Sustainable Development Goals – SDG

SDG 10. REDUCED INEQUALITIES

SDG[1]	DESCRIPTION[2]	OUC ACTIONS/ACTIVITIES
	SDG 10 consists of 10 targets to be achieved by 2030, and 14 indicators to measure progress in reducing inequalities within and between countries. SDG 10 aims to: reduce income inequality (10.1); promote universal social, economic and political inclusion (10.2); ensure equal opportunities, reduce inequality of outcomes and eliminate discrimination (10.3); adopt tax and social policies that promote equality (10.4); better regulate global financial markets and institutions (10.5); increase the representation of	***Project "EIUS – European Inclusion of Ukrainian Students"*** September 2022 – August 2025 The overall objective of the project was to identify challenges, share experiences and perspectives on how the partner universities had managed the situation and how they could stabilise and improve their processes to create a safe and inclusive environment for students coming from a war-torn country. The project aimed to develop a comprehensive knowledge base covering the economic environment, social customs, specific legislative frameworks, cultural characteristics and other relevant aspects, as well as practical tools to facilitate the inclusion of Ukrainian students. Three sets of activities were implemented: 1. Data Collection and Analysis: Collecting and interpreting data on Ukrainian students enrolled at the partner universities in order to identify their socio-economic backgrounds. 2. Primary Data Collection: Conducting standardised surveys addressed to Ukrainian students, domestic students and domestic academic staff. 3. Knowledge Sharing: Disseminating knowledge through scientific and expert platforms, including internal and international conferences. The project helped build bridges and ensure continuity in the educational pathways of Ukrainian students. It also contributed to strengthening inter-university relations and promoting diversity in European higher education. Furthermore, it represented an important step for our institution in expanding its role as a key stakeholder in European education. https://www.umb.sk/app/cmsFile.php?disposition=i&ID=7429 ***Project "EDU-TIC-ING-UOC – Development of Modern Educational Infrastructure and Improved Access to Quality and Inclusive Services in the Fields of Smart Specialisation – Information and Communication Technology, Engineering and Naval Transport – at Ovidius University of Constanța"*** August 2024 – July 2028 The project aims to improve the quality of and equitable access to education in the smart specialisation

	developing countries in financial institutions (10.6); and promote orderly migration and mobility by implementing responsible and well-managed migration policies (10.7). The means to achieve the goals are: implementing special and differential treatment for developing countries (10.a); promoting development assistance and investment in the least developed countries (10.b); and reducing transaction costs for migrant remittances (10.c).	fields of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Engineering through the development of modern and inclusive educational infrastructure. The expected outcomes include providing at least 500 newly enrolled students annually with access to competitive academic programmes delivered within infrastructure meeting European standards. The new building will have a total built-up area of more than 2,500 sqm and will include: - two lecture halls; - five seminar rooms; - two specialised digital laboratories dedicated to Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Cybersecurity and Machine Learning, respectively; - two general-purpose digital laboratories, which will be equipped through a complementary ongoing project entitled EDUOC – Education through Digitalisation at Ovidius University of Constanța, funded through the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP); - four technical laboratories, one of which will be equipped for the field of Physics. The project is complementary to EDU-TAB-UOC, funded through the South-East Regional Programme (European Commission). ***Project "EDU-TAB-UOC – Development of Modern Educational Infrastructure and Improved Access to Quality and Inclusive Services at Ovidius University of Constanța in the Smart Specialisation Fields of Tourism, Agri-Food and Biotechnology"*** The project aims to modernise the educational infrastructure serving the smart specialisation fields of Tourism, Agri-Food and Biotechnology. The upgraded infrastructure is expected to serve approximately 1,000 students annually, of whom at least 11% will come from vulnerable groups, as well as approximately 500 newly enrolled students each year. https://www.univ-ovidius.ro/stiri/comunicat-de-presa-campusul-universitatii-ovidius-din-constanta-se-extinde-au-fost-semnate-contractele-de-finantare-pentru-doua-cladiri-noi/ https://dpfe.univ-ovidius.ro/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/POR_-EDU-TAB-UOC.pdf ***Project "First-Generation University Students – at OUC"*** February 2025 – August 2027 The overall objective of the project is to promote equal access to quality, inclusive pre-university and university education, as well as successful completion of studies, among 400 beneficiaries from less developed regions: - 200 upper-secondary school students in their final years of study who are at risk of failing the Baccalaureate examination, including 20 Roma students; - 200 university students at risk of dropping out, including 20 Roma students, with 70% having parents without higher education qualifications.

		Within 30 months of the project's launch, the expected outcomes are that 190 school students will successfully complete their academic year, graduate from upper-secondary education, pass the Baccalaureate examination and become eligible to enrol in higher education. Additionally, 190 university students are expected to improve their academic performance, successfully complete their academic year and continue towards graduation. The project also includes the following support measures: - awarding 200 monthly grants of RON 330 per student; - organising digital security training courses; - establishing and making operational a computer laboratory equipped with 25 computers. The project aims to achieve the following objectives: - SO1 – Supporting 200 vulnerable upper-secondary school students from grades 11–12 in Constanța County through bridging activities designed to facilitate their transition to university studies. These activities include active information provision and presentation of higher education options, multidisciplinary counselling, and remedial support in subjects where students have knowledge gaps or outstanding academic requirements. The objective is for 190 students to successfully complete the academic year and continue their education within 30 months of the start of project implementation. - SO2 – Supporting 200 vulnerable undergraduate students from less developed regions through activities aimed at preventing and combating university dropout. These activities include active information provision, first-year student integration activities, multidisciplinary counselling for 200 students, remedial support in subjects where students have outstanding academic requirements or knowledge gaps, mentoring over two academic years, eight personal development and self-esteem workshops, and two educational courses. The objective is for 190 students to successfully complete the academic year and continue their studies within 30 months of the start of project implementation. - SO3 – Improving accessibility and inclusion at Ovidius University of Constanța within 30 months of the start of project implementation, through direct and long-term measures aimed at achieving a higher level of accessibility and inclusion compared to the current situation 1. Identifying and Analysing the Needs of Students with Disabilities: Conducting a detailed assessment of the specific needs of students with disabilities and developing a comprehensive intervention framework. 2. Physical Accessibility Improvements: - installing tactile guidance strips at three of Ovidius University of Constanța's buildings; - installing Braille and tactile room and floor number signs for 60 rooms across these three buildings; - providing one wheelchair at the entrance of the building; - installing tactile and Braille directional signs indicating the main routes within the three buildings; - providing printed materials in large print. 3. Digital Accessibility: Providing support services for people with disabilities through a modern, AI-based digital solution capable of fully automating numerous repetitive educational processes, including university

		enrolment and admission procedures. The integrated support services include: - speech-to-text conversion (text-to-speech, as specified in the project description); - enhanced font size for users with visual impairments, activated through specific accessibility filters; - automatic translation of responses into other languages to support ethnic minorities; - automated responses and access to various types of information, depending on the permissions granted to internal databases. These include examination results, outstanding tuition fees, appointments, outstanding examinations, required forms, timetables, internal regulations, enrolment procedures and admission requirements, without requiring students to visit the university in person or contact administrative offices. The project is funded through the Education and Employment Programme (PEO) 2021–2027, supported by the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+). https://www.univ-ovidius.ro/anunturi/anunt-lansare-proiect-primii-studenti-din-familie-la-uoc/ ***Intercultural Dialogue and Romanian Traditions for International Students*** 4–11 December Ovidius University of Constanța organised two thematic workshops dedicated to winter traditions. The events took place within the framework of the project "New Dimensions in Expanding the Internationalisation Strategy to Increase UOC's International Visibility in the Context of Its Participation in the ARTEMIS European University Alliance (NODENS PLUS)" and were strategically designed to facilitate the academic and cultural integration of students enrolled in the Romanian Language Preparatory Programme. The first event was a winter workshop during which international students created Christmas tree decorations and ornaments in a festive seasonal atmosphere. The activity facilitated genuine intercultural dialogue, bringing Romanian traditions together with customs and experiences shared by international students. It encouraged the exchange of cultural perspectives and contributed to strengthening the sense of community and belonging among participants. The second workshop, entitled "Romanian Winter Customs and Traditions: Sorcova – Ritual Meanings", held at the Faculty of Letters, gave students the opportunity to make traditional Sorcova decorations and discover the origins, symbolism and ritual functions of this traditional Romanian custom. The NODENS PLUS project is funded by the Ministry of Education through the Institutional Development Fund. It aims to strengthen the university's internationalisation strategy, promote multiculturalism and facilitate the integration of international students into the Romanian academic and cultural environment. https://www.univ-ovidius.ro/stiri/comunicat-de-presa-dialog-intercultural-si-traditii-romanesti-pentru-studentii-internationali-la-universitatea-ovidius-din-constanta/

		Relevant National Legislation ***Government Ordinance No. 137/2000 on Preventing and Sanctioning All Forms of Discrimination*** The Ordinance transposes relevant European Union directives on anti-discrimination, including Directive 2000/43/EC and Directive 2000/78/EC, into Romanian national legislation. Key Principles and Definitions - Equality of Rights: The law guarantees the exercise of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights without discrimination; - Definition of Discrimination: Discrimination refers to any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, social status, beliefs, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, non-communicable chronic disease, HIV infection or membership in a disadvantaged group; - Related Forms of Discrimination: Incitement to discriminate, harassment (including psychological harassment) and victimisation are also punishable as administrative offences; - Positive Measures: Positive action measures designed to support disadvantaged groups do not constitute discrimination. Enforcement Authority - CNCD (National Council for Combating Discrimination): An autonomous state authority under parliamentary control, responsible for investigating and sanctioning acts of discrimination; - Time Limits for Filing Complaints: a) Complaints submitted to the CNCD must be filed within one year from the date the discriminatory act was committed or from the date on which the complainant became aware of it; b) Legal actions seeking compensation before the ordinary courts may be brought within three years. Such proceedings are exempt from judicial stamp duties. Administrative Sanctions - Acts of discrimination established by the CNCD are punishable by administrative fines. The applicable fine ranges depend on the status of the offender (individual, legal entity or group) and the severity of the offence, including cases of psychological harassment or failure to comply with measures imposed by the competent authorities. https://legislatie.just.ro/public/detaliidocument/24129 ***Law No. 448/2006 on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*** This law regulates the rights, obligations and social inclusion measures for persons with disabilities in Romania. Main Rights and Benefits - Healthcare and Rehabilitation: Access to medical care, free medication and annual vouchers for therapy or physiotherapy (12 vouchers per year for persons with severe disabilities and 6 vouchers per year for

		persons with pronounced disabilities); - Free Transportation: The right to free transport, in accordance with the conditions established by law; - Personal Assistant: Persons with severe disabilities are entitled to a personal assistant or an equivalent monthly allowance corresponding to the net salary at salary step 0; - Tax Benefits: Exemptions from income tax on salaries, building tax and land tax, subject to the applicable legal provisions. Employers' Obligations - Employment Quota: Employers with at least 50 employees are legally required to employ persons with disabilities at a rate of at least 4% of their total workforce; - Alternative Compliance Measures: If employers do not meet this employment quota, they may alternatively choose to make monthly payments to the state budget or purchase products and/or services from authorised sheltered units employing persons with disabilities; https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/77815

	The general label for Sustainable Development	

1 Images taken from the website: https://knowODDs.jrc.ec.europa.eu/.
2 The descriptions were developed based on the following: https://knowODDs.jrc.ec.europa.eu/, https://sdg-tracker.org/; https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals, https://dezvoltaredurabila.gov.ro/.