



Integration of SDGs in

- ☐ Institutional governance/strategic level
- ☐ SDGs in research
- ☐ SDGs in campus operations
- ☐ SDGs in curriculum development
- ☐ SDGs in student engagement activities
- ☐ SDGs into community activities
- ☐ SDGs at a whole-institution level

Focus on

- ☐ Goal 1 - No poverty
- ☐ Goal 2 - Zero hunger
- ☐ Goal 3 - Good health and wellbeing
- ☐ Goal 4 - Quality education
- ☐ Goal 5 - Gender equality
- ☐ Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation
- ☐ Goal 7 - Affordable and clean energy
- ☐ Goal 8 - Decent work and economic growth
- ☐ Goal 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- ☐ Goal 10 - Reduced inequalities
- ☐ Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities
- ☐ Goal 12 - Responsible consumption and production
- ☐ Goal 13 - Climate action
- ☐ Goal 14 - Life below water
- ☒ Goal 15 - Life on land
- ☐ Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions
- ☐ Goal 17 - Partnerships for the goals

SDG Accord Reporting 2021 CASE STUDY

Implementation of Ecosystem Resilience and Biodiversity Action Plan (ERBAP)

Cardiff University staff have worked over several years to improve the number of pollinators within the Cardiff urban region by installing beehives on the roof of university buildings. However, pollinators and other wildlife require access to suitable habitat and diverse forage throughout the year to prosper.

Building on previous work and as a requirement of the Environment (Wales) Act, The Ecosystem Resilience and Biodiversity Action Plan was developed 2019-2020. As signatories of the SDG Accord, the University is committed to embedding the SDGs throughout the institution, the most relevant to the ERBAP are SDG 11; SDG 13 and SDG 15.

BENEFITS

1. Our students and staff have responded very enthusiastically to this initiative and increasingly demand that we respond to the global biodiversity crisis by starting with our own estate.
2. We can use the ERBAP as a focal point to mobilise staff and student volunteers in our plans, giving them a sense of ownership in the University's strategy to improve biodiversity.
3. We fulfil our obligations on the Environment Act (Wales) 2016, which is required of us as a public body and increase collaboration with the council, statutory bodies and the local community.

BARRIERS

1. COVID 19 has been a major barrier to us starting our biodiversity baselining activities and deploying students and staff in the field. This is easing currently as we come out of lockdown in Wales.
2. Biodiversity and environmental sustainability literacy among our staff, students and governing bodies has meant that we have needed to make the case for our activities in ways that would not be necessary for some other organisations, but we are addressing this by embedding these pressing issues into the University's curriculum and via training programs at Induction and for our Executive Board and Council.



Viper's bugloss (*Echium vulgare*)



Slow worm (*Anguis fragilis*)

CONCLUSIONS

Getting our Action Plan approved by the University Executive Board and Council has been demanding work but has been crucial to properly embed SDG activity within Institutional practices. Involving all stakeholder, including academic staff, students and professional services has been crucial in gaining traction across the Institution. Co-production and collaboration have thus underpinned our approach and has been very successful.

We have linked to surrounding green spaces by gaining representation of Cardiff City Council on the ERBAP committee (from 2019) and by membership of the city's Local Nature Partnership (from 2020) and through enhanced interaction with local community groups (ongoing). We would therefore recommend a holistic approach to consensus building and direct liaison with the University's executive from the outset to ensure traction and downstream implementation.