University for SDGs is a youth leader organization established in Italy with the intent of promoting the 17 Sustainable Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

Building on collaborations established with local, national and international institutions, academia, and the business community, the organisation seeks to cultivate a dialogue between these stakeholders, hosting a series of meetings across national and international territories.

The aim is to formulate proposals on specific themes aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, which will be brought to the attention of policymakers.

The combination of our dissemination and advocacy activities, along with our initiatives, are collated into final reports, which have garnered the interest of the European Commission and the Italian National Council for Economics and Labour.

The organization was founded by a bottom-up process inspired directly by the motivation of young leaders from different countries. University for SDGs believes in the importance of fostering exchanges between different cultures and generations as the first step for a more inclusive and sustainable future.
OUR MISSION

Our mission is to create a global network of young leaders and professionals who formulate ideas and proposals through engagement in an interdisciplinary and intersectoral environment. These proposals are intended to be brought to the attention of national and international policymakers, academic institutions and entrepreneurs in order to achieve a dynamic and sustainable long-term development.

Our journey started in 2020 and in less than 4 years our advocacy reach has been so fruitful that we now proudly share a network linking thousands of people.

This achievement demonstrates the impact of our activities, which enabled us to connect with people sharing our vision on sustainability, who consequently decided to join us.

2023
IN NUMBERS

36 Universities reached
25 Companies involved
52 Local projects completed
5 National events
7 Local groups
526 Young associates
>3000 Members in our community
OUR STRATEGY

University for SDGs is dedicated to advancing sustainable development goals through various activities, which lead to the creation of projects in collaboration with public and private partners on the local and global scale.

Education
Our focus on education involves devising training courses for the effective implementation of the SDGs. These courses leverage the skills and motivation of young leaders, empowering them to drive meaningful changes in their own communities.

These educative modules are organised with partners who are already operative in fields related to sustainability.

Communication and Dissemination
Our organization excels in planning events and dissemination activities. We host workshops, seminars, and conferences to raise awareness on the SDGs and facilitate discussions on sustainable practices.

Additionally, we collaborate with local teams and partners to develop SDG strategies tailored for specific regions and communities. This localised approach ensures that our initiatives resonate effectively at the grassroots level, encouraging widespread engagement and participation.

Private sector bridges
University for SDGs actively engages with companies and private stakeholders to implement sustainable strategies. By forging partnerships and building bridges connecting young people, civil society, and businesses, we facilitate collaborative projects that address sustainability challenges.

These initiatives not only benefit our community but also contribute to the sustainability reports of each partner company, validating their commitment to social responsibility and environmental stewardship.
The idea of creating an association uniting students advocating for better sustainable policies sparks. A group of 30 students from the university of Venice turns Ca’ Foscari for SDGs into reality. UniBs for SDGs (Brescia), UniMe for SDGs (Macerata), UniBo for SDGs (Bologna) and UniTn for SDGs (Trento) are inaugurated.

University for SDGs’ network reaches the city of Bergamo and creates UniBg for SDGs, while students at the university of Verona found UniVr for SDGs.

UniBg for SDGs is welcomed in Rome at the Department for European Affairs in a public hearing. Events in are held in Brescia, Venice, Milan and Palermo, culminating with a public hearing at the National Council for Economics and Labour.

University for SDGs expands its outreach beyond Italy, finally engaging with institutions at the international level and earning the recognition of EU Climate Pact Ambassador.
WHERE

University for SDGs operates in numerous Italian cities, including Milan, Venice, and Rome, where our local teams are highly proactive in promoting the sustainable goals.

As of January 2024, we have expanded our reach to develop networks and projects on an international scale, collaborating with various partners to drive sustainable development efforts globally.

Additionally, we collaborate closely with UN Youth Delegates, while also having been awarded the status of EU Climate Pact partner association.

WHAT

2024 marks the beginning of our engagement with international partners.

This milestone is achieved not only through connecting with institutions in countries around the globe, such as Brazil and Qatar, but also thanks to our status as an EU Climate Pact Partner. Therefore it is our desire and our duty to push for an ecological transition and for initiatives that can lay the foundation for a sustainable world.

Moving forwards, University for SDGs will strive for cultivating stronger bonds and cooperating with like-minded organisations to unite a community of individuals and young generations advocating for the UN Sustainable Goals.

Locally, our network of universities will essay hosting initiatives for the academic community and beyond, sensitising people to sustainability and advancing sustainable solutions for the local administrations to implement.

We will pursue our mission nationally by hosting events aimed at raising awareness on the SDGs in Italy and abroad, starting from Argentina, South Africa and China.

Moreover, our collaboration with UN Youth Leaders brings us closer to our utmost goal: ensuring that the voices of young people reach policymakers at the very top.