

THE Impact Rankings – What Every Department Should Know

What are they?

The Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings assess how [Western contributes](#) to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These rankings go beyond research—they recognize how institutions engage with society, support communities, and demonstrate public impact.

Common Themes Across All SDGs

Public Access

Make resources, policies, and services publicly available.

Examples: public libraries, museums, datasets, policies, or online evidence.

Community Engagement

Collaborate with local, regional, national, and global partners.

Examples: joint programs with schools, not-for-profits, municipalities, or industry.

Outreach

Deliver programs, events, or services that extend beyond campus.

Examples: public lectures, health clinics, sustainability workshops, or mentoring.

Policies & Evidence

Maintain policies and practices on equity, sustainability, inclusion, and ethical practices.

Ensure policies are current and practices are publicly documented.

Tracking & Measurement

Track participation, access, or outcomes for underrepresented groups.

Examples: first-generation students, gender equity, disability inclusion.

Sustainability Practices

Demonstrate efforts to reduce waste, emissions, energy, and water use.

Examples: green buildings, recycling programs, sustainable procurement.

What You Can Do

We're looking for:

- Programs that serve the public or community.
- Policies that promote equity, sustainability, or access.
- Collaborations with internal and external partners/institutions/organizations.

If your department is doing something that aligns with these themes, we want to hear from you at rankings@uwo.ca.



The 17 SDGs in Plain Language

- 1 - No Poverty** – Support low-income students and communities.
- 2 - Zero Hunger** – Address food insecurity and promote sustainable food systems.
- 3 - Good Health and Well-being** – Promote physical and mental health for all.
- 4 - Quality Education** – Provide inclusive, lifelong learning opportunities.
- 5 - Gender Equality** – Ensure equal access and support for women and girls.
- 6 - Clean Water and Sanitation** – Use and manage water responsibly.
- 7 - Affordable and Clean Energy** – Improve energy efficiency and use renewables.
- 8 - Decent Work and Economic Growth** – Promote fair employment and economic opportunity.
- 9 - Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure** – Support innovation and partnerships with industry.
- 10 - Reduced Inequalities** – Include and support marginalized groups.
- 11 - Sustainable Cities and Communities** – Contribute to vibrant, inclusive communities.
- 12 - Responsible Consumption and Production** – Reduce waste and promote ethical sourcing.
- 13 - Climate Action** – Reduce emissions and educate about climate change.
- 14 - Life Below Water** – Protect aquatic ecosystems and reduce water pollution.
- 15 - Life on Land** – Preserve biodiversity and promote sustainable land use.
- 16 - Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions** – Uphold transparency, ethics, and inclusion.
- 17 - Partnerships for the Goals** – Collaborate across sectors to achieve the SDGs.

