Sustainability Strategy Framework of the Corvinus University of Budapest
(2023–2030)
existing framework

Mission:

The Corvinus University of Budapest is committed to making sure that the principles of sustainability, as key aspects, pervade all its activities and operation.

Vision:

In line with the University's strategy, the University aims to become a centre of excellence for sustainability with international impact by 2030 through:

- educating empowered professionals committed to sustainability,
- achieving scientific results that make a difference in addressing and solving sustainability challenges,
- collaborating with academic centres, social communities as well as corporations and institutions that work towards similar goals,
- making a meaningful impact on its closer and broader social and economic environment, through the pursuit of its goals.

In addition, the University aims to create a working enviroment that is inspiring, welcoming and family-friendly for all University citizens, strengthens the community of the University and contributes to a significant reduction of its ecological footprint and environmental load.

Principles:

- **Impact.** When designing initiatives and actions serving sustainability, a meaningful, long-term and significant impact is of key importance.
- **Comprehensive approach**. The environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability are equally important.
- **Assessment and improvement.** The impacts of actions serving the implementation of the objectives must be assessed, and the results of assessments must be systematically incorporated into actions aimed at further improvement.
- **Participation and involvement.** The Strategy and the actions aimed at its implementation are open to all university citizens. The University consciously pays attention to the operation and continuous development of platforms and mechanisms for participation and involvement.
- **Transparency.** The principles and practical actions of the Strategy are available to all university citizens. Sustainability must be a key element of the University's communication in all forms and on all channels.
- **Innovation**. The University seeks to respond to and harness innovative practices of external parties, while unleashing its own internal innovative energies. Transdisciplinary innovations, shared by the teaching and research community and students, are of particular importance.
- **Individual and shared responsibility.** The promotion of sustainability is the duty and the responsibility of each citizen and the entire community of the University.

Teaching

The University aims to harness the potential inherent in its education activities in a way that issues related to the themes of sustainability/ERS (ethics, responsibility, sustainability) could also be integrated and play key roles. Particular attention must be paid to the development of curricula, the planning of programmes, the teaching methodologies and the involvement of the relevant stakeholders, as well as to the knowledge and the sustainability/ERS related skills of lecturers.

Key indicator:

Ratio of programmes with at least one sustainability course in the education plan; at all levels and in all programmes (BA-MA: compulsory courses; PhD and MBA: optional courses))

Courses, teaching materials:

The University aims to ensure that all students take at least one sustainability/ERS course during their studies at the Corvinus University of Budapest. Principles and indicators related to sustainability/ERS must be included in the educational results and outcome competences of courses.

Goals	Indicators
Every student has the opportunity to complete at least one sustainability/ERS subject during their studies at the University.	Proportion of programmes containing sustainability/ERS subjects (at all academic levels: for BA and MA programmes, as compulsory subjects, and for PhD and MBA programs, as optional subjects)
The University develops its subjects in a way that sustainability/ERS aspects are present in all topics, if relevant.	Ratio of sustainability/ERS competences in subjects (at all academic levels and in all programmes).
The University ensures specific learning outcomes and sustainability/ERS related indicators in the relevant courses	Education impact measurement, which considers competences, knowledge, course activities as well as stakeholder relations.
The University extends the range of subjects related to sustainability/ERS.	Ratio of subjects related to sustainability/ERS compared to the total number of subjects.
	Number of subjects related to sustainability/ERS offered in cooperation with other universities

Lecturers:

Through its education development programmes, the University aims to gradually increase the number of lecturers who are committed to the issue of sustainability/ERS.

Goals	Indicators
The University increases the number of sustainability/ERS lecturers.	Number of lecturers attached to the issue of sustainability/ERS.
The University provides training to raise awareness of how sustainability/ERS can be integrated into subjects.	Number of trainings.
	Number of subject/study programme leaders participating in trainings.
	Number of lecturers participating in trainings.

Extracurricular learning opportunities:

The University aims to increase the number of opportunities to study these topics outside the sustainability/ERS courses, as well as the number of students attending these courses.

Goals	Indicators
The University provides extra-curricular activities to engage in sustainability (e.g. field trips).	Number of extra-curricular activities related to sustainability/ERS programmes offered by the University.
	Number of students taking part in extra-curricular activities related to sustainability/ERS.
The University develops channels that allow students to gain practical experiences at organisations related to sustainability/ERS.	Number of internships related to sustainability/ERS and completed by students.
	Number of organisations offering internship opportunities to students in the field of sustainability/ERS, under long-term agreements.

Teaching methodology:

The university aims to support lecturer's innovations in experiential and transformative learning methodologies and to encourage students to initiate sustainability/ERS projects.

Goals	Indicators
The University increases the role of experiential learning in its education.	Ratio of subjects/educational programmes where experiential learning appears in the curriculum.
The University develops innovative educational projects around sustainability/ERS.	Number of innovative educational projects around sustainability/ERS.
The University involves more external stakeholders in its sustainability/ERS related education, including businesses (with a special focus on SMEs), the civil society, local communities or government actors.	Number of external stakeholders associated with the subjects.
	Number of projects involving external stakeholders in subjects.
	Number of subjects involving external stakeholders.

Alumni:

The university aims to re-integrate the alumni community into the education programme as students, supporters or external partners.

Goals	Indicators
The University keeps in touch with the alumni community so that we can re-involve them in sustainability/ERS education in several ways.	Number of graduated students regularly participating in the University's sustainability/ERS initiatives.
The University promotes the return of alumni students to short-term/executive programmes related to sustainability/ERS.	Number of alumni students in short-term/executive programmes related to sustainability/ERS.

Research

The University intends to increase its publication activity and research capacity in relation to sustainability/ERS by providing the necessary organisational frameworks and encouraging internal and external collaboration, to achieve research of significant impact and research excellence.

Key indicators:

Number of citations for the University's scientific publications on sustainability/ERS.

Number of external stakeholder organisations related to publications on sustainability/ERS.

Publications and research capacity:

The University encourages its teaching and research staff, as well as its students to perform research and publication activities in the area of sustainability/ERS, in order to create sustainability/ERS knowledge and increase scientific output and research capacities.

Goals	Indicators
The University encourages the production of scientific works in the topics of sustainability/ERS in all relevant branches of science.	Number of scientific publications on sustainability/ERS.
	Number of scientific publications containing sustainability/ERS topics.
	Number of high-quality scientific publications of sustainability/ERS focus (e.g. in Q1/D1 journals).
	Number of high-quality scientific publications containing sustainability/ERS related themes (eg. in journals)
	Number of scientific publications focusing on sustainability/ERS.
	Number of scientific publications including sustainability/ERS related themes, written by students.
	Number of citations for the University's scientific publications on sustainability/ERS.
The University encourages the production of BA and MA theses as well as PhD dissertations and papers written for the competitions of the Students' Scientific Associations (TDK) on sustainability/ERS.	Number of BA theses on sustainability/ERS.
	Number of MA theses on sustainability/ERS.
	Number of doctoral dissertations on sustainability/ERS.
	Number of Students' Scientific Associations (TDK) papers on sustainability/ERS.
The University increases the percentage of research communities integrating sustainability/ERS issues into their research.	Percentage of lecturers integrating sustainability/ERS issues into their research.
	Percentage of lecturers specialising in sustainability/ERS research.

Internal research collaboration:

In the spirit of sustainability/ERS, the University involves and encourages its communities, students and lectureres/researchers to actively participate in collaborative research through interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary research that spans organisational boundaries.

Goals	Indicators
The University promotes and rewards sustainability/ERS research collaborations among institutes/departments/ study programmes, as well as students and lecturers.	Number and average size of sustainability/ERS research groups and the total number of participants.
	Number and average size of sustainability/ERS research collaborations involving multiple institutes/departments/branches of science and the total number of participants.
	Number and average size of sustainability/ERS research collaborations involving both lecturers and students and the total number of participants.
	Number and average size of sustainability/ERS research collaborations involving students from multiple branches of science, and the total number of participants.

Research excellence and external collaboration:

The University aims to become a hub of research excellence in the sustainability/ERS field both in domestic and international contexts, by engaging in research collaborations that connect various types of stakeholders and networks.

Goals	Indicators
The University becomes an international/regional/national hub of excellence in the field of sustainability/ERS.	Creation of an international connectivity map in the subject of sustainability/ERS.
	Number and average size of sustainability/ERS research projects implemented in collaboration with other universities or researchers, and the total number of participants.
	Number and average size of sustainability/ERS research projects implemented in collaboration with other universities or researchers from the CEE region, and the total number of participants.
	Number and average size of sustainability/ERS research projects implemented in collaboration with other international universities and researchers, and the total number of participants.
The University increases the number of research projects related to sustainability/ERS and involving external stakeholders, too, among others the business sector, the civil society and the public sector.	Number and average size of research projects related to sustainability/ERS and affecting businesses, and the total number of participants.
	Number and average size of research projects related to sustainability/ERS and involving civil society, and the total number of participants.
	Number, average size and total participant number of research projects related to sustainability/ERS that involve the public sector.
	Number of external stakeholder organisations related to sustainability/ERS and number of related publications at the University.

Organisational framework for research excellence:

The University aims to create an adequate supporting framework for its sustainability/ERS research goals, providing proper administrative background, funding, and training and incentive systems to achieve research excellence.

Goals	Indicators
The University ensures the adequate organisational framework to support sustainability/ERS research, including the proper administrative background, clear strategic priorities and regulations.	Creation of a research framework that supports inter-institute relations and inter- and transdisciplinary research.
	Existence of financial and non-financial incentive systems to facilitate sustainability/ERS related research – across the whole organisation.
	Total amount of funds dedicated to sustainability/ERS research (in US Dollars).
	Ratio of financing allocated to sustainability/ERS research, compared to total research funding.
	Number of students involved in research demonstrator activities (extended to the CIAS and the ERS Hub, for example).
The University provides training on the possibilities of integration with sustainability/ERS research.	Number of researchers participating in trainings related to the topic.

Research of significant impact:

The University gives high priority to impactful research by supporting projects which go beyond scientific impacts and generate tangible value for stakeholders, both within and outside the sustainability/ERS field.

Goals	Indicators
The University gives high priority to sustainability/ERS related research and/or research that has impacts on stakeholders or the University itself.	Number of research projects that generate certified practical or impactful knowledge for internal or external stakeholders of the University.
	Number of research projects that generate practical or impactful knowledge in the field of sustainability/ERS for internal or external stakeholders of the University.
	Number of priority topics within the sustainability/ERS field, on which the University can definitely rely, as long-term productive sources of impactful scientific results.
	Number of projects capable of advancing competences related to sustainability/ERS in terms of research methodologies (e.g. reflexivity, action research).
	Number of business-oriented, practical topics developed and researched by the University in the field of sustainability/ERS, with the aim of reaching business players.
	Number of community-initiated projects where the external partner plays an equal role in the management of research.

Outreach and social impact

The University intends to make sure that all of its operations reflect responsibility and sustainability/ERS towards external and internal stakeholders, setting an example for others. The University establishes and maintains close and extensive partnerships and collaborations with a wide range of stakeholders including companies, community partners, government actors, as well as staff members and current and former students for the sake of promoting sustainability/ERS and making true social impact. The University actively seeks to influence stakeholders that are not yet following responsible and sustainable strategies. The University wishes to learn from universities and schools that are more advanced in terms of their sustainability/ERS efforts, and intends to deepen these relationships. In its communication activities, the University uses the issues of sustainability and responsibility in an ethical and credible manner.

Key indicators:

Number of University Citizens participating in joint projects with external stakeholders.

Number of external projects with the goal of creating shared value with external stakeholders

Key action items:

The University takes full advantage of its partnerships with other universities by actively facilitating the exchange of knowledge and best practices in the field of sustainability/ERS.

The University sets clear standards for managing relationships with external stakeholders, including corporate partners.

The University adopts a conscious approach in activities related to sustainability/ERS to effectively facilitate community engagement.

In its communication, the University focuses on positive role models and inspirational personal stories related to sustainability/ERS.

The University develops incentive systems that reward the sustainability/ERS related efforts of the citizens of the University.

Networking for sustainability:

The university aims to promote sustainability/ERS by collaborating with networks that focus on this topic or have good positions in this field.

Goals	Indicators
The University collaborates with networks whose primary objective is to advance sustainability/ERS in education (e.g. GBSN, ABIS, Aspen Institute, etc.).	Number of co-operations with networks whose primary objective is to advance sustainability/ERS in education.
The University continues to follow the PRME guidelines.	Continued publication of the PRME report.
The University commits to promoting the contextually relevant UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) in its sustainability/ERS efforts.	Commitment to promote explicit SDG's.
The University encourages its staff members to accept positions that advance sustainability/ERS (e.g. members of national committees, education governing bodies, NGO memberships, departments, etc.).	Number of positions held by staff members that advance sustainability/ERS.

External partnerships:

The University aims to interact with its external and internal stakeholders based on strategic needs and grassroots initiatives in an impactful way that takes into consideration sustainability/ERS goals, as well as the inherent transformative effect of community-based initiatives.

Goals	Indicators
The University proactively collaborates with business organisations, in particular SMEs, that support and promote sustainability/ERS.	Number of newly signed contracts with companies whose mission is to advance sustainability/ERS.
The University strengthens its co-operations with other Universities in the field of sustainability/ERS.	Number of partnership agreements with other universities.
	Number of joint initiatives with other universities.
The University supports ethical and sustainable organisations through various activities.	Number of partners and joint projects in the Science Shop.
The University engages its lecturers, staff, students and alumni in sustainability/ERS outreach activities.	Number of sustainability/ERS related community service projects organised by and/or involving students.
The University gives high priority to community initiatives in all its operations.	Number of community initiated projects at the University (e.g. through the ERS Hub).

Platform for sustainability:

The University aims to provide a platform that allows for the promotion of sustainability/ERS related activities for various stakeholders. It provides platforms to share ideas and practices related to the field, thereby making a valuable impact on the future society of Hungary, focusing on reaching as many people as possible and on making specific impacts.

Goals	Indicators
The University supports the organisation of conferences and public events devoted to sustainability/ERS.	Number of conferences devoted to sustainability/ERS.
	Number of public events devoted to sustainability/ERS.
The University actively attempts to change exploitative and unsustainable business behaviour through its relationships.	Number of events/projects where the main objective is to confront bad practices in a tangible way.
The University involves its alumni in sustainability/ERS efforts.	Number of alumni events relating to sustainability/ERS.
The leadership of the University is fully committed to sustainability and equal opportunities.	Number of events where the leadership expressed its commitment to sustainability/ERS and equal opportunities.
The University provides scope for and support to the sustainability/ERS actions of student organiastions and colleges, to make their own operations more sustainable.	Number of student organisations addressing sustainability/ERS and their related activities.

Operation, organisation and community

The University integrates the principles of sustainability/ERS into its operation, organisation and community.

Sustainable infrastructure:

In the spirit of increasing efficiency and reducing the use of resources, the University develops solutions to decrease its ecological footprint. It emphasizes the use of green energy, the design of energy-efficient buildings and the optimization of waste management systems. The University utilizes the UI Green Metrics framework for impact assessment in a comprehensive way, with particular focus on the following indicators:

1. Infrastructure
The total outdoor area divided by the total number of campus users
University budget for sustainability efforts
Percentage of university budget for sustainability efforts compared to the total budget
University faciliities for persons with disabilities, persons with special needs and new mothers
Health infrastructure supoprting students' and staff's wellbeing
2. Energy use and environmental footprint
Use of energy efficient devices

Area of smart buildings (m2)
Number of renewable energy sources
Renewable energy sources and their capacity (in kilowatt hour)
Electricity usage per year (in kilowatt hours)
Total electricity usage per capita (kWh per person)
Ratio of renewable energy production and total energy usage per year
Implementation of green buildings in infrastrucutre development efforts
Greenhouse gas emission reduction efforts
Full carbon footprint
Total carbon footprint per capita
3. Waste management
Recycling of waste at the university
Programmes to reduce the use of paper and plastic
Organic waste management
Inorganic waste management
Toxic waste management
Sewage disposal
4. Water consumption
Water protection programmes
Water recycling programmes
Use of water efficient devices
Consumption of treated water
5. Transportation
Average number of Zero Emission Vehicles (e.g. bicycles, electric cars, scooters etc.) on campus per day
Parking area (m2)
Ratio of parking area to total campus area (m2)
Initiatives to decrease private vehicles on campus
Pedestrian path on campus

Equal opportunities:

The University provides equal opportunities for all of its citizens. Special attention is paid to the inclusion of foreign students and staff, to developing an infrastructure that is suitable for students and staff with disabilities and small children, and to supporting students who are disadvantaged or face problems related to equal opportunities. Specific actions and initiatives are included in the Equal Opportunities Plan and the Family-Friendly Programme of the University.

Sustainable procurement:

Sustainable procurement aims to develop procurement practices that take into account environmental, social and economic considerations. To achieve this, preference must be given to environmentally friendly products and services, local producers and socially responsible suppliers.

Goals	Indicators
Creating a sustainable procurement policy framework.	Existing framework.
Implementing a sustainable procurement policy framework.	Ratio of products/services procured from sustainable sources.

Services supporting sustainable lifestyle:

The University encourages students and staff to live sustainably, by promoting environmental awareness and healthy lifestyles as well as providing related services.

Goals	Indicators
Creating a well-being strategy.	Existing well-being strategy.
Coaching services regarding sustainable life.	Availability of coaching services.
Providing sustainable catering options.	Availability of sustainable catering options.
Providing showers for people using bicycles.	Number of showers.

Providing the necessary financial background

The University takes into account the financing of sustainability/ERS initiatives and measures during financial planning, thus supporting the implementation of sustainability/ERS goals in the designated priority areas within the strategy period.