

Sustainability and Social Commitment Report

Academic year 2025-2026

Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development

Contents

Introduction	3
Area 1. Sustainability and Social Commitment Policies	5
Strategic Plan for Sustainability and Social Commitment 2023-2026	5
Participation in networks	5
Participation in international sustainability rankings	6
THE Impact Ranking 2025	6
QS World University Rankings: Sustainability	8
UI GreenMetric World University Ranking	8
CRUE environmental sustainability self-assessment	9
QS Stars Rating	10
Area 2. Teaching and Research	11
Sustainability in teaching	11
Sustainability in research	12
Other research projects	15
Other initiatives	16
Area 3. Environmental Management	17
Sustainable mobility	17
Energy	17
Area 4. Social Commitment	19
Launch of the Development Cooperation for Global Justice website	19
Cooperation projects	19
Official Development Assistance	19
Community service activities	20
Service-learning (ApS)	20
Solidarity practicum	21
International volunteering	21

Introduction

I am pleased to present the UIC Barcelona Cooperation and Sustainable Development Report for the 2025-2026 academic year. This document provides an overall, structured and cross-cutting overview of the work carried out by the Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development. It aims to show how the University integrates sustainability, development cooperation and social commitment into its academic, research and institutional mission.

The report is therefore an exercise in transparency and accountability, as well as a tool for recognising the work carried out by the university community in favour of comprehensive sustainability: social, environmental and economic. The following pages present the main actions promoted during the academic year, from strategic planning and participation in university networks to teaching, research, environmental management, international cooperation and social impact actions.

The 2025-2026 academic year was marked by the consolidation of the Strategic Plan for Sustainability and Social Commitment 2023-2026, which continued to act as a roadmap for guiding the University's priorities in this area. In a global context shaped by environmental challenges, social inequalities, humanitarian crises and new forms of vulnerability, universities have a special responsibility: to train committed professionals, generate knowledge that is useful to society and actively contribute to building fairer, healthier and more sustainable communities.

Within this framework, UIC Barcelona strengthened its position in international sustainability and impact rankings. In the THE Impact Ranking 2025, the University reached the 301-400 band worldwide and the 12-14 position nationally, standing out especially in SDG 3, Good Health and Well-being, and SDG 5, Gender Equality, where it ranks among the top 100 universities in the world. These results show the University's progress in promoting health, equality, the reduction of inequalities and partnerships for sustainable development.

The development of UIC Barcelona in the UI GreenMetric World University Ranking is also noteworthy. The University took part in this ranking for the sixth consecutive year and achieved position 436 out of 1,745 universities, becoming the second-ranked Spanish private university. This recognition confirms the work carried out in areas such as environmental management, waste, sustainable mobility, energy efficiency and the integration of sustainability into university life.

Beyond indicators and rankings, this report highlights the concrete impact of the actions developed. During the academic year, development cooperation projects, service-learning projects, the solidarity practicum, international volunteering, community health actions, programmes for people in vulnerable situations and awareness-raising activities linked to the Sustainable Development Goals were promoted. Particularly relevant are the actions related to oral health and health promotion on the Sant Cugat Campus, as well as cooperation projects in contexts with limited access to basic services.

Likewise, the publication and updating of the Development Cooperation for Global Justice website, participation in university networks, contributions to Official Development Assistance, the Plan Cooper and applied research projects reinforce the transformative dimension of university cooperation. These actions express an understanding of

sustainability that is not limited to environmental management, but also incorporates social justice, human rights, health, education, equality and partnerships as essential pillars.

This report therefore summarises an academic year of shared work and significant progress. It also invites us to continue strengthening a university culture oriented towards caring for people, the environment and our common home. From the Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development, we reaffirm our commitment to a University capable of teaching, researching, managing and cooperating in the service of a fairer, more supportive and more sustainable society.

Dr Sílvia Albareda Tiana
Director of the Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development

Area 1. Sustainability and Social Commitment Policies



The Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development (OCDS) is made up of Silvia Albareda, Director of the Office; Mariona Vila, Cooperation and Sustainable Development Officer; and two scholarship holders, Morgan Schockert and Ricardo Ortea, who provide support in management tasks.

The Office has helped make the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) visible both within and beyond the University through the website. In 2019, it began with a first mapping of SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being, SDG 4 Quality Education, SDG 5 Gender Equality, SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy, SDG 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities, SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13 Climate Action, SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals, with 33 selected targets and 53 indicators that are updated annually. Subsequently, the information was expanded to include SDG 1 No Poverty, SDG 2 Zero Hunger, SDG 6 Clean Water and Sanitation, SDG 14 Life Below Water and SDG 15 Life on Land, through the presentation of selected targets and actions that show progress towards the challenges of the 2030 Agenda.

Strategic Plan for Sustainability and Social Commitment 2023-2026

The Office continues to promote the Strategic Plan for Sustainability and Social Commitment 2023-2026, which defines objectives, actions and indicators linked to sustainability and social commitment. This plan establishes the roadmap, evaluation tools and priorities for advancing towards a sustainable transformation of the University, in line with the concept of comprehensive sustainability - social, economic and environmental - and with the mission, vision and values of UIC Barcelona.

Participation in networks

- Global Justice, Barcelona City Council - Working group of universities based in Barcelona.
- Interuniversity Council of Catalonia (CIC). It currently serves as the cooperation commission that brings together Catalan universities in this field. On 03/06/2026, the closing session of the UniAct programme for transformative cooperation was held at the University of Girona, where the results of the project were presented. This project, aimed at strengthening cooperation, was carried out by eleven Catalan universities, including UIC Barcelona, with the support of the Catalan Agency for Development Cooperation.
- Network of sustainability officers from Catalan universities.
- Catalan Service-Learning Network and University Service-Learning Network ApS(U).

- SDSN Spain is the Spanish chapter of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), a United Nations initiative to implement the Sustainable Development Goals through research, policy analysis and global cooperation.
- CRUE Sustainability - Working Group on Sustainability in University Teaching.
- CRUE Sustainability - Working Group on University Sustainability Assessment (GESU).
- CRUE Internationalisation and Cooperation - Cooperation Working Group.
- Scientific Committee of Scholas Chairs.
- The Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI) was launched in the lead-up to the Rio+20 Conference in 2012 as an open partnership between various United Nations entities and the higher education community. Its aim is to strengthen the role of the higher education sector in advancing sustainable development by facilitating multi-stakeholder discussions, action and the dissemination of best practices.

Participation in international sustainability rankings

THE Impact Ranking 2025



Figure 1. UIC Barcelona's position in the THE Impact Ranking 2025.

UIC Barcelona was one of the 2,318 universities included in the overall classification of this ranking, based on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, out of the 2,526 institutions that submitted data. The University reached the 301-400 band worldwide and the 12-14 position out of 52 universities nationally. THE Impact Rankings measures universities' commitment to addressing global challenges such as sustainability, social inclusion, economic growth and partnerships between organisations.

Of the 17 goals that make up this ranking, UIC Barcelona prioritised four: SDG 3 Good Health and Well-being, SDG 5 Gender Equality, SDG 10 Reduced Inequalities and SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals.



Figure 2. Results for SDG 3, Good Health and Well-being, in the THE Impact Ranking 2025.

Universitat Internacional de Catalunya ranks among the top 100 universities in the world for SDG 3, Good Health and Well-being, in position 94 out of 1,788 universities. Nationally, it ranks 2nd out of 39 universities. This result supports UIC Barcelona's commitment to promoting well-being and mental health through academic programmes and research projects.

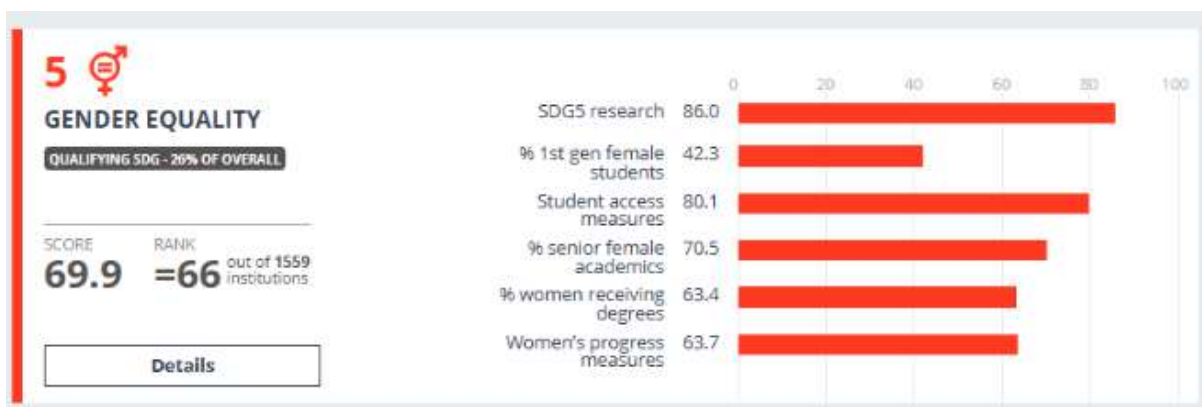


Figure 3. Results for SDG 5, Gender Equality, in the THE Impact Ranking 2025.

In SDG 5, Gender Equality, UIC Barcelona also ranks among the top 100 universities in the world, in position 66-67 out of 1,559 universities. Nationally, it ranks 2nd out of 45 universities. This result strengthens the University's commitment to gender equality through policies, inclusive practices and programmes that support women's development, promote their visibility, encourage the use of non-sexist language and foster research aimed at reducing inequalities.

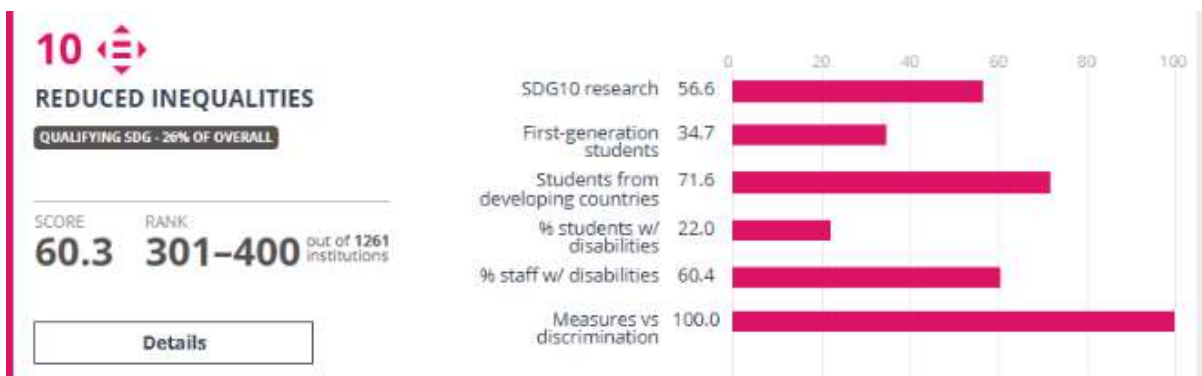


Figure 4. Results for SDG 10, Reduced Inequalities, in the THE Impact Ranking 2025.

In SDG 10, Reduced Inequalities, UIC Barcelona is placed in the 301-400 band out of 1,261 universities worldwide and in the 13-19 position out of 34 universities nationally. The University works actively to reduce inequalities within and beyond its environment through accessible, high-quality education and international cooperation projects aimed at improving living conditions in vulnerable communities.

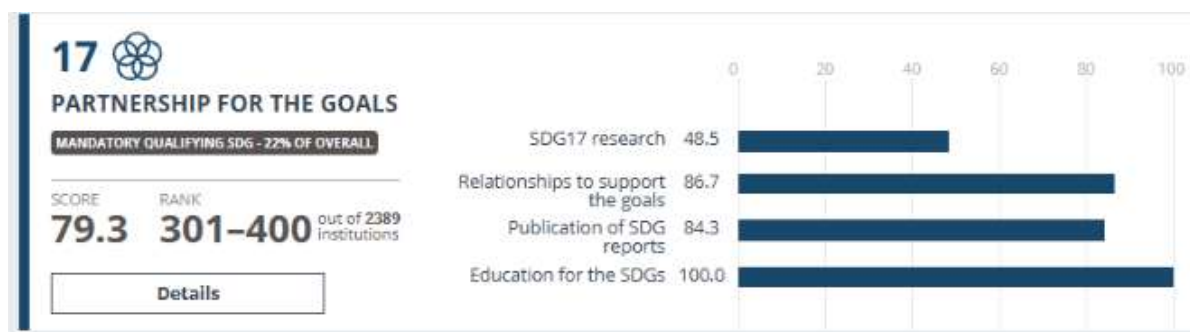


Figure 5. Results for SDG 17, Partnerships for the Goals, in the THE Impact Ranking 2025.

In SDG 17, Partnerships for the Goals, UIC Barcelona is placed in the 301-400 band out of 2,389 universities worldwide and in the 5-6 position out of 52 universities nationally. The University recognises the importance of strategic partnerships for sustainable development and works with institutions, organisations and international networks to share knowledge, resources and experiences that enhance the impact of its actions.

UIC Barcelona has been recognised internationally for its contribution to global sustainable development, promoted by the Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development in collaboration with the entire university community.

QS World University Rankings: Sustainability

Universitat Internacional de Catalunya (UIC Barcelona) has once again been included in the international QS World University Rankings: Sustainability. This ranking assesses universities according to their social impact, environmental impact and governance. In the 2025 edition, UIC Barcelona stands out especially in the Governance category, where it improves its position compared with the previous edition: nationally, it is among the top 10 universities and, worldwide, among the top 250, in position =226 out of 1,743 universities. In the overall classification of this edition, UIC Barcelona ranks =843 out of 1,743 universities and, nationally, 34th out of 44 universities.

UI GreenMetric World University Ranking

UIC Barcelona participated for the sixth consecutive year in the UI GreenMetric World University Ranking on Sustainability, the global sustainability ranking for universities. The University achieved position 436 out of 1,745 universities. Nationally, it ranks 14th out of 32 Spanish universities classified and is the second-ranked private university in Spain in this ranking.

The UI GreenMetric World University Ranking on Sustainability is an initiative of the University of Indonesia, launched in 2010. Its objective is to measure the current situation and policies related to green campuses and sustainability in universities worldwide, through an online survey that collects information on infrastructure, energy and climate change, waste, water, transportation, education and research.

In relation to the indicators, UIC Barcelona's position of 134 out of 1,477 universities worldwide in the Waste category is particularly noteworthy. Waste treatment and recycling activities are a priority area for the University and include, among other actions, the recycling programme, organic and inorganic waste treatment, hazardous waste management and policies to reduce the use of paper and plastic on campus.



3. WORLD RANKINGS HISTORY



Figure 6. UIC Barcelona's global position in GreenMetric, 2020-2025.

CRUE environmental sustainability self-assessment

In January 2025, UIC Barcelona completed the CRUE environmental sustainability self-assessment, obtaining an overall score of 50.8%.

QS Stars Rating



Figure 7. Results in the QS Stars Rating.

UIC Barcelona has obtained the 5 Stars badge in the "Global" category of the QS Stars Rating system. It has also received an excellent rating in the categories of "Teaching", "Online Learning", "Top Ranked Subject (Dentistry)", "Employability", "Good Governance", "Environmental Impact" and "Internationalisation". In the categories "Diversity, Equality and Inclusion" and "Research", it obtained the 4 Stars and 3 Stars badges, respectively.

In addition, UIC Barcelona has been recognised as a sustainable university, with particular emphasis on good governance, equitable and transparent decision-making, fair allocation of resources, accountability at all levels of leadership and environmental responsibility. The University also conveys this commitment to students through its academic programmes. In this assessment, staff satisfaction reached 76.66%.

Area 2. Education and Research



Sustainability in teaching

The Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development has organised various events to promote the incorporation of sustainability into university teaching.



Figure 8. Round table "Advantages of a simple life". Cristina Casanovas, Miriam Villa, Loreto Gala and Joan Hernández.

On 27 November 2025, the 17th edition of the Cross-disciplinary Sustainability Workshop was held, organised by the Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development of UIC Barcelona under the title "Sustainable Consumption and Ethics". The event brought together students from different degree programmes and enabled the presentation of research projects and intervention proposals focused on the ethical challenges of responsible consumption, sustainability and the promotion of more conscious lifestyles. The projects were assessed by a panel made up of members of administrative and service staff, academic staff and external evaluators. In the intervention proposal category, the first prize went to the project "Play with Finance and Win Your Future with MAPFRE", prepared by Carlotta Formica, Margherita Di Leo, Giovanni Tosetto, Fernando Gordún Gómez-Moreno, Tommaso Millefiorini and Mishel Ahuja, from the University Master's Degree in Business Management and Production Systems. In the research project category, first prize went to "Reimagining the Cycle", by Nia Sikharulidze and Sofia Torras Vall. The activity reinforced the Office's commitment to cross-disciplinary training in sustainability and to the integration of ethics, education and social responsibility into university life.

The event included the round table "Advantages of a simple life", moderated by Joan Hernández, lecturer at the Faculty of Communication Sciences, with the participation of Loreto Gala, creative director of the sustainable fashion company Two Thirds; Cristina Casanovas, auditor at the certification body SGS; and Miriam Villa, climate action officer at the Government of Catalonia. The discussion made it possible to reflect on the relationship between sustainable consumption, ethics and individual responsibility based on the speakers' personal and professional experiences. Topics addressed during the session included the impact of everyday decisions, the circular economy, greenwashing, the difficulties companies face in certifying sustainable practices and the importance of education in forming more responsible, aware and free citizens.

On 15 May 2026, the 5th edition of the SDG Congress was held on the Sant Cugat Campus, organised by the Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development of UIC Barcelona under the theme "Health, Climate Action and Sustainable Consumption". The event brought together 165 students from the bachelor's degrees in Early Childhood Education, Primary Education, Psychology, Nursing and Advertising and Public Relations, who presented a total of 36 interdisciplinary projects in the research project and intervention proposal categories. The congress addressed challenges related to health, climate change, responsible consumption and their social consequences from different academic disciplines, promoting viable and sustainable solutions. In the research project category, first prize went to the project "What Drop Will Make the Glass Overflow? A Quantitative Study on Psychological Justification for the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)", prepared by Yvonne García Lavado, Alba Marí Gutiérrez, Marina Mas Borrás, Paula Roca Lamas, Paula Hita Parramon and Maria Conillas Estela, students of the bachelor's degree in Psychology, and supervised by Gabi Fernández. In the intervention proposal category, the winning project was "The Brain and Emotions: How Substance Use Affects Brain Development", developed by Cristina Benítez Nieto, Inés García Sanchez, Cristina Gomar Novoa and Pau Molina Dalmau, students of the bachelor's degree in Primary Education, and supervised by Sílvia Albareda. The activity strengthened the University's commitment to cross-disciplinary sustainability training, the 2030 Agenda and student involvement in the search for educational, social and environmental responses.

Sustainability in research

In the field of research, in 2025 researchers from different faculties of UIC Barcelona published 437 scientific articles related to sustainability. In addition, various research projects related to sustainability and climate action are still ongoing.



Figure 9. Presentation of the 4th edition of the TFG/TFM Awards on human rights, sustainability and social action.

On 28 January 2026, the 4th edition of the TFG and TFM Awards on human rights, sustainability and social action was held, organised by the Office for Cooperation and Sustainable Development of UIC Barcelona as part of the Feast of Saint Thomas Aquinas. This initiative recognises the best bachelor's and master's final projects linked to the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as their contribution to today's major social, environmental and human challenges. The event was chaired by Esther Jiménez, Vice-Rector for Students and Sustainability, and included the presentation of the winning projects. In the bachelor's final project category, the award went to Sara Barragán Triviño, a student of the bachelor's degree in Psychology, for the project "Empathy in Health Sciences Students: Are There Differences According to the Degree Studied?", focused on the importance of strengthening empathy as a cross-cutting competence in health training. In the master's final project category, the winner was Caitlan Harvey-Grogan, a student of the Master's Degree in Biodigital Architecture at UIC Barcelona School of Architecture, for the project "Building the Future: How Bio-Digital Architecture Informed by Posthumanist Philosophy Can Support Human and Non-Human Flourishing", which explores how biodigital architecture can contribute to coexistence, well-being and the coexistence of human and non-human beings in the face of challenges such as climate change, urban expansion and biodiversity loss. With this fourth edition, UIC Barcelona reaffirms its commitment to university education oriented towards research with social impact, sustainability and the defence of human rights.

Some contributions from research groups linked to sustainability are presented below.

The GRC Sustainability and Integral Education (SEI) research group has the following outstanding projects:

- **Green Dialogues - Teacher training in environmental children's literature through dialogic teaching practices**

Green Dialogues is an international teaching and research programme that promotes collaboration in the field of children's environmental literature. Its main objective is to promote

international cooperation to improve educational quality. It also facilitates the exchange of university staff and students between the partner universities: UIC Barcelona, the University of Padua and the Western Norway University of Applied Sciences. During the 2025-2026 academic year, the monograph *The Green Dialogues. Ecocritical Pathways to Children's Literature in Education* (Springer) was published, bringing together the results of the project and disseminating the strategies and theories developed during its implementation.



Figure 10. Final Green Dialogues seminar in Barcelona.

- **The research project Educlima:** Measuring the positive impact of actions carried out to mitigate climate change. Climate education at the University and from the University is funded by AGAUR. The project is led by Sílvia Albareda and includes the participation of researchers from the faculties of Medicine, Architecture, Economic and Social Sciences and Humanities at UIC Barcelona, as well as from six other Spanish universities. Its objectives are to identify the causes of the lack of visibility of citizens' climate actions, measure the positive ecosocial impact of climate mitigation actions and analyse the barriers, motivations and opportunities for carrying out climate education at and from the university.

One of the core areas of the project has been the design of a positive social footprint calculator which, together with the inverse carbon footprint calculator, will lead to the creation of an application.



Figure 11. Educlima project.

- One of the knowledge transfer actions of the SEI Research Group is the Sustainability Thinking Classroom, a space that offers online reflection sessions on educational aspects linked to sustainability. The sessions are held once a month and are aimed at all members of the UIC Barcelona university community, as well as lecturers from other universities and active teachers.

The sessions held this academic year were:

- "Expectations for COP 30" - Session held on 03/11/2025. Pía de la Viesca.
- "Innovation strategies for sustainable fishing" - Session held on 01/12/2025. Susana Junquera.
- "Austerity, the value of simplicity" - Session held on 02/02/2026. Loreto Gala.

Other research projects

- **The Erasmus+ POLIS Project**, in which UIC Barcelona School of Architecture participates together with other international universities and institutions, arose from the need to train specialists in urban and territorial planning in Latin American cities in order to address the main environmental and social challenges they face. The main objective of the project is the development of a Specialisation Course in Urban and Territorial Planning.

The fourth phase of the project is currently underway, with particular attention to the months dedicated to the TERRAS course, between May and July, and to the Collaborative Workshop, between August and September. The course is structured around seven seminars, with a total of 90 hours, and a final collaborative workshop. This training focuses on sustainable and smart urbanism and seeks to prepare participants both for their professional development and for addressing the complex challenges of Latin America.

UIC Barcelona participates in the project together with the University of Piura (Peru), the Jorge Basadre Grohmann National University (Peru), Arturo Prat University (Chile), the University of La Serena (Chile), the Catholic University of Santiago de Guayaquil (Ecuador), the Private Technical University of Loja (Ecuador), the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra (Portugal) and INCOMA (International Consulting and Mobility Agency), based in Spain.

The UIC Barcelona School of Architecture researchers involved in the project are Carmen Mendoza, who leads the team, Marta Benages and Diego Navarro, with the support of research assistant Luzgélík Delgado.

Other initiatives

- During 2025, Sílvia Albareda led the project "Intercontinental Curricular Experience for the Development of Ecosocial Competences", developed online with the participation of institutions from Argentina, Ecuador, Colombia and Mozambique. This action promoted an international experience aimed at strengthening ecosocial competences in diverse academic contexts.

Between 13 and 18 July 2025, Sílvia Albareda took part in the Integral Ecology Seminar held in Córdoba (Argentina), as part of an academic stay linked to lines of work in sustainability and integral ecology.

Later, from 12 to 15 August 2025, she carried out a stay at the Catholic University of La Plata (Argentina) in connection with the project "App to measure the positive social footprint and the inverse carbon footprint". During this visit, she taught a practical class, held a group tutorial with students and maintained institutional meetings with the rector and the vice-rector for research to explore possible avenues of collaboration. The agenda also included a visit to an urban settlement and a radio interview. This activity formed part of broader follow-up work for the Climate Education project, developed through periodic online meetings during the previous academic year.

Finally, on 18 August 2025, she gave the lecture "Comprehensive Sustainability. Care for Our Common Home in Christian-inspired Universities" at Universidad Austral in Argentina. During this visit, she also met with the rector and the vice-rector for research to assess future collaborations, and led a research seminar on sustainability with faculty members of the institution.

Area 3. Environmental Management



During this academic year, actions were developed focusing on institutional coordination, the promotion of more sustainable mobility and the improvement of energy efficiency. Within this framework, Mariona Vila held monthly meetings with the network of sustainability officers from Catalan universities.

Sustainable mobility

In 2025, the Operations Department conducted a mobility survey aimed at students, administrative and service staff, and academic staff, with the objective of understanding how the university community travels to the campuses and planning measures to promote more sustainable mobility.

Energy



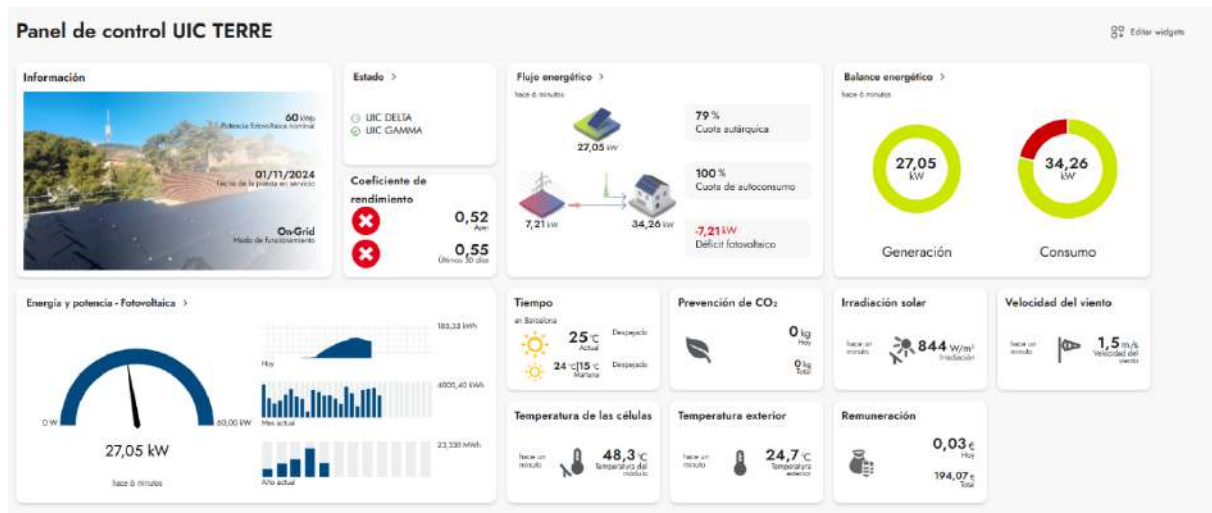


Figure 12. Control panel for the solar panels on the Barcelona Campus.

During the 2025-2026 period, UIC Barcelona continued to consolidate its commitment to sustainability, energy efficiency and climate action through the use of renewable energy. The photovoltaic solar installations previously deployed on the Barcelona Campus remained operational, contributing to self-consumption and reducing dependence on non-renewable energy sources.

Between 1 May 2025 and 30 April 2026, the University generated 221,780 kWh of solar energy. This production reflects the positive impact of the photovoltaic systems installed in campus buildings and supports UIC Barcelona's strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve energy efficiency. In addition, the Barcelona Campus continued to receive energy supply from Atlas Energy, a provider that supplies 100% renewable energy, thereby reinforcing the University's transition towards cleaner energy sources.

Area 4. Social Commitment



Launch of the Development Cooperation for Global Justice website

Development cooperation includes actions aimed at promoting comprehensive and sustainable human development, reducing poverty and guaranteeing human rights in a more equitable and just society. Universitat Internacional de Catalunya contributes to this effort through horizontality, mutual interest and transparency, with the aim of creating partnerships between different countries and actors within the framework of transformative cooperation.

Cooperation projects

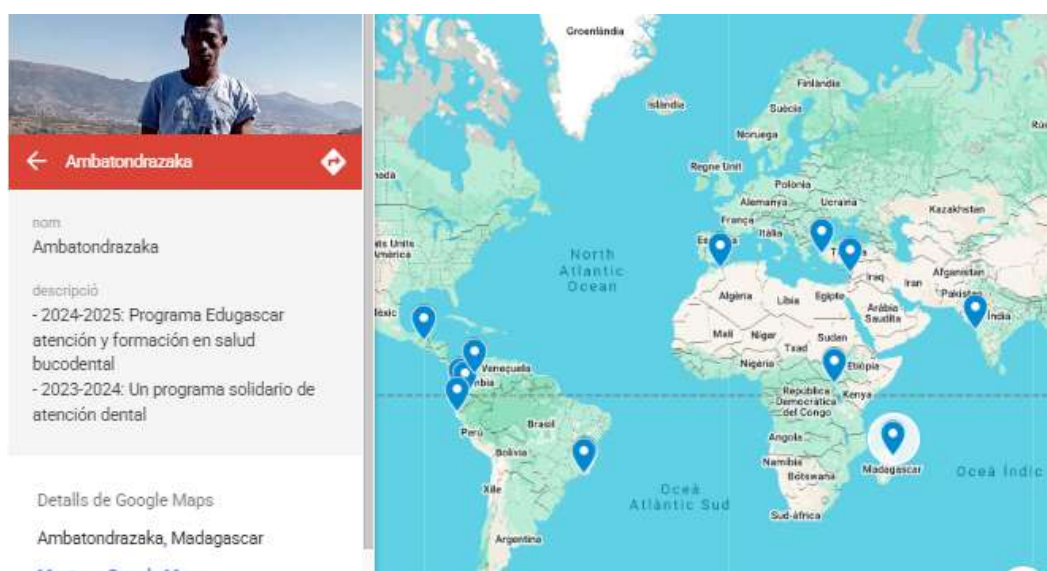
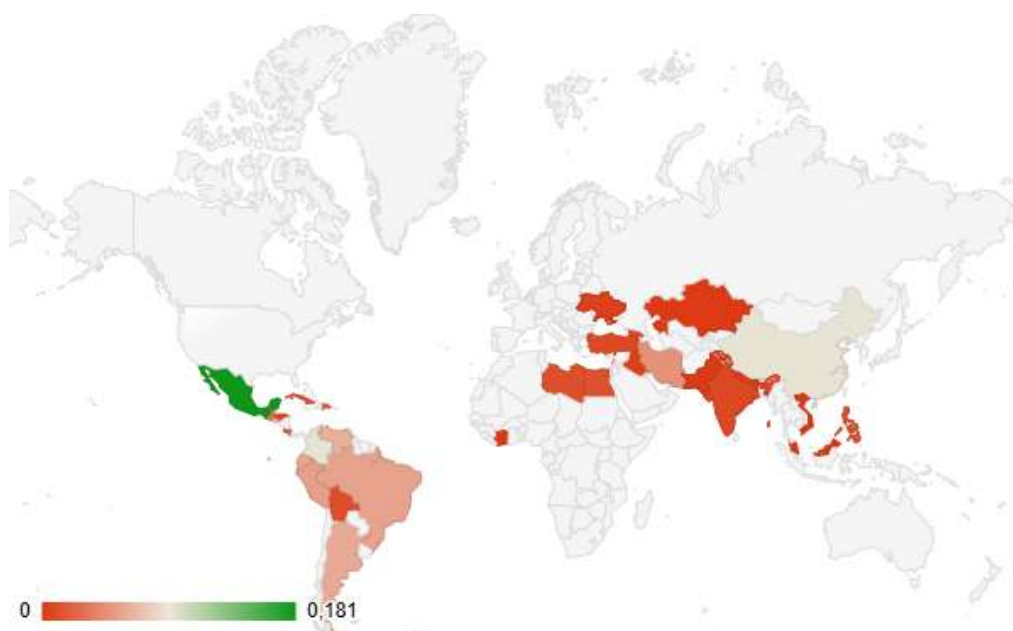


Figure 13. Interactive map of cooperation projects in developing countries.

Official Development Assistance

As every year, UIC Barcelona reports its interventions in the InfoODS survey of the Information System for Official Development Assistance and Other Official Flows (TOSSD).



The actions highlighted include scholarships for students from developing countries: Mexico, Colombia, China, El Salvador, Venezuela, Argentina, Ecuador, Brazil, Peru, Iran, Lebanon, Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, the Philippines, Libya, Cuba, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Armenia, Georgia, Turkey, India, Ukraine, Nepal, Honduras, Iraq, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Vietnam, Côte d'Ivoire and Malaysia, as well as Plan Cooper, which provides grants for social commitment and development cooperation projects funded through 0.7% of the University's research and knowledge transfer agreements.

Figure 14. Map of the developing countries of origin of UIC Barcelona scholarship students during the 2025-2026 academic year.

Community service activities

Service-learning (ApS)

The Department of Nursing launched the Nursing Care, Teaching and Research Unit (AIDIR) several years ago as part of its commitment to society and to Nursing students. It is an educational innovation project that strengthens synergies between the university and the professional health sector and ensures that future nursing professionals acquire excellence in knowledge and skills for leadership in care. These are physical spaces (consultation rooms) for interaction and learning within the clinical and social environment.

The service-learning (ApS) methodology has been implemented since 2015 through two practical units:

- AIDIR Ciutat Vella, within Fundació Esperanza.
- AIDIR Pere Virgili, within Parc Sanitari Pere Virgili.

These units provide a practical space in which students have the opportunity to develop new initiatives in health education. Second-, third- and fourth-year Nursing students undertake placements in these units. Two nurses linked to UIC Barcelona work directly in them: Lorena Moya and Eira Bejarano.

Solidarity practicum

The objectives of the solidarity practicum are to provide a service to the community and to develop students' competences, such as empathy, social awareness, problem-solving skills, initiative, responsibility and the ability to make ethically sound decisions.

International volunteering

The Student Service has organised several international volunteering projects to collaborate with and support people in need in other countries through specific action programmes in the areas of education, health and reconstruction. This activity can be recognised with ECTS credits.

In the 2025-2026 academic year:

- Seven programmes were offered in Uganda, Tanzania, Thailand, Brazil, Kenya, Morocco and Ghana. The partner NGOs and organisations are Asociación Cultural Gausac, ADESCI, Cooperating Volunteers, NASCO Feeding Minds, ITRAN, Lahu Association and Associació SomLahu. In addition to this offer promoted by UIC Barcelona, students have applied to participate in these and other international volunteering projects through Plan Cooper of Universitat Internacional de Catalunya.
- Dr Íñigo Ugalde, through the Cooperation 1 course at UIC Barcelona School of Architecture, promoted an educational project linked to international cooperation and fieldwork in Kenya, specifically in Emorogi, in the Maasai area. In collaboration with the NGO ADESCI, the project focused on a local school and enabled students to work on real needs in the local context. During the course, the students developed three deliverables: a planimetric survey of the school, together with a cultural, climatic and sociological analysis of the area and a proposal for the location of new pavilions; an analysis of the pathologies detected in some existing pavilions and possible repair proposals; and the design of a new typology for future pavilions. In August 2025, Dr Ugalde participated directly in the fieldwork organised in Kenya, following up on the project and collaborating with the NGO involved. The students' proposals were academic and provisional in nature and served as reference ideas for the NGO for the coming years, without necessarily implying their direct implementation.
- Dr María Pujol, from UIC Barcelona, supervised the doctoral thesis of Mamadou Fall Sarr, focused on English teaching and non-verbal communication in Senegal. This academic activity contributed to raising awareness of development-related issues and took place between 2 January and 10 May 2025.

- The Faculty of Dentistry of UIC Barcelona organised a dental care programme at the Temporary Stay Centre for Immigrants (CETI) in Melilla. Professor Judith Roger and Dentistry students from UIC Barcelona provided care to people in vulnerable situations and promoted healthy oral hygiene habits with the aim of improving their quality of life. The activity included two stays: from 18 to 21 February 2025 and from 11 to 14 March 2025.
- Likewise, the Faculty of Dentistry organised a solidarity dental care programme in Madagascar for patients in vulnerable situations. As part of the Edugascar project, eight students from the bachelor's degree in Dentistry at UIC Barcelona, accompanied by Dr Lluís Giner, Dr Ignacio Macpherson, Dr Judith Roger and Olga Miralles, took part in a stay in the Ambatondrazaka area from 6 to 10 October 2025. The activity aimed to provide oral health care and oral health training to schoolchildren in vulnerable areas and their families. Through this programme, healthy oral hygiene habits were promoted in order to improve the quality of life of the population served. In addition to its direct impact on these communities, the experience was a valuable training opportunity for future dentists, linking their academic learning with a solidarity-based international cooperation action.
- Dr Santi Costa, from UIC Barcelona, participated in a dental cooperation project in Kenya aimed at people in vulnerable situations. The activity took place in a setting with very limited resources and focused mainly on urgent care and tooth extractions, due to the lack of water and electricity supply needed to use conventional dental equipment. In addition, healthcare support was provided to local teams and basic oral health care was improved. The intervention took place from 31 July to 15 August 2025.