



# Educating for Sustainability at Technological University Dublin:

## An Active Student Voice Matters

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# Introduction

- Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is a significant element of the United Nation's 2030 Agenda. Education as a tool for achieving sustainable development goals.
- Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) equips learners with knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes. The importance of student voice in curriculum development for sustainable development.
- There is a significant absence of research focused on students' role in promoting sustainability, especially postgraduate students.

# Aims & Objectives

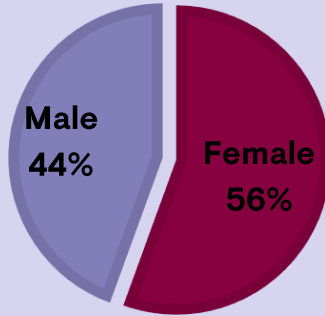
- Transformative education and student voice integration
- Reduce the gap between what teachers and researchers
- Fostering sustainability values
- New approaches for sustainability goals in higher education

# Methodology & Sample

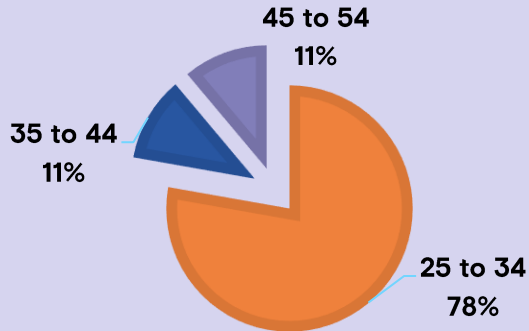
- PhD students at TU Dublin conducted a 2022/2023 survey.
- Survey aimed to understand student perspectives for a sustainable future.
- Emphasized the need for educational systems supporting sustainable growth.
- First study to evaluate PhD students' involvement in sustainability at TU Dublin.
- Integrated student voices in designing sustainable education systems.

# Respondents background

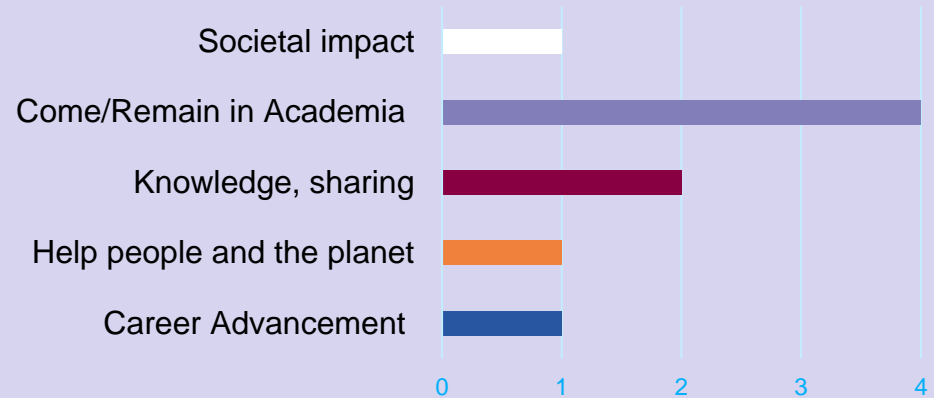
## RESPONDENT GENDER



## RESPONDENT AGE



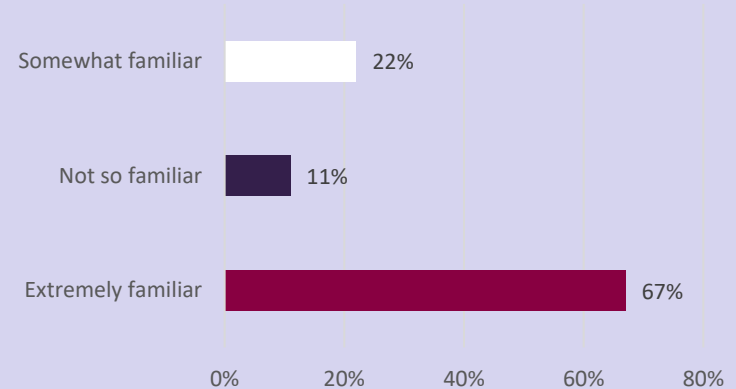
## Motivation



## Sustainability awareness among PhD students

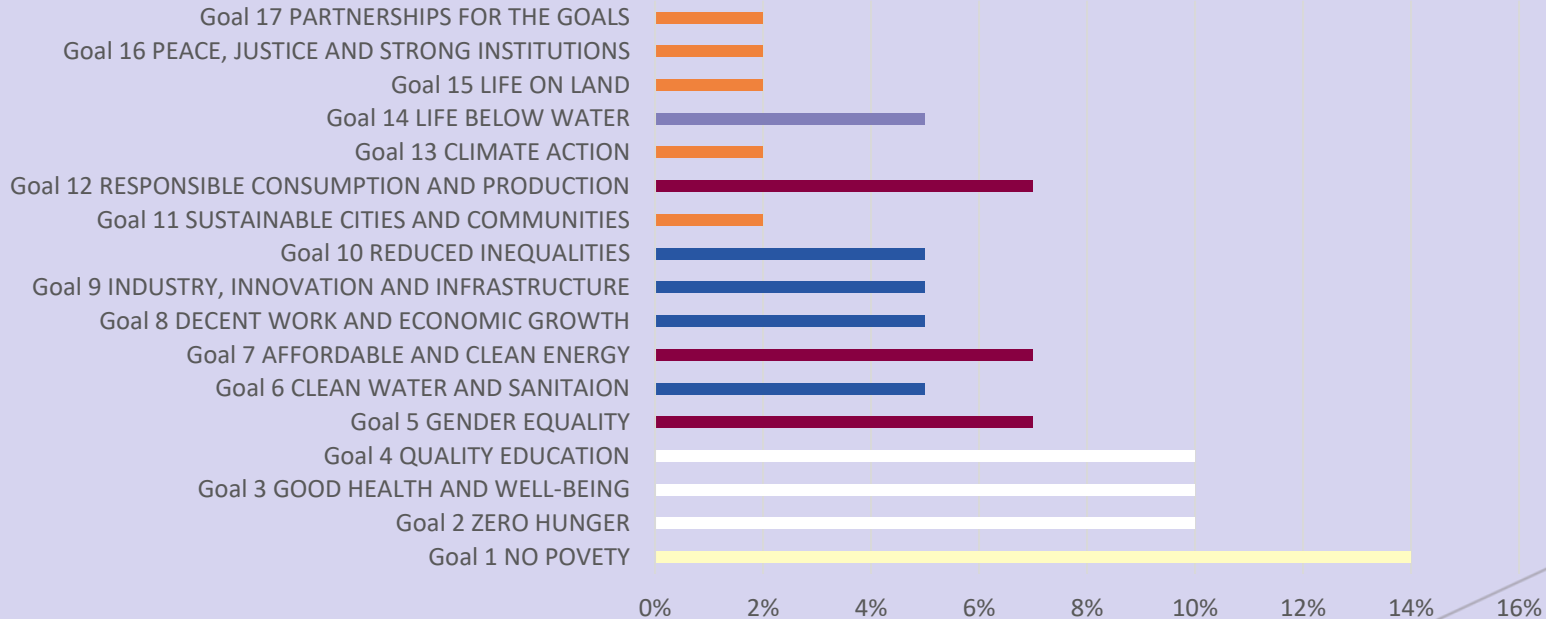
- **Personal perception** of sustainability includes efforts to implement sustainability now and not affect our near future
- The necessity of **taking action today** has become evident and is not considered specific or unimportant any more.

PhD students familiar with SDGs



# SDGs awareness

## SDGs awareness





# Practising sustainability in everyday life

- 44% PhD attend sustainability workshops or webinars;
- 33% Raise awareness among the stakeholders;
- 22% other activities: cycling to campus, research and engagement in sustainability initiatives, using less plastic and attempting to fight food waste.

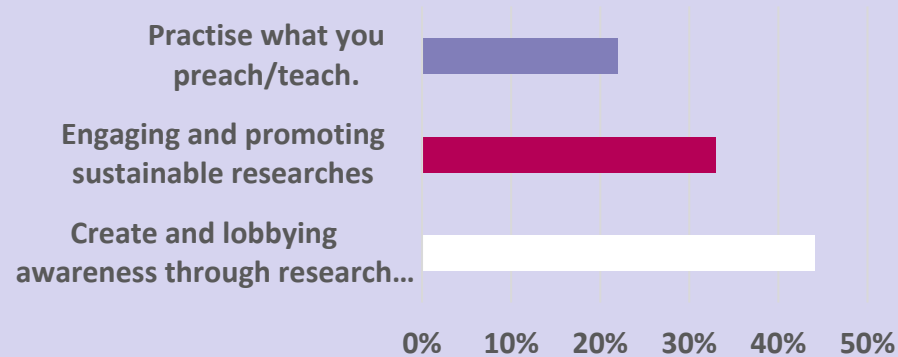
PhD consider that sustainability should become a part of their mindset and everyday life.

# Sustainability Promotion in the University

Respondents' recommendations:

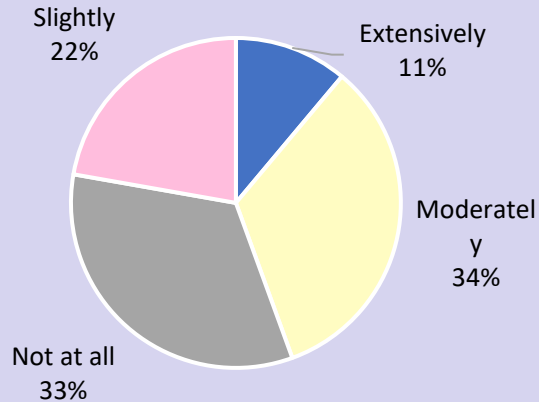
- sustainable decisions should depend on the campus location, avoid the centralised approach.
- focus on specific guidelines for decision-making called framework, any decisions which go beyond this framework should be adequately explained.
- the broad embedding of sustainability modules into various programmes as a part of the interdisciplinary approach.

## Sustainability practices for HEIs

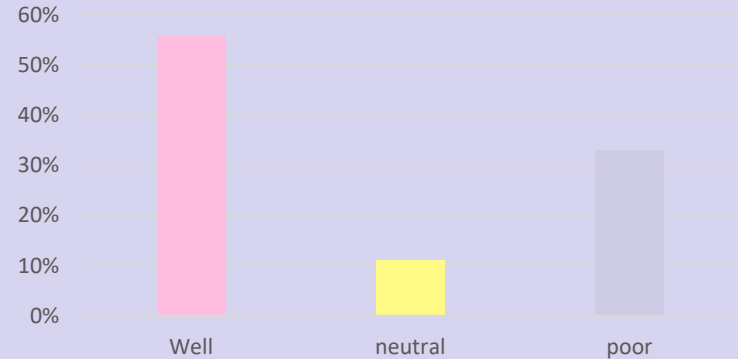


# Sustainability in PhD programme

Level of sustainability in the module

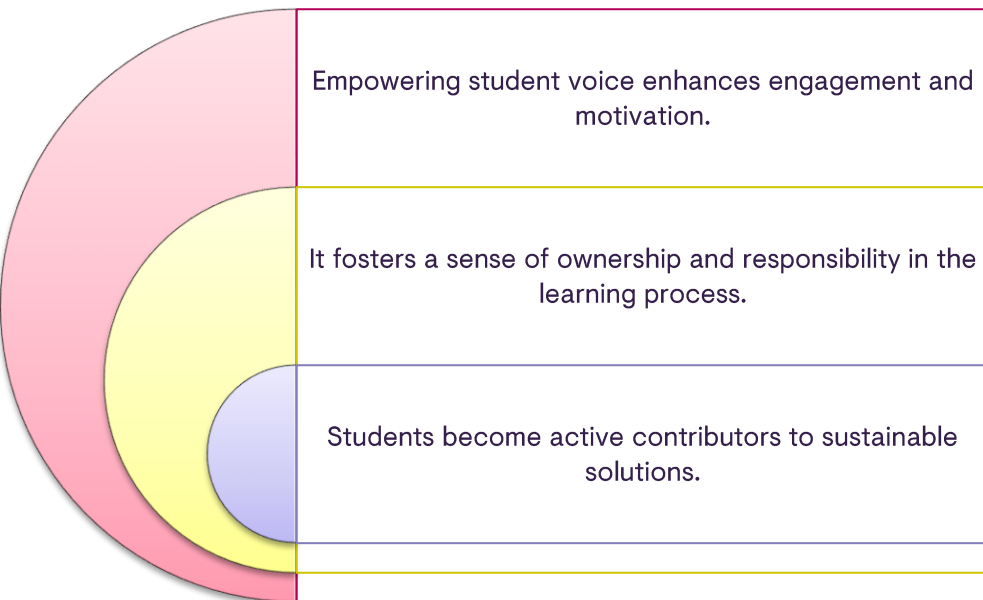


Sustainability performance of your HEI

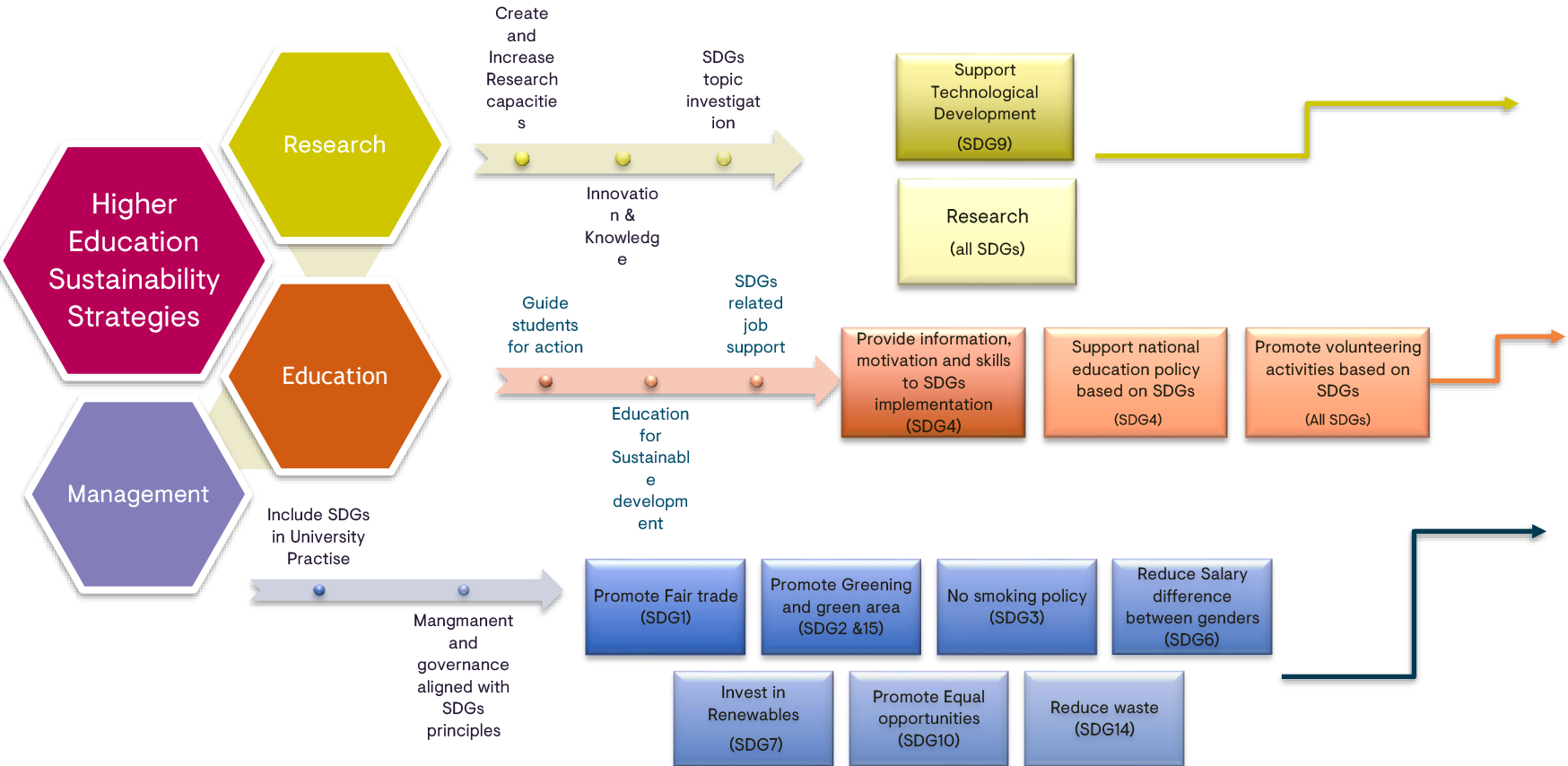


**Sustainability should be integrated** into the curriculum of all disciplines, not just those directly related to environmental studies.

# Value Student Voice within the SDGs



# The Future of Higher Education in Supporting Sustainability Goals



## Call to Action

Let's continue to prioritise  
sustainability education

**Thank You..**

**THANK YOU..**