



NUI Galway
OÉ Gaillimh

NUI GALWAY SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE

learn live lead
www.nuigalway.ie/sustainability



ABOUT CUSP

The Community and University Sustainability Project (CUSP) was established in 2015 under the direction of the Registrar and Deputy President and aims to make NUI Galway one of the greenest, smartest and healthiest campuses in the world. The NUI Galway Strategic Plan 2015-2020, Vision 2020, outlines a vision of 'creating a sustainable campus where all resources are used efficiently and where facilities are managed and services consolidated as efficiently as possible'. CUSP was established to help realise this vision to 2020 and beyond.

The CUSP team is composed of more than 20 members of staff, drawn from a range of University faculties, University services and Galway University Hospitals. CUSP is supported in its mission by the University, Students' Union, Saolta University Healthcare Group and Galway City Council. CUSP is funded through the Student Projects Fund.



ABOUT THE SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE

CUSP is launching an engaging, inclusive and holistic Sustainability Initiative for NUI Galway and its communities.

The Sustainability Initiative will adopt a '**Learn-Live-Lead**' model, where: the University builds on its core strengths in teaching and research to **learn** about the environment and new techniques; analyses campus operations, building performance and user habits to **live** more sustainably; and connects to the broader community and other institutions to **lead** by example.



The views of the university and wider community on the campus environment will be obtained as part of a comprehensive engagement strategy for the transition to a more sustainable campus. It is envisaged that extensive linkages will be developed with other internal and external organisations and initiatives (including Saolta University Healthcare Group, Green Campus) as part of a cross-University drive towards engaged, student-led, community-linked experiences. This Initiative will provide strategically important products and tools to transform the university into a sustainable campus e.g. Sustainability Platform on NUI Galway Website and 'demonstrator' sustainability projects across the campus e.g. Battle of the Buildings.

LEARN

RESEARCH AND LEARNING

Sustainability and environmental content within the lecture halls and beyond

Research projects

LIVE

ENERGY AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Energy reductions
GHG emissions
Renewable energy

NATURE AND ECOSYSTEMS

Campus landscape design
Conservation and education
Biodiverse campus

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Physical, mental and social wellbeing
Food

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Green buildings
Green procurement
Transport
Water
Waste

LEAD

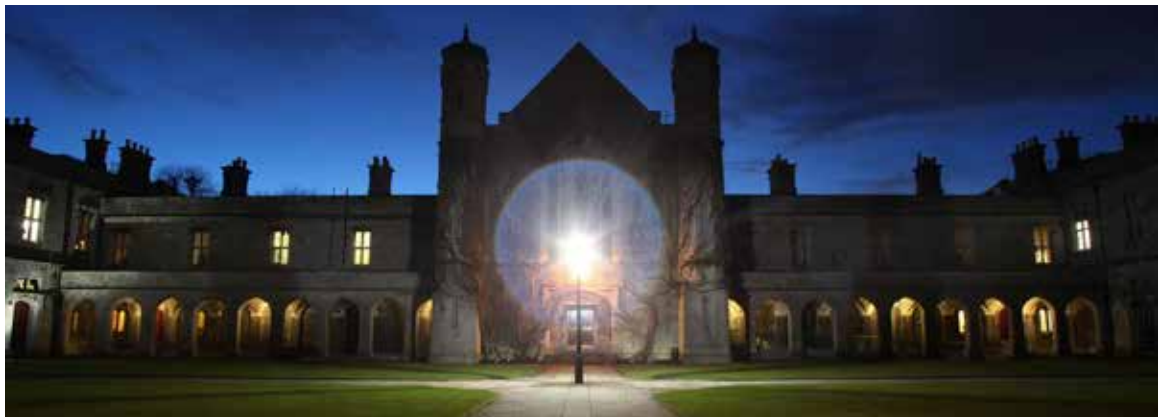
GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

Vision 2020
Structures
Implementation
Community engagement



BATTLE OF THE BUILDINGS

'Battle of the Buildings' aims to make students, academics and staff more aware of the energy use of campus buildings and to encourage energy efficient behaviour through collegial competition. This project is supported by the NUI Galway Buildings Office. The project will progress the University's commitment to ISO50001 and the Green Campus programmes. Details of daily energy use of Buildings will be available online (on the sustainability website) as well as on dashboards in various locations on campus. An energy training and awareness campaign will encourage students, academics and staff to make informed decisions about energy use that will reduce energy costs. The project is inspired by the US EPA ENERGY STAR Battle of the Buildings competition.



SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMUNITY

NUI Galway is the first university in Ireland to join the SEAI Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC) Network. A SEC embraces an inclusive and community approach, across all sectors, to develop a sustainable energy system. To do so, SECs aim to be energy efficient, to use renewable energy where feasible and to develop decentralised energy supplies. By joining the SEC Network, NUI Galway commits to knowledge sharing with SEC members and to developing and implementing energy-saving initiatives. Joining the SEC network offers many benefits to NUI Galway (and community partners), including: the potential for energy and financial savings by implementing energy efficiency initiatives; an opportunity to promote community building through a partnership approach where resources and expertise are shared across the network; an opportunity to contribute to national energy reduction targets; to assist in the development of sustainable energy supplies through investment and installation of renewable energy technology.



WWW.NUIGALWAY.IE/SUSTAINABILITY

A platform has been built within the University's website structure to collect all existing research, teaching, outreach and management relating to sustainability. Elements of this platform will include graphics relating to campus performance (e.g. energy use by building), dedicated webpages for each sustainability project, a crowd-sourcing and feedback mechanism for ideas for campus improvements, and links to teaching and research centres. This data platform will promote the sustainable and efficient management of campus resources.

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact us.

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