



UNIVERSITY *of*  
WORCESTER

University of Worcester  
Green Impact 2024-25  
Programme Impact Report

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STUDENTS  
ORGANISING FOR  
SUSTAINABILITY  
UNITED KINGDOM

# Green Impact: international impact



# What is Green Impact?

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Green Impact is a multi award-winning sustainability learning and awards programme, designed to embed sustainable practices across organisations. Green Impact suggests what staff can do in their team to support sustainability and guides them how to achieve this.

Green Impact is all about building a community of people learning about sustainability and working together to create positive change. It is tailored to each organisation we work with to strategically support local targets and strategies.

**IEMA** Transforming the world  
to sustainability  
IEMA Sustainability  
Impact Awards 2019

**WINNER**



**nus** charity  
national union of students



19

Green Impact has been running for 19 years

2,200+

We have supported more than 2,200 organisations

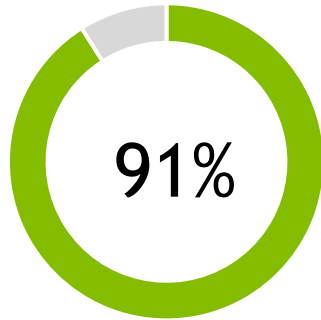
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Green Impact has been delivered in seven countries globally

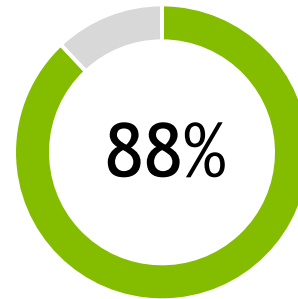
# Participants view Green Impact positively

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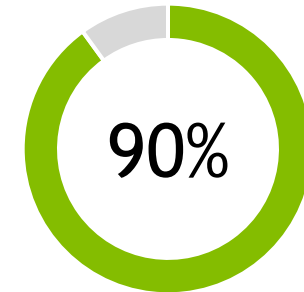
Participants have identified positive personal and professional impacts as a result of taking part in Green Impact



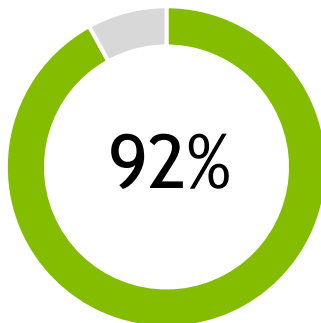
of Green Impact team members know more about how to use their knowledge to make changes to their daily work life



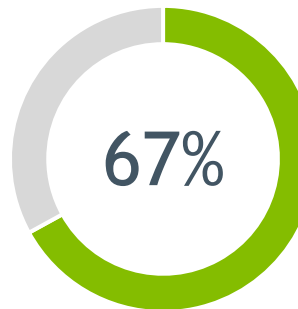
of volunteer student auditors found the auditor training useful, and 79% feel the experience has positively enhanced their employability



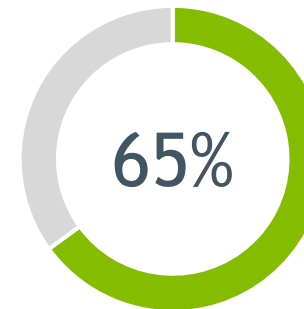
of participants had fun being part of Green Impact, and 92% felt good about themselves as a result of being involved



of participants would rate Green Impact as Good or Excellent overall



of participants identified changes to their own habits or behaviour as a result of taking part in Green Impact



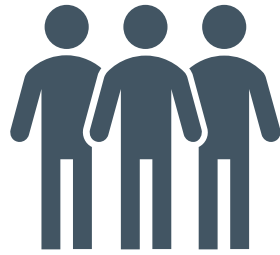
of participants understand more about sustainability and how it is connected to other issues as a result of taking part in Green Impact

# The international picture 2024

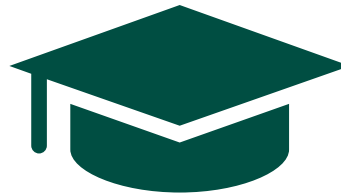
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Green Impact has been used by **2,046** organisations ranging from students' unions to NHS Trusts



**4,442** participating Green Impact teams led by more than **5,343** people



**891** students have been provided with training and development opportunities in their roles as auditors and project assistants



Nearly **1.5 million** people have been reached by Green Impact activities relating to sustainability and social justice



More than **45,000** positive actions and projects have been completed through Green Impact

# Green Impact at Worcester University 2024-25



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*Green Impact offers teams a structured framework to design and implement impactful sustainability projects in their department or area of work. Teams from across the University completed projects on a varied range of environmentally and socially sustainable topics and submitted projects through an online, interactive toolkit.*

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Project

Criteria

Further information

How you will be audited

Comments & evidence

You will need to complete a project case study to share the progress and achievements of your project. It does not matter if your project is still in the planning phase or is long-term over a few years, progress will still have been made so make sure you share this with us. Please use the [Case Study Template](#) and when complete, upload this to the 'evidence' section of this criteria for the auditors to view.

We recomend completing the project case study in the spring. If you need any help or support please contact the Green Impact team (contact details in the FAQs). Don't foget to add any comments that you feel may be helpful for the auditor.

N/A

NOT DONE

IN PROGRESS

DONE

# Local engagement at University of Worcester in 2024-25

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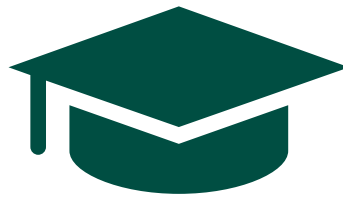
Since Green Impact launched at the University of Worcester, in **2011**, we've seen **181** team awards presented for over **2,300** positive sustainability actions and **86** projects, led by more than **365** people directly involved in Green Impact teams. Here's what has been achieved in 2024-25...



20 teams registered projects, with 8 teams submitting their project this year and receiving an award



22 people led Green Impact teams



Provided 17 students with training and development opportunities in their roles as project assistants



Reached more than 19,800 students, and community members via Green Impact projects



Provided 7 students with IEMA-approved training and development opportunities in their roles as Green Impact auditors



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## Overview of Green Impact projects at University of Worcester 2024-2025

### Fairtrade at University of Worcester

Responses to the University of Worcester Fairtrade Survey of 2023



### Fairtrade

This year the Fairtrade project team have been working hard on their submission for Fairtrade certification. To support education on fairtrade they ran an online presentation during Go Green Week, conducted a survey and engaged with the fairtrade fortnight!

### Lakeside Campus Nature Trail

This project team has created a nature walk around the Lakeside Campus, promoting environmental wellbeing and mindfulness. This trail has reached an estimated 14,500 people!



### SU Monthly Wildlife Photo Competition

Students submitted their best photos of the natural world to win a prize. This project invited students to look closer at nature and develop a stronger connection with it!

### You Matter

This project team focused on SDG 3, good health and wellbeing by putting on an event focused on student mental health. Students were invited to have a hot drink and chat whilst they did arts and crafts on paper trees where they could reflect on their goals and wellbeing. Students kept these trees as points of reflection to use throughout the year!

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## Overview of Green Impact projects at University of Worcester 2024-2025



### Sustainability Podcast

An impactful and returning project, the sustainability podcast team have created a new series of episodes covering construction, the oceans, plastic waste and more. They have a focus on collaboration, showing their commitment to goal 17, 'Partnership for the Goals'.



### Lavender Bags

This project harvested the lavender on campus to use for its plethora of health benefits - better sleep, pain relief, digestive aid and more! These bags will find themselves on the pillows of 950 residents come September to welcome them to their new homes!

### Vape Recycling

A highly relevant project that has worked to provide vape recycling facilities on campus to ensure the responsible disposal of these products. This could support an increase in the reuse of lithium, which are used in electric car batteries!



### Water Saving Project

This project analysed how the water usage at the University of Worcester could be reduced. This was done by estimating the amount of water used by flushing and identifying outlets that could be removed. The team also looked at how much water could be saved by the installation of flow restrictors across the university. The reports make practical and convincing suggestions for water savings!

# Engagement with the Sustainable Development Goals

The Green Impact toolkit is aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals to show teams that the actions they take in the workplace or at home can support global efforts for sustainable development.



Fairtrade



You Matter  
Lavender Bags



Lakeside Nature Trail  
Water Saving Project  
SU Wildlife Photo Competition



Sustainability Podcast



# Supporting the Sustainability Strategy 2020- 2030

Green Impact is a standing agenda on the Sustainability Strategy Group and supports the wider University of Worcester Sustainability Strategy 2020-2030. The variety of projects and areas of sustainability explored through the programme supports all four themes outlined in the strategy, most themes 1 and 2.

## THEME 1: PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY, SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WELLBEING

### SDGs relating to Theme 1: Promoting sustainability, social responsibility and wellbeing



- Green impact provides sustainability training for students as either project assistants or auditors.
- Students shape sustainability projects with their existing knowledge, giving them applied skills in sustainability. They also learn new environmental skills from staff leads.

- Sustainable principles are embedded in working lives by inviting all staff to run projects that improve environmental impacts of their work.
- Active citizenship is encouraged through projects such as Fairtrade and vape recycling.

## THEME 2: INTEGRATING SUSTAINABILITY THROUGH KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

### SDGs relating to Theme 2: Integrating sustainability through knowledge, skills and experience



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## PLATINUM AWARD

*Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK*

**Lakeside Nature Trail**

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## GOLD AWARD

*Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK*

**Fairtrade  
Estates Water Saving Project  
Sustainability Podcast  
Lavender Bags**

Green Impact

## SILVER AWARD

*Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK*

**SU Wildlife Photography Competition  
Vape Recycling**

Green Impact

## BRONZE AWARD

*Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK*

**You Matter**

# Special Award winners

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The special awards are for those who stand out with their passion and enthusiasm for sustainability. Each local special award winner will be entered into the national Green Impact Awards.

NUS Green Impact

**SPECIAL AWARD**

*Delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability - UK*

## Student Leadership Award

### Winner: Briagh

Briagh has taken the initiative to lead a personal sustainability project focused on exploring the environmental benefits of lavender and its packaging. Although Briagh worked independently, their commitment to sustainability has driven meaningful change both in their immediate community and beyond.

## Community Action Award

### Winner: SU Photo Competition

The SU led an innovative community engagement campaign through the Campus Wilds Wildlife Photo Competition, designed to connect students with nature, creativity, and one another during a high-stress time in the academic calendar. Aware of the pressures around assessment deadlines and the Easter break, they aimed to create a simple yet impactful way for students to engage with their surroundings and prioritise their wellbeing.

## Environmental Improvement Award

### Winner: Lakeside Nature Trail

One of the key features is the education of all ages on the uses of Lakeside, along with raising awareness about wildlife, ecosystems, and biodiversity in the area. We hope that this will help increase public understanding of environmental sustainability and highlight the importance of conserving and maintaining the natural environment both locally and internationally. We also focus on supporting local biodiversity through small-scale conservation efforts. One such initiative involves the imminent creation of large and small scale bug hotels and hibernaculum along the wooded area of the trail.

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**SPECIAL AWARD**

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## Innovation for Engagement

### **Winner: Lavender Bags Team**

For the next academic year in accommodation, this project can encourage sustainability by promoting natural, low-waste alternatives to synthetic air fresheners and pest repellents. Lavender offers calming, aromatic, and practical benefits, and using it in simple sachets makes it easy for students to adopt eco-friendly habits in their personal spaces. By introducing this project, students can be inspired to reuse materials, explore plant-based solutions, and reduce reliance on chemical sprays or single-use products. It also opens up opportunities for DIY and community engagement through shared crafting or growing initiatives.

## Sustainability Hero

### **Winner: Rebecca Ball**

A passionate and dedicated Environmental Management and Sustainability student whose involvement in the Bird Friendly Campus project has made a lasting impact on both the team and the wider university community. As an Environmental Management and Sustainability student, I have connected my academic studies with my practical involvement in sustainability efforts on campus. From the outset of the Bird Friendly Campus project, Rebecca eagerly jumped in—helping staff conduct campus bird surveys and learning to identify local species. My growing expertise has not only supported the collection of meaningful data but has also inspired other students to engage in campus biodiversity efforts.

# Experiences of Green Impact

Here's what participants of Green Impact have told us this year:

## Max Browning Green Impact team auditor

- “Having this training and certification will look very good on my CV, as I am applying for auditing/consultancy jobs and showing I have experience with it will be very helpful.”

## Elisha Parkes Green Impact Project Assistant

- “Being a GIPA is an amazing experience that not only has allowed me to help and learn about sustainability on campus but also engage more with the community.”

## Julia Radtke Green Impact team auditor

- “I gained experience in general auditing skills, evaluation, and talking to strangers— soft skills which are important to a work environment.”





# Participants are recognised through Green Impact

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All Green Impact team members and student auditors receive a digital badge to showcase their personal and professional development.

Project award winners receive a certificate and plant as a mark of their achievement.

All students involved in Green Impact were treated to a pizza party!



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**Katy Boom, Director of Sustainability at the University of Worcester, said the following:**

“Co-creating projects with students is always a pleasure. The range of topics and real impacts these initiatives have make me immensely proud of our sustainability work at Worcester. We all gain from these inspirational projects. Well done to all the students and staff who have worked so well together this year.”

**Eva Rodericks, Project Manager at SOS-UK, said the following:**

“It’s been an absolute pleasure to work with staff and students at the University of Worcester this academic year. Green Impact for the University of Worcester is a vehicle for their passion and determination to make tangible, meaningful changes for their local environment and beyond. It’s great to see so many areas of sustainability covered, from biodiversity to water savings. I am so excited to see how these projects grow!”

”

# Congratulations to all teams at the University of Worcester!

Congratulations on your achievements! We hope that you will continue being a part of Green Impact next year, and join us on our journey towards creating a just and sustainable world for all.



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