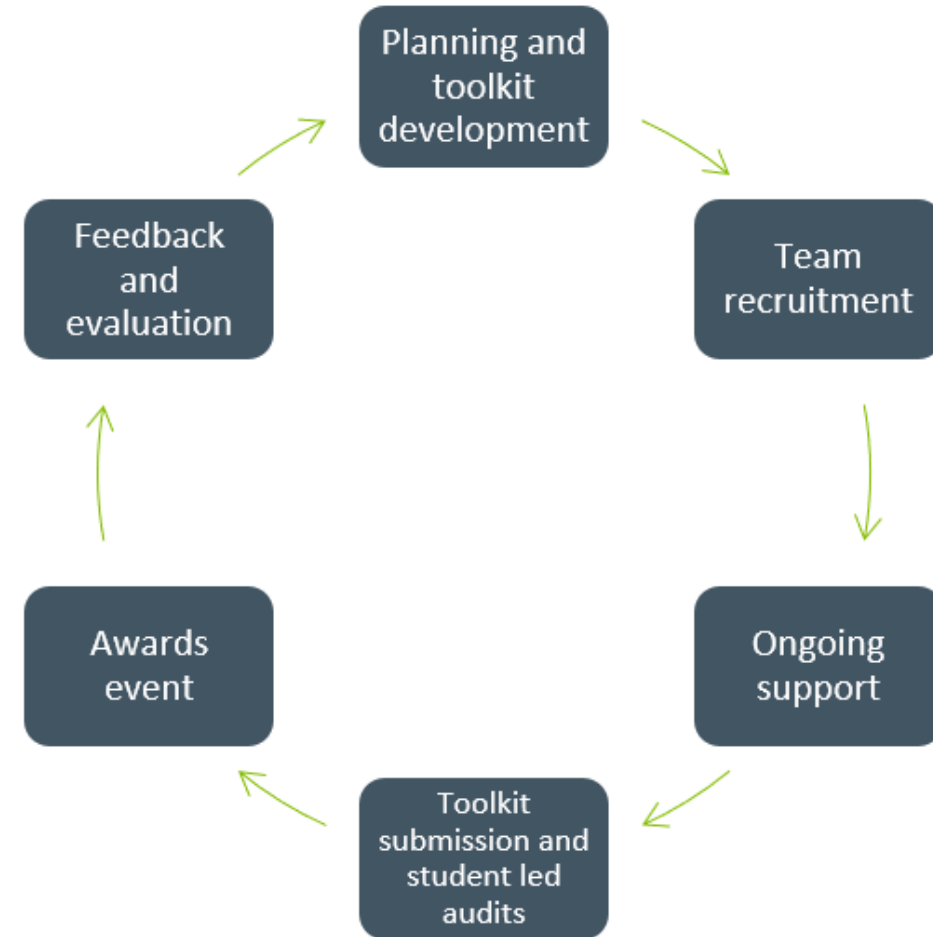


GREEN IMPACT IS AN ANNUAL CYCLICAL PROGRAMME



Green Impact follows a six-step approach over approximately 12 months, which can be adapted to suit the needs, objectives and culture of the organisations we work with.

Green Impact is so successful in part because it responds to the local environment and offers bespoke solutions to engagement.



EACH ORGANISATIONS HAS THEIR OWN BESPOKE TOOLKIT

The screenshot shows the 'Welcome to Green Impact!' page. At the top left is the 'nus green impact' logo, and next to it is the 'LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY' logo. Navigation links for 'About', 'Help', and 'Contact' are in the top right. A vertical sidebar on the left contains menu items: 'Intro', 'Office', 'Grounds', 'Cleaning and Portering', 'Curriculum', 'Catering', 'Working from home', 'Special', and 'Submit'. The main content area features a 'Welcome to Green Impact!' heading, a 'Login', 'Register', and 'Lost Password' section, and a 'Sustainability...' social media post. Below the post is an 'eventbrite' section for 'Leeds Sports Event...'. A 'Tweets by @BeckettSustain' section is at the bottom left.

The toolkit will cover all aspects of sustainability (environmental, social and economic) under headings such as energy and water, waste and recycling, health and wellbeing, etc.

We will work with you to ensure the toolkit meets your sustainability and wellbeing targets and aligns with local priorities.

The criteria will be turned into an accessible, easy to use, online toolkit for teams to see where to start, monitor their progress, and provide evidence.

BENEFITS TO YOUR UNIVERSITY

A proven way of increasing sustainability attitudes, knowledge and behaviours of staff and students within an organisation, and a powerful communication and engagement tool.

- Tested programme that covers the whole sustainability agenda.
- **Meet your sustainability targets** without enforcing, through a **completely bespoke** toolkit of actions that can be linked to your sustainability strategy or plan.
- **Participation from across the whole organisation** with tangible actions for offices, academics, laboratories, estates, grounds, libraries, catering and sport centres.
- Gives champions a **tangible role** and builds community cohesion and better workplace dynamics by reducing siloed working and improving staff morale and pride.
- Provides measurable outcomes and **reduced energy, waste and water**.
- **All actions are verified** through student **auditors** undertaking an IEMA-approved auditor course, delivered by SOS-UK prior to conducting audits.
- **Added capacity to your sustainability work** by engaging teams of staff and students.
- Improved reputation (amongst shareholders, PR, students, league tables).
- Staff and stakeholder **development opportunities** through centralised webinars and bespoke workshops.
- Opportunity to link **sustainability to the curriculum**.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS THAT ARE INCLUDED IN GREEN IMPACT

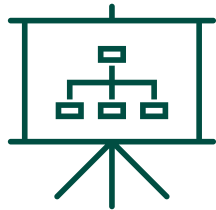


UN Sustainable Development Goals Mapping

Each action in your bespoke online toolkit can be mapped against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. This is for staff across the university or college to see that the actions they take not only benefit their team and their institution, but also have wider impacts on creating a just and sustainable society.

Criteria for flexible working

With office-based staff working from home or flexibly, we have 'Try me from home' and 'adapt me from home' icons to show staff which actions can either be done from home, or adapted to the home setting to keep people engaged.



Actions mapped against your organisational values

Each action in your toolkit can be mapped against your values or strategic priorities to show staff and students how the actions they achieve through Green Impact fit within the organisation.

Self reporting tools to improve reporting

To improve our reporting on Green Impact, we have introduced self reporting to allow teams to input accurate information into the toolkit for us to calculate carbon and cost savings plus communicate the additional social benefits achieved through the programme.

How many people in your team carshare?

How many team members cycle to work regularly?



WHAT IS INCLUDED?

GREEN IMPACT 2022-23 COSTS



SOS-UK is a charity and our pricing model is to cover our time and resources and is not-for-profit. We will work with you to create your bespoke Green Impact programme and are always open to innovating the programme with you. The below costings are for universities and colleges in the UK - off-campus organisations can contact us to request a quote.

First year of participation		Subsequent years of participation	
Up to 1,500 FTE FTE staff	1,501 or more FTE staff	Up to 1,500 FTE FTE staff	1,501 or more FTE staff
£7,530 (+VAT)	£8,620 (+VAT)	£6,820 (+VAT)	£7,910 (+VAT)

More information can be found on our website: <https://www.sos-uk.org/project/green-impact>

You can sign up for Green Impact here: <https://www.sos-uk.org/programme-sign-up>

BENEFITS THAT ARE INCLUDED IN GREEN IMPACT

You will have a dedicated Project Manager from SOS-UK who will be on hand to support you with local delivery of the project, which will involve ongoing planned support for your local coordinator (such as a regularly scheduled catch-ups) and reactive email support. As well as overall project management, the activities and support details on the next three pages are included in your Green Impact programme fee, and we have a number of bolt-ons available to add to your programme (pages 21-23).

BESPOKE SUPPORT FOR TEAMS

Your Project Manager can deliver 4 bespoke support activities which can cover, but is not limited to, the below. Your Project Manager will work with you to decide the most effective support for your teams.



- In person bespoke workshops and/or online webinars on a variety of sustainability topics additional to access to our monthly Green Impact webinar series.
- Support calls for teams throughout the year to check in on progress.
- Creation of communication materials to support staff teams (posters, recorded videos, graphics, templates).
- Managing ‘bonus weeks’ to encourage teams to complete certain actions.
- Presentations at launch or award events to share the national context and impact of Green Impact.

BENEFITS THAT ARE INCLUDED IN GREEN IMPACT

ONLINE TOOLKIT, AUDITS, AND REPORTING



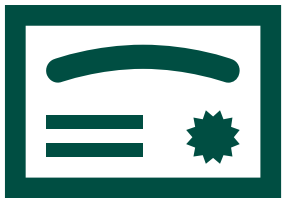
- Support to develop, review and host your bespoke Green Impact toolkit on our online system.
- Ongoing reactive technical support for toolkit users.
- Live dashboard of personal and national progress for teams and departments, and local admin access to monitor progress.
- Coordination of IEMA-approved student auditor training and team audits at the end of the year to verify award levels.
- Annual reports to demonstrate reach, impact and achievements.
- Baseline and follow-up survey for participants and student auditors to capture attitudes, learnings and feedback from the programme.

BENEFITS THAT ARE INCLUDED IN GREEN IMPACT



COMMUNICATION AND RESOURCES

- Access for team members to a series of nationally-coordinated Green Impact support events and resource banks.
- Opportunity to profile your teams and innovations through our international communications.
- Certificate templates, [digital badges](#), and award winner graphics for all Green Impact teams and student auditors.
- Centrally coordinated [Special Awards](#) to recognise local actions and impacts on an international stage.
- Actively supported to collectively shape the strategic development of the programme and celebrate the collective achievements of Green Impact across the sector.
- Up to 15 sustainably sourced awards for teams (additional awards can be purchased upon request).



BOLT-ONS FOR GREEN IMPACT



Green Impact Project Assistants (GIPAs)

The Green Impact Project Assistants (GIPA) scheme provides excellent development opportunities for students as well as extra support for your programme. It's proven successful in many organisations both on and off-campus.

SOS-UK train students to become GIPAs and join Green Impact teams within your organisation to offer support and additional resource. Through the scheme, students develop a range of transferable skills, gain experience of a professional workplace, and increase their sustainability knowledge. Green Impact Project Assistants also add capacity to your Green Impact teams and act as a link between students and staff at your organisation.

Tier one	Tier two
Delivery of the initial training of your GIPAs and guidance and templates for you to support them over the year.	Everything in Tier 1 as well as two additional days of training and/or support for your GIPAs, ongoing check-ins, and a wrap-up event to support with your GIPAs careers development
£710 (+VAT)	£2,080 (+VAT)



Communication support

Engagement takes time, resource and perseverance! We know the best Green Impact programmes are those that provide consistent and high-quality communications for and between teams, but many organisations don't have the resource to deliver this internally.

We've created two tiers of additional support based on what we know works, for you to choose to add to your programme. We will discuss with you how best to use this time to build recognition of, and engagement with, Green Impact across the university or college.

Tier one	Tier two
4 days of communications support, which could include the creation of monthly newsletters, social media content or 1-2-1 communications with your teams	7 days of communications support
£1,320 (+VAT)	£2,310 (+VAT)

BOLT-ONS FOR GREEN IMPACT

Carbon Literacy training

This bolt-on is to upgrade one of the support days included in the standard Green Impact programme to deliver Carbon Literacy training and certification for up to 20 staff and/or students. Running Carbon Literacy training alongside your Green Impact programme can build local capacity and offers an exciting professional development opportunity with an externally-verified certification for learners.

Carbon Literacy is defined as: “An awareness of the carbon dioxide costs and impacts of everyday activities, and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis.”

The training will provide attendees (staff or students) with introductory science on the climate crisis to understand the social and environmental impacts of carbon dioxide emissions. Additionally, our SOS-UK course has an increased focus on climate justice, and the inter-related nature of carbon emissions and wider environmental concerns such as biodiversity loss.

During the training attendees will begin to develop their own toolkit and strategies for acting on and communicating action on the climate crisis. The course lasts around 12 hours and includes online training elements and self study.

This training is certified by [The Carbon Literacy Project](#). Upon successful completion of the training, learners will be awarded a Carbon Literacy certificate and a digital badge.

£1,500 +VAT (for up to 20 learners)



If you have any questions, please contact the Green
Impact team on

hello@sos-uk.org

<http://greenimpact.nus.org.uk/>

<https://www.sos-uk.org/programme-sign-up>

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STUDENTS
ORGANISING FOR
SUSTAINABILITY
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