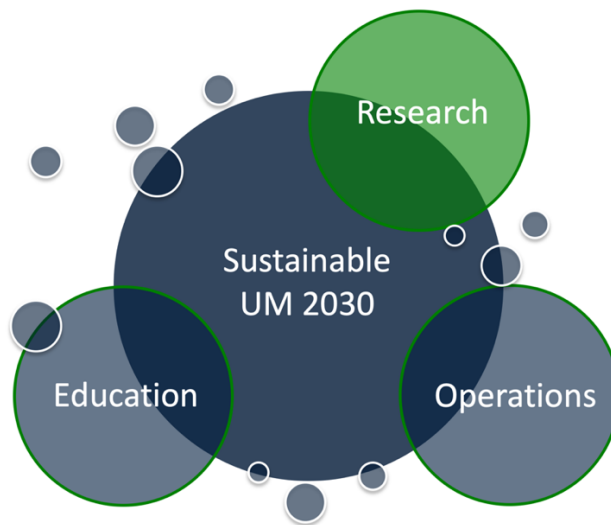


SURVEY STUDY

Sustainable research at Maastricht University



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WHY

| CONTEXT AND AIM

The ambition of Maastricht University (UM) is to be an inclusive, innovative and sustainable university. Hence, UM has included sustainability goals in its strategic program and has launched the [Sustainable UM 2030 program](#) focusing on education, research and operations.

Within the Sustainable UM 2030 program, the [Research pillar](#) aspires to further sustainable research at Maastricht University. The main goal in the year 2019 is to get a comprehensive overview of sustainability-related research at UM. In this context, personal interviews with several Principal Investigators have been conducted followed up by a systematic review: a survey directed to all full professors and other PIs.

The results will be used for the overview with the ultimate goal to increase research, but also collaboration between research groups, within sustainable themes.

HOW | SURVEY AND ANALYSIS

INVITATION EMAIL

An invitation email with personalized salutation was sent, both in English and Dutch, see appendix A

| invitation email. The email included an introduction to the context within the Sustainable UM 2030 project and the aim of the survey.

SURVEY

The survey was programmed in Qualtrics and included twelve questions of which six open and six closed, see appendix b

| survey. It took approximately five minutes to complete the survey.

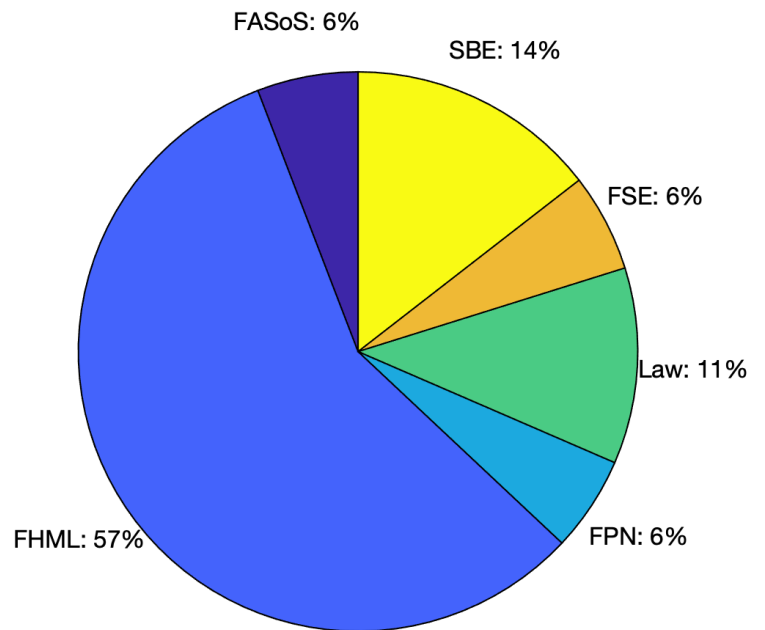
PRIVACY (AVG)

It was ensured that the survey complied with the privacy law AVG and policy of UM. Participants were asked to submit their email address, but were given the opportunity to be removed from the database. Questions did not include other personal information. The data is stored at a UM server and will be removed after two years.

RECIPIENTS

A total of 462 full professors were addressed in this survey study. The table below shows the number of recipients per faculty and the pie chart shows the relative distribution. The email list was checked for unique addresses to prevent double mailings. Only full professors were approached, including the request to forward the survey to assistant and associate professors. Therefore, it is possible that certain fields or research institutes may be underrepresented.

FACULTY	NUMBER OF RECIPIENTS
FASoS	28
SBE	65
FSE	28
Law	51
FPN	28
FHML	261

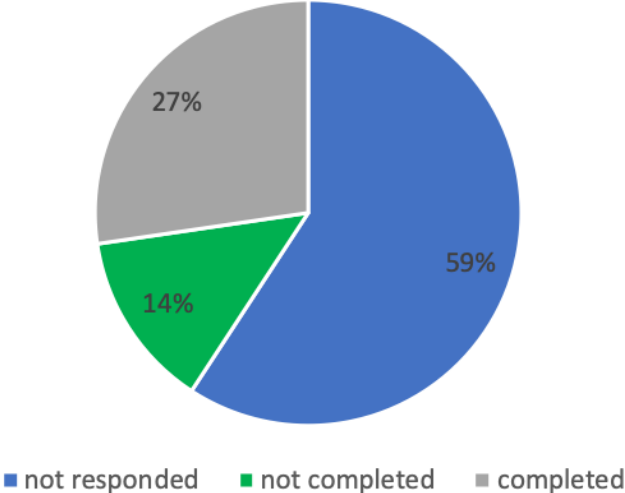


RESULTS

| OVERVIEW AND CATEGORIES

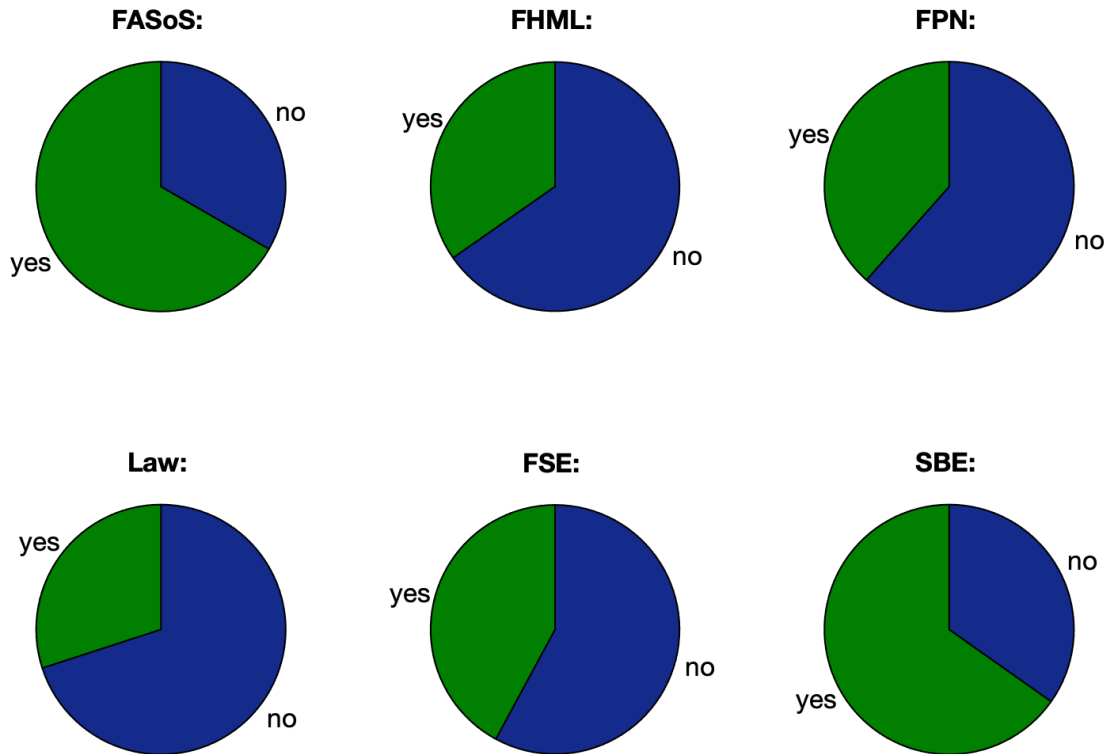
RESPONSE RATE

A total of 188 responses were recorded of which 126 were completed yielding a response rate of 27% of completed surveys, see the pie chart below.



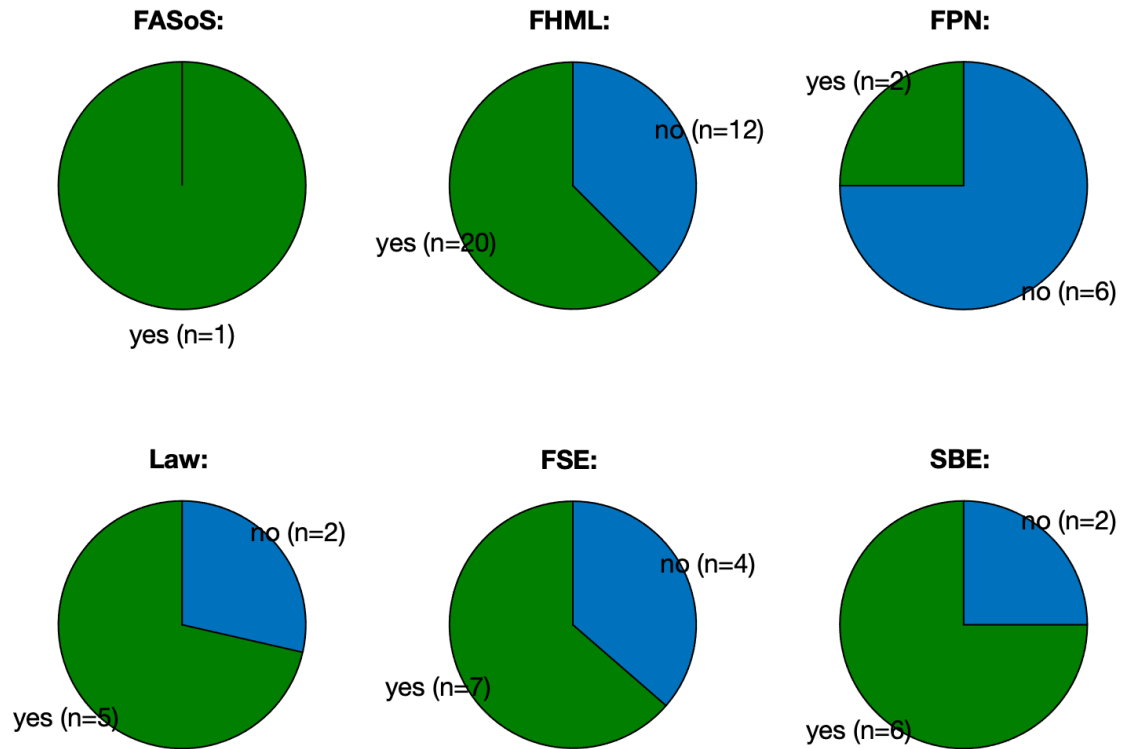
SHARE OF SUSTAINABLE RESEARCH

The figure below shows the share of researchers who were actively involved in sustainable research for each faculty. Sustainable research forms a significant part of the total research portfolio of every faculty.



INTEREST IN SUSTAINABLE RESEARCH

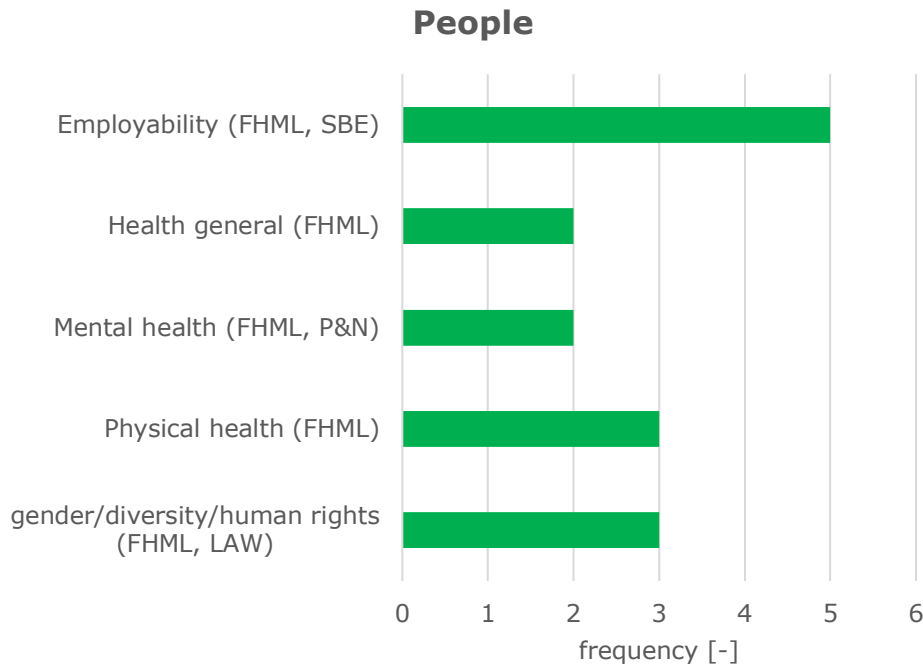
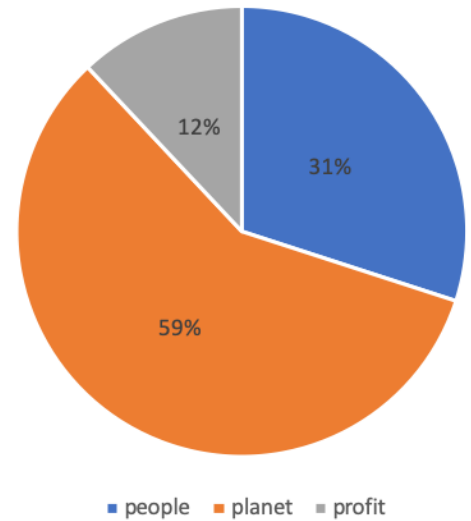
Participants who were not actively involved in sustainable research at the moment were asked if they would be interested to become involved in sustainable research in the future. The figure below shows that the majority of PIs of every faculty, except FPN, is interested in getting involved in sustainable research.



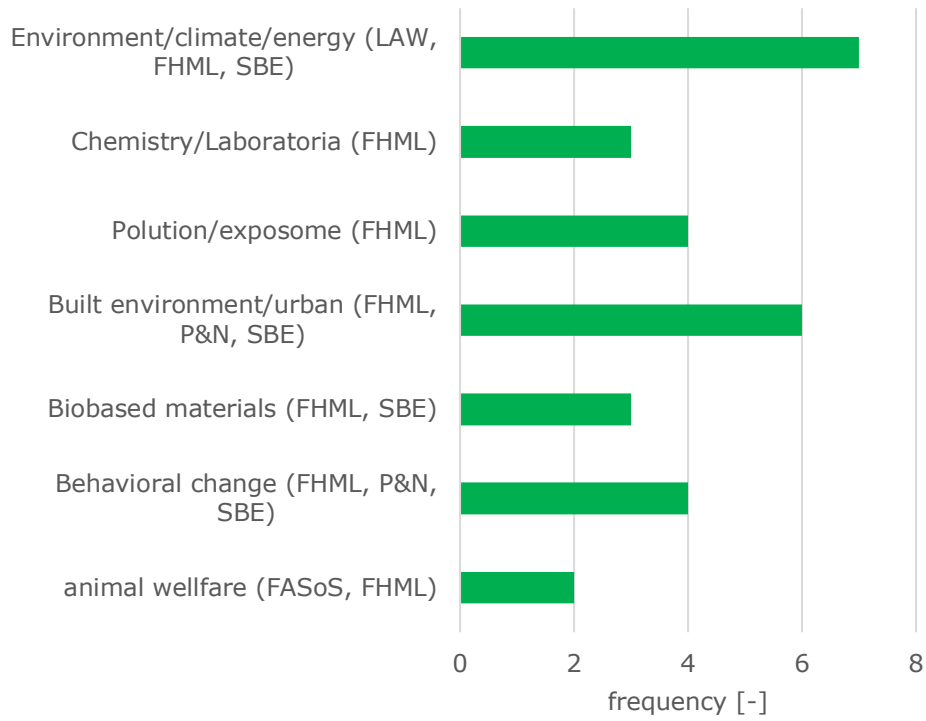
MAIN RESEARCH DOMAINS

The responses were categorized into three main categories: People, Planet, and Profit. The pie chart on the right side shows that most of UM's sustainability research is focused on the category Planet, followed by People, and a minority addresses Profit related topics.

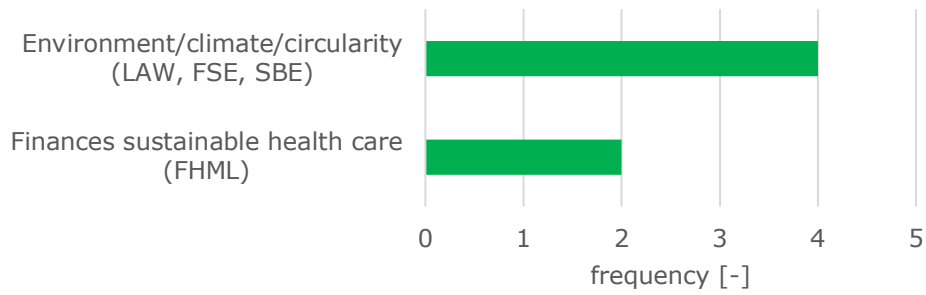
For each category, multiple subcategories were formulated fitting the research portfolio best, see bar charts below. Please note that UM's research institutes that are dedicated to sustainable development such as MUNDO and ICIS are transdisciplinary. The latter is mainly included in the categories People and Planet.



Planet

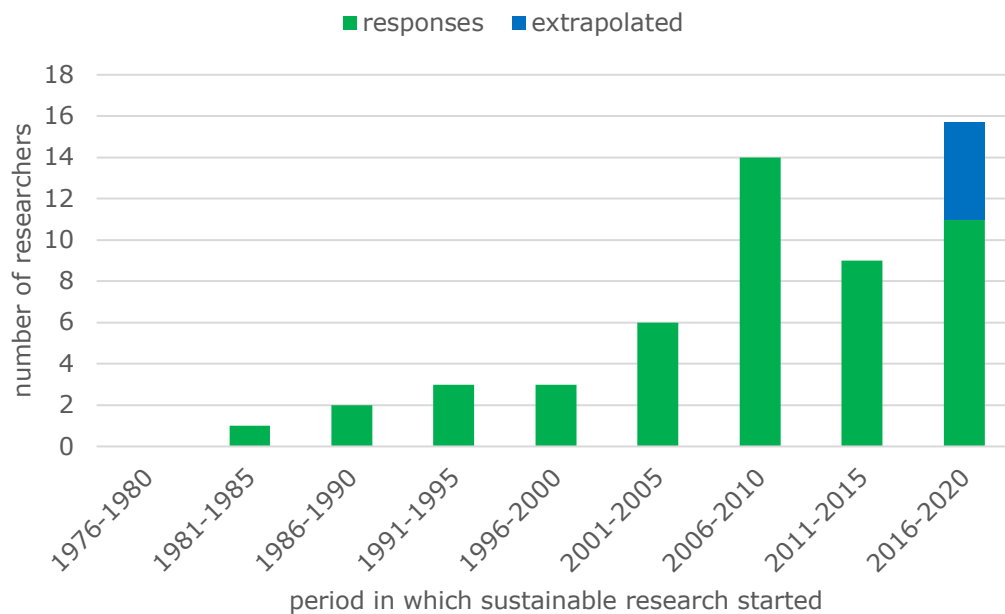


Profit



SUSTAINABLE RESEARCH OVER THE PAST YEARS

Participants were asked in which year their sustainable research started at UM. The bar chart below shows the number of researchers conducting sustainable research and the period in which they started at UM. Data are binned into periods of five years. Results are extrapolated from 2016-mid2019 to the time span 2016-2020. Sustainable research at UM grows substantially from the year 2000 onwards. A strong increase of new sustainable research is visible in the period 2006-2010. Please note that the results in earlier years are less representative because most researchers who started back in these years may have retired, and hence, have not completed the survey.

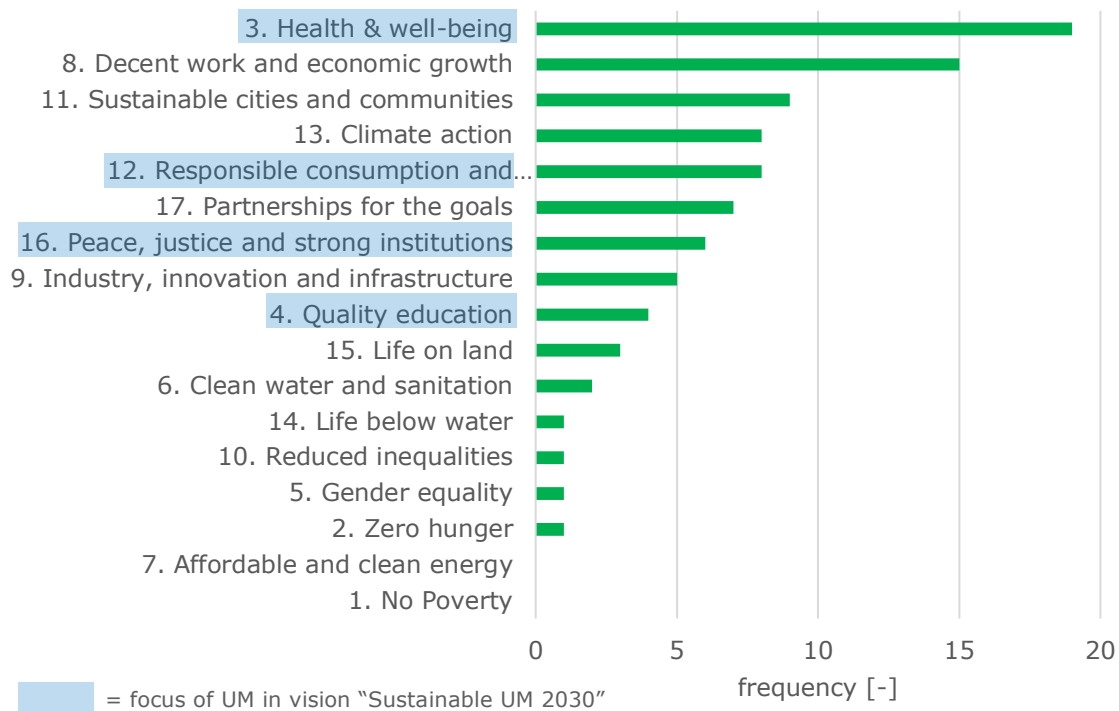


ALIGNMENT WITH AMBITION TOWARDS SDGS

The United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) function as a framework for Maastricht University's ambitions regarding sustainability and to align their core business with these ambitions.

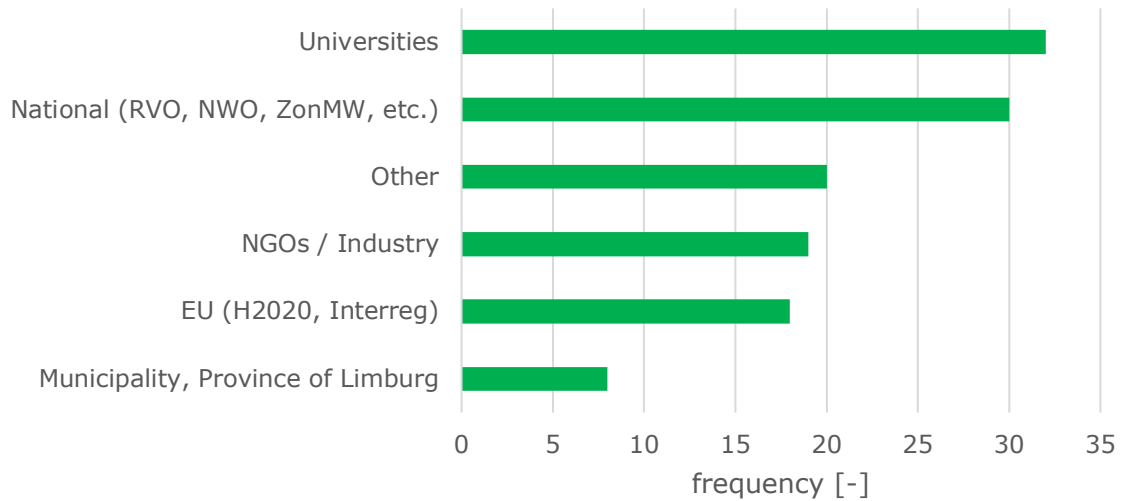


The university works on the SDGs in existing bodies, but aims to particularly focus until 2022 on the following four SDGs: (3) Good Health and Well-being, (4) Quality education, (13) Climate action, (16) Peace, justice, and strong institutions. The bar chart below shows that UM's sustainable research covers many more SDGs than the selected four in the vision "Sustainable UM 2030".



FUNDING SOURCES

Participants were asked which funding sources are used for financing their research. The graph below shows the funding categories revealing that financial contributions from UM or other universities are most common. Please note that this doesn't mean that most money comes from UM or other universities as funding value wasn't assessed. Then, National Funding is common followed by Other, Industry, EU, and Local Governments.



NEXT

| CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

CONCLUSIONS

- Sustainable research forms significant share at all faculties
- Many researchers who are currently not involved in sustainable research do show interest
- Sustainable research is growing at UM
- Sustainable research at UM is in line with ambition towards four selected SDGs, but is more divers covering many other SDGs as well

OUTLOOK AND FOLLOW UP

- Identify cross-links to increase collaboration
- Identify knowledge gaps within societal challenges (Sustainable Development Goals - SDGs)
- Increase impact and visibility
- Identify future directions and focus of UM research
- Therefore, the symposium 'Sustainable Research at UM: present and future' is planned on 29 November 2019

APPENDIX A

| INVITATION EMAIL

English follows Dutch.

Geachte «Titel» «Naam»,

Het is de ambitie van de Universiteit Maastricht om een inclusieve, innovatieve en duurzame universiteit te zijn. Derhalve heeft de UM duurzaamheidsdoelstellingen opgenomen in haar strategisch programma en heeft het [Sustainable UM 2030 programma](#) gelanceerd dat zich richt op educatie, onderzoek en bedrijfsvoering.

Binnen het Sustainable UM 2030 programma werkt de [Pijler Onderzoek](#) momenteel aan een overzicht van duurzaamheidsonderzoek uitgevoerd aan de UM. In deze context hebben persoonlijke gesprekken plaatsgevonden met een aantal Principle Investigators. Middels dit bericht beogen wij deze inventarisatie verder te brengen middels een systematische inventarisatie uitgevoerd onder alle PI's. Daarom verzoeken wij u dit bericht door te sturen naar uw collegae UD's en UHD's.

Wij waarderen het zeer als u een korte vragenlijst zou willen invullen: klik [HIER](#). De resultaten zullen gebruikt worden voor het genoemde overzicht met het uiteindelijke doel om onderzoek, maar ook samenwerking tussen onderzoeksgroepen, binnen duurzaamheidsthema's te stimuleren. De resultaten zullen worden teruggekoppeld.

Hoogachtend,

Prof. dr. Wouter van Marken Lichtenbelt (Sustainable UM 2030 – Project Owner Research)
Dr. ir. Rick Kramer (Sustainable UM 2030 – Coordinator Research)
Mathias Weidinger (UM Green Office – Coordinator Research)

Dear «Titel» «Naam»,

The ambition of Maastricht University (UM) is to be an inclusive, innovative and sustainable university. Hence, UM has included sustainability goals in its strategic program and has launched the [Sustainable UM 2030 program](#) focusing on education, research and operations.

Within the Sustainable UM 2030 program, the [Research pillar](#) currently works on a comprehensive overview of sustainability-related research at Maastricht University. In this context, personal interviews with several Principle Investigators have been conducted. This inventory is now furthered via this systematic review among all PIs. Therefore, we request you to please forward this message to your colleague assistant and associate professors.

We highly appreciate if you would like to fill in this short survey by clicking [HERE](#). The results will be used for the overview with the ultimate goal to increase research, but also collaboration between research groups, within sustainable research themes. Feedback of the results will be provided.

Sincerely yours,

Prof. dr. Wouter van Marken Lichtenbelt (Sustainable UM 2030 – Project Owner Research)
Dr. ir. Rick Kramer (Sustainable UM 2030 – Coordinator Research)
Mathias Weidinger (UM Green Office – Coordinator Research)

APPENDIX B

| SURVEY

INTRO The Sustainable UM 2030 task force and the UM Green Office are mapping out the range of sustainable research at our university. Your answers will help us to gain insight in what Maastricht University is already working on and draft plans to increase collaboration and impact.

Q1 Please enter your UM email address.

NOTE: If you wish your email to be removed from our list, please send an email to sustainability@maastrichtuniversity.nl.

Q2 Which faculty or school do you work at? (tick all that apply)

- Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (1)*
- Faculty of Health, Medicine, and Life Sciences (2)*
- Faculty of Law (3)*
- Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience (4)*
- Faculty of Science and Engineering (5)*
- School of Business and Economics (6)*

Q3 Does your research group currently work on themes related to sustainability?

Yes (1)

No (2)

Skip To: Q5 If Does your research group currently work on themes related to sustainability? = Yes

Skip To: Q4 If Does your research group currently work on themes related to sustainability? = No

Q4 Would you be interested in contributing to sustainability-related research in the near future?

Yes (1)

No (2)

Skip To: End of Survey If Would you be interested in contributing to sustainability-related research in the near future? = Yes

Skip To: End of Survey If Would you be interested in contributing to sustainability-related research in the near future? = No

Q5 In a few words, could you tell us more about this research theme?

Q6 Could you tell us the sources of your funding? (tick all that apply)

H2020 (2)

- Interreg (3)*
- RVO (includes TKI) (4)*
- Industry (5)*
- UM (6)*
- NWO (7)*
- Other (8)*
- Prefer not to say (1)*

Skip To: Q7 If Could you tell us the sources of your funding? (tick all that apply) = Other

Skip To: Q8 If Could you tell us the sources of your funding? (tick all that apply) != Other

Q7 What is the other source of your funding?

Q8 Since which year has your group been working on this research theme at UM?

Please select a year from the list: (8)

▼ 1976 (1) ... 2019 (44)

Q9 What projects are currently running / being developed under this research theme?

Q10 What other Universities and/or Institutes do you cooperate with on this research theme?

Q11 Do you work with other research groups within UM on this topic?

Yes (1)

No (2)

Skip To: Q12 If Do you work with other research groups within UM on this topic? = Yes

Skip To: End of Survey If Do you work with other research groups within UM on this topic? = No

Q12 Could you tell us, which other UM research groups you work with?

END