





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.

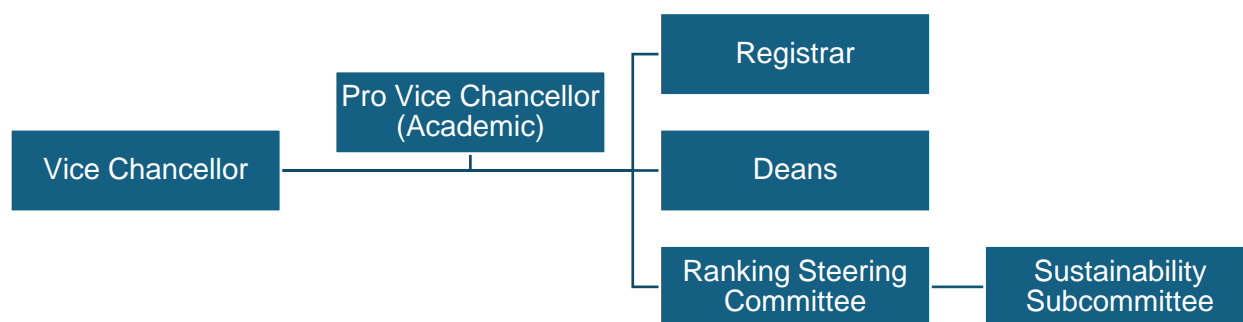
To coordinate these efforts, DU has established a central Steering Committee for THE Impact Rankings, chaired by:

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.



SDG 3 — Good Health & Well-Being

Executive Summary

The University of Dhaka (DU), operating under the **Dhaka University Order 1973**, contributes significantly to national health and well-being through its medical, psychological, nutritional, environmental, and public-health ecosystem. DU's health infrastructure—including **Nari Bikash Unit (NBU)**, **DU Medical Centre**, **Nasirullah Psychotherapy Services** (<https://npudu.net/>), and multiple departmental health-science laboratories—supports thousands of students, staff, and community beneficiaries annually. DU's academic units (e.g., Psychology, Public Health, Microbiology, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Nutrition & Food Science) engage in health research, diagnostics, mental-health counselling, and community health campaigns.

Through partnerships with the **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW)**, **CCHPU**, **WHO**, **UNFPA**, and NGOs, DU contributes to national health promotion, climate-health capacity building, vector-disease research, and disaster-health resilience. DU students participate in blood-donation drives, sanitation campaigns, and epidemic-response volunteering.

High-Impact Claim:

DU is one of Bangladesh's most influential public-health knowledge hubs, producing essential health research, providing large-scale on-campus health services, and shaping national health policy and climate-health preparedness.

SDG 3: Good Health & Well-Being

SDG 3 calls for ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all—a goal that Dhaka University (DU) advances through academic expertise, student-driven initiatives, and community-oriented health programs. Although DU faces structural challenges such as limited clinical capacity and rising mental-health needs, the University continues to shape national health consciousness through research, civic engagement, seminars, and awareness activities. In 2024, DU’s contributions to SDG 3 were especially visible in voluntary health actions, public-health education, and expanding mental-health support for its large student community.

The year’s most active engagement came from student-led humanitarian efforts. The voluntary blood donation campaign of 12 December, conducted with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society near Surya Sen Hall, demonstrated DU’s strong culture of civic responsibility. Additional donor-recognition activities organized by Badhon units of Shahidullah Hall and Salimullah Muslim Hall reaffirmed student leadership in health-focused volunteerism.

Academic health expertise also played a central role. The Department of Zoology, in partnership with the Bangladesh Zoological Society, organized a major seminar on “Dengue in Megacities of Bangladesh,” highlighting DU’s position as a national centre for scientific and policy-relevant public-health knowledge.

Mental well-being received dedicated attention in 2024. DU marked World Mental Health Day with workshops, awareness programming, and counselling services supported by the Office of Student Counselling and the Department of Clinical Psychology. These efforts helped normalize conversations around stress, anxiety, and emotional wellness—critical for a university community of DU’s scale.

Beyond clinical and academic initiatives, DU continued to promote holistic well-being through sports and community activities. Inter-departmental tournaments, hall-level competitions, and alumni-supported wellness events fostered physical fitness, social connection, and stress relief across campus.

Together, DU’s 2024 activities show a health ecosystem supported by engaged students, research-driven public-health outreach, and a growing commitment to mental well-being. While expanded counselling capacity and sustained programming remain priorities, the year marked meaningful progress toward a healthier and more supportive campus environment.

DU Health & Well-Being at a Glance — 2024

💧 Community Health & Volunteerism

Major blood donation drive on 12 December (Red Crescent collaboration)

Donor recognition events by Shahidullah Hall & Mohsin Hall Badhon units

🦟 Public-Health Research & Awareness

Dengue in Megacities seminar hosted by Zoology Department

Collaboration with Bangladesh Zoological Society

High student and faculty engagement

🧠 Mental-Health Support & Awareness

World Mental Health Day programs

Workshops & counselling sessions

Activities led by Office of Student Counselling & Clinical Psychology Department



Figure 1: DU observes mental health day

Full news link:

[https://www.bssnews.net/news/215522#:~:text=DHAKA%2C%20Oct%2010%2C%202024%20\(,the%20year%20despite%20limited%20resources.](https://www.bssnews.net/news/215522#:~:text=DHAKA%2C%20Oct%2010%2C%202024%20(,the%20year%20despite%20limited%20resources.)

Campus Wellness & Sports

Inter-department football & cricket

Hall-level competitions

Alumni-supported wellness events

High-Impact Claims

- ✓ DU is one of Bangladesh's largest student-led contributors to community health and voluntary blood donation
- ✓ The University serves as a national hub for public-health scholarship, linking science with policy
- ✓ DU's expanding mental-health initiatives help normalize emotional well-being conversations for thousands of students
- ✓ Sports, wellness events, and alumni partnerships reinforce DU's holistic approach to well-being
- ✓ 2024 demonstrated multi-sectoral health engagement—combining research, volunteerism, mental-health action, and community fitness