

NATURE IS



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NEWSLETTER

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Sustainable
Development
Office

ZILONY
WSliZ



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ISSUE TOPIC:
EDUCATION...
for the future of the planet

Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education

Education is the key to improving quality of life and building a sustainable world. Despite progress, over 265 million children around the world still do not attend school, and many who do are not mastering basic skills like reading and math.

Providing quality education involves creating educational scholarship programs, teacher workshops, building schools, and improving access to water and electricity in schools.

* <https://sdgs.un.org/goals/goal4>

Expert Perspective

Dr. Joanna Świętoniowska

Director of the Center for Advanced Teaching Technologies at UITM

High-quality education is one that takes into account different learning styles and supports individual student development.

A modern teacher should not only be an expert in their field but also **a mentor and facilitator**, adapting teaching methods to the individual needs of students to support both learning and personal growth.

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is gaining increasing importance, promoting equality and accessibility in education. UDL enables flexible and personalized education, giving everyone a chance to succeed.

It is also crucial to foster a lifelong learning attitude and need – essential in a rapidly changing world where labor market conditions require continuous skills development.

Selected projects related to these themes carried out by our University:

Coordinator: Dr. Joanna Wójcik

- ✕ **GreenTech Horizons** – a project combining green and digital transformation, preparing Central and Eastern Asian countries for a future of sustainable innovation.

Coordinator: Dr. Joanna Świętoniowska

- ✕ **The ESG Imperative for the Project Management World** – an initiative based on a study of European companies to educate project managers who will lead initiatives in line with sustainability principles (763 responses were collected from representatives of various European firms).
- ✕ **Sustainable project management through PM²** – a project focused on developing a plug-in for the PM² project management methodology promoted by the European Commission. The methodology will be enhanced with a component for environmentally and socially responsible project management.

Did you know that...

Education is a basic human right

that helps lift men and women out of poverty, reduce inequality, and ensure sustainable development.

Around the world, about

250 MILLION CHILDREN AND YOUTH
do not attend school

due to social, economic, and/or cultural reasons:

 **122** MILLION
girls

 **128** MILLION
boys

The right to quality education is well enshrined in

the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
and international legal instruments,

most of which are the result of work by **UNESCO** and **the UN**

 **754** MILLION ADULTS
are illiterate*,

and the world lacks

44 MILLION
teachers,

many of whom **not have basic qualifications**
or training to keep up with changes in education



Women still make up nearly **two-thirds**
of all illiterate adults

***UNESCO's approach to literacy** is evolving, as the definition of literacy changes in an increasingly digital world.

<https://www.unesco.org/en/right-education?hub=343> | <https://uis.unesco.org/en/topic/literacy>
<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000388832>

Education changes lives and lies at the heart of UNESCO's mission,
entrusted with leading the Global Education Agenda 2030 by:

- ✕ **Promoting access to education at all levels**, especially for children and youth from marginalized groups;
- ✕ **Improving education quality** through reform promotion;
- ✕ **Ensuring equality and inclusiveness in education;**

- ✕ **Supporting lifelong learning;**
- ✕ **Education for sustainable development.**

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<https://www.unesco.pl/unesco/cele-i-zadania-zrownowazonego-rozwoju/>

Did you know that...

Methane

from waste decomposition in landfills accounts for

3–4%

OF ANNUAL GREENHOUSE
gas emissions

Producing **one ton of paper**

requires cutting down approximately

17 trees,

which annually produce
enough oxygen for **170 people**



One liter

of used **motor oil**

can pollute **ONE MILLION**
liters of water

How long does decomposition take?

5 years

chewing gum

150 years

aluminum can

400 years

plastic bag

1000 years

PET bottle

4000 years

glass*



*glass can be endlessly recycled without
quality loss, saving energy and protecting
the environment

A leaking tap can waste about **liters of water daily;** a faulty

toilet flush — **720 liters per day,** totaling **260** ^{m³}
of water
annually

And there's much more information like this...

Earth Overshoot Day

This is the day when humanity exhausts all the
resources that Earth can regenerate in a year.

Each year, this day comes earlier.

In 2023, Earth Overshoot Day fell on **August 2;**
in 2024, it was even earlier – **August 1.**

In the last 50 years, it has moved forward by over
4 months, and our current resource consumption
equals that of almost **two Earths.**

<https://www.overshootday.org/>



**Ecological awareness is essential
for developing proper attitudes**

Young people's environmental awareness varies

– while some are actively involved in pro-environmental
actions, research shows that ecology is low on their
list of life priorities.

As Dr. Małgorzata Gosek emphasizes, both rapid
educational action and long-term development of
awareness and attitudes are necessary to enable
a green transformation and build a society living
in harmony with nature.

**We encourage you to explore the topic of ecological
awareness and education of the young generation,
available on the Green Blog ↗**



From University Life

Research by the FLOW Financial Science Club

In 2021, a group of students from the FLOW Financial Science Club conducted an international study to analyze the level of awareness about sustainable development among students (514 respondents from various countries¹) The result was a scientific poster presenting the analysis findings.

- ✕ Over **90% of students** understand that **sustainable development is not only about the natural environment**;
- ✕ The least frequently indicated areas of sustainable development were:
 - **good health and quality of life,**
 - **gender equality,**
 - **reducing inequalities within and between countries.**
- ✕ There is an urgent need to **spread basic knowledge about sustainable development**, especially in the context of:
 - **education** and its impact on quality of life,
 - **unemployment** and its consequences for individuals and societies,
 - **poverty and hunger** – their causes and effects.
- ✕ **Knowledge in these areas** helps:
 - reduce negative social phenomena,
 - **contribute to achieving sustainable development goals** in the long term.

We encourage you to view the scientific poster ↗

And at the turn of April and May, our Office will conduct a new study among current students.

¹More info: <https://wsiz.edu.pl/blog-naukowy/globalne-cele-zrownowazonego-rozwoju-czyli-jakie-badania-kola-naukowego-flow/>

Health Week at UITM

We have concluded the second edition of **Health Week at UITM**.

- ✕ A total of **20 initiatives** – lectures, workshops, and opportunities for health checkups;
- ✕ From April 7 to 11, **over 130 people** took part.

We thank you for the warm reception and active participation in the proposed activities.

Special thanks go to everyone involved in organizing Health Week, especially **Urszula Binduga**, who professionally prepared and supervised the entire event!

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EDUCATION



**Environmental education is not
just about recycling or forest protection**

It is the foundation of a conscious society
capable of making responsible decisions
for the planet.

Any suggestions regarding the Newsletter, including proposals for interesting
topics and initiatives, to: bzr@wsiz.edu.pl

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N A T U R E I S



P A R T O F U S

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