

PARTNERSHIP • RESPONSIBLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP • SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT • SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT • SUSTAINABLE HEALTH

SOCIAL IMPACTS

2020-2021

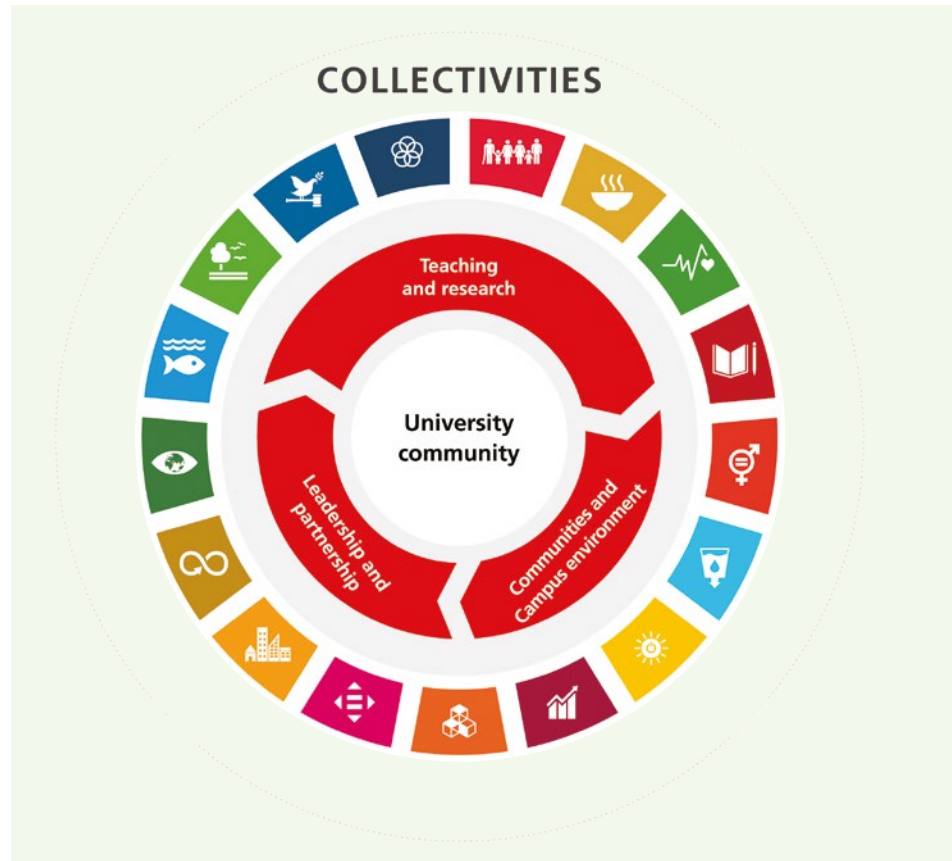


UNIVERSITÉ
LAVAL

FOREWORD

Université Laval has five cross-cutting development initiatives in place. These initiatives are part and parcel of its teaching and research mission and a testament to its sincere, ongoing commitment to the broader community. Collaborative and inclusive, each of them is managed by a scientific director and an administrative director, and guided by an issue table made up of representatives from the university community and stakeholders from the broader community. More than 120 people are involved in these initiatives.

By incorporating teaching and research, these initiatives help to deepen cross-cutting themes and expand and accelerate Université Laval's social impact. With the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as their shared base, they build on three interdependent components that feed off each other. Their interdependence reinforces our teaching and research mission, drives experimentation with different sustainability approaches, fosters sustainable community behaviors, and helps build leadership and partnerships. In so doing, these initiatives promote innovation and the acquisition and sharing of knowledge for the benefit of the broader community.



CROSS-CUTTING INITIATIVES

Sustainable development

Sustainable development has been central to Université Laval's mission for many years. Driven by this deeply rooted culture of sustainability, the university community is more engaged than ever and ready to continue on this path and step up its efforts to contribute to the common good.

For more information: ulaval.ca/en/sustainable-development

Sustainable health

An integral part of the regional ecosystem, our sustainable health initiative is intended to support, enhance, and encourage collaborative interdisciplinary initiatives in teaching, research, and community engagement. Our aim is to improve practices and behaviors through sustainable health-related research projects and training using the living lab approach. Developed in close cooperation with Mon équilibre ULaval, PULSAR, and Alliance Santé Québec, this initiative also involves a number of other government and regional partners.

For more information: ulaval.ca/sante-durable

Responsible entrepreneurship

Our responsible entrepreneurship initiative seeks to foster a strong entrepreneurial culture informed by the principles of sustainability. The University's teaching and research mission makes UL a great place to awaken the entrepreneurial spirit and encourage students and graduates to develop projects oriented toward social, scientific, and technological innovation. The projects that emerge can have a real impact on the community and the Greater Québec City region.

For more information:

ulaval.ca/en/responsible-entrepreneurship

Social engagement

Our social engagement initiative encourages members of the UL community to become more involved in community development and social and environmental issues. We want their social engagement to enrich the University's teaching, research, and community service mission, and vice versa.

The members of our community are building this initiative through their invaluable voluntary commitment. The goal is to develop and recognize social engagement, itself a reflection of a culture already well established at Université Laval.

For more information:

ulaval.ca/en/socialengagement

Partnership

Our partnership initiative is redefining the partnership experience with a view to creating and maintaining solid, sustainable relationships with community stakeholders. This initiative will strengthen the University's engagement as a leading partner and increase the impact of our innovations.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs) adopted in 2015 by the United Nations member states are "a call for action ... to promote prosperity while protecting the planet." The members of the university community are playing an active part in achieving these goals through their individual and collective engagement.

By taking part in this global initiative, Université Laval has positioned itself as a university leader in the drive for global change. In our determination to have a positive, sustainable impact, we will also measure more closely how our actions and those of our community's members advance the SDGs.

un.org/sustainabledevelopment/



NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

FIRST FORUM AND STATEMENT OF SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT / SDGs 1 4 10

The first Social Engagement Forum was held online on November 3 and 11, 2020.

The forum was an opportunity for every member of the university community to help shape our social engagement initiative. We had 89 Forum attendees, 57 participants in preliminary workshops, and 136 who contributed via an online questionnaire.

The Forum's goal was to draft a Statement of Social Engagement laying the foundation for this new initiative. Because engagement and participation are two closely interrelated concepts at the heart of this initiative, the Statement had to be written by and for the members of the university community.

With this Statement, the signatories affirm their willingness to engage, promote engagement, and encourage others to join them. To read and sign the Statement: <https://www.ulaval.ca/en/social-engagement/statement>



MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY AND THE UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL FOUNDATION ARE HONoured FOR THEIR ENGAGEMENT / SDGs 1 10 17

During the most recent fundraising campaign conducted by Centraide Québec and Chaudière-Appalaches, Université Laval and the Université Laval Foundation were recognized for their deep commitment to ending poverty and social exclusion. The University received the Distinction 2020 award in the Education and Health category for institutions with more than 1,000 employees. The Foundation received the same award for workplaces with fewer than 1,000 employees. The Distinction awards go to the businesses and institutions that have the highest rate of staff participation and highest average employee donation.



COMFORT IN A BOX: OUT OF THE CLASSROOM AND INTO THE COMMUNITY / SDGs 1 2 3

Students taking the course NUT-3001, *Menus des collectivités*, as part of their BA in Nutrition usually have to prepare a meal for a buffet attended by their friends and family. Since the pandemic meant the buffet couldn't be held, Professor Anne-Sophie Morisset, lecturer Nancy Doyon, and dietetics technicians Annie Larue and Stéphanie Ouellet showed their spirit of innovation and engagement by suggesting that the students prepare meals for community organizations in the region. Nearly 200 healthy boxed meals were distributed, including 50 that went into Québec City's community fridges.



ETHNOCARE: STRETCHING THE BOUNDARIES OF PHYSICAL MOBILITY / SDGs 3 10

Marc-Antoine Malouin and Louis-Philippe Garneau, two entrepreneurs with master's degrees from the School of Design in the Faculty of Planning, Architecture, Art and Design, are developing high-performance products to enable amputees to have more active daily lives. Ethnocare plans to launch its first product, for which it holds an international patent, in 2022.

NORTHERN AND SUMMER CAMPUS PROGRAMS / SDGs 3 11

Developing and running the Northern and Summer campus programs helped create environments good for everyone's health and well-being. Through this initiative, Université Laval contributed to the physical, psychological, and social health of its community both on campus and off. Participants from various teams and departments teamed up to make these programs a success by tackling the community's well-being as a collective mission.

PARACHUTE PROJECT: TAKING ACTION TO PROMOTE THE PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH OF ENTREPRENEURS / SDGs 3 9 17

The Parachute project is an initiative involving a broad network of external and internal partners, including Entrepreneuriat Laval, the Faculty of Business Administration's Académie entrepreneuriale ULaval-CDPQ, and Mon Équilibre ULaval. Its goal is to make tools and support available to startup founders to help them take care of their well-being—and it has had a real impact. Over the past year, the Parachute project has made psychologists available, held workshops, and hosted a theme-based week, all for free. The activities raised awareness among student entrepreneurs about the importance of paying attention to their own needs, provided them with tools, and pointed them to some good resources. Information videos were also produced, and some of our entrepreneurs talked about the problems they encounter in their daily work.



CONSULTATION WITH UNIVERSITY AND REGIONAL ACTORS IN SUSTAINABLE HEALTH ACTORS / SDGs 3 17

Building on its past efforts to put sustainable health and well-being at the core of its vision and actions, Université Laval further consolidated these pioneering initiatives this year as part of its sustainable health approach and established collaborations with regional partners. A sustainable health issue table was created under the scientific responsibility of Faculty of Education professor Vicky Drapeau to share ideas and lay the foundation for an annual plan.

Table members include organizations involved in research and teaching, such as PULSAR and Mon équilibre ULaval, as well as several university departments. Together they will decide on a series of priority actions aimed at further strengthening our sustainable health culture. With support from Beneva and Bell Let's Talk, several initiatives promoting well-being and mental health will be accelerated over the course of the coming year.



SIGNATURE AND TRANSLATION OF THE OKANAGAN CHARTER / SDGs **3** **10** **17**

The *Okanagan Charter* serves as a guide for universities and colleges that share the common goal of promoting the health and well-being of individuals and the local and broader community. Université Laval's first concrete action under its sustainable health initiative was to sign and translate the Charter in 2021. Adhering to the Charter, a natural outcome of previous actions, makes it possible to target needs and take consistent action in the future. It is also crucial to structuring the initiative, because the Charter's values, principles, and objectives provide a framework for sustainable health actions going forward.

STRATEGIC PROJECTS IN SUSTAINABLE HEALTH / SDGs **3** **4** **11**

Consolidating resources and expertise as part of efforts to build a strong sustainable health culture helped foster a number of strategic projects this year.

- The interdisciplinary **ESSAIM project** is designed to enhance UL's capacity to be proactive and act preventively in the interest of the sustainable health of the University community.
- The **outdoor spaces project** undertaken in the spirit of a living lab serving the campus mobilized the community in support of several concrete proposals, including teaching spaces and gathering places, with a strong Indigenous component.
- More than 40 projects, most of them research projects, were submitted to **Alliance Santé Québec's support program for sustainable health projects**. Of the 20 projects deemed "very good" or "excellent," only six could be funded given the available budget.
- In 2020–2021, 11 other sustainable health research projects were launched or completed in collaboration with PULSAR and Université Laval, and 10 others are under way.

LAUNCH OF THE UNIC INTERNATIONAL STUDENT NETWORK ON CLIMATE / SDGs **4** **13** **17**

On October 8, 2020, Université Laval and several of its partners, including the government of Québec, the government of Canada, Ville de Québec, and the McCall MacBain Foundation, launched the International Student Network on Climate (UniC). Led by Institut en environnement, développement et société (Institut EDS), this international network brings together university students involved in interdisciplinary climate projects. The network has three strategic goals: support the sharing of knowledge and practices, encourage new collaborations, and highlight student action. More than 370 students around the world have already joined UniC. Network members met during the International Student Summit on Climate in July 2021.



INAUGURATION OF THE IKEDA CENTER / SDGs **4** **16**

Thanks to funding from the Makiguchi Foundation for Education and at the initiative of the faculties of Arts and Humanities, Education, and Theology and Religious Studies, a new study center was inaugurated at Université Laval. The mission of the **Ikeda Center**, named in honor of Daisaku Ikeda, a Japanese Buddhist philosopher, peace-builder, and educator, is to foster reflection on the concepts of global citizenship, dialogue, and peace through events such as conferences, colloquia, and seminars. The Center will offer its first course, *Citoyenneté globale, dialogue et paix: étude d'une dynamique*, to the community in winter 2022.



CREATION OF A DIRECTORY OF DIGITAL EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES / SDGs **4**

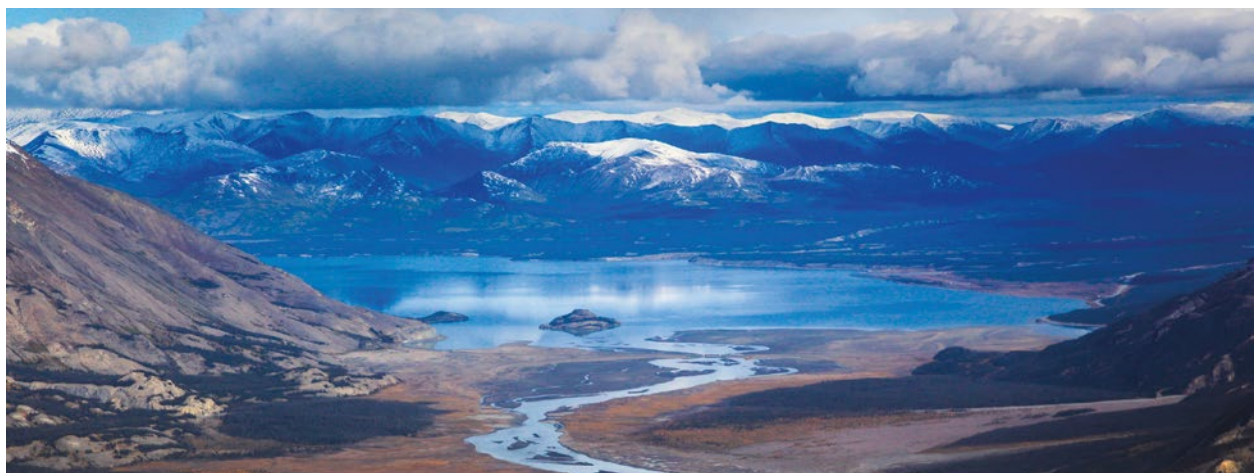
In collaboration with the library and the Office of the Vice Rector, External and International Affairs and Health (VRAEIS), Institut en environnement, développement et société (Institut EDS) created a directory of digital resources for education on sustainable development. The idea is to provide resources and tools to support distance learning. Accessible to all, the directory features reliable, high-quality educational resources from regional and international bodies.



TWO NEW RESEARCH CENTERS TO BE BUILT IN THE HIGH ARCTIC / SDGs **6** **14** **15**

A multidisciplinary team led by professors Gilles Gauthier and Marcel Babin of the Faculty of Science and Engineering obtained \$17.5 M to build two research stations on Baffin Island in the High Arctic. These two new stations will allow more than 30 researchers, half of them affiliated with Université Laval, to expand research efforts in biology, oceanography, limnology, geography, geology,

and health in the region and in northern communities. The project will be conducted in partnership with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association (QIA), which will play an important role in managing the future stations.





ADOPTION OF AN ACTION PLAN FOR RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES / SDGs 10 16

In December 2020 Université Laval adopted an action plan called *Université Laval en action avec les Premiers Peuples*. The plan is based on the principles in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the recommendations of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission. It proposes actions aimed at strengthening and improving support for members of Indigenous communities on campus and in their home communities, and increasing collaboration between the university network and Indigenous partners in teaching and research. These goals will be achieved by setting up a First Peoples' Circle, developing partnerships with members of the First Nations, and implementing an effective communication strategy.

HELPING DESERT COUNTRIES MANAGE WATER / SDGs 6 17

Professor Amaury Tilmant of the Faculty of Science and Engineering was part of an international research team that created a model to help desert countries, including Jordan, improve how they manage their drinking water. Their work, published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, makes it possible to model interactions between natural phenomena, human factors, and institutional behaviors to predict the impact they will have on a country's drinking water supply.

CREATION OF A COURSE ON THE ENERGY TRANSITION / SDGs 7

In January 2021, the Department of Political Science in the Faculty of Social Sciences introduced a new graduate-level course entitled *Transition énergétique: éthique, politique et économie*. Professor Alexandre Gajevic Sayegh works with graduate students to analyze structural changes intended to bring about a low-carbon economy and policies designed to facilitate efforts to meet strict targets for reducing greenhouse gases.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT THE HEART OF STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS' BUSINESS PLANS / SDGs 8 9

Professors Matthias Pepin, Maripier Tremblay, and Luc Audebrand from the Faculty of Business Administration have developed an innovative business plan modeling tool that incorporates economic, social, and environmental aspects from the first conceptual stages of creating a business. The model is now used by Entrepreneuriat Laval in the entrepreneurial profile and in introductory courses on entrepreneurship at the Faculty of Business Administration.

The Responsible Business Model Canvas is a valuable tool for entrepreneurs, coaches, mentors, and advisors who want to rethink their strategy from a sustainable development perspective.

NEW EDI POLICY AND OPEN CONSULTATION / SDGs 5 10 11

After adhering to the **Dimensions Charter**, Université Laval continued its work in this area by drafting a new Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Policy. This document sets out Université Laval's guiding principles and commitments to its community with respect to EDI. Several consultation sessions were held to give everyone an opportunity to discuss the document and suggest improvements. And because it is responsible for EDI at the University, the Office of the Vice Rector for Human Resources was renamed Office of the Vice Rector for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and Human Resources.





AELIÉS PUBLIC CHAIR AND ROUND TABLE ON RECONCILIATION WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES / SDGs 1 4 10

The AELIÉS public chair held a round table entitled *Premiers peuples: comment mieux faire connaissance?* The purpose of the conference was primarily to answer the following questions: Can we acknowledge our personal and collective biases and find a way to a better understanding? Do those who experienced “the stories” have sufficient opportunities to tell them? How can we live together and share cultures without altering our rich respective identities? How can we make vertical relationships more horizontal so everyone can contribute to and benefit from a common project? The round table was moderated by Alexandre Bacon, Innu founder of Cercle Kisis, and brought together Ghislain Picard, Chief of the Assembly of First Nations Quebec-Labrador, Professor Mélanie Lemire, holder of the Littoral Chair, and Emmanuelle O'Bomsawin, a resident in psychiatry at Université Laval.



CONTRIBUTING TO COMMUNITIES THROUGH BIOCLIMATIC ARCHITECTURE / SDGs 9 11 12

Students under the supervision of Professor Claude Demers and his colleague André Potvin in the course-based master's program in architecture won two awards in the annual competition held by the American Institute of Architects Committee on the Environment. The award-winning projects were developed in the course of a physical ambience workshop and in close collaboration with the community of Ikaluktutiak in Nunavut. Students Caroline Roux, Guillaume Couture, Rosemonde Gadoury-Salvail, Francis Lavoie, Paola Araya-Valder, Juliette Paget, and Victoria Deslandes-Lyon had to develop bioclimatic designs that took the community's ancestral knowledge and the local climate into account. The research will be used to design and build a sports center and provide eco-friendly leisure activities for the population of Ikaluktutiak.

GUIDE TO PROMOTE MUSEUM ACCESS FOR MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES / SDGs 10

In winter 2021, several Université Laval researchers, including emeritus professor Francine Saillant of the Faculty of Social Sciences, teamed up with colleagues at Université du Québec à Montréal and Écomusée du fier monde to publish *Guide pour une expérience inclusive : médiation culturelle, musées et publics diversifiés*. The result of five years of research, the guide contains recommendations on making museums accessible to all. It was launched during the 44th symposium of the International Committee for Museology, a committee of the International Council of Museums.

LEARNING TO PLAY MUSIC WHILE HAVING FUN / SDGs 4 10

An international team led by Professor Francis Dubé of Université Laval's Faculty of Music created Université des jeux(nes) musiciens to help young people learn to play music and develop their creativity. The project, which has both cultural and community aspirations, aims to make educational games part of music education. This living lab will provide an opportunity to study the mechanics, dynamics, and components of games that get young people more involved in learning music. Developed in partnership with the Orchestre symphonique de Québec, Université des jeux(nes) musiciens targets young people from different social backgrounds in the Québec City area.





SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY NETWORK ACCELERATOR PROGRAM / SDGs 13

This project combined expertise in research and development, support, business incubation, and training to act as an accelerator specialized in sustainable mobility. For the project, Université Laval formed a consortium of actors capable of contributing their expertise and networks to accelerate ten innovative projects developed in response to concrete issues in sustainable mobility.

The first phase consisted of recruiting startups with projects that meet concrete sustainable mobility needs. The second phase involved supporting them through the entire innovation cycle to develop their projects and bring them to fruition faster.

FERREOL: LOW ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SKIS / SDGs 12

Sustainable ski pioneer Ferreol attracted considerable attention this past year, winning multiple awards and honours. Student entrepreneurs Jonathan Audet, Etienne Boucher, and Félix Lapointe, all graduates of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, are selling skis designed and manufactured here in Québec with local materials suited to local conditions. These three ski fans are looking to inspire the ski industry with linen fiber technology that reduces the environmental footprint of alpine skis by replacing most of the synthetic fibers currently used. The company's goal is to push other ski manufacturers to adopt greener practices in the years ahead and make the industry more eco-friendly.

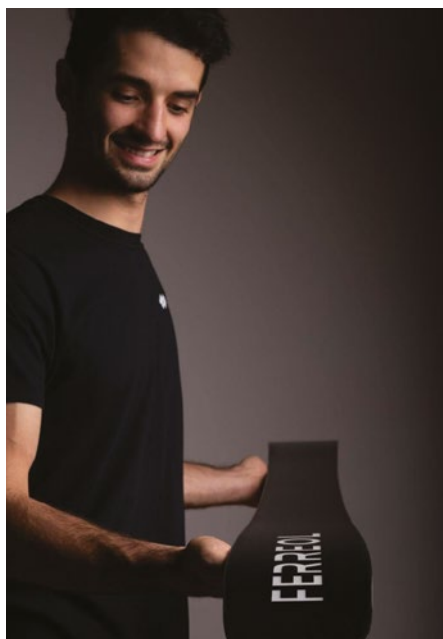


Photo credit: Julie Moffet

THE BOREAL FOREST, AN ALLY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE / SDGs 9 13 15

Professor Évelyne Thiffault of the Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics will lead a new research team in conjunction with Professor François Ancil of the Faculty of Science and Engineering to investigate ways in which the boreal ecosystem can be used to mitigate climate change. A multidisciplinary team of 10 principal investigators and more than 20 collaborators will study carbon, water, and energy exchanges between the atmosphere and the boreal forest. They will use the data to develop a model to reduce the level of CO₂ in the atmosphere and put more forest products on the market. This ambitious sustainable research project received an \$8.2 million grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation and the government of Québec.

THE CLIMATE ACTION BAROMETER: A TOOL EVERYONE CAN USE / SDGs 13

In December 2020, Laboratoire de l'action climatique published a new edition of its *Baromètre de l'action climatique 2020: disposition des Québécois et des Québécoises envers les défis climatiques*. The report, written in partnership with climate solutions media Unpointcing, looks at Quebecers' knowledge of climate issues and what they're doing about them. The lab team is made up of Université Laval researchers specialized in environmental marketing communication and is supervised by Professor Valériane Champagne-Saint-Arnaud of the Faculty of Business Administration.

RENEWAL OF THE COLLABORATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL AND THE UNITED NATIONS FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION / SDGs 1 2 17

Université Laval and the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) renewed their collaboration agreement, first signed in 2017. Led on the UL side by Professor Alain Olivier of the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences and Professor Geneviève Parent of the Faculty of Law, this collaboration promotes tool and data sharing. Under the agreement, Université Laval will continue participating in SAGA, a project led by the Québec government and the FAO to train professionals on climate change adaptation in Senegal and Haiti, but will also work with international organizations and local partners to set up a new individualized graduate program in food security.



UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL AND FAIRMONT LE CHÂTEAU FRONTENAC JOIN FORCES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT / SDGs 13 17

Université Laval and Fairmont Le Château Frontenac have formed a partnership to ensure the hotel's carbon neutrality using carbon credits obtained by the Montmorency Forest (FMM). The agreement provides support for planting additional trees in the FMM and creating a fund to support sustainable-forestry training and research. The first academic award under the partnership, a \$10,000 master's scholarship, was awarded in winter 2021 to Véronique Rouleau. Through this partnership, Université Laval and Fairmont Le Château Frontenac hope to encourage other institutions to take more measures to combat climate change and adopt behaviors that promote sustainable development.



A FEW FIGURES

389 sustainable
development courses

38,162 students
are enrolled in a sustainable development course

72% of undergraduate students
are exposed to sustainable development issues

50% of undergraduate students
have access to the SD profile in the course of their studies

GHG balance—direct emissions (scope 1 and 2)

0 tons of net GHG emissions

Université Laval had a zero net carbon footprint
for the 6th straight year.

More than
100,000 visits
to the Mon équilibre ULaval web portal

More than
7,000 students enrolled in an
entrepreneurship course

More than
1,500 participants in entrepreneurial
activities

More than
200 entrepreneurial projects
supported

938 students enrolled in a
sustainable health course