



TU Dublin SDG 1: No Poverty

The vision for TU Dublin Strategic Intent 2030 is to ‘Create a Better World, Together’. In developing our TU Dublin strategy, and over the course of our conversations with over 2,500 stakeholders, we viewed the challenges facing us through the lens of the UN Sustainability Goals (SDGs). Some clear areas of focus emerged which resulted in shaping our plan to tackle our task through the following themes - People, Planet, Partnership and underpinned by the key SDG goal of ‘Quality Education’. These pillars inform our approach to educational, research and engagement practices, ensuring that TU Dublin delivers real change, innovation and impact for society.

This is TU Dublin’s third report on how the University has been addressing the SDGs. It includes examples of initiatives, events and project work that are having an impact across the 17 SDGs.

Year	Event
September 2022	In conjunction with the <i>Department of Further & Higher Education, Science, Technology & Innovation (FHERIS)</i> , TU Dublin provided 600 places under the Springboard initiative, which supports people who are unemployed, previously self-employed or returning to work. These programmes are provided free or subsidized.
September 2022	In Ireland, 13.5% of the population has a disability (CSO 2016 census). However, Ireland has one of the lowest employment rates (26.2%) for people with disabilities in the European Union, meaning this group is at a greater risk of poverty than the wider population. In response, TU Dublin delivered an online programme Self-employment for People with Disabilities that addresses the distinctive challenges facing people with disabilities in becoming self-employed and raising awareness of the benefits of self-employment.

August 2022	In August, a new four-day programme LEVEL-UP for Access was introduced to support those interested in returning to education or continuing their education in college but not sure where to start. The programme was managed by the TU Dublin Access Service which was established to assist individuals and communities in overcoming socio-economic barriers to accessing higher education.
July 2022	In Summer 2022, the Exceptional Services Fund was introduced to help TU Dublin students who cannot access traditional funding. It provides assistance directly to those experiencing extreme and immediate financial difficulty. The fund is supported by the TU Dublin Foundation Giving to the University programme.
June 2022	Five members of the <i>School of Transport, Engineering, Environment and Planning</i> at TU Dublin presented to the Joint Committee on Housing, Local Government and Heritage on ways of regenerating urban centers by bringing derelict or vacant properties back into use, including for social and affordable housing.
May 2022	TU Dublin Graduate Business School alumni gathered to brainstorm fundraising solutions for the <i>Dublin Simon Community</i> . Led by TU Dublin GROWTHhub , the <i>Dublin Simon Community Alumni Ideation Challenge</i> was the first in what will become a regular feature of the TU Dublin alumni calendar. Across the day, the Graduate Business School alumni explored and designed potential solutions for specific fundraising challenges faced by Dublin Simon Community, particularly in the post-pandemic context where engagement with donors has been impacted.
Ongoing	Our TU Dublin Access Foundation Programme is a one-year full-time course, preparing students both personally and academically, to pursue undergraduate programmes at TU Dublin. The programme forms part of TU Dublin's commitment to extending access to education to people from communities lacking a strong tradition of participation in third-level education. The TU Dublin HEAR Scheme also enables school-leavers from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds to apply for full time undergraduate programmes at TU Dublin.
Ongoing	TU Dublin Financial Aid , in conjunction with the Government of Ireland provides financial support to full or part-time students who are experiencing financial difficulties while attending college. It includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Assistance Funds • SUSI grants • Funds for Students with Disabilities
Ongoing	TU Dublin Academic Supports offers additional support in mathematics, writing and grinds to ensure that all students have the best opportunity to graduate.
Ongoing	As well as partnering with industry, we increased our efforts to partner with community organisations, schools, social enterprises, charities, and to use entrepreneurial skills to empower people economically, socially and environmentally. Innovation & Enterprise services at TU Dublin support start-ups and innovation and technology transfer activities.

Ongoing	The Area Based Childhood Programme (ABC) at TU Dublin is an early intervention programme for children aged 0-6 and their families. It aims to work in partnership with families, practitioners, communities, and national stakeholders to deliver better outcomes for children and families living in areas where poverty is most deeply entrenched.
Ongoing	The Grangegorman Labour and Learning Forum (GLLF) works closely with TU Dublin and other partners to promote Life Long Learning with access to education and training, particularly for 'non-traditional' learners. The primary aim is to work with partners to address barriers to access to learning, identify gaps in adult and continuing education and training provision.