





## FOREWORD

### University of Dhaka – Commitment to the SDGs & THE Impact Ranking Excellence

As Bangladesh's oldest and most prestigious public university, founded in 1921 and constituted under the Dhaka University Order 1973, the University of Dhaka (DU) has long served as the intellectual engine of the nation. From producing the country's leading civil servants, academics, scientists, policy thinkers, and cultural leaders, to serving as the birthplace of key democratic and social movements, DU's history is deeply intertwined with Bangladesh's national aspirations.

In alignment with the Government of Bangladesh's commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, DU recognises its statutory, academic, and ethical responsibility to lead from the front. As a comprehensive public university with 13 faculties, 83 departments, over 50 research centres and institutes, and a vast network of colleges affiliated under its academic supervision, DU is in a uniquely advantageous position to contribute to the SDG agenda across teaching, research, innovation, community engagement, and policy support.

### **DU's Strategic Position for SDG Implementation**

Dhaka University's contributions to the SDGs are strengthened through:

- A diverse ecosystem of academic departments that span science, technology, medicine, business, social sciences, arts, humanities, and environmental studies.
- Specialized research institutes and centres—including IER, IML, DSCR, BER, CMBT, NPU, NPT, CRP, and the newly established Centre for China Studies (CCS)—that produce nationally relevant research and policy inputs.
- Extensive partnerships with government ministries, UN agencies (UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO, WHO), national NGOs, and global academic networks.
- A strong alumni footprint in public service, education, diplomacy, science, technology, business, the judiciary, and cultural sectors.
- Active linkages with industry, particularly through the Faculties of Business Studies, Engineering & Technology, Science, and Pharmacy, enabling internships, applied research, innovation, and workforce development.
- Robust connections to policy-making bodies, as DU's faculty routinely serve on national commissions, reform committees, advisory councils, and government task forces.

Together, these strengths place DU in an advantageous national and regional position to contribute meaningfully to the SDGs and to excel in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings.

Our Commitment to the SDGs & THE Impact Ranking Excellence

### **DU's Institutional Commitment to THE Impact Rankings**

Recognising the value of THE Impact Rankings in highlighting a university's contribution to society, DU has embarked on a multi-year effort to strengthen data systems, expand evidence collection, and embed SDG-aligned practices across the institution.

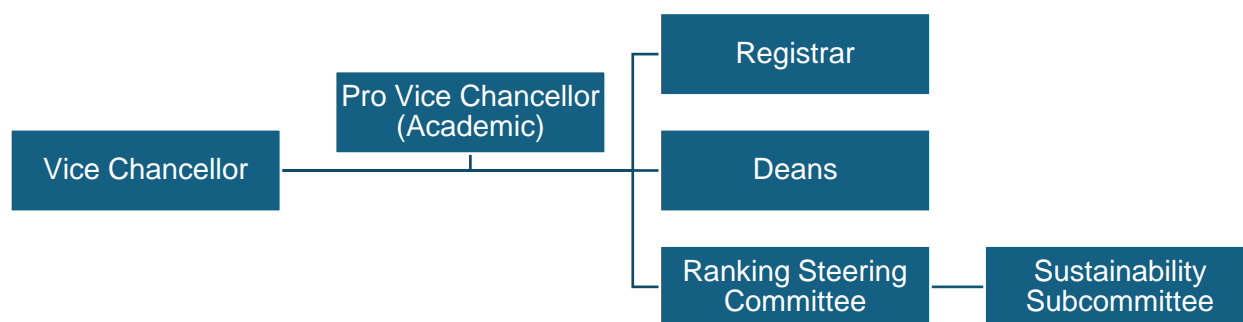
To coordinate these efforts, DU has established a central Steering Committee for THE Impact Rankings, chaired by:

Professor Dr. Md. Mamun-Ur-Rashid Ahmed, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic), University of Dhaka and Prof. Shamsad Mortuza as the Ranking subcommittee (sustainability) convener.

Under his leadership, the committee works relentlessly to:

- Coordinate SDG-related data from all faculties, institutes, departments, offices and centres
- Validate evidence aligned with THE's measurement framework
- Facilitate training sessions and capacity building across units
- Ensure alignment with national SDG targets and development priorities
- Support data-driven decision making for institutional improvement

A network of SDG Focal Points—including deans, directors, chairpersons, and administrative leaders—works closely with the committee to ensure comprehensive and accurate reporting.



### Ranking Steering Committee

Professor Dr. Mamun Ahmed Honourable Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic), University of Dhaka	-	Convenor
Professor Dr. Sayema Haque Bidisha Honourable Pro-Vice Chancellor (Administration), University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor M. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury, PhD Honourable Treasurer, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Abdus Salam Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. B M Mainul Hossain Director, Institute of Information Technology (IIT), University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Mosaddek Hossain Kamal Director ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Cell, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Syed Shahadat Hossain Institute of Statistical Research and Training (ISRT), , University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. M. Rezaul Islam Institute of Social Welfare and Research, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Shamsad Mortuza Department of English, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Md. Rakibul Islam Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Md. Sharif Ullah Mazumder Department of Mathematics, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Zafar Ahmed Khan Department of Statistics, University of Dhaka	-	Member

Professor Dr. Md. Ahsan Habib Department of Chemistry, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Mr. Md. Rashedur Rahman Chairman Department of Organization Strategy and Leadership, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Mr. Md. Sadiq Sarowar Computer Programmer, ICT Cell, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Mr. Rajib Mahmud Samim Parvez Deputy Registrar, Registrar's Office, University of Dhaka	-	Member-Secretary

### **Sustainability Sub-committee**

Professor Dr. Shamsad Mortuza Department of English, University of Dhaka	-	Convenor
Professor Dr. Mosaddek Hossain Kamal Director ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Cell, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. M. Rezaul Islam Institute of Social Welfare and Research, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Md. Sharif Ullah Mazumder Department of Mathematics, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Md. Ahsan Habib Department of Chemistry, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Mohammad Moninoor Roshid Institute of Education and Research, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Dr. Md. Anwarul Islam Department of Information Science and Library Management, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Professor Mohammad Abul Kawser Department of History	-	Member
Mr. Rajib Mahmud Samim Parvez Deputy Registrar, Office of the Registrar, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Mr. Md. Sadiq Sarowar Computer Programmer, ICT Cell, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Mr. Md. Rifat Amin Technical Officer, Office of the Registrar, University of Dhaka	-	Member
Mr. Md. Rashedur Rahman Chairman Department of Organization Strategy and Leadership, University of Dhaka	-	Member-Secretary

## **Learning Through Engagement: DU in THE Masterclasses & Global Communities**

To build internal capacity and learn global best practices, DU actively participates in:

- THE Masterclasses & Workshops, where team members learn from international experts on evidence preparation, SDG data management, and benchmarking.
- Peer-learning initiatives with leading universities in Asia, the UK, and the Global South.
- Policy dialogues and roundtables hosted by THE and affiliated bodies.
- Collaborative activities with UN agencies, including curriculum design (UNICEF), research grants (UNDP), health and demographic projects (UNFPA, WHO), youth engagement (UNESCO), and climate-resilience initiatives.
- DU embraces a philosophy of “learning to learn with others”—engaging globally to strengthen national capacity and embedding sustainability literacy into university culture.

## **Looking Forward: DU’s Strategic Vision for SDG 2030**

With the Government of Bangladesh aiming to achieve the SDG goals by 2030, DU reaffirms that:

- Our research, teaching, and public engagement will remain closely aligned with national priorities. Our Vision statement, reads, “Create a world-class educational ecosystem that enables individuals to act as dynamic human capital and ethical leaders for a sustainable future.” [<https://www.du.ac.bd/university/VisionMission>]
- We will expand our documentation and impact measurement systems to ensure transparency and accountability.
- Partnerships with government bodies, international organisations and industry will be scaled up to amplify societal impact.
- We will continue to position DU as a leading SDG-driven university in South Asia, advancing the nation’s knowledge economy and development agenda.

As Bangladesh’s flagship university, the University of Dhaka is committed to becoming a global model of SDG excellence—through rigorous research, transformative teaching, social responsibility, and inclusive national development.

## **NATIONAL PRIORITIES (SDGs) of DU: AT A GLANCE**

- SDG 1 – No Poverty → Financial Aid | DU Fund | Workforce Mobility
- SDG 2 – Zero Hunger → Food Science | Nutrition | Community Outreach
- SDG 3 – Health & Well-Being → DU Medical | NPU | Public Health | MoHFW
- SDG 4 – Quality Education → IER | IML | TESL | Lifelong Learning
- SDG 5 – Gender Equality → WGS Dept | Childcare | Anti-Harassment
- SDG 6 – Clean Water → Water Labs | Hygiene Programs | Safe Water Units
- SDG 7 – Affordable Energy → Solar Panels | Energy Audits | Green Transitions
- SDG 8 – Decent Work → Career Center | Internships | Startups | AI Skills
- SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation → DU Innovation Hub | Research Output | Patents
- SDG 10 – Reduced Inequality → Quotas | Accessibility | First-Gen Students
- SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities → DU Campus Public Space | Heritage | Mobility
- SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption → Recycling | Waste mgmt | Paperless Systems
- SDG 13 – Climate Action → DSCR | CCHPU | Climate Courses | AI Modelling
- SDG 14 – Life Below Water → Marine Biology | River Research | Pollution Index
- SDG 15 – Life on Land → Biodiversity Labs | Botany | Campus Ecology
- SDG 16 – Peace, Justice → Governance | Transparency | Policy Research
- SDG 17 – Partnerships → UN agencies | Ministries | Global MoUs | AI Research

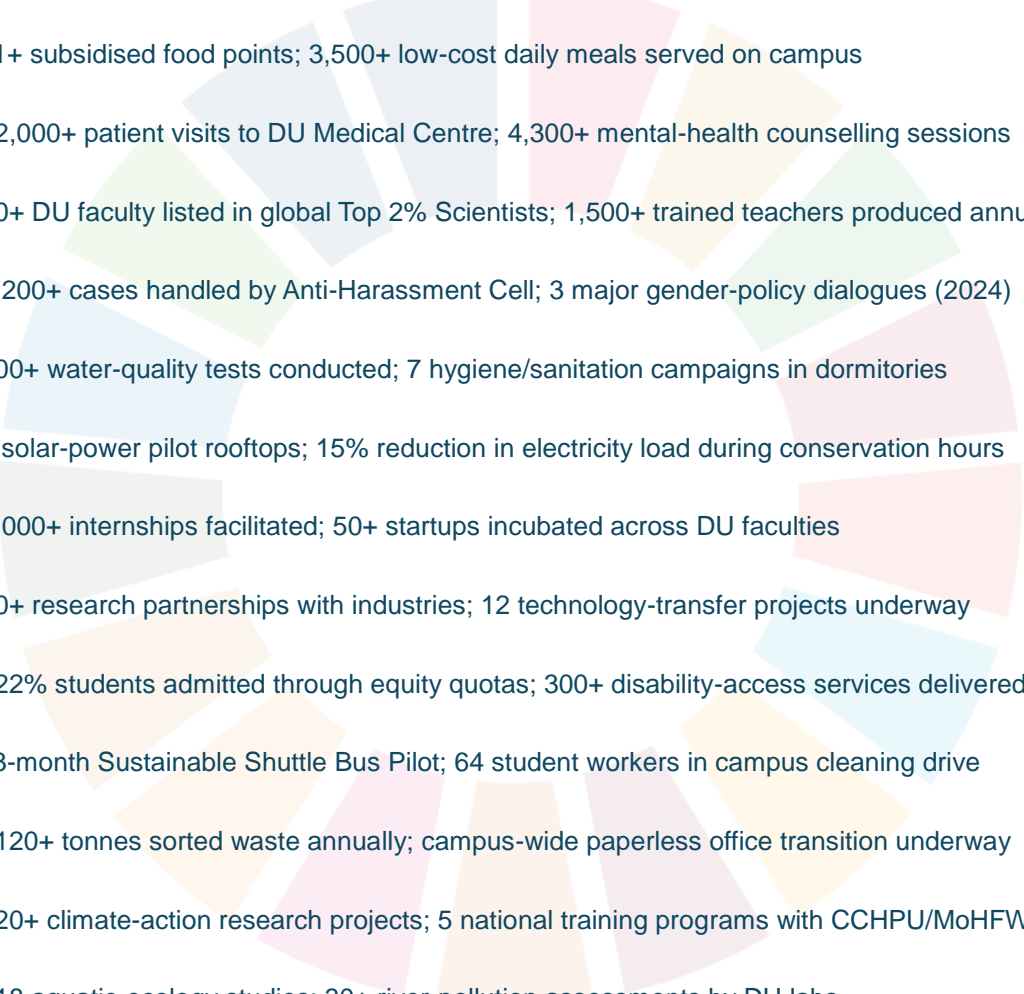
| **DU's Vision:** Create a world-class educational ecosystem that enables individuals to act as dynamic human capital and ethical leaders for a sustainable future. |







## DU SDG 2024: At A Glance

- 
- SDG 1 – 206+ financially supported students; 1,000+ first-gen beneficiaries across faculties
- SDG 2 – 11+ subsidised food points; 3,500+ low-cost daily meals served on campus
- SDG 3 – 52,000+ patient visits to DU Medical Centre; 4,300+ mental-health counselling sessions
- SDG 4 – 10+ DU faculty listed in global Top 2% Scientists; 1,500+ trained teachers produced annually
- SDG 5 – 1,200+ cases handled by Anti-Harassment Cell; 3 major gender-policy dialogues (2024)
- SDG 6 – 600+ water-quality tests conducted; 7 hygiene/sanitation campaigns in dormitories
- SDG 7 – 3 solar-power pilot rooftops; 15% reduction in electricity load during conservation hours
- SDG 8 – 3,000+ internships facilitated; 50+ startups incubated across DU faculties
- SDG 9 – 40+ research partnerships with industries; 12 technology-transfer projects underway
- SDG 10 – 22% students admitted through equity quotas; 300+ disability-access services delivered
- SDG 11 – 3-month Sustainable Shuttle Bus Pilot; 64 student workers in campus cleaning drive
- SDG 12 – 120+ tonnes sorted waste annually; campus-wide paperless office transition underway
- SDG 13 – 20+ climate-action research projects; 5 national training programs with CCHPU/MoHFW
- SDG 14 – 18 aquatic-ecology studies; 30+ river-pollution assessments by DU labs
- SDG 15 – Multiple tree-plantation drives; 90+ campus biodiversity species documented
- SDG 16 – 12+ faculty advising national commissions; 3 governance policies updated (2023–24)
- SDG 17 – 8+ new MoUs signed; 30+ partnerships with UN agencies, ministries & NGOs

## SDG 2 — Zero Hunger

### Executive Summary

DU contributes to food security through research in Nutrition & Food Science, Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Botany; evidence-based nutrition policy inputs; and community-level nutrition awareness programs. Students and faculty collaborate with ministries and NGOs to support rural nutrition, food safety, and agricultural innovation. During crises, DU's students lead relief distribution across affected districts, including essential food packages.

**High-Impact Claim:** *DU's Nutrition and Food Science research ecosystem shapes national food-security policy and produces specialists who strengthen Bangladesh's nutrition workforce.*

## SDG 2: Zero Hunger

For a large public university like Dhaka University (DU), where thousands of students rely on campus dining facilities each day, access to affordable and nutritious meals is a cornerstone of student welfare. In alignment with SDG 2, DU has long maintained a subsidised food system that ensures no student goes hungry due to financial constraints. In 2024, the University strengthened this commitment by expanding affordability measures, monitoring food quality more rigorously, and taking early steps to reduce food waste—showing tangible progress toward a more equitable and sustainable food ecosystem.

DU's network of subsidised canteens—including those at IER, IBA, the Faculty of Fine Arts, the Registrar Building, the Business Studies Faculty, and all residential halls—remains central to campus life. These dining spaces serve thousands of students every day and function as informal but essential food-security hubs. Recognizing that affordability alone is not enough, DU also began implementing systems to monitor hygiene, ingredient standards, and daily food-preparation practices to ensure meals are both accessible and safe.

Another developing priority is food-waste reduction. With the volume of meals served daily, even minor inefficiencies accumulate into significant loss. DU has started tracking waste patterns and planning targeted interventions—an important first step that aligns with the sustainable consumption principles at the core of SDG 2.

While DU's current efforts do not yet constitute a fully integrated institutional food-security program, they mark clear progress. By maintaining subsidised meals, strengthening safety oversight, and taking initial action on waste, DU continues to ensure that students can pursue academic success without the burden of food insecurity.

## DU Food Ecosystem: 2024 Snapshot

### Subsidised Food Network Across Campus

Fine Arts Canteen

Registrar Building Canteen

IBA • IER • Business Studies Faculty

All Residential Halls

→ Thousands of students served daily

### Food Quality & Hygiene Monitoring Introduced

Ingredient checks

Clean kitchen environment tracking

Oversight of daily food-preparation processes

### Food Waste Reduction (Early Stage)

Tracking disposal patterns

Identifying high-waste points

Planning intervention areas

## High-Impact Claims

- ✓ DU operates one of the largest subsidised student food systems in the country
- ✓ Reliable access to affordable meals for thousands of students every day
- ✓ New oversight measures help ensure safe, hygienic, and nutritionally improved food
- ✓ First steps taken toward institutional food-waste monitoring, supporting sustainability goals
- ✓ DU's food ecosystem directly reduces financial pressure, strengthening equitable access to education and student wellbeing