



HÖGSKOLAN
DALARNA

Goals and Activities for Sustainable Development at Dalarna University 2021-2026

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Related documents: Diversity Policy DUC 2007/1912/10; Gender Equality Policy DU 1.2–2016 / 19;

Environmental Policy C2009 / 1721/10

Updates: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

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Why Sustainable Development?

Sustainable development is a term used in many contexts when we discuss the future. What is perceived as sustainable and what we should strive for can, of course, vary. Assessing the likelihood of different outcomes is difficult. It is somewhat easier to assess and describe the dangers of current developments, and research clearly indicates that our enormous and ever-increasing impact on our environment is radically changing the conditions for life on Earth.

It was during the 1960s and 1970s that we really began to understand that environmental changes could threaten opportunities for continued welfare in the long run. Previously, they had been primarily viewed as undesirable yet unavoidable side effects of the rapid technological and industrial development. This realisation was the origin of the term sustainable development, which was coined in the early 1980s and became known in connection with the UN report, *Our Common Future*¹, often referred to as the Brundtland Report. The report pointed to the need to take a collective approach to a number of issues that had previously been largely addressed separately – for example, issues relating to human rights, peace and security, population and environmental issues. The following definition is included in the report:

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

With that definition as a starting point, sustainable development is about *fairness between generations*; we need to manage resources today so that future generations can meet their needs. But it is just as much about meeting human needs today. Here we can talk about fairness within each generation. Resources need to be allocated so that more people can have their essential needs met, and social structures – institutions, trust, values and norms – need to be established so that people are given the same chances to shape their lives.

Sustainable development is usually described on the basis of three different dimensions: ecological, social and economic sustainability. Ever since the Brundtland Report, the UN has taken various initiatives to influence member states to contribute to sustainable development within these three dimensions – most recently through the new Agenda 2030, which, adopted by the UN member states in 2015, consists of 17 global goals for sustainable development. Through Agenda 2030 and the global goals, the countries of the world have committed themselves to eradicating extreme poverty, reducing inequalities and injustices in the world, promoting peace and justice, and taking steps to achieve long-lasting protection for the planet and its natural resources.²

Together with a large number of other higher education institutions, Dalarna University (DU) has unique opportunities to contribute to this work with sustainable development. As a university, we educate future generations of citizens, decision-makers and entrepreneurs. We generate new knowledge and in collaboration with companies and organisations, we can create better conditions for renewal and change. It is evident from the two DU documents – the Vision and the Strategy – that we are determined to contribute to sustainability, and this is something we want to prioritise. The Higher Education Act

¹ World Commission on Environment and Development. (1987). *Our Common Future, Report of the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

² The Swedish Government. (2018). Agenda 2030 and Global Goals. Retrieved from: <https://www.regeringen.se/regeringens-politik/globala-malen-och-agenda-2030/>.

(Chapter 1 § 5) contains the following provision on the responsibility that a higher education institution has:

*In their activities, higher education institutions must promote sustainable development, which means that current and future generations are assured of a healthy and good environment, economic and social welfare and justice. In the activities of higher education institutions, equality between women and men must always be observed and promoted. In addition, in their activities, the universities should promote understanding of other countries and of international relations. The universities must also actively promote and broaden recruitment to the university.*³

The present goals and plan for activities aim to specify what DU will achieve during the period 2021-2026 so that it can meet the requirements for promoting sustainable development in its operations, and the action planned in an attempt to reach these goals.

Vision, Strategy, Goals and Activities

In 2019, intensive discussions took place where DU's University Governing Board as well as staff discussed the University's focus for the future. The point of departure was the DU Vision, which had been adopted a couple of years earlier and which stated that we were to create open pathways to knowledge for a good society⁴. The result of the discussions was a new strategy document for 2020-2026⁵. One of the overall goals of the Strategy is to establish and develop cohesive academic environments where education and research serve to strengthen each other.

At the same time as the implementation of the Strategy began at the beginning of 2020, the Sustainable Development Council was commissioned by the Vice-Chancellor to come with suggestions for sustainability goals. The work with the goals has been conducted in work groups, and the proposals that have put forward have been discussed and presented in dialogues with managers at different levels as well as with employees and students in a workshop and through consultation.

The sustainability goals are valid for the years 2021-2026 and include the areas of internationalisation, gender equality and inclusion as well as the environment and climate, and they are intended to address all the provisions included in the fifth section of the first chapter of the Higher Education Act (above). Eight overall sustainability goals were identified. For each goal, a number of activities are specified along with a time plan, the position that is responsible and the method for follow-up, and this should contribute to achieving the overall goal. The activities are firmly established within the organisation yet at the same time must be seen as preliminary; new priorities may be needed as the world around us and our own operations change.

An important point of departure has been that the sustainability goals and activities for achieving the goals must be integrated into the regular routines for planning and following up. The activities must feature in the planning process before each new financial year. The

³ Higher Education Act (1992: 1434)

⁴ Dalarna University. (2014). Our Vision. Retrieved from: <http://www.du.se/globalassets/global/visionen/DU-vision-2015.pdf>

⁵ Högskolan Dalarna. (2019). Strategy for Dalarna University 2020–2026. Retrieved from: <https://www.du.se/globalassets/local/om-oss2/planering-och-uppfoljning/visionsdokument/strategi-for-hogskolan-dalarna-20202026.pdf>

activities listed are for the years 2021-2023 and activities for the latter part of the period (until 2026) will therefore need to be decided no later than 2023.

Naturally, aspects such as the climate, internationalisation and gender equality need to be considered when making a range of decisions at a higher education institution. Sometimes however, we need to increase our efforts in order to advance development at a faster rate. In connection with the organisational changes that take place upon the implementation of the DU Strategy, there are probably opportunities to better organise those parts of the organisation that are responsible for coordinating the work towards achieving the sustainability goals.

1. Education

The encounters with the thousands of students who take courses and programmes at DU every year provide enormous potential. Using the knowledge, skills and values that students take with them from their education, DU can contribute to promoting sustainable development. Society has high, and well-justified, expectations of us, and other universities, to equip students well in these encounters. As a university, we must meet these expectations. However, in order not to clash with the university's role as an independent societal institution where the motivation of the individual and the free pursuit of knowledge are central, a well-thought-out approach is needed where research-related education of high quality is at the foundation.

Science has largely been characterised by specialisation and the establishment of disciplinary boundaries, which sometimes makes it difficult when we seek solutions to complex societal problems^{6 7}. It is important that different perspectives and interests are related and problematised in relation to each other. Students need to be given the opportunity to discuss and critically reflect on all three dimensions of sustainable development – the ecological, the social and the economic – in order to better identify possible conflicts of interest and evaluate or argue for different positions. There is also a need for the individual to be given the freedom to reflect on how their own values and those of others affect decisions and actions.

In the literature on education for sustainable development, there are descriptions that are primarily based on the central aspects of the subject content: What do students need to learn? You can also start with the teaching: What activities best support learning? A third common point of departure is looking at the effects of the education: What kinds of skills do students need to take with them after their education? It is reasonable to ask all kinds of questions when developing or following up on sustainable development in education.

Overall Goal 2021-2026

In all education that leads to a degree, issues dealing with different aspects of sustainable development must be introduced, discussed and problematised based on the subject area or the student's future professional role. This is to strengthen the student's ability to understand and handle complex problems and to reflect on how different perspectives, interests and values affect the priorities of individuals and societies.

Link to Global Goals and Their Targets

This goal contributes to the Agenda 2030 goal 4: Good education for all, in particular sub-goal 4.7: *Education for sustainable development and global citizenship*.

Link to Dalarna University's Strategy

This goal relates mainly to the following aspects of the strategy:

1: *Education for the benefit of society and self-formation (Bildung)*

⁶ Hirsch Hadorn et al. (2008). The emergence of transdisciplinarity as a form of research. In Hirsch Hadorn et al. (red.), *Handbook of Transdisciplinary Research* (1 uppl., s. 19-29). Springer Science + Business Media B.V

⁷ Max-Neef (2005). *Foundations of transdisciplinarity*. Ecological Economics, 53, 5-16.

5: *Global perspectives and intercultural understanding*

8: *Hallmark: Holistic view of the student*

Goal 1: Plan for Activities 2021-2023

Activity 1.1. Develop a proposal on how follow-up of the integration of sustainable development in education can be implemented and where the responsibility should lie.⁸

Time Plan: 2021

Indicators: A documented and appropriate model for following up developed

Responsible: Education and Research Board (FUN) in dialogue with the Sustainable Development Council

Activity 1.2. Develop a plan for, and arrange, workshops and seminars to support the schools (*institutioner*) as they work towards activities 1.3 and 1.5.

Time Plan: 2021-2023

Indicators: Incidence of workshop and seminar planning, number of completed workshops and seminars

Responsible: University Director (NGL) in dialogue with the Sustainable Development Council

Activity 1.3. All educational programmes are commissioned to 1) audit and document what is being done today that can contribute to achieving the overall goal above, 2) review the possibility of raising awareness and/or reinforcing what is good, 3) produce proposals for development initiatives where gaps or untapped opportunities can be seen, and 4) draw up an inventory of competence in the area and analyse the need for professional development. Support for this process is offered centrally (Activity 1.2).

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Completed and documented inventories of the educational programmes, with needs analysis and development proposals

Responsible: Heads of Schools

Activity 1.4. The library is commissioned to create both a virtual and a physical space in the library where articles and news in the field of sustainable development are visible.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Incidence of a virtual and a physical space

Responsible: University Director (University Library) in dialogue with the Sustainable Development Council

Activity 1.5. All educational programmes implement development initiatives and skill-enhancing activities related to sustainable development in education, based on the inventory, needs analysis and development proposals developed during 2022 (Activity 1.3).

Time Plan: 2023

⁸ Today, sustainable development in education is followed up in a number of different, uncoordinated, ways, primarily through the *områdesnämnd* reviews, in internal environmental audits and in annual reports.

Indicators: Implemented and documented development initiatives and activities to increase competence

Responsible: Heads of Schools

2. Research

Higher education of good quality must have its foundations in the latest scientific findings. Therefore, a fundamental idea within higher education is that there should be a close connection between research and education. A strong research connection contributes to strengthening the ability of students to evaluate knowledge and follow the development of knowledge, to be able to independently formulate problems and to make critical assessments. To maintain this, research must be free, that is, those who are best qualified to do research in a particular area must be able to formulate their questions freely, develop methods and decide where and how the results are to be published.

The freedom of research is statutory, but so too is the requirement that higher education institutions must “promote sustainable development which means that current and future generations are assured of a healthy and good environment, economic and social welfare and justice” (HL, ch. 1, § 5).⁹ The DU Vision is based on the values of openness, courage and responsibility. This means that we see it as important to address issues relating to various societal challenges in order to be able to contribute knowledge that promotes sustainable development. In research, the development of knowledge for the benefit of society is thus central, and education that links to research better enables the conversion of knowledge into action.

Overall Goal 2021-2026

Research at DU will generate new knowledge that strengthens our education, that promotes the development of knowledge in society and that can be useful in many cases. DU should encourage research on issues that address important societal challenges and that can contribute to sustainable development.

Link to Global Goals and Their Targets

Research at DU can contribute to all 17 of the Agenda 2030 goals depending on the focus of the specific research project; however, with regard to the areas where DU has research within existing or potential cohesive academic environments, there are mainly links to the following goals:

Goal 3: *Good health and well-being*

Goal 4: *Inclusive and equitable quality education*

Goal 7: *Affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all*

Goal 9: *Sustainable industry, innovations and infrastructure*

Goal 11: *Sustainable cities and communities*

Goal 12: *Responsible consumption and production*

Goal 16: *Peaceful and inclusive societies*

⁹ Higher Education Act (1992: 1434)

Link to Dalarna University's Strategy

This goal links primarily to strategy area 2: *Research for knowledge growth and societal benefits*.

Goal 2: Plan for Activities 2021-2023

Activity 2.1. Develop and participate in arenas for research collaboration in sustainable development.

Time Plan: 2021-2023

Indicators: Incidence of arenas

Responsible: Sustainable Development Council

Activity 2.2. Give doctoral students the opportunity to reflect on the importance of their projects for long-term sustainable development through, for example, activities in postgraduate courses or at seminars.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Incidence of activities in postgraduate courses or seminars with a focus on sustainability

Responsible: Director of Doctoral Programmes

Activity 2.3. Create conditions for developing university-wide research projects that address issues that are relevant to sustainable development.

Time Plan: 2022-2023

Indicators: Status report in this issue

Responsible: Deputy Vice-Chancellor

3. Collaboration

A DU hallmark is collaboration. This is mainly evident in the significant work carried out by employees at DU, with the aim of ensuring that the education and research conducted at the University be of use to and benefit society. Our collaboration also contributes to increased quality in both education and research. The collaboration work DU does must be well-supported both internally and externally and is a significant factor in building strong cohesive academic environments.

The work that takes place at DU in regional, national and international collaboration with various partners creates an exchange of knowledge between the university and society. When learning takes place collaboratively, it contributes to the development of the respective organisations involved and DU is then better prepared to do what it is meant to do. It opens up a flow of knowledge and understanding between higher education and society, which also provides opportunities for increased co-production of education and research. For DU, collaboration means building various forms of relationships that can be strengthened in the form of formal networks and organisations. The aim is to create long-term and comprehensive partnerships that can contribute to long-term societal changes. Successful collaboration is based on strong and trusting relationships between people working both inside and outside the university. To achieve maximum mutual benefit, these relationships need to be based on mutual understanding and the common needs and goals that have been identified.

Overall Goal 2021-2026

Dalarna University should be an obvious and appropriate partner in the region for joint work towards a sustainable society. We must also be a proactive partner, nationally and internationally, which is of interest for building knowledge, and for innovation and change.

Link to Global Goals and Their Targets

Collaboration at DU can contribute to all 17 of the Agenda 2030 goals depending on the focus of the specific collaboration project; however, in terms of the areas where DU conducts collaboration within existing or potential cohesive academic environments, there are links mainly to the following goals:

Goal 3: *Good health and well-being*

Goal 4: *Inclusive and equitable quality education*

Goal 7: *Affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all*

Goal 9: *Sustainable industry, innovations and infrastructure*

Goal 11: *Sustainable cities and communities*

Goal 12: *Responsible consumption and production*

Goal 16: *Peaceful and inclusive societies*

Link to Dalarna University's Strategy

This goal mainly links to strategy area 10: *Hallmark: Collaboration*

Goal 3: Plan for Activities 2021-2023

Activity 3.1. Support relevant arenas and centres of knowledge that facilitate collaboration in sustainable development.

Time Plan: 2021-2023

Indicators: Status report in this issue

Responsible: Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Sustainable Development and Collaboration

Activity 3.2. Make students' commitment to sustainable development visible.

Time Plan: 2021-2023

Indicators: Visibility of student initiatives in internal and external communication

Responsible: Sustainable Development Council in dialogue with the Communications Office

Activity 3.3. Ensure that sustainable development is included in the model for follow-up and analysis of the effects of the collaboration work.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: A model which incorporates sustainable development

Responsible: Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Sustainable Development and Collaboration in dialogue with those working strategically with collaboration

4. International Cooperation

Issues regarding globalisation and justice and working to address the global challenges are important aspects what we do in the region and in the world. International and intercultural perspectives contribute to a greater understanding of ourselves and others – of how local action has global consequences – and are important for preparing students for tomorrow's labour market. A key starting point in the DU Strategy is the continued development of cohesive academic environments that must have close and well-established national and international contacts. Internationalisation is a means to increasing the quality of our operations: research benefits substantially from collaboration with other researchers, the quality of education increases as a result of the exchange of experience, and the content of education is placed in a larger context, which gives students the conditions to work sustainably in a globalised world.

The DU Strategy states the importance of the cohesive academic environments having strategic, long-term partnerships with relevant foreign universities. The Strategy states that the work to increase international cooperation in education and research, both physical and virtual, will be intensified during the coming operational period. It also states that the proportion of international students and teachers will increase, and that efforts will be made to encourage international students to stay after completing their studies. DU as an international workplace will be developed through improved service and expanded support services for students and teachers / researchers from other countries.

Overall Goal 2021-2026

Create attractive research and research-related education by strengthening international cooperation and DU as an international workplace.

Link to Global Goals and Their Targets

This goal primarily contributes to achieving the following goals in Agenda 2030:

- Goal 10: *Reduced inequality*
- Goal 16: *Peaceful and inclusive societies*
- Goal 17: *Implementation and global partnership*

Link to Dalarna University's Strategy

This goal relates mainly to the following areas of the Strategy:

- 1: *Education for the benefit of society and self-formation (Bildung)*
- 2: *Research for knowledge growth and societal benefits*
- 5: *Global perspectives and intercultural understanding*
- 7: *An attractive workplace*
- 8: *Hallmark: Holistic view of the student*
- 9: *Hallmark: Net-based teaching – digitalisation competence*
- 10: *Hallmark: Creative models for collaboration*

Goal 4: Plan for Activities 2021-2023

Activity 4.1. Appoint a contact/s at each school who can have the overall responsibility for coordinating international cooperation agreements in accordance with the strategy of each school (*institution*).

Time Plan: 2021

Indicators: Appointed contact people at each school (institution)

Responsible: Heads of schools

Activity 4.2. Identify international partners in education and research who may be considered for strategic partnerships between universities¹⁰.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Status in annual reports

Responsible: Heads of schools

Activity 4.3. Develop the services for incoming and outgoing exchange students, support for international students after their arrival and improve the way in which information is communicated to them about the support that the University provides.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Reporting of implemented development and communication initiatives

Responsible: University Director (Student Services Office)

Activity 4.4. Investigate the purpose and long-term goals for a possible alumni for international students at DU, including proposals for an administrative organisation for this.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Proposals for purpose, long-term goals and administrative organisation for an international alumni

Responsible: University Director (Communications Office)

Activity 4.5. Develop virtual exchange by developing jointly run net-based university courses with foreign higher education institutions.

Time Plan: 2023

Indicators: Incidence of joint net-based courses

Responsible: Heads of Schools

¹⁰ By strategic partnerships we mean a formal agreement exists between two or more universities allowing the partners to aim for common goals, make joint commitments, and share resources. The strategic partnerships are connected to the overall goals of the university or the department and entail a multidimensional commitment, which benefits the mutual interests of the partners.

5. Gender Equality and Inclusion

A prerequisite for fair and sustainable development is that people are given equal rights and opportunities. A number of different initiatives have been taken and efforts have been made at the national level to combat discrimination, to contribute to achieving equality and to embrace diversity. The Government has commissioned colleges and universities to actively work with gender mainstreaming so that the gender equality policy goals¹¹, such as equal opportunities for career paths, gender-specific study choices and student success, can be achieved. According to the Discrimination Act¹², higher education institutions are obliged to take active measures and work actively to counteract discrimination.

Universities and colleges also have a responsibility to take advantage of the diversity that exists in society by taking into account differences and promoting opportunities for individuals to study and work. In 2001, an amendment to the Higher Education Act was made stating that universities and colleges must actively promote and broaden recruitment to higher education, and this remains an area prioritised by the Government. Both in Sweden and internationally, the discussion about broadened recruitment has increasingly come to include broadened participation and employability. In practice, this means that measures and resources should not only be limited to the recruitment of students, but that the responsibility should continue throughout their studies. Naturally, DU must meet the legal requirements imposed on higher education institutions in general, but in addition to these, it must work for gender equality and inclusion.

Overall Goal 2021-2026

DU must be an equal, inclusive, accessible and responsible university, where everyone has the same opportunity to have power and influence. DU must ensure an environment free from discrimination against individuals or activities, and we must offer support and provide what is needed for students to succeed in their studies.

Link to Global Goals and Their Targets

This goal primarily contributes to achieving the following goals in Agenda 2030:

Goal 4: *Inclusive and equitable quality education*

Goal 5: *Equality*

Goal 10: *Reduced inequality*

Goal 16: *Peaceful and inclusive societies and communities*

Link to Dalarna University's Strategy

This goal relates mainly to the following areas of the Strategy:

1: *Education for the benefit of society and self-formation (Bildung)*

7: *An attractive workplace*

8: *Hallmark: Holistic view of the student*

¹¹ Swedish Government (2016) *Mål för jämställdhet*. Retrieved from <https://www.government.se/4a7738/contentassets/efcc5a15ef154522a872d8e46ad69148/gender-equality-policy-in-sweden>

¹² Discrimination Act (2008:567)

Goal 5: Plan for Activities 2021-2023

Activity 5.1. Develop a so-called Early Warning System¹³ (EWS) and develop the work with support, for example, ensuring that students' personal progress and generic competencies are noticed.

Time Plan: 2021

Indicators: Developed IT support for EWS with a plan for implementation

Responsible: University Director (Student Services Office)

Activity 5.2. Carry out general and targeted training initiatives for managers and employees in order to create increased awareness of how existing norms and prejudices can provide unjustified advantages and limit the freedom and development of individuals and businesses.

Time Plan: 2021

Indicators: Completed training initiatives

Responsible: University Director (Human Resources Office)

Activity 5.3. Analyse the current situation with regard to the work for broadened recruitment based on existing data and experiences from ongoing and previous initiatives.¹⁴ Based on the analysis, produce an action plan for the areas that need to be changed.

Time Plan: 2021-2022

Indicators: Completed and documented analysis of the current situation with proposals for action

Responsible: University Director (Student Services Office)

Activity 5.4. Analyse the current situation with regard to gender equality and equal opportunity based on existing data such as previous plans for gender mainstreaming and experiences from ongoing and previous initiatives. Examples of areas to focus on are the work environment, the study environment, the research environment, career paths and recruitment processes. Based on the analysis, produce an action plan for the areas that need to be changed.

Time Plan: 2021-2022

Indicators: Completed and documented analysis of the current situation with proposals for action

Responsible: University Director (Human Resources Office)

¹³ *Early Warning System* in this context is a method for identifying the need for student support at an early stage.

¹⁴ During 2019-2022, UKÄ (Swedish Higher Education Authority) will carry out a thematic evaluation of how universities work with broadened recruitment. As part of the evaluation, the higher education institutions will carry out a self-evaluation in 2021, which can be expected to be an important basis for identifying the need for action at DU in the future.

Activity 5.5. Analyse the current situation with regard to working with counteracting discrimination based on existing data and experiences from ongoing and previous efforts, with regard to DU's responsibility as both employer¹⁵ and education provider¹⁶. Based on the analysis, produce an action plan for the areas where changes are needed.

Time Plan: 2021-2022

Indicators: Completed and documented analysis of the current situation with proposals for action

Responsible: University Director

¹⁵ Diskrimineringsombudsmannen (2020). *Arbetsgivaren ansvarar för aktiva åtgärder*. Retrieved from: www.do.se/framja-och-atgarda/arbetsgivarens-ansvar/

¹⁶ Diskrimineringsombudsmannen (2020). *Högskolan ansvarar för aktiva åtgärder*. Retrieved from: <https://www.do.se/framja-och-atgarda/hogskolans-ansvar/>

6. Meetings and Travel

Together with 36 other universities in Sweden, DU has joined a common climate framework, and we have thus committed ourselves to “reducing our own climate impact in line with society’s commitments”.¹⁷

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report from 2018¹⁸ underlines the seriousness of climate change. Even with a global warming of 1.5 degrees, the effects will be serious, and they will be dramatically exacerbated if the increase is 2 degrees. In order to achieve the goals of keeping the global average temperature increase well below 2 degrees and trying not to exceed a 1.5 degree increase in accordance with the Paris Agreement, we need to halve our emissions every decade¹⁹.

The goals for DU relate to the Swedish goal of net zero emissions by 2045²⁰, an goal that in real terms means reduced territorial emissions by 85 percent by 2045, with 1990 as the first year for this. The net zero goal corresponds to an annual reduction of 6 percent, a rate of reduction that should also apply to DU’s climate impact. Measures to reduce climate impact should be implemented in all areas, but goals with time limits and quantified emission limits are relevant for areas where we can calculate emissions and monitor changes: at present, that means travel and energy use. The goals for areas 6 and 7 correspond to this rate of reduction, calculated as carbon dioxide equivalents per annual workforce.

A significant part of DU’s climate impact is a result of business travel²¹, where air travel accounts for the absolute majority (87 percent of travel emissions), followed by car travel (8 percent). There is great potential for reducing the amount of travel in accordance with current rules for meetings and trips: for example, short flights. Something else which is important to make use of is our experiences from the Corona pandemic. Dalarna University had already come a long way in terms of net-based teaching, but for other meeting situations, experiences were mixed. It will now be important to continue to develop the technical solutions, know-how and culture relating to digital meetings.

Overall Goal 2021-2026

The climate impact from business travel must be reduced at such a rate that the overall climate goal (minus 6 percent per year) can be achieved. Travel-free meetings must be a functional option for all employees and must always be considered, taking into account the requirements for the respective meeting and its efficiency, accessibility and creativity.

Link to Global Goals and Their Targets

This goal contributes to the Agenda 2030 goal 13: Combating climate change, in particular Goal 13.2: Integrate action against climate change into policy and planning.

Link to Dalarna University's Strategy

This goal mainly links to strategy area 7: *An attractive workplace*

Goal 6: Plan for Activities 2021-2023

¹⁷ The Climate Framework for Higher Education Institutions (2019). Retrieved from: www.kth.se/om/miljo-hallbar-utveckling/klimatramverket-1.903489

¹⁸ IPCC (2018). *Summary for Policymakers*. In: Special Report - Global Warming of 1.5°C.

¹⁹ Rockström et al. (2017): A Roadmap for Rapid Decarbonization, *Science*, 355, 1269-1271.

²⁰ Naturvårdsverket (2020). Sveriges klimatmål och klimatpolitiska ramverk.

²¹ Högskolan Dalarna (2020). Klimatrapport 2019. Retrieved from:

www.du.se/contentassets/eb3aed6a2c0840e88fb4dae0673767f8/klimatrapport_hda_2019_2020-10-06.pdf

Activity 6.1. Increase skills about how effective, accessible and creative meetings can be conducted online – for example, employee training – so that DU becomes a pioneer in travel-free meetings in the same way as it is for net-based teaching.

Time Plan: 2021-2022

Indicators: Status report in this issue

Responsible: University Director (NGL)

Activity 6.2. Implement a communication effort concerning DU's rules for meetings and travel, the travel agency agreement and the services the travel agency provides. This is so that any necessary travel can be made safe and cost-efficient, with the best possible consideration for the environment and within the framework of applicable rules.

Time Plan: 2021-2022

Indicators: Trips carried out in accordance with current rules as a proportion of all trips

Responsible: University Director (Human Resources Office in dialogue with the travel manager)

Activity 6.3. Long-term work for flexible and, hopefully, free campus buses between Falun and Borlänge.

Time Plan: 2021-2023

Indicators: Status report in this issue

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)

Activity 6.4. Investigate the parking situation and the need for possible parking fees on campus, and develop a plan for parking, including how DU will handle an increased demand for charging points for electric vehicles.

Time Plan: 2021-2023

Indicators: Developed external analysis and reported implementation plan

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office in dialogue with the Finance Office)

Activity 6.5. Carry out a survey of employees' travel and meetings to increase awareness of travel behaviour, of the acceptance for various ways to travel and meet, and of the potential financial savings these may have.

Time Plan: First survey 2022

Indicators: Report of completed survey with proposals for measures

Responsible: University Director (Environmental Coordinator in dialogue with the Sustainable Development Council)

Activity 6.6. Improve the indicators monitoring the number of digital meetings and investigate the possibility of developing a method for distinguishing between work meetings and teaching using tools for online meetings.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Indicators for the number of digital meetings held

Responsible: University Director (NGL)

Activity 6.7. Identify the incidence of business trips that are carried out in violation of current rules, and investigate the conditions for introducing an e-commerce system for travel (or other solution) in order to make it easier for managers to fulfil their responsibility to comply with regulations.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Completed survey and investigation of trips

Responsible: University Director (Finance Office)

Activity 6.8. Revise rules for meetings and travel so that they are geared more effectively towards the overall goal of reducing climate impact.

Time Plan: 2023, or when needed

Indicators: Completed revision of the rules for meetings and travel

Responsible: University Director (Human Resources Office in dialogue with the travel manager)

7. Buildings and Energy

The environmental impact of the construction and real estate sector accounts for a significant proportion of society's total environmental impact. For DU, energy use is estimated to account for about the same proportion of our climate impact as business travel²². This includes energy use for heating and cooling as well as the electrical energy used to run premises, IT equipment and so on. For a description of DU's commitment within the Climate Framework, see Goal 6.

In addition to the impact on the climate, the environmental impact of buildings includes resource consumption, emissions of nitrogen oxides and particles, use of chemical products hazardous to health and the environment, and the generation of large amounts of waste. This environmental impact arises mainly both during the manufacture and transport of construction products and during the construction process.

To cope with climate change and other environmental challenges, we need to both streamline and reduce our total energy use. As DU does not own its premises, the opportunity to implement measures is limited, but it is often possible to work with the companies who own the buildings to reduce energy use or to invest in producing of their own solar power. In terms of electricity and heating, DU has its own contracts with suppliers in some cases; in other cases, electricity and heating are included in the rent, so even here our ability to make environmental demands varies. When carrying out renovations and new construction, it is possible to set requirements for environmental certification of buildings.

Overall Goal 2021-2026

Climate impact and resource use linked to buildings will be reduced through more efficient use of the energy supplied, more efficient use of the premises, more own-produced energy and requirements for environmental certification in rebuilding, and new construction. The climate impact from energy use must be reduced at such a rate that the climate goal (minus 6 percent per year) can be achieved.

Link to Global Goals and Their Targets

This goal primarily contributes to achieving the following goals in Agenda 2030:

Goal 7: *Affordable, reliable and sustainable energy for all*

Goal 11: *Sustainable cities and communities*

Goal 13: *Combating climate change*

Link to Dalarna University's Strategy

The goal mainly links to strategy area 7: *An attractive workplace*

²² Högskolan Dalarna (2020). *Klimatrapport 2019*. Retrieved from: www.du.se/contentassets/eb3aed6a2c0840e88fb4dae0673767f8/klimatrapport_hda_2019_2020-10-06.pdf

Goal 7: Plan for Activities 2021-2023

Activity 7.1. Develop policies and routines for appropriate and resource-efficient use of office work environments.

Time Plan: 2021

Indicators: Presented policy, reported rental routines for managing office workplaces

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)

Activity 7.2. In all new constructions and during all major renovations or conversions, the University must investigate the possibility of own-produced solar energy.

Time Plan: 2021-2023

Indicators: Number of kWh own-produced energy

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)

Activity 7.3. In all new constructions and during all major renovations or conversions, the University must set environmental demands corresponding to the Environmental Building level silver, or where possible gold, if this can be justified in terms of cost.

Time Plan: 2021-2023

Indicators: Set environmental requirements for new constructions and renovations

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)

Activity 7.4. Develop procedures for collecting and documenting data on energy use, and establish a continuous dialogue with property owners on energy issues.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Presented routines, where it is possible, for example, to distinguish between property electricity, business electricity and electricity for the charging of vehicles

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)

Activity 7.5. Carry out regular energy audits in the buildings in order to identify possible ways to improve and take action for energy efficiency on a regular basis.

Time Plan: 2022-2023

Indicators: Reporting of completed energy audit, reporting of any measures implemented, follow-up of the number of kWh per person per annum

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)

8. Circular Resource Flows

In order to operate, DU is dependent on the purchase of a large number of different goods, services and types of equipment. However, the way our society currently produces, uses and then discards things is not sustainable. Both goods and services affect the environment throughout their life cycle: during manufacture, transport, consumption, recycling and waste management.

For DU, a recent climate study²³ showed that emissions linked to procurement have by far the greatest impact on the climate, significantly greater than both business travel and energy use. The study used a consumption-based perspective in its calculations where it tried to capture the climate impact for the entire production and supply chain for the goods and services that are consumed, regardless of where the emissions occur.

In addition to the climate, the environmental impact of consumption includes land use; resource and water use; and the use and release of chemicals. Public consumption has enormous potential to bring about change in this context; public procurement has a turnover of around SEK 700 billion every year (compared with Sweden's total GDP, which amounts to around SEK 5,000 billion annually).

The only long-term solution is that society uses fewer resources and that the resources used are included in circular flows as much as possible. This means that we should strive to use what has been manufactured for as long as possible, and then reuse or recycle materials repeatedly. In principle, that is when there is no residual waste, and the need to extract new natural resources decreases. We also need to remove substances that are hazardous to our health and the environment so that they do not continue to spread. A circular economy means closing cycles and optimising the use of resources.

Overall Goal 2021-2026

Climate impact and other environmental impacts resulting from goods and services will be reduced through high sustainability requirements in procurements and through an increased degree of reuse and recycling.

Link to Global Goals and Their Targets

This goal contributes primarily to achieving the following goals in Agenda 2030:

Goal 12: *Responsible consumption and production*

Goal 13: *Combating climate change*

Goal 14: *Marine and marine resources*

Goal 15: *Ecosystems and biodiversity*

Link to Dalarna University's Strategy

This goal links primarily to strategy area 7: *An attractive workplace*

²³ Högskolan Dalarna (2020). *Klimatrapport 2019*. Hämtad från: www.du.se/contentassets/eb3aed6a2c0840e88fb4dae0673767f8/klimatrapport_hda_2019_2020-10-06.pdf

Goal 8: Plan for Activities 2021-2023

Activity 8.1. Increase knowledge in the organisation about setting and following up sustainability requirements in public procurement.

Time Plan: 2021

Indicators: Reported activities for increasing knowledge in purchases and procurement: for example, employee training.

Responsible: University Director (Finance Office)

Activity 8.2. Complete the development of a plan for interior design, where the choice of colour and material increases the likelihood of circular flows, and investigate ways to increase the recycling of furniture (in-house or in collaboration with another public organisation).

Time Plan: 2021

Indicators: An interior design plan, reported status in the issue

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)

Activity 8.3. In the case of procurement or renewed contracts with food suppliers, requirement specifications must be set so that there are alternatives with low climate impact menus and systems for returning lunch boxes.

Time Plan: 2021-2023

Indicators: Requirements for sustainable procurement for food suppliers

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)

Activity 8.4. Identify procurement areas where requirements and follow-up can make a big difference to climate impact, calculate the climate impact for these goods and services with the help of life-cycle analyses (LCA), and develop proposals for measures to reduce climate impact.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Reported climate calculations and proposals for action

Responsible: University Director (Finance Office)

Activity 8.5. Continue to develop waste sorting in order to reduce the amount of residual waste by, for example, creating better opportunities for sorting close to office work spaces, implementing communication efforts and improving the processes for collecting and documenting information on the amount of generated waste.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Status report in this issue

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)

Activity 8.6. Develop a policy or checklist for sustainable events and conferences, including follow-up procedures.

Time Plan: 2022

Indicators: Policy or checklist developed

Responsible: University Director (Student Services Office)

Activity 8.7. Set sustainability requirements where relevant in all procurement and direct procurement that takes place in-house, and in the documentation justify cases where sustainability requirements are not relevant.

Time Plan: 2022-2023

Indicators: Rules and documents used in procurement updated according to the objective

Responsible: University Director (Finance Office)

Activity 8.8. Increase knowledge in the organisation about circular procurement, including knowledge about the environmental and climate benefits when resources are used more efficiently in circular flows, as well as knowledge about how circular criteria can be designed in procurement.

Time Plan: 2023

Indicators: Reported activities to increase the knowledge of purchasers and buyers and managers: for example, completed courses and management training.

Responsible: University Director (Finance Office)

Activity 8.9. Collaborate with food suppliers on campus to reduce the use of disposable materials, reduce the amount of food waste and increase the sorting of food and beverage waste.

Time Plan: 2023

Indicators: Status report in this issue

Responsible: University Director (Property and Facilities Office)