



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



2023-24

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Foreword

I am delighted to present our Sustainable Development Goals Report for 2023–24, which details some of the diverse ways that the King's community is addressing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

From poverty and inequality to climate change and war, the world today faces unprecedented global challenges. Universities have both an opportunity and an obligation to respond to these challenges and to help build fairer, more prosperous societies.

In this report, you will find examples of the work that King's is doing to address the UN SDGs across education, research, operations, and service and engagement.

Our research shapes ideas, influences policy and drives technological innovation, providing society with better data, analysis and insights to instigate change.

Our education equips the next generation of leaders in government, business, health services and beyond with the knowledge and skills to build a better world.

While maximising our positive benefits for society, we are also 'walking the talk' by minimising the negative impacts of our operations: reducing waste, enhancing green spaces and creating an inclusive environment for our community.



Service and engagement embody our commitment to social impact and societal change. By working in partnership with communities at home in London, across the UK, and around the world, King's drives inclusive engagement and co-creates opportunities that amplify underrepresented voices, fostering more resilient, sustainable societies.

When you look at the scale of the challenges presented in the Sustainable Development Goals, it can feel overwhelming. But history shows many examples of humanity overcoming the greatest obstacles. Let that motivate and unite us in our quest for change and a more sustainable future for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Shitij Kapur'.

Professor Shitij Kapur
Vice-Chancellor & President

'The UN Sustainable Development Goals provide us with a clear framework for action, where we know that the world is working together to drive change. At King's, we are absolutely committed to building on our long history, investing to connect across disciplines and building partnerships across the world to deliver solutions for our planet and its future. I am so proud of the multiple ways we deliver this ambition across the University and it's great to see these stories told.'

Professor Rachel Mills – Senior Vice President (Academic)

'When you build a community around a problem, you can maximise the impact that you have. This approach guides our commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. By bringing together local and global partners, we foster collaboration across disciplines, generate solutions to the world's most pressing challenges and contribute to a more just and sustainable future.'

Professor 'Funmi Olonisakin – Vice President (International, Engagement & Service)

'King's is committed to accelerating and mainstreaming sustainability, engaging more of our student and staff community to contribute in their own diverse ways – whether through education, research, operations or engagement. This report highlights some of the great projects and activities that are contributing to this vision. It shows we are doing very well, but we are always keen to go further.'

Professor Frans Berkhout – Assistant Principal (King's Climate & Sustainability)

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Methodology

This report covers a wide range of initiatives at King's and builds on data from many sources across the University, covering activities in education, research, operations, and service and engagement. It is a collaborative effort to demonstrate the breadth and depth of King's contributions to deliver social change and create lasting value for people, the planet and society. It does not encompass everything that our community of students, staff, alumni and partners achieve.

The report covers the academic year 2023–24 (1 August–31 July 2024). Unless otherwise stated, data and case studies are derived from this timeframe.

RESEARCH DATA

Research output data has been extracted from public sources, primarily datasets extracted from SciVal. It covers the 2023 and 2024 calendar years, including data such as the number of King's publications for each SDG, number of King's publications compared to all UK publications for each SDG and the number of internationally co-authored papers for each SDG.

EDUCATION DATA

For each SDG, example modules have been highlighted that look to embed the SDG targets within module content and teaching. These modules have been identified through ongoing reviews of the curriculum, past curriculum audits



and the use of an AI and machine learning-enabled SDG tagging tool from OSDG.

CASE STUDIES

Case studies were compiled through a cross-university open call for examples, alongside a review of relevant webpages, news outputs and data submitted to world rankings and assessment frameworks. This report provides an overview of King's contribution towards the SDGs, however there are many more examples and case studies on our SDGs webpage.

ADDITIONAL DATA

Additional quantitative data in the report includes numbers of students, research income and data on King's

operations. These metrics were provided by specialist teams across the University. Student numbers are based on figures reported to government bodies, while operational data, including environmental sustainability data, was provided by King's Directorate of Estates & Facilities. Metrics such as water consumption, waste production and energy use are tracked throughout the year and reported annually to the Higher Education Statistics Agency's (HESA) Estates Management Record (EMR) and are included in the University's annual Environmental Sustainability Report. Additional data on spin-outs and research was provided by the King's Research Management & Innovation Directorate. Figures on spin-outs are in line with the HE-BCI guidance and include only those where IP has been licensed/assigned to the company.

Key highlights

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION IMPACT RANKINGS 2024

6th

in the UK,
8th in Europe,
33rd in the
world

1st

in the world for UN
SDG 12 (Responsible
consumption &
production)



King's published
23,758 papers

representing 4.74% of
the UK's research

10,420

papers directly related to
the SDGs (44% of King's
research output)



7,483

hours of volunteering by
the King's community

14

Nobel Laureates

£293m

research awards

6th

in the UK for **research
'power'** (2021 Research
Excellence Framework)



King's has received several
awards for its **commitment
to equal rights**:

King's holds an **institutional
Athena Swan Silver Award**
and 7 Athena Swan Bronze
Awards and 4 Athena
Swan Silver Awards at
departmental and
faculty level



King's is a **Living Wage
Employer**

**Race Equality Charter
Bronze Award**



King's fully **divested from all
fossil fuels** almost two years
ahead of schedule

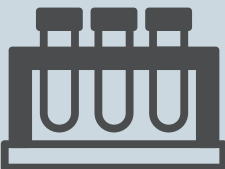
Scope 1 and 2 location-
based carbon emissions
reduced by

21%

compared to the
2018–19 baseline

50%

decrease in tonnes of
operational waste
generated (to 1,190),
from 2017–18 baseline



Top 20%

of English universities for
Research Partnerships
and IP & Commercialisation
(Knowledge Exchange
Framework, KEF 5)

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End poverty in all its forms everywhere

RESEARCH

180
publications



61%
of the papers relating to
SDG 1 were internationally
co-authored (110 papers)

which represents

4.3% of the
publications in the UK



9%
of King's publications
co-authored with low-and
lower-middle-income countries
2,146 papers across the SDGs

777
citations

26

King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Environment, Society, Governance
- Health Inequality
- Environment and Development: Crises, Power and Transformations



EDUCATION

Across our programmes, students engage critically with the structural drivers of poverty and inequality, equipping them with the tools to design and evaluate effective responses. In our Global Childhoods postgraduate module, students explore how poverty shapes children's lives in diverse global contexts and assess the impact of interventions by governments and NGOs. By bridging theory, research and practice, they develop a nuanced understanding of the social, cultural and political forces that shape childhoods worldwide.

RESEARCH

As of September 2023, six million people in the UK were living in very deep poverty. In response, the **Policy Institute** and the **Department of Political Economy** in the **Faculty of Social Science & Public Policy** worked with residents of Lambeth, Southwark and Westminster to examine the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and identify ways to mitigate its worst effects. Through workshops, surveys and personal reflections, the team captured community voices and produced a report in October 2023 offering a blueprint for inclusive, evidence-based policymaking that delivers citizen-led solutions for those most in need.

OPERATIONS

King's is committed to supporting students from economically challenged backgrounds through a wide range of

scholarships, bursaries and hardship funds.

The King's Affordable Accommodation Scheme offers eligible undergraduate students housing at below-market rates, helping to ease financial pressures and ensure access to safe, affordable living in London. To empower students to manage their money confidently and build long-term financial resilience, King's has also collaborated with Blackbullion and the National Association of Student Money Advisers to provide free financial education tools and resources.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

King's introduced donation points across its campuses to make it easier for students and staff to give directly to charities that support individuals and families living in poverty. These stations collect essential items, such as food, clothing, blankets and toiletries, while also promoting sustainability and reducing waste across the University. Donations supported a range of UK charities and grassroots organisations, including Little Village and Get Rid of and Donate.

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End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

RESEARCH

136
publications



71%
of the papers relating to
SDG 2 were internationally
co-authored (97 papers)

which represents

2.1% of the
publications in the UK



26.5%
of publications
co-authored with low-and
lower-middle income countries

2,251
citations

22
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Culinary Nutrition
- Global and Population Health Nutrition



EDUCATION

King's ranked first in the UK for nutrition and food science (Guardian University Guide 2023) and enables students to study food and nutrition in an environment renowned for pioneering research. King's BSc in Nutritional Sciences and MSc in Nutrition equip students to help improve lives around the world. Food security and sustainable agriculture also feature in curricula across the **School of Global Affairs**.

RESEARCH

In the **School of Life Course & Population Sciences**, part of the **Faculty of Life Sciences & Medicine**, researchers are investigating the potential for personalised – rather than generalised – guidance on nutrition. The personalised diet programmes, created by science and nutrition company ZOE, which was co-founded by King's Professor Tim Spector, were shown to improve several key health metrics including lower weight, lower cholesterol, better mood, improved gut health, lower heart disease risk and better metabolic health.



King's Food is a member
of the Sustainable
Restaurant Association
and gained three stars in its
Food Made Good rating

OPERATIONS

King's monitors the impact of our catering and hospitality operations while providing healthy and sustainable food for all, in line with our **Sustainable Food Policy**. **King's Food** achieved four awards at the Public Sector Catering Awards: the University Catering Award for reducing food waste and promoting sustainability; the Sustainability Award for commitment to transparency; the Unsung Hero Award; and the Health and Nutrition Award for educational efforts in teaching about healthy food choices. To support the King's community with pressures around the cost of living, we also offer a range of discounts and deals at outlets across campuses.

King's ranked 1st in the UK for
Nutrition and Food Science
Guardian University Guide 2023

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

KCL On The Streets is a student society aiming to help London's homeless community through outreach and fundraising. In March 2024, their network of volunteers organised a collection drive that successfully collected 300kg of food donations from Sainsbury's shoppers. The donations were delivered to the Camden Foodbank to support their work combatting poverty and hunger and helping local people in crisis.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

RESEARCH

6,560
publications



69%
of the papers relating to
SDG 3 were internationally
co-authored (4,169 papers)

which represents

7.5% of the
publications in the UK



70 patents
citing King's research

68,866
citations

441
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Global Health and Well-being
- Big Data in Urban Mental Health



EDUCATION

The **Faculty of Nursing, Midwifery & Palliative Care (NMPC)** became the first faculty dedicated to nursing and midwifery to receive Beacon Site Status from the Centre for Sustainable Healthcare, in recognition of its success in embedding sustainability within their curricula for undergraduate and postgraduate students. Sustainability within healthcare education is a key focus of NMPC, which met the targets for integrating 'sustainable quality improvement' into their curriculum to achieve this status, showcasing their work to transform nursing education both to meet global health challenges and tackle the climate crisis.

RESEARCH

King's carries out a wealth of research related to global health, including across our four dedicated health faculties. **King's Global Health Institute** sees staff carrying out policy- and practice-shaping research across the global south, collaborating with a diverse range of partners to drive innovation and knowledge creation. These research partnerships, including 42 research centres and groups, have led to significant impact in several health-related fields: for example, developing new technologies and medicines, mapping systemic health inequalities, and improving access to healthcare in areas of conflict such as Gaza and Syria.

OPERATIONS

King's was recognised with a University Mental Health Charter Award for our successful approach to student mental health. The award is an acknowledgement of King's whole-university approach and successes in supporting students with their mental well-being, including using a pyramid support model to enable King's to help all our students to thrive whilst simultaneously offering more specialist support and interventions to students as needed. The Charter is a significant milestone for King's ambition to lead the higher education sector in supporting student mental health.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

King's Global Health Partnerships launched a new online volunteering platform for health professionals interested in working with our partnerships across Africa. The platform enables NHS healthcare workers to donate their expertise and experience to a vast range of global health initiatives, such as short-term opportunities assessing medical examinations in Somaliland, or long-term positions in Sierra Leone building nursing care and education. The platform helps engage a wider pool of healthcare professionals, strengthening the impact of our work tackling global healthcare challenges and inequities.

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4 QUALITY EDUCATION



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

RESEARCH

379
publications



42%
of the papers relating to
SDG 4 were internationally
co-authored (161 papers)

which represents
3.8% of the
publications in the UK



10
publications were
academic-corporate
collaborations

1,965
citations

30
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- British Sign Language
- Teaching Language as Communicative Skills



EDUCATION

The **School of Education, Communication & Society** has been at the forefront of teacher education and education research for over 130 years. Initial teacher training at King's has been rated as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, offering a high-quality curriculum and a 'first-class experience' for students. King's teacher trainees complete placements across 200 schools in the heart of London, teaching a diverse range of pupils and promoting educational excellence across the city and beyond.

RESEARCH

The **Centre for Research in Education in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics** explores teaching, learning and engagement practices in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education. In King's MA in STEM Education, almost half the students chose to write their dissertations on environmental education in 2023, reflecting their awareness of the urgency to address the climate crisis. Some students took

1,447 first-generation students
started a degree at King's

their research further and published versions in the book *Heartwood – Voices from environmental education: Academic research meets head, heart and hands*.

OPERATIONS

King's has seven libraries across five campuses, offering subject-specific resources with help and advice from qualified staff. These libraries offer free access to students and staff and welcomes members of the public as well as a range of external stakeholders. NHS staff, alumni, members of other higher education institutions and King's partner organisations can also access the libraries for free.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

In early 2024, **King's Volunteering** worked with the **School of Education, Communication & Society** to offer a deep dive into the positive power of education by learning from real-world issues. They hosted a webinar featuring speakers from some of King's charity partners and community organisations working within the area of education, including ClimateEd, The Access Project, Literacy Pirates and Governors for Schools. Students heard about the charities' missions and how they could get involved, taking inspiration from hearing how education can create significant change across multiple levels.

82%
overall student satisfaction
in the Postgraduate Taught
Experience Survey;
76% average student
positivity in the National
Student Survey

5 GENDER EQUALITY



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

RESEARCH

373
publications



52%
of the papers relating to
SDG 5 were internationally
co-authored (193 papers)

which represents

4.4% of the
publications in the UK



65%
of publications in
Open Access

4,019
citations

49
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Identity and Politics of Representation
- Power, Inequality and Social Change



EDUCATION

We are dedicated to advancing gender equality through education, both within our institution and globally. The Building Gender-Inclusive Workplaces executive programme, delivered by **King's Business School**, equips leaders with the tools and strategies needed to foster gender inclusion. Through coaching and group work, participants design and implement tailored initiatives to address systemic barriers, embed inclusive practices and strengthen leadership for gender equality, helping organisations turn educational principles into measurable impact.

RESEARCH

In 2024, voters from more than 60 countries went to the polls, but women's leadership remained significantly underrepresented in political elections. Professor Rosie Campbell from **King's Global Institute for Women's Leadership** received UKRI funding to lead a research project exploring the political experiences of marginalised women across five democratic and welfare-state regimes: the UK, Spain, Sweden, Portugal and Poland. Focusing on women from immigrant, ethnic minority and lower-income backgrounds, the research aims to understand what factors enable meaningful participation and how to strengthen inclusive, representative democracies.

OPERATIONS

Many women and people who menstruate experience a range of symptoms over several years during the menopausal transition. King's launched an intersectional Menopause Toolkit and online training to raise awareness, challenge stigma and provide practical guidance for supporting colleagues experiencing menopause. By equipping the King's community with resources and training, we are promoting well-being and fostering a fairer, more gender-inclusive working environment where everyone can thrive.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

Academics from the **Department of Culture, Media and Creative Industries** and the **African Leadership Centre** partnered with filmmakers Cristina Cabral and Babatunde Kolawole in 2024 to produce a documentary on the experiences of female creative entrepreneurs in Lagos. It highlighted the challenges faced by women in Nigeria's creative industries, contributing to discussions about the policy changes and support needed to help women succeed in this sector. Workshops held alongside the launch also created a peer-led network to connect women across generations, share funding opportunities and foster collaboration.

11% of women starting a degree in 2023–24 were first-generation students

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6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

RESEARCH

105
publications



78%
of the papers relating to
SDG 6 were internationally
co-authored (82 papers)

which represents

1.9% of the
publications in the UK



71%
of publications in
Open Access

1,934
citations

19
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Security and the Global Natural Environment
- Environmental Risk, Governance and Society
- Water and Development

EDUCATION

The King's Legal Clinic, based in the **Dickson Poon School of Law**, is a free legal advice service that works with local and international organisations on research and justice projects. In January 2024, the Clinic launched a legal blueprint titled 'Rights of Nature Toolkit: How to protect Rivers in England and Wales', with an ambition to promote the rights of rivers, including the right to be free from pollution. The project was led by King's students and was initiated as part of a King's Undergraduate Research Fellowship.

RESEARCH

King's Water Centre brings together academics and practitioners to incubate, elevate and empower the best science and innovation to tackle the world's water problems. In the **Department of Engineering** and the **Net Zero Centre**, scientists collaborated with MIT and the Helmholtz Institute for Renewable Energy Systems to develop a new solar-powered system to convert saltwater into fresh drinking water. The research, published in Nature Water in March 2024, indicated that the process is more than 20 per cent cheaper than traditional methods, can be deployed in rural locations around the globe and could help reduce dangerous waterborne diseases like cholera.

OPERATIONS

Throughout 2023–24, Automatic Meter Readers (AMRs) were installed at sites across our estate, with

13 AMRs fitted so far, which can improve the response time when there is a leak, as well as providing accurate data on consumption. The data will be integrated with King's utility management software that alerts the relevant teams about instances of constant, high and low water consumption. Water efficiency is a key part of our **Environmental Sustainability Policy** and we will continue to work towards reducing consumption.

9.69 m³ of water per FTE staff & student consumed

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

King's Legal Clinic was recognised at the Student ProBono Awards for its work in the field of environmental and legal advocacy. The Human Rights and Environmental Law Clinic's Rights of Nature Toolkit Project won 'Best Contribution by a Team of Students' at the LawWorks and Attorney General Student ProBono Awards ceremony at the House of Lords. The toolkit has been praised for its potential to address the need for environmental legal advice and the challenges facing rivers in the UK.

52
free drinking water
dispensers in
university buildings

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

RESEARCH

224
publications



68%
of the papers relating to
SDG 7 were internationally
co-authored (153 papers)

which represents

1.2% of the
publications in the UK



4 patents
citing King's research

2,709
citations

9

King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Geopolitics of Energy
- Energy Generation and Storage
- Renewable Electrical Power



EDUCATION

King's **Net Zero Centre** offers training and educational seminars for researchers, students and external partners, aimed at designing projects around sustainable energy and technologies. This regularly includes talks from postgraduate students on their projects with the aim of offering them a platform to develop their ideas with feedback from peers, academics and external partners, extending their knowledge and research skills. The Net Zero Centre aims to foster the next generation of King's changemakers by educating scientists and engineers. It works extensively across clean energy from improving battery lifespan to developing renewable energy technologies.

RESEARCH

Dr Laura Lander from the **Department of Engineering** in the **Faculty of Natural, Mathematical & Engineering Sciences** was awarded a UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship to advance her research into sustainable battery technologies. Her work focuses on the development of aluminium-ion batteries (AiBs) as an alternative to widely used lithium-ion batteries. AiBs store more energy without increasing battery size and have a lower environmental footprint when recycled materials are used. This research will tackle the current challenges in energy storage systems and support the clean energy transition.

OPERATIONS

New solar panels were installed on the roof of Bush House, one of King's flagship buildings on our Strand Campus in central London, to increase energy efficiency across the University. The installation will reduce CO₂ emissions by approximately 14.7 metric tonnes annually, the equivalent to the amount absorbed by around 674 tree seedlings over 10 years. Over a typical 25-year lifespan, the panels could reduce emissions by around 350 metric tonnes of CO₂.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

Dr Anna Rebmann from **King's Business School** partnered with Repowering London and the Centre for Sustainable Energy to improve diversity in community energy cooperatives across London. These cooperatives allow local groups to own and manage renewable energy projects, but people under 50, individuals from the Global Majority, and those without a university degree are underrepresented. To address this, the team collaborated with community researchers and held co-design workshops in which residents shaped membership offerings. Insights from this work informed a practical toolkit to support a more inclusive and representative cooperative movement.

21% reduction in Scope 1 and 2 location-based CO₂ emissions compared to the 2018–19 baseline

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8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



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

RESEARCH

306
publications



58%
of the papers relating to
SDG 8 were internationally
co-authored (177 papers)

which represents
2.5% of the
publications in the UK



2,583
citations

62
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Introduction to International Economics
- Institutions Economics and Change



EDUCATION

Themes relating to decent work and economic growth feature in many King's courses. **King's Business School** empowers students to develop bold ideas to tackle the world's major challenges. Business Ethics & Sustainability is a compulsory module across our undergraduate courses and other related modules include Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Finance. The Economics & Policy MSc in the **Department of Political Economy** offers training with an eye to applying key methodological tools in the analysis of economic policy making.

RESEARCH

Researchers from the **Lau China Institute** and the **African Leadership Centre** are studying China-associated Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Africa and India. The work provides a critical examination of the performance, challenges and socio-economic outcomes of SEZs, illuminating their potential role as instruments for industrialisation, employment generation and more sustainable, equitable economic transformation. Alongside publications, they produced an online toolbox for policymakers and practitioners on how to implement 'Zone-based Social Responsibility' and shared their findings in workshops in Lagos, Kampala, Bangalore and Nairobi.

OPERATIONS

Our **Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking Policy** was updated in January 2024. We have made progress in reducing risk in our supply chain through our partnership with human rights monitoring organisation, Electronics Watch. This partnership allows us to provide better assurance regarding the eradication of modern slavery and ethical employment practices in our IT hardware and electronics supply chains. This is reflected through an improved supplier onboarding tool, extending the coverage of assurance to a much greater range of suppliers.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

King's Business School has worked with 15 local businesses in 2023–24 to provide consultancy support. The advice comes from ambitious and skilled students who are learning the latest best practice in strategy and business planning, financial analysis, HR planning, marketing and social media, data analysis and organisational behaviour. Feedback from the clients involved showed that 100 per cent felt being involved with the project was a good experience and 100 per cent would recommend the King's consulting project to other small businesses.

7th in the UK for graduate employability (THE Global Employability University Ranking 2023–24)

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

RESEARCH

329
publications



59%
of the papers relating to
SDG 9 were internationally
co-authored (195 papers)

which represents

1.6% of the
publications in the UK



3,306
citations

6

King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Introduction to Artificial Intelligence
- Design and Responsible Innovation
- MedTech: Idea to Impact



EDUCATION

The **Faculty of Arts & Humanities** empowers students to explore the risks and opportunities of digital technologies. Through the online master's programmes MA Digital Futures and MSc Digital Economies, King's students examine trends across industries and learn how technological innovation can be leveraged to drive sustainable growth and tackle complex societal challenges. Through the Success for Digital Futures programme, experts work with Black school pupils across London to develop coding and digital humanities skills, opening pathways into tech and inspiring the next generation of digital leaders.

RESEARCH

The **London Institute for Healthcare Engineering (LIHE)** is a pioneering hub that accelerates medical technologies from concept to clinic. It brings together King's researchers, clinicians from Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust and global industry leaders to drive innovation in medical technologies. As the UK's first MedTech venture builder, LIHE offers purpose-built spaces and tailored support programmes for start-ups and small and medium enterprises, fostering collaboration across academia, healthcare and enterprise to improve patient outcomes worldwide.

£190.6m of equity investment
raised in spin-out fundraising

OPERATIONS

To support entrepreneurship at King's, we revised our Intellectual Property Code of Practice in December 2023 and introduced a founder-first approach. The changes increased academic founders' equity stake to 80 per cent and established a profit-sharing model, allowing co-creators to receive a share of any proceeds King's receives, such as licensing income or share sales. We also offer tailored support throughout the innovation journey, from protecting intellectual property to accelerating business development, all within King's innovation ecosystem.

20 university spin-outs
in which King's has direct or
indirect ownership

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

The **Entrepreneurship Institute** at King's is a hub for inclusive innovation, offering workshops, events, and programmes that empower students, staff and alumni to develop an entrepreneurial mindset and create solutions for a more equal and sustainable future. Through the Institute's Gamechangers programme, students from underrepresented backgrounds had a paid opportunity to design ventures, community projects and social enterprises that create viable solutions to real-world challenges. Over nine weeks, they received mentoring, attended expert-led workshops, and conducted independent research to develop and test their ideas.



Reduce inequality within and among countries

RESEARCH

719
publications



51%
of the papers relating to
SDG 10 were internationally
co-authored (372 papers)

which represents

5.2% of the
publications in the UK



26
publications were
academic-corporate
collaborations

4,530
citations

102
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Labour Law
- Democratic Legitimacy of International Cooperation



EDUCATION

In October 2023, King's Legal Clinic met with its Indian partners in Kolkata to evaluate the impact of their cross-collaborative Transitional Remedies in Environmental Harm module. This focuses on a group of women from the Sundarban region known as 'Tiger Widows', who have been widowed by tiger attacks and face ostracisation, but are yet to receive financial compensation from the Indian government. Field visits have included interviews with those forced into ecologically damaging prawn fishing, highlighting how climate and social justice intersect. The module seeks to promote environmental justice, a core tenet of the King's Legal Clinic's mission.

RESEARCH

King's experts are pooling their knowledge and resources to establish a global centre of research excellence in LGBTQ+ health. This supports the development of a cross-faculty team looking at LGBTQ+ health inequalities, bringing together experts in epidemiology, sociology, medicine, nursing, mental health, linguistics and media studies. The team will re-analyse data from large-scale studies to understand why people from these communities suffer poorer health outcomes than those who identify as heterosexual or cisgender. The aim is to address gaps in knowledge and action around LGBTQ+ health inequalities.

OPERATIONS

King's is committed to embedding good equality, diversity and inclusion practice into all activities so that the University becomes a richer and more diverse place to work and study. A new training programme, Disrupting Racism, consists of live sessions and self-directed study on topics such as unconscious bias, microaggressions and mental health and well-being. A new 9-month leadership programme has been developed for parents, and the University is participating in Advance HE's Senior Women's Leadership Development Programme.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

King's was awarded University of Sanctuary status in July 2024, in recognition of its ongoing work to ensure that the University is a place of safety, solidarity and empowerment for people who have been forcibly displaced from their home countries. In being assessed against an extensive set of criteria, King's successfully demonstrated its clear commitment to welcoming and supporting staff and students seeking sanctuary, with practices embedded in the educational provision and in broader strategic priorities.

31st
in the world for SDG 10
(Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings 2024)

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



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

RESEARCH

279
publications



63%
of the papers relating to
SDG 11 were internationally
co-authored (177 papers)

which represents

2.5% of the
publications in the UK



67%
of publications in
Open Access

2,495
citations

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Introduction to Politics
- Critical Security Studies



EDUCATION

In Summer 2023, **King's Business School** and the Energy and Environment Alliance collaborated to launch an executive education programme, developed with input from leaders from the hospitality sector, to help them to embed Environmental, Social and Governance measures in their businesses. As hotels are the least energy-efficient buildings in commercial use, the programme aims to tackle the complex task that the sector faces in reducing reliance on fossil fuels through educating leaders and enabling a more positive future.

RESEARCH

Through a 2024 UKRI Fellowship, Dr Tom Matthews in the **Department of Geography** is researching how to better understand how much warming is required for urban regions to experience heat beyond human tolerance. Focusing on Jacobabad, the complexity of how heat at regional scales manifests within people's homes joins up climate model projections with the conditions that people are likely to experience within their community. The Fellowship tackles the question of how resilient communities may be to future heatwaves, and the extent to which that could be strengthened through adaptation.

OPERATIONS

After collaborating with local organisations to pedestrianise the Strand area, there have been significant improvements in air

quality and reduced noise pollution in the area. These improvements have been measured by more than 22 monitors, placed by King's researchers, which are positioned on the rooftop of local buildings to measure noise levels and air quality. Once heavily polluted and traffic-dominated, the area now offers a safer and cleaner environment; this has led to stronger relationships across the community, as well as improved health outcomes for students, staff and local partners.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

Students from five universities across three continents joined a **Centre for Urban Science and Progress (CUSP)** London event in October 2023 to explore data-driven solutions to urban policy planning. Working with partners Transport for London, the annual Data Dive was run by CUSP London in the **Department of Informatics**. The students analysed data on traffic, bike use, air quality, health and road safety, working together to provide partner organisations with policy recommendations.



£21,394,045
spent on arts and heritage
in 2023-24

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12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

RESEARCH

118
publications



58%
of the papers relating to
SDG 12 were internationally
co-authored (69 papers)

which represents

1.2% of the
publications in the UK



9
publications were
academic-corporate
collaborations



938
citations



EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- The Sharing Economy and its Discontents
- Waste and Idleness in the Eighteenth Century



1st in the world for
SDG 12 (Times Higher
Education Impact Rankings
2024)

EDUCATION

The **Department of Geography** is improving the sustainability and inclusivity of its frequent field trips. From calculating the carbon footprint of trips to surveying student views, the department has made significant progress towards balancing sustainability with learning experiences, principles that are explored through the Environmental Science for Sustainability MSc and Sustainability in Practice undergraduate module. The department is committed to improving best practice, including looking at the companies and partners they are engaged with to facilitate field trips.

RESEARCH

King's scientists from the **Department of Chemistry** have discovered that an enzyme used in laundry detergent that can recycle single-use plastics within 24 hours. This innovative solution uses enzymes from biological laundry detergents to 'depolymerise' – or break down – landfill-bound bioplastics, which are commonly found in disposable items such as coffee cups and food containers. This significant breakthrough opens up the opportunity for a sustainable, circular economy that stamps out the production of fossil-based plastics and tackles the huge volume of waste that ends up in landfill and natural environments.

OPERATIONS

King's **Socially Responsible Procurement Policy** ensures that we

purchase goods and services in ways which are beneficial to the University, the environment and society. For example, the University secured an arrangement with Dell to change transportation of computer hardware to land and sea, rather than air freight, with every unit moved reducing CO₂ emissions by 98 per cent. King's uses Crown Workspace as its preferred supplier for refurbished furniture, reducing emissions through extending the life of existing furniture.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

All King's staff can spend up to three days per year volunteering their time for a cause that is important to them. Many opt to support causes relating to responsible consumption and production. For example, in summer 2023, the Business Support Team in **King's Business School** volunteered with Community TechAid, a grass-roots charity providing technology and skills to communities, whilst recycling, reusing and repairing e-waste. Their work resulted in 22kg of e-waste being diverted from landfill and 542kg of avoided CO₂ emissions.

50%
decrease in tonnes of
operational waste
generated (to 1,190), from
2017–18 baseline

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

RESEARCH

269
publications



68%
of the papers relating to
SDG 13 were internationally
co-authored (183 papers)

which represents

1.8% of the
publications in the UK



11
publications were
academic-corporate
collaborations

3,145
citations

47
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Business Ethics & Sustainability
- Green Finance
- Sustainable Business



EDUCATION

King's is taking steps to cut our carbon footprint with Carbon Literacy training. In June 2024, 42 students and staff from across the King's community pledged vital action towards net zero emissions, after taking part in the accredited training programme offered by the Carbon Literacy Project and run by **King's Climate & Sustainability**. For future years, this training will be offered regularly at King's, with plans to roll this out to our suppliers and the local community.

RESEARCH

The **Centre for Sustainable Business** was launched in March 2024 to tackle global climate challenges through the corporate sector. The Centre offers practical partnerships and support to enable researchers to deliver concrete insights and solutions around businesses transitioning to environmentally sustainable practices. Research from the Centre has included projects identifying barriers, strategies and enablers for corporate net zero transitions, which identified four key capabilities – recombinative, collaborative, integrative, and socio-cognitive – that can act as innovation levers to remove barriers to corporate net zero futures.

OPERATIONS

King's **Directorate of Estates & Facilities** introduced a fleet of electric vans in 2024 to help reduce King's carbon footprint and contribute to cleaner air in the city. The fleet

comprises six vehicles, replacing petrol and diesel vehicles, which work to support campus operations between the London campuses. The vans are wrapped in a fully recyclable self-adhesive film and liner, and after their lifespan the liveries will be fully recycled, supporting King's commitments to achieving a low-waste campus.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

King's staff help embed sustainability at King's through our Sustainability Champions scheme, which supports staff in laboratories and offices to reduce the negative environmental impacts of our operations and activities. Staff work through a toolkit that contains key steps in areas such as reducing waste, water and energy use, promoting biodiversity and climate justice, and raising awareness of climate action and impact. 59 teams achieved awards in 2024, with 36 teams receiving gold, 10 silver, 12 bronze and one foundation.



4,000
people attended
climate & sustainability
events at King's



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

RESEARCH

51
publications



63%
of the papers relating to
SDG 14 were internationally
co-authored (32 papers)

which represents

1% of the
publications in the UK



270
citations

7
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Environmental Science for Sustainability
- Global Environmental Issues: Science and Solutions



EDUCATION

The **Department of Geography** offers a second-year module, Global Environmental Issues: Science & Solutions, which explores issues affecting environmental security including ocean acidification, loss of polar environments and pollution. A third-year module, Urban Ecology, focuses on urban hydrology, urban rivers and aquatic pollution, among other themes. This enables students to develop a conceptual and critical understanding of urban aquatic issues and the related environmental problems that confront cities and their management, developing their ability to make judgements about how to manage these problems and the applications of ecological engineering.

RESEARCH

New research led by King's **Department of Geography**, published in April 2024, has revealed how the Lesser Flamingo is in danger of being flushed from its historic feeding grounds, with serious consequences for the future of the species. Increased rainfall is diluting saltwater habitats, leading to a decline in birds' phytoplankton prey, pushing them into new unprotected areas in the search for food, and potentially impacting conservation and ecotourism revenues.

OPERATIONS

King's **Sustainable Food Policy** outlines the University's commitments to address sustainability impacts arising from catering and hospitality operations across its campuses, whilst providing healthy and sustainable food for its customers. The policy demonstrates King's commitment to serving sustainably caught fish from the UK, seeking out suppliers certified to the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Chain of Custody Standard.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

The need to end destructive fishing practices to conserve marine resources and protect the ocean is widely recognised. However, despite its widespread use, 'destructive fishing' is currently undefined and therefore immeasurable. Engaging with over 80 fisheries experts from over 30 countries, a new working definition was successfully drafted by a team including an expert from King's in March 2024. This provides a consensus-led draft for leaders to build upon in international policy discussions, and supports countries in prohibiting destructive fishing practices.



RESEARCH

129
publications



73%
of the papers relating to
SDG 15 were internationally
co-authored (94 papers)

which represents

1.7% of the
publications in the UK



75%
of publications in
Open Access

985
citations

11
King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Biogeography and Ecology
- Global Environmental Issues: Science and Solutions
- Tourism, Conservation and the Environment

EDUCATION

Our module 'Nature-Inspired Learning Algorithms' provides students with a unique opportunity to learn about real-world problems by using biologically-inspired algorithms and techniques. It draws on the strength of cross-discipline learning from nature and biological processes, such as using ant-colony optimisation to enhance engineering structures. Students are also educated in drawing from biodiversity-inspired processes to draw parallels that could provide key solutions to pressing engineering issues.

RESEARCH

A study led by researchers from the **Faculty of Dentistry, Oral & Craniofacial Sciences** found that Komodo dragons have iron coatings on their teeth, giving important insight into how these endangered predators attack their prey. The research, published in July 2024, showed that Komodo dragons have the iron concentrated along the tips and serrated cutting edges of their sharp, curved teeth, which deepens our understanding of a vibrant and complex ecosystem, and builds a wider picture of important biodiversity.

OPERATIONS

In May 2024 we installed 24 bee hotels and six bee observations boxes across King's campuses with the aim of promoting survival of urban bees and helping boost biodiversity at King's, in line with our Biodiversity Action Plan targets. Urban bees are critical to

biodiversity within cities, but are under threat from issues such as habitat loss. Installing bee hotels and observation boxes offers crucial nesting sites both to support bee populations and provide insight into their habits and behaviours.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

King's led two volunteering sessions in collaboration with the London School of Economics, planting 1,150 hedgerow saplings around King's sports grounds. More than 115 students from both universities came together to plant the saplings, which offer an important boost to biodiversity as well as helping to improve mental and physical well-being. Hedgerows are a key part of enhancing green spaces, particularly in urban environments, as they provide important shelter and nutrients for wildlife, as well as enriching the biodiversity.

18th
in the world for SDG 15
(Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings 2024)

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

RESEARCH

771

publications



52%
of the papers relating to
SDG 16 were internationally
co-authored (398 papers)

which represents

5.3% of the
publications in the UK



11
publications were
academic-corporate
collaborations

3,858
citations

90

King's scholarly
outputs cited
by policies

EDUCATION

Example modules
embedding SDG:

- Global Politics
- Moral Philosophy
- Immigration Ethics



EDUCATION

The **African Leadership Centre** offered new Richemont International Scholarships in leadership and peacebuilding for two full-time Master's students. The awards, to study on the MSc Global Leadership & Peacebuilding course, were open to students wishing to enact transformative change within Africa and within their communities. This Master's course aims to reinforce links mutually between global leadership, peace and society, particularly in developing nations. The course equips students to be next-generation leaders who can solve global problems and advance peacebuilding.

RESEARCH

The **Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology & Neuroscience** and the **Department of War Studies** work jointly on an interdisciplinary research programme looking into conflict-affected borderlands, how conflicts connect across borders, and the factors that shape violent and peaceful behaviour such as mental health and trauma, social support and capital, and cognitive dispositions. The XCEPT programme uses a framework of collective memory from people with lived experience of conflict to inform effective and tangible policy responses, aiming to help achieve global peace and justice.

OPERATIONS

King's is committed to conducting its activities fairly, honestly and openly and being an accountable and inclusive institution. The University has a range of policies related to this ambition, including on donations, fraud, theft, bribery and corruption. King's is committed to providing transparency and clarity on its finances and how the income we earn is used to further our services and ambitions, and the University publishes an annual financial statement that's accessible to all.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

The King's College London United Nations Association (KCLUNA) is a student initiative for those interested in the United Nations, diplomacy and international affairs, providing opportunities for young people to play a role in action to support UN values and the Sustainable Development Goals. KCLUNA organises two conferences – University of London Model United Nations for beginner and less-experienced university students, and ThamesMUN for underprivileged state school students across London.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

RESEARCH (ALL SDGs)



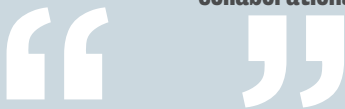
10,420
King's papers directly related to the SDGs

62%
were internationally co-authored

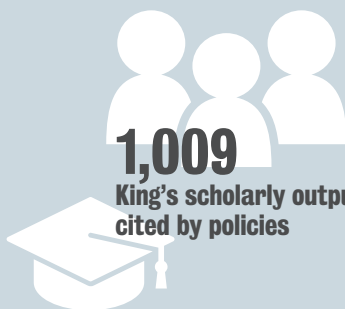
which represents

4.3% of all
SDG-relevant UK publications

833
publications were
academic-corporate
collaborations



104,631
citations



1,009
King's scholarly outputs
cited by policies

EDUCATION

King's launched the **Afe Babalola Centre for Transnational Education** and formalised a partnership with the Afe Babalola University (ABUAD), Nigeria, in summer 2023. The Centre aims to give talented young people the knowledge and skills to improve and transform their lives and communities. The Centre, which aims to offer educational opportunities, built on the partnership between the two institutions to deliver collaborative education activities such as the development of a joint degree in Law and summer school activities.

RESEARCH

In May 2024 King's was chosen to lead a £5 million hub that enables partnerships between academics across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to deliver faster and more impactful climate adaptation in the UK. The **Maximising UK Adaptation to Climate Change Hub**, funded by UK Research & Innovation and the Department for Food and Rural Affairs, brings together academics and researchers across the four nations to collaborate on a national climate change adaptation plan by addressing current barriers around public awareness, policy, legislation and climate data.

OPERATIONS

King's is committed to working with and listening to our local communities, and supporting others to address the climate crisis. The University has

partnerships with several London councils to drive climate action across the city. In July 2024, King's joined the Lambeth Climate Partnership – an initiative bringing together local organisations to help tackle the climate and ecological crises across the borough. Joining the Partnership not only gives us the opportunity to build relationships with our local area, but also share knowledge and help drive action.

SERVICE & ENGAGEMENT

A collaborative programme, aimed at creating a bridge between the research community and the UK Parliament, was expanded in Autumn 2024 to include further academics from across the UK after a successful pilot involving King's Professor Tamsin Edwards. Professor Edwards acted as a Thematic Research Lead for Climate and Environment, offering expertise as part of the innovative partnership programme to strengthen the use of high-quality, impartial evidence in creating new legislation.

7,483
hours of volunteering
by the King's community

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SDGs Complete Dataset – Research

		THE Impact Ranking 2024 (score)	THE Impact Ranking 2024 (rank)	Number of publications in the UK	Number of publications at King's	Proportion of publications in Open Access	Proportion of publications in the UK	Number of citations of King's publications
Source		THE Impact Ranking	THE Impact Ranking	Scival	Scival	Scival	Scival	Scival
Timeframe		2024	2024	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24
Overall outputs		93.40	33	501,418	23,758	72.83%	4.74%	295,488
SDG1		70.30	93	4,229	180	64.44%	4.26%	777
SDG2		67.10	101-200	6,560	136	69.85%	2.07%	2,251
SDG3		81.90	85	81,224	6,052	65.30%	7.45%	68,866
SDG4		59.30	401-600	10,089	379	63.06%	3.76%	1,965
SDG5		90.60	21	8,428	373	64.88%	4.43%	4,019
SDG6		70.40	101-200	5,532	105	71.43%	1.90%	1,934
SDG7		71.50	68	18,000	224	53.13%	1.24%	2,709
SDG8		79.00	34	12,517	306	59.48%	2.52%	2,583
SDG9		92.50	85	20,306	329	61.09%	1.62%	3,306
SDG10		82.60	31	13,892	719	62.03%	5.18%	4,530
SDG11		85.80	37	11,379	279	67.03%	2.45%	2,495
SDG12		93.60	1	9,683	118	64.41%	1.22%	938
SDG13		75.90	39	14,611	269	63.20%	1.84%	3,145
SDG14		80.30	43	4,871	51	60.78%	1.05%	270
SDG15		90.60	18	7,410	129	75.19%	1.74%	985
SDG16		80.9	81	14,565	771	63.42%	5.29%	3,858
SDG17		85.70	101-200	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total SDGs		N/A	N/A	242,936	10,420	N/A	4.29%	104,631

Field Weighted Citation Impact	Number of internationally co-authored papers	Proportion of internationally co-authored papers	Number of papers co-authored with low and lower income countries	Proportion of publications co-authored with low and lower middle income countries	Number of publications with academic-corporate collaboration	Proportion of publications with academic-corporate collaboration	Number of King's scholarly ouputs cited by policies	Number of King's scholarly ouputs cited by patents
Scival	Scival	Scival	Scival	Scival	Scival	Scival	Overton	Scival
2023-24	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24	2023-24
2.03	14,665	61.73%	2,146	9.03%	1,455	6%	1,327	150
1.21	110	61.11%	34	18.89%	3	2%	26	0
6.14	97	71.32%	36	26.47%	7	5%	22	0
2.82	4,169	68.89%	720	11.90%	674	11%	441	70
1.71	161	42.48%	39	10.29%	10	3%	30	0
4.94	193	51.74%	53	14.21%	14	4%	49	0
6.84	82	78.10%	19	18.10%	6	6%	19	1
2.34	153	68.30%	39	17.41%	12	5%	9	4
2.26	177	57.84%	35	11.44%	11	4%	62	0
2.13	195	59.27%	38	11.55%	19	6%	35	6
1.74	372	51.74%	98	13.63%	26	4%	102	0
2.59	177	63.44%	45	16.13%	10	4%	45	1
1.73	69	58.47%	16	13.56%	9	8%	14	1
3.06	183	68.03%	43	15.99%	11	4%	47	0
1.05	32	62.75%	6	11.76%	5	10%	7	0
1.69	94	72.87%	24	18.60%	5	4%	11	0
1.5	398	51.62%	94	12.19%	11	1%	90	0
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
N/A	6,662	61.75%	1,339	15.13%	833	N/A	1,009	83



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