

# FAQ – The Students' SDG Pool

## What will be supported?

The basic idea is that the planned activity is connected to one or several of the UN sustainability goals.

Examples:

- the activity supports the discussion about the UN-SDGs with internal and external speakers
- the activity brings the SDGs into the study environment with concrete actions (e.g. good health and well-being, reduced impact on climate and environment, ...)
- the activity consults students in actual action in everyday life (life hacks)
- the activity establishes cooperation with NGO's, companies, municipalities and projects in connection with the students' studies

But these are only examples, so please think big and surprise us!

And remember – SDU works with and not for the SDGs. So, you can apply for activities that criticizes the goals as well as activities, that supports them.

## How detailed should my application be?

An application can be difficult. At the same time, it must be as short as possible (the evaluation panel receives many applications, all of which must be read thoroughly) and must describe your project as thoroughly and in detail as possible.

In general, the application must give the assessment panel a clear picture of your thoughts and ideas with the activity as well as how you imagine it to happen.

Describe in detail:

- who you are,
- what your activity is,
- who exactly you plan to make it happen,
- who, if any, you plan should take part in your activity, and
- what you think they will gain from it.

But remember – keep it short and precise.

And – the evaluation committee don't know you and your plans beforehand. So do not assume, that they know anything about your project, in your application. The more they have to guess, the less chance you have of receiving funding.

TIP – prior to each application round, the SDG Hub will hold a workshop, where you can get sparring and advice in relation to your application.

The workshop will be held online via Microsoft Teams on 17 September. To give as many people as possible the opportunity to participate, the workshop will be held twice: from 1:00 – 2:00 pm and 3:00 – 4:00 pm. To join, please select your preferred time slot by clicking one of the two links below on the day of the workshop.

If you would like to join between 1:00 – 2:00 pm, please click the link below at the beginning of the workshop:

**[Join Microsoft Teams meeting](#)**

If you would like to join between 3:00 – 4:00 pm, please click the link below at the beginning of the workshop:

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NOTE: You must clearly specify in your application, if you in any way can benefit personally from a grant. If, as an example, you or your immediate family have ownership interests in or are employed by a company, that is responsible for providing goods or other services for the project for which you are applying for funds.

### **Can I receive help forming my application?**

Yes. Prior to each application round, the SDG Hub will hold a workshop, where you can get sparring and advice in relation to your application.

The workshop will be held online via Microsoft Teams on 17 September. To give as many people as possible the opportunity to participate, the workshop will be held twice: from 1:00 – 2:00 pm and 3:00 – 4:00 pm. To join, please select your preferred time slot by clicking one of the two links below on the day of the workshop.

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And you are always welcome to contact the SDG Hub via mail: [vores\\_verdensmaal@sdu.dk](mailto:vores_verdensmaal@sdu.dk).

### **Must I hand in different applications in case of several activities to apply for?**

No, that is not necessary.

You can apply for different projects in the same application. Just be sure to highlight in the application, that you are applying for more than one project.

In addition, you must describe all activities individually and attach separate budgets so that the evaluation committee can distinguish them from each other.

In case of rejection of one activity, it doesn't mean that all activities are rejected. There is still the chance that one of the other activities receives funding.

### **How detailed must the budget be?**

In short – as detailed as possible.

The slightly longer version is, that the budget helps to show the evaluation committee how well thought out and elaborated your activity and application is. If the budget is only compiled of two lines reading “Remedies” and “Various” it suggests, that your project isn’t that well planned and “thought out”.

Of course, it is difficult to estimate the precise cost of your activity. But try to sit down and think your activity all the way through – from you start to plan it and until completion of the project. Write down everything that you imagine are going to cost you money and afterwards try to figure out the price of each “dot”. Once you have put all the items together, consider again whether you forgot something and whether it seems like a realistic amount.

Set up your budget nicely and manageable so that each expenditure is transparent to the evaluation committee. Do not apply for 30,000, - DKK and then have an entry in the budget of 20,000, - DKK, called “Various”

And remember - you do not have to spend all the funds applied for, but any budget overrun must be covered by yourself.

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### **Can I apply as a single student?**

Yes, this is possible, but we would like to encourage to build teams or to contact student associations, as it can be a big challenge to manage a project alone.

We generally recommend that you collaborate across multiple studies and faculties on the activities for which you are applying for funding, so that the activity has as broad an audience as possible.

### **What does it mean, that “the committee will prioritize applications that involve collaboration across multiple programmes and faculties”?**

For SDU, it is important that both students and staff meet and collaborate across multiple programmes and faculties because it helps to bring new and different views and perspectives to the challenges you are aiming to solve

At the same time, it is important that as many people as possible benefits from the funds allocated to the SDG pool.

And last but not least, goal 17 deals exactly with Partnerships for Action.

So therefore we strongly encourage you to collaborate as broadly across SDU as possible, but when you seek funds and when you execute your project. And – if the evaluation committee has to choose between two applications that are similar, they will always choose the one that has the broadest perspective - both in terms of the group planning it and the targeted audience.

The SDG Hub is always happy to try to help connect you with other students who might be interested in collaborating on your particular project.

**Can I apply for projects that involve other educational institutions?**

Yes, this is possible. However, the contact person should be a student from SDU that is actively involved in the planning and execution of the project.

**Must I always work with more than one SDG in my activity?**

You can apply for an activity, which only focus' on one of the SDGs – if this motivated in your application.

In general, there must be a clear and reasoned connection between your activity and the SDG(s) you state, that you will work with.

It is not enough to write, that you plan a party and thus is working towards *Good Health and Well-being (goal 3)*. In this example you have to clearly demonstrate how exactly this party works toward a better health and well-being for the students at SDU – both in the short and the long term.

The evaluation committee are good at seeing through a preplanned activity, who has just been “pasted” with one or two SDGs to be able to apply for funding. And these types of applications are generally rejected.

**Is there a required minimum of attendants for the activity?**

No – in general there is no required minimum.

But – the evaluation committee will prioritize activities that involve collaboration across multiple programmes and faculties. So, if the evaluation committee has to choose between two applications that are similar, they will always choose the one that has the broadest perspective - both in terms of the group planning it and the targeted audience.

**Can I apply for entrepreneurship?**

Unfortunately, the short answer is no.

The longer version is, that it can be regarded as distortive activity, if a public institution like SDU supports entrepreneurial projects.

Also – if SDU was to support your project, the university would own the copyright to the results and thus it would require consent from SDU if you were to continue working on the results subsequently under your own control.

Finally - as the recipient of the funds, you will risk subsequent taxation

Therefore we have chosen not to fund entrepreneurial projects at all.

**Can I receive help organizing my activity?**

Yes, you can,

At the SDG Hub we have experienced consultants, that are happy to support you. We can also help to get into contact with the various technical services departments at SDU, that can assist you in many ways

So, don't hesitate to contact us if you receive funding.

And - if your application is approved, you will be called to a start-up meeting where you will be given more information about this.

**How is the financial support handled and how about expenses?**

To keep administration to a minimum, all expenses in connection with a project will be paid by the vice-chancellor's office at SDU. This means that potential external speakers should invoice the vice-chancellor's office directly.

If your application is approved, you will be called to a start-up meeting where you will be given more information about this.