

GREEN IMPACT STUDENTS' UNIONS

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nus
green impact

INTRODUCING SOS-UK

SOS-UK is an educational charity created by students and staff at National Union of Students (NUS) in response to the climate emergency and ecological crisis.

- Supporting more student to **lead, act on, and learn for** sustainability.
- Embedding sustainability in formal education across all disciplines, from early years to adult learning.
- Making sustainability **more inclusive**, for everyone.



NUS DELIVER THEIR SUSTAINABILITY WORK THROUGH SOS-UK



91% say they agree their place of study should actively incorporate and promote sustainable development



91% of students are concerned about the effects of climate change




65% say sustainable development is something they would like to learn more about

Embedding sustainability across campuses, curriculums and communities is fundamental to representing our students, and strengthening our students' unions.

GREEN IMPACT STUDENTS' UNIONS (GISU) 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 best practice through resources and case studies.

SUs GAIN ACCESS TO OUR ONLINE TOOLKIT


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Intro

Knowledge and Understanding
Completed 0 of 4

Leadership and Strategy
Completed 0 of 8

Partnership and Policy
Completed 0 of 10

SU operations
Completed 0 of 10

Campaigning and Influencing
Completed 0 of 10

Outreach and Collaboration
Completed 0 of 2

Self defined criteria
Completed 0 of 3

Outcomes
Completed 0 of 5

Submit

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

Evidence Uploads

Archive Workbook

Logout

Team name: example
Members: example example
Auditor: SOS

Tweets by NUS_sustainable

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

KN001	Criteria	Further information	How you will be audited	Comments/Evidence	Total Points
KN001 - Knowledge & understanding - Mandatory Very Good					8
The union has carried out relevant primary research amongst its students to inform its sustainability work, and has published the findings.					N/A
SU Estimated Score <input type="text" value="0"/> Auditor Score <input type="text" value="0"/>					Done

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

KN002	Criteria	Further information	How you will be audited	Comments/Evidence	Total Points
KN002 - Knowledge & understanding - Optional					7
The union has proactively promoted the annual national NUS sustainability skills survey , taking place between 21st October and 10th November 2019, amongst its students to contribute a good number of respondents, and has shared the results.					N/A
SU Estimated Score <input type="text" value="0"/> Auditor Score <input type="text" value="0"/>					Done

Team: example

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Knowledge and Understanding

Leadership and Strategy

Partnership and Policy

SU operations

Campaigning and Influencing

Outcomes

Self defined criteria

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

UNIONS RECEIVE A RANGE OF SUPPORT

- Resource bank
- Webinars and workshops
- Peer to Peer learning and networking
- Email and adhoc support
- Phone call mid-way
- Training
- Learning and development opportunities



WHY SUs TAKE PART

- Provides **structure and focus** for SU sustainability work
- The framework helps to embed sustainability into **strategic plans** and other another **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
- To showcase 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

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

WHAT HAVE SUs BEEN FOCUSING ON?

AUBSU - Wellbeing garden

QUEEN MARY - Student item collections for reuse

ASTON - Lobbying uni for better investment policy

BUCKS - Period Poverty

CITY OF GLASGOW - Climate cafes to support climate anxiety.

READING - lobbying uni to move to more ethical banking

WESTMINSTER- Food waste week of activities

ABERDEEN - Behavioural change and comms around net zero and the university's commitment for students

Next year's focus...

- The curriculum
- Gardening/growing and wellbeing
- Ethical investments (carbon targets)
- Decolonising and decarbonising

QUESTIONS?

KEEP IN TOUCH

Follow us on social media for more resources:



Instagram: @sosuk_charity



Twitter: @sosukcharity

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