# SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals
# Equator University of Science and Technology
# Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings 2027

### 17.4.3 Education for SDGs in the wider community

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT) extends education beyond the university through community outreach, school engagement, youth empowerment, and health-awareness initiatives. These activities provide learning opportunities for local communities by promoting knowledge, practical skills, personal development, and awareness of sustainable and healthy practices. Through these initiatives, EQUSaT demonstrates how education can contribute to social responsibility and community well-being. Some key community-focused educational activities from 2025 are highlighted below:

**Empowering Girls at St. Matthew Kyasuma Primary School**

The Students of Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT), embarked on a life-changing outreach to St. Matthew Kyasuma Primary School, where they distributed sanitary pads and scholastic materials to young girls.

The outreach took place on July 11, 2025, in Masaka City, in partnership with the GLO GIRL Initiative, an organization committed to empowering girls and women to thrive, create positive change, and unlock their full potential.

Under the theme "Mental Health Awareness, Girl Empowerment, Career Guidance, and Menstrual Hygiene Education," the outreach began in the afternoon as students gathered to receive reusable pad packages brought by EQUSaT and the GLO GIRL Initiative with great enthusiasm.
Mr. EQUSaT, Awopetu Michael and Kafeero Timothy then spoke to the pupils about the dangers of drug abuse, early sexual activity, and other risky behavior. They addressed the influence of peer pressure with honesty and sensitivity, striking a chord with the learners.

Omotayo Mariam and Mummy T from the GLO GIRL Initiative led an impactful session on menstrual hygiene, equipping the girls with accurate knowledge and helping dismantle the myths and stigma surrounding menstruation.

**Evidence:**

https://equsat.ac.ug/public/index.php/news/mr-miss-equsat-champion-girl-empowerment-at-st-matthew-kyasuma-primary-school-1

**EQUSaT Hosted Free Dental Camp**

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT) hosted a Free Dental Camp from 15th February to 1st March, 2025 at its Kasijjagirwa campus in Masaka City.

This initiative aimed to provide accessible and professional dental care to the community, improve oral health in Masaka City and educate the community on good dental health practices.

The camp offered a full range of dental services, ensuring that patients receive the best care at no cost. Whether it's routine check-ups, tooth extractions, fillings, or specialized treatments, attendees

benefited from expert consultations and procedures.

**Evidence:**

https://www.equsat.ac.ug/news/equsat-to-host-free-dental-camp

**World Oral Health Day 2025**

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT) hosted World Oral Health Day from March 14-20, 2025, in Masaka City.

Partnering the Uganda Dental Association, the Ministry of Health, and Build Your Smile Dental Foundation, and several other organizations, the event focuses on oral health education, emergency dental treatment, and school visits under the theme "A Healthy Mouth is a Healthy Mind."
This initiative aimed to improve oral healthcare awareness and provide essential dental services to communities.

**Evidence:**

https://equsat.ac.ug/news/equsat-to-host-world-oral-health-day-in-masaka-1

**3rd Youth Empowerment Program in Partnership with HHRD**

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT) co-hosted a Youth Empowerment Program with Helping Hand for Relief and Development (HHRD) covering financial literacy, mental health, and employability.

The program included expert-led sessions on stress management, work-life balance, and entrepreneurship. It resulted in the formation of Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations (SACCOs) – tangible economic structures created by participants – demonstrating the program's lasting economic impact.

**Evidence:**

https://equsat.ac.ug/news/equsat-hosts-impactful-third-youth-empowerment-program-in-partnership-with-hhrd-1

**4th Youth Empowerment Program: Igniting the Future with Skills, Networks, and Purpose**

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT) in partnership with Helping Hand for Relief and Development, conducted its Fourth Youth Empowerment Program, bringing together more than 145 participants from within EQUSaT and beyond. The programme delivered educational sessions on business sustainability, digital skills, entrepreneurship, financial literacy, gender equality and inclusiveness. Participants also explored how technology and artificial intelligence can contribute to professional development and community progress. By providing practical learning opportunities to participants beyond its enrolled student population, EQUSaT extended educational outreach to the wider community.

**Evidence:**

https://equsat.ac.ug/public/index.php/news/4th-youth-empowerment-program-igniting-the-future-with-skills-networks-and-purpose

**EQUSaT Partners with Greater Masaka DHOs to Empower Health Workers**

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT)hosted District Health Officers (DHOs) from across the Greater Masaka Region at its Kasijjagirwa campus in Masaka City.

The strategic meeting focused on strengthening the capacity of health workers in the region through regular professional training, collaborative research initiatives, and increased access to higher education. A key highlight was the discussion on how health workers can conveniently and affordably enroll in EQUSaT's Bachelor of Science in Public Health program.

Vice Chancellor, EQUSaT emphasized the university's commitment to supporting the region's health sector by providing academic programs tailored to meet real-world health challenges. He noted that flexible learning schedules and accessible payment options would make it easier for working professionals to further their studies without disrupting their service to the community.

**Evidence:**

https://www.equsat.ac.ug/news/equsat-partners-with-greater-masaka-dhos-to-empower-health-workers