

Okayama University - SDGs commitment

I - SDGs commitment - Sustainable Development Goals

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (UNESCO-2015) serve as a universal call to actions to protect the planet and improve the lives and prospects of all global citizens.

Since 2015, these global goals for sustainable development have been translated and embedded into the strategic direction of institutions at national and local levels.

Okayama University is significantly committed in realizing SDGs that aim to tackle the world's most pressing challenges such as poverty, hunger, and inequality, while ensuring social inclusion, environmental sustainability and economic prosperity (see <https://sdgs.un.org/en/goals>).



Universities are hubs for knowledge, discovery, and innovation that can provide the expertise, resources, and know-how to contribute and move the UN 2030 Agenda forward. Wealth of new knowledge is steadily generated by Okayama University high-level professors and researchers, thus passing a rich legacy to the next generations.

Beyond the classroom, the SDGs embody core themes of sustainability and well-being.

II - Strategy of research globalisation - Achievements of Sustainable Goals (SDGs - UNESCO)

A major condition to improve and strengthen a University international profile is to develop skills in Research project Engineering. In particular projects clearly oriented to International collaborations and linked to specific SDGs.

Okayama University URA division has been working on that matter for several years and those efforts are now resulting in significant achievements: a number of International Consortiums (supported mainly by EU funding) are now Running or Submitted or in Preparation.

Those projects are mainly MSCA (Marie-Slodowska Curie Action) type and allow various institutions to participate. In particular for Japanese Institutions (third parties) the logistics of commitment is quite light: this is a major asset.

Partnerships of excellence are keys to achieving the SDGs and meeting the frequently heard phrase “you have to do more with less” by definition, requires innovation and new approaches. So, in reality, “do more with less” can be interpreted as “improve, optimize, find synergies”, as with the SDGs. We have one planet, and we have to optimize and improve how we use its resources. In the range of large scale international research projects promoted at Okayama University, a partnership of Excellence – including for a large part, institutions ranked in the 200 best in the world – is set-up. European Commission HORIZON EUROPE rules state that the consortium should be coordinated by a European institution.



Major achievements - Highlights

Research Projects

A range of International and SDGs oriented projects are running or in preparation at Okayama University. They are designed so as to give Japanese partners a major role in the project design and implementation.

BE-ARCHAEO - European Commission - Marie-Slodowska - Curie Action (MSCA) - RISE/Staff Exchange

SDG-Goal-11; Target-4: Protect the world's cultural and natural heritage

4 years duration up to end of 2023

Coordinator: University of Turin - ITALY

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The main core of BE-ARCHAEO is the archaeological excavation of the Tobiotsuka Kofun (Soja city in Okayama Prefecture) and challenging studies of other Kofun burial mounds and related archaeological material in ancient Kibi and Izumo area (present Okayama and Shimane Prefectures), focusing on the rituals, the regional relationships and the formation of ancient state in Japan.

