



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

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GREEN IMPACT 2021-22

PROGRAMME IMPACT REPORT

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GREEN IMPACT IS A CHANGE AND ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Green Impact helps people understand sustainability and social responsibility, shows them what they can do to make a difference, and supports them in achieving these actions.

It has been developed over the years, using **social change theory** and SOS-UK expertise to produce a model that works in all environments and workplaces year-after-year. It covers the **whole sustainability spectrum** and is based on the themes of **continual improvement, collaboration and meaningful change** to establish **new social norms** and inspire people with the skills and passion needed to make a difference.



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GREEN IMPACT TEAM MEMBERS ARE PART OF A GLOBAL COMMUNITY



1,545

Organisations have used the Green Impact model

6,746

Teams have formed across departments

531,222

Positive sustainability actions and projects have been completed



WE'RE DELIGHTED THAT OVER THE YEARS:

84%

of participants find the programme either excellent or good;

83%

of people said that after being involved with Green Impact they know more about how to use their knowledge to make changes to their daily life;

72%

of people said that after being involved with Green Impact they're also more likely to encourage others in the sustainability agenda too;

88%

of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they felt good about themselves as a result of taking part in Green Impact.

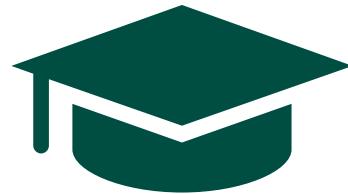
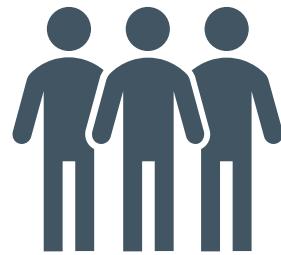


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Source: SOS-UK end of year programme evaluation surveys

THE NATIONAL IMPACT IN 2021-22



Been used by **455** organisations ranging from students' unions to NHS Trusts

Been made up of **1,003** teams led by **3,249** people

Provided **740** students with training and development opportunities

Engaged **59,126** people in sustainability and social justice issues

Seen **25,547** actions and projects completed, **17,144** as a direct result of the programme

[Find out more about Green Impact nationally and internationally here.](#)

Green Impact offered teams 279 sustainability actions in a online, interactive workbook. Actions could be implemented in university departments, colleges and at home. The workbook included themes such as Energy, Waste, Travel, Wellbeing, Communication, Procurement and Biodiversity...

B001	Criteria	Further Information	How you will be audited	Comments/Evidence	Total Points	7			
B001 - Getting started - the essentials									
EITHER the Department has an environmental group or committee - made up of two or more people - that meets at least termly, OR environmental issues are a regular item on departmental meeting agendas.									
<table border="1"><tr><td>Not Done</td><td>N/A</td><td>Done</td></tr></table>							Not Done	N/A	Done
Not Done	N/A	Done							

G010	Criteria	Further Information	How you will be audited	Comments/Evidence	Total Points	7			
G010 - Biodiversity & wider community									
The Department contributes to University biodiversity monitoring and data collection.									
How many records have been submitted on iRecord? <input type="text" value="0"/>									
<table border="1"><tr><td>Not Done</td><td>N/A</td><td>Done</td></tr></table>							Not Done	N/A	Done
Not Done	N/A	Done							

"the workbook is really user friendly and easy to use, facilitated allocating actions amongst the team easily, everyone can log on to track progress as a source of motivation, communication from the central green impact team has also been really great."
Cambridge Team member, 2021-22

GREEN IMPACT: CAMBRIDGE 2021-22

Since Green Impact launched at Cambridge in 2012, **152 teams** have participated and **20,288 actions** have been taken.



57 teams took part
in the programme



334 people led
the teams, with
an average team
size of **6**



49 students received
training and
development
opportunities in their
roles as auditors



The programme has
engaged **4,900**
people via Green
Impact teams



2,487 actions have
been completed, **1,313**
as a direct result of the
programme



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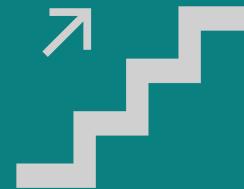
GREEN IMPACT TEAMS PROVIDED SOME NUMBERS ON THE POSITIVE IMPACT THEY ARE CREATING...



560 items rehomed through Warp It or similar and 352 items reused as part of stationery amnesties



641 people are using reusable cups and reusable water bottles



2,760,340 steps taken in pedometer challenges



£516 raised for charity across 3 teams, and at least 5 charities supported



411 staff received environmental training and 900 students were formally inducted on relevant environmental issues in their college



395 people joined a community engagement initiative



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GREEN IMPACT TEAMS PROVIDED SOME NUMBERS ON OUR COLLECTIVE IMPACT BEING CREATED...



Green Impact teams had support and involvement from 60 students



10 people took an online environmental calculator to find out their carbon footprint



26 people cycle to work, 36 use sustainable travel and 333 students attended cycle training



137 actions were taken from the working from home tab, including virtual sustainable lunches, switching banks, and wellbeing activities.



An estimated potential saving of £98,912 and 213,402 kgCO₂e through an analysis of 6 workbook criteria



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Green Impact Team Actions 2021-2022

[Read about further Green Impact initiatives.](#)

Cambridge University Press & Assessment took part in Christmas Jumper Day and shared energy saving tips.



Wolfson College are shaping the grounds so the pond and lawns increase biodiversity and benefit student wellbeing.



Careers Service run a virtual monthly sustainability lunch and podcast club.

Jesus College have eliminated single-use take-away boxes, cups and plastic bottles from the kitchen and cafe.

The Faculty of Education took part in litter pick at the local park.



Gonville & Caius College hosted film screenings, put up more recycling posters and held a recycling quiz.

MML ran a photography competition, in combination with Pride Month and 30 Days Wild.

Fauna & Flora International have mindfulness champions who promote good mental health practices.

Robinson College have reduced ruminant meat and introduced more vegan meals.



Green Genies organised a litter pick of a woodland area and tidied up a fly tipping area, collecting around 15 bags of rubbish.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment Cape Town have implemented a thorough recycling system.

John van Geest Centre have been reducing, reusing and recycling their polystyrene waste.

Scott Polar Research Centre created a garden to increase biodiversity and installed benches made out of recycled materials.



Jeffrey Cheah Biomedical Centre are working to reduce freezer temperatures to save energy.

The Herschel Smith Building have programmed lights to automatically turn off over the weekend, resulting in significant energy and cost savings.



The Investment Office are promoting the use of reusable water bottles.

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Green Impact Team Projects 2021-2022

MRC Epidemiology continue to reduce their energy consumption and negative environmental impacts through a range of initiatives. This has included installing new ULT freezers and ULT compression system, moving samples to different storage sites to reduce travel, and monitoring and calculating energy consumption and travel impacts. The department will also be able to rent out freezer storage space to externals, helping to use the spaces more efficiently. [Read about the team's range of actions and progress since 2013.](#)



Darwin College have been actively minimising their negative impact on the environment by changing the beverages that they have on sale within DarBar. During the College Green Week, several more sustainable beverages were trialled, for example beers made from surplus bread or cereal; products which require much less water and produce less waste in the brewing process; and local beverages. [Read more about this initiative.](#)



Girton College launched the Sensory Garden Competition, open to staff, students and fellows to submit a plan for the whole garden, part of the garden or a planting list. Entrants were encouraged to liaise with the Gardens Team to understand what recycled materials could be incorporated into designs and were advised to consider: sustainability with minimum maintenance and watering; promoting biodiversity; child friendly and accessible; appealing to all five senses. 10 designs were received and showcased in a Garden Walk, with elements of all designs being taken forward to the final garden design. This project has also led to the creation of a Green Forum for staff, students and fellows.



AWARD WINNERS

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BRONZE AWARD

Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK

ADC Theatre
Cambridge Spain
Careers Service
Investment Office
Kettle's Yard
Scott Polar Research Institute
Faculty of Education

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EXCELLENCE AWARD

Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK

Girton College
Jesus College
MRC Epidemiology Unit

NUS Green Impact

SILVER AWARD

Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK

Botanic Garden
Cambridge Enterprise
Cambridge University Press & Assessment - Cape Town
CEB Green Impact
Faculty of Music
Herschel Smith Building
Jeffrey Cheah Biomedical Centre
John van Geest Centre for Brain Repair
Maxwell Centre
Modern and Medieval Languages & Linguistics
MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit
MRC MBU
SLCU

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GOLD AWARD

Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK

Department of Surgery
Department of Geography
Fauna and Flora International
Christ's College
Clare College
Hughes Hall

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PLATINUM AWARD

Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK

Cancer Research UK
Department of Land Economy
IMS-MRL
Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology
The Green Genies - DPHPC
Cambridge University Press & Assessment
Churchill College
Gonville & Caius College
Jesus College
Lucy Cavendish College
Robinson College
St John's College
Wolfson College
Darwin College



SPECIAL AWARD WINNERS



Each local special award winner will be entered into the national and international Green Impact Awards.

Sustainability Hero

Winner: Alexander Carvell

Led on communications and a biodiversity walk, with his enthusiasm and ambition driving a whole range of sustainability initiatives and Green Impact.

Environmental Improvement

Winner: Andri Johnson

Started the Cambridge University Press & Assessment allotment and recruited a group of volunteers for a weekly session.

Student Leadership

Winner: Megan Groom

Played a leading role in Green Week, the College garden, donation schemes, film screenings, bringing together Green Officers and so much more!

Community Action

Winners: Amy Budd and Ruth Carter

Introduced and have been running regular climate cafes within Cambridge University Press & Assessment. [Find out how, and why they set it up.](#)

Innovation for Engagement

Winner: Department of Geography

Worked with students to run a 'student [Instagram](#) takeover' to engage more students with climate activism, followed with an open meeting.



Participants are recognised through Green Impact



All team members and student auditors receive a **digital badge** to showcase their personal and professional development, with some auditors sharing these on LinkedIn. Award-winning teams also receive a recycled **slate award**.



Today I took part in [Students Organising for Sustainability \(SOS-UK\)](#) 'Introduction to Auditing and Evaluating Environmental Behaviour Change' training programme and was given the opportunity to conduct an environmental audit on the sustainability initiatives of [Christ's College Cambridge](#). Assessing documentary evidence, as well as interviewing staff teams and awarding them for their efforts to reduce organisational carbon emissions and improve biodiversity in line with [United Nations](#) Global Sustainability Goals was an invaluable experience that has armed me with greater environmental awareness.

Thank you to [Students Organising for Sustainability \(SOS-UK\)](#), [Zoe Arnold](#) and [Susannah Cook](#) for this opportunity.

#environmentaljustice #sustainability #innovation #training #audit



“

Susannah Cook, Sustainability Communications and Engagement Coordinator, said the following: “Coming to Green Impact as a new member of staff, I had no idea what to expect. After working with teams for six months, what I experienced was a wide variety of staff and students going above and beyond to advance sustainability while getting used to returning to the workplace. I was so impressed by the resilience and innovation displayed by all the teams to keep on making progress in their college or department. The highlight of my time at the University thus far has been hosting our awards ceremony in person, and getting to celebrate all our teams properly.”

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STUDENT AUDITORS SAID...

Very interesting day,
nice to be able to directly apply the training.
It was great to see what **friendly and motivated staff** are doing to improve the sustainability of the university.

Green Impact Training was a very **insightful** experience. Things we didn't consider to improve sustainability were **illuminated** to me and shows that saving the planet does not have to be an impossible feat!

Participating teams are doing simple at first sight, yet useful things that bring "green" impact to their work environment. I am **impressed with the motivation and engagement** levels of staff, fellows and students. I definitely recommend the Green Impact training as the work these teams do is truly **inspiring**!

I enjoyed seeing the **variety of initiatives** taken across the university.



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Thank you to all that made this year of Green Impact a success at the University of Cambridge!



www.greenimpact.nus.org.uk/

 @sosukcharity #GreenImpact



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