

Sustainability grant for course/module development

To stimulate the further integration of sustainable development into UM core curricula

Integrating sustainability in the course curricula at UM

At Maastricht University, one of the key aims of [the strategy on sustainability](#) is to integrate sustainability into all educational programmes. In line with [the main school of thought](#) on education for sustainable development, education for sustainable development empowers learners to take informed decisions and responsible actions for environmental integrity, economic viability and a just society, for present and future generations, while respecting cultural diversity. This grant from the SUM2030 Education pillar is meant for teachers who would like to integrate a sustainable development topic, the sustainable development goals, or sustainable development competencies into their course. The grant can provide the needed time to (re)develop educational modules or some of its components to integrate sustainable development into existing or new core curricula. The time that can be freed up is capped at €4000, - for a granted proposal. Up to three proposals in total can be granted. One central requirement for this grant is that the course should not be extracurricular or optional, but it is part of the obligatory curriculum for students of the respective Bachelor or Master level programme.

Who can apply?

The sustainability grant for education is intended for staff involved in teaching activities. Teachers also denote teaching staff who function on assistant, associate or professor positions.

- Teachers, or a course team, can apply for this grant;
- Teachers who are involved with the development or revision of a course (concerning e.g. intended learning outcomes, tasks, case studies, literature);
- Teachers must have an employment contract for the duration of the intended course run;
- Teachers, must receive approval of their manager/supervisor to spend the accommodated hours on the (re)development of the module/course;
- Teachers with a willingness to share ideas and experiences concerning their ideas how to integrate sustainability in modules/courses with others.

Criteria against which the proposal will be assessed:

- The proposal integrates topics on sustainable development, sustainable development goals, or sustainability competencies* into either an existing course or contributes to the development of a new course;
- The course is part of the obligatory curriculum (so the course is not optional or extracurricular);
- Quality of the proposal (e.g. clear alignment with the intended learning outcomes of the course, relevance in relation to the overall course topic, feasibility of proposed plan in time);
- Distribution of granted proposals over different programmes and faculties.

* For further explanation on sustainability competencies, see e.g.: UNESCO (2017). Education for Sustainable Development Goals: Learning Objectives: https://www.unesco.de/sites/default/files/2018-08/unesco_education_for_sustainable_development_goals.pdf

Procedure

- Applicants apply to the grant by submission of a proposal by May 1, 2023;
- An expert panel composed by the Sustainable UM2030 programme will evaluate the proposals;
- In case the proposal is granted, the applicants can provide a written statement from direct supervisors/managers that they will allocate time for the (re)development of the module/course;
- After the project is completed by the applicants, the results will be evaluated by the sustainable UM2030 programme.