

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL REPORT 2022



Loughborough
University



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INTRODUCTION

Loughborough University is a proud signatory of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) having signed the declaration in 2020.

The (SDG's) make up a global framework to achieve a better and more Sustainable future for all. There are 17 goals, each addressing global challenges such as poverty, climate, peace and justice, which are all connected. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests. The SDG's drive our work on Sustainability.

Our commitment to the SDG's

Our aspiration is to equip our staff and students with the knowledge, skills, values and attributes needed to work and live in a way that will bring about solutions to the urgent environmental, economic and social challenges that we face. We're working to embed the SDG's through our teaching, operations and research.

Loughborough University is committed to:

1. Annually report on our work on the SDG's
2. Aligning all activities with the Sustainable Development Goals
3. Involve all stakeholder groups, such as students, staff and the local community
4. Collaborate with other institutions across the world who have pledged to support the SDG's



Building a sustainable campus and community

“As a leading UK University, we are striving to become a sustainable campus and community, and this requires individual, collective and institutional action. Climate change and net zero is a core theme of our *Creating Better Futures*. Together strategy. We must all be aware of the impacts we have on the environment and manage these. Achieving a sustainable future requires us to balance social, economic and environmental sustainability. The SDG's form the framework for sustainable development, recognising that action we take in one area will affect outcomes in others.”

Professor Nick Jennings

CB FEng FRS
Vice-Chancellor and President



END POVERTY IN ALL ITS FORMS EVERYWHERE

Eradicating poverty in all its forms remains one of the greatest challenges facing humanity. As of 2015, about 736 million people still lived on less than US\$1.90 a day; many lack food, clean drinking water and sanitation.

Research highlights

- 1. Minimum Income standards for the UK:** Our research at the Centre for Research in Social Policy (CRSP) on the impact of the MIS has been wide-ranging, with the focus not just on being able to afford food and a roof over your head, but it also includes having enough income to take part in society too. It is used frequently in policy debate and analysis, and at a more practical level by some charities to target financial support. Most importantly, it forms the basis for [setting the Living Wage](#).
- 2. Poverty at the end of life:** End of Life charity Marie Curie commissioned CRSP to examine the number of people who die in poverty in the UK each year. The report found that over 90,000 people a year experience poverty during the last year of their lives. The findings form the backbone of Marie Curie's Nobody should die in poverty campaign with over 166,000 people signed the campaign petition which was delivered to Downing Street.

Learning and students highlights

- 1. Project Uganda:** Based in a rural village near Kampala, our student volunteers work in a local primary boarding school run by the charity CALM Africa and in the surrounding villages on the Community Outreach Programme. The students will teach classes, play sports, read with the children or help in the development of the local school.



Operations highlights

- 1. Hardship Fund:** The University's Hardship Fund provides a grant to students who find themselves in financial hardship due to unforeseen circumstances since starting the course. The purpose of the Hardship Fund is to provide support for students who would not otherwise be able to continue to study.
- 2. Free breakfast initiative:** During the recent cost of living crisis the University introduced free breakfasts to help our university community, who were facing increased costs due to the Cost-of-Living crisis.



OVER
£400,000
RAISED IN 2022/23
FOR RAG CHARITIES



OVER
£4.6 MILLION
AWARDED IN BURSARIES
AND TUITION FEE
WAIVERS IN 21/22



END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Extreme hunger and malnutrition remain a huge barrier to development in many countries. There are 821 million people estimated to be chronically undernourished as of 2017, often as a direct consequence of environmental degradation, drought and biodiversity loss.

Research highlights

- 1. The Child Feeding Guide:** Fussy eating is common to half of the UK's children – and an unhealthy diet during childhood can contribute to preventable health conditions later in life. Our research, spanning almost 20 years, underpins much needed practical guidance for parents and caregivers – the award-winning Loughborough University Child Feeding Guide.
- 2. The Bug Factory:** The Bug Factory manufactures eco-growing pods designed for people's homes that harness insect power to recycle food waste and convert it into pet food and plant fertiliser. The pods are manufactured from recycled British fridge and freezers and aim to empower consumers to create their own affordable, sustainable and continuous source of animal feed while recycling their uneaten fruit.



Learning and students highlights

- 1. Soup Kitchen:** Soup Kitchen is one of Action's most popular projects and is entirely student-led. Every Sunday, a group of Action volunteers help to prepare, cook and serve a hot dinner and dessert for members of the local community who are in need of our support.

Operations highlights

- 1. Fruit Routes:** The vision of Fruit Routes is to plant fruit, nut trees and edible plants along footpaths and cycle paths across the university campus creating a spring snowfall of blossom and an autumnal abundance of fresh fruits and berries for harvesting, eating and distributing.
- 2. Sustainable and Healthy Food Policy:** Loughborough University has developed a food policy that aims to put sustainability at the forefront of its food offerings. The policy looks at how we can reduce our carbon footprint for the food and drink we produce, focusing on reducing packaging, locally sourcing food and reducing food waste.



THE BUG FACTORY AIMS TO REMOVE OVER
125,000,000 KG
OF CO2 BY 2026 AND HELP HIT THE UN 2030 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



MORE THAN
100,000
PEOPLE HAVE ACCESSED THE CHILD FEEDING GUIDE (CFG)

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



ENSURE HEALTHY LIVES AND PROMOTE WELL-BEING FOR ALL AT ALL AGES

Eradicating poverty in all its forms remains one of the greatest challenges facing humanity. As of 2015, about 736 million people still lived on less than US\$1.90 a day; many lack food, clean drinking water and sanitation.

Research highlights

- Our research at the Centre for Lifestyle Medicine and Behaviour (CLiMB):** CLiMB aims to identify and evaluate innovative health behaviour interventions and policies to prevent and treat chronic diseases. The overall ambition of the Centre is to help the public to live long, healthy and happy lives. The Centre works with researchers nationally and internationally, members of the public, public health organisations, health charities, the voluntary sector, commercial partners and the NHS.
- A step change in healthcare safety:** Globally, at least five patients die every minute because of unsafe care. In a bid to address this alarming statistic, our research is being used to implement systematic changes in occupational wellbeing and patient safety practice worldwide whilst impacting international standards and the design of medical products and facilities.

Learning and students highlights

- Volunteer Zambia:** This unique international sport programme run by the Wallace Group – a collaboration between leading UK ‘sport’ universities – to primarily support and work with the leading Zambian sports NGO, Sport in Action. Each year we select 6 students to represent the university in Zambia.
- Coach Volunteer Academy:** Our Coach and Volunteer Academy (CVA) provides our students, staff and local community members with valuable sport-based coaching, volunteering and leadership opportunities to enhance their experience and personal development.



Operations highlights

- My Lifestyle:** The My Lifestyle programme is a free and inclusive recreational sport and physical activity offer, that is open to and welcomes everybody of any ability. The aim of the project is to encourage our community to get active, boosting physical and mental wellbeing.
- Mind + Body + Soul:** This staff wellbeing program aims to create a staff environment with happy, healthy people who achieve harmony in their work / life mix are more creative, productive and help to create a great place to work.



OUR WORK IN HEALTHCARE SAFETY, HAS POSITIVELY IMPACTED PRACTICE ACROSS **120 COUNTRIES**



COACHING DELIVERED TO OVER **160,000 CHILDREN** AND 6 SPORTING ORGANISATIONS IN ZAMBIA



OVER **68,000** VOLUNTEER HOURS THROUGH CVA IN 22/23



OVER **1500** PARTICIPATED IN MY LIFESTYLE PROGRAM



3943 UNIQUE PARTICIPANTS 22/23 ZAMBIA PROJECT



OVER **600** CVA VOLUNTEERS

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE QUALITY EDUCATION AND PROMOTE LIFELONG LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Achieving inclusive and quality education for all reaffirms the belief that education is one of the most powerful and proven vehicles for sustainable development. Children from the poorest households are up to four times more likely to be out of school than those of the richest households.

Research highlights

1. **Comparative Judgement (CJ):** Our research into CJ led to the development of an assessment technique that eliminates marking error and avoids these problems. The method is widely used across the globe to support marking and enhance learning.

Learning and students highlights

1. **Triple gold in Teaching Excellence Framework:** The TEF is a national scheme run by the Office for Students (OfS) that aims to encourage HE institutions to improve and deliver excellence in the areas that students care about the most: teaching, learning and achieving positive outcomes from their studies. The University is the only higher education provider in the East Midlands to achieve triple gold recognition – a distinction earned by just 15% of the 175 HE institutions.
2. **Personal Best:** This exclusive development programme for Loughborough’s students. It provides the opportunity to develop, recognise and better articulate your own skills and attributes, leading to greater self-awareness and success, both academically and in your future lives and careers. It is structured in three dimensions around the University motto *Veritate, Scientia, Labore* with each word recognising development in a particular dimension of a student’s life at Loughborough: academic, professional and personal.
3. **Right to Read:** This project sees student volunteers go into a local school to read one-to-one with children with below average reading abilities. The volunteers work with 4 to 5 children and help them to build confidence in their reading skills in a protected environment.

Operations highlights

1. **Pathways:** Pathways is a collaboration between all three of Leicestershire’s universities and two further education (FE) providers which work with schools and pupils aged between 13 and 18 to provide support and resources for students, teachers, parents and carers to find out more about higher education (HE) and future careers. Two thirds of the students engaged by the project come from backgrounds traditionally under-represented at UK universities.



FAILER EXAMINATIONS
HAVE BENEFITED
5.5 MILLION
CANDIDATES OVER 5 YEARS

OVER
34,000

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS ENGAGED
WITH OUTREACH AND RECRUITMENT
ACTIVITIES, DELIVERED BY THE
SCHOOL AND COLLEGE LIAISON TEAM



20,000
YOUNG PEOPLE
IN LEICESTERSHIRE



ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AND EMPOWER ALL WOMEN AND GIRLS

Ending all discrimination against women and girls is not only a basic human right, it's crucial for sustainable future; it's proven that empowering women and girls helps economic growth and development. Women are still systematically denied the same work rights as men and are disproportionately impacted by climate change and disasters.

Research highlights

- 1. Violence Against Women Study Group:** Loughborough researchers have been part of female-led [cohort of academics](#) working to radically reform policing of serious sexual violence. research has been used as an evidence-base on rape justice by the Home Office and Ministry of Justice, as well as third sector organisations such as Rape Crisis.
- 2. Women-Only leadership:** Since 2019 our academics started working closely with UK Sport with the aim of improving gender representation in the high-performance coach workforce. This work is designed to help [increase the number of female coaches](#) from an average 10% to 25% by Paris 2024. We delivered a [women-only leadership development programme](#) in [2021](#) and in [2022](#) to equip female coaches operating in high performance with the confidence and leadership tools they need to increase their impact.

Learning and students highlights

- 1. West Ham Women's Education Partnership:** Loughborough University has become the official [higher education partner](#) of West Ham United Women – the first partnership of its kind in the Barclays Women's Super League

The long-term partnership includes world-leading research, elite athlete education programmes, performance support expertise, access to outstanding sports facilities, and integrating Loughborough's most talented students through internship opportunities.

With a long history of supporting dual career elite athletes, the University will provide an alternative education pathway for West Ham United Women's players and coaches through Scholarships and BTECs.

Operations highlights

- 1. Athena SWAN:** Loughborough University is committed to supporting the career development of talented women and has held the [Bronze Institutional Award](#) under the Athena SWAN Charter since 2009.
- 2. The gender pay gap:** The gender pay gap is associated with a need to address an unequal distribution of men and women across the levels of an organisation. We take our responsibility to close this gap seriously, and publish an annual [Gender Pay Gap report](#).



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



ENSURE ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

Safe and affordable drinking water for all by 2030 requires we invest in adequate infrastructure, provide sanitation facilities, and encourage hygiene. Protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems is essential. By 2050, it is projected that at least one in four people will suffer recurring water shortages.

Research highlights

1. **WASH project:** Our research in [Water, Sanitation and Hygiene \(WASH\)](#) is focused on developing the underlying analysis of evidence to influence policy and practice in the related fields of water sanitation and hygiene. Working with many development sector partners around the world including the World Bank and several non-governmental organisations.
2. **A fair deal:** Our research has made a significant contribution to the pricing process for the latest five-year business cycle for water companies (PR19, 2020-25) – guiding the modelling conducted by [Economic Insight](#), Ofwat and five water companies, Affinity, Bristol, Thames, Wessex and Yorkshire.



Learning and students highlights

1. **Water Management and Development:** Our [Water Management for Development](#) (Distance Learning) MSc under our Water Engineering and Development Centre (WEDC) is designed to develop careers managing water supply and environmental sanitation infrastructure and services for low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).



**MORE THAN
10.7 MILLION**
HOUSEHOLDS ACROSS THE
COUNTRY WILL BENEFIT FROM
OUR WORK ON WATER PRICING



ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL

Investing in solar, wind and thermal power, improving energy productivity, and ensuring energy for all is vital if we are to achieve SDG 7 by 2030. Expanding infrastructure and upgrading technology to provide clean and more efficient energy in all countries will encourage growth and help the environment.

Research highlights

- 1. The Centre for Sustainable Transitions:** Energy, Environment and Resilience (STEER) is a leading research centre based at Loughborough University. Our mission is to accelerate the transition to inclusive, sustainable and resilient energy systems through innovative research, analysis and capacity building. The following programs are lead by The STEER centre.

Modern Energy Cooking Services Program (MECs) is implementing a strategy focused on including the cooking needs of households into the investment and action on 'access to affordable, reliable, sustainable modern energy for all'.

The Climate Compatible Growth (CCG) programme aims to support investment in sustainable energy and transport systems to meet development priorities in the Global South.

- 2. The Centre for Renewable Energy Systems Technology (CREST)** is the largest and leading UK sustainable energy research centre, and a leading European academic group.

Learning and students highlights

- 1. Solar Energy Impact:** Dr Long Seng To, from School of Social Sciences and Humanities, currently operates as the Chair of the Solar Energy Subgroup of the UN's Expert Group on Resource Management (EGRM), a role that allows her to continue pushing for solar energy uptake. Having joined the group as a member in 2018, Dr To has worked hard to further the sustainable energy goals of the UN, notably by helping draft the first solar energy standards for UNFC (United Nations Framework Classification for Resources) in a bid to standardise how solar energy potential is classified and reported.



Operations highlights

- 1. Energy Strategy:** The purpose of the energy strategy is to set out a development framework covering a thirty year period from 2020-2050 to provide a sustainable future for the University.
- 2. Sustainable Design Guide:** The principle target audience for this guide is project Design Teams and Project Managers. It provides a framework to minimise the operational energy consumption of buildings and to deliver wider sustainability benefits, mirroring University policy requirements and the Estates Standing Orders. Its focus on operational energy consumption (and CO2 emissions) places a clear emphasis on outcomes rather than compliance.



**RANKED
1ST**
IN THE UK FOR SDG 7
AND 15TH GLOBALLY



**MECS PROGRAMME
OPERATES IN
16 COUNTRIES**
IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH



**MECS IS A
£39.8 MILLION**
UK AID FUNDED
RESEARCH PROGRAMME

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



TO PROMOTE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH, EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT WORK FOR ALL

Encouraging entrepreneurship and job creation are key to this, as are effective measures to eradicate forced labour, slavery and human trafficking. With these targets in mind, the goal is to achieve full and productive employment, and decent work, for all women and men by 2030.

Research highlights

- Green Growth Plan:** Loughborough academics played a key role initiative looks to establish places for people and nature to flourish, decarbonise heat, pioneer and deliver hydrogen solutions, and develop a highly skilled, inclusive and diverse workforce. The team worked very closely with Midlands Engine, Energy Research Accelerator and regional experts to successfully deliver the [Midlands Green Growth Plan](#).

Learning and students highlights

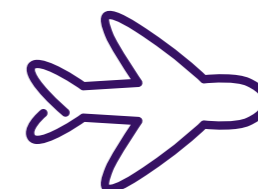
- Placement learning:** All undergraduate degrees offer the option to take a placement year: professional-level work experience with one or more organisations, over 45 weeks, as part of the degree.
- Don't forget the Mortar!** The project will examine the culture of the University and how it can be enhanced to create more inclusive learning environments and better opportunities for students at risk of poorer outcomes. The project aims to help transform the outcomes and experiences of students from underrepresented groups has been awarded £65,000 by the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Operations highlights

- LUSEP:** A world-class park for Science and Enterprise, home to over 90 organisations and a workforce over 2,500 people, [LUSEP](#) offers start ups to global organisations an unrivalled opportunity to join a dynamic innovation community with a world-class research base and graduate supply.
- Loughborough Town Deal:** We are a key partner for the Loughborough Town Deal that secured £16.9 million from the Government's Towns Fund and is backing 11 projects which are boosting skills, helping regenerate the town and supporting the visitor economy. The projects are worth over £40 million of total investment into Loughborough. Loughborough University provides research expertise and will monitor the projects effectiveness.



1700
PLACEMENT STUDENTS
EVERY YEAR



150
STUDENT
PLACEMENTS ABROAD

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



TO BUILD RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE, PROMOTE INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION AND FOSTER INNOVATION

Investment in infrastructure and innovation are crucial drivers of economic growth and development. Promoting sustainable industries, and investing in scientific research and innovation, are all important ways to facilitate sustainable development. More than 4 billion people still do not have access to the Internet.

Research highlights

- 1. ReMed Project:** The [\[ReMed\]](#) project – led by the Centre for Sustainable Manufacturing and Recycling Technologies [\[SMART\]](#) – brings together experts from Loughborough Business School, School of Design and Creative Arts and Wolfson School of Mechanical, Electrical and Manufacturing Engineering alongside colleagues from Leeds. Together, they are identifying the challenges and barriers to the circular use of medical devices and [developing potential sustainable solutions](#).
- 2. Sleep in the City:** The [Sleep in the City](#) project is examining how increasing summer temperatures affect the bedroom environment, our sleep quality, and wellbeing. The work will protect the health and well-being of UK citizens as urbanisation continues and the climate warms.

Learning and students highlights

- 1. DIGILabs:** Loughborough University were awarded £5.8 million to create a suite of DIGILabs to support STEM students. The new shared suite of DIGILabs will ensure that graduates are future-fit for the world of work in which digital skills, data analytics, virtual and augmented reality play a key part, and can reap the positive benefits of artificial intelligence and machine learning to support future technologies.
- 2. Start-up Fund:** The [Start-up Fund](#) (SUF) grant. Designed to support your business ventures – including existing businesses/ developed ideas and/or new ideas.

Operations highlights

- 1. Innovation Catalysed & Enabled (ICE) Leicestershire:** Loughborough University is part of a new [regional initiative](#) that has been awarded £330,000 by Research England. The target is to deliver novel products, services and businesses and energise the innovation culture of the city and county. The project will build connections with businesses and create opportunities for students to deploy and develop skills, build experience, and catalyse enterprise.

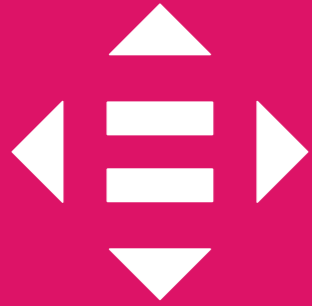


OVER
90%
OF LOUGHBOROUGH'S RESEARCH IS 'WORLD-LEADING' OR 'INTERNATIONALLY-EXCELLENT'



94%
OF LOUGHBOROUGH'S RESEARCH IMPACT IS RATED AS 'WORLD-LEADING' OR 'INTERNATIONALLY-EXCELLENT'

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



TO REDUCE INEQUALITIES WITHIN AND AMONG COUNTRIES

Income inequality requires global solutions. This involves improving the regulation and monitoring of financial markets and institutions, encouraging development assistance and foreign direct investment to regions where the need is greatest. Facilitating the safe migration and mobility of people is also key to bridging the widening divide.

Research highlights

- 1. Working with international partners:** International partners, GB teams, researchers from Loughborough's Peter Harrison Centre for Disability Sport have played a critical role in shaping new events and rules as well as safeguarding the health of Para-athletes. Our research partnerships have also improved the number of sporting opportunities for people with disabilities worldwide.
- 1. Levelling the Playing Field:** Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) coaches are significantly under-represented in men's professional football in England. Our research has addressed this issue, helping to shape the Football Association's (FA) national strategic approach to increase BAME representation in coach education and employment. It has also improved the Football Association (FA) and English Football League's (EFL) recruitment policies while enhancing the effectiveness of national development programmes to support BAME coaches.

Learning and students highlights

- 1. Black in Sport Summit:** The Black in Sport Summit is an annual summit founded by a group of Loughborough University students, born out of frustration of the discrimination that black sportspeople face and the underrepresentation of black people in certain roles within sport. The 2023 event saw speakers such as F1 driver Lewis Hamilton and GB Sprinter Imani-Lara Lansiquot.
- 2. Future Talent Programme:** Our Black and Asian Talent Programmes are designed to supercharge black and South Asian students' career prospects and confidence through access to meaningful work experience (placements and internships) and employers with a genuine interest in recruiting diverse talent into their workforce.

These programmes were created in response to the emerging and existing Placement Progression gaps between black, South Asian and white students at Loughborough University.



Operations highlights

- 1. Race Pay Gap:** Loughborough University actively reports on and aims to reduce the Race Pay Gap as part of Race Equality Charter (REC) application. The race pay gap measures the difference in the average earning of white employees and Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) employees across the organisation.
- 2. Women in Science:** The Women in Science Bursary was launched for women applicants to assist them to pursue their studies at Loughborough and help them develop as future scientists working in industry or academia.



17%
OF STAFF FROM ETHNIC
MINORITY BACKGROUND



8% TO 2.7%
REDUCTION IN PLACEMENT
PROGRESSION GAP BETWEEN
BLACK STUDENTS AND
THEIR WHITE PEERS IN 21/22



228
STUDENTS SIGNED UP
TO FUTURE TALENT
PROGRAMMES IN 22/23

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



TO MAKE CITIES INCLUSIVE, SAFE, RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE

More than half of us live in cities. By 2050, two-thirds of all humanity - 6.5 billion people - will be urban. Making cities sustainable means creating career and business opportunities, safe and affordable housing, and building resilient societies and economies.

Research highlights

- 1. Previsico:** Our research has developed the world's first property-level surface water forecasting tool to save lives and livelihoods worldwide. Drawing on almost two decades of research and validation in 50 cities across five continents, the technology commercialised through spinout company, Previsico, has the potential to save lives and livelihoods worldwide.
- 2. Circular economy:** Loughborough University is currently at the forefront of assisting the realisation of the UK's net zero goal with research into the circular economy. The University has pivotal roles in the [Interdisciplinary Circular Economy Research Centre for Mineral-based Construction Materials](#) and the [Interdisciplinary Centre for Circular Chemical Economy](#) – both part of a £32million Government project to reduce the carbon footprint of the UK industry.

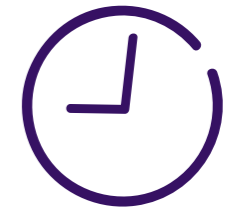


Learning and students highlights

- 1. Culture in the community:** This project aims to celebrate and promote intercultural enlightenment of our students through cultural activities and fun projects in and with the community. It helps the unprivileged as well as educate young kids about this colourful world by sharing knowledge about our communities cultural backgrounds.

Operations highlights

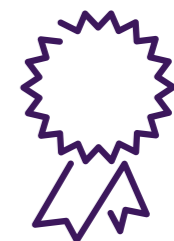
- 1. LU ARTS:** Is a dedicated arts program at Loughborough University aimed at protecting [natural heritage, campus buildings and artwork.](#)
- 2. Open Fund:** This [fund](#) supports people living in Charnwood that are working in the community on projects that link to the themes of health and wellbeing, sustainability and inclusivity.



11,000
VOLUNTEER HOURS
THROUGH ACTION



OVER
£25,000
DONATED EACH YEAR
THROUGH COMMUNITY FUNDS



LSU AWARDED
QUEEN'S PLATINUM
JUBILEE AWARD
FOR SUPPORTING THE
LOCAL COMMUNITY

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS

The efficient management of our shared natural resources, and the way we dispose of toxic waste and pollutants, are important targets to achieve this goal. Encouraging industries, businesses and consumers to recycle and reduce waste is equally important, as is supporting developing countries to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption by 2030.

Research highlights

- Sustainable building design:** Guiding international standards and international sustainability certification schemes, our research challenges the perception that construction waste is inevitable and is transforming the industry's understanding of and practices around waste prevention. We initiated and chaired the development of the new multi-part British Standard: BS 8895 (Designing for material efficiency in building project).
- What a load of trash:** A new study looking at litter in the UK has revealed the types of materials and products being dumped in our hedgerows and waterways. The study is in collaboration with [Planet Patrol](#) found the majority of UK litter is made up of plastic, and the most common items discarded into the environment are drinks packaging. The research will monitor the UK dataset over the next few years and assess how profiles of litter change over time, and the impact of legislation and policy changes.

Learning and students highlights

- Give 'n' Go:** [Give 'n' Go](#) is a campus-wide campaign we run every year at the end of the academic year as students begin to move out of their halls. Our aim to repurpose and recycle as many items as possible that would otherwise end up in general waste and landfill.
- Sustainable stationery:** The Creative and Print Services provides nearly new stationery for free on the online shop. There is no need to throw away un-required stationery as we re-use it right here on campus - we also share pre-loved folders with our students via pop-up folder giveaways during term time.

Operations highlights

- Grime Scene Investigation:** Grime Scene Investigation is run to figure out exactly how much of our waste is being correctly disposed of. Student and staff volunteers sort through waste from academic buildings and student halls, tag items and weights as they go. The data is then used for focused engagement to improve waste disposal.
- Social Value Portal:** We've recently adopted the Social Value Portal in our procurement practices. This is a leading online tool that helps organisations prioritise and measure their social value when they procure, or pay for, major services.



735
BAGS GIVEN TO BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION



40
CRATES OF FOOD GIVEN TO SHEPHERD FOOD BANK



RECYCLING RATES INCREASED FROM
9% TO 75%
IN THE LAST 10 YEARS



95%
OF WASTE DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL



OVER
56,000
UK ARCHITECTS ARE GUIDED BY BS 8895

13 CLIMATE ACTION



TAKING URGENT ACTION TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

Global warming is causing long-lasting changes to our climate system, which threatens irreversible consequences if we do not act. It is still possible, with strong political will, increased investment, and using existing technology, to limit the increase in global mean temperature to two degrees celsius above pre-industrial levels.

Research highlights

- 1. Climate impact of sport:** Researchers from Loughborough University have led a global review of the climate impact of sport emissions. The paper, published in the [Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences](#), reveals a mixed response to combating climate issues across the sports industry. It details how some teams, sports, and venues are leading the way in addressing the climate crisis, but also highlights how much remains to be done from grassroots up to elite sports, and national governing bodies.
- 2. HEI climate risk assessments:** The growing threat of climate change-related hazards led a team from 13 UK universities to issue [guidance](#) for improving resilience against potential climate threats. The paper aims to support Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) with developing processes to assess their current and future climate risks, as well as how to adapt to these risks, and how to identify opportunities to strengthen their resilience.

Learning and students highlights

- 1. Climate Change Politics and Policy:** Our MA [Climate Change Politics and Policy](#) degree addresses the urgent societal challenge of climate change, with a broad, international, problem-focused perspective that will suit students from a wide range of backgrounds.
- 2. SCAN Studentship Five:** Fully funded Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship Award studentships are available to passionate and committed students investigating critical sport and climate action research topics. Our aim is to establish a self-sustaining network that places Loughborough University at the global forefront of the sport-climate-sustainability nexus.

Operations highlights

- 1. Carbon Action Planner:** The Carbon Action Planner was launched this year and has been developed to allow each School, Professional Service and student halls to create a personalised Carbon Action Plan (CAP) so they can focus how they will help the University to become net zero.
- 2. Climate Change and net zero:** This is one of three core themes of the main University Strategy and Loughborough University is committed to achieving net zero for all Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2035.
- 3. LU Climate Action:** This was a [campaign](#) that encouraged students to have their say on climate and sustainability issues at the university, and lead in making positive changes across campus. It included an events series in October that connected students to Loughborough University campus from wildlife to arts and sports research.



225
ACTIONS BEING WORKED ON ACROSS OUR SCHOOLS



332
ACTIONS BEING WORKED ON ACROSS OUR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



224
ACTIONS BEING WORKED ON ACROSS OUR STUDENT HALLS



13.9%
REDUCTION IN CARBON EMISSIONS DURING 21/22 COMPARED TO THE YEAR PREVIOUS



OVER 15
SUSTAINABILITY AMBASSADORS



TO CONSERVE AND SUSTAINABLY USE THE WORLD'S OCEANS, SEAS AND MARINE RESOURCES

The SDG's aim to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems from pollution, as well as address the impacts of ocean acidification. Enhancing conservation and the sustainable use of ocean-based resources will also help mitigate some of the challenges facing our oceans.

Research highlights

- 1. River Science Laboratory (RSL):** [RSL](#) supports our experimental research at the interface of river geomorphology, freshwater ecology and open-channel hydraulics. RSL focuses on interactions between living organisms, near-bed hydraulics and sediment transport and the impact of the human environment in this space.
- 2. Plastic pollution in the Maldives:** [Melissa Schiele](#) is working with Oceans Unmanned, the Marine Research and High Education Center, to develop a standardised methodology for using drones to detect plastics in the Indian Ocean. The research is focused on [developing drone technology to protect and monitor marine life](#), will help train local teams to operate new long-endurance, water-landing fixed-wing drones provided by the non-profit organisation Oceans Unmanned.

Operations highlights

- 1. Spill training:** Loughborough University runs comprehensive spill training as part of the management of chemicals, the movement of liquids on campus, and the storage of waste oil and fuel.
- 2. Only rain down this drain:** Markers on drains have also been adopted by the University, aiming to educate staff and students, alongside providing contact information for guidance should polluted materials or resources enter the drains. All of these initiatives have helped to protect our East Midlands campus which has more than 600 acres and features ancient woodlands, a large range of biodiversity, as well as lakes and brooks which feed into the River Trent nearby.



2021
BSIF WATER POLLUTION
PREVENTION AWARD

**OVER
500**
STAFF TRAINED IN
SPILL RESPONSE

15 LIFE ON LAND

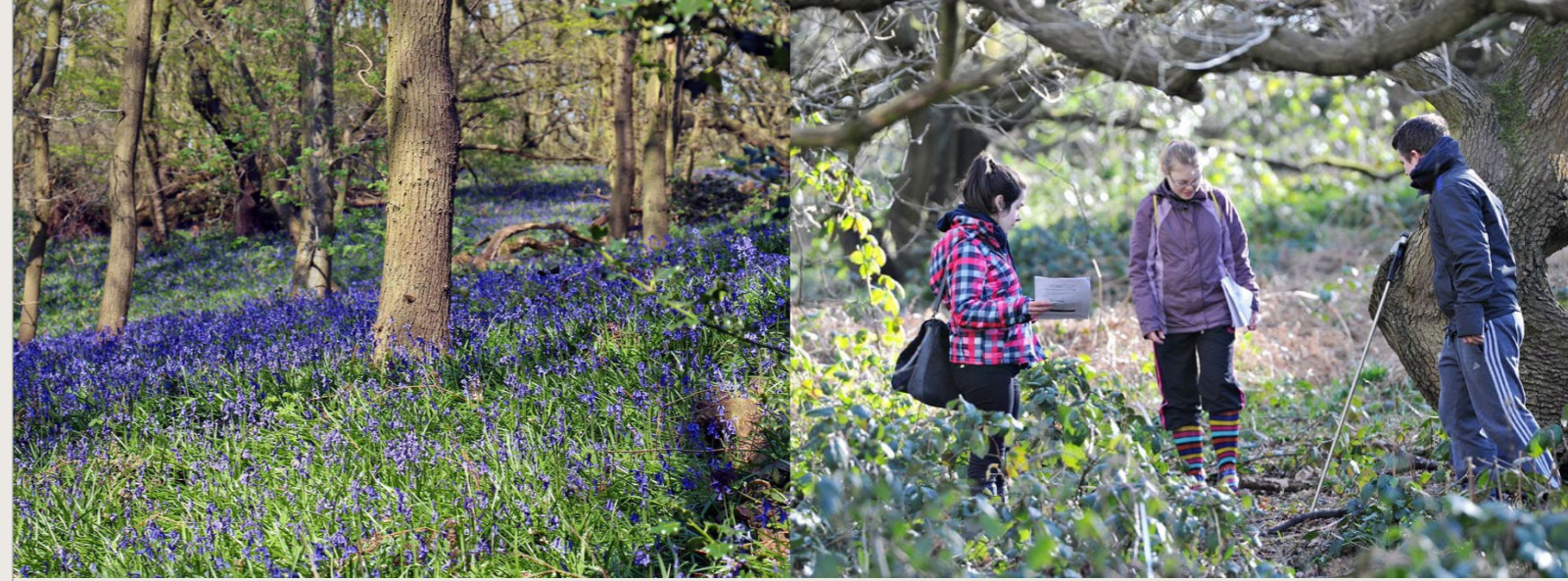


TO SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FORESTS, COMBAT DESERTIFICATION, HALT AND REVERSE LAND DEGRADATION, AND HALT BIODIVERSITY LOSS

Human life depends on the earth as much as the ocean for our sustenance and livelihoods. Urgent action must be taken to reduce the loss of natural habitats and biodiversity which are part of our common heritage and support global food and water security, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and peace and security.

Research highlights

1. **Sports for Climate Action and Nature (SCAN):** A vibrant new research cluster bringing together expertise in sport sociology, physiology, nutrition, management, ecology and engineering. Together with the United Nations Environment Programme and collaborators across the sport sector, Loughborough University is pioneering the work that will ensure sport's continued existence in a climate-changed world and position the sector to contribute meaningfully to environmental solutions.
2. **LURF:** Based at Holywell Woods (8 ha) on the University campus, Loughborough University Research Forest (LURF) is equipped for long-term forest monitoring. The research forest is an excellent facility for understanding the dynamics of UK forests in a changing world, including the future impacts of urban expansion and disease.



Learning and students highlights

1. **Forest ecology:** Our Geography undergraduates study a module focused on key ecological processes in forest ecosystems. This will be focussed on assessing carbon storage using practical, problem-based and inquiry-based learning based on a 'real-life' consultancy scenario. This involved field work conducted in one of our two ancient woodlands.
2. **Forest School:** We have had a Forest School on campus since 2016, working with a local nursery to establish the initiative using the University's Holywell Wood. We are given opportunities to explore the area, learn to identify the flora and fauna, as well as make fires, build dens and climb trees.

Operations highlights

1. **Green Flag:** Loughborough University has been a recipient of the Green Flag Award since 2018. It shows that the public space boasts the highest possible environmental standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent visitor facilities.
2. **Nature Positive Alliance:** Loughborough University is proud to be a founding member of the Nature Positive Universities Alliance. The Alliance is a global network of universities that have made an official pledge to work towards a Nature Positive goal in order to halt, prevent and reverse nature loss through addressing their own impacts and restoring ecosystems harmed by their activities. The Alliance launched with 117 universities from 48 countries.



17 SPECIES OF BUTTERFLY



6 SPECIES OF BAT



45 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF BIRDS



159 SPECIES OF MOTH

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



PROMOTE PEACEFUL AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDE ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND BUILD EFFECTIVE, ACCOUNTABLE AND INCLUSIVE INSTITUTIONS AT ALL LEVELS

The SDG's aim to significantly reduce all forms of violence, and work with governments and communities to end conflict and insecurity. We cannot hope for sustainable development without peace, stability, human rights and effective governance.

Research highlights

- 1. Cost of living crisis could drive a wedge into justice gap:** Research carried out by our [Centre for Research in Social Policy](#) showed a positive shake-up of legal aid financial eligibility criteria risks being undermined by a failure to account for spiralling inflation. The study found that more generous allowances in the proposals would greatly reduce the extent to which people on the lowest incomes are denied legal aid.
- 2. Can football enhance the lives of refugees?** Research at Loughborough University is set to investigate how football may improve the lives of refugees. Led by Doctoral Researcher, [Alessio Norrito](#), the study will critically assess how the sport, and the wider culture it brings, can be harnessed positively for forced migrants who cross the Mediterranean into the Sicilian region of Italy. The study will look at the role the sport can provide during resettlement in Europe, including fostering inclusion of those new to the country.

Learning and students highlights

- 1. Loughborough partners with two Ukrainian universities:** Loughborough University has signed memoranda of agreement with two Ukrainian universities, as part of a twinning initiative to offer support to academics, students and university leaders during the conflict. Loughborough will partner with Odesa I. I. Mechnikov National University and O. M. Beketov National University of Urban Economy in Kharkiv.

Operations highlights

- 1. Social Impact Framework:** The University has partnered with the Purpose Coalition and former Education Secretary Rt Hon Justine Greening by signing up to an innovative [framework](#) that will measure Loughborough's social impact. Loughborough's activities and impact will be mapped against the [Purpose Goals](#), launched in 2021 to provide a framework for organisations to articulate their purpose and focus efforts on overcoming the barriers people face as well as driving equality of opportunity at key life stages.



UK-Ukraine University Twinning
#TwinForHope

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

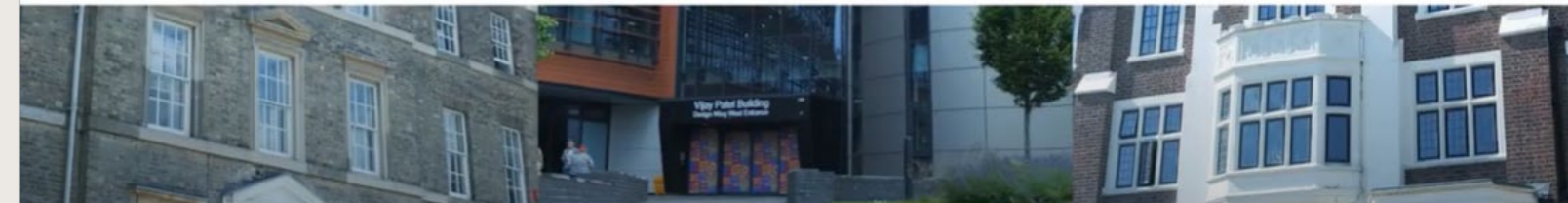


TO REVITALIZE THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The world is more interconnected than ever. The SDG's can only be realised with strong global partnerships and cooperation.

Research highlights

- WeThe15:** WeThe15 campaign is the biggest ever human rights movement to represent the world's 1.2 billion persons with disabilities. The movement has brought together the biggest coalition ever of international organisations from the worlds of sport, human rights, policy, business, arts, and entertainment, with colleagues from Loughborough University London leading the analysis of the effectiveness of the initial campaign.
- SDG Action Weekend:** Leading academic Professor Ed Brown travelled to New York to join a consortium of leading voices to discuss potential solutions to tackle the lack of clean, sustainable household energy for cooking around the globe. The MECs program at Loughborough is at the forefront of accelerating access to clean, electric cooking on a global scale.



Learning and students highlights

- World Bank Energy Storage Partnership:** Hosted by the University in 2022, the World Bank's Energy Sector Management Assistance Program (ESMAP) and the UK Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, the forum aims to address the key technological and policy challenges associated with energy storage. Exploring how new and innovative energy storage technologies could be adapted to help developing countries reduce their carbon emissions.

Operations highlights

- Universities Partnership civic agreement:** We signed a historic agreement, to work together with other universities and councils across Leicestershire to drive economic growth and tackle social challenges across the region, such as poverty and inequality in the community. We will combine our skills, experience and resources, with those from the University of Leicester and De Montfort University, to deliver joint projects supporting the local economy, arts and culture, sports and more.
- Hackney Council:** Hackney Council and Loughborough University London have announced a shared commitment to working together to help strengthen health and wellbeing and create vibrant, inclusive communities in the borough.

The partnership will see the Council use insight from Loughborough University London – based in Hackney at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park – to help inform its ambitions to build a fairer, greener local economy and a more environmentally sustainable borough.



15

ACTIVE KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER PARTNERSHIP (KTP) PROJECTS DURING 2021/22

The SDG's and LU's strategy

Creating Better Futures. Together.





GENERAL ENQUIRIES

For more information
on Sustainability:

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lboro.ac.uk/sustainability

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 RECYCLE ME