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

17.2.5 Collaboration with NGOs for SDGs

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT) actively collaborates with national and international NGOs to advance Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through student volunteering programmes, research programmes, and development of educational resources. These partnerships strengthen student engagement, promote volunteering, and expand access to learning and healthcare services.

Following are examples from 2025:

FAWE Uganda Capacity-Building Workshop on Extended Orientation Model

The Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE) Uganda partnered with the Equator University of Science and Technology to implement the Extended Orientation Model under the Higher Education Access Program. The capacity-building workshop focused on strengthening student support systems for learners transitioning from secondary school to university. The initiative introduced modules covering academic preparedness, personal development, mental health, financial literacy, mentorship, and campus safety.

Evidence:

https://equsat.ac.ug/news/fawe-uganda-engages-equsat-administration-in-workshop-on-extended-orientation-model-for-higher-education-access-program-1

EQUSaT Hosts HHRD in Life-Changing Humanitarian Drive

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT) hosted the CEO of Helping Hands for Relief and Development (HHRD), in a humanitarian effort aimed at improving healthcare access for the disabled and visually impaired in Masaka.

The initiative, held at the EQUSaT in Masaka, saw the donation of wheelchairs to individuals with mobility challenges and facilitated critical optical surgeries at Masaka Regional Referral Hospital.

Speaking at the event, EQUSaT's Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mouhamad Mpezamihigo, expressed gratitude for the collaboration, emphasizing the university's commitment to community health and social responsibility. He also thanked HHRD for collaborating with the University and providing help to the people of Masaka.

The event emphasized the growing role of universities in community service, reinforcing EQUSaT's position as a leading institution not just in science and technology, but also in humanitarian initiatives. Both EQUSaT and HHRD pledged to continue working together to expand access to essential medical support in the region

Evidence:

https://equsat.ac.ug/news/equsat-hosts-hhrd-ceo-in-life-changing-humanitarian-drive

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

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

EQUSaT's Collaboration with NGOs for Research

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUSaT) has collaborated with NGOs in following research projects from 2025:

Global, Regional, and National Burden of Chronic Kidney Disease in Adults, 1990–2023

This research project was conducted through the international Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study 2023 collaboration and supported by the Gates Foundation (philanthropic, non-profit foundation), Wellcome (charitable foundation), National Kidney Foundation (non-profit health organization), and National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) (US government research institute). The study estimated that 788 million adults worldwide were living with chronic kidney disease in 2023, highlighting its substantial global health burden.

Evidence:

https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(25)01853-7/fulltext

Global, Regional, and National Burden of Headache Disorders, 1990–2023

This research was undertaken through the Global Burden of Disease Study 2023 collaboration, with funding from the Gates Foundation (philanthropic, non-profit foundation). The study estimated that 2.9 billion people experienced headache disorders in 2023, with headache-related disability more than twice as high among females as males.

Evidence:

https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S1474-4422%2825%2900402-8

Global Age-Sex-Specific All-Cause Mortality and Life Expectancy Estimates, 1950–2023

This research project formed part of the Global Burden of Disease Study 2023 collaboration and received support from the Gates Foundation (philanthropic, non-profit foundation), the UK Department of Health and Social Care (government department), the Norwegian Institute of Public Health (public-sector government institute), and the New Zealand Ministry of Health (government ministry). The study estimated 60.1 million deaths worldwide in 2023 and assessed mortality and life expectancy across countries and subnational locations.

Evidence:

https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2825%2901330-3

Asthma and Atopic Dermatitis in Asia, 1990–2021: The Global Burden of Disease Study 2021

This research was conducted through the Global Burden of Disease Study collaboration, with support from the Gates Foundation (philanthropic, non-profit foundation), the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (government research-funding agency), Queensland Department of Health (government department), South Korea's Ministry of Science and ICT (government ministry), and the Institute for Information & Communications Technology Planning & Evaluation (government-affiliated research and funding agency). Additional support included a Yonsei Fellowship funded by an individual

donor. The study estimated 106 million asthma cases and 68.1 million atopic dermatitis cases in Asia in 2021.

Evidence:

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/cea.70024