Report on the University of Bordeaux’s Sustainable Development Goals 2022–2023
The University of Bordeaux is a multidisciplinary, international university with strong territorial roots, acclaimed for the excellence of its research, the quality of its degree programs and its capacity for innovation.

Since 2019, the University of Bordeaux has adopted a resolutely proactive policy towards engaging with the defining challenges of the anthropocene era. In 2020, this strategic commitment was given concrete form in the Strategic Horizon 2030 plan, a framework document which puts environmental concerns at the heart of everything we do. This was followed in 2021 by a "road map for the environmental and societal transitions," setting out 24 concrete commitments which span the full spectrum of the University’s activities: from research and training to innovation and life on campus.

The new team in the president’s office, which I have had the privilege of leading since 2022, is committed to accelerating our transition policies, not least by appointing a new vice-president for societal and environmental transitions, in order to boost our capacity for action and share our ambitious goals with all of our territorial partners.

The progress we have already made in this field has earned recognition at national level, in the form of the ‘Sustainable Development and Societal Responsibility’ label, awarded to French universities leading the way in matters of sustainable development. From a more international perspective, this report highlights the connections between our policies and the UN’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals, detailing our ambitions, our trajectory, our actions and our results.

Our goal is for the University of Bordeaux to be recognized internationally as a pioneering institution in matters of sustainability and responsibility, attracting the energy and talent that will enable us to push even further in our quest to accelerate transformation in the interests of the ecological transition.

Dean Lewis
President of the University
The university by numbers

The Institution
- 6,100 members of staff including 3,260 teaching and research faculty members
- Research and teaching spanning 50 academic disciplines
- €575M total budget for 2023
- 18 campuses and sites across Nouvelle-Aquitaine
- 187 hectares of campus including 140 of green spaces

Student body
- 52,000 students
- 60% women
- 13.5% international students
- 1,149 students receiving support from the PHASE program (specific needs)
- 550 elite and high-level athletes

Research
- 81 research structures, of which 61 jointly operated with research bodies
- 5,368 academic publications in 2022, 14% of which landed in the top 10% of the world’s most-cited publications
- 130 collaborative research projects under the aegis of Horizon Europe and other European programs

Innovation and value creation
- 2nd most prolific university in France in terms of number of patents registered (INPI ranking)
- 431 patents and 144 software programs in the university’s active portfolio
- 50 start-ups founded since 2014

Training
- 4 training colleges:
  - law, political science, economics and management
  - health sciences
  - humanities
  - science and technology
- 1 University Technology Institute (IUT), 1 Institute of Vine and Wine Science (ISVV), 1 National Institute of Teaching and Education (INSPE), 1 CFA
- 8 doctoral schools

Our 24 commitments to the environmental and societal transition

A time of acceleration
Building on the framing document “Strategic Horizon 2030,” published in 2020, in 2021 the University of Bordeaux adopted a “road map for the environmental and societal transitions” which sets out 24 commitments, broken down into transition targets and trajectories which span the full spectrum of the university’s activities: the contribution made by research, training in the necessary skills and expertise, diversity and inclusiveness on campus, reducing the environmental footprint of our campus etc.

This road map for the transitions was the fruit of a participatory process which lasted for an entire year. Researchers, lecturers, students, professional experts and external contributors all took part in a series of working groups, diagnoses and studies, collectively determining what the environmental and societal transformation of the University of Bordeaux will look like.

The spirit of this participatory process has been permanently enshrined in the two-pronged structure put in place. The first pillar of that structure is the network of student “transition ambassadors” and “transition delegates” appointed from the university’s teaching and research departments and service divisions. The second is the “Environmental and Societal Transitions Committee” (French: CTES), chaired by an external expert and with a membership comprising transition specialists, students, and members of staff who have either volunteered or been chosen at random. The CTES is independent of the President’s office, and is tasked with producing an annual evaluation, on behalf of the University’s various communities, of the progress made in implementing the plans of action contained in the road map.

A strategic roadmap
The 24 commitments which make up our road map for the transitions are not solely concerned with the environmental footprint of the university campus. They are structured around 4 cross-cutting priority themes: structure and governance, ensuring that the university is properly equipped to make a success of its transformation (commitments 1–7); the environmental transition and the bio-climate emergency (commitments 8–15); the societal transition to greater diversity and inclusiveness, a key determinant of the success of our structural transformation (commitments 16–20); and the contribution of research and training to overcoming the emblematic challenges of the anthropocene era (commitments 21–24). The road map defines the guiding principles and objectives of our annual and multi-annual plans of action, which are broken down into precise targets for each discipline, component and department. It also sets out the details of our data and impact-based approach to guiding and facilitating change.
Our 24 Commitments

1. The university will oversee a profound transformation of its operations and modes of action, adopting experimentation as an essential tool for change.
2. Staff will be trained to address the challenges of the environmental and societal transitions, mastering the concepts and key skills involved.
3. The university will draw upon its networks of locally embedded transition champions, leading the way on campus and within their respective organisations.
4. The university will recognise and champion actions in favour of the transitions.
5. Decentralized governance will help us to integrate the challenges of the environmental and societal transitions into every aspect and every structure of our university.
6. The university will ensure transparent monitoring and evaluation of its transition policy, adopting new modes of institutional organization.
7. Our partnership policy will incorporate the priorities of the environmental and societal transitions.
8. Promoting low-carbon transport solutions for staff and students is one of the university’s key priorities.
9. The university will keep its promises on the energy transition, with a clear pathway to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030.
10. The university will manage its water resources sustainably and responsibly, reducing consumption by 10% by 2030.
11. The university’s facilities management guidelines will include energy and environmental criteria.
12. The university will work to preserve and nurture biodiversity on its campuses.
13. The university will support local projects to expand access to services, strengthen social bonds and promote inclusion.
14. All students enrolled at the university will receive training in the key concepts and skills associated with the environmental and societal transitions, from basic awareness-raising up to diploma-level courses.
15. The university will systematically recycle and reuse its waste, relying on the active involvement of our communities to move towards zero waste.
16. The university will be attentive to the environmental credentials of its digital ecosystem, reminding our community of their responsibilities.
17. The university will implement a comprehensive and integrated policy to promote diversity and equal opportunities, systematically denouncing all forms of violence and discrimination.
18. The university will strengthen efforts to identify students and staff in precarious circumstances and provide appropriate support.
19. The university will prepare its community and its structures for the coming transformations in the work and study environment.
20. The university will develop and deploy a comprehensive campus health policy, encompassing all health determinants and questions of access (care, nutrition, exercise, active mobility, housing, social support etc.).
21. The university will support local projects to expand access to services, strengthen social bonds and promote inclusion.
22. The university will incorporate the key tools will incorporate the key
23. The key stakes of the transition will inform the way we manage and structure research and innovation.
24. Putting science to work in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals, working closely with our partners and representatives from civil society.

The table featured on page 28 highlights the connections between the 24 commitments adopted by the University of Bordeaux and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Our contribution to achieving the SDGs

Le Comptoir d’Aliénor
Located on our Talence campus, this social, cultural and solidarity-oriented grocery store is run by the ATENA federation and network.

Campus hampers
This project, led by Espace Santé Étudiants and numerous student associations, gives students the chance to pick up hampers of local, seasonal fruits and vegetables on campus at the subsidised price of €5.

Social grants
The Solidarity and Student Initiative Development Fund, funded by the Student Life and Campus Contribution (CVEC), provides vital support to hundreds of students every year. In 2021, 685 grants were awarded. 2020 saw a sharp spike in the total value of social grants awarded, in response to the pandemic.

The ‘Bordeaux Plant Sciences’ Research Program, led by the Environment Sciences Department
This program is devoted to studying the trade-off between productivity and resistance to environmental constraints in plants, supporting the development of more resilient and environmentally-respectful forms of agriculture.

Master’s program in Biology and Agroscience
A joint degree with Bordeaux Agrosciences, this master’s program trains future R&D directors on a range of core subjects: improving plants to make agricultural production more sustainable, plant health and environmental interactions, plants and biomolecules (identifying and capitalising on active ingredients), and production and innovation in the food industry.

The university is doing more than ever to identify and support students and staff in precarious circumstances.
We have numerous research dependencies, depression, brain function, STIs, accidents, future of biomedical research and public health policy in 12 studies and beyond, this online survey will help to shape the Tracking 20,000 young participants throughout their student health I-Share, the biggest scientific study ever conducted into studying cellular and molecular interactions in living beings. The Biological and Medical Sciences research department has a particular focus on cancer, the immune system, the vascular system and rare and inflammatory diseases. The research interests of the Public Health department has a particular focus on cancer, the immune system, the vascular system and rare and inflammatory diseases. Last but not least, the Health Sciences and Technologies department and Bordeaux Neurocampus are devoted to infectious diseases such as HIV, neurology, oncology, trauma and mental health. The Biological and Medical Sciences research department has a particular focus on cancer, the immune system, the vascular system and rare and inflammatory diseases. Last but not least, the Health Sciences and Technologies department and Bordeaux Neurocampus are devoted to studying cellular and molecular interactions in living beings and neuroscience, respectively.

1-Share, the biggest scientific study ever conducted into student health
Tracking 20,000 young participants throughout their studies and beyond, this online survey will help to shape the future of biomedical research and public health policy in 12 key areas: stress, sleep, diet, physical exercise, migraines, dependencies, depression, brain function, STIs, accidents, concentration and the links between health and income.

Training
The College of Health Sciences, serving 18,500 students
The college offers a total of 280 diplomas in the following disciplines: core sciences, applied science in the field of drugs and health products, medical biology, life sciences and public health, environmental science, medical and dental sciences.

Master's degree in Health Law
The purpose of this program is to prepare students for managerial roles within healthcare institutions, as well as training insurance experts in accident compensation.

Other initiatives
- We have numerous research and training partnerships with Bordeaux’s university hospital, the Institut Bergonié, Charles Perrens hospital and IHU Liryc.
- Sporting facilities for students and staff, including a nearly-completed "smart" gym with some 3200m² of facilities for athletes preparing for the 2024 Olympic Games and the 2023 Rugby World Cup.
- We use the Student Health Space to recruit student health delegates, assisting with health education efforts aimed at their peers and addressing topics such as partying, sexuality, well-being and nutrition.
- A student association called “Choquez-nous!” also works to raise public awareness of the symptoms of cardiac arrest and the appropriate first aid response.

Focus on the University Hospital Institute for Electrophysiology and Heart Modeling (Liryc)

Context
Arrhythmia can cause serious health issues. Atrial fibrillation is responsible for 20% of all strokes in Europe, and ventricular fibrillation causes 400,000 deaths each year on the continent. In fact, 9 million people in Europe and 1 million in France alone suffer from heart problems, a common form of comorbidity and a major cause of death. The cost of treating these conditions accounts for between 1 and 2% of Europe’s total healthcare expenditure.

Actions
Jointly chaired by the University of Bordeaux and the Bordeaux University Hospital, the Liryc Institute was established by the French government in 2011. It combines research, innovation, care and training to develop new responses to cardiac arrhythmia. Researchers and doctors affiliated with Liryc have already been behind some major scientific breakthroughs in the study of atrial and ventricular fibrillation, as well as cardiac resynchronization therapy. This research has given rise to new therapeutic strategies already being put into practice all over the world.

What makes Liryc unique is its capacity to draw upon a diverse and complementary array of scientific expertise, bringing together researchers from a variety of disciplines with clinical teams of international standing. The work being done at Liryc is helping to improve our understanding and capacity to care for conditions affecting heart rhythm. By way of an example: research conducted at the institute succeeded in identifying the source of atrial fibrillation, a major cause of arrhythmia, in the pulmonary veins. This discovery paved the way for the development of a new, non-pharmacological treatment which has since become one of the world’s most widely-used solutions for this condition: every year, more than 700,000 patients worldwide now receive catheter ablation.

More broadly, the research being done at this IHU is contributing to the development of new treatments capable of reducing complications linked with heart conditions and improving quality of life for patients. The know-how and technology being developed here may also prove to be invaluable in the treatment of other pathologies and organs.

Impact and results
The University Hospital Institute for Electrophysiology and Heart Modeling (Liryc)

KEY FIGURES 2022
159 members of staff
111 clinical trials in progress
28 patients registered
298 scientific publications
4 start-ups founded
5,764 consultations and remote consultations
5,150 heart implants remotely monitored
3,017 interventions completed
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OUR ROAD MAP FOR THE TRANSITIONS: COMMITMENT

The university will develop and deploy a comprehensive campus health policy, encompassing all health determinants and questions of access (care, nutrition, exercise, active mobility, housing, social support etc.)

Report on Sustainable Development Goals 2022-2023
Focus on Ocean i3, a teaching platform for tackling coastal pollution

Context
Every year Europe produces 25 million tons of plastic waste, less than 30% of which is recycled. 85% of the pollution found on our beaches is caused by plastic. It represents a very serious threat to the health of humans, marine life and the environment more broadly. Moreover, the “blue economy” is growing rapidly, with an estimated turnover of 750 billion Euros in 2018, and employing 5 million people (up 11.6% on 2017). There is therefore much to be gained from developing sustainable development skills applicable to the blue economy, a strategic priority for France and for Europe.

Actions
Launched in 2018, Ocean i3 is the fruit of a cross-border collaboration between the University of Bordeaux and the University of the Basque Country. The project is devoted to educational innovation, with a view to reducing plastic pollution on the Basque-Aquitaine coast and supporting the development of the blue economy, caring for our oceans, seas and coastlines.

Ocean i3 functions as a teaching platform, playing host to interdisciplinary teams of students – from undergrads to post-doctoral researchers – and teachers. It also hosts workshops and meetings with 25 selected partners from the broader socioeconomic sphere.

Impact and results
By inventing new and immersive teaching practices, Ocean i3 is directly contributing to the development of the essential skills required to combat plastic pollution in our oceans, while also working on the ground to reduce pollution on the Basque-Aquitaine coast.

The “intensive training” program offered by Ocean i3, as part of a “research-action-intervention” scheme, delivers pertinent and practical, multilingual learning modules designed to make students more employable in key fields of sustainable development and the maritime economy.

The Ocean i3 project is making a real contribution to our understanding of the effects of plastic on our shorelines. It has been recognized by the United Nations as an accelerator scheme working to translate the Sustainable Development Goals into the academic sphere.

ROAD MAP FOR THE TRANSITIONS: COMMITMENT
All students enrolled at the university will receive training in the key concepts and skills associated with the environmental and societal transitions, from basic awareness-raising up to diploma-level courses.

KEY FIGURES 2022
35 teaching staff working across 16 disciplines
14 local projects to tackle plastic pollution in the oceans
98 international students involved
97 individual projects completed
70 doctoral and master’s theses submitted
4 academic publications
27 internships and 2 fixed-term research contracts secured by graduates

Other initiatives
- The ACCES Program is helping 46 pupils enrolled at high schools which are geographically isolated from their nearest university and/or do not receive sufficient support to fulfil their ambition of pursuing further studies. ACCES provides physical and digital resources aimed at building bridges between secondary and higher education.
- The NewDeal program is dedicated to designing new models of learning based on open, flexible and diversified curricula, with more varied content, formats and timetables. It also seeks to design courses which are more closely connected to the academic, socioeconomic, industrial and non-profit spheres, all while emphasizing the autonomy of students and making them the drivers of their own success.
- The “Science and Society” policy, dedicated to spreading knowledge beyond the confines of the university and supporting collective experimentation with concrete solutions, reaching people who are far removed from academia. This policy has yielded a number of concrete actions: “My thesis in 180 seconds”, a contest which sees doctoral students give a very brief explanation of their research work to a non-academic audience, “Knowledge dating” sessions exploring the links between science and society, “European researchers’ night”, an opportunity for researchers and the general public to come together, “The knowledge harvest”, showcasing research in the field of wine, and the “Science Festival” held across all of our campuses and research laboratories.

Research
The CeDS laboratory (Culture and the Dissemination of Science)
The mission which drives the CeDS team is to use science to cast new light on complex societal challenges in the field of education. The laboratory’s researchers come from a diverse array of disciplinary backgrounds, contributing methods and knowledge drawn from fields such as history, philosophy, sociology and the anthropology of education, as well as education studies, political science and health science.

The SENS (Science Environment and Health) research initiative led by the Centre Emile Durkheim
SENS provides a forum for discussing and debating the theoretical and empirical contributions made by different approaches to the ecological and sanitary crisis which is now a defining issue of public policy. Frequent subjects of discussion include the latest research in the sociology of science, technical developments for health and the environment, the dynamics of knowledge creation and circulation, scientific controversies and the processes by which new knowledge is legitimized.

Training
Master’s Degree in Education Science
The aim of this course is to nurture professional, scientific and technological advancement in the fields of in-house training, educational innovation at university level and the dissemination of knowledge from health science and the arts.

Master in Teaching, Education and Training (MEEF), practices and educational engineering
This program combines research, background studies, professional skills development and educational engineering. It explores the connections between work, training, reflectiveness, personal and professional development and the design and delivery of training projects and support, analysis and advice services.

KEY FIGURES
- 51,118 students
- 142 publications
- Annual tuition fees: €170 for undergraduates and €243 for Master’s programs
- 38 university libraries open to the public, housing 830,000 physical and digital documents

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27 internships and 2 fixed-term research contracts secured by graduates
The university has adopted a comprehensive, integrated policy to promote diversity and equal opportunities, systematically opposed to all forms of violence and discrimination.

Seminars
The seminars (TDs) on “Changing political and social orders”, taught at the faculty of law and political science, devote 30 teaching hours and 6 ETCS credits to subjects relating to the environment, gender and diversity. There are also a number of cross-disciplinary seminars studying issues of gender, disability, young people and the influence of location. They are open to students on economies and management programs, with 1.5 ECTS awarded for 10 hours of seminars.

Other initiatives
The university has adopted an ambitious gender parity policy, as witnessed by the appointment of a project manager for parity, equality and diversity, tasked with overseeing awareness-raising efforts and drawing up a guideline strategy on equality. The ultimate goal of this policy is to ensure that gender will no longer have any bearing on an individual’s career prospects, nor their quality of life at work or during their studies. Our new gender equality strategy is the fruit of a collaborative process involving staff and the broader university community – represented on the Gender Equality Committee – as well as our European partners.

The University of Bordeaux established a special unit in 2015 to monitor all reports of violence, discrimination, bullying, sexual harassment and gender-based and homophobic violence. This unit is committed to taking concrete action in response to every report received, while also working to prevent and eliminate abusive behaviors. Any member of the university community who has experienced sexual harassment or gender-based and homophobic violence can reach out for personal support via email.

Focus on the programme “Moi informaticienne, moi mathématicienne”

In France, courses and careers in maths and computing are traditionally more popular with boys than with girls. This state of affairs inspired the launch of the MIMM Program (Me in IT, Me in Maths), which encourages girls to study sciences.

This initiative has received government backing under the banner of the IdEx future investments scheme for the University of Bordeaux. It operates under the aegis of ACCES, a region-wide partnership whose goal is to inspire and support the academic ambitions of young people growing up far away from institutions of higher education and/or not receiving the support and encouragement they need to pursue further studies.

In 2022 the program was expanded to a full week, incorporating visits, workshops and more presentations.

Impact and results
The scheme has given dozens of young girls a real opportunity to discover what it is like to be a female mathematician or computer scientist in the 21st century.

In the words of the participants themselves, it allowed them to learn more about university programs and careers in the fields of IT and maths, while also finding out about the job prospects they offer. Programs like this can help us to break down the unconscious bias which has accrued against women in these fields, in businesses as well as in the world of academia.

In 2021 the program had to go remote, with two afternoon sessions. The first included a talk entitled ‘1, 2, 3, count!’ from Mireille Bousquet-Mélou (CNRS - LaBRI), followed by career and study presentations from two female executives and a lecturer. A second talk entitled ‘A little insight into my life as a mathematician’ was given by Annabelle Collin (IMB - Inria), followed by a round of ‘My thesis in 180 seconds’ and a chance for the young participants to put their questions to the professionals.

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The Development and Analytical Transfer Center (CDTA) at the EPOC laboratory (Oceanic and Continental Environments and Paleoenvironments)

The CDTA offers a range of services, studies and expertise in the analysis of organic contaminants. The team handles between 10 and 20 transfer projects and diagnostic requests each year. They include expert analyses in cases where waterways have been polluted with emerging contaminants (pharmaceutical substances).

Studying and monitoring aquatic milieus

A Technology Transfer Unit attached to the University of Bordeaux’s EPOC lab (UMR CNRS 5805), GEO-Transfert brings a broad spectrum of know-how, skills and knowledge to bear on the study of aquatic milieus in rivers, estuaries and coastal waters. It provides expertise and services to public and private-sector organizations with an interest in monitoring the quality of water and sediments, spanning fields from hydrodynamics to hydrogeomorphology and sediment dynamics.

Roadmap for the transitions: commitment

The university will manage its water resources sustainably and responsibly, reducing consumption by 10% by 2030 (benchmark 2014)

Our roadmap for the transitions: commitment

The university will keep its promises on the energy transition, with a clear pathway to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030.

Other initiatives

The university has a multi-year strategy for improving energy efficiency, activating an array of levers: renovating buildings under the banner of Operation Campus and the Covid recovery plan; improving the performance of operating contracts by introducing overall performance public procurement contracts (MPGPs) for heating, ventilation and cooling, requiring savings of at least 25%, gradually increasing the proportion of our energy which comes from renewable sources, installing 3,000m² of solar panels and aiming to hit 12,000m² by the end of 2023; connecting to existing district heat networks; using geothermal energy to replace oil heaters on site; establishing a new heat network for the university campus etc.

Pioneering and clean energy

The BEST research catalyst network “Better manufacturing for better living” led by the Department of Engineering and Digital Sciences

This project is a collaboration between 5 of the university’s research departments, aimed at developing new methodologies to shape the factories of the future.

Training

Master’s degree in Development Economics

This Master’s program includes a particular focus on energy and environmental engineering and economics, as well as environmental impact studies, specifically designed with economists, engineers and ecologists in mind. It equips students with operational economic skills in terms of decision-making, environmental assessments and microeconomic modeling, all directly applicable to the energy transition, climate change and biodiversity conservation. The program prepares graduates for careers at the interface of economics, engineering and ecology.

Professional degree in energy, environment and climate engineering

This professional degree equips students with specialist skills and knowledge in heat and energy-efficient building and renovation, optimizing energy usage in industrial fluids and processes, renewable energy sources and environmental issues.

Research

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Analyzing Actors’ Resources in Contexts Defined by Inequality, Tension and Struggle (PARASITE)

This research scheme at the Emile Durkheim Center seeks to better understand how individuals respond and adapt to the great transformation of our age, focusing particularly on the resources they mobilize.

The Centre for Comparative Labour and Social Security Law (COMPTRASEC)
A “Work, Employment and Normative Factors” project studying the future of salaried employment and the transformations of employment law. The center’s “Social Risks, Solidarities and Responsibilities” project, meanwhile, studies the new challenges for social security posed by health and environmental risks related to work.

Bordeaux Sciences Économiques (BSE), a CNRS – University of Bordeaux combined research unit
With 40 researchers, lecturer-researchers and doctoral students, BSE has established a research program devoted to “International Economics, History and Finance,” exploring the globalization of finance and the economy.

The University of Bordeaux’s social dialogue committee
A platform for discussion between staff and representatives of the university administration, examining all regulatory changes and measures pertaining to human resources.

The key stakes of the transition will inform the way we manage and structure research and innovation.

VIA Inno, a platform for research into technological intelligence within the French innovation ecosystem
Founded in 2009 at the GREThA centre for research in economics, VIA Inno aims to promote technological intelligence within the French innovation ecosystem, as well as strengthening innovation governance within our businesses, universities and territories. VIA Inno works with partners to co-develop research projects, co-construct strategic studies and provide training.

The ISI (Innovation–Science–Industries) Program at Bordeaux Sciences Économiques
20 teachers and researchers united by an interest in the factors underlying creative dynamics, from the early stages of research through to the deployment of results in business and industry.

Bachelor of Technology degree in Mechanical and Process Engineering, Innovation in Industry option
Students get to contribute directly to the market launch of a new product, working on the first three stages in the product life cycle and learning about the changing needs of businesses and the careers of the future.

UBee Lab, a start-up incubator founded in 2016 in collaboration with the CNRS, INSERM and other research bodies
Four facilities playing host to 20 start-ups, as well as supporting over 150 student entrepreneurs each year.
Focus on BaityKool, a prototype for an innovative living space suitable for the Middle Eastern climate

Context
As global warming continues, we are seeing an ever-growing demand for energy to cool buildings. Hence the strategic importance of developing new skills and solutions for adapting homes to withstand warm climates.

Actions
In the spirit of bioclimatic architecture, the BaityKool project succeeded in designing, creating and testing a prototype for a new type of house, tailored to the demands of the Middle Eastern climate. Running from 2016 to 2018 with the backing of the University of Bordeaux and various partners, the project won three prizes at the Solar-Decathlon Middle-East awards 2018: energy efficiency, sustainable development and photovoltaic integration.

Impact and results
The most significant direct impact of the BaityKool project has been its innovative educational approach, encouraging students to get to grips with a real challenge in an international, multi-cultural environment.

Another remarkable feature of the project is its interdisciplinary spirit, and the synergy this has fostered between the various partners in the consortium, led by the University of Bordeaux. Students also had the opportunity to work directly with companies of various sizes and types.

The project has facilitated the transmission of a wealth of scientific and technical skills which will be invaluable in crafting responses to the climate transition.

Imagining the future of housing in warm, urban environments, BaityKool offers an innovative approach to sustainable development training while also delivering concrete solutions to help tackle climate change. In doing so, this project is contributing to the ongoing transformation of higher education, providing a fine example of the academic world engaging with the challenges of sustainable development in an international context.

KEY FIGURES 2022
2 years in development
€600,000 budget
5 teachers and researchers seconded
3 traditional craft experts providing technical support to students throughout the construction process
Over 100 students involved and educated over 3 years
7 internships for students
2 international contracts with a subsidiary of VEOLIA Environment and the company FLOVEA, which launched in the UAE thanks to the BaityKool project

REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS 2022-2023

Our Road Map for the Transitions: Commitment

The university’s facilities management guidelines will include energy and environmental criteria.
The “Post Petroleum Materials” research program at the Department of Material and Light Sciences
The aim of the project is to rethink the chemistry of materials in order to create a ‘circular chemistry’ that is more sustainable and less energy-intensive.

Bachelor of Technology in Materials Science and Engineering
Training specialists in materials including metals, polymers, glass, ceramics, composites and agro-materials in the arts of eco-design and recycling.

Responsible procurement policies
The university has rewritten several of its procurement policies with a view to reducing waste. Our catering and printing contracts are among those that have been updated. 30% of these contracts include environmental clauses, and 19% include social clauses.

Etu’Recup
Founded in 2014 to fight poverty and reduce waste, this association works in partnership with the campus Resource team to find new uses for unwanted items donated by businesses and the public.

Lecture series on climate change, the carbon market and “finance and climate risks”
Lectures aimed at students on the Economics and Management master’s program.

Students employed as “transition ambassadors”
Students take up the challenge of raising awareness of climate issues among the university community: Climate frescoes at the start of the year, a “clean walk” to clean up the campus, and various festive events.

The Augmented university Campus and world Transition (ACT) program
ACT aims to transform the university campus into a living laboratory and incubator of experimental projects on a regional scale, addressing challenges such as nature in the city and energy policy.

The ISVV’s VITADAPT project, led by researchers from the University of Bordeaux and INRAE
An experimental vineyard is being used to identify new grape varieties which are more resistant to climate change while also offering the qualities necessary to be added to the list of grape varieties approved under the appellation system.

The research catalyst network “Facing up to global changes: integrated approaches for people and the environment” at the Environmental Sciences Department
The aim of this research network is to devise scientific responses to the urgent challenges and dilemmas arising from the global climate emergency.

OUR ROAD MAP FOR THE TRANSITIONS: COMMITMENT
The university will encourage more responsible consumption practices, adapting its procurement policy and helping our community to adopt greener habits.

The university will draw upon its networks of locally embedded transition champions, leading the way on campus and within their respective organisations.
Research
Spipoll, a participatory science project using photography to track the movements of pollinating insects
Researchers from the Biodiversity, Genes and Communities laboratory at Bordeaux’s Institute of Mathematics are taking part in this national scheme led by the Museum of Natural History and the Office for Insects and their Environment. Their work spans the Bordeaux metropolitan area and the region beyond. The project aims to gain a better understanding of the needs of pollinating insects, their diversity and their spatial distribution, in order to better protect them and reverse the decline in their numbers.

Phénobois, an analytical platform devoted to the issues that will define the future of our forests and forestries
Several of the university’s laboratories have contributed to the development of this phenotyping tool, which should enable scientists to profile different woods and understand the biological and ecological processes which shape their development. It also addresses the environmental and genetic determinants of variability in maintained forests and forests with little human intervention. The aim is to identify the mechanisms which allow trees to deal with hydric stress, while also developing phenotyping tools to make forestry activities more productive and more resilient.

The university’s involvement with the regional VITIREV program
The ISVV (Institute of Vine and Wine Science) and BSE (Bordeaux School of Economics) are both members of the VITIREV program, one of the projects selected by the government’s ‘Innovation Territories’ scheme, which aims to accelerate the removal of pesticides from the winegrowing sector by championing agroecological practices.

Training
Master’s program in Biodiversity, Ecology and Evolution
This program trains future leaders capable of evaluating the quality and functional properties of (semi-) natural continental milieus, contributing to their management or providing invaluable expertise for research, public policy and resource management. All students take the same core subjects in the first year, before choosing one of four specialist pathways: Biodiversity and the workings of terrestrial ecosystems; Biodiversity and environmental monitoring; Agro-ecology and resource management; or Forestry management and timber logistics.

Master in Toxicology and Ecotoxicology
Training specialists in ecotoxicology, environmental chemistry and risk assessment, for fundamental research and industrial applications.
The university’s commitment to sustainable development is evidenced by its efforts to manage polluted sites and soils, respond to climate change, and protect biodiversity. The university’s “experimental forest” is located on the university campus in Floirac, and is used to study how urban forests respond to climate change, as well as its effects on environmental health and well-being.

The university’s commitment to protecting biodiversity is reflected in our systematic adoption of practices such as late mowing, urban beehives and bird boxes, and of course eco-grazing. These efforts will soon feature in a campus biodiversity map.

Other initiatives

- The “experimental forest” is located on the university campus in Floirac, and is used to study how urban forests respond to climate change, as well as its effects on environmental health and well-being.
- The university’s commitment to protecting biodiversity is reflected in our systematic adoption of practices such as late mowing, urban beehives and bird boxes, and of course eco-grazing. These efforts will soon feature in a campus biodiversity map.

The Department of Law and Social Transformations

With its eight research units, including a center of comparative research on constitutions, freedoms and the State, as well as a center for comparative studies of labor and social security law, this department is committed to expanding the horizons of research in the fields of Law and Political Science.

The HOPE research program at the Department for Evaluation, Behavior and Organizations

Studying well-being and individual behavior with a view to improving collective thinking and public decision-making.

University diploma in migrant support

Seeking to understand migration and the intercultural challenges in play, as well as helping migrants to integrate with the help of tools and methods derived from intercultural psychology.

The University of Bordeaux Legal Clinic, est. 2013

Under the supervision of law faculty members, law students provide free legal advice to citizens and organizations. Now an integral part of the curriculum, since 2013 this program has also held an average of 40 outreach sessions every year, reaching pupils from primary school up to high school age.

The PAUSE program, supporting researchers in exile

As part of this nationwide scheme, the University of Bordeaux is hosting two Ukrainian researchers. A welcome scheme including adapted hours and language classes was rapidly put together in 2022, and has been formally established in 2023.

This report contains details of the dozens of academic, institutional and research partnerships formed by the University of Bordeaux in pursuit of the SDGs. Here are two prominent examples:

Joint research structures with businesses (SRComs) focused on the goals

An SRCom is an academic-business research partnership of strategic significance, intended to act as a catalyst to scientific production and innovation, via the co- construction of a scientific program designed to meet the technological challenges encountered by the industrial partner. The GP2E joint research team (Guaranteeing the Energy and Environmental Performance of Buildings) embodies the shared ambition of our research units, Nobatek/INEF4 and the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region to open up new avenues of scientific and technological research, nurturing technological innovations which will help France’s stock of existing buildings to achieve the all-important low-carbon and low-consumption targets.

The AGROCHEM combined technology unit (Fatty Acids for Chemistry and Materials) was born of the long-standing collaboration between the organic polymer chemistry lab (LCPO) and local firm ITERG, working together to develop innovative, high-performance bio-sourced products using lipids, in a spirit of economic, societal and environmental competitiveness.

The European university network to promote equitable quality of life, sustainability and global engagement through higher education (ENLIGHT)

Selected by the European Commission in 2020, this consortium of nine European universities, including the University of Bordeaux, is working to develop new models of teaching and research capable of engaging with the principal sustainability issues affecting our towns and cities. The consortium has identified five key priorities: health and well-being, digital transformation, climate change, energy and circularity, social inequality.
Outlook

The University of Bordeaux’s transition policy is a coherent, long-term commitment, aligned with the national, European and international objectives identified for 2030 and 2050. Nonetheless, the accelerating pace of climate disruption and its social and geopolitical consequences requires a comparable acceleration of our transformation efforts. Structuring our actions more effectively is an essential priority: hence the University of Bordeaux’s decision to rethink its organizational structure in 2023, establishing an Institute for the Transitions in order to bolster and operationalize the university’s socio-ecological transition strategy, in a spirit of 360° action, interdisciplinarity and participatory decentralization.

At the same time, the university has launched a number of multi-annual projects spanning all of our key areas of activity.

Research

- new resources to mobilize our research community: the drafting and deployment of a “Laboratories in Transition” charter formalizing the contractual bonds between research units and their parent institutions across Bordeaux, defining and implementing specific action plans for reducing their environmental footprint (procurement, equipment, travel, energy etc.), increasing diversity and social cohesion, and contributing to disciplinary and interdisciplinary research programs on subjects relevant to the transitions.
- A new interdisciplinary, partnered research and research-action initiative focused on the transitions: a “living lab” scheme engaging with transition issues both on campus and across the metropolitan territory (e.g. energy, water, biodiversity, mental health in young people, food, mobility, town planning etc.), bringing together local stakeholders, economic partners, citizens and the academics behind research and teaching projects capable of responding to these challenges.
- A major new scheme to nurture the development of innovative transition projects: the University Innovation Hub.

Training

As we face up to the new challenges of the anthropocene era, as well as the expectations of students and employers, the University of Bordeaux has embarked upon a comprehensive transformation of its course portfolio in order to focus on the knowledge and skills which will define the future. This project has four main pillars:
- A compulsory core curriculum, both interdisciplinary and subject-specific, for all undergraduates;
- A program to foster the development and deployment of new transition-focused modules within existing courses, as well as new interdisciplinary courses for full-time students and continuing education participants.
- A continuing education program for academic staff, equipping them to teach transition-related subjects in disciplinary and interdisciplinary contexts.
- A continuing education program for in-house and external administrative staff, enhancing our collective understanding of the anthropocene context and reinforcing the professional skills demanded by these new circumstances.

Other initiatives

- Pushing forward with the energy transition, decarbonizing our heating systems (switching to biomass boilers and geothermal energy), precisely monitoring our energy consumption and usage, and increasing our energy autonomy with more solar panels.
- Implementing a comprehensive system of waste collection, reuse and recycling across all university campuses.
- Implementing the “inter-establishment mobility strategy” by reducing road berths and parking spaces, expanding cycle lanes and secure bike parking, and erecting new signs to promote walking.
- Introducing a new methodology for measuring the impact of projects and decisions, and launching a new decision-making guide.
- Launching a new mode of “purchasing governance” and green analytical accounting, allowing us to better measure and account for transition policies in our budget planning.
- Strengthening cooperation with partner universities in the European ENLIGHT alliance, with a particular focus on the operational implementation of transition policies.
- Reaffirming our commitment to the values of inclusion, diversity and staunch opposition to discrimination, violence and harassment.

About this report
Methodology

This report includes details of projects from across the University of Bordeaux ecosystem: our colleges, research departments, administrative departments and our various communities (students, staff, associations, partners etc.). Nevertheless, it is important to note that there is not room in the present report to provide an exhaustive account of the University’s actions in this field; as such, the selection of examples offered herein is necessarily partial and, to a certain extent, arbitrary.

However, the plan is for this document to be updated. In its present incarnation it should be regarded as a beta version: teaching staff, researchers, students and administrative personnel are warmly invited to put forward new projects for inclusion in the next version.

Finally, it should be borne in mind that the key figures contained in this document refer to the year 2022, unless specified otherwise.

Publication data is for the period 2017-2021.

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Our main areas of progress towards the goals

**Priority: Effective organization to rise to the challenges**

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<td>1. The university will oversee a profound transformation of its operations and modes of action, adopting experimentation as an essential tool for change.</td>
<td>Accelerating the ACT Program&lt;br&gt;› Program objective: To transform our university into an experimental campus for the transitions&lt;br&gt;› End of 2022: 17 projects launched (including PRISME, La Rencontre des Transitions, Data campus Smart Mob, Living Lab Nature en ville)&lt;br&gt;› Budget allotted to this program: 17 million Euros&lt;br&gt;› 4 areas of experimentation:&lt;br&gt; › Health, well-being and inclusion&lt;br&gt; › A sustainable campus in the city&lt;br&gt; › Food supply and resilient ecosystems&lt;br&gt; › Preparing the university for its own transition</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Our staff will receive training on the environmental and societal transitions. They will be well-versed in the key concepts and necessary skills.</td>
<td>Training...&lt;br&gt;... to take part in or lead climate fresco sessions, now a core feature of our staff training policy.&lt;br&gt;Results: Over 250 members of university staff trained in how to coordinate fresco sessions (accounting for 50% of total trained coordinators in the region).</td>
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<td>3. The university will draw upon its networks of locally embedded transition champions, leading the way on campus and within their respective organisations.</td>
<td>2 networks for disseminating information&lt;br&gt;› 57 transitions delegates, members of staff working to ensure that the priorities of the transition are at the heart of day-to-day life at the university. Principal missions: raising awareness among peers, and sharing best practices.&lt;br&gt;› 18 ambassadors: students employed by the university to raise awareness among fellow students through events and social media work&lt;br&gt;› Examples of their work: European waste reduction week, Green Games, Ecology and Solidarity week.&lt;br&gt;› The network’s Instagram page has around 1,000 followers</td>
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<td>4. The university will recognise and champion actions in favour of the transitions.</td>
<td>Student Survey 2021-2022 asking students what factors would encourage them to do more for the transitions. Of the 2,820 students who completed the survey in full, almost 3/4 expressed interest in an optional module on the transitions.</td>
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<td>5. Decentralized governance will help us to integrate the challenges of the environmental and societal transitions into every aspect and every structure of our university.</td>
<td>Putting in place a model of governance for the transitions, structured around 4 key themes: training, research, campus, campus life.</td>
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<td>6. The university will ensure transparent monitoring and evaluation of its transition policy, adopting new modes of institutional organization.</td>
<td>Transition Seminar organized for 2/3 of our administrative departments, identifying ways for staff to adapt their professional practices (Source: Institut des Transitions)</td>
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<td>7. Our partnership policy will incorporate the priorities of the environmental and societal transitions.</td>
<td>The increasing prominence and influence of the Environmental and Societal Transitions Council, a statutory body within the University of Bordeaux since 2021&lt;br&gt;› Chaired by an external president and comprising 10 experts and 20 members of the university community (including 10 students).&lt;br&gt;Source: Conseil des Transitions - University of Bordeaux (u-bordeaux.fr)&lt;br&gt;› DDGRS Label (sustainable development and societal responsibility) obtained in 2021 for a 2-year period</td>
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### Priority: taking action for the environment

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<td>8. Promoting low-carbon transport solutions for staff and students is one of the university’s key priorities.</td>
<td>› Drawing up a joint mobility strategy with 15 other public and private higher education institutions and research centers, the first initiative of its kind in France. Examples of measures taken: introduction of free-floating vehicle hire schemes on and around campus (e-scooters, bicycles, mopeds) in partnership with Bordeaux Métropole and a number of private operators (Bird, Dott, Yego et al.).</td>
<td>8. Promote affordable decent housing and the well-being of the population.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. The university will keep its promises on the energy transition, with a clear pathway to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 40% by 2030.</td>
<td>› Communication focusing on UB’s carbon footprint, with reference to 2019 data. › Drafting the frugal energy strategy (2022–2023) with the goal of reducing energy consumption by 10% in 2023 (and 10% more in 2024) by: › Renovating existing buildings (Operation Campus and the Recovery Plan). › Installing more solar panels. 3,000m² solar panels installed by the end of 2022, with the potential to reach 12,000m². › Replacing old bulbs with LED lights (objective: 100% changed by 2027), installing autonomous, solar–powered outdoor lighting. Source: Frugal energy strategy.</td>
<td>9. Promote sustainable cities and communities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. The university will manage its water resources sustainably and responsibly, reducing consumption by 10% by 2030.</td>
<td>› Experimenting with rainwater storage on our Bastide site, using it to water plants.</td>
<td>10. Ensure access to adequate water and sanitation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>11. The university’s facilities management guidelines will include energy and environmental criteria.</td>
<td>› Reflections on the reiteration of the Multi-annual Real Estate Strategy (SPSI), 2023–2028. Example of the university’s commitments: environmental clauses will be included in 100% of building contracts. This measure is already in place for renovations and refurbishments conducted under the banner of the Covid recovery plan. The University received 51 million Euros from this fund in 2021, to be used in 2022 and 2023. › In order to achieve this objective, the applicable heating regulations and biodiversity protection standards will be used as training tools, with staff learning how to account for the carbon impact of property management.</td>
<td>11. Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.</td>
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<td>12. The university will work to preserve and nurture biodiversity on its campuses.</td>
<td>› The Microfarm project: Backed by the ACT, launched late 2022. Objective: Assess the viability of using 10 hectares of land on campus for agricultural purposes. If this pilot project is successful, it could be expanded in scope in order to contribute to the movement to bring back urban agriculture.</td>
<td>31. Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial and marine ecosystems.</td>
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<td>13. The university will encourage more responsible consumption practices, adapting its procurement policy and helping the university to adopt greener habits.</td>
<td>› Meeting of the Board of Directors in March 2022: results of the procurement action plan 2021. Key information: › 18.79% of advertised procurement contracts contain social clauses (initial target: 15%). › 30.25% of advertised procurement contracts contain environmental clauses (initial target: 25%). Source: PAA accounts 2021. › Presentation of the procurement action plan 2023 to the Board of Directors, late 2022: › 30% of contracts should include environmental clauses › 20% of contracts should include social clauses Source: PAA accounts 2023–2025. › Rewriting the catering tender to include a clause on short distribution networks - Source: Sustainable purchasing - Staff portal (u-bordeaux.fr).</td>
<td>12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production.</td>
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<td>14. The university will systematically recycle and reuse its waste, relying on the active involvement of our communities to move towards zero waste.</td>
<td>› Approval for a pilot project at a test site (Victoire campus) introducing collective recycling stations and removing individual waste paper baskets.</td>
<td>13. Ensure responsible consumption and production.</td>
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<td>15. The university will be attentive to the environmental credentials of its digital ecosystem, reminding our community of their responsibilities.</td>
<td>› Under the terms of Matinfo 5, the length of contracts for digital hardware handled by the IT department is between 5 and 7 years. (Source: Frugal energy strategy 2022) › Digital Twin Project (ACT program): working to build a bespoke digital management tool for the University of Bordeaux, capable of handling issues relating to mobility and energy. › World Cyber Clean Up Day: Objective: encouraging students and staff to clear out their email inboxes and computer folders, in order to reduce their digital footprint.</td>
<td>15. Foster responsible consumption and production.</td>
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### Priority: Promoting a genuine social policy

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<td>16. The university will implement a comprehensive and integrated policy to promote diversity and equal opportunities, systematically denouncing all forms of violence and discrimination.</td>
<td>➢ Publication of the Gender Equality Strategy (2022-2024)</td>
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<td>➢ Roll-out of the RESET program, a multi-stakeholder European project set to last 4 years, aiming to promote gender equality in university careers and the highest levels of academic achievement.</td>
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<td>➢ Implementation of the disability guideline strategy (2021-2023)</td>
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<td>➢ Awarding of FIPHFP status</td>
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<td>Equality and Diversity at the University of Bordeaux (u-bordeaux.fc)</td>
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<td>17. The university will strengthen efforts to identify students and staff in precarious circumstances and provide appropriate support.</td>
<td>➢ Le Comptoir d’Aliénor social and solidarity store, with prices 60% below the market rate.</td>
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<td>➢ Les petits paniers campus, hampers of local, seasonal fruit and vegetables available for 5 Euros</td>
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<td>➢ Free food distribution (with local partners such as Linkee and ATENA)</td>
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<td>18. The university will prepare its community and its structures for the coming transformations in the structure and environment of work and study.</td>
<td>➢ Number of people working from home: 1,340 non-teaching staff working from home regularly, and 159 for health reasons.</td>
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<td>➢ Publication of the staff training plan 2022, including modules addressing contemporary issues (gender equality, the societal transition, digital transformations, managerial skills, professional risks etc.).</td>
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<td>19. The university will develop and deploy a comprehensive campus health policy, encompassing all health determinants and questions of access (care, nutrition, exercise, active mobility, housing, social support etc.).</td>
<td>➢ PRISME project launched in early 2022 for a period of 2 years, recruiting 2,000 student volunteers to study the mental health of undergraduates. The goal is to gather data on their mental health, then get them involved in efforts to reduce psychological pressures.</td>
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<td>➢ Since 2020 a free 2-day course has been available for students wishing to learn about first aid measures for mental health: 1,373 students have taken part on campuses across the region, with a 100% satisfaction and peer recommendation rate.</td>
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<td>20. The university will support local projects to expand access to services, strengthen social bonds and promote inclusion.</td>
<td>➢ 2nd edition of the Student Participatory Budget.</td>
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<td>❆ Allotted budget: 100,000 Euros (from the CVEC)</td>
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<td>❆ 47 project proposals received, 13 selected</td>
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<td>❆ 10,000 votes submitted</td>
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<td>❆ The winning projects address 3 main themes: - Life on campus: installation of drinking fountains, microwave ovens etc. - Environmental issues: planting trees, bins for recycling face masks etc. - Gender equality and preventive health measures: free distribution of sanitary products and condoms.</td>
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### Priority: Training, research, society – rallying around the priorities of the transition

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<td>21. All students enrolled at the university will receive training in the key concepts and skills associated with the environmental and societal transitions, from basic awareness-raising up to diploma-level courses.</td>
<td>➢ Institutional Student Survey 2021–2022 Of the 2,820 students who completed the survey in full:</td>
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<td>➢ 49% reported that the challenges of the environmental and societal transitions (global warming, inclusion, diversity, pollution etc.) were addressed in the teaching they received.</td>
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<td>➢ In 60% of cases this was in the context of a case study or similar exercise.</td>
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<td>➢ Only 15% reported that they had been assessed on this subject.</td>
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<td>➢ The figures are not evenly distributed across disciplines: e.g. medical and legal studies address the transitions less frequently.</td>
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<td>➢ Working on skills for the transitions and learning in project mode in the new Bachelor of Technology programs.</td>
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<td>22. Our steering and training tools will incorporate the key stakes of the transition.</td>
<td>➢ Building a methodology to catalogue all transition-related training options and compile an initial inventory.</td>
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<td>➢ Incorporating the challenges of the transition into the continuous improvement of our educational portfolio.</td>
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<td>23. The key stakes of the transition will inform the way we manage structure research and innovation.</td>
<td>➢ Coordinating working groups comprising representatives of research laboratories, kicks-starting discussions on the role of research in responding to the challenges of the transitions.</td>
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<td>➢ Finalizing the first draft of the ‘Labs in Transition’ charter for research structures based on the Bordeaux campus and their parent institutions, in order to address the societal and environmental impacts of research activities.</td>
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<td>24. Putting science to work in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals, working closely with our partners and representatives of civil society.</td>
<td>➢ Structuring our “Science with and for society” policy, in the form of the SUNSET project (“Sciences with and for a Society in Transitions), backed by the MESR, in order to expand our social dialogue beyond the confines of the university and engage with people far removed from the academic sphere, in the spirit of our strategy for the transitions.SUNSET : Science with and for society - University of Bordeaux (u-bordeaux.fr)</td>
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Contacts
For any questions or contributions pertaining to the next SDG report:
transitions@u-bordeaux.fr