



ESG Impact Index in Higher Education

Press – Release II



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The shift project concludes:

A suite of open tools to drive ESG in higher education

European Erasmus+ project delivers practical resources to help universities lead on sustainability, inclusion, and governance.

After two and a half years of transnational collaboration, the SHIFT Project, funded by the Erasmus+ Programme, is concluding its work having delivered a comprehensive set of tools and resources to support Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across Europe in implementing Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) strategies.

Led by the University of Almería (Spain) and developed by a consortium of eight European partners, SHIFT set out to bridge a critical gap: equipping universities, their staff, students, and decision-makers with the knowledge, frameworks, and digital tools needed to embed ESG practices into everyday institutional life in line with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and the European Green Deal.

What the project has delivered

Over the course of the project, the SHIFT consortium developed the following open-access results:

ESG strategy — blueprint for setting ESG goals

A strategic framework designed to guide Higher Education Institutions in defining and achieving ESG goals. The blueprint provides a structured approach to aligning institutional policies with environmental, social, and governance priorities, and is available for free download at shift-esg.eu.

ESG impact index matrix

A practical roadmap outlining concrete actions that HEIs can take to improve their performance across each ESG area. The Impact Matrix is available for download in seven languages: English, Portuguese, German, Spanish, Polish, Swedish, and Serbian reflecting the project's commitment to accessibility across European contexts.

Mini learning programme — ESG elearning modules

A self-paced online learning programme designed to build ESG capacity among higher education stakeholders. Structured around thematic modules — including Campus Operations, Energy Management, Water Conservation, Waste Reduction, Biodiversity, and Emission Reduction the programme enables learners to engage with ESG topics at their own pace and bring sustainability into everyday practice.

University ESG Awareness Game

An interactive serious game raising awareness of ESG impacts and strategies in the context of higher education, designed to engage students and staff in an accessible, participatory format.

Micro credential — certification on ESG impact index in higher education

A formal recognition pathway for HEIs demonstrating effective ESG practices and measurable impact, supporting institutions in signalling their sustainability commitments.

ESG impact index open-access platform

A digital platform enabling HEIs to measure, monitor, and benchmark their environmental, social, and governance standards and practices over time.

Community of practice

A LinkedIn-based Community of Practice of ESG in Higher Education has been established to sustain the project's impact beyond its formal end date, connecting practitioners, researchers, and institutional leaders committed to building sustainable higher education together. The community is open to all and can be joined at: [linkedin.com/groups/8169180](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8169180)

A legacy beyond the project

All SHIFT tools are freely available and designed for lasting use. The consortium is proud to leave behind a resource ecosystem that any higher education institution whether or not it was directly involved in the project can adopt and adapt.

All resources are accessible at <https://shift-esg.eu>

The project brought together eight partners from across Europe:

University of Almería (Spain) · University of Lodz (Poland) · Linnaeus University (Sweden) · Metropolitan University of Belgrade (Serbia) · IMPACTsci (Portugal) · Helix-connect Europe (Romania) · ISQ e-learning (Portugal) · ACEEU (Germany)

To learn more about the SHIFT Project follow our social media channels:

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/shift-project-he/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61557214167593>

Instagram: @shift.project.he