MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF GDAŃSK

Sustainable Development Report of the Medical University of Gdańsk

2024-2025



Photo: Dawid Linkowski

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are pleased to present the first SDG Report of the Medical University of Gdańsk – a document that organises and presents the social, scientific, educational and organisational engagement of our University in the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

For a medical university, sustainable development is not an abstract concept. It has a very concrete dimension: human health, quality of life, responsibility for patients, the education of future healthcare professionals, the advancement of science and cooperation with the wider community. Every day, the MUG fulfils this mission through research, teaching, clinical activity, prevention, the popularisation of knowledge, support for the academic community and partnerships that extend beyond the boundaries of a single institution.

This report allows us to look at our activities from a broader perspective. It shows that the MUG's impact does not end with campus walls, laboratories or lecture rooms, but extends to students and doctoral candidates, employees, patients and their families, social and scientific partners, the inhabitants of the region and the international community.

The Medical University of Gdańsk has long fostered a culture of social responsibility. This is confirmed both by the activities undertaken within the University and by our presence in international rankings assessing the impact of the University's activities on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Health and well-being are of particular importance to us, as they are naturally embedded in the mission of the MUG as a medical university. Our achievements in this field are a source of satisfaction, but above all they are a commitment to further, consistent work.

The report shows how much employees, doctoral candidates and students of the MUG do in the area of the Sustainable Development Goals. It is thanks to their everyday commitment that we are able to create solutions of real significance for public health, the quality of education, the development of science, responsible governance and the functioning of the University as an institution open to social needs.

The Sustainable Development Goals help us describe, measure and plan the University's impact in a way that is consistent with academic values, the public mission and the strategic development of the MUG. They also make it possible to show more clearly that social responsibility is not an add-on to our activities, but part of the University's daily functioning – in science, teaching, patient care, cooperation with partners and institutional management.

I look with pride at the achievements of our academic community and at how consistently the MUG combines the highest standards of science, education and healthcare with responsibility for people and the world around us.

I hope that the first SDG Report will be not only a summary of our activities to date, but also a catalyst for further strengthening the social impact of our University. I thank everyone whose work, commitment and sensitivity create this impact every day.

Prof. Michał Markuszewski
Rector of the Medical University of Gdańsk



Photo: Magdalena Czajka / Hevelianum

Science that changes reality

Interview with Prof. Anna Żaczek, Vice-Rector for Development and Cooperation of the MUG, on the University's social impact

Reporting the University's activities in relation to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals helps structure the narrative of social responsibility, public health and the role of science in solving real problems. In the case of the Medical University of Gdańsk, the SDG Report can serve as a starting point for a broader discussion about the University's impact on society. Alongside the activities directly included in reporting, there are many clinical, scientific, expert and organizational projects that point in the same direction: science and medicine should serve people, improve quality of life, support the healthcare system and inform public decisions.

We speak with the Vice-Rector for Development and Cooperation about how the MUG understands its social role and how specific projects affect patients and their families, public health and the healthcare system.

Professor, we are discussing the MUG's social impact through the example of two projects: the Breast Diseases Centre and the model for the diagnosis and treatment of familial hypercholesterolaemia in children. What makes these good examples of an engaged university?

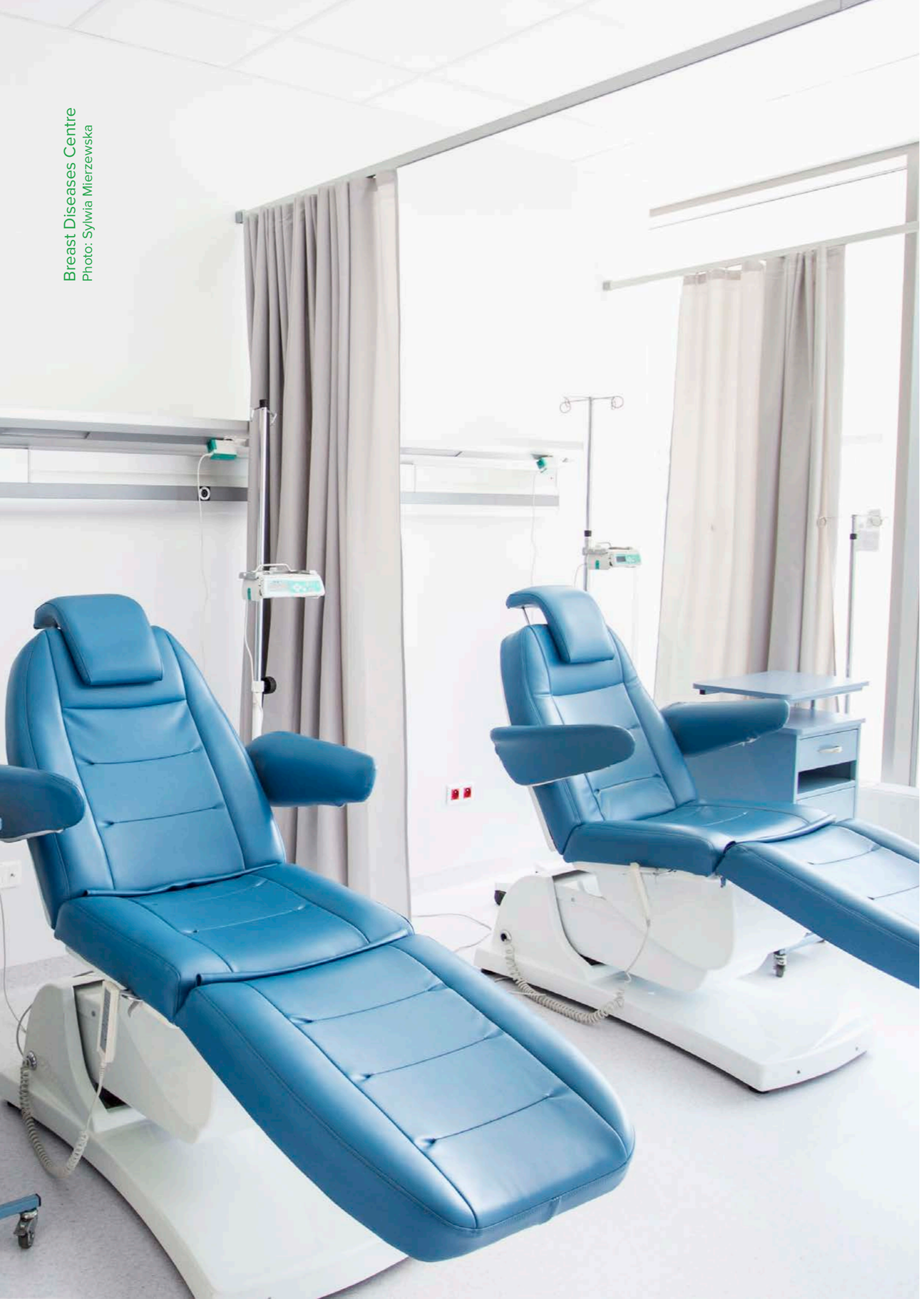
Prof. Anna Żaczek These are two very different projects, but both clearly show how science and medicine can translate into a real improvement in patients' quality of life. The Breast Diseases Centre responds to the needs of oncology patients by providing them with more coordinated and comprehensive care. The project concerning familial hypercholesterolaemia in children, in turn, shows the importance of early diagnosis and the prevention of diseases that may lead to serious health consequences in adulthood.

Both projects are united by a focus on the patient and the patient's family. In one case, this concerns a woman facing a breast cancer diagnosis; in the other, a child and a family for whom early diagnosis of a genetic disease may prevent serious health consequences in the future.

Let us begin with the Breast Diseases Centre. What concrete social outcomes does this project bring?

A.Ż. The Breast Diseases Centre creates a model of care that shortens and organises the pathway of a patient with breast cancer. The patient gains access to an interdisciplinary team of specialists – oncologists, surgeons, radiologists, geneticists, psychologists, dietitians and physiotherapists. As a result, diagnosis, treatment and support are not fragmented, but delivered in a coordinated manner.

The social outcome is greater patient safety, faster therapeutic decision-making, better access to psychological and rehabilitation support, and a reduced sense of being lost in the healthcare system. This is very important because breast cancer is not only a matter of medical treatment; it also affects a patient's everyday life – her family, work, social activity and sense of security.



Breast Diseases Centre
Photo: Sylwia Mierzewska

Can we say that the Breast Diseases Centre changes the way we think about oncological treatment?

A.Ż. Yes. This project shows that modern oncology cannot be limited to a single medical procedure. Breast cancer treatment requires rapid diagnosis, access to genetic testing, appropriate treatment planning, psychological support, rehabilitation and patient education.

The Breast Diseases Centre also develops educational and preventive activities, prepares materials for patients and strengthens access to reliable knowledge. This means that the patient receives not only treatment, but also information, care and support in returning to everyday life.

The second project concerns familial hypercholesterolaemia in children. Why is this issue of such social importance?

A.Ż. Familial hypercholesterolaemia is a genetic disease that often remains undiagnosed for a long time. A child may have no visible symptoms, but if left untreated, the disease significantly increases the risk of cardiovascular disease in adulthood. This is why early diagnosis and the introduction of treatment already in childhood are crucial.

Thanks to the expert work of Prof.s Małgorzata Myśliwiec from the MUG, screening for familial hypercholesterolaemia (FH) was introduced on 2 May 2025 as part of the health check-up for six-year-old children, enabling early detection of the disease in children and diagnostic testing of parents. Its social value lies in the fact that, once the disease is detected early, children can receive appropriate care and serious complications can be prevented in the future.

What connects these two projects, despite the fact that they concern different areas of medicine?

A.Ż. They are connected by an approach focused on the patient and on real social outcomes. In the Breast Diseases Centre, the aim is to improve the quality of treatment, safety and support for oncology patients. In the project concerning familial hypercholesterolaemia, what matters most is early identification of risk and the prevention of serious disease in the future.

Both projects show that the MUG not only conducts research and educates medical professionals, but also creates solutions that can change clinical practice, improve patients' quality of life and strengthen public health.

In this context, can we also refer to the Engaged University accreditation awarded to the MUG?

A.Ż. Yes. These projects clearly show what an engaged university means in practice. It is a university that does not operate in isolation from people's needs, but responds to specific health problems and creates solutions that bring measurable benefits.

The Engaged University accreditation awarded to the MUG in 2025 by ACEEU – the Accreditation Council for Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities – confirms that the University's social engagement is a permanent element of its mission and strategy. The Breast Diseases Centre and the model for the diagnosis and treatment of familial hypercholesterolaemia in children are practical examples of this idea. They show how academic knowledge, clinical experience and social responsibility translate into better care, earlier diagnosis, support for families and real improvements in public health.

Detailed descriptions of the projects referred to in the interview are available in the RAD-on system (radon.nauka.gov.pl).

Science. Health. Responsibility. The MUG and the challenges of sustainable development

This development is significant for the University beyond its mere presence in an international ranking. Participation in the ranking supports the systematisation of data, the development of reporting mechanisms and a more deliberate identification of activities that correspond to global social, health, environmental and institutional goals. It also helps show that the MUG's activity in the area of the SDGs results not only from reporting obligations, but from a consistently developed culture of social responsibility.

An important point of reference for this perspective was the Medical University of Gdańsk's signing, in 2019, of the Declaration of University Social Responsibility. This document confirmed the importance of responsible governance, stakeholder dialogue, ethics, accessibility, care for the environment and building relationships with the socio-economic environment. The present SDG Report develops this approach, showing in an organised way how social responsibility, sustainable development and the idea of an engaged university are embedded in the MUG's day-to-day activity.

This approach is also reflected in the strategy of the Medical University of Gdańsk for 2026–2030, in which the policy oriented towards the implementation of the SDGs has been embedded in a broader model of institutional development. This means that sustainability reporting is treated not as a one-off or purely communication activity, but as an element of strategic governance that supports impact analysis, data integration and the planning of further action.

The descriptions of the MUG's activities presented later in this report show that the University's contribution to the implementation of the SDGs takes different forms. In some goals, primarily in the areas of health, education, research and partnerships, this contribution is direct and follows from the very mission of a medical university. In other cases, it is indirect but still significant – through environmental, social, organisational, educational or expert activities. This perspective makes it possible to capture the full range of the MUG's impact: from research and education, through prevention and science popularisation, to responsible campus operations and the building of partnerships for health and quality of life.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide the Medical University of Gdańsk not only with a point of reference for reporting, but also with an important framework for organising the way we think about the social role of a medical university. As an institution educating future healthcare professionals, conducting research and co-shaping the healthcare system, the MUG's impact extends far beyond academic education. The University's activity influences public health, quality of life, the development of science, access to knowledge, social responsibility, relations with the wider community and the way a public institution functions in the region and internationally.

For a medical university, sustainable development is particularly closely linked to human health. It includes not only clinical, preventive and educational activities, but also issues of equal access to knowledge and support, environmental quality, responsible resource management, the well-being of the academic community, ethical institutional standards and cooperation with social, scientific and public partners. The SDGs make it possible to present these activities in a broader context – as part of the University's long-term impact on society.

For the MUG, this is not the first engagement with the sustainable development agenda. The University has participated in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings since 2022, when it was listed as the only Polish medical university among the leading Polish institutions in this ranking. Already in its first edition of participation, the MUG achieved a particularly high score in SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being, confirming the natural alignment between the mission of a medical university and one of the key goals of the 2030 Agenda.

Subsequent years showed that participation in this process was not a one-off activity. In 2023, the MUG was again classified in the THE Impact Rankings as the highest-rated Polish medical university, and in 2024 it maintained a strong position in SDG 3, placing among the world's top 101–200 universities in this area and achieving the best result among Polish academic centres working for health and well-being.

Methodology

The report combines quantitative data with qualitative case studies. Quantitative data include primarily publication output assigned to the Sustainable Development Goals, citations, selected information on project funding, numbers of participants, infrastructure, accreditations and social and operational activities. Case studies present specific examples of the activity of the Medical University of Gdańsk in four areas: research and projects, public engagement and partnerships, education and student activity, and internal University activities.

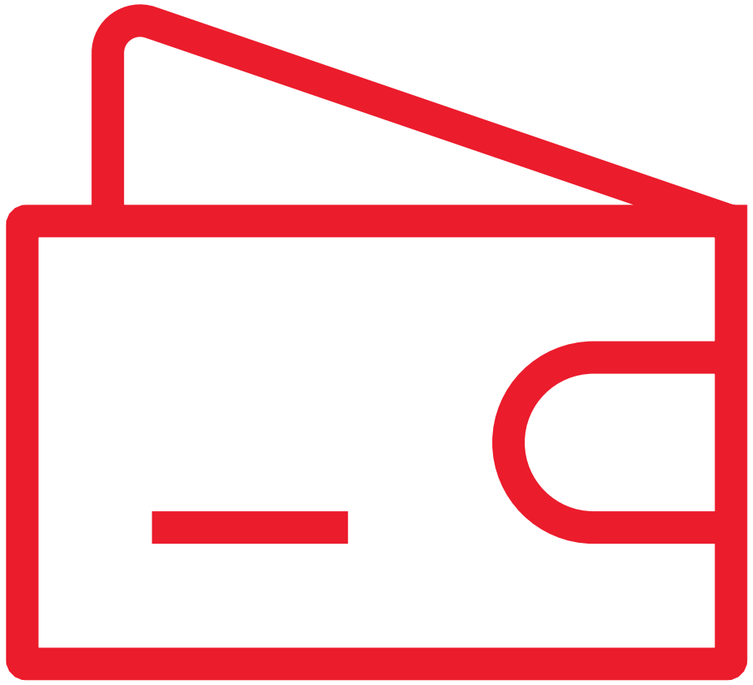
Bibliometric data were aggregated on the basis of data obtained from Scopus/SciVal for 2024 and 2025. Publications were assigned to the SDGs according to the tools available in the Scopus/SciVal portal (Research Fields – SDGs section) and the Sustainable Development Goals (2025) column in Excel files provided by the MUG administrative units. A publication assigned to more than one goal may appear in the metrics of several SDGs, because the report presents thematic contributions to individual goals rather than the unduplicated total publication output of the University.

Project, financial, social, educational and operational data come from source materials provided by the MUG units, the University's main website and the For Society section. Where sources did not contain a complete numerical value, a qualitative description was used or the contribution was marked as indirect. For goals for which the bibliometric export did not indicate publications assigned to the relevant SDG, emphasis was placed on documented institutional, partnership, educational or operational activities. The report is not a catalogue of all University activities. Its purpose is to present the most important data and examples illustrating the scale and significance of the MUG's activity.

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University buildings seen from above
Photo: Dawid Linkowski & Witold Deka



3

publications assigned to SDG 1 in 2024-2025

203

people received hardship grants (employees and retirees)

38

people used housing loans (employees and retirees)

75%

employees covered by holiday co-financing

No Poverty

The MUG's activities show that preventing poverty in the academic environment may include reducing health inequalities and strengthening the social security of the University community. Although this goal has an indirect character, it remains an important element of a responsible approach to public health and the well-being of the academic community.

Flagship examples

Social support for employees and students
Social benefits, scholarships for persons with disabilities, hardship grants, housing loans and holiday co-financing strengthen the economic security of members of the academic community.

Source: HR Office; nature of contribution: direct

Health knowledge closer to residents
The MUG's social initiatives support the dissemination of knowledge on health and prevention. For people facing information barriers and exposed to disinformation, this knowledge may provide important support in using the healthcare system effectively.

Source: dlaspoleczenstwa.gumed.edu.pl; nature of contribution: indirect

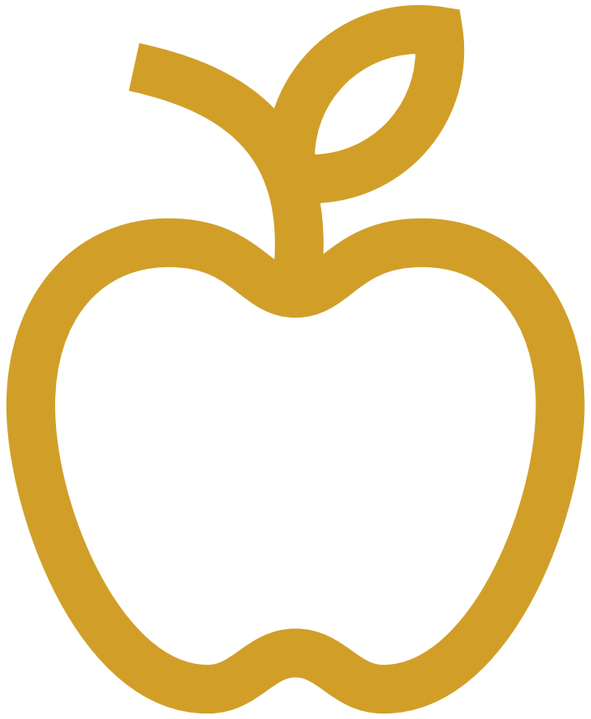
Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Publications on inequalities and health
Research assigned to SDG 1 shows that poverty has a health dimension: it affects access to care, prevention and quality of life. This provides a scientific basis for activities aimed at reducing inequalities.

Public engagement and partnership. Reducing information barriers
Activities addressed to residents and patients translate specialist medical knowledge into practical health decisions, which is particularly important for people at risk of exclusion.

Education and student activity. Socially sensitive professionals
The education of future medical professionals strengthens the competencies needed to work with vulnerable groups and to understand the social determinants of health.

Internal University activities. Mechanisms of solidarity and economic security
The system of benefits, hardship grants and co-financing helps mitigate the effects of financial difficulties within the academic community and provides an institutional response to social needs.



35

publications assigned to SDG 2 in 2024-2025

2885

citations of publications in this area

1507

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Zero Hunger

The MUG contributes to strengthening food security in its health dimension by conducting research on nutrition, metabolism and the prevention of diet-related diseases. Although this area is indirectly related to food security, it remains an important element of the activity of a medical university, as proper nutrition, health education and preventive measures support the improvement of population health.

Flagship examples

Nutrition and metabolism
Publications concern nutrition, metabolism and the prevention of diet-related diseases. For a medical university, this is a key bridge between SDG 2 and population health.

Source: SciVal / CWB; nature of contribution: direct

Preventive education
Students, doctoral candidates and future healthcare professionals develop the competencies needed to educate patients about diet, lifestyle and the prevention of chronic diseases.

Source: Office for Education; nature of contribution: indirect

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Population nutritional health
Publications assigned to this goal provide knowledge about the relationships between diet, metabolism, chronic diseases and health prevention.

Public engagement and partnership
Promoting healthy habits. The MUG's educational activities translate knowledge about health and nutrition into language accessible to residents, patients and their families.

The Madagascar Foundation. Established by Daniel Kasprowicz, a graduate of nursing and dietetics at the MUG and a medical student, the Foundation supports the health and nutritional security of the local community, including through medical assistance and therapeutic food for malnourished children. This is an example of the global social impact of the MUG community.

Education and student activity
Practical preparation for nutritional counselling. Teaching components related to clinical nutrition and prevention develop the ability to recognise diet-related risks in future medical practice.

Dietetics degree programme. Studies in dietetics strengthen the preparation of future specialists to identify the risk of malnutrition, support patients requiring nutritional intervention and understand the role of nutrition in disease prevention and treatment. They show that nutritional security also has a medical dimension, encompassing access to knowledge, appropriate nutritional assessment and effective patient support.

Internal University activities. Well-being of the academic community
Well-being and preventive activities strengthen a culture of caring for health, including in the area of eating habits and metabolic health.



1157

publications assigned to SDG 3 in 2024-2025

13029

citations of publications in this area

2664

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Good Health and Well-being

SDG 3 most fully reflects the scope of the MUG's activity. Clinical research, medical education, prevention, diagnostics, health communication and social activities form the core of the University's mission: knowledge is to serve society directly.

Flagship examples

EUCanImage
European platform containing more than 25,000 anonymised datasets of oncology patients supports the development of precision medicine and artificial intelligence-based diagnostic tools.

Source: Office for Projects; nature of contribution: direct

Fahrenheit Science Picnic
This open, family-oriented science popularisation event is organised in cooperation between the Fahrenheit Universities and Hevelianum. The MUG contributes a strong health component to the programme: education on physiology, proper nutrition and prevention, as well as an area offering free health checks and first-aid activities. In 2025, the fourth edition attracted nearly 5,000 visitors, and the Science Town consisted of 60 tents and more than 800 educators from three universities.

Source: FarU, 3rd and 4th Fahrenheit Science Picnic; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects
Clinical innovation and prevention. The University's scientific activity combines diagnostics, precision medicine, prevention and health risk analysis, creating foundations for better patient care.

MULTIPREVENT. This project, financed by the Medical Research Agency with PLN 37.53 million, is intended to help detect the most serious health risks earlier in people particularly exposed to lung cancer. The study will involve 3,000 people who will undergo tomography, blood tests, spirometry and assessment of basic health parameters.

Education and student activity. Fahrenheit Science Picnic
The MUG co-creates a FarU event that combines science popularisation, health education, prevention and direct contact between residents, experts and students.

Education and student activity. Student activity in public health
Support for student organisations finances the scientific and educational activities of young leaders in health, prevention and science popularisation.

Internal University activities. Well-being and mental health
Consultations, workshops, podcasts and lectures on the prevention of occupational burnout strengthen employees' mental health and a culture of care.



Pomeranian Researchers' Night
Photo: Paweł Sudara



20

publications assigned to SDG 4 in 2024-2025

311

citations of publications in this area

298

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

3

number of editions of the Pomeranian Researchers' Night up to 2025

Quality Education

The MUG educates medical professionals and develops competencies needed by a modern healthcare system. SDG 4 shows how the quality of education, academic mobility, teaching infrastructure and science popularisation strengthen the University's long-term impact.

Flagship examples

The MUG Open Day
This is one of the University's most important recruitment and educational events. Every year, thousands of candidates from Poland and abroad visit the campus to learn about study programmes, take part in workshops, watch rescue demonstrations, explore student research society activities and undergo basic preventive examinations.

Source: the MUG website and the MUG Open Day website; nature of contribution: direct

Pomeranian Researchers' Night
This is one of the largest science popularisation events in the region, co-organised by the MUG since 2023. The first edition attracted nearly 7,000 participants, the second took place on 27th September 2024, and the third on 26th September 2025, attracting nearly 10,000 people. The event is organised in an inter-institutional format and includes, among others, the University of Gdańsk, Gdańsk University of Technology, Gdynia Maritime University, the Polish Naval Academy in Gdynia, Experyment Science Centre, Hevelianum and the Institute of Oceanology of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Sopot. The programme included demonstrations, workshops, lectures, quizzes, laboratory tours, oncology debates and preventive activities. The NightMission and Research4Resilience projects strengthen the European dimension of the event and provide funding for future editions.

Source: MUG, Pomeranian Researchers' Night 2024; NightMission project, Horizon Europe; Research4Resilience project, MSCA & Citizens, Horizon Europe; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

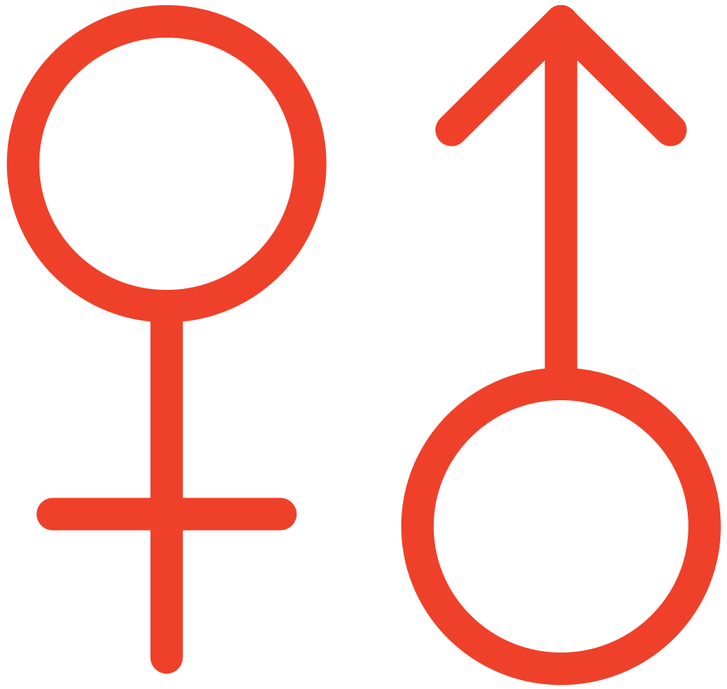
Research and projects. Research on education and competencies
Publications assigned to SDG 4 support the improvement of medical teaching and the development of competencies needed by modern healthcare.

Public engagement and partnership. Pomeranian Researchers' Night
The event coordinated by the MUG brings together Pomeranian universities, a research institute and science centres, while the NightMission and Research4Resilience projects strengthen its European dimension.

Education and student activity
The MUG Open Day. Every year, thousands of candidates discover the world of medicine through workshops, conversations with students and supervisors of student research societies, practical demonstrations and interactive educational stands.

The "Pathway – Medical Nutrition" programme. The programme develops practical student training in clinical nutrition and the prevention of malnutrition. New phantoms and simulators support experiential learning, strengthening the competencies of future medical professionals.

Internal University activities. Modern teaching infrastructure
The University Dental Centre, with 7,000 m^2 of space, 32 phantom units and 94 clinical units, strengthens practical student education.



21

publications assigned to SDG 5 in 2024-2025

3076

citations of publications in this area

2664

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Gender Equality

Gender equality at the MUG is not only a formal policy, but an element of the quality of the working, learning and professional development environment. The University strengthens a culture of respect, supports equal opportunities and develops social awareness of diversity.

Flagship examples

Gender Equality Plan
The Plan covers equal pay, support for the careers of women and men, work-life balance and equality education, creating systemic foundations for equal treatment.

Source: HR Office; nature of contribution: direct

Gender Equity Social Impactors within the ACE^2-EU Alliance
The MUG participates in the work of the Gender Equity Social Impactors group, co-created by partner universities, companies, non-governmental organisations and experts. Since 2025, the group has carried out workshops, training and educational activities devoted to gender equality and an inclusive culture.

Source: Office for Development; nature of contribution: indirect

Culture of Respect
Initiatives connected with the Culture of Respect project counteract discrimination and support a safe environment for learning and work.

Source: dlaspoleczenstwa.gumed.edu.pl; nature of contribution: direct

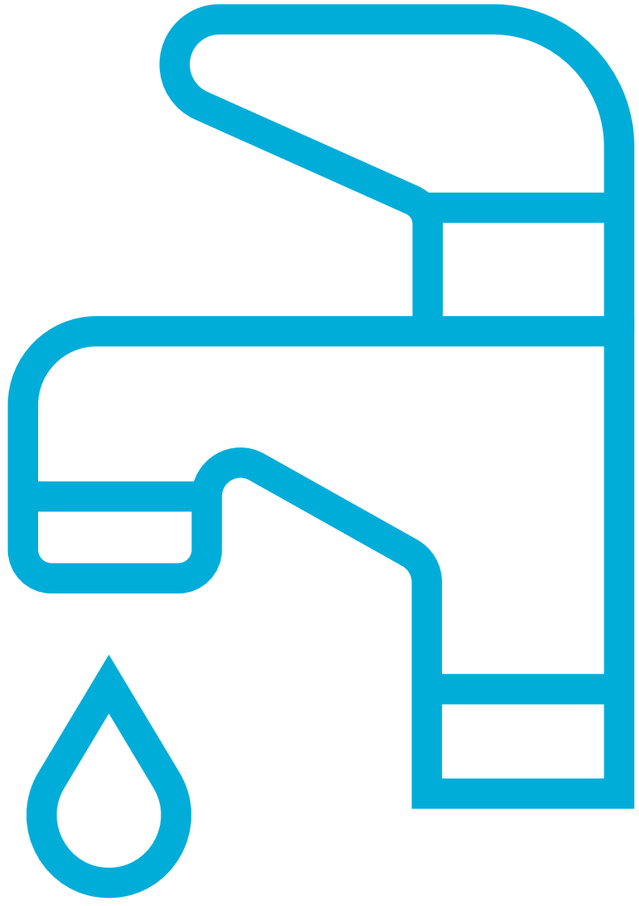
Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Research on gender, health and institutions
Publications assigned to SDG 5 strengthen knowledge about how gender, work organisation and health influence equal opportunities in education and career development.

Public engagement and partnership. Dialogue on diversity and safety in interpersonal relations
Expert cooperation and information activities develop the language of responsible communication and anti-discrimination.

Education and student activity. Education on diversity
Educational activities build awareness among students and employees in the areas of equality, diversity and relationships based on respect.

Internal University activities. Systemic foundations for equal treatment
Organisational solutions concerning career development, remuneration, work-life balance and equality education structure long-term institutional policy in this area.



27

publications assigned to SDG 6 in 2024-2025

1760

citations of publications in this area

1507

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Clean Water and Sanitation

The MUG's contribution to SDG 6 is linked primarily to research on the relationship between the environment, microbiology and human health. The University helps explain how environmental quality and sanitary standards affect public health.

Flagship examples

Environment and human health
The *Intensive poultry farming – identification of changes occurring in the natural environment and their impact on human health* project analyses changes occurring in the environment and contributed to the production of eight scientific publications.

Source: Office for Projects; nature of contribution: direct

Drinking water dispensers on campus
In cooperation with Gdańskie Wodociągi (EN. Gdańsk Waterworks), the MUG is developing access to drinking water from dispensers in University buildings. The dispensers are available in 16 locations on campus, including the Rector's Office, Collegium Biomedicum, the Medical Simulation Centre, the Sports Centre, student residences and buildings of the Faculty of Pharmacy. This is a practical example of care for health, the comfort of campus users and responsible use of resources. Further locations are planned.

Source: the MUG website / Gdańskie Wodociągi (Gdańsk Waterworks), campus information materials; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Environmental quality and health security
Research on the impact of environmental factors on human health supports a better understanding of sanitary and ecological risks.

Public engagement and partnership. Cooperation with Gdańskie Wodociągi
The partnership related to the installation of drinking water dispensers shows how a university and a municipal service provider can jointly promote healthy, accessible and environmentally responsible use of water.

Education and student activity. Microbiology and environmental health
Education in microbiology and public health develops the competencies needed to understand sanitary risks.

Internal University activities. Sanitary standards of a medical university
The daily functioning of a medical university requires high standards of hygiene and safety, strengthening a culture of responsibility for public health.



Drinking water dispenser at the MUG
Photo: Dawid Linkowski & Witold Deka



5

photovoltaic installations in the BRODZIEC project

240

annual renewable energy production in MWh

142.392

avoided CO_2 emissions in Mg per year

Affordable and Clean Energy

The MUG takes action to manage energy rationally, combining infrastructure solutions with educational and environmental initiatives. An important element of these activities is the development of photovoltaic installations, complemented by initiatives that increase green areas on campus and improve the quality and comfort of academic space.

Flagship examples

BRODZIEC – photovoltaics
Five photovoltaic installations with a capacity of 237.60 kWp produce 204 MWh of renewable energy annually and avoid 142.392 Mg of CO_2 emissions per year.

Source: Office for Projects; nature of contribution: direct

The MUG Green Campus project
The project implemented under an agreement with BGK is intended to increase green areas on the University premises. In this report, it is presented as a complement to energy and environmental activities: campus greenery improves the comfort of using space, supports the microclimate and strengthens the pro-health character of academic infrastructure.

Source: Office for Projects; nature of contribution: indirect

Full spectrum of activities

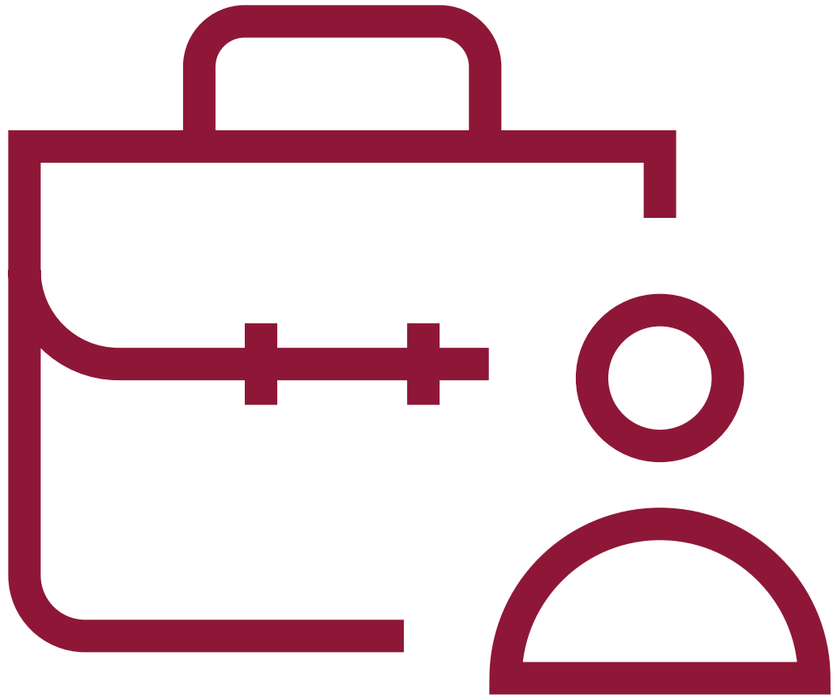
Research and projects. Energy, environment and health
Publications assigned to SDG 7 show how energy and the environment are linked to quality of life and public health.

Public engagement and partnership. Green Campus
Cooperation with BGK on a project increasing green areas shows that energy and environmental activities can be combined with care for spatial quality, the microclimate and the well-being of the academic community.

Education and student activity. Pro-environmental education
Topics related to energy, climate and environmental health provide a natural background for teaching and student activities, strengthening the responsibility of future medical professionals.

Internal University activities. Management of energy and academic space
Infrastructure activities and greenery planning help limit the University's environmental impact and improve conditions for work, study and rest.

SDG 7



10

publications assigned to SDG 8 in 2024-2025

407

citations of publications in this area

298

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

125

employees completed training in communication and conflict resolution

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

SDG 8

Decent Work and Economic Growth

In the context of SDG 8, the MUG can be viewed as an employer and as an institution supporting professional and competence development. The education of future medical professionals, research activity and the creation of favourable working conditions contribute to the development of an economy based on knowledge and competencies.

Flagship examples

HR Excellence in Research
The European Commission certificate awarded to the MUG on 30th August 2024 strengthens the University's position as an attractive and responsible employer for researchers. Implementing the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers supports transparent procedures, equal treatment, professional development and better conditions for conducting research.

Source: the MUG website, HR Excellence in Research; nature of contribution: direct

Development of grant potential
Grant programmes strengthen project and publication competencies among employees and young researchers, supporting the development of a knowledge-based economy.

Source: Office for Research / Office for IDUB; nature of contribution: direct

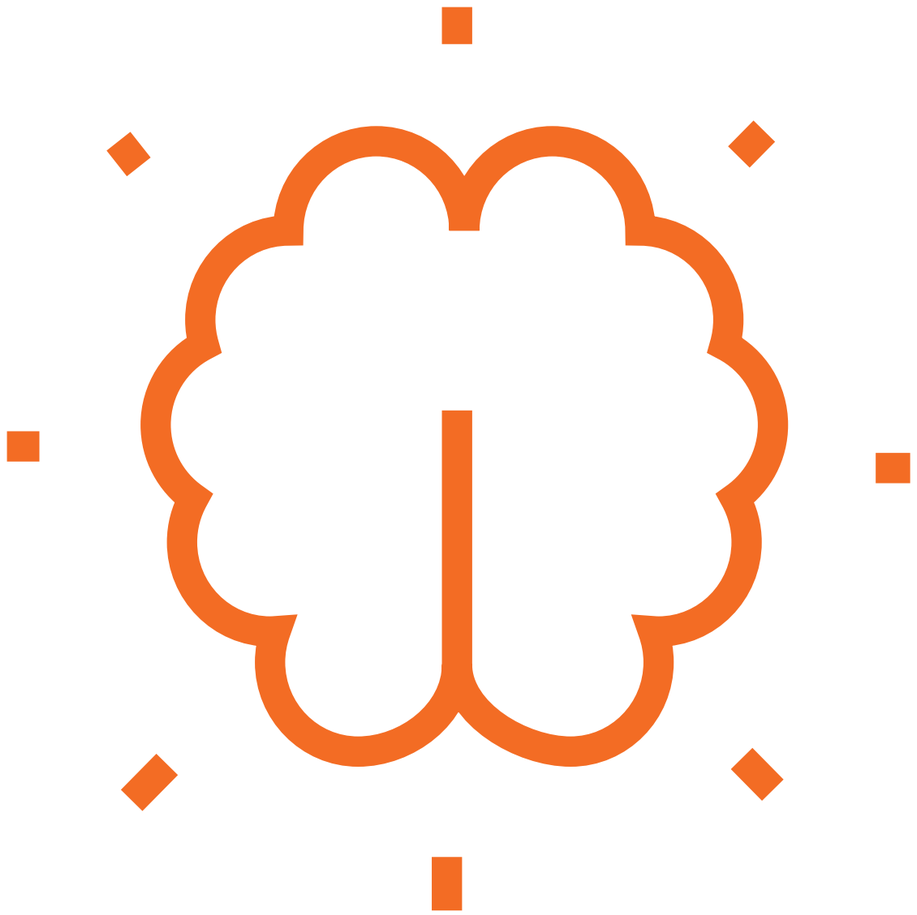
Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Project competencies and research career development
Research funding programmes create conditions for employees and young researchers to gain grant, publication and organisational experience.

Public engagement and partnership. Cooperation with the environment
FarU's Science Speed Dating strengthens relations between the University, business and scientific partners, creating space for new projects and knowledge transfer.

Education and student activity. Competencies of future professionals
Education at the MUG prepares healthcare specialists for work in professions of high social and economic importance.

Internal University activities. HR Excellence in Research and a safe work environment
The HR Excellence in Research certificate and training on preventing workplace bullying and harassment, communication and conflict resolution strengthen the standards of a responsible academic employer.



Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

The MUG supports the development of innovation through investments in research infrastructure, the implementation of medical projects, the acquisition of grants and partner cooperation. Within SDG 9, the University's activity shows how the development of medical sciences can contribute to the creation of new solutions in diagnostics, clinical practice and medical technologies.

Flagship examples

CLEVERHEART
The cardiovascular laboratory strengthens infrastructure for diagnostic research, optimisation of clinical processes and identification of cardiovascular risk.

Source: Office for Projects; nature of contribution: direct

Young Creator of Science and Student Grant
50 projects in the Young Creator of Science programme and 37 Student Grant projects strengthen the development of young researchers and students.

Source: IDUB; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Medical innovation and research infrastructure
Research infrastructure and medical projects create conditions for developing new diagnostic tools, optimising clinical processes and strengthening the technological capacity of medical science.

Public engagement and partnership. Science Speed Dating FarU
Fourteen participants from Tri-City universities, the business sector and scientific institutions created new research and cross-sectoral relations in a scientific networking format.

Education and student activity. Young Creator of Science and Student Grant
Participation of students and young researchers in projects develops independence, research planning, responsibility for results and project work skills.

Internal University activities. Early involvement of young researchers
Laboratories, simulation centres and clinical and teaching facilities create organisational conditions for the development of medical science and technology.

36
publications assigned to SDG 9 in 2024-2025

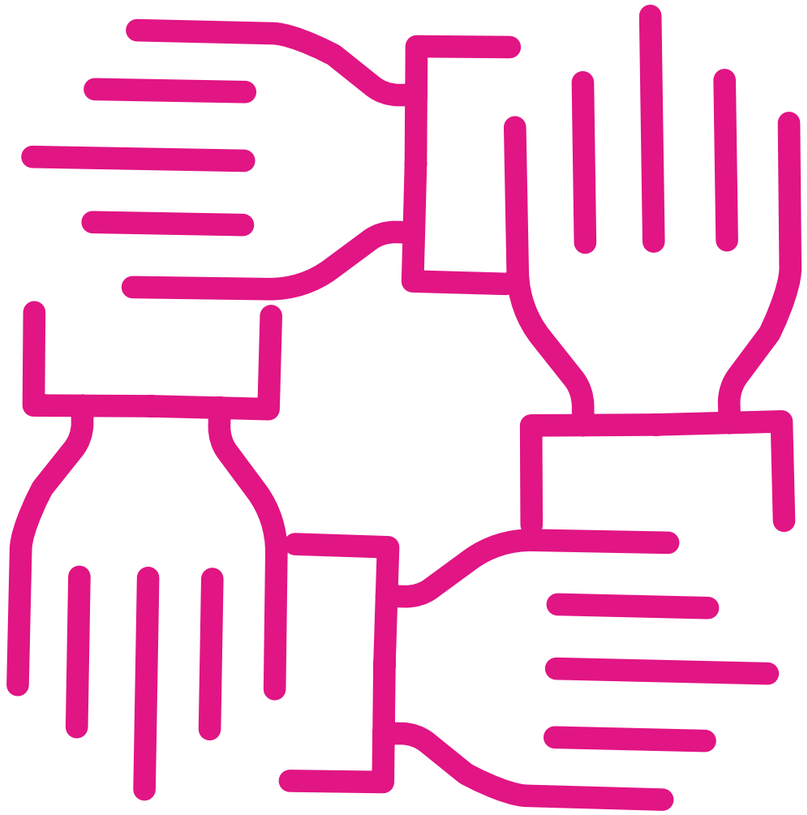
264
citations of publications in this area

52
highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

87
total number of projects in the Young Creator of Science and Student Grant programmes



Teaching room
Photo: Dawid Linkowski & Witold Deka



20

publications assigned to SDG 10 in 2024-2025

332

citations of publications in this area

298

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Reduced Inequalities

The MUG takes action to reduce inequalities, placing emphasis on accessibility, inclusiveness and social education. In the context of a medical university, this also means taking into account the diverse needs of students, doctoral candidates, employees and patients, and creating conditions conducive to their equal participation in academic life and healthcare.

Flagship examples

The MUG without Barriers
The project strengthens accessibility and counteracts exclusion in the academic environment, supporting equal access to education and University services.

Source: HR Office; nature of contribution: direct

Culture of Respect
Anti-discrimination activities strengthen equal treatment and inclusiveness, and their significance extends beyond the University itself.

Source: dlaspoleczenstwa.gumed.edu.pl; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Inequalities and public health
Publications assigned to SDG 10 support the scientific foundations of activities concerning accessibility, public health and the social determinants of health.

Public engagement and partnership
Responding to social barriers and crisis situations. Information, assistance and solidarity--based activities make it easier for people in more difficult situations to use education, support and institutional services.

Solidarity with Ukraine. The MUG supports the academic community from Ukraine through social, informational, psychological and legal assistance, as well as activities facilitating the continuation of education. This is an example of reducing inequalities in a crisis situation and building a solidaristic academic community.

Education and student activity. Inclusive competencies
Education on diversity and accessibility prepares students to work with different groups of patients and to build relationships based on respect.

Internal University activities
Accessibility as an institutional standard. Organisational solutions for persons with special needs structure support for candidates, students, doctoral candidates and employees, strengthening equal access to academic development.

The MUG support system. The MUG develops a support system which includes, among others, support from the Rector's Representative for the Support of People with Special Needs and the Department for the Support of People with Special Needs, as well as services for students applying for scholarships for persons with disabilities.



16

publications assigned to SDG 11 in 2024-2025

57

citations of publications in this area

18

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Sustainable Cities and Communities

As a university connected with Gdańsk and the region, the MUG is actively involved in activities for the health and well-being of local communities. Preventive, educational and social initiatives support residents in making informed health decisions, facilitate access to expert knowledge and contribute to building a more aware and resilient local community.

Flagship examples

The MUG for the inhabitants of the region
The “For Society” website organises University initiatives addressed to residents, patients, pupils, teachers and local communities. It brings together educational, preventive and medical knowledge popularisation activities, showing the MUG as a university actively present in the life of Gdańsk and the region.

Source: dlaspoleczenstwa.gumed.edu.pl; nature of contribution: direct

Science and health in urban space
Open events co-created by the MUG, including the Fahrenheit Science Picnic and the Pomeranian Researchers’ Night, bring medical knowledge beyond lecture rooms and laboratories. They enable residents to have direct contact with scientists, students and experts, strengthening the University’s social role and building healthy, aware and better-informed communities.

Source: FarU / Pomeranian Researchers’ Night / the MUG website; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Community health and the urban environment
Publications assigned to SDG 11 concern public health, the living environment and the social determinants of health, showing the impact of the city, space and living conditions on residents’ well-being.

Public engagement and partnership. The University’s presence in the life of the city and region
The MUG develops educational, preventive and science popularisation activities addressed to residents, schools, patients and families, strengthening relations between a medical university and the local community.

Education and student activity. Gniew as a 15-minute city
Student projects, including activities implemented in the city of Gniew within the 15-minute city model, develop the competencies of future medical professionals in psychoeducation, health promotion and work with local communities.

Internal University activities. The campus as a space of health and integration
Activities related to greenery, shared spaces, plastic reduction, waste sorting and the development of friendly infrastructure strengthen the campus as part of the city – a place of study, work, rest and building an academic community.



23

publications assigned to SDG 12 in 2024-2025

165

citations of publications in this area

54

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Responsible Consumption and Production

At the MUG, responsible consumption is reflected in the daily functioning of the campus. It includes, among other things, waste sorting, reducing the use of plastic, ecological education and promoting conscious choices. These activities constitute a practical dimension of implementing sustainable development principles and show how they can be introduced into the University's everyday life.

Flagship examples

Waste segregation
The system includes five basic waste fractions and separate collections of batteries, toners and electronic waste.

Source: dlaspoleczenstwa.gumed.edu.pl; nature of contribution: direct

The MUG Plastic-Free initiative
The University promotes reducing plastic and changing everyday habits at work, in study and in daily campus life.

Source: dlaspoleczenstwa.gumed.edu.pl; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Resources, environment and health
Publications assigned to SDG 12 strengthen knowledge about the impact of consumption, production and waste on the environment and public health.

Public engagement and partnership. Changing everyday practices
Pro-environmental communication helps translate abstract principles of sustainable development into concrete decisions by employees, students and campus users.

Education and student activity. Education on responsible consumption
Information and student activities concerning ecology, waste sorting and plastic reduction translate the principles of sustainable development into everyday practices.

Internal University activities. Organising waste flows and saving resources
Operational solutions concerning waste sorting, electronic waste, water and energy use, and heating provide a structured framework for the campus's environmental responsibility.

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

SDG 12



Waste segregation
Photo: Dawid Linkowski & Witold Deka



15

publications assigned to SDG 13 in 2024-2025

635

citations of publications in this area

549

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Climate Action

The MUG also views climate action from a public health perspective. The University draws attention to the impact of climate change on human health, while at the same time undertaking activities related to responsible campus management and reducing its environmental impact.

Flagship examples

Photovoltaics and impact reduction
The BRODZIEC project strengthens the University's climate action through the development of renewable energy sources and the reduction of infrastructure's environmental impact.

Source: Office for Projects; nature of contribution: direct

Climate as a health challenge
Publications assigned to SDG 13 show the links between climate, pollution and public health. For a medical university, climate is also closely connected with health.

Source: SciVal / CWB; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. **Health effects of climate change and pollution**
Scientific output in this area helps explain how environmental factors influence disease, population-level risks and quality of life.

Public engagement and partnership. **Green Campus**
Cooperation with BGK on a project increasing green areas shows that energy and environmental activities can be combined with care for spatial quality, the microclimate and the well-being of the academic community.

Education and student activity. **Environmental determinants of health**
Education on climate and environmental health prepares students to understand new public health challenges.

Internal University activities. **Adaptation of the campus to climate challenges**
Decisions concerning energy, greenery, shading and spatial quality help reduce the University's environmental footprint and improve conditions for work and study in a changing climate.

SDG 13



9

publications assigned to SDG 14 in 2024-2025

40

citations of publications in this area

22

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Life Below Water

For the MUG, SDG 14 is an indirect area, but an important one from the perspective of environmental health. The University's activities focus, among other things, on studying the impact of pharmaceuticals, pollutants, microorganisms and aquatic environmental quality on living organisms and human health. In the case of a medical university, the protection of aquatic ecosystems is connected with responsible pharmaceutical use, environmental toxicology, public health and awareness of the impact of human activity on the environment.

Flagship examples

PHARMARINE i PharmaSea
The projects concern the presence of pharmaceuticals and their residues in the marine environment and their impact on aquatic organisms. PHARMARINE analyses the transport of pharmaceuticals to the European part of the Arctic, while PharmaSea involves seasonal monitoring of pharmaceutical contamination in Baltic Sea waters and marine organisms. Together, the projects strengthen knowledge of micropollutants, bioaccumulation and the need to monitor pharmaceuticals in sensitive marine ecosystems.

Source: Office for Projects; nature of contribution: direct

Environmental toxicology and pharmaceutical responsibility
The MUG's teaching and expert activities strengthen awareness of the impact of medicinal substances, pollutants and microorganisms on water and aquatic organisms. In this understanding, SDG 14 links environmental protection with the education of future medical professionals, responsible pharmaceutical use and understanding of the environmental determinants of health.

Source: Office for Education; nature of contribution: indirect

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Pharmaceuticals, pollutants and aquatic organisms
Research conducted in this area helps explain how substances used in medicine enter the aquatic environment, move between ecosystems and affect marine organisms, including through bioaccumulation and potential transfer in the food chain.

Public engagement and partnership. Human impact on aquatic ecosystems
Knowledge about pollutants, pharmaceuticals and water quality supports social responsibility for medicine use, pollution reduction and environmental protection.

Education and student activity. Environmental toxicology
Education in toxicology, microbiology and environmental health develops students' understanding of the relationship between medicine, the aquatic environment and human health.

Internal University activities. Environmental responsibility
Waste management, plastic reduction, responsible use of resources and selected campus practices support institutional environmental responsibility, including the indirect dimension of water protection.



6

publications assigned to SDG 15 in 2024-2025

5

citations of publications in this area

2

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Life on Land

The MUG implements the assumptions of SDG 15 through environmental protection activities, ecological education and research conducted in the spirit of the One Health approach. This perspective assumes a close connection between the health of humans, animals and ecosystems, emphasising the mutual influence of these areas and the need to consider them jointly.

Flagship examples

The MUG Apiary
The apiary in the MUG Medicinal Plants Garden and #ecoMUG activities promote ecological awareness and responsible relationships with biodiversity and ecosystems.

Source: dlaspoleczenstwa.gumed.edu.pl; nature of contribution: direct

One Health and the terrestrial environment
The project concerning intensive poultry farming analyses the impact of environmental changes on human health and ecosystems, strengthening the One Health approach.

Source: Office for Projects; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Human, animal and ecosystem health
Publications and environmental projects show that the condition of terrestrial ecosystems is connected with health security and quality of life.

Public engagement and partnership. Education on biodiversity
Activities addressed to the academic community and the wider environment help shape sensitivity to the role of plants, pollinators and green areas in the urban environment.

Education and student activity. Ecological education
Issues of environmental health, biodiversity and the human-environment relationship strengthen the education of future medical professionals.

Internal University activities. Green campus practices
Reducing plastic, waste sorting and biodiversity activities support a culture of responsible environmental management on campus.

SDG 15

The MUG hives
Photo: Paweł Sudara



14

publications assigned to SDG 16 in 2024-2025

33

citations of publications in this area

9

highest citation count for a single publication in the dataset

Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

SDG 16 concerns the building of responsible and transparent institutions based on the principles of respect, ethics and safety. The MUG supports the implementation of this goal through organisational solutions, training, clearly defined procedures and anti-discrimination measures. These initiatives serve to create a safe and supportive working and learning environment.

Flagship examples

A safe working and learning environment
The MUG strengthens the culture of a responsible institution through training on preventing workplace bullying and harassment, information activities and the development of standards for safe relations in the academic environment. Providing employees with training shows that preventing violations, building awareness and strengthening trust are treated as elements of the University's day-to-day functioning.

Source: HR Office; nature of contribution: direct

HR Excellence in Research as a standard of a transparent institution
The European Commission's HR Excellence in Research certificate confirms that the MUG implements the principles of the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. In the context of SDG 16, this means strengthening transparency, fair procedures, responsible research career management and trust in the academic institution.

Source: the MUG website, HR Excellence in Research; nature of contribution: direct

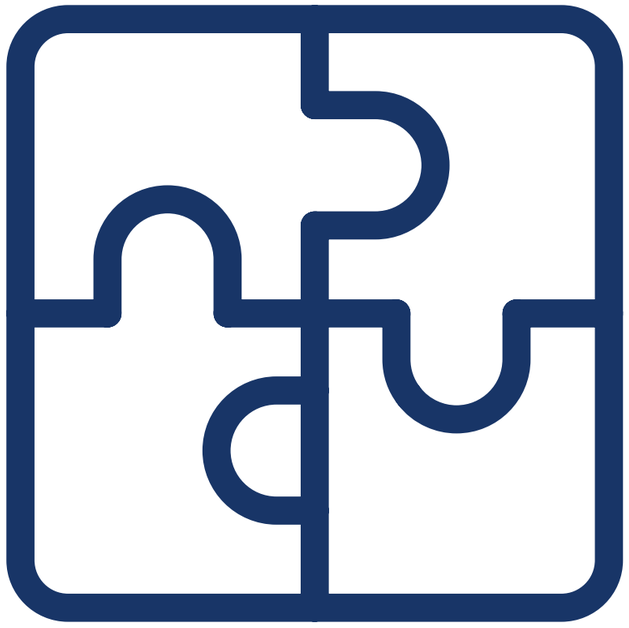
Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. Ethics and institutions in public health
Publications assigned to SDG 16 relate to the quality of institutions, responsibility, social relations and organisational aspects of the healthcare system.

Public engagement and partnership. Culture of Respect
Initiatives connected with the culture of respect strengthen equal treatment, counteract discrimination and promote responsible communication, while their significance extends beyond the organisation of the University's work.

Education and student activity. Standards of academic relations
Educational and information activities teach the recognition of violations, anti-discrimination practices and the building of relationships based on respect, safety and responsibility for others.

Internal University activities. Transparent procedures and responsible governance
Training, organisational policies, recruitment procedures and HR standards strengthen the MUG as an institution based on trust, transparency, fair treatment and protection of the rights of the academic community.



Partnerships for the Goals

Partnerships are among the most important mechanisms of the MUG's social, scientific and international impact. In the current SciVal bibliometric export, no publications assigned to SDG 17 were identified for the University; therefore, this section emphasises documented forms of institutional cooperation, internationalisation, social engagement and relationship-building with the wider environment. SDG 17 shows how the MUG increases the scale of its impact through cooperation with academic, clinical, social, local government and international partners – in the areas of public health, education, science popularisation, social responsibility and sustainable development.

Flagship examples

Engaged University
The accreditation awarded to the MUG in 2025 confirms that social engagement, knowledge exchange, social responsibility and sustainable development are permanent elements of the University's mode of functioning. It is an important quality mark for an institution that builds relations with its environment and develops the model of an engaged university.

Source: Office for Development; nature of contribution: direct

Fahrenheit Union of Universities
The MUG co-creates the Fahrenheit Union of Universities with Gdańsk University of Technology and the University of Gdańsk, developing academic, research, educational and social cooperation for the benefit of Pomerania. The shared potential of FarU includes 44,000 students, nearly 4,000 research, academic and teaching staff, and more than 1,700 doctoral candidates. The partnership strengthens the region's potential as a centre of science, health, technology and education. Cooperation with the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk and the Stanisław Moniuszko Academy of Music in Gdańsk also plays an important role in the activities of the Tri-City academic community, broadening inter-university initiatives to include an artistic and cultural perspective.

Source: the MUG main website / FarU; nature of contribution: direct

ACE^2-EU
The MUG's membership in the European Alliance Applied, Connected, Entrepreneurial and Engaged European University strengthens the international dimension of education, research, innovation and social engagement. The Alliance brings together nine universities and 56 institutional partners from across Europe, supporting joint responses to the challenges of digital, green and socio-economic transformation. The Alliance received EUR 14.3 million in European Commission funding for the development of the European Universities Alliance.

Source: the MUG main website / ACE^2-EU; nature of contribution: direct

Pomeranian Researchers' Night
The event coordinated by the MUG engages Pomeranian universities, scientific institutions and science centres, showing how regional and national partnerships can jointly build trust in science, develop social education and strengthen dialogue between universities and residents. The NightMission and Research4Resilience projects give this cooperation a European dimension and provide funding for future editions. The Research4Resilience project obtained EUR 81,000 in European Commission funding for the MUG and EUR 319,000 in total funding for the project partners.

Source: the MUG main website, Pomeranian Researchers' Night website, NightMission and Research4Resilience projects; nature of contribution: direct

Full spectrum of activities

Research and projects. International and inter-university cooperation networks
The MUG's participation in the FarU, ACE^2-EU, NightMission and Research4Resilience initiatives strengthens the internationalisation of research, education and science popularisation and develops relations with academic, institutional and social partners.

Public engagement and partnership. A socially engaged university
The Engaged University accreditation, the Pomeranian Researchers' Night, the Fahrenheit Science Picnic and activities conducted with regional partners show that the MUG develops cooperation extending beyond the traditional framework of academic activity.

Education and student activity. ACE^2-EU and international volunteering
The ACE^2-EU Alliance, academic mobility, job shadowing, educational activities and the ACE^2-EU Local Volunteering Team strengthen the international experience of students and doctoral candidates and develop competencies needed for work in an intercultural environment.

Internal University activities. Reporting and impact coordination
The preparation of the SDG Report integrates data from many areas of the University's activity, strengthens cooperation between units and creates a basis for cyclical monitoring and communication of the MUG's social impact.



Photo: Dawid Linkowski & Witold Deka