



The SDG Accord

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

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

The 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development Goals

The Federal University of Espírito Santo (UFES) is a comprehensive, government-funded research university in south-eastern Brazil. In July 2020, UFES established an institutional development project focusing on the 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations (UN). The project is led by the 'Agenda 2030' Commission, which integrates faculty, professional staff and senior leadership from different sectors of the university. The main target group is the university population—staff and students at all levels—and the secondary target is the community.

The objectives of this project are: 1) To identify what is already being done at the university toward the SDGs; 2) To evaluate the possibilities of integration, implementation and incorporation of the SDGs in university strategies, policies and plans; 3) To monitor, evaluate and communicate its actions with respect to the SDGs. We have already mapped research and outreach activities from 2016 to 2020 and classified them according to the SDGs. We have also searched bibliographic databases and compiled a list of SDG-related publications by UFES staff and students.

The Office of University Communications is classifying and tagging the news related to the SDGs at UFES news portal, including logos of the corresponding SDGs at the bottom of the news page. By clicking on the logo, the reader is redirected to a list with all the news released by UFES on that specific SDG. An index page summarizes the news published on each SDGs (<https://www.ufes.br/compromissos-da-ufes-com-os-objetivos-de-desenvolvimento-sustentavel> in Portuguese). In addition, we have established a website devoted to SDG-related activities at UFES (<http://ods.ufes.br> in Portuguese), published the [2020 Sustainability Report](#) (Portuguese/English) and SDGs have been incorporated in the institutional development plan for the next 10 years.

This initiative is transferable to other higher education institutions in Brazil and elsewhere. It uses a top-down approach by convincing senior administrative offices first and working down the line. Support from the rector (or equivalent senior position) is very important for the success of initiatives like this.

BENEFITS

1. This initiative raises awareness of the SDGs among staff and students by showing what UFES is already doing for the SDGs.
2. It also provides staff and students with basic information on the SDGs, helping reinforce the UFES' commitment to the SDGs.
3. It increases UFES' reputation within the community and beyond by promoting SDG-related actions.

BARRIERS

- The lack of knowledge regarding the SDGs, and their role in higher education. We had a series of meetings with administrative leaders from different offices at UFES to introduce the SDGs, to explain their relevance in our society, and the crucial role universities play in the 2030 Agenda worldwide.
- The Covid-19 pandemic and its impacts, including suspension of in-person meetings, which were replaced by online meetings.



17,000 solar panels were installed on 55 buildings at the UFES main campus, Vitória, Brazil. They generate 7.7 million kWh/year of electricity, representing 45.5% reduction in the campus' electricity consumption.