

RMIT SDGs Project



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Sustainability context....

- “To do the right thing”...



“University Council adopted a University Environmental Policy in 1994”

The Sustainability Committee

Established in 2009, the Sustainability Committee is the highest governing body for sustainability at the University.



Melbourne Renewable Energy Project: A new generation of energy



RMIT Property Services achieved EMS ISO 14001:2015 accreditation

RMIT's SDGs Journey

- Signatory to the University Commitment to the SDGs
- SDGs initiatives across the university



2017



- RMIT-wide SDGs project
- Materiality SDGs analysis
- SDGs website
- First SDGs research mapping
- Annual Sustainability Report
- Across university approach

2018



- VCE endorsement SDGs Action Plan
- 82nd - THE Times SDGs ranking
- SDGs workshop
- SDGs working group created
- Sustainability Policy updated
- SDGs assistance



2019

- SDGs Strategy and Action Plan
- 10th - THE Times SDGs ranking
- Materiality test reviewed
- SDGs metrics / measurement & report
- SDGs Publication mapping
- SDGs Curriculum mapping

2020



RMIT-Wide SDGs Project



- Awareness
- Capabilities
- Support
- Collaboration
- Impact
- Accountability

Governance across the university

- **Sustainability committee**
 - Reports to the Vice Chancellors Executive (VCE) and is the highest governing body with responsibility to promote and coordinate sustainability initiatives across all areas of the University.
 - RMIT Sustainability Committee was expanded to provide direction as a coordinating unit for the SDGs across the University, creating a common narrative and enabling mechanisms to further the SDGs in L&T, research, operations and engaged partnerships.
- **SDGs Working group**
 - To advise RMIT on its approach to address and implement the UN 2030 sustainable development agenda across all areas of the University.
 - To discuss priorities and implement actions to promote and coordinate SDGs activities across the university to maximise SDG influence and impact.

Governance across the university

- **Our endorsements and commitments**

- Incorporating the SDGs into our strategy, providing an integrated approach for SDGs throughout the university.
- Embedding SDGs into relevant processes, policies and practices.
- Using the SDGs to align our sustainability strategies to a global sustainable development agenda.
- Aiming to genuinely contribute to the SDGs.
- Using measurement and reporting mechanisms to transparently disclose our performance toward achieving the goals and be held publicly accountable for our performance.

11.3. SDG Index

The following table identifies the SDGs and respective main SDG targets addressed by our sustainability agenda and published in our Annual Sustainability Report 2018.

SDG	Target	Page
SDG 1	1.5 By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters	55
SDG 2	2.4 By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather,	36, 37

Main key learnings, challenges and recommendations

- Mixed approach – “**top down**” and “**bottom up**” to engage, foster and support
- Awareness → Engagement → Contributions → **Accountability & Reporting**
- SDGs as a framework for organisational change → “**beyond business as usual**”
- **Supportive organisational environment** to foster collaboration
- Mapping should be an accountability, management and strategic exercise, **not a box ticking exercise**
- **Effective communication and engagement strategy** to increase awareness, collaboration and support to the SDGs agenda
- Translating SDGs to university
- Engaging and influencing our stakeholders **to better address global challenges**



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