

PROGRESS REPORT ON REALISATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

2025 REPORT

Wrocław University of Economics and Business



Academic Lead

Professor Bogusława Drelich-Skulska

Report Coordinators

Karolina Daszyńska-Żygadło, PhD

Dominika Hadro, PhD, WUEB Professor



Professor Bogusława
Drelich-Skulska



Karolina Daszyńska-
Żygadło, PhD



Dominika Hadro,
PhD, WUEB Professor

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Foreword – A Word from the Rector

It is with great satisfaction that I present to you the Wrocław University of Economics and Business's Sustainable Development Goals Report for 2025. In these pages, you will find an account of the actions, initiatives and projects our academic community has carried out in the field of sustainable development, along with an overview of how our University is rising to meet the social, economic, environmental and technological challenges of our time.

The year 2025 was a particularly important year for us: one in which we continued to build on our commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, while also beginning to put our newly updated WUEB 2030 Strategy into practice. This strategy charts the course for our University's future as a modern, socially responsible and internationally engaged institution: one playing an active part in the economic, technological and social changes reshaping our world.

What comes through clearly in the work described here is the dedication of our whole academic community – staff, students, doctoral researchers and external partners alike – to building a university that is open, innovative and responsible. We concentrated our efforts on developing the skills of the future, supporting the green transition, enhancing our international profile, strengthening our ties with business, and creating a welcoming, inclusive academic environment.

In 2025, we carried on strengthening our strategic approach to sustainable development. One important step was continuing our work on the WUEB Sustainable Development Plan, alongside deepening our dialogue with stakeholders through further editions of the Sustainable Development Forum. We also advanced our work in energy transition, the modernisation of campus infrastructure, climate education, and support for innovative projects delivered through international partnerships.

The Wrocław University of Economics and Business continues to build its reputation as a university that:

- carries out research addressing today's social, environmental and economic challenges,
- develops the skills of the future through modern teaching methods,
- works closely with business and the wider socio-economic community,
- supports the wellbeing, diversity and growth of its community,
- embraces the technologies of tomorrow and champions the green transition.

I am convinced that the initiatives set out in this report are not simply a record of what the Wrocław University of Economics and Business has achieved, but, more importantly, proof of our responsible and long-term commitment to the University's development and to its impact on society, the economy and the environment.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the initiatives described in this report. It is due to your expertise, dedication and collaboration that the Wrocław University of Economics and Business is able to play an active role in shaping a more sustainable future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Czesław Zajac".

Professor Czesław Zajac
Rector of Wrocław University of Economics
and Business

Institutionalising Sustainable Development at WUEB: Introduction by the Head of the Sustainable Development Office

Preparing this year's Sustainable Development Goals Report gives me the chance to do two things at once: look back at everything that our University community has achieved, and take stock of the changes taking place — both in the social and economic environment and within the University itself. Each year, it becomes clearer that sustainable development is no longer a matter of scattered, one-off initiatives. It is becoming part of the University's day-to-day operations: a way of thinking about education, research, our relationships with the wider community, and our organisational practices.

The year 2025 was an important year in this respect, marking a further step in embedding sustainable development into the University's structures. A key milestone was the rollout of our new WUEB 2030 Strategy, which places sustainable development firmly at the heart of the University's strategic direction. Particularly significant here is the strategic priority on responsible and sustainable development, which covers strengthening the University's social impact, deepening our work with stakeholders, supporting the green transition, and building a modern, inclusive organisation.

This past year has seen us continue to build a systematic approach to delivering the Sustainable Development Goals. Working closely with the team at the Sustainable Development Office, we carried forward our work on the WUEB Sustainable Development Plan, designed and ran further rounds of stakeholder dialogue, and held workshops to help pinpoint the University's greatest areas of impact. Two more editions of the Sustainable Development Forum also made an important contribution, as did the work of the Green Team Competence Centre and the DEI Centre.

Institutionalising sustainable development has also meant developing new organisational and institutional arrangements. We have continued our work on equality, accessibility and anti-discrimination policy, expanded initiatives supporting wellbeing and mental health in our academic community, and strengthened our efforts around energy transition and the modernisation of campus infrastructure. Green skills, climate education and international cooperation in sustainable development are all areas that continue to grow in importance.

The year 2025 was also a powerful reminder of the importance of collaboration and shared responsibility. Many of our initiatives were carried out together with business partners, civil society organisations, local government, and universities both in Poland and abroad. These projects made one thing clear: tackling today's challenges — whether climate-related, social, technological or demographic — requires interdisciplinary work and collaborative action.

Observing the pace of social and technological change, it becomes ever more apparent that the university of the future cannot simply be a place where knowledge is passed on. It must also be a space where responsibility, organisational resilience and the capacity to adapt are actively built. In a world marked by uncertainty, values like openness, collaboration, responsibility, equality and concern for the common good matter more than ever.

The initiatives set out in this Report show that the Wrocław University of Economics and Business continues to build an organisational culture rooted in sustainable development, and to shape its role as a modern, socially responsible institution, attuned to its impact on the world around it. They are, above all, a testament to the enormous commitment of our staff, students, doctoral candidates and University partners – and to all of them, I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks.

Table 1 sets out the key stages in the institutionalisation of sustainable development at the Wrocław University of Economics and Business.

Table 1. Stages in the institutionalisation of sustainable development at the Wrocław University of Economics and Business

Month	Year	Milestone
I	2008	Appointment of Rector's Representative for the Disabled
II	2017	Award of the HR Excellence in Research distinction
		Establishment of the Rector's Green Team Committee
		Signing of the Declaration of University Social Responsibility
III	2018	Signing of the Climate Reality Project Declaration
IV	2019	Joining the PRME (Principles for Responsible Management Education) initiative
V	2020	Establishment of the Disability Support Section
		Transformation of the Rector's Green Team Committee into the Green Team Competence Centre
VI	2021	Development and implementation of the Sustainable Public Procurement Policy
VII	2022	Appointment of the Social Impact Manager
		Establishment of the Rector's Social Impact Committee
		Signing of the Diversity Charter
		Appointment of the Representative for Counteracting Discrimination
		Appointment of the Representative for Equal Treatment
		Establishment of the Equal Treatment and Anti-Discrimination Team
VIII	2023	Introduction of the WUEB Gender Equality Plan
		WUEB joined the Fairtrade Universities and Colleges Campaign
		Adoption of the revised Internal Anti-Bullying and Anti-Discrimination Policy
		Appointment of the Rector's Representative for Cultural Activity
IX	2023	Establishment of the Sustainable Development Office
III	2024	1st Sustainable Development Forum
III		Establishment of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Competence Centre
VIII		Adoption of the Anti-Corruption Policy
		Appointment of the Rector's Representative for Reporting Irregularities
		Introduction of the Internal Reporting and Follow-up Procedures for Legal Violations

Month	Year	Milestone
XI		Establishment of the Equal Treatment and Anti-Discrimination Team
I	2025	2nd Sustainable Development Forum
VI		3rd Sustainable Development Forum
		Approval of the revised WUEB 2030 Strategy, including the adoption of Strategic Direction SD 7: Implementing solutions that have a positive impact on society and the natural environment
		Appointment of the Rector's Representative for WUEB Energy Transition

Source: authors' own compilation.

As part of the Wrocław University of Economics and Business's ongoing commitment to championing action on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, we are pleased to share a selection of the initiatives, projects and undertakings carried out at the University in 2025. This report puts particular focus on five Sustainable Development Goals: quality education (Goal 4), decent work and economic growth (Goal 8), industry, innovation and infrastructure (Goal 9), sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), and climate action (Goal 13).

These five goals tie in closely with the strategic directions set out in our WUEB 2030 Strategy, which shapes the University's path as a modern, socially responsible institution, engaged in social, economic and environmental change. The Strategy sets out seven key strategic directions, which form the basis for the actions of the Wrocław University of Economics and Business in education, research, external engagement and sustainable development (Table 2).

Table 2. Strategic priorities and associated areas of action set out in the Wrocław University of Economics and Business 2030 Strategy

Strategic Direction	Strategic Direction Title	Areas of Action
SD1	Conducting research that supports social development and a knowledge- and innovation-based economy	- Conducting research that addresses real social and economic challenges. - Developing research capacity and international collaboration. - Increasing the number of research and development projects and their implementation. - Enhancing the visibility of the University's research portfolio and its impact on the economy.
SD2	Personalised and flexible education built around learners' potential	- Personalising the learning process and offering flexible learning pathways. - Delivering high-quality teaching aligned with labour market needs. - Expanding educational provision in line with lifelong learning principles. - Supporting the development of both technical and transferable skills.

Strategic Direction	Strategic Direction Title	Areas of Action
SD3	Building valuable relationships with business and the wider economic and social environment	■ Building lasting relationships with business and stakeholders. ■ Providing expert support to the socio-economic environment. ■ Strengthening engagement with alumni. ■ Co-creating solutions for the economy and society.
SD4	Building an organisational culture that provides rewarding and fulfilling working conditions and development opportunities for University staff	■ Creating an attractive working and professional development environment. ■ Strengthening staff engagement and job satisfaction. ■ Fostering a sense of community and a culture of collaboration. ■ Taking account of staff needs and wellbeing.
SD5	Strengthening the University's international position	■ Increasing the University's international presence. ■ Expanding educational provision in foreign languages. ■ Promoting student and staff mobility. ■ Building a globally recognised academic brand.
SD6	Digitalisation and automation of the University's operations	■ Digitalising teaching, research and administrative processes. ■ Applying artificial intelligence across the University's activities. ■ Automating processes and improving operational efficiency. ■ Providing digital services for stakeholders.
SD7	Implementing solutions that have a positive impact on society and the natural environment	■ Minimising environmental impact. ■ Implementing socially and environmentally responsible solutions. ■ Promoting socially responsible attitudes. ■ Supporting the development of local communities.

Source: adapted from the WUEB 2030 Strategy.

The link between the Sustainable Development Goals and the strategic directions set out in Strategy 2030, together with their connection to the WUEB's mission and vision, is presented in Table 3.

Table 3. Alignment of the Sustainable Development Goals with the WUEB Strategy 2030

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	Link to the WUEB mission and vision	WUEB strategic direction in order of relevance to the SDG
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.	A university distinguished in the region, conducting research of international significance. A campus as a space for open debate and shaping the future.	SD2. Personalised and flexible education based on the potential of learners. SD1. Conducting research to support social development and a knowledge- and innovation-based economy.
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.	A university providing an attractive environment for work and talent development. A community creating knowledge and educating new generations of professionals.	SD4. Building an organisational culture that ensures decent and rewarding working conditions and staff development. SD3. Building valuable relationships with business and stakeholders from the economic and social environment.
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation.	A university as a partner for business and a source of expertise. An organisation built on the technologies of the future.	SD6. Digitalisation and automation of university operations. SD3. Building valuable relationships with business and stakeholders from the economic and social environment.
Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.	A university developing future-oriented competences and supporting the wider community.	SD2. Personalised and flexible education based on the potential of learners. SD3. Building valuable relationships with business and stakeholders from the economic and social environment. SD7. Implementing solutions with a positive impact on society and the natural environment.
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.	Development in harmony with the environment and responsibility for the future.	SD7. Implementing solutions with a positive impact on society and the natural environment.

Source: based on internal WUEB materials.

It is my sincere hope that this report will inspire you, and that it will encourage you to take up the cause of sustainable development — in the academic world and beyond it.

Karolina Daszyńska-Żygadło, PhD
Head of Sustainability Office



Goal 4

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Access to high-quality education and the promotion of lifelong learning constitute one of the key priorities of the Wrocław University of Economics and Business. The University runs a wide range of initiatives designed to improve teaching standards, help students develop the competences of the future, and make education more accessible to different groups in society. WUEB's work towards this goal is wide-ranging and reaches stakeholders at every stage of their educational journey – from children and teenagers, through students and PhD candidates, to graduates and academic staff. The University consistently delivers high-quality teaching, as evidenced by the many successes achieved by its students in national and international competitions, as well as in its growing research output and publications.

A key part of WUEB's approach to education is the implementation of modern, tailored study models, such as the Business Individual Study Programme (BIPS) and the 'Universities of the Future' project, both designed to keep pace with the demands of the labour market, and support the development of future-ready skills – analytical, digital and creative alike. We are equally committed to lifelong learning and offer training, development programmes, and opportunities that bring our graduates back into the fold of academic life. The University of the Third Age plays a particularly important part in this, opening up the University's doors to older members of the community and strengthening its role in society as a whole.

The University also offers a broad range of educational programmes for children and young people, including the Children's University of Economics (EUD) and the Young Economist Academy (AME). These help widen access to education, promote equal opportunity, and build economic awareness from an early age.

Another important strand of WUEB's work has been the gradual integration of sustainability, ESG and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its degree programmes and courses. A review of course syllabuses found that around 30% of courses touched on ESG and sustainability topics, while roughly 20% were dedicated to the subject entirely. The topics that came up most often were environmental and social ones – sustainable finance, corporate social responsibility (CSR), and the impact that businesses have on society and

the environment. This helps students build the skills that they will need to meet today's social, environmental and economic challenges, and it reinforces the role of sustainable development in the University's teaching process.

At the same time, WUEB is investing in developing its teaching staff's competences and rolling out modern technology, including artificial intelligence tools that support teaching. The University is also becoming increasingly international — expanding academic mobility and working towards prestigious accreditations such as AACSB — all of which helps raise the quality and competitiveness of its education.



Photo 1. Closing ceremony of the BIPS 2025 programme

Table 4 sets out a selection of the activities that WUEB has carried out in support of SDG 4. These are grouped around the key areas of Goal 4: quality of education, access to education, developing future-ready skills, lifelong learning, and the internationalisation of education. They include everything from educational programmes and innovative projects to science outreach events and the achievements of students and staff in national and international competitions.

Table 4. Selected initiatives and activities implemented at WUEB in the area of SDG 4 in 2025

Activity/initiative	SDG 4 area	Description	Outcome/impact
Warsaw Stock Exchange (WSE) Competition (1st and 2nd place)	Quality of education	Awards for the best diploma theses in a nationwide competition	Recognition of the high quality of education and students' analytical skills
Internal Security Agency (ABW) Competition (honourable mention)	Quality of education	Honourable mention for a master's thesis in a nationwide competition	Greater academic prestige and development of research skills
6th WUEB Rector's Competition for the Best Diploma Theses Defended at WUEB	Quality of education	Awards for the best bachelor's and master's theses	Promotion of high academic standards and research quality
Student Debuts (12 scientific volumes)	Quality of education	Publication of students' work in the 'Student Debuts' scientific series published by WUEB Publishing House	Development of young researchers' academic skills and dissemination of research findings
AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business)	Quality of education	Process of obtaining international accreditation	Improved educational standards
20th <i>Verba Veritatis</i> Competition for the Best Thesis in Business Ethics	Quality of education	Competition promoting business ethics	Strengthening ethical attitudes and social responsibility
Integration of sustainability, ESG and SDG content into degree programmes and courses	Quality of education	Incorporation of ESG, sustainability and Sustainable Development Goals content into WUEB degree programmes and courses	Development of sustainability-related competences and gradual integration of ESG and SDG content into teaching
Business Individual Study Programme (BIPS)	Future skills	Individual study pathways developed in cooperation with business	Better alignment of graduates' competences with labour market needs
'Universities of the Future' project	Future skills	Implementation of innovative educational models and project-based learning	Development of future skills and more innovative teaching
Innovative Teaching Competences Laboratory (INNOLAB 2.0)	Future skills	Training for academic staff in green transition, Design Thinking and the use of artificial intelligence in higher education	Improved teaching quality and development of green and digital competences among academic staff

Activity/initiative	SDG 4 area	Description	Outcome/impact
Náboj Junior	Future skills	International mathematics and physics competition for primary and secondary school pupils	Development of logical thinking and teamwork skills
Mathematics + Economics	Future skills	Workshops promoting science for primary school pupils	Greater interest in STEM subjects and economics
Graduates' Reunion	Lifelong learning	Meeting of graduates of the 'University of Leaders' programme	Strengthened alumni relations and continued competence development
University of the Third Age	Lifelong learning	Educational programme for older adults including lectures, workshops and activities	Activation of older adults, lifelong competence development and prevention of social exclusion
University of Leaders	Lifelong learning	Leadership development programme for students	Development of soft skills and leadership competences
Adult Competence Development Programme – K(A)FE	Lifelong learning	EU-funded project implemented by WUEB with Lower Silesian employers to develop and deliver modern short educational programmes for adults	Support for lifelong learning and competence development for 960 adults aged 18–64 between 2025 and 2029, in line with labour market needs
Children's University of Economics (EUD)	Access to education	Economic education for children (approx. 178 participants and 145 parents)	Building economic awareness from an early age
Young Economist Academy (AME)	Access to education	Educational programme for pupils in Years 6–8	Development of economic and social competences
Educational programmes for schools	Access to education	53 educational activities for more than 6,000 secondary school students	Improved access to education and greater interest in studying at WUEB
'Leaders of Knowledge – Leaders of Success' project	Access to education	41 educational meetings for 3,373 pupils	Equal educational opportunities and competence development
'Classes without grades'	Access to education	Classes for secondary school pupils without assessment pressure	Development of interests and cognitive competences

Activity/initiative	SDG 4 area	Description	Outcome/impact
WUEB Open Day	Access to education	Presentation of the University's offer to prospective students	Support in choosing an educational pathway
Partnership with secondary schools	Access to education	Cooperation with 11 partner schools and 30 cooperating schools	Support for young people's education and development of educational pathways
'Sustainable Cross-Border Entrepreneurship: Polish-Czech Cooperation for a Green Future' project	Internationalisation	Development of Polish-Czech cooperation in green transition, sustainable entrepreneurship and innovative business models through learning-by-doing workshops	Exchange of good practices and implementation of innovative teaching solutions
IFCS (International Federation of Classification Societies)	Internationalisation	Holding office in an international scientific organisation	Strengthening the University's international standing
Erasmus+ Programme	Internationalisation	Student and staff mobility programme (budget: €2.63 million)	Development of intercultural competences and academic mobility
International students	Internationalisation	376 international students at WUEB	Greater internationalisation of the academic community

Source: authors' own compilation.

A review of the activities undertaken by the Wrocław University of Economics and Business demonstrates the University's broad and multidimensional commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 4: ensuring inclusive, high-quality education and promoting lifelong learning.

In further sections, we present a selection of representative examples from 2025, which illustrate the University's main areas of activity in this field. These examples represent only part of a much broader portfolio of initiatives, encompassing formal and non-formal education, the development of future-oriented competences, internationalisation, collaboration with the social and economic community, and support for lifelong learning at every stage of life.

The University's approach to Goal 4 is systemic and complementary. Individual initiatives reinforce one another, creating a coherent educational ecosystem that reaches diverse target groups across different levels of education and forms of learning. By integrating teaching, research, social engagement, and international cooperation, WUEB is well placed to respond effectively to the educational and social challenges of today.

1. Raising the quality of education

WUEB's work in this area has focused on improving the quality of teaching, building academic excellence, and upholding high standards in research and academic integrity. Of particular significance were the successes achieved by our students and graduates in nationwide competitions, including the Warsaw Stock Exchange (GPW) competition, the Internal Security Agency (ABW) competition, and the Rector's Competition for the Best Diploma Theses.

In the GPW Foundation's competition, our students took first and second place in the bachelor's thesis category, competing against 86 theses submitted from across Poland. A distinction in the ABW competition further demonstrated the strong analytical and research competences among our students.

Our publishing activity also played an important role in supporting the quality of education. In 2025, the Publishing House of Wrocław University of Economics and Business published 12 volumes in the 'Student Debuts' series, providing students with the opportunity to share their research findings from the very beginning of their academic careers. We also continued our work towards obtaining the prestigious AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) accreditation, reinforcing our commitment to internationally recognised standards of educational quality.

Integrating ESG and sustainable development into our degree programmes and courses has also been an important part of our commitment to educational quality. The growing emphasis on environmental, social, and responsible management issues within our teaching helps students develop the forward-looking skills the modern economy and labour market increasingly demand. Socially responsible education was also promoted through the 20th edition of the Verba Veritatis competition, which rewards the best paper on business ethics and promotes ethical conduct and social responsibility in business.

WUEB continues to develop an educational model founded on high academic standards, in which teaching is closely linked to research, social responsibility, sustainable development, and a commitment to internationally recognised standards of educational quality.

2. Developing the competences of the future

WUEB remains committed to developing activities that support the competences of the future, responding to the needs of today's labour market and to technological transformation. Central to this are initiatives that combine education with real-world business practice, and that develop digital competences, creativity, and the ability to work on a project basis.



One of our flagship programmes is the Business Individual Study Programme (BIPS), which enables students to pursue a personalised educational pathway in collaboration with our business partners. This year's eighth edition involved 30 students, who underwent a demanding, two-stage recruitment process.

We were also proud to launch the 'Universities of the Future' project, through which WUEB — as one of 12 universities in Poland involved — is developing innovative educational models based on project work, interdisciplinary collaboration, and the competences of the future.

The INNOLAB 2.0 project, a laboratory for innovative teaching competences also played a significant role. The project offered training for our academic staff in areas such as the green transition, the use of artificial intelligence in teaching, Design Thinking, and modern educational methods.

We also supported a number of events promoting science and analytical thinking, such as the international Náboj Junior mathematics and physics competition, and our 'Mathematics + Economics' workshops.

WUEB continues to build an educational model centred on putting knowledge into practice, encouraging creativity, and developing future-ready skills — helping us rise to the challenges of technological and economic transformation.

3. Lifelong learning

WUEB actively supports the idea of lifelong learning, developing initiatives that reach a wide range of social and age groups, including students, alumni, doctoral researchers, senior citizens, and the wider academic community. One highlight was the Alumni Gathering (*Absolwentiada*), which brought together graduates of the Leaders' University programme and gave them the opportunity to continue developing their competences while strengthening their connection with the University.

Our University of the Third Age also played an important role, enabling older members of the community to participate actively in academic life through lectures, workshops, and sessions designed to develop new skills and pursue lifelong interests. The University continued to deliver the Leaders' University programme, supporting the development of students' leadership competences, alongside the K(A)FE! project, which fostered a stronger sense of community and encouraged greater social engagement.

Through these initiatives, WUEB serves not only as a place of formal education but also as a hub for lifelong learning and competence development, which supports people from every walk of life in their pursuit of knowledge and personal growth

4. Increasing access to education

One of WUEB's key areas of activity is widening access to education and promoting equal educational opportunity through initiatives aimed at children, young people, and prospective students. In 2025, we ran further editions of our Children's University of Economics (EUD) and Young Economist Academy (AME), helping children and young people develop economic, social, and analytical skills.

WUEB also carried out large-scale educational work with secondary schools, delivering 53 educational activities for more than 6,000 students, alongside 41 events held as part of the 'Leaders in Knowledge, Leaders in Success' project, reaching 3,373 participants. The University also ran 'no-grades' classes for secondary-school pupils, held an Open Day, and continued building relationships with its partner and affiliated schools.

WUEB thus promotes an inclusive model of education with a wide social reach, involving thousands of participants and supporting the development of competences from the earliest years.

5. Internationalisation

WUEB continues to develop initiatives that strengthen the internationalisation of our teaching, research, and academic partnerships. Of particular significance was the project 'Sustainable Cross-Border Entrepreneurship: Polish-Czech Cooperation for a Green Future', carried out in partnership with the Technical University of Liberec. Through hands-on workshops, negotiation simulations, and study visits, the project helped our students build real skills in the green transition, international cooperation, and sustainable entrepreneurship.

Our academic community continues to play an active role on the international stage — including Professor Krzysztof Jajuga, who was appointed President of the IFCS (International Federation of Classification Societies). The Erasmus+ programme also remained an important part of these efforts. With a budget of €2.63 million in 2025, it supported the mobility of students and academic staff. In the same year, we welcomed 376 international students.

WUEB continues to strengthen its reputation as an open, internationally engaged university, committed to developing modern education that responds to global social, economic, and environmental challenges.

The activities set out here — a selection of the most significant initiatives from 2025 — reflect our ongoing, comprehensive commitment to Goal 4 at the Wrocław University of Economics and Business. What defines our approach is the integration of various areas of activity: teaching, research, our relationships with the wider community and economic partners, our international outlook, and our outreach initiatives

WUEB has created a coherent educational ecosystem that:

- supports learners at every stage of life;
- bridges the gap between theory and practice;
- develops both knowledge and future-ready competences;
- promotes internationalisation and academic mobility;
- responds to technological, social, and economic challenges.

The scale of WUEB's achievements — reaching thousands of participants through extensive partnerships both at home and abroad — reflects the University's role in developing human and social capital. We do not simply advance the objectives of Goal 4; we are actively helping to shape a modern, high-quality, accessible, innovative, and socially responsible model of education.

In doing so, the University contributes to building a society founded on knowledge, skills, and equal access to education, supporting the achievement of SDG 4 at the local, national, and international levels alike.

Outcomes and impact

The activities carried out by the Wrocław University of Economics and Business in pursuit of Goal 4 have contributed to:

- the steady improvement of teaching quality, and the ongoing refinement of our educational provision in response to changing social and economic needs;
- the development of digital, analytical, research, creative, and entrepreneurial competences among our students and other participants in our educational programmes;
- stronger future-oriented competences, innovation, and adaptability among our graduates, preparing them for a fast-changing labour market;
- closer alignment between learning outcomes, employers' expectations, and the demands of digital, social, and environmental transformation;
- the wider use of modern teaching methods, including project-based and interdisciplinary approaches;
- the development of our students' research and analytical skills, together with their increasing involvement in research and scholarly publishing;
- a stronger academic culture founded on quality, responsibility, ethical conduct, and critical thinking;
- the integration of sustainable development, ESG, and social responsibility into our curricula;
- the promotion of lifelong learning through an educational offer tailored to learners of different ages and professional backgrounds;
- greater access to education, and a levelling of educational opportunity for people across different social groups and generations;
- the active engagement of older people, and efforts to counter social exclusion through educational and community-building initiatives;
- the development of social, civic, and leadership competences among participants in our educational programmes;
- stronger partnerships between the University and our graduates, schools, educational institutions, and the wider social and economic community;
- the building of social capital and a deeper sense of engagement within our academic community;
- growing interest in economic education, and the promotion of higher education among children and young people;
- the development of intercultural competences among students and staff, and a more international academic environment;
- stronger international cooperation in education and research, and a greater exchange of experience between universities;
- higher standards of educational quality, in line with international good practice;
- greater national and international recognition of the Wrocław University of Economics and Business.



Goal 8

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Our work towards Goal 8 focuses on supporting sustained and inclusive economic growth, ensuring decent and safe working conditions, and strengthening opportunities for professional and social development. Particular emphasis is placed on tackling exclusion, developing future-oriented competences, promoting wellbeing, advancing equality and diversity, and cultivating a working environment that is conducive to collaboration, innovation, and safety.

In 2025, the Wrocław University of Economics and Business undertook a wide range of activities in support of Goal 8, focusing on the University's organisational development, the support of staff and students, and the strengthening of cooperation with the social and economic community. These initiatives spanned systemic and organisational measures, staff training, wellbeing provision, community-building activities, and projects supporting the development of professional and future-oriented competences.

Particular emphasis was placed on the digitalisation and streamlining of human resources processes, developing the competences of both administrative and academic staff, promoting mental health, and building an academic environment grounded in equality, accessibility, and inclusivity. We also continued to strengthen our partnerships with business, public institutions, and international partners, supporting the development of entrepreneurship, green competences, and innovative models of collaboration.

Table 5 presents a selection of the activities undertaken by the University in support of SDG 8 in 2025. They include initiatives aimed at developing professional and digital competences, improving working conditions, promoting mental health and wellbeing, creating a more equitable and accessible environment, and deepening cooperation with the wider social and economic community.



Photo 2. Sustainable Development Forum 2025 – Workshop session

Table 5. Selected WUEB activities and initiatives in support of SDG 8 in 2025

Activity/initiative	SDG 8 area	Description	Outcome/impact
Automation of human resources processes (HCM)	Working conditions and organisational governance	Implementation of digital HR solutions	Streamlined HR processes
Human Resources Centre	Working conditions and organisational governance	Management of WUEB's HR policy	More stable employment processes
Agreement with the Regional Labour Inspectorate in Wrocław	Working conditions and organisational governance	Cooperation on labour law and occupational health and safety	Greater awareness of employees' rights
Staff development programmes	Staff competence development	156 training sessions for 1,464 participants	Development of professional and digital competences
Individual training applications	Staff competence development	48 applications approved	Personalised professional development
International Programme Management Academy	Staff competence development	Training in international project management	Development of project management competences

Activity/initiative	SDG 8 area	Description	Outcome/impact
Community, Development, Integration	Staff competence development	Language training for staff	Strengthened language competences
INNOLAB 2.0	Future competences and internationalisation	Training in green transformation in education, AI, Design Thinking and innovative teaching	Development of green, digital and innovation competences
IMPACT	Future competences and internationalisation	Training on international projects	Strengthened project management competences
Project 'Polish–Czech Cooperation for a Green Future'	Future competences and internationalisation	Workshops on entrepreneurship and green competences	Development of future competences
Series of ESG and DEI events	Future competences and internationalisation	Meetings on the labour market and diversity	Greater social awareness
Project 'Equal – Safe – Accessible'	Equality, diversity and accessibility	Improving architectural, digital and communication accessibility across the WUEB campus	Promoting equal opportunities and preventing exclusion
DEI Centre	Equality, diversity and accessibility	Educational and advisory activities	Development of an inclusive culture
Integration Day III	Equality, diversity and accessibility	Community event promoting accessibility and inclusion	Greater community integration
Pink & Blue. Two Colours – One Goal	Health and wellbeing	Preventive and educational event	Greater health awareness
UEWellbeing Day 2025	Health and wellbeing	Event dedicated to wellbeing and mental health	Supporting community wellbeing
#nabieraMYodwagi	Health and wellbeing	Initiative promoting a healthy lifestyle	Greater health awareness
Project Human	Health and wellbeing	Workshops and discussions on emotions and mental resilience	Support for mental health
Podcast 'In the Rhythm of Wellbeing'	Health and wellbeing	Podcasts on mental health and wellbeing	Promoting knowledge of wellbeing

Activity/initiative	SDG 8 area	Description	Outcome/impact
Mentoring programme	Competence and career development	Supporting students' professional development	Development of competences and careers
WUEB Careers Fair	Competence and career development	Meetings between students and employers	Supporting employability
Youth Policy Dialogue	Competence and career development	Participation in European Commission dialogue	Greater civic engagement
Debate 'My City – My County – My World'	Competence and career development	Debate for secondary school students	Development of civic competences
Business cooperation	External engagement and innovation	Partnerships with businesses	Aligning competences with labour market needs
Urban micro-consolidation hub in Wrocław	External engagement and innovation	Logistics project delivered with business partners and local government	Development of green logistics
A2S Virtual Marketplace (DCAS)	External engagement and innovation	Tool supporting cooperation between the University and society	Strengthening knowledge transfer

Source: authors' own compilation.

1. Strengthening organisational governance and developing a modern working environment

One of the key priorities in our work towards Goal 8 was the development of modern organisational and digital solutions to support human resources management and enhance the efficiency of the University's operations. Throughout the 2024/2025 academic year, the Wrocław University of Economics and Business continued to digitalise and automate selected HR processes, introducing solutions that simplify staff services and improve the transparency of administrative procedures. These initiatives included the further development of the HCM system supporting HR processes and work organisation, the automation of selected administrative processes, and the implementation of modern tools for communication and human resources management.

An important role was also played by the Human Resources Centre, which is responsible for implementing the University's personnel policy and ensuring stable and transparent conditions of employment. We continued to professionalise HR processes, support staff, and introduce further organisational improvements tailored to the needs of a modern university.

Another important milestone was the signing of an agreement with the Regional Labour Inspectorate in Wrocław to promote awareness of employment law, occupational health and safety, and the principles of decent work and responsible organisational practice.

Together, these initiatives form part of a broader effort to modernise the University — building a working environment that is efficient, transparent, and genuinely supportive, and that nurtures both our organisational growth and the wellbeing of our entire academic community.

2. Developing staff competences and future-oriented skills

Developing the professional, digital, linguistic, and interpersonal competences of staff, students, doctoral researchers, and graduates remained a key priority in our work towards Goal 8. Throughout 2025, the Wrocław University of Economics and Business delivered a wide range of training courses, workshops, and development programmes designed to respond to the demands of today's labour market and to the challenges arising from ongoing digital and social transformation.

Much of this work took shape through our INNOLAB 2.0 project, the Academy for the Management of International Programmes (AZPM), and the IMPACT project. These initiatives included training in the use of artificial intelligence and digital tools in teaching, the green transition, Design Thinking, innovative teaching methods, and the management of international projects. We also continued to strengthen competences supporting the University's internationalisation and the development of international partnerships.

Language training delivered through the Community, Development and Integration programme, formed another important element of this work. Delivered through the 'Community, Development, Integration' programme, which helped our staff build stronger communication and intercultural skills. WUEB also supported individual staff development pathways through a system of individual training applications.

Another important area of activity was the development of future-oriented competences related to the green transition and international entrepreneurship. One example was the 'Polish-Czech Cooperation for a Green Future' project, implemented in partnership with international collaborators. Combining workshops with learning-by-doing activities, the project strengthened competences in sustainable development, entrepreneurship, and international cooperation. Through these initiatives, we sought not only to enhance the quality of teaching and professional practice across the University, but also to build the capacity of our academic community to thrive in a rapidly changing social, economic, and technological environment.

3. Equality, diversity and accessibility

The University continued to develop a number of initiatives aimed at countering exclusion and promoting accessibility and equal treatment across the academic community. Our work focused on building an environment based on respect, diversity, safety, and inclusivity, as well as on making the University more accessible to people with specific needs.

Of particular significance was the 'Equal – Safe – Accessible' project, which brought improvements to architectural, digital, and communication accessibility, alongside the further development of psychological and educational support. The project helped us create a more accessible and welcoming academic environment for people with disabilities and those at risk of exclusion.

The DEI Centre also played an important role by delivering educational, training, and advisory activities relating to equality, diversity, and inclusion. We also organised a range of events and initiatives in the fields of ESG and DEI, intended to build awareness and competences in social responsibility and diversity management.

Another highlight was Integration Day III, which brought together the University's academic community, both domestic and international, around the themes of accessibility, diversity, and an open, inclusive academic environment. Together, these initiatives have helped us strengthen an organisational culture built on openness, collaboration, and respect for diversity.

4. Health and wellbeing

The University undertook a wide range of initiatives to promote wellbeing, alongside preventive and educational activities in support of the physical and mental health of the academic community. Our work focused on encouraging healthy lifestyles, preventing occupational burnout, supporting psychological wellbeing, and building an organisational culture that promotes care for the individual and a healthy work–life balance.

Particular emphasis was placed on initiatives such as UEWellbeing Day 2025, Pink & Blue: Two Colours, One Goal, the Project Human, and the podcast 'In the Rhythm of Wellbeing'. These events comprised workshops, consultations, educational sessions, expert talks, and preventive activities addressing both physical and mental health.

We also deepened our cooperation with external partners, including Wrocław Medical University, through the #nabieraMYodwagi initiative, promoting healthy habits, preventive healthcare, and greater awareness of mental health.

Together, these initiatives were aimed at improving psychological resilience, raising health awareness, and creating a working and learning environment which is conducive to wellbeing, safety, and a strong sense of community.

5. Career and competence development, and cooperation with the socio-economic environment and innovation

In our work towards Goal 8, we have continued to help our students and graduates build practical, real-world skills, while strengthening our ties with the wider business and economic community. This has included initiatives supporting career development, entrepreneurship, innovation, and knowledge transfer.

Particular emphasis was placed on the mentoring programme and the WUEB Careers Fair, both of which provided students with opportunities to meet and contact employers, develop hands-on skills, and gain valuable insight into labour market expectations. These initiatives have helped equip our students and graduates for successful careers while keeping our teaching closely connected to professional practice.

We also supported initiatives promoting civic engagement and the development of social competences among young people. These included the 'Youth Policy Dialogue', organised under the auspices of the European Commission, and the debate 'My City – My County – My

World', which helped secondary-school students develop their civic awareness and social competences.

Cooperation with business and external partners was another important area of activity. The University continued to expand its collaboration with enterprises as well as deliver projects supporting the green transition, innovation, and knowledge transfer. A notable example was the *Wrocław micro cross-dock hub* project, implemented in partnership with business and local government stakeholders to promote sustainable urban logistics across Wrocław.

Another important initiative was the 'A2S Virtual Marketplace' project, delivered under the Developing Cooperation between 'Academia and Society through Knowledge and Capacity Building (DCAS)' programme. Through this project, we reinforced partnerships between the University and wider society while developing digital tools to support more effective knowledge and competence transfer.

Summary

The Wrocław University of Economics and Business pursues Sustainable Development Goal 8 in a comprehensive and systemic way, combining organisational development with genuine care for the wellbeing of our academic community, the development of skills, equality and accessibility, and cooperation with the wider socio-economic environment. Our work spans both the development of modern organisational and digital solutions and initiatives supporting mental health, wellbeing, social integration, and the competences needed to meet the challenges of today's labour market.

Throughout 2025, we continued to professionalise the University's management practices and to build a working and learning environment that is supportive, safe, and inclusive. Particular emphasis was placed on the automation of organisational processes, the development of staff and student competences, the promotion of accessibility, and the cultivation of an organisational culture grounded in equality, collaboration, and social responsibility. These activities formed part of the University's wider programme of organisational modernization: one that reflects both organisational needs and the wellbeing of our academic community.

A further significant element in the pursuit of Goal 8 was the strengthening of future-oriented competences, including digital, project-based, linguistic, and interpersonal skills. Projects such as INNOLAB 2.0, our Academy for the Management of International Programmes (AZPM), IMPACT, and Polish-Czech Cooperation for a Green Future supported the development of innovation, internationalisation, and our capacity to operate within a rapidly changing socio-economic and technological landscape. Activities relating to the use of artificial intelligence, the green transition, and the development of competences essential to the labour market of the future played a particularly prominent role.

The University also continued to develop preventive and wellbeing-focused initiatives, promoting mental health, psychological resilience, and healthy lifestyles across the academic community. Initiatives such as Wellbeing Day 2025, Pink & Blue: Two Colours, One Goal, the Project Human, #nabieraMYodwagi, and the podcast In the Rhythm of Wellbeing helped to foster an organisational culture based on wellbeing, psychological safety, and a healthy work-life balance.

Cooperation with business, local government, and social partners was another important area of activity, alongside the continued development of projects supporting entrepreneurship, green competences, and knowledge transfer. Through partnerships with enterprises, the organisation of the WUEB Careers Fair, international projects, and initiatives delivered in collaboration with public institutions and international partners, we created more opportunities for students to gain practical experience and develop skills valued by employers, helping to prepare them for the labour market.

Creating an open, inclusive, and accessible academic environment was equally important. Projects such as 'Equal – Safe – Accessible', the work of the DEI Centre, and initiatives dedicated to diversity, accessibility, and ESG helped to strengthen an organisational culture founded on respect, collaboration, equal opportunities, and the prevention of social exclusion.

Taken together, these activities demonstrate that WUEB views Sustainable Development Goal 8 as encompassing far more than employment and economic growth. It also involves creating an academic environment that is inclusive, supportive, and socially responsible — one that enables people to develop, encourages collaboration, and equips students and staff with future-oriented competences. Through these efforts, the University contributes to the advancement of decent work, sustainable development, and a modern knowledge-based society built on cooperation and social responsibility.

Outcomes and impact

The University's activities in support of Sustainable Development Goal 8 have contributed to:

- streamlining HR, administrative, and organisational processes across the University;
- improving the effectiveness of human resource management and enhancing staff support services;
- developing modern digital tools that support both the working environment and institutional management;
- increasing the transparency of organisational processes while reinforcing ethical standards and institutional accountability;
- strengthening staff awareness of employment rights, workplace health and safety, and the principles of equality, non-discrimination, and fair treatment;
- developing the professional, digital, linguistic, project management, and leadership competences of staff;
- strengthening future-oriented competences, innovation, and readiness to thrive in a rapidly evolving digital and technological environment;
- increasing staff capacity to deliver national and international projects and collaborate effectively with external partners;
- expanding competences in the use of emerging technologies, artificial intelligence, and solutions supporting the green transition.
- enhancing the quality of teaching, research, and international collaboration through continued investment in staff development;
- improving the accessibility of the academic environment for people with diverse needs and experiences;
- strengthening an organisational culture based on equality, diversity, inclusion, and mutual respect;

- preventing social exclusion, discrimination, and all forms of unequal treatment;
- increasing awareness of diversity management and promoting an open and inclusive working environment;
- creating a safer, more supportive, and welcoming place to work and study for all members of the University community;
- raising awareness of health and wellbeing while promoting preventive health initiatives among students and staff;
- supporting the mental health, wellbeing, and psychological resilience of the academic community;
- fostering a culture of wellbeing and promoting healthy lifestyles and a sustainable work-life balance;
- strengthening the social, communication, and interpersonal competences of participants in development initiatives;
- strengthening connections across the University community and cultivating a stronger sense of belonging;
- expanding collaboration between the University, business, public institutions, and civil society organisations;
- enhancing the employability of students and graduates by developing practical competences and strengthening links with the wider socio-economic environment;
- supporting entrepreneurship, civic engagement, and the development of green competences;
- strengthening knowledge exchange between the University and its wider socio-economic environment;
- building long-term national and international partnerships that support economic, social, and educational development;
- reinforcing WUEB's position as a modern, socially responsible university that creates the conditions for decent work, professional development, and a high-quality academic environment.



Goal 9

Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

Infrastructure includes both the physical assets and institutional systems that enable the effective functioning of society and the economy. In the context of Sustainable Development Goal 9, particular importance is attached to developing resilient and sustainable infrastructure, fostering innovation, advancing modern technologies, and deepening collaboration between universities and business. Equally important are investment in research and innovation capacity and the advancement of the energy and digital transitions.

Throughout 2025, we delivered a broad range of initiatives contributing to the objectives of Goal 9. These focused on modernising the University's infrastructure, improving the energy efficiency of its buildings, stimulating innovation, and expanding collaboration with the wider socio-economic environment. This work encompassed investment projects, organisational improvements, educational initiatives, and research and innovation activities.

A major focus was the modernisation of campus infrastructure to improve the safety, functionality, and energy efficiency of University facilities. During the reporting period, this included installing air-conditioning systems in selected teaching rooms and laboratories, upgrading elements of the electrical infrastructure, and undertaking preparatory work for thermal retrofitting projects and the development of modern sports and energy infrastructure.

A key role in advancing the University's energy transition agenda was played by the Rector's Representative for Energy Transition, who led activities relating to energy consumption analysis, energy audits, collaboration with partners across the energy sector, and the development of initiatives focused on renewable energy and energy communities.

We also continued to promote innovation, knowledge exchange, and international collaboration. Projects delivered with national and international partners supported the development of future-oriented competences, advanced the green transition, and facilitated new models of collaboration between the University and the wider socio-economic environment.



Photo 3. GAJA Project 2025 and Teaching Facilities in Building D (2024)



Photo 4. Computer Laboratory Facilities

Table 6 presents selected initiatives undertaken by the Wrocław University of Economics and Business in support of Sustainable Development Goal 9 during 2025.

Table 6. Selected activities and initiatives implemented at WUEB in support of SDG 9 in 2025

Activity/Initiative	SDG 9 Area	Description	Outcome/Impact
Thermal retrofit of Building B (FEnKS)	Infrastructure and energy efficiency	Secured approximately PLN 1.3 million in funding for the building's energy modernisation	Improved energy efficiency and reduced energy consumption
WUEB building energy audits	Infrastructure and energy efficiency	Energy audits of university buildings in Wrocław and Jelenia Góra	Support for thermal retrofit and energy-efficiency measures
Energy performance certificates	Infrastructure and energy efficiency	Preparation of energy performance certificates for university buildings	Monitoring and improving energy efficiency
Activities of the Plenipotentiary for the Energy Transition	Infrastructure and energy efficiency	Energy consumption analyses and cooperation with Tauron, Fortum, ESCO and the Provincial Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management (WFOŚiGW)	Advancement of renewable energy and energy-efficiency initiatives
GAJA Project and Energy Cluster	Infrastructure and energy efficiency	Cooperation on energy projects and energy communities	Strengthened cross-sector collaboration
Modernisation of Building D	Infrastructure development and modernisation	Reconstruction, extension, thermal retrofit and photovoltaic installation	Development of modern and sustainable infrastructure
Air-conditioning installation in Buildings Z and H	Infrastructure development and modernisation	Installation of mono-split and multi-split systems in teaching rooms and laboratories	Improved working and learning conditions
Modernisation of the electrical infrastructure	Infrastructure development and modernisation	Replacement of power circuit breakers and modernisation of switchgear	Enhanced infrastructure safety and reliability
Racket Sports Centre	Infrastructure development and modernisation	Preparation of the functional and operational programme	Development of modern sports infrastructure
Modernisation of Building U+W	Infrastructure safety	Replacement of the emergency lighting system	Improved user safety
Modernisation of the 'Ślężak' student residence	Infrastructure safety	Upgrading the building to meet fire safety requirements and replacement of the fire alarm system	Improved resident safety

Activity/Initiative	SDG 9 Area	Description	Outcome/Impact
K-LAB – research laboratory in Building K	Research infrastructure and innovation	Establishment of a modern research laboratory and research archive	Strengthened WUEB research capacity
Modernisation of Building K	Research infrastructure and innovation	Conversion of the building for industrial research and development activities	Strengthened R&D infrastructure
A2S Virtual Marketplace (Developing Cooperation between Academia and Society through Knowledge and Capacity Building, DCAS)	Research infrastructure and innovation	Tool supporting cooperation between the university and society	Enhanced knowledge transfer and digital competences
Polish-Czech Cooperation for a Green Future	Research infrastructure and innovation	Development of cross-border entrepreneurship and green skills	Support for the green transition
'Equal – Safe – Accessible' Project	Infrastructure accessibility and inclusiveness	Programme to improve the accessibility of the university	Creation of an inclusive academic environment

Source: authors' own compilation.

1. Infrastructure and energy efficiency

Situated on a historic campus dating back to the early twentieth century, the Wrocław University of Economics and Business continues to develop and modernise its infrastructure in response to contemporary technological, environmental, and social needs. Throughout 2025, we delivered a range of investment projects and preparatory activities aimed at improving the campus and enhancing the energy performance of its buildings.

Through the European Funds for Infrastructure, Climate and Environment (FENIKS) 2021–2027 programme, the University secured approximately PLN 1.3 million in funding for the thermal retrofitting of Building B. The planned works will improve the building's energy efficiency, upgrade its technical systems, and enhance accessibility for people with additional access needs.

Preparatory work also continued to support the campus energy transition. This included carrying out energy audits of buildings in Wrocław and Jelenia Góra, preparing energy performance certificates, and developing the technical documentation required for future modernisation projects.

A vital role in advancing the University's energy transition agenda was played by the Rector's Representative for Energy Transition, who coordinated work on energy consumption analysis, developed partnerships with organisations across the energy sector – including Tauron, Fortum, ESCO, and the Lower Silesian Voivodeship Fund for Environmental Protection and

Water Management (WFOŚiGW) — and led initiatives promoting renewable energy and the development of energy communities. The University also participated in activities linked to the GAIA Project and the Energy Cluster, helping to strengthen cross-sector collaboration in support of the green transition.

2. Infrastructure development and modernisation

The Wrocław University of Economics and Business continued to invest in the development and enhancement of its teaching, technical, sports, and campus facilities. These projects sought to create a modern, functional, and welcoming environment for learning, research, and work.

During 2025, work progressed on the comprehensive redevelopment of Building D, including its extension, thermal retrofitting, and the installation of photovoltaic panels. Air-conditioning systems were also installed in selected teaching rooms and laboratories in Buildings Z and H in order to enhance comfort and create better conditions for teaching and learning.

The University also upgraded its electrical infrastructure through the replacement of power circuit breakers and the modernisation of electrical switchgear. In parallel, preparatory work was undertaken on the functional and operational programme for the planned Racket Sports Centre, which will expand the University's sports and recreational facilities in the years ahead.

Alongside these investments, WUEB also enhanced shared campus spaces designed to promote wellbeing. We created new relaxation and chill-out areas, together with the 'Art of Relaxation' space in order to provide opportunities for creative activity and support the wellbeing of the University community.

3. Infrastructure safety

During 2025, the University also implemented measures to strengthen the safety and resilience of its campus facilities, ensuring a secure environment for students, staff, and visitors.

Modernisation works were carried out in Buildings U and W, including the replacement of the emergency lighting system. Further improvements were made to the 'Ślężak' Student Residence, including upgrades to meet current fire safety requirements and the installation of a new fire detection and alarm system.

Together, these initiatives contributed to the University's long-term programme of modernising its technical infrastructure, enhancing the resilience of its buildings, and reducing the risks associated with technical failures and fire.

4. Research infrastructure and innovation

The Wrocław University of Economics and Business continued to invest in innovation, knowledge exchange, and modern research infrastructure. Our strategic priorities included initiatives supporting digitalisation, international collaboration, and the further enhancement of the University's research capacity.

A major investment during the year was the successful acquisition of funding from the Ministry of Science and Higher Education (MNiSW) for the redevelopment of Building K into a state-of-the-art research laboratory and archive (K-LAB). Once completed, the facility will provide infrastructure for basic, industrial, and experimental development research, particularly in the fields of food technology and nutrition. The planned works include refurbishing the existing premises, upgrading mechanical and electrical systems, and installing modern safety technologies.

We also facilitated knowledge exchange through the A2S Virtual Marketplace, developed as part of the Developing Cooperation between Academia and Society through 'Knowledge and Capacity Building' (DCAS) initiative. By harnessing digital technologies, it promotes closer collaboration between universities and wider society while expanding opportunities for knowledge sharing.

The University also supported the development of green competences and innovative entrepreneurship through initiatives such as 'Polish–Czech Cooperation for a Green Future', bringing together partners from both sides of the border to share knowledge and advance the green transition.

5. Accessibility and inclusive infrastructure

The Wrocław University of Economics and Business continued to strengthen accessibility on its campus by developing facilities and spaces that meet the needs of a diverse University community. A key initiative was the 'Equal – Safe – Accessible' project, which sought to improve architectural, digital, and communication accessibility.

The initiative contributes to a more inclusive academic environment by improving access to the University's facilities, services, and shared spaces for people with additional access needs, and promoting greater comfort and independence in everyday campus life. Accessibility considerations were embedded throughout campus modernisation and investment activities delivered during 2025, ensuring that inclusive design formed an integral part of the University's ongoing development.

Summary

At the Wrocław University of Economics and Business, the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 9 brings together investment in infrastructure, innovation, sustainability, and collaboration. By combining improvements to its campus with support for research, knowledge exchange, and the energy and digital transitions, the University is creating an environment that meets the needs of both today's community and future generations.

During 2025, priority was given to improving the energy performance of University buildings, expanding research and technical facilities, enhancing campus safety, and creating a more accessible and inclusive environment for students, staff, and visitors.

We also deepened cross-sector partnerships through projects that promote knowledge exchange, the green transition, and the development of future-oriented competences.

Programmes such as K-LAB, A2S Virtual Marketplace (DCAS), Polish–Czech Cooperation for a Green Future, together with our wider energy transition activities, demonstrate how modern, sustainable infrastructure can drive research, innovation, and positive social and economic impact.

Through these investments and collaborative efforts, the University continues to build a safe, sustainable, and future-ready campus that is ready to meet the challenges of technological, energy, and social transformation.

Outcomes and impact

Through the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 9, the Wrocław University of Economics and Business has:

- developed modern, sustainable, and resilient facilities that support teaching, research, and the University's day-to-day operations;
- improved the energy performance of its buildings, helping to reduce energy consumption and operating costs;
- advanced the University's energy transition by preparing campus facilities for the wider adoption of renewable energy technologies;
- enhanced the functionality, accessibility, and overall quality of the campus environment;
- created better conditions for learning, research, and work for students, doctoral candidates, and staff;
- expanded spaces that encourage social connection, wellbeing, and physical activity;
- strengthened campus safety through investment in technical infrastructure and modern safety systems, benefiting both campus users and student residents;
- increased the reliability of University facilities while raising health and safety standards;
- expanded the University's research and innovation capacity through investment in state-of-the-art laboratories and technological facilities;
- promoted knowledge exchange and closer collaboration between academia, business, and the public sector;
- equipped students and staff with digital, technological, and green competences;
- deepened international and cross-sector partnerships in research, innovation, and entrepreneurship;
- contributed to the green transition by encouraging innovative, knowledge-based entrepreneurship and business models;
- established long-term partnerships with businesses and institutions that foster innovation and the adoption of new technologies;
- improved access to University facilities for people with additional access needs and disabled people;
- helped create a more inclusive, welcoming, and accessible academic environment;
- improved the quality, functionality, and user experience of campus facilities for all members of the University community;
- reinforced WUEB's position as a forward-looking university that drives innovation, supports sustainable development, and actively contributes to the technological and socio-economic transformation of the region.



Goal 11

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Cities play a pivotal role as centres of social, economic, scientific, and cultural development, while also serving as places where innovative solutions to today's civilisational challenges take shape. Sustainable Development Goal 11 focuses on creating cities that are safe, accessible, resilient, and inclusive, and on supporting sustainable spatial planning, transport systems, and residents' quality of life.

In 2025, we carried forward the aims of Goal 11 by supporting sustainable urban mobility, deepening our cooperation with the City of Wrocław and our social partners, and involving our academic community in shaping the development of the campus. Particular emphasis was placed on initiatives relating to urban logistics and zero-emission last-mile delivery, as well as on participatory activities that gave students and staff a voice in shaping the University's spaces.



Photo 5. Opening of Poland's first shared cross-dock micro-hub

The University also expanded initiatives in support of inclusivity and quality of life within the academic community, creating spaces for relaxation, wellbeing, and social engagement.

Table 7. Selected activities and initiatives carried out at WUEB in support of SDG 11 in 2025

Activity/initiative	SDG 11 area	Description	Outcome/impact
Urban consolidation hub in Wrocław	Sustainable urban mobility	Launch of Poland's first shared urban consolidation hub to support last-mile deliveries in Wrocław	Reduced delivery traffic and support for low-emission transport
Expert discussions and initiatives on urban logistics	Sustainable cities and cross-sector collaboration	Participation of WUEB experts in initiatives relating to the organisation of urban deliveries and mobility	Stronger collaboration between academia, business, and local government
WUEB Participatory Budget – Second Edition	Community participation	Vote by the University community on campus development projects	Greater engagement of the University community
Student projects under the WUEB Participatory Budget	Shared spaces and quality of life	Implementation of projects: ▪ gazebo at Zaprzegubie, ▪ relaxation zone in the Przegubowiec Student Residence, ▪ period product boxes, ▪ chill-out area at the Jelenia Góra Branch	Improved quality and accessibility of campus spaces
Staff projects under the WUEB Participatory Budget	Shared spaces and quality of life	Implementation of projects: ▪ 'Cosy Campus', ▪ refurbishment of sanitary facilities, ▪ 'The Art of Relaxation' space	A more welcoming and supportive campus environment
Relaxation and chill-out areas	Shared spaces and quality of life	Creation of new spaces for socialising and relaxation for the University community	Greater comfort and wellbeing for campus users
'The Art of Relaxation' space	Shared spaces and quality of life	Creation of a space supporting creative activity and relaxation	Enhanced wellbeing of the University community

Source: authors' own compilation.

1. Sustainable urban mobility and cross-sector cooperation

A key focus of WUEB's contribution to Goal 11 in 2025 was advancing sustainable urban mobility and deepening cross-sector collaboration in support of a greener, low-emission city. One of the year's flagship achievements was the launch of Poland's first shared cross-dock micro-hub, designed to improve the organisation of last-mile deliveries in central Wrocław.

The micro-hub is an innovative logistics solution that reduces delivery vehicle traffic and promotes low-emission transport. The project was delivered in partnership with local government and business organisations, contributing to efforts to make urban freight transport more sustainable.

The University also participated in expert debates and discussions on urban logistics, freight distribution, and the future of urban mobility, helping to bring together academia, business, and public administration while contributing practical solutions to the challenges facing today's cities.

2. Social participation and the development of shared space

A significant element of WUEB's contribution to Goal 11 was the second edition of its participatory budget, held in 2025. A total of 806 students, staff members, and doctoral candidates cast their votes, reflecting the growing commitment of the University community to shaping the campus and co-creating its shared spaces.

Every project submitted received the required level of support and was approved for implementation. Student-led projects included the construction of a gazebo at Zaprzegubie, a new relaxation area in the *Przegubowiec* halls of residence, the installation of additional pink boxes, and the development of a chill-out zone at the University's branch campus in Jelenia Góra.

The University also began implementing several staff-led projects, including 'Cosy Campus', the refurbishment of a sanitary facility, and the creation of an 'Art of Relaxation' space. Collectively, these projects are helping to create a more welcoming, functional, and supportive academic environment.

Another important aspect of the University's work was the introduction of additional relaxation and chill-out areas across the campus, providing places for social interaction, rest, and recreation while supporting the wellbeing of students and staff.

3. Quality of life and wellbeing across the academic community

WUEB also introduced initiatives aimed at enhancing quality of life across the academic community by creating spaces that encourage social interaction, relaxation, and creative activity. A particular highlight was the 'Art of Relaxation' space – a dedicated area on campus designed to promote wellbeing, creativity, and psychological recovery for all members of the University community.

These activities form part of a broader strategy to create a more welcoming, inclusive, and supportive academic environment that responds to the needs of the University's diverse community. Creating shared spaces that promote wellbeing goes beyond improving comfort. It strengthens social connections and helps foster a more positive and engaging campus experience.

Summary

In 2025, WUEB carried out activities aligned with Goal 11 by supporting sustainable urban mobility, developing cross-sector cooperation, and engaging the academic community in the development of campus spaces and the improvement of quality of life.

Particular significance was attached to the launch of Poland's first shared cross-dock micro-hub, supporting low-emission urban deliveries in Wrocław, and to the delivery of the second edition of the University's participatory budget. Together, these initiatives demonstrate our active role in shaping a more sustainable, accessible, and welcoming urban and academic environment.

These activities support the development of modern urban solutions, strengthen integration within the academic community, and contribute to a more functional, inclusive, and supportive campus environment. Through these efforts, WUEB continues to strengthen its role as an active partner to the city and region, helping to shape solutions that improve quality of life for residents and the academic community alike.

Outcomes and impact

Through the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 11, the Wrocław University of Economics and Business has:

- contributed to the development of more sustainable, safer, and more liveable cities and local communities;
- promoted innovative, low-emission approaches to transport, urban logistics, and mobility;
- helped reduce the environmental impact of transport while enhancing the quality of urban spaces;
- strengthened partnerships between the University, public authorities, businesses, and community organisations in support of sustainable urban development;
- encouraged the creation and implementation of innovative solutions addressing the challenges facing today's cities and regions;
- increased the involvement of the University community in participatory decision-making and the co-creation of campus spaces;
- fostered civic engagement, social responsibility, and a shared commitment to the common good;
- enhanced the quality, functionality, and accessibility of campus facilities for students, doctoral candidates, and staff;
- expanded spaces that encourage social interaction, relationship-building, and community life;

- reinforced the sense of belonging to the University by engaging a broad range of stakeholders;
- helped create a more welcoming, open, and inclusive academic environment;
- enhanced the comfort, usability, and everyday experience of campus life;
- created spaces that promote wellbeing, relaxation, creativity, and social connection;
- promoted the physical and mental wellbeing of students and staff;
- improved accessibility across the University's facilities for people with diverse needs;
- encouraged creativity, collaboration, and the exchange of knowledge and experience across the University community;
- continued to develop a modern campus that responds to users' needs while advancing sustainable and inclusive development;
- further reinforced WUEB's role as an active partner in shaping sustainable, innovative, and liveable cities.





Goal 13

Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Combating climate change is now among the foremost global challenges. Responding effectively to its consequences requires both international cooperation and the delivery of concrete solutions at institutional, local, and organisational level. Sustainable Development Goal 13 focuses on strengthening adaptive capacity, increasing resilience to climate-related risks, developing climate education, and promoting informed environmental planning and management.

In 2025, we continued to develop activities aligned with Goal 13, with a focus on climate education, building environmental awareness, stakeholder dialogue, and developing a strategic approach to sustainability, alongside the implementation of tools to monitor the University's environmental impact. Particular credit is due to the work carried out by the Sustainable Development Office, the Green Team Competence Centre, and our external partners.

The initiatives undertaken spanned both educational and organisational-strategic dimensions. These included the organisation of events promoting environmentally responsible attitudes, activities bringing the academic community together around climate challenges, stakeholder consultations, and work on strategic documents that strengthen the University's long-term approach to environmental and social issues.



Photo 6. Climate Academy 2.0 – project workshops

The examples presented in Table 8 demonstrate that WUEB pursues Goal 13 through a systemic and multidimensional approach, combining climate education with the development of institutional capacity for environmental action and the promotion of responsible attitudes across the University community.

Table 8. Selected activities and initiatives carried out at WUEB in support of SDG 13 in 2025

Activity/initiative	SDG 13 area	Description	Outcome/impact
Climate Academy 2.0 – Creativity booster for Planet, Campus and You	Climate education and environmental awareness	English-language workshop event involving students and staff, including Erasmus participants; workshops on climate art, biodiversity, and pro-environmental action	Greater climate awareness and stronger pro-environmental attitudes
Climate Academy – 6th edition: ‘Local Flavours – Global Values’	Climate education and environmental awareness	Event exploring the impact of food production on the climate, responsible consumption, and local produce; included cookery workshops and practical activities	Promotion of sustainable consumption and responsible choices

Activity/initiative	SDG 13 area	Description	Outcome/impact
Activities of the Sustainable Development Office and the Green Team	Climate education and environmental awareness	Organisation of environmental events, workshops, and initiatives	Greater climate awareness across the University community
2nd Sustainable Development Forum	Stakeholder dialogue	Meeting of external stakeholders and University authorities on the future direction of WUEB's sustainable development	Strengthened collaboration and strategic dialogue
3rd Sustainable Development Forum	Climate and environmental strategy	Forum devoted to the 'WUEB Sustainable Development Plan' and the development of strategic actions	A stronger institutional approach to sustainable development
Development of the 'WUEB Sustainable Development Plan'	Climate and environmental strategy	Preparation of a strategic document setting out the University's approach to sustainable development	Establishment of a long-term framework for environmental action
Workshops with the Rector's Board	Climate and environmental strategy	Workshops to identify the University's most significant environmental and social issues	Better alignment of the University's strategic priorities
WUEB carbon footprint monitoring	Sustainability management	Since 2025, WUEB has systematically measured its carbon footprint in accordance with the GHG Protocol. Monitoring covers direct emissions (Scope 1) and emissions associated with electricity and heat consumption (Scope 2). The year 2022 was adopted as the baseline year.	Establishment of a greenhouse gas emissions monitoring system and a reduction in WUEB's total emissions of approximately 11.7% in 2025 compared with the 2022 baseline
Materiality assessment and stakeholder consultation	Sustainability management	Consultations with internal and external stakeholders on environmental and social priorities	Identification of key environmental and social challenges
WUEB research output relating to the SDGs	Research and knowledge development	Scientific publications by WUEB researchers on climate, energy, sustainable development, and economic transformation indexed in Scopus and Web of Science	Enhanced research capacity and international visibility

Source: authors' own compilation.

1. Climate education and building environmental awareness

Climate education and the promotion of pro-environmental attitudes represented one of the most significant areas of WUEB's work towards Goal 13 in 2025. Particular emphasis was placed on two initiatives delivered by the Green Team Competence Centre, the Sustainable Development Office, and the University's external partners: Climate Academy 2.0 and the sixth edition of the Climate Academy.

The second edition of the English-language event Climate Academy 2.0 – Creativity Booster for Planet, Campus and You was held on 4 June 2025, bringing together nearly 60 participants – students and staff from universities across Wrocław, including those on the Erasmus programme. Climate Academy 2.0 combined climate education with practical initiatives in support of both the environment and the campus.

The event featured presentations from representatives of business and the arts, addressing sustainable business practice, plant-based dietary alternatives, and the role of art in climate discourse. The accompanying workshops included the creation of plant compositions to boost campus biodiversity, the design of environmental posters, and the development of slogans promoting sustainable behaviour.

Building on this educational work was the sixth edition of the Climate Academy, 'Local Flavours – Global Values', delivered in November 2025. The event explored the impact of food production on the climate, responsible consumption, culinary upcycling, and the value of local and seasonal produce, with hands-on culinary workshops centred on preparing sustainable, locally sourced dishes and natural beverages.

Together, these activities helped build a stronger sense of climate awareness, encouraged more responsible consumer behaviour, and brought the academic community together around the theme of sustainability.

2. Stakeholder engagement and shaping strategic priorities

Engaging internal and external stakeholders was a key element of WUEB's implementation of Goal 13. In 2025, this work centred on the Second and Third Sustainable Development Forums, which gathered representatives from the University, business, and wider society to help shape our sustainability agenda.

Held on 15 January 2025, the Second Sustainable Development Forum provided an opportunity to discuss WUEB's strategic priorities for sustainable development and to showcase the work of the Sustainable Development Office.

The Third Sustainable Development Forum, organised on 17 June 2025, focused on the preparation of the WUEB Sustainable Development Plan. Through a series of interactive workshops, participants developed proposals for initiatives addressing social impact, research responding to environmental challenges, responsible education, and strengthening the University's shared commitment to sustainability.

Together, the Forums strengthened partnerships between the University, business, and social stakeholders while embedding a more participatory approach to sustainability governance.

3. Climate and environmental strategy

In 2025, WUEB continued to strengthen its strategic approach to sustainability and to the management of its environmental and social impact. A key element of this work was the process of identifying the most significant issues relating to the University's impact on the environment and society.

Chief among these efforts was the development of the WUEB Sustainable Development Plan, intended as the key strategic document setting out the University's direction across environmental, social, and organisational areas. The Plan is being developed on the basis of consultations with stakeholders, together with an analysis of the key challenges facing the University.

The strategic planning process also included a series of workshops involving members of the Rectorate, aimed at identifying the most significant sustainability issues and their implications for the University's future operations. These workshops helped establish a shared understanding of environmental and social priorities, and laid solid foundations for the further development of strategic activities.

The Third Sustainable Development Forum also played a significant role, providing a platform at which the draft Sustainable Development Plan was presented and discussed, alongside measures to support its delivery. The Forum offered a genuine space for the exchange of experience and the collaborative development of solutions responsive to today's climate and environmental challenges.

4. Sustainability governance

Achieving Goal 13 requires more than education and awareness-raising. It also depends on robust governance processes that enable organisations to monitor their environmental impact and engage effectively with stakeholders. During the 2024/2025 academic year, WUEB further strengthened its sustainability governance by introducing new monitoring mechanisms and enhancing strategic decision-making processes.

A major milestone was the introduction of the University's carbon footprint monitoring system, developed in accordance with the internationally recognised GHG Protocol. Since 2025, the University has systematically measured greenhouse gas emissions, covering both direct emissions associated with its operations (Scope 1) and indirect emissions resulting from electricity and heat consumption (Scope 2). The year 2022 was adopted as the baseline against which progress towards decarbonisation is measured.

Another important aspect of this work was the materiality assessment and stakeholder consultation process led by the Sustainable Development Office. Through consultations with both internal and external stakeholders, the University identified the environmental and social issues most relevant to its activities and established priorities requiring particular attention in the years ahead.

These efforts were further supported by the Second Sustainable Development Forum, which provided a platform for dialogue between the University's leadership and representatives from the wider socio-economic community. Ongoing engagement with stakeholders helps ensure that the University's activities respond effectively to external expectations while reinforcing WUEB's role as a socially responsible institution.

5. WUEB's Research contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Wrocław University of Economics and Business's commitment to SDG 13: Climate Action is also reflected in the research undertaken by its academic staff. An analysis of publications indexed in the Scopus and Web of Science databases for 2025 demonstrates the University's strong research engagement with issues relating to sustainable development, as well as climate, energy and socio-economic transition.

Research activity is particularly prominent in the following areas:

- SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy
- SDG 9 – Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities
- SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production
- SDG 13 – Climate Action

Table 9. Publications by Wrocław University of Economics and Business staff contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals in 2025 – quantitative overview

SDG	Scopus – publications	Scopus – citations	Web of Science – documents	Web of Science – citations
SDG 1: No Poverty	9	10	18	3
SDG 2: Zero Hunger	7	14	23	46
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being	12	12	74	85
SDG 4: Quality Education	7	9	6	0
SDG 5: Gender Equality	3	8	8	0
SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation	4	3	3	2
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	16	21	19	22
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	30	44	8	1
SDG 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	33	103	56	64
SDG10: Reduced Inequalities	7	13	15	4
SDG11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	8	12	24	18
SDG12: Responsible Consumption and Production	19	56	15	22
SDG13: Climate Action	8	15	27	30
SDG14: Life Below Water	1	7	5	0
SDG15: Life on Land	–	–	10	11
SDG16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	5	9	–	–
SDG17: Partnerships for the Goals	–	–	4	0

Source: own elaboration.

Analysis of the data presented in Table 9 indicates that WUEB holds a particularly strong research position in areas relating to innovation, economic transformation, and sustainable infrastructure development (SDG 9), health and wellbeing (SDG 3), responsible consumption and production (SDG 12), and climate action (SDG 13).

Summary

In 2025, WUEB pursued Goal 13 through the development of climate education, the strengthening of environmental awareness, ongoing dialogue with stakeholders, and the development of a strategic approach to sustainable development.

Particular emphasis was placed on the educational activities delivered through Climate Academy 2.0 and the Climate Academy, combining theoretical knowledge with practical initiatives in support of the environment and sustainable consumption. Also significant were the forums and workshops supporting participatory governance, together with continued work on the WUEB Sustainable Development Plan.

The scholarly activity of WUEB's academic staff remained a significant element in the pursuit of Goal 13, focusing on issues relating to climate, energy, sustainable development, and socio-economic transformation. Strong publication output and citation impact confirm WUEB's growing standing as a research institution actively engaged with the Sustainable Development Goals.

WUEB's approach to Goal 13 extended well beyond individual educational events, encompassing the establishment of durable organisational, strategic, and scholarly foundations for responding effectively to climate challenges. In doing so, the University continues to consolidate its position as a socially responsible institution – one that is conscious of its environmental impact and actively engaged in shaping pro-climate attitudes.

Outcomes and impact

The Wroclaw University of Economics and Business's activities in support of SDG 13, Climate Action, have delivered a range of tangible outcomes, contributing to:

- raising climate and environmental awareness among students, staff and external stakeholders;
- promoting environmentally responsible behaviours and more sustainable patterns of consumption;
- enhancing knowledge of climate change, biodiversity and ways of reducing the environmental impact of human activity;
- developing competences in sustainable development, climate transition and responsible leadership;
- cultivating an organisational culture rooted in environmental and social responsibility;
- strengthening collaboration between the University and representatives of business, public administration, non-governmental organisations and other stakeholders in advancing sustainable development;
- increasing stakeholder participation in shaping the University's strategic development and identifying key environmental challenges;

- establishing the foundations for the strategic management of sustainable development through the preparation of WUEB's Sustainable Development Plan;
- implementing a greenhouse gas emissions monitoring system in accordance with the GHG Protocol;
- enhancing the University's capacity to monitor and assess the climate and environmental impacts of its activities;
- reducing the University's total greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 11.7% in 2025 compared with the 2022 baseline year;
- identifying priority areas for further decarbonisation, particularly those related to building energy efficiency and energy consumption;
- strengthening the University's research capacity in the fields of climate change, the energy transition, green finance and sustainable development;
- increasing the international visibility of the University's research through publications indexed in the Scopus and Web of Science databases;
- reinforcing the University's role as an institution actively supporting the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the transition towards a more sustainable economy and society.



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