

KU LEUVEN



**Inspiring the
outstanding**



Sustainability @KU Leuven

Peter Lievens, Vice Rector International Policy (<https://www.kuleuven.be/global>)

Gerard Govers, Vice Rector Sustainability

Karel Van Acker, Chairman Sustainability Council

The role of universities in realising the SDGs

- Educate the next generation of leaders
- Lead by example
- Develop the technological and social innovations of the future
- Strategic plan:
 - Organisation and operational management
 - Education
 - Research
 - Social engagement



<https://www.kuleuven.be/english/about-kuleuven/strategic-plan/sustainability>

Operations: building a GHG monitor

Upstream scope 3

Scope 1 & 2

Downstream scope 3



- Evolution 2010 – 2019
- Science-based approach towards zero emission
- Scope 3 is difficult to control as company/institution/university

<https://www.kuleuven.be/duurzaamheid/sustainability/sustainable-operations>

Research



- Bottom-up initiatives: *energy, hydrogen economy, sustainable materials and chemistry, policy, social impact...*
- Interdisciplinary KU Leuven Centers and Institutes:
 - Leuven Sustainable Earth expertise center
 - *KU Leuven Institute for Mobility*
 - *KU Leuven Energy Institute*
 - *KU Leuven Institute for Sustainable Metals and Minerals*
 - *KU Leuven Urban Studies Institute*
- YouRSS: network for young researchers, promoting sustainable research and systems thinking by stimulating interaction between different disciplines.

Global Development

- Dedicated research funding for collaboration with the Global South (Belgian Federal Government, Flanders, KU Leuven)
- Belgian Federal government prepares a new 5 years programme with focus on 'Leave no One behind', 'Interconnectedness' and 'Multi-Stakeholders Partnerships'
- Focus also on SDG 17, with calls aiming at partnerships and capacity building
- PhD scholarships for students from the Global South on SDG-topics

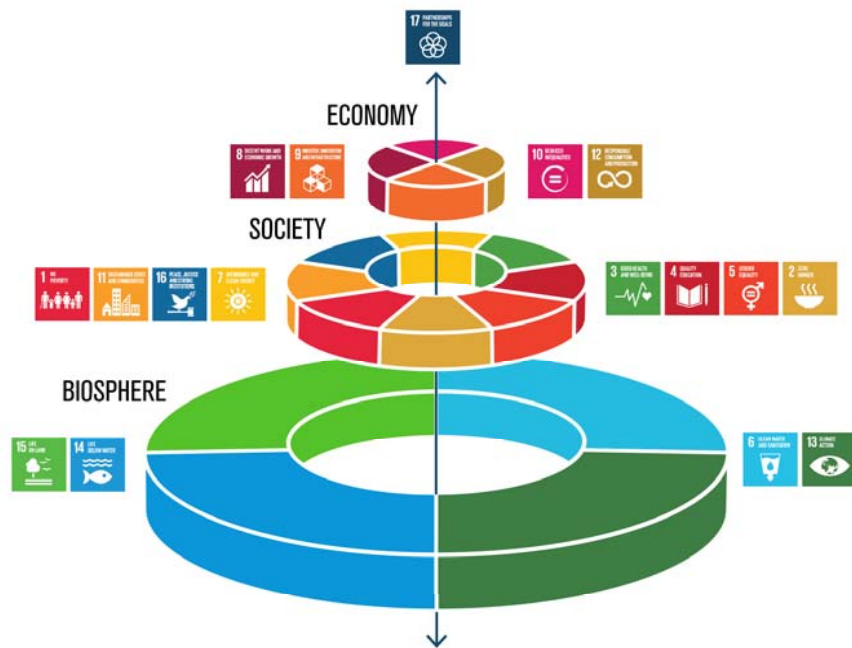
<https://www.kuleuven.be/global/global-development>

The KU Leuven KICK Challenge

- Student entrepreneurship @ KU Leuven Research and Development (LRD)
- The KICK Challenge is a business plan competition that challenges you to develop an innovative idea with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) in mind.
- Ideas have been transformed into a business plan. Impact has been created.

<https://lrd.kuleuven.be/kuleuvenkick/english/skills/kickchallenge/sdg>

MOOC – The UN Sustainable Development Goals



- Jan Wouters, Global Governance Studies, Chair International Policy Council
- edX platform – subscriptions: cutt.ly/edx-unsdgs

Education

Platform for (cross-disciplinary) educational initiatives and social commitment



Freshers' week

Micro MOOCs SDGs

University-wide courses:
"Global sustainability challenges"
"Socio-ecological introduction to sustainability"

Micromaster "From facts to policy" in
collaboration with UNA Europa

Module sustainability in education to support lecturers

