

CONTENTS

Highlights and achievements	
Our strategy for sustainability	4
Introduction from the Vice Chancellor	5
Environmental Sustainability	6
Climate Action	6
Society	8
Education for Sustainable Impact	8
Health and Wellbeing	10
Promoting Gender Equality	12
Levelling Up and Reducing Poverty	13
Economy	14
Decent Work and Economic Growth	14
Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle	16
Partnerships for the Goals	17

HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Awarded 1st Class in People and Planet University League.

Awarded Bronze accreditation by the Athena Swan Charter.

University maintained the EcoCampus Platinum.

UWL signs up to the London Higher Sustainability Pledge.

The Centre for Inequality and Levelling Up (CEILUP) held the 'the Future of Levelling Up' event at Ruskin College, Oxford.

UWL's Head of Environmental Sustainability, was featured in the ENDS Power List 2023 of the top 100 UK environmental professionals who have made the greatest impact in the past two years.

UWL Students create the EQUALS campaign for City Harvest to reduce food insecurity in west London.

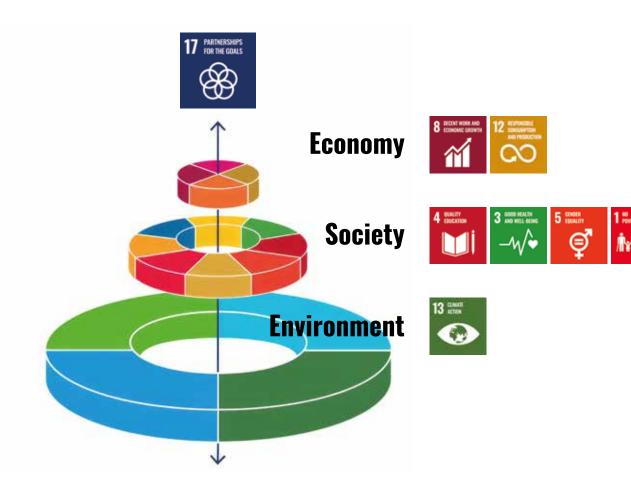
UWL's Biotherapeutic Research Group receives seed funding from the Royal Society to initiate ground-breaking new research into to the treatment of eye diseases.

UWL Sustainability Network launched in June 2023.

OUR STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The University of West London (UWL) is moving into a bold and exciting future guided by an ambitious new strategic plan Impact 2028. Its vision is to be a model institution in the preparation of graduates who are economically, socially, and ecologically impactful.

Sustainability being one of the pillars of Impact 2028, will be guided by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and addressed across its three dimensions of the Environment, Society and Economy. The University contributes significantly to relevant SDGs across all three dimensions, as illustrated in the diagram below. We have formally adopted the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) framework to bring about a holistic and meaningful integration of sustainability into the curriculum that is relevant and applicable to all students.



INTRODUCTION FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR



In 2021 the University successfully completed a major environmental project funded by a £5m grant from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme. This has delivered an installation of renewable technology that is world leading, enabling us to move away from gas heating to ground source heat pumps and solar heated water. This academic year the University marked several key achievements in Sustainability — across the three dimensions of the Environment, Society, and the Economy.

We were awarded a 1st Class ranking by the People & Planet, in their University League 2022/2023, placing us in the top 17th place out of over 150 universities, this represents a phenomenal climb of 40 places this year, into the top 20 in the UK. The University ranked top 10 of modern universities in the Carbon Reduction and Food Sustainability category. We were awarded the Bronze Accreditation by the Athena Swan Charter. The latest UWL equality statistics place the University consistently above the sector average for its number of female academic staff, and gender balance within management and professional services. UWL signed up to the London Higher Sustainability Pledge to work together with other member institutions of London Higher to reduce the environmental effects of higher education institutions and to proactively address the issues of climate change.

The University's Centre for Inequality and Levelling Up (CEILUP) event held at Ruskin College, Oxford on the 'the Future of Levelling Up' examined the progress in tackling inequality. On the panel were expert speakers Alex Norris MP, who is Shadow Minister for Levelling Up; Jessica Studdert, Deputy CEO of New Local; Zoe Billingham, Director of IPPR North; and Sam Bright, Journalist and author of Fortress London: Why We Need to save the Country from its Capital. Recently, the University partnered with Ealing Council, in a government-funded initiative to accelerate the success of new enterprises led by women founders in Ealing. The programme will turn the aspirations of women founders from groups with low opportunities for enterprise, into start-up businesses.

The University as ever works very closely with our students who have a concern for sustainability. Through our close partnership with the Students' Union, we are driving forward student involvement in our initiatives. We are also supported by an engaged Board of Governors who support and challenge the University to do more on this agenda.

Professor Peter John, CBE Vice-Chancellor

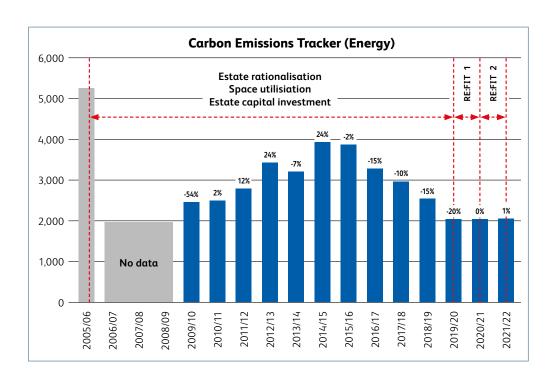
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY



Climate Action

UWL is making real change to its impact on the climate and has committed to being net zero carbon by 2030. Phase 1 of the project to establish a new carbon baseline covering scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions is due in August 2023. UWL aims to commit to Science-Based Targets (SBT) in the next phase of the net zero carbon plan. The University continues to uphold its EcoCampus Platinum Award for its Environmental Management System (EMS), equivalent to the ISO14001 certification. The EMS is a tool that the University uses to monitor, control and continually improve its environmental performance.

2.2 GWh	Energy savings from Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) (year to February 2023)
437 tCO2e	Emissions reduced from PSDS in year to February 2023 (at seven UWL buildings)
£285,000	Grant from PSDS Phase 3a (to install clean energy and energy-saving measures at Uxbridge road)
87%	Heated by Low-Carbon heating system (Total estate gross internal area of nine buildings in Ealing and Brentford)



UWL's Head of Environmental Sustainability, was featured in the ENDS Power List 2023 of the top 100 UK environmental professionals who have made the greatest impact in the past two years. This was in recognition of her role in promoting the sustainability agenda and making positive impact on the University's net zero carbon target.



Perlego

In working towards Scope 3, the University is making positive changes in its supply chain to create impact on Climate Change. UWL partnered with Perlego to provide students and staff with access to their online library of 1 million+ eBooks

from leading higher education publishers. Staff and students can download up to 30 books to read offline on the mobile app and enjoy study features like note-taking, highlights, and bookmarks to help them engage more deeply with material, as well as minimise unnecessary printing of learning materials.

The Property Services Department has changed cleaning products to plant-based 100% biodegradable cleaning products this year. The products are used for all routine and daily cleaning requirements in kitchens, washrooms and personal care and comply with national ecocertification criteria and EU Ecolabel. The ingredients are typically derived from by-products of the agro-food industry, originating from sugar beet, maize, straw bran, wheat bran and coconut. The products contain no artificial dyes, perfumes, quats, chlorine, phosphates or oxide compound and has been formulated to achieve the lowest hazard classification.



The University is now trialling robotic vacuum cleaners at the St. Mary's Road campus which have the opportunity to reduce time, noise and energy consumption compared to a traditional vacuum with manual handling.



At its main campus on St. Mary's Road, the University added additional electric vehicle charging points. Each charging station unit has a 7kW power rating, allowing two cars to charge at the same time, for a total additional charging capacity of ten vehicles simultaneously. The University will be launching an electric vehicle salary sacrifice scheme in the next academic year to support staff to access electric vehicles more effectively.

As part of the University's mission to prepare graduates for life beyond higher education, the University collaborated with Bouygues Energies & Services to teach staff, students, and the local community about climate change through Climate Fresk workshops.



SOCIETY

Education for Sustainable Impact

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

Sustainability in Learning

Students are at the heart of the University's mission, and they are a key driver in the transition to a more sustainable future. UWL students and academics have used education-based projects to make significant contributions to sustainability.



Final year Advertising and Public Relations students created the 'EQUALS campaign for west London based food charity, City Harvest to reduce food insecurity and protect the planet by diverting, nutritious, edible surplus food from waste and redistributing it to those facing food poverty. cityharvest.org.uk/equals



Undergraduate students of the Fashion Business course developed an initiative to promote clothing swaps to reduce the quantity of clothes ending up in landfill sites. The 'Next Stop for Fashion' was developed by UWL students with funding from the British Academy and SOS UK. The Next Stop for Fashion event, is aimed to inform and inspire local people in Ealing to change the way they engage with fashion. www.uwl.ac.uk/news/next-stop-fashion-encourages-sustainable-approach



Business students applied their skills and learning to deliver a consultancy project for Chiswick Business Park that is home to leading companies including QVC, Discovery, Starbucks and Danone. The project was developed by UWL's Fresh Minds for Business, an award-winning student-led consultancy programme working with businesses in west London to support growth, competitiveness and resilience. The students delivered practical recommendations on how Chiswick Park can align their current environmental, social and governance (ESG) strategy to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, identifying good practices and delivering a clear set of recommendations. www.uwl.ac.uk/news/earth-day-businessstudents-invest-local-communitysustainability-project-through-consultancy

Sustainability across the Curriculum

The University remains committed to the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI). This academic year, UWL also formally adopted the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) framework to provide a meaningful learning experience to students that enables them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development through a holistic and transformational curriculum that empowers them to take informed decisions and responsible actions for environmental integrity, economic viability and a just society, for present and future generations, while respecting cultural diversity. Implementing the framework through the University's Academic Quality and Education Review processes will involve new mechanisms for systematically tracking progress and providing adequate and relevant development opportunities for academic staff. Courses across the range of subject areas and disciplines incorporate elements of sustainability in their curriculum.

At the School of Computing and Engineering (SCE), this is achieved through specialist modules such as Sustainable Technologies for Building, Sustainable Development of Built Environment, and Sustainable Civil Engineering.

The School of Health and Human Sciences (SHHS) proactively incorporates sustainable development across its curricula, making notable contributions through its Education Studies and the MA Global Black Studies, Decolonisation and Social Justice.

The London School of Film, Media & Design (LSFMD) incorporates several key sustainable development themes, notably Responsible Consumption and Production, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth and Reduced Inequalities, across the range of its courses and subject areas.

The London Geller College of Hospitality and Tourism (LGCHT) integrates sustainability across a broad range of its teaching and learning, including purposely developed specialist modules in sustainability: Responsible Value Chain Management, Sustainable Food Systems, Managing Sustainable Tourism, Aviation Technology and Innovation, Sustainable Menu Design, Responsible Tourism and Aviation.

The Claude Littner Business School (CLBS) incorporates Sustainability Reporting to its Accounting and Finance courses and delivers a specialist module on Urban Economics and Climate Change. The MSc in Finance and Sustainability that brings environmental, social and governance issues into the education of finance professionals.

Community Education

A number of educational events, including public lectures, exhibitions and open workshops, on a range of topics are made available to the general public to attend free-of-charge. UWL's educational outreach activities engage with the local community to deliver useful skills and knowledge to those not at university, including free English speaking and writing courses for local community at Ruskin College, Oxford.

Academics and students at the London College of Music (LCM), through the Future Noise project interact with local schools and further education institutions to develop music talent, offer consultancy and specialist tutoring in music production for music written by school students.



Health and Wellbeing

UWL makes a strategic contribution to the UK's health services, and has for a long time, been producing graduates who take up professional roles in the health service. In academic year 2021/22, close to 20% of UWL's graduates were awarded qualifications that enabled them to work in health service clinical jobs.

CNMH plays a strategic role in providing qualified nursing and health care professionals ready to assume critical roles in the NHS and other health services. The College also works with Health Education England to deliver blended courses in Adult Nursing with a specific community focus. The College successfully submitted to an audit that led to the renewal of the UNICEF Baby Friendly Gold award for Universities in February 2023.





Research led contributions

The University's research and knowledge exchange activity makes significant contributions to promoting health and wellbeing, these studies include:

- The role of pandemic planning in the management of COVID-19 in England from an infection prevention and control (IPC) perspective: results of a national survey (https://repository.uwl.ac.uk/id/eprint/9765/).
- Dietary Therapy to Improve Nutrition and Gut Health in Paediatric Crohn's Disease;
 A Feasibility Study (www.uwl.ac.uk/news/uwl-research-treatment-crohns-disease-published).
- Artificial Intelligence aided design of 3D printing of in-situ polymerising collagen for development of cells scaffold for retinal regeneration (www.uwl.ac.uk/research/research-centres-and-groups/biotherapeutic-drug-development).
- An experimental food label applied to food served at a school (aged 11–18 years) in Greater London and its influence on adolescent food choices" (https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1878450X22001287).
- Microbiological Safety and Antimicrobial Resistance in Fresh Produce Production in Africa (https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-23796-6_9).



Health & Wellbeing through Art and Music

LCM's Recovery Arts, an all-day event, celebrated the central role of performing a rts in recovery for people with addiction or well-being issues. The UWL seed-funded event, featured live performances and interactive workshops, and included representatives from the Arts Council, special trusts and social prescribing commissioners.

The Innovate UK funded £1M HAPPIE project was launched by a consortium comprising UWL, Generic Robotics, Numerion Software, Science Museum Group, Sliced Bread Animation and Open University (www.uwl.ac.uk/research/research-centres/prism-music-and-screen/1m-happie-project). Two LCM doctoral students, both of whom on Vice-Chancellor Scholarships, are working towards the development of tools that will increase the accessibility of music producers with sensory or motor-impairment. Another doctoral project is developing tools to enhance audio description of movies for visually impaired people using immersive audio.

Nutrition

LGCHT's MSc Nutrition, Health and Wellbeing and BSc Nutrition and Health Management directly address Health and Wellbeing and equip learners with the skills to make public health interventions through nutrition. Students' academic learning is applied to solve real world health issues, for example, undergraduate students in their Nutrition Health and Disease module project, designed an intervention for type II diabetes for the Southeast Asian population.



UWL's academics, students, and research centres such as the Richard Wells Research Centre, European Institute for Person-Centred Health & Social Care, and the Geller Institute of Ageing & Memory continue to make noticeable innovative and impactful contribution to better health and wellbeing in the UK and throughout the world.

Promoting Gender Equality

UWL is committed to providing and supporting an inclusive environment that promotes equality, diversity and inclusion, and provides a report to the Board of Governors each year (www.uwl.ac.uk/about-us/equality-diversity-and-safeguarding#statement). The University's Equality and Diversity Advisory Group (EDAG) monitors, promotes and champions diversity for students and stakeholders of the University, overseeing compliance with all equality legislation, ensuring that the University meets the Equality Duty, promotes equality of opportunity and advises the Academic Board and Board of Governors on equality issues and compliance (www.uwl.ac.uk/about-us/governance/equality-diversity-advisory). UWL was awarded Athena Swan (Bronze) accreditation in December 2022 and has set up a steering group that is working on the five-year action plan.



57 %	of UWL staff identified as female
35%	of top 5% of earners are female
56.8%	fort a consequent the six income disable formally to settle advantage of the
JU.0%	first person in their immediate family to attend university (out of 2,862 female students enrolling in 2022/23)

Women in Higher Education Network (WHEN), a social enterprise committed to propel women to achieve their ambitions and enable universities and the higher education sector to accelerate change.



Nine UWL staff participate in the 100 Black Women Professors programme, who are allocated mentors and sponsors who will act as a career champion. In April 2023, UWL hosted the 'Changing the Story for Black Biomedical Scientists' Conference, which supported by the Medical Research Council, Wellcome Trust and the Academy for Medical Sciences.



Women in STEM (WInSTEM) originates from UWL's SCE that aims to provide inspiration and motivation to women and young girls, encouraging them to pursue studies or careers in the Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) subject areas. At the April 2023 Volunteer Award ceremony, WInSTEM was nominated for the Organisation of the Year award.

UWL is a member of the BBC 50:50 Project, a global research project that measures gender and diversity representation in the media via output/content produced as part of the curriculum and/ or from content produced by the institution reporting back to the BBC along with 140+ other global HE institutions and corporations.



Levelling Up and Reducing Poverty



The University worked through Ruskin College to provide the local community in Oxford with short courses on job skills. English for Employment, Your First Job – What You Need, Returning to Work – Refresh Your Approach, English for Working With The Public, ICT For Beginners and Maths – Build Your Confidence were among the courses that a total of 165 learners enrolled in.



In May 2023, UWL's Centre for Inequality and Levelling Up (CEILUP) held an event at Ruskin College, Oxford on the 'the Future of Levelling Up' to examine progress in tackling inequality. On the panel were expert speakers Alex Norris MP, who is Shadow Minister for Levelling Up; Jessica Studdert, Deputy CEO of New Local; Zoe Billingham, Director of IPPR North; and Sam Bright, Journalist and author of Fortress London: Why We Need to save the Country from its Capital. (www.uwl.ac.uk/news/oxford-college-seminar-discusses-future-levelling)

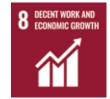
The University in partnership with Ealing Council is launched an innovative new programme to accelerate the success of new enterprises led by women founders. The programme, funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, welcomes women founders with aspirations to turn their ideas and hobbies into successful businesses, and who find themselves left out of opportunities to start and grow their own enterprises. The programme, headed by the University's Westmont Enterprise Hub and funded through UK Shared Prosperity Fund, welcomes women founders with aspirations to turn their ideas into successful businesses, and who find themselves left out of opportunities to start and grow their own enterprises.



Recognising that families and schools are struggling to provide a little extra during the festive season due to the cost-of-living crisis, UWL's Drama Studio London (DSL) students put on a record number of productions for schoolchildren across Ealing, reaching over 5,000 local children. The shows on offer include traditional pantos such as 'Aladdin' along with new specially commissioned pieces like 'Bee's Knees', which looks at the importance of bees for the environment.

ECONOMY

Decent Work and Economic Growth



The University's Staff Dignity at Work Policy details our commitment to ensuring a working environment that is characterised by equality, diversity and mutual respect where everyone can contribute to the University's success and realise their potential. UWL staff (including student workers and outsourced staff) are paid at or above the London Living Wage or living wage for those employed at Ruskin College, Oxford. UWL is in the process of gaining accreditation from the Living Wage Foundation.

The University actively supports the employability and career development of its students through its curriculum as well as extracurricular programmes. Each year, UWL offers industry-specific careers events that are free to attend. These events provide a unique opportunity for students and recent graduates to meet employers from several industries. UWL careers fairs are supported by employers and held in both semesters. Careers events also include Virtual Inclusive Futures fairs and Part-time jobs fairs.



In November 2022, the University put Careers in Sustainability in the spotlight by holding an event in collaboration with the Institute for Corporate Responsibility and Sustainability. The event that was also streamed online, featured senior sustainability leaders on the panel and brought several sustainability professionals to campus, giving students the opportunity to learn about accessing career prospects in sustainability and to network with professionals in the sector.



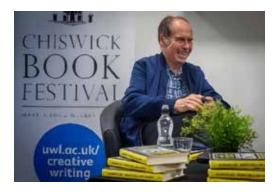


The Ealing Business Expo 2023, the largest business event in the London Borough of Ealing was hosted by UWL in March 2023 with the participation of over 40 businesses. UWL academics also contributed to the discussion on how businesses in Ealing could include 'green' practices.

UWL Photography students' exhibition opened at Brentford Library. The exhibition is part of UWL's ongoing collaboration with Creative People and Places Hounslow, which has seen student work featured in several exhibitions touring the borough over the past three years. It is funded by Arts Council England to increase community engagement with the arts. (https://hounslowherald.com/exhibition-by-uwl-students-opens-at-brentford-library-p20668-306.htm)



UWL sponsored this year's 14th annual Chiswick Book Festival at local venues around Chiswick and Ealing including at the UWL's William Barry Theatre. The festival brought together top authors and their readers for a week of history, poetry, biography, fiction, thrillers, gardens, food, wine, politics, creative writing, self-help and children's books and gave readers a chance to attend events featuring an array of authors — all in support of reading-related charities.



In a bid to bring live contemporary poetry to west London, UWL organised a 'Poets Talking' event, jointly with Open Ealing Arts Centre. The event saw two critically acclaimed poets – Katharine Towers and Zaffar Kunial – perform their work and discuss what it is to be a poet, their inspirations and professional journeys with an audience of UWL students and Ealing locals.



The first Sustainability Network launched at UWL to give staff the opportunity to share ideas about incorporating sustainability in day-to-day activities and bring about positive change in furthering the University's sustainability impact. With growing interest in sustainability issues, staff sustainability networks are increasingly becoming a common feature at universities. They provide an informal network for colleagues to have free flowing discussions that can be better inform the University's sustainable decision-making. Membership of the UWL Sustainability Network is voluntary and open to all staff at UWL.

Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle

The University is reducing waste reduce waste and establish an inner-campus circulareconomy system. The University has made changes to reduce the use of consumables in our welfare facilities moving away from paper towels to hand-driers and choosing the most efficient dispensers for toilet paper.



22% +1.5% ↑	Recyclable Waste (waste generated through the commercial waste stream)
3.9 tons	IT waste diverted from landfill by recycling IT equipment (collaboration with Stone Group)
49 tCO2e	Carbon saved from reusing and recycling IT equipment

Recirculate Initiative

We work with Bouygues Energies & Services to support local schools and charities with reuse and recycling projects. For example, collections and deliveries of items suitable for reuse have been made for the St. Gregory's School as well as assisting the organisation with distributing bicycles renovated by inmates at HMP Aylesbury and HMP Peterborough to NHS staff and children in need.

Sustainable Food

UWL Pillar's restaurant is a member of the Sustainable Restaurant's Association that has been set up to accelerate 'change towards a hospitality sector that is socially progressive and environmentally restorative'. Its Food Made Good Standard sets out what 'good' looks like in hospitality, providing chefs and restaurateurs with the tools to improve what their business is doing, share their successes and inspire their customers by dishing up food that not only looks and tastes good, but does good, too.

In March 2023, LGCHT organised a 'Future Plates and Future Chefs' conference with the aim of introducing students and delegates to a range of sustainable approaches. The event also featured a talk from the Zero Carbon Forum with Mike Hanson, Head of Sustainable Business at Westbury Street Holdings. The College incorporates sustainability into its core curriculum in training future chefs and hospitality professions.



The University's West London Food Innovation Centre combines science and culinary expertise to help companies develop new and existing formulations, line extensions and help make cost improvements to produce the company's desired product.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



The UN Agenda 2030, through SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals promote the commitment to meaningful education around the SDGs across the HEI sector. It encourages universities to collaborate internationally to capture data relating to SDGs and to develop best practice on tackling SDGs, and to promote outreach educational activities for the wider community including to displaced people. It also promotes greater collaboration with academics from low-income countries to publish joint research.

UWL is committed to providing a meaningful education around the SDGs across the University. We have formally adopted the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) framework to provide a meaningful learning experience to students that enables them to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development through a holistic and transformational curriculum that empowers them to take informed decisions and responsible actions for environmental integrity, economic viability and a just society, for present and future generations, while respecting cultural diversity. The framework will be used to evaluate the current educational provision and facilitate consideration of sustainability in future course approval and re-approvals.





Research collaborations with low-income countries

UWL academics work collaboratively on research and knowledge exchange projects with academics in low- and middle- income countries. A study contributing to global food safety, "Microbiological Safety and Antimicrobial Resistance in Fresh Produce Production in Africa" (https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-23796-6_9), UWL academics worked with academics in Ireland and Nigeria. Similarly, a study "The Impact of Covid-19 on Household Welfare in the Comoros: The Experience of a Small Island Developing State" was a collaborative piece of research that investigated the causal causal impact of a Covid lockdown policy on the Comoros' household welfare, poverty and labour market outcomes. (https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/4407759f-e281-573a-b7d8-fb6fd2a98c6f). The University's global academic partnerships provide the opportunity to further its international collaborations in capturing data relating to SDGs and developing best practice on tackling sustainable development issues.

Education outreach for displaced people

UWL is one of three London-based universities that acted as assessment centres for Ukrainian young people to sit entrance exams for higher education places in Ukraine. In the face of the current situation in the country, which risked disrupting displaced students' entry into higher education, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine created a dedicated online assessment platform to allow students to take tests remotely from wherever they are in Europe. The platform has been created with support from UNICEF and UNESCO's Emergency Participation Programme. Successful candidates will be able to study online with their chosen university until the situation in the country allows them to return and continue their courses with in-person teaching.





The University of West London St Mary's Road Ealing London W5 5RF The University of West London Boston Manor Road Brentford Middlesex TW8 9GA The University of West London Fountain House 2 Queens Walk Reading RG1 7QF Drama Studio London Grange Court 1 Grange Road Ealing London W5 5QN Ruskin College Ruskin Hall Dunstan Road Old Headington Oxford OX3 9BZ