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## Four key actions taken by BOKU in delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals

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## **Mission Statement BOKU**



The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, the *Alma Mater Viridis*, sees itself as an **education and research centre for renewable resources**, which are a necessity for human life.

With its wide range of areas of expertise it is the task of BOKU to contribute significantly to the **protection of life resources for future generations**.

With a connection between natural sciences, engineering and economics, BOKU is trying to deepen the knowledge of an ecologically and economically sustainable use of natural resources in a cultivated landscape.





- Implementation of the SDGs at the strategic level:
  - BOKU Development Plan 2018
- At the operational level:
  - Formation of a Working Group on SDGs in Jan. 2017
    - Networking between Departments and Disciplines on SDGs
    - Mapping of activities at BOKU relevant for the SDGs
  - Initiation of networking activities on SDGs among Austrian public universities (within the Alliance of Sustainable Universities in Austria; led by BOKU)





### **BOKU SDG Network:**

## **Mapping SDGs vs. Departments**





#### **BOKU SDG Network:**

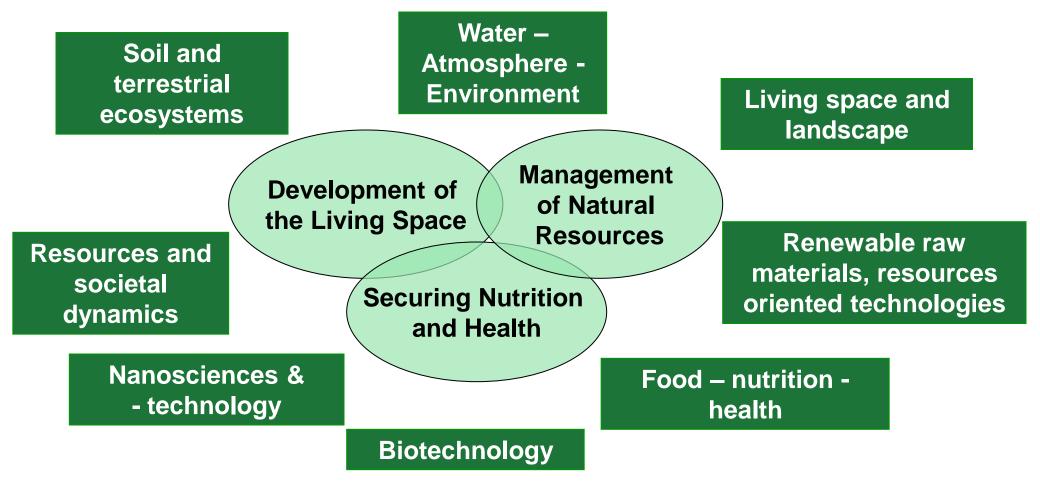
## Mapping SDGs vs. Fields of Competences

## **BOKU University – Themes & Competences**

Universität für Bodenkultur Wien
University of Natural Resources

and Life Sciences, Vienna

"Three-Pillar System": Interlinking Natural Sciences, Technology & Socio-Economics







- Workshop on SDGs on behalf of the Global Challenges University Alliance (GCUA; a global network initiated by SLU):
  - ➤ Life Science Universities and the UN Sustainable Development Goals
  - ➤ April 2018, BOKU, Vienna
- > Expected Outcome:
  - ➤ Position paper providing a narrative on the role of Life Sciences universities in dealing with the SDGs

https://www.slu.se/en/collaboration/international/global-challenges-university-alliance/workshops/





#### Example from Education:

Seminar "Sustainable land use in developing countries" (3 ECTS)

by Georg Gratzer, Helga Pülzl, Maria Wurzinger, Axel Mentler

https://online.boku.ac.at/BOKUonline/wbLv.wbShowLVDetail?pStpSpNr=282629

The students learned about the SDGs, learned how to conduct and analyse interviews and then went to the Federal Chancellary, three Ministries and one umbrella NGO (representing 34 NGOs). There, the officials responsible for implementation of the SDGs in Austria were interviewed.

A short video was made: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXS98CqEgtA&vl=en-GB">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXS98CqEgtA&vl=en-GB</a>

- Through this seminar, the responsible authorities realised that Academia is interested in the topic (is watching them...).
- > Students were enthusiastic when they learned about the SDGs but slightly frustrated when they were confronted with the reality of implementation.

#### Seminar Sustainable land use in developing countries (in Eng.; 3 ECTS)

#### Learning outcomes:

Participants are able to find and understand relevant literature on the SDGs, the can conduct interviews and analyse the results with respect to the implementation of the SDGs globally and in Austria. They understand the role of international agendas and can evaluate their chances for implementation. They can apply interviews for social research and prepare video documentaries. They can identify gaps in their formulation and hindrances for implementation. They can develop plans for improved implementation.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sXS98CqEgtA&vl=en-GB





# **University of Natural Resources** and Life Sciences, Vienna

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## THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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