





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.

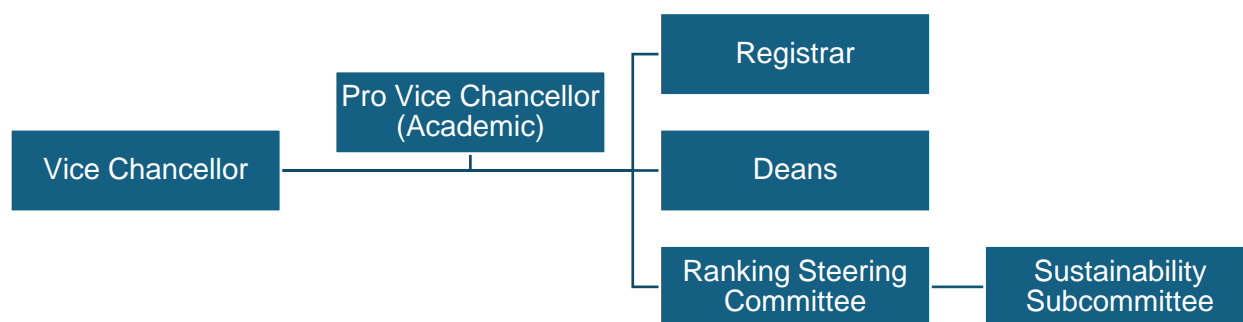
To coordinate these efforts, DU has established a central Steering Committee for THE Impact Rankings, chaired by:

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 4 — Quality Education

Executive Summary

As Bangladesh's flagship public university, DU is structurally mandated under the **Dhaka University Order 1973** to uphold national academic excellence, equitable access, and teacher development. DU fulfils SDG 4 through its extensive academic offerings—across 13 faculties, 83 departments, and over 50 institutes/centres—serving more than 40,000 students.

DU's teaching quality is strengthened by the Institute of Education & Research (IER), Institute of Modern Languages (IML), Department of English (MA in Applied Linguistics & ELT), Department of Bangla, and Department of Linguistics, which collectively produce thousands of trained teachers, TESL specialists, curriculum designers, and teacher-trainers annually. DU supports inclusive access through quotas, financial aid, scholarships, special-needs accommodations, and first-generation student pathways.

Further, DU contributes to national educational governance by providing experts to NCTB, MoE committees, and national reform commissions. Lifelong-learning programs, digital literacy initiatives, and professional-skills courses strengthen employability.

High-Impact Claim:

DU is Bangladesh's single most important producer of teachers, teacher-trainers, and curriculum designers—making it central to the country's SDG 4 achievements in education quality, equity, and lifelong learning.

SDG 4: Quality Education

SDG 4—focused on inclusive and equitable quality education—aligns closely with Dhaka University’s historic mission as the country’s leading centre of learning and research. For over a century, DU has expanded access to higher education, nurtured first-generation scholars, and shaped national intellectual life. In 2024, DU continued to advance SDG 4 by strengthening academic excellence, expanding financial and institutional support, deepening global partnerships, and positioning itself as a forum for national dialogue on educational reform. These gains are especially meaningful given ongoing challenges related to funding, infrastructure, and the need to modernize curricula for an increasingly global and skills-driven economy.

The year saw notable investment in student welfare and academic recognition, including new trust funds and multiple scholarship and gold-medal ceremonies supported by benevolent institutions such as the Nurul Islam Memorial Trust and the Army Welfare Trust. These initiatives reinforced DU’s culture of merit-based achievement and financial accessibility.

Research quality and global academic visibility remained key strengths. Ten DU faculty members were named among the world’s top 2% scientists, with more joining international rankings later in the year. Intellectual exchange was further energized through the “Chintar Chash” researchers’ conference and a non-fiction book fair, both of which broadened scholarly resources and encouraged academic collaboration.

Internationalization advanced significantly in 2024. DU signed multiple MoUs with Chinese universities, strengthened ties with the National Marine Environmental Forecasting Center (NMEFC), and explored a joint academic program in marine sciences. Engagements with JICA created potential pathways for development cooperation and institutional capacity building.

Student achievement also elevated DU’s standing. A DU team earned runner-up in the Asia West region at the ICPC World Final, signaling strong growth in computing, problem-solving, and STEM competitiveness. Meanwhile, Mitsubishi Corporation’s Tk 34 lakh donation supported skills-development programs aimed at better aligning academic learning with job-market needs.

Beyond classrooms and laboratories, DU remained an influential national voice. Stakeholders convened on campus to discuss education reform, primary education quality, and civic aspirations for a “New Bangladesh.” Student–teacher dialogue

forums strengthened internal communication and academic accountability. Additionally, DU-linked cultural leadership contributed to community literacy through the establishment of a children's library at the National Museum.

Taken together, these achievements reflect a university expanding its research impact, strengthening student support, deepening global engagement, and contributing to national educational thought. DU's 2024 progress demonstrates steady movement toward a more inclusive, research-driven, and internationally connected higher-education ecosystem.

University of Dhaka's Contribution to Teacher Preparation through Language and Linguistics Programmes. Beyond formal B.Ed/M.Ed degrees offered through the Institute of Education and Research (IER), the University of Dhaka plays a nationally significant role in preparing English- and Bangla-medium teachers, ELT professionals, and teacher-trainers through its language- and linguistics-focused departments. These programmes supply the country with highly qualified graduates able to teach in primary, secondary, college, English-medium, and tertiary sectors, and also to design curricula and training for the broader education system.

1. Department of English – MA in Applied Linguistics & ELT (AL/ELT)

The Department of English offers a specialized MA in Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching, one of the most established ELT master's programmes in Bangladesh. The degree provides: A strong foundation in linguistics, second language acquisition (SLA) and advanced grammar; Training in pedagogy, curriculum design, materials development, and language assessment; Practicum components that prepare graduates to become effective classroom teachers; Theoretical and research training enabling graduates to serve as teacher-trainers, curriculum specialists, ELT researchers, and academic coordinators

Graduates of this programme are widely employed in: English-medium schools; National curriculum schools and colleges; Language institutes; University-level ELT programmes; Government and NGO-run teacher-training projects. This makes the Department of English a central contributor to the country's teacher-education pipeline, particularly in English-language teaching—a critical national skill area.

2. Institute of Modern Languages (IML) – BA in TESL & MA in TESL

The Institute of Modern Languages offers full degree programmes in TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels: BA in

TESL-- Provides foundational linguistic knowledge, phonetics, morphology, syntax, and sociolinguistics; Includes modules on ESL methodology, educational psychology, assessment, and teaching practicum; Produces graduates ready to teach English at primary, secondary, and higher-secondary levels

MA in TESL: Offers advanced training in applied linguistics, ELT research, curriculum studies, discourse analysis, and classroom communication; Prepares graduates for leadership roles as teacher-trainers, ELT coordinators, curriculum developers, and academic consultants

Through these two degrees, DU's IML supplies a substantial cohort of professionally trained English teachers, many of whom staff the schools, colleges, and language institutes across Bangladesh.

3. Department of Linguistics – Language Science and Pedagogical Training

The Department of Linguistics equips students with: Deep knowledge of phonetics, phonology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, psycholinguistics, neurolinguistics, and language teaching; Applied courses on language testing, child language acquisition, speech technology, and Bangladeshi language policy; Exposure to Bangla linguistics, enabling graduates to serve as teachers, textbook writers, and curriculum developers. Research-based training that prepares graduates for teacher-training roles in government and development-sector projects

Graduates work as Linguistics lecturers, Curriculum specialists, Language-policy researchers, and Trainers for English and Bangla teacher-development programmes. This department provides the scientific backbone for language education across the university.

4. Department of Bangla – Language, Literature & Pedagogy Pathways: The Department of Bangla trains thousands of students each year in: Bangla linguistics, Bangla grammar and phonetics, Literary analysis, Mother-tongue pedagogy. These graduates form a large part of Bangladesh's national Bangla-medium teaching workforce, especially in primary and secondary schools. Many also serve as textbook writers, content developers, and trainers in national curriculum reforms.

Together, the Department of English, Institute of Modern Languages, Department of Linguistics, and Department of Bangla form one of Bangladesh's strongest language-education ecosystems—producing hundreds of trained teachers, ELT professionals, linguists, and teacher-trainers each year. These programmes substantially strengthen the national teaching workforce and directly advance SDG 4 by raising the quality of language instruction across the country.

Academic Excellence & Research

- 10 DU faculty ranked among the world's top 2% scientists
- “Chintar Chash” multi-disciplinary research conference hosted
- Non-fiction book fair enhanced access to academic resources
- Student Achievement & Skills
- ICPC Asia West Runner-Up (World Final)
- Tk 34 lakh skills development grant from Mitsubishi
- Multiple gold medals & scholarships awarded across faculties
- International Partnerships
- New MoUs with Chinese universities
 - i) Full news link: <https://www.bssnews.net/news/225312>
- Expanded cooperation with NMEFC (marine sciences)
- JICA delegation explored development and capacity-building initiatives
- Educational Engagement & Community Impact
- National consultation on education system reform
- Seminars on primary education quality & constitutional aspirations
- Student–teacher dialogue forums improved campus communication
- DU-linked children's library initiative supported early literacy



Figure 1: Mitsubishi donates Tk 34 lakh to DU for skills development, 21 October, 2024, 01:35

Full news link: https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/248278/mitsubishi-donates-tk-34-lakh-to-du-for-skills-development#:~:text=Mitsubishi%20donates%20Tk%2034%20lakh%20to%20DU,sills%20development%20*%20Mitsubishi.%20*%20Dhaka%20University.



Figure 2: JICA delegation explored development and capacity-building initiatives, 18 Dec 2024, 18:29

Full news link: <https://www.bssnews.net/news/231778>

High-Impact Claims

- ✓ DU remains Bangladesh's premier engine of academic excellence, with globally recognized scholars and competitive achievements.
- ✓ Strong upward trajectory in research visibility, international mobility, and global academic standing.
- ✓ DU's expanding ecosystem of scholarships and trust funds strengthens equitable access to quality education.
- ✓ International partnerships and MoUs position DU as a regional leader in transnational learning and scientific cooperation.
- ✓ DU continues to shape national educational conversation, demonstrating thought leadership on curriculum reform and public-policy dialogue.
- ✓ Investments in student skills and STEM competitiveness (e.g., ICPC, Mitsubishi funding) highlight DU's commitment to future-ready education.