



STUDENTS
ORGANISING FOR
SUSTAINABILITY
UNITED KINGDOM



For Good Organisation Membership Overview

[For Good](#) connects you and your organisation with an international network of university and college students and recent graduates, to help you address sustainability challenges. We support you to work directly with students to get research questions answered, projects off the ground and short-term sustainability placements filled. These collaborations contribute to the growing field of sustainability research and help students gain important work experience and skill development, whilst seeking solutions to the biggest challenge our world is facing. You can also implement and trial new initiatives or innovations to enhance your sustainability impact.

For Good Organisation Membership grants your organisation access to a growing network students and graduates for one year. As a For Good member, you can post an unlimited amount of opportunities to collaborate with students and graduates on meaningful research, projects and placements.

The For Good offering is one of the ways in which NUS, SOS-UK and US Partnerships for ESD help students to make the world a better place. While at university, 63% of students in the UK take part in formal volunteering, with 95% reporting that they were motivated by a desire to improve things or help people. The For Good platform allows these students and graduates to fulfil their desires as a part of their degree by using their education as a force for good.

Research for Good

Collaborate with students to better understand key sustainability challenges through focussed research. This should contribute towards an assessed piece of research during the student's university or college studies and can span from foundation degree to PhD level. Depending on the nature of the research question/s you have students may work with you at your organisation's premises or remotely.

Projects for Good

Do you have a specific project that could be led by a student or recent graduate? This gives organisations the opportunity to partner with students for innovative, creative and bespoke projects to support you in making progress for sustainability. Partner with students on design, creative and applied courses to implement impactful projects. This could range from producing materials to engage people with sustainable behaviours; to creating short films to communicate your organisation's work or projects; to trialling and implementing innovative product design, Artificial Intelligence or engineering solutions. A great example of a Project for Good can be found [here](#).

Placements for Good

Offer a placement for a student or recent graduate to take on a short-term role within your organisation supporting and contributing towards addressing sustainability challenges. This could involve the student or graduate taking a lead on an initiative or workstream, or perhaps supporting with capacity for your organisation more generally. The key remit for a Placement for Good is that the student is contributing towards your organisation's sustainability work through their role.

We anticipate placements to range from 1 month to 1 year. We will only promote paid placements and these may take place at any time throughout the year depending on when students are available and organisations are offering opportunities. To ensure placements are accessible for all students regardless of their financial situation, we ask organisations to pay at least the [Real Living Wage, \(or the equivalent in your country\)](#) for placements.



Membership costs

Annual membership costs are based on the turnover and type of organisation. Organisations will be invoiced after the first enquiry is made by a student or graduate for the opportunity posted.

Membership includes:

- Access to the network;
- The ability to **register an unlimited number of projects, research opportunities and paid placements** on the database;
- Guidance documents to assist in forming a successful partnership;
- Free template materials to publicise the scheme internally and externally;
- Considerable savings compared to commercial research/consultancy offerings.

Annual turnover/ income	Businesses and for-profit	Charities/ NGOs/ not-for-profit
>£500,000	£350	-
£500,000 - £700,000	£550	-
£700,000 - £1,000,000	£700	-
£1,000,000 - £3,000,000	£1500	£350
>£3,000,000	£3000	£550

General information

a) The organisation representative is responsible for:

- Agreeing the parameters of the collaboration in the planning meeting, considering the fact that they are potentially collaborating with a student and their course requirements must come first;
- Having regular meetings with the student/graduate. This will depend on the duration of the collaboration and how much support is required, but this should be between weekly and monthly;
- Introduce the student/graduate to your organisation through the form of a welcome, introduction and/or induction, this may include introducing them to relevant members of the organisation; if the student/graduate will be coming on-site and visiting your organisation, a health and safety briefing should be included;
- Providing necessary data and information to enable the student to conduct the research, project or placement;
- Providing feedback to SOS-UK and US Partnership for ESD upon request on how the research was used;
- For placements, the organisation will be required to follow regular HR processes, provide a formal contract, provide holiday allowance and may include a probation period.

b) The student or graduate is responsible for:

- Completing the research, project or placement in a timely and professional manner;
- Updating the organisation and For Good on the progress regularly, most likely following regular meetings with supervisor;
- For research collaborations - submitting their report as usual for a dissertation/research project and subsequently making the report available to the organisations, as agreed in the planning meeting.

- For project collaborations - presenting the final project output in line with the organisation's needs as outlined at the first meeting and through on-going discussions with organisational supervisor.
 - Ensuring that the opportunity is of a suitable standard for the student/graduate and that it fulfils the requirements of their course (if applicable), this may need to be done through consultation with the student's academic supervisor;
 - Keeping their academic supervisor/s up to date on their collaboration with the organisation.
- c) **The university, faculty and/or supervisor is responsible for:**
- Advertising and publicising the opportunity, if appropriate/applicable, using the template resources provided by For Good;
 - Supporting students with standard dissertation/research project advice and guidance;
- d) **SOS-UK and US Partnership for ESD are responsible for:**
- Managing and monitoring the website;
 - Providing communications about and helping access learning and networking events and opportunities, e.g. the British Conference for Undergraduate Research (BCUR; www.bcur.org.uk) and the annual NUS Student Sustainability Summit;
 - Providing a detailed partnership outline to show the breakdown of responsibility;
 - Providing template documents for the planning meeting agenda and regular student reports;
 - Publishing case studies of completed collaborations on the for Good website;
 - Monitoring organisation and student/graduate progress, collating impact and celebrating outcomes;
 - For premium members - suggesting partnerships to members based on areas of interest, questions and ideas.
- e) **Other information**
- The student must fulfil the requirements for their module or course. This is the most important aspect to be considered and it will be the responsibility of the student and academic supervisor to ensure that the project/research/placement meets the requirements.
 - The type of report delivered by the student may differ from that provided by, for example, a professional consultant. The organisation accepts this when they sign up and should guide the student/graduate on the format they are seeking.
 - All members who form a collaboration agree to assist For Good with the monitoring and evaluation element of the programme by completing evaluation surveys and adhering to the agreed feedback timeline.
 - All members who form a collaboration agree to protect personal data obtained through the programme in accordance with the Data Protection Act and to safely dispose of all personal data upon completion of the Programme.
 - All members who form a collaboration have the right to publicise and promote their partnership and project (with reference to For Good).
 - All members who form a partnership have the right to present and publicise scientific reports and findings in national/international conferences and research journals (with reference to Dissertations for Good).

Experiences of the programme

Organisation experiences

Organisations felt that:

- They had benefited from ‘increased insight and commitment’ from a student;
- They were pleased that they had the ability to give a student the ‘opportunity to be involved in this work’;
- The partnerships had transformative impacts;
- They had a good impression of Dissertations for Good and associated communications.

**“It has really helped us to build working relationships with overseas groups and to develop knowledge of activity that we would not otherwise have had exposure to.”
Organisation**

Student experiences

Students reported that taking part in For Good helped to improve their:

- Communication skills;
- Interpersonal skills;
- Problem-solving;
- Organisation;
- Ability to use initiative and be self-motivated;
- Understanding of environment, social and economic connections.

“Working for the sake of something greater than my own academic development has given me drive and motivation to work hard.” Student

“It has given me the opportunity to work with really inspiring people and to gain a lot of practical experience that is applicable in a real-world setting.” Student

Supervisor experiences

Academic supervisors felt that:

- They had benefited from the opportunity to promote student research through additional access to conferences and events;
- Students had improved the skills mentioned above, as well as negotiation skills;
- The piece of work has additional responsibility and weight placed on it, so it is important that all partners are aware of this and that the project is suitable for the student.

“It is a good experience that enhances students’ profiles.” Supervisor

To find out more, please visit the website at <https://forgood.nus.org.uk> or get in touch on forgood@sos-uk.org .