

2021 Annual Sustainability Report

Foreword



Marie-Laure Salles, Director of Geneva Graduate Institute

The Geneva Graduate Institute was founded in 1927 with a commitment to international collaboration for peace and with four main missions: research, teaching, expertise and engagement.

Nearly a hundred years later, what has become clear is that peace will remain elusive, if not impossible, in our common future without the integration of a strong and

systemic sustainability and equity agenda. This is the case at all levels of human coordination, from local communities to international and transnational arenas.

With this reality in mind, sustainability has become a guiding principle for the Institute – one that we are committed to deploy and systematize in the forthcoming years in all dimensions of our missions and activities. This first annual report of the Geneva Graduate Institute Sustainability Initiative shows that the mobilization around this commitment is robust across our community and its various stakeholder groups.

The Target Initiative on Sustainability

In Autumn 2021, the Geneva Graduate Institute's Director, Marie-Laure Salles, initiated the Target Initiative on Sustainability. The aim of the Initiative is to promote and integrate ideas of sustainability in all areas of interest of the Institute, from the teaching practices, research questions, students' engagement and partnerships, to the daily habits of its community.

The Target Initiative is composed of eighteen members representing various stakeholders from the Geneva Graduate Institute community. As of November 2021, the Initiative has been co-facilitated by Joëlle Noailly (Head of Research CIES, International Economics), Carine Leu (Head of Alumni Relations & Professional Networks) and Cécile de Gardelle (Initiative Coordinator). The Target Initiative is guided by specific terms of reference defining its central objectives, deliverables and appointments of its members. In addition, the Initiative receives internal financial resources allowing for the funding of a position of coordinator (0.25 FTE, held by Cécile de Gardelle) and for other activities aligned with the goals of the Initiative.

The objectives of the Target Initiative on Sustainability (TIS) are defined as:

- developing and implementing sustainability strategies, goals and targets linked to the institutional strategic, operational planning process;
- launching policy initiatives;
- complying with relevant legislative requirements;
- providing an innovative forum for discussion of sustainability issues; and,
- contributing to the reinforcement of shared values around sustainability, amongst others.

In this first year, the TIS has set itself the following roadmap. As a first step, it seemed important to start

collecting a large set of metrics and information on current sustainability-related activities within the Institute in order to create a benchmark on which to measure progress in future years. This 2021 Annual Sustainability Report is the result of this benchmarking exercise. The TIS team has worked together with other units within the Institute to collect, coordinate, and report on the sustainability activities of our community. We thank all professors, administrative staff, and students actively engaged with the Initiative over the last year as well as additional members of our community who kindly helped us along the way in collecting data and providing time and resources. We also thank the 250 respondents who took the time to answer our online survey aiming to investigate the habits of our community in terms of food consumption, recycling, and mobility. This first Sustainability Report does not pretend to provide an exhaustive list of all initiatives, but rather to display key facts and significant accomplishments that we found important to highlight. For our next annual report, we encourage members of the Institute's community to inform us of any important achievements carried out in 2022, to ensure we include them.

As a second step, this scoping exercise was the occasion to reflect on the key strengths and weaknesses of our achievements in terms of sustainability at the Institute via a SWOT analysis. This helped us to identify a set of key priorities for future areas of work and to draft the Strategic Plan for the 2023-2026 period.

We hope you will take a few moments to learn about how we integrated sustainability into all our areas of work, study, and day-to-day life at the Geneva Graduate Institute over the past year. We look forward to building on the steps taken in 2021 to fulfil our mission to make impactful progress towards sustainability.



Joëlle Noailly, Head of Research, CIES, International Economics, Co-facilitator of the Initiative



Carine Leu, Head of Alumni Relations and Professional Networks, Co-facilitator of the Initiative



Cécile de Gardelle, Initiative Coordinator



Hugo Brandam, Master Student, Former President of the Environment Committee



Guillemette Carlucci, Executive Education, Portfolio Manager



Aline Dimitriou Cruz, Senior Career Services Adviser



Jeanne Cordy, Master Student, Head of the Target Initiative on Sustainability team of the Environment Committee



Claire Francioli, Programme Assistant for our Executive Education programmes on Development Policies and Practices



David Gaymard, Director of Real Estate



Dan Graham, Head of Communications



James Hollway, Associate Professor, International Relations, Political Science



Marc Le Hénanf, Librarian



Simon Lobach, Student (PhD)



Luisa Lupo, Student (PhD)



Livio Miles Silva Muller, Student (PhD)



Anne Saab, Associate Professor, International Law



Vanessa Valerio, Project Manager and Assistant to the Administrative Director



Achim Wennmann, Director of Strategic Partnerships

Guiding Principles

The Geneva Graduate Institute Charter established in 2021 defines the Institute's wide mission and vision:

Vision

A pioneer in the exploration of global issues, the Geneva Graduate Institute opens creative spaces for diverse communities and fosters the understanding and engagement essential to a peaceful, equitable and sustainable world.

Mission

Located in the heart of International Geneva, we produce and share academic knowledge and expertise on international relations, development issues, global challenges and governance. Through a combination of scientific excellence, transdisciplinarity, and critical thinking, we nurture students and professionals to become decision makers on the global stage. We equip them with the competences, confidence, and sense of responsibility necessary to drive positive transformation.

As of November 2021, the Target Initiative on Sustainability started a series of consultations and discussions on establishing guiding principles and a common understanding around the concept of sustainability within the Institute. After several fruitful exchanges, the members of the Initiative developed the following definition and principles to guide our actions.

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Sustainability implies striving for building a green, peaceful, and equitable world for current and future living communities.

We aim to integrate considerations of sustainability in research questions, teaching objectives, engagement projects, our daily lives in Geneva and around the world.

Our actions are driven by a sense of responsible and authentic leadership for positive transformation.



To move towards practical definitions to measure our sustainability actions, we made the deliberate choice to focus on two important concepts, namely:

- **1. SDG-Related Sustainability** – The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outline 17 grand social and environmental challenges that people, organisations, and countries must address to make up the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations in 2015. These challenges include poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice. Following a similar method as UC Berkeley, we conducted a text-mining analysis of our curriculum and other activities using a list of SDG-specific keywords in order to assess how much our educational activities overlap with the SDG goals. In our analysis of sustainability, we refrain from addressing gender and diversity issues as these are the focus of a specific target initiative within the Geneva Graduate Institute community.

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At the Geneva Graduate Institute we strive to minimise potential trade-offs amongst the various SDGs – for instance, alleviating poverty should not come at the costs of environmental sustainability.

- **2. Environmental Sustainability** – Given the urgency of the climate crisis, it is essential to put specific emphasis on environmental sustainability. Our community and students need to master a deep understanding of socio-economic, political, historical, and legal discussions on climate change, biodiversity issues, energy challenges, and other environmental topics. Hence, we added a specific analysis of our curriculum and other activities from the angle of environmental sustainability. The choice of looking specifically at environmental sustainability on top of SDG-related topics is the result of our group discussions. A conclusion of these debates is that at the Geneva Graduate Institute we aim to strive to minimise potential trade-offs amongst the various SDGs – for instance, alleviating poverty should not come at the cost of environmental sustainability; similarly, peace and humanitarian actions increasingly need to integrate climate and environmental considerations.



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1. Teaching

1.1. Evaluating Sustainability in our Curriculum

62%

of courses in our curriculum cover SDG-related topics

35%

of courses address Environmental Sustainability topics



Given its education mission, the Geneva Graduate Institute strives to ensure that students are familiar with the most important principles and concepts of sustainable development and can incorporate them into their actions during their future professional and private lives. Due to its unique position in the international hub of Geneva, the Geneva Graduate Institute offers a very large range of high-quality courses on SDG-related issues. Using specific lists of keywords, we conducted a preliminary text-mining analysis searching through the abstracts and descriptions of all courses offered in our curriculum over the 2021-2022 academic year.

The results of this analysis show that:

- ▶ 62% of courses in our curriculum (175 courses out of 280) address SDG-related themes; and,
- ▶ 35% of courses (98 out of 280) address Environmental Sustainability dealing with topics related to climate change and environmental degradation.

There is some variation across academic departments regarding the degree to which the curriculum addresses the two types of sustainability. We should also keep in mind that a student's career choice is often based on extrinsic factors and the possibility of career in sustainability, which is also likely reflected in the curriculum, may vary across disciplines.

The Interdisciplinary Masters (MINT) show the highest shares of sustainability courses in their curriculum. The MINT program offers a specific track on Environment and Sustainability, offering 18 specialised courses. In 2021-

2022, about a third of MINT students chose to follow this specialisation.

Finally, a search through the titles of all Master's theses produced in 2021 reveals that 35% and 20% of Master's theses (out of 216) included SDG related keywords and Environmental Sustainability keywords, respectively¹.

¹ Note that in 2021 many students received a COVID-extension for submitting their theses, so many of these due in June 2021 were only submitted early 2022.

SHARE OF SUSTAINABILITY COURSES PER DEPARTMENT ACADEMIC YEAR 2021 -2022



1.2. New in 2022: A Reinvented MINT Programme

The Master in International and Development Studies – also known as MINT – is a two-year transdisciplinary master programme, which integrates perspectives and disciplines to propose a ground-breaking combination of systemic thinking with thematic specialisation. The programme intertwines international and development issues because we believe that our integrated approach will offer our students the competencies, confidence, and sense of responsibility necessary to drive positive transformation.

Starting in September 2022, a reinvented MINT curriculum will propose a critical analysis of alternative paradigms, methodological competencies and substantive knowledge, articulated in thematic specialisations. Together with professional skills workshops, the use of interactive pedagogical methods, an applied research project and a Master thesis, students will gain the conceptual and practical tools they need to pursue successful careers in government, international organisations, the non-profit sector, as well as in the private sector.

The new structure of the MINT programme includes a core course followed by all students, which will offer a reflection on global challenges – including the Sustainability challenge – and foster the understanding of our world by drawing on the expertise of the Graduate Institute and International Geneva. In addition, students will be allowed to choose among seven specialisations with renewed emphasis on sustainability issues. The specialisations are: Environment and Sustainability, Sustainable Trade and Finance, Conflict, Peace and Security, Human Rights and Humanitarianism, Mobilities, Migrations and Boundaries, Global Health and Gender, and Race and Diversity.

The MINT programme integrates Applied Research Projects (ARPs), which bring together small groups of students from the Graduate Institute with partners from diverse sectors of International Geneva to conduct innovative research that addresses real-world challenges. Through these projects, students learn about how sustainability is implemented in practise.

1.3. New in 2022: Master in Sustainable Finance

The Master of Advanced Studies in Sustainable Finance and Development (60 ECTS) is a new one-year postgraduate degree course that provides advanced, broad-ranging and practise-oriented training on sustainable finance. The course aims to teach the core foundations of the sustainable finance system and to provide an overview of how finance can be used to achieve the SDGs.

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Current and future global challenges call for a new generation of professionals engaged in the development of new solutions for a more sustainable, equitable and peaceful world



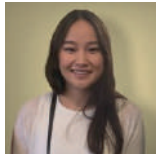
Nathan Sussmann, Master Programme Co-Director, Full Professor, International Economics & Pictet Chair in Finance and Development and Director, Centre for Finance and Development.

1.4. Executive Education Programmes

The Geneva Graduate Institute Executive Education programmes leverage the Institute's cutting-edge research, responsible policy engagement, and trusted voice on international affairs to drive inclusive growth for sustainable impact. Our expertise on sustainability issues spans across most of our programmes, some of which are highlighted below:

- ▶ **Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Environmental Governance:** This degree-granting programme offers two modules of eight days each covering the fundamentals of global environmental governance, and with particular focus on the themes of food, climate change, water, energy, and human rights.
- ▶ **LL.M. in International Law:** This is a one-year postgraduate degree programme that provides advanced, comprehensive and practice-oriented training in international law. The programme offers students the possibility to choose a concentration stream in International Environmental Law.
- ▶ **Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) in Sustainable Finance and Development:** The MAS (60 ECTS) is a one-year postgraduate degree programme that provides advanced, broad-ranging and practise-oriented training. The programme aims to provide core foundations on the sustainable finance system and on how finance can be used to achieve SDGs. The first edition will take place in 2022.
- ▶ **CAS in SDG Investing:** This programme aims at fulfilling a growing and pressing need – making finance more sustainable, and bringing more finance into the SDGs-driven initiatives. The programme launched in 2019 is organised in two modules of eight-days each.





Interview with Khaliun Purevsuren. Together with Florian Duriaux, Ryota Taniguchi, and Sarayu Krishnan (MINT students from the 2020-2021 cohort), she won the Best Presentation Award for their collective work on the ARP project “Crowdfunding for Cleantech”. The initiative was – as part of a research project led by Dr. Joëlle Noailly and financed by the Swiss National Research Programme “Sustainable Economy”.

Can you tell us about the context of your research?

Our project aimed to find out whether crowdfunding is a good solution to finance cleantech startups. Crowdfunding is a type of financing where the capital required for a new project is raised from a group of people, mostly through online platforms. What distinguishes crowdfunding from traditional investing is that it allows average citizens, like us, to purchase equity (i.e., shares of new businesses just like accredited investors). Recently, crowdfunding has been gaining popularity, especially among startups to finance their projects.

What are the biggest benefits of crowdfunding? Is it a useful tool to finance cleantech?

We have found several benefits to crowdfunding cleantech, such as creating a community of highly engaged investors around the business, testing out the market for products, and allowing the general public to benefit financially from green transition projects. The most interesting finding was that crowdfunding has the advantage to introduce non-financial motivations to investors, such as environmental impacts, and can thus leverage investments into clean technologies.

However, the limitation to crowdfunding as of now is its limited potential to sustain massive investments into cleantech startups due to reasons, such as legal constraints. Thus, we concluded that crowdfunding has a promising future as a complimentary financing tool rather than altogether a substitute financing mechanism for cleantech startups.

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Interviewing all these practitioners was a very fulfilling experience for us and inspired us to ponder what we would like to achieve in the future and how we would contribute to sustainability”.

How did the project help develop your research skills?

Conducting interviews improved our interviewing skills and qualitative research skills significantly. It was one of the most important steps for our project as we spent a lot of time conducting deep-dive research into each of the related industries: financial, cleantech and startup, and into vetting our interviewees. We learnt to conduct research and draw insights from it in a more systematised way and learnt to work better as a team throughout the project.

Why was this project important to you?

As students that specialise in Environment, Resources and Sustainability, we hope this research sheds light on the importance of financing clean technologies – as they are crucial in minimising harmful environmental impacts – and that our project contributes to broadening the opportunities for financing this industry. The research processes of the project were very valuable to us. We met many experts who are at the forefront of the cleantech, sustainable investments and startup venture industries.

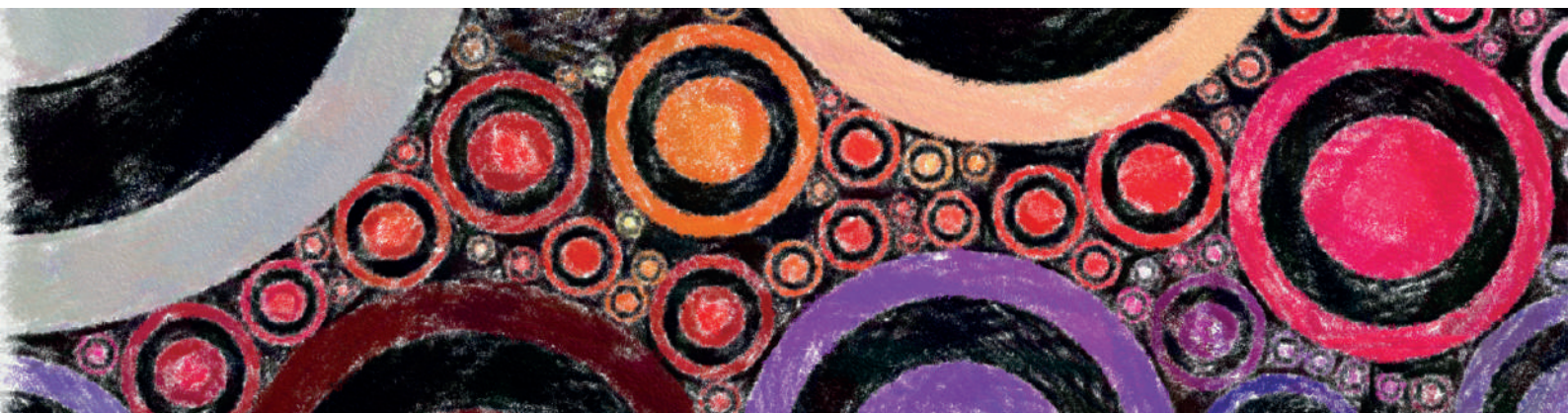
2. Research and Policy Outreach

78% of professors and faculty members have expertise on SDG-related themes

20% of professors and faculty members work on specific issues of climate change, environment and natural resources

9 research centres organised around SDG-relevant thematic clusters

766 media appearances in 2021



The Geneva Graduate Institute's mission encompasses conducting academic research and providing a platform for policymaking. Research and policy outreach are organised around the nine research centres of the Institute which are organised around thematic clusters relevant to the SDGs.

The Graduate Institute's research centres provide a stimulating intellectual environment by promoting exchanges between professors and doctoral students and by strengthening expertise networks in subjects where Geneva and Switzerland have a comparative advantage. They offer a unique interface between the academic world and the international community thanks to their wide range of activities, including research and expertise, organising public debates, hosting researchers from around the world, and contributing to the Institute's executive education courses.

- ▶ Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding
- ▶ Centre for Finance and Development
- ▶ Centre for International Environmental Studies
- ▶ Global Migration Centre

- ▶ Centre for Trade and Economic Integration
- ▶ Gender Centre
- ▶ Global Health Centre
- ▶ Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy
- ▶ Global Governance Centre

The Research Department communicates news and publications, published by our professors, around various clusters linked to SDG-related themes.

The central location in International Geneva places the Institute in a unique position to play a leading role in shaping global discussions on sustainability. Our professors and researchers are often requested to provide their view and expertise on the current state of the world in the media.

In 2021, our faculty members did 766 media appearances to provide for instance their analyses of the COVID-pandemic evolution and climate negotiations at the COP 26 in Glasgow.

2.1. The Centre for International Environmental Studies

The Centre is dedicated to the better understanding of the social, economic and political facets of global problems related to the environment.

Established in 2010, the Centre for International Environmental Studies (CIES) is the Graduate – Institute's focal point for research on environmental issues.

A full description of CIES activities in 2021 is available in the 2021 CIES Annual report.

CENTRE FOR
INTERNATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL
STUDIES

4

research programme areas: Environmental Governance; Climate Change, Energy and Innovation; Resources and Development; and Agrarian Environment and Food Systems

14

affiliated professors and 29 research assistants

12

completed and ongoing research projects in 2021

75+

publications in 2021





In 2021, the CIES launched three research projects:

- ▶ Synthetic Lives: The Future of Mining (Filipe Calvao, ERC Startin, EUR 1.5 million)
- ▶ Anthroposouth : Latin American Oil Revolutions (Antoine Acket SNF Eccellenza CH 1.8 million)
- ▶ Green dealings (Marc Hufty, SNIS, CHF 266 000)
- ▶ About 40% of our scientific articles were published in A-ranked journals.



2.2. Environment, Climate, Conflict & Peace Nexus

In 2021, the Institute initiated the strategic development of a new cross-cutting thematic research agenda and community building efforts focused on the Environment, Climate, Conflict & Peace (ECCP) Nexus. This Nexus will deliver two important outcomes in 2022:

1. *The White Paper and Compendium on the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding* are timed to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1972 Stockholm Conference in June 2022. The white paper and compendium are the product of a global conversation about the future of environmental peacebuilding and they draw from extensive academic work and practical experience. The 50 chapters in the compendium are the work of 154 authors from more than 80 organisations across 30 countries. Most of the compendium chapters have been written by authors from two or more organisations from different sectors straddling civil society, Indigenous groups, governments, academic institutions, think tanks, international organisations, and the private sector. The white paper and compendium is a collaborative project guided by the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform, the PeaceNexus Foundation, the Environmental Peacebuilding Association, the Environmental Law Institute, and the International Union for Conservation of Nature.
2. *The 2nd International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding, 1-4 February 2022* co-hosted by the Graduate Institute, in collaboration with the Environmental Peacebuilding Association (EnPAx) and in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform,



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The Environment, Climate, Conflict & Peace Nexus is one of the most dynamic emerging policy topics in Geneva (and elsewhere)

Achim Wennmann
Director of Strategic Partnership



the Geneva Water Hub, the Geneva Environment Network, and the PeaceNexus Foundation. The conference featured: 75+ panels, 330+ speakers from 60+ countries, and four days of plenaries, awards ceremonies, breakout sessions, networking events, and training sessions. Talks covered climate change, rights and justice, public health, business and markets, and building the evidence base.

2.3. SDG Portal

More than 160 Graduate Institute faculty, researchers and students are actively working on the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These activities span all 17 goals, and include research projects, publications, events, teaching, or are part of external initiatives and partnerships. The SDG Portal (<http://sdg.graduateinstitute.ch/about/>) has been created to showcase the Graduate Institute research on the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda to be of use in the policy world and to encourage collaboration on work towards achieving the SDGs, both within the Graduate Institute and within broader international academic and policy circles.

Research findings produced at the Graduate Institute can be put to good use in the policy world, where gov-

ernments, non-governmental actors, scientists, academics, businesses and other actors are grappling with policy options and strategies that support global efforts to reach the SDGs by the year 2030.

The SDG Portal offers the possibility to search for work by SDG goal, type of activity, topic, or people.

The Graduate Institute's SDG Portal is edited weekly by Nina Kiderlin and was developed by staff at the Global Governance Centre, including Cecilia Cannon, Esther May, and Thomas Biersteker. In 2022, the Communication department will initiate discussions with the team of the SDG Portal to see how to better integrate SDG research into the main Institute website.

2.4. Swiss Lab for Sustainable Finance

The Graduate Institute's Centre for Finance and Development (CFD) launched the Swiss Lab for Sustainable Finance (SL4SF) in September 2021, with the generous support of the Pictet Foundation. The Lab is a multi-stakeholder and transdisciplinary lab that will focus on how SDG-related goals can be met through sustainable finance and multi-stakeholder partnerships, including those in more fragile settings. The Lab will advance sustainable finance research and practise, focusing on fulfilling the SDG goals.

The Lab's founding members are the Graduate Institute, E4S (EPFL, UNIL and IMD), IMD, the University of Basel, the University of Geneva, the University of Ghana, Sustainable Finance Geneva, the ICRC, the IFC, and the Economics of Mutuality.

This collaborative effort is the first of its kind in Switzerland, bringing an international dimension and anchoring the Lab's presence within International Geneva by partnering with international organisations (IFC, ICRC) and universities from low-income countries. The Swiss Lab for Sustainable Finance will be joining forces with other national sustainability labs to establish an international "network of labs", enhancing Switzerland's position as a powerhouse of sustainability.



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We aspire, as part of our vision, to help establish norms of sustainability and responsible finance, in Switzerland and internationally. Together, as a team, we aim to conduct applied actionable research to address the challenges of financing the SDGs, measuring impact, and training the next generation of social scientists in sustainable finance.

Professor Nathan Sussman,
Pictet Chair in Finance and Development,
Director of the Centre for Finance and Development



2.5. Forum on Trade, Environment, and the SDGs (TESS)

The Forum on Trade, Environment and the SDGs (TESS) is a partnership of the Graduate Institute and the UN Environment Programme launched on 9 June 2021. The partnership supports dialogue and action on trade policy to address urgent global environmental crises and advance the implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The work of TESS focuses on the intersection of trade policies and the following six themes at the nexus of trade, environment and sustainable development – Climate change, mitigation and adaptation; Circular economy, sustainable consumption and production; Plastic pollution; Sustainable agriculture, Natural resources and biodiversity loss; Green aid for trade and trade finance; and Trade in environmental goods and services.

TESS

TESS aims to serve the trade, environment, and sustainable development communities through a versatile, nimble, needs-driven, and outcome-focused set of activities designed to catalyse collaborative policy action. In 2021, a key focus of TESS was on supporting outcomes on environment and the SDGs at the WTO's 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12). TESS supported the newly launched process of Structured Discussions on Trade and Environmental Sustainability (TESSD) and the Informal Dialogue on Plastic Pollution and Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade (IDP) at the WTO by enabling inclusive, well-informed, and action-oriented dialogue at the trade and sustainability interface in Geneva's multilateral trade setting.

2.6. Public Event – Reconciling Ecology and Economy – A Realist Approach



On 15 November, 2021, the Geneva Graduate Institute organised, in partnership with the Club Diplomatique de Genève and the Solar Impulse Foundation, the public event "Reconciling Ecology and Economy – A Realist Approach" with Bertrand Piccard (whose father Jacques Piccard was an alumnus of the Institute).

Bertrand Piccard, explorer and first to accomplish the first round-the-world solar flight in history, explained his eco-realist approach to ecology and the need to consider it through the lens of economic profitability. He reviewed clean and profitable solutions to support political and business decision makers to reach their environmental targets.

About 300 people attended the event.

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Solar Impulse was built not to transport passengers but to carry a message. We want to demonstrate the importance of the pioneering spirit, to encourage people to question their certainties. Our world needs new solutions to improve the quality of human life. Clean technologies and renewable energies are among them.



Bertrand Piccard

2.7. Conference – Building Bridges



In November 2021, the Geneva Graduate Institute welcomed the Building Bridges conference, which contributes to shaping the global sustainable finance agenda and builds a bridge towards a global economic model aligned with the needs of a sustainable and just society.

Building Bridges is a joint initiative, launched in 2019 by Swiss public authorities, the finance community, the United Nations and other International partners to accelerate the transition to a global economic model aligned with the SDGs. At the core of the initiative is the recognition that the scale and complexity of the transition require “building bridges” between multiple stakeholders in the finance, government, and international development communities.



3. Engagement

As actors of the world we want the Institute's community – from students to alumni – to be engaged in sustainability actions with a broad potential for positive transformation.

The Institute supports several initiatives to reward and promote concrete actions and engagement on sustainability.

3.1. The Geneva Challenge 2021

The 2021 Advancing Development Goals International Contest for Graduate Students aims to present innovative and pragmatic solutions to address the challenges of crisis management such as, world hunger, poverty, conflict, climate shocks, migration, unemployment, and, more recently, the pandemic we are currently facing.

Eager to stimulate reflection and innovation on development from diverse disciplinary and contextual perspectives and with the generous support of Ambassador and alumnus Jenö Staehelin, the Graduate Institute launched in 2014 the "Advancing Development Goals Contest" an international competition for Master students.

The idea is to gather contributions that are both theoretically grounded and offer pragmatic solutions to a relevant international development problem stemming from

an interdisciplinary collaboration between three to five enrolled master students from anywhere in the world "The Advancing Development Goals Contest" calls upon graduate students from around the globe to embrace these crises as opportunities and devise innovative solutions to effectively manage them and advance the development goals.

In 2021, the winning team developed Project BuyBy, an easy-access and trustworthy software marketplace, which enables and incentivises farmers to sell residual stubbles after crop harvest and other by-products to generate alternative income. By avoiding the need to burn residual stubbles – a common agricultural management practised worldwide by small- and medium-holder farmers – the project is able to help to address air pollution, soil degradation and climate change since.



3.2. Sustainability Awards

To honour the outstanding achievements of the Institute's alumni, the Association Committee created the Alumni Awards in eight categories and Sustainability is one new category this year. Not all awards are given every year. Laureates are selected by members of the Committee by vote in June and are invited to attend the awards ceremony and gala dinner of the Alumni Reunion in Geneva.



Our first ever Sustainability Awards recognised the outstanding achievement of a young alumnus in his field, Felix Staehli ('08), co-founder of Impact Hub Genève and Lausanne – venues where connections, knowledge, and resources drive changemakers to realise a new breed of solutions in service of society and the planet.





3.3. The Environmental Committee of the Student Association

The Environmental Committee (EC), founded in 2010, brings together students interested in sustainability and environmental issues to give voice to these topics within the Institute. The objective of the EC is to promote environmental protection and sustainable development at the Institute, raise awareness of environmental and sustainable development issues, and promote healthy and eco-friendly policies amongst all the members of the Graduate Institute.

The EC proposes a great variety of activities in which students from the Committee and from the rest of the student body can take part. The following 2021 activities are worth highlighting:

- ▶ “Save the Food project”. Every Friday at 5pm EC members picked up leftover food that would otherwise go to waste and delivered it to students in the common room (Picciotto Common Room).

- ▶ SCOOP, a food cooperative run by EC members for the Institute’s community. Partnering with small local farmers and producers of organic seasonal products the offer varies throughout the seasons. SCOOP is a non-profit project aiming solely at making local, organic, healthy food affordable to students.
- ▶ In collaboration with the Graduate Institute student-led Water Initiative, EC conducted two afternoons of lake cleaning over the year, during which tons of waste were removed from the Lac Lemman.
- ▶ The EC also took an active part in the international community and in the fight for better environmental justice and higher environmental awareness through participation in strikes for the environment in the context of Fridays for Future and more.
- ▶ Partnerships with local actors to promote a circular economy in Geneva, such as La Manivelle (a cooperative that rents sporting equipment, trekking gear, tools and more) or Materium (an association that extends the life of materials before incineration and instead recycles, re-uses and re-employs).

3.4. Sustainability Week Geneva

Sustainability Week Geneva (SWG) is a local student project and one of many such initiatives organised around the country as part of Sustainability Week Switzerland. [SWG 2021](#) was organised by student teams from the University of Geneva and the Graduate Institute with an aim to re-centre higher education institutions within sustainability debates.

Continuing the work from previous years, a motivated group of EC members took the initiative to co-organise the week with a group of UNIGE students. During 22 to 26 March 2021, EC hosted various online panels, workshops, and screenings to help build tomorrow's sustainable society.

Some examples of events organised by the EC at the Geneva Graduate Institute include:

- ▶ “Thank You for the Rain” – Film screening, capturing the daily life of Kisilu, a Kenyan farmer, facing the immediate and adverse impact of climate change. Thanks to the virtual participation of Kisilu, the film screening emphasised a range of issues linked to environmental degradation and disasters, including access to water, urbanisation, displacement, gender equality, education, and climate justice.

- ▶ Food waste workshop by alumnus Benjamin Lephilbert who launched Light Blue Consulting, to learn how to:
 - Approach food waste as a systemic issue;
 - Identify the main food waste generation points;
 - Use new performance metrics and interpret data; and;
 - Use and apply tools and techniques.
- ▶ Ethics & Sustainability: Perspectives from the Food & Fashion Industries, a public event.

Every day, we eat food and wear our favourite clothes. But, how often do we pause and question how our food and clothes are produced, who makes them, and what kind of impact we create by consuming them? This panel discussion gave the audience the opportunity to do just that – pause and learn about two industries that are trying to produce ethically and sustainably to have a lasting positive impact on people and the planet.

- ▶ Career Services and the EC co-organised a virtual Career Fair on 24 March, where 12 organisations from International Geneva presented their career opportunities (FAO, WEF, UNEP, GEN, etc)



National Opening Ceremony for Sustainability Week Switzerland 2021

Finally, this year the EC had the honour to host the National Opening Ceremony for Sustainability Week Switzerland on 4 March, 2021. Titled “**Climate Crisis – Out of Balance: Confronting Equity and Sustainability**”, the online panel marked the opening of all sustainability weeks.

The panel took a stance on sustainability as an issue of equity and justice. While the effects of the climate crisis are felt globally, developed countries are significantly more responsible for the greenhouse gases being emitted into the atmosphere. Yet developing countries and low-income communities in the developed world are at higher risk of suffering from the negative impacts of climate change.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE (EC) STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE GENEVA GRADUATE INSTITUTE



Zaninka Mariane Ntagungira,
President of the Environmental
Committee (2019-2020)

What are the different ways students can and do engage for better environmental management of the Graduate Institute?

The EC is the most direct channel for students to advocate and work towards transforming the practices of the Institute. This is why we invite all students to get involved in the EC and stay informed of its different initiatives by subscribing to its newsletter and social media channels.

“

Whether you are interested in improving recycling on campus, advocating for more sustainable food options, or increasing the selection of environment-related courses, the EC offers a space for students to engage with the administration.

It is also important for students to be aware of their individual capacity to inspire and be a force of change; by informing their peers, talking to their professors, and getting involved in small and big projects alike.

If you had to choose one EC flagship student-led initiative with strong sustainability outputs in environmental awareness and management at the Institute, what would it be?

If we had to choose, we think SCOOP is a strong contender. As was mentioned, it is a food cooperative run by EC members for the Institute's community. Being one of EC's oldest projects, it was founded in February 2014 by a small group of volunteers and has since grown to sell a large variety of products. It promotes local, plastic-free and organic consumption, by selling dried goods (fruits, legumes, and nuts) to students at the price of the producers. This results in a farm-to-table style, as students are directly purchasing from farmers in the area. For example, students can buy chickpeas from SCOOP at 0.60CHF per 100g, where it would cost more at Migros (but from the same producer). These products are also sold without any plastic packaging thereby demonstrating alternative and less harmful ways to consume.

Both of you have currently graduated and are working in organisations aiming to reduce CO₂ emissions or make grants to support social and environmental projects at the local level.



Anna Lies Ploeg, Vice-President of the
Environmental Committee (2019-2020)

What could be the assets of being involved in an initiative such as EC? Do you think your involvement influences your mindset and professional career?

“

The EC is a guaranteed place for creating a network, both with students and peers who have the same interests and passions but also with professionals around Geneva who can act as mentors or even be potential colleagues in the future.

Since the EC organises so many events with different partners, EC members get to meet a diverse range of actors and network in the field that interests them. It also encourages creativity in how to tackle and communicate about the climate crisis, and in how to create and manage different projects that are aiming to reach this goal. These are incredibly valuable skills, and being able to hone them within the topic that is your professional field will definitely come in handy.

In an ideal world in 2030, how would you imagine the Geneva Graduate Institute campus?

2030 isn't that far away when you think about it. But the climate science is clear; we need to halve our emissions by 2030 and, reach net zero by 2050, and everyone has a part to play. By 2030, we would love to see a Sustainable Institute – a low-carbon campus and residences that are powered by renewable energy, with green and healthy spaces for the Institute-wide community that are paving the way in terms of food waste and mobility. By 2030, we would love to see students living a sustainable lifestyle – in harmony with nature and the ecosystems around them, participating in global and local dialogues and being active agents of change. By 2030, we hope to see a sustainable curriculum – offering a diverse array of courses taught by a representative group of professors on relevant environmental topics that push the boundaries on the status quo towards a radical societal transformation. **But instead of talking about 2030, all of these actions and goals can start happening today. What are we waiting for?**

4. Green Spaces and Biodiversity

In April 2021, the project of a community vegetable garden (400 m² and 32 boxes, 26 for the Institute and 6 for the Asylum Seekers Centre) started in the Rigot Park, thanks to the support of the State and the City of Geneva and to the participation of our Director, professors, collaborators, and students as well as some asylum seekers from “Le centre de Rigot”. The objectives of this project are to create a place for being in contact with nature and plants, while meeting, discussing, and working together in the garden with other members of the community.



The Grand Morillon student residence is also hosting a pilot project community garden (with 40 boxes) on its rooftop. The project started later during the summer 2021. The Housing team is in charge of this garden and is welcoming the student community living in the residence to join their efforts.

INTERVIEW WITH EVE HOPKINS, COORDINATOR AT THE CENTER ON GLOBAL MIGRATION. (GLOBE 28)



You volunteered to participate in the community garden project. What is your motivation?

The community garden project is a cross-cutting initiative, with several levels of exchange on a field where we physically see the fruits of our labour develop. In this respect, it ticks all my boxes: not only is it a place to meet, share, and learn new skills (I am a neophyte in gardening). It also carries a symbolism that reflects human values to which I fully subscribe.

My motivation swells with enthusiasm; the team that set up this garden did an absolutely magnificent job, everything is there, even the little shady corner. In addition, for someone like me who works at the Centre for Global Migration, the curiosity to see the evolution of the collective accommodation centre for migrants in Rigot and to meet people there was also a real driving force.

What are the benefits of such an experience, both on a personal and professional level?

Besides enjoying fresh vegetables, I appreciate the fact that we

work together. In fact, we created a WhatsApp group to coordinate between Bac 7 users, composed of Master's students and a PhD student. Unfortunately, the weather was not favourable for meetings, but it was beneficial to solve the issue of watering!

That said, the garden is also a very quiet place, it is not always crowded. The presence of others is felt through the choice of plants and their degree of evolution from one container to another. We learn by observing and contemplating. I have chosen to plant edible flowers, among others, and each visit is a discovery.

Do you have any contact or interaction with the people at the shelter who are involved in this project?

I was unfortunately absent during the aperitif organised between gardeners, but the one who takes care of the neighbouring planter, Mahmoud, is a real pro. He is often present and willing to give advice. I'm looking forward to meeting new people, talking about experiences with the soil and the use that everyone makes of their crops, and even exchanging ideas for recipes.

5. Social Policy and Well-Being

Equal opportunities, well-being, work/life balance, and health are all-important aspects of sustainability that we want to nurture within our community and beyond.

5.1. Financial Support for Students

The Institute strives to support its students throughout the duration of their studies. It does so through financial aid and paid jobs (teaching assistantships, research assistantships, and administrative positions). Both Master and PhD students are eligible to receive financial support. The Institute makes an extensive effort to support doctoral students.

A student might be awarded one type of aid or a combination of different types of support.

- Scholarships: partial or full
- Tuition reduction
- Paid employment at the Graduate Institute: teaching assistantships, research assistantships, administrative support positions

Students' financial support will be reformed as of the 2022-2023 academic year and new conditions will apply.

5.2. Other special funds

Students registered in our Master or PhD programmes with serious and unexpected financial difficulties may apply for the Special Aid and the Emergency Fund, as well as the Solidarity Fund. Students can apply for Special Aid attesting to the seriousness and unexpectedness of the situation. In addition, the Institute's community makes voluntary contributions to a solidarity fund that was used extensively during COVID time.



5.3. Health and Well-being Week

The Health and Wellbeing week was organised (online) between 29 March and 2 April 2021. The following activities illustrate the contents of the programme:

- ▶ The “Cooking Together Workshop” was an opportunity to share a convivial moment while preparing dinner. For example, Chef Monideepa and Kirti demonstrated how to cook a delicious Indian Green Lentil curry, a dish that is vegetarian and gluten free.
- ▶ Guided meditation workshops helped attendees to free their minds from stressful thoughts.
- ▶ The seminar on “Sleeping Habits and Well-being” made our community more aware of the importance of a healthy sleep routine and the consequences of sleep.

“

Thank you so much for organising the 10,000-step challenge. It was really nice to get an external motivation to go walking! :=)

Master Student

5.4. Blood Donation SDG 10

For the fourth time, we organised a collective blood donation day at Maison des étudiants in the Common Room on Thursday 18 November 2021 in collaboration with Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève (HUG). This initiative stems from the desire of various student initiatives and organisations at Maison de la paix to invest in the development of sustainable projects and services for the community.

Blood donation provides an essential lifeline to those in need, such as cancer and leukaemia patients, women who have pregnancy complications, children with severe anemia, and others. Website for full details: <https://www.graduateinstitute.ch/blood-donations>

5.5. Target Initiative on Gender, Diversity, and Inclusion

The Gender, Diversity, and Inclusion Targeted Initiative was launched in November 2021 in parallel to the Sustainability Initiative. The objective is to create an institutional structure to advance equality across multiple axes of difference, counteract inadvertent biases and discrimination, and foster a diverse and inclusive community.

The Initiative has begun to draft a strategic plan to formulate specific objectives. It has also made communications central to its work, seeking to stimulate internal debate around matters of difference and inclusion, such as hosting a discussion on “decolonising the university” last fall. Finally, the Initiative facilitated simple changes in support of Gender, Diversity and Inclusion (GDI) goals, such as the provision of sanitary pads in Institute bathrooms and the implementation of consent workshops.

The Initiative wishes to reflect the full diversity of the Graduate Institute and remains open to the inputs and suggestions from all members of our community on the following topics

- ▶ **Teaching and research** focus on meeting the ongoing challenge of achieving more diverse and inclusive teaching and research practices, and, more widely, positively shaping the Institute’s culture.
- ▶ **Engagement** focuses on encouraging all members of the Institute’s community, through tailored training, activities, and initiatives, to work together for the co-creation of an equitable, inclusive, and safe environment.
- ▶ **People** focus on ensuring equitable and inclusive processes of recruiting and developing students, staff, and faculty and assuring that these processes are free of unconscious biases and yield a diverse and inclusive community.

The logo is a red square with rounded corners. Inside the square, the words "GENDER, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION INITIATIVE" are written in white, uppercase, sans-serif font, arranged in four lines.

GENDER,
DIVERSITY
AND
INCLUSION
INITIATIVE

6. Food and Catering

Novae, the Institute's catering services, is actively engaged in providing healthy and sustainable food. Novae relies on a purchasing model favouring direct contact with local farmers and excluding purchasing platforms. The organisation also promotes waste reduction initiatives at every level and the prevention of work-related accidents. The work of Novae has been rewarded in 2021 by the triple ISO (9001, 14001, 450001) and EcoVadis Gold Certification.

In more concrete terms, the following actions have been implemented at the Geneva Graduate Institute over the year 2021:

- ▶ Offering leftover food items with a 50% discount on the next day and for free on Friday afternoon to the GISA student community (no gaspi initiative).
- ▶ Providing social employment to a beneficiary from the Aigues-Vertes Foundation.
- ▶ Using Beelong, an eco-score unique tool to evaluate and communicate the environmental impact of each food product. It provides professionals and consumers

an additional purchasing criterion and simplifies the decision-making process.

- ▶ Promoting the use of reCIRCLE products to replace single-use packaging with reusable, high-quality, affordable and more eco-friendly alternatives. These containers can be purchased and returned to all partners. In between, they can be used, refilled and washed hundreds of times. At the end of their life, reCIRCLE products can be easily exchanged for a new one, or you can also get your money back.

In 2022, additional measures such as offering a student vegetarian menu at CHF 6 and a new vegetarian buffet every weekday will contribute to improving our progress towards sustainable food and catering at the Geneva Graduate Institute.

Cooking oils and organic waste are recovered and processed by our service provider SRS (Swiss Recycling Services).



7. Travel and Mobility

The Geneva Graduate Institute is located in the heart of International Geneva with excellent public transport connections to trains, buses, and trams. The Passerelle de la Paix provides improved accessibility to come to the cam-

pus by foot or other soft mobility solutions. There are paid parking services at the Maison de la Paix and self-service bicycles will soon be available for short trips.



7.1. Mobility Survey

85%

of our community
members rely on soft
mobility to commute



We conducted an online survey over the year 2021 to assess mobility habits. Among the 250 respondents, composed of students (52%), administrative (36%) and teaching and research staff (5%), most answered that they come to the Institute either by foot, bike, or public transport. Only about 15% of the respondents in our survey on mobility come either by car (including carpooling) or motorbike. This is obviously largely explained by the fact that a large part of our community is composed of students living in central Geneva or at the nearby student residences.

There is currently no official system in place to measure how much Institute staff rely on international travel for their work. An update in the accounting system will offer this possibility in the coming years.

Air transport is difficult to evaluate over the year 2021 due to the travel restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 pandemic. According to our survey, 38% and 32% of our respondents travelled by plane or international train services for work-related matters in 2021.

We do want to raise awareness about sustainable lifestyle and mobility in work-related matters, but also in everyday life. To inquire about personal habits, we added a question about traveling by plane for personal reasons. More than 65% of the respondents answered that they travelled by plane for personal reasons at least once in that year. About 25% even flew more than three times in 2021 for personal reasons. Of course, many international students living abroad have no other choice than to travel by plane to visit their families.

7.2. Mobility bonus

The Institute pays an annual allowance of CHF 500 to eligible employees who give up the use of their personal vehicle to travel to work. To receive the allowance, employees must complete and sign a declaration of honour and provide the necessary supporting documents (TPG pass, CFF pass, P+R) and/or a description of the mode of transport taken to the Institute.

Eligible employees are employees on the Institute's payroll (minimum 0.5 FTE) with a permanent contract and members of the teaching and research staff (PER regulations) with a fixed-term contract of at least 12 months. In 2021, 70% of eligible Institute employees benefited from a soft mobility bonus.

Collaboration with 2050Today – Future Steps Towards Establishing the Institute Carbon Footprint



To guide us in measuring our impact in terms of energy and waste, we initiated consultations with 2050Today, a coalition of government, academic, and energetic entities committed to measuring and reducing emissions in organisations located in International Geneva. 2050Today works with the consultancy firm Climate Services, which provided us with a list of indicators, such as, energy use, waste produced, etc, to be collected to calculate the Institute carbon footprint, (i.e., how much tCO₂ the Institute activities produce. At this stage, not all quantitative indicators could be collected (e.g., international mobility) and we could only obtain partial results in terms of energy and, waste, which we report here. We hope to be able to provide additional indicators

in 2022 to Climate Services, which will allow us to establish a complete reporting on our carbon footprint. The methodology of 2050 Today relies on...

The methodology of 2050Today relies on measures done according to the GHG Protocol and ISO 14064 norm.

The carbon footprint cannot be considered as an element that can be taken as an advantage whatever its value.

It is a tool to reduce emissions and each ton of CO₂ reduced makes a difference regardless of the total value.

Total Carbon Footprint



1095 tCO₂ 2230 kgCO₂ per FTE

Energy



957 tCO₂ 23 kgCO₂ per m²

Waste



73 tCO₂ 149 kgCO₂ per FTE

Consumables
(electronic devices)



64 tCO₂ 130 kgCO₂ per FTE

8. Recycling, Waste and Consumables

8.1. Waste Policy

The Geneva Graduate Institute has adopted a responsible purchasing policy that incorporates the following criteria:

- ▶ Consideration of environmental and social aspects during calls for tenders for the purchase of goods and supplies and for service contracts
- ▶ The choice of office supplies according to the best environmental standards on the market
- ▶ The cleaning of buildings according to the best ecological standards by Top Net.

In terms of waste policy, the following measures have been implemented over the last years:

- ▶ Selective bins for sorting and recycling paper, cardboard, glass, PET, aluminium/tinplate, and organic waste

- ▶ The provision of multi-compartmental Sakatri bags in the Student Residences, which allow easy sorting of waste for deposit in the containers provided for this purpose
- ▶ The removal of water fountains
- ▶ The supply of water bottles to employees to encourage them to drink tap water
- ▶ The recovery and recycling of IT and electronic waste through the Swico Recycling sector, which brings together dismantling of devices. Up to 95% of the materials can thus be reintegrated into the production cycle
- ▶ Paper printing: Recycled paper with the “Blue Angel” label as the default print medium; default double-sided printing to save paper and hardware maintenance; a Scan-to-PDF function available to avoid photocopies

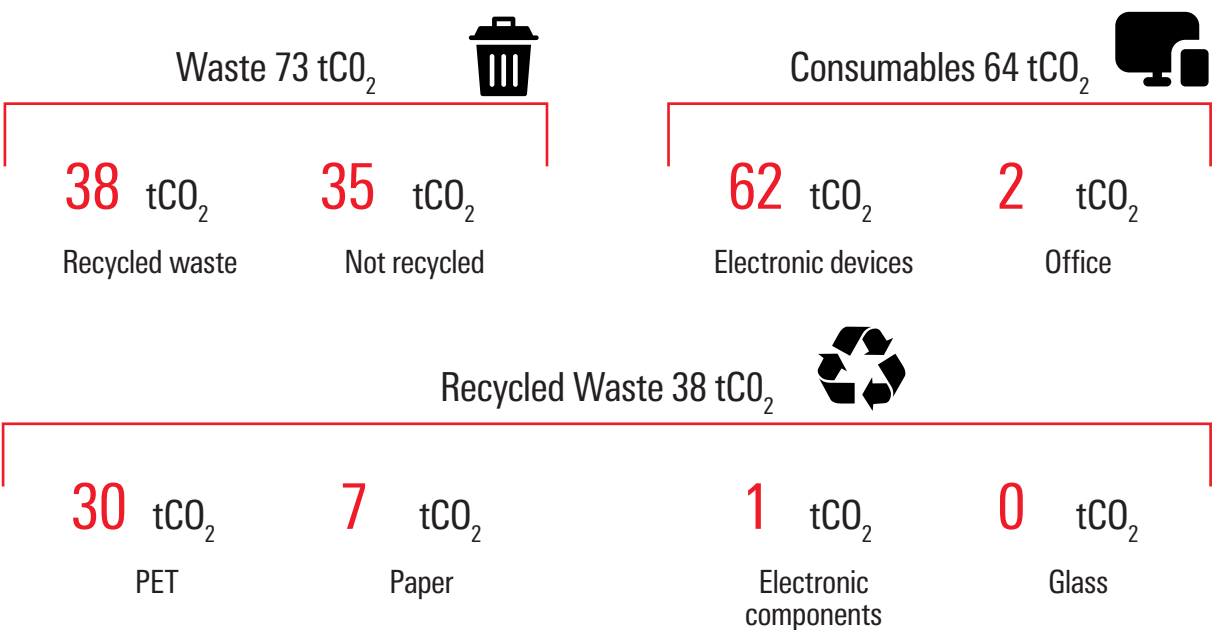
8.2. Carbon Footpring on Waste and Consumables

In 2021, 2050Today estimated the Institute carbon footprint from waste at a total of 73 tCO₂ distributed across recycled and non-recycled waste, corresponding to 149 kg CO₂ per FTE. These numbers can serve as a benchmark to evaluate our progress next year. There is room for improvement regarding the recycling of glass and possibly electronic components in particular.

According to 2050Today, the carbon footprint of the Institute in terms of electronic devices is of 62 tCO₂, split

equally across screens and computers, corresponding to about 130 kg of CO₂ per FTE.

Given that it is the first time that we collect data to assess our carbon footprint, it is difficult to put these numbers in perspective to evaluate our performance. We hope to be able to do this in the future.



8.3. Waste and Recycling Survey

Results from our online survey across 250 members of our community show that staff and students are highly engaged in recycling practices both at home and at the Maison de la Paix. On the question of whether they practice recycling, 74% and 42% of the respondents “strongly agree” that they do it at home and at the Maison de la Paix respectively. In general, information about recycling practices at the Maison de la Paix could be improved. Only about 50% of the respondents find it relatively easy to find the appropriate bin to throw and recycle their waste around the campus. Glass recycling on campus seems particularly problematic with

31% of the respondents struggling to recycle glass at the Maison de la Paix. In addition, bins for aluminium, batteries, and organic waste seem particularly more difficult to find around the campus than at home. Surprisingly, still 10.7% of the respondents still find it difficult to recycle paper at the Maison de la Paix despite the numerous bins next to the printers. PET recycling, however, seems to be relatively easy to find (at least almost as good as at home).



9. Energy and Water



9.1. GeniLac technology SDG 11

The Graduate Institute's main building – the Maison de la Paix – and the student residences of Grand Morillon and De Picciotto use the GeniLac system, which draws water from the depths of the lake for cooling, and is mixed with in the heat pump to produce heating. As a result, the buildings have reduced their carbon footprint for heating and cooling by 80% since their construction compared to a fossil fuel energy plant.

GeniLac is the largest ecological thermal network in Switzerland which, thanks to the water drawn directly from the lake, makes it possible to produce 100% renewable electricity. By continuing to connect to this system, the Institute contributes to the cantonal objective of reducing CO₂ emissions by 70,000 tonnes / year by 2035.



9.2. Energy and water use

Based on calculations from 2050Today, the carbon footprint of the Geneva Graduate Institute in terms of energy and water amounted to 957 tCO₂ in 2021, with heating, electricity, and water accounting for 873, 65 and 19 tCO₂ respectively.

Within the heating category, district heating represents the largest share of carbon emissions followed by natural gas and heating fuel. The Rothschild and Moynier buildings are still heated using fossil fuels, while the Villa Barton is currently being renovated and will be heated with geothermal energy pumped into an underground natural water source.

The following measures illustrate our efforts toward reducing energy and water consumption:

- ▶ The Maison de la Paix is compliant with Minergie standards, the Swiss construction label for new or renovated buildings. Minergie buildings are characterised by requirements of very low energy and a maximum share of renewable energies.
- ▶ LED lighting is used in all buildings except in the library and parking areas. A plan is being drafted with the Geneva Industrial Services (electricity provider) to calculate the return on investment for this complementary project that could be implemented in 2023.
- ▶ Modern automatic ventilation at the Institute provides optimum ventilation and saves heating energy through heat recovery.
- ▶ More ecological ventilation filters are being tested to reduce energy consumption and optimise air-filtering efficiency.
- ▶ Automatic building control and programming for automatic standby of electronic devices is in place from 23h.
- ▶ Photovoltaic solar panels are installed on the Maison de la Paix and Grand Morillon roofs.

Heating



873 tCO₂ **21** kgCO₂ per m²

763 tCO₂ District heating

41 tCO₂ Natural gas

68 tCO₂ Heating fuel

Water



19 tCO₂ **0.5** kgCO₂ per m²

Electricity



65 tCO₂ **2** kgCO₂ per m²

TESTIMONIAL – ENERGY MANAGEMENT IN THE CAMPUS DE LA PAIX



David Gaymard has been the Real Estate Director of the Campus de la Paix since 1 November, 2021.

How are the various buildings of the Campus de la Paix (particular, the Grand Morillon residence) part of a sustainable development policy, responsible for the surrounding environment and concerned about its inhabitants?

The Grand Morillon residence, De Picciotto residence and the Maison de la Paix are all connected to the GeniLac network. This system, unique in Switzerland, pumps water from the bottom of the lake to naturally cool down the buildings. The production of heat, meanwhile is ensured by the connection of Grand Morillon residence to the urban District Heating Network (CAD) which produces heat by the combustion of household waste.

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The roofs of the residence are also equipped with photovoltaic panels providing part of the electricity production and are vegetated.

The lights have been designed to minimise electricity consumption as much as possible thanks to the installation of low-consumption LED lights and detectors in certain common or circulation areas. Both buildings also have community vegetable gardens.

The layout of the outdoor spaces has been thought out at the level of all the buildings being constructed in order to promote soft mobility, exchange, meetings and openness to the public. Many outdoor facilities and landscaping initiatives contribute to the creation of the famous Promenade de la Paix, which will eventually link the airport and the lake. It should also be noted that the Grand Morillon residence will be directly connected to the future extension of the Place des Nations – Ferney tramway, which will allow residents to move from one building to another on the IHEID campus by public transport.

What makes the Grand Morillon student residence so unique in terms of energy performance compared to other usual student residences?

The Grand Morillon residence is a modern and very recent building, delivered in January 2021. As a result, it has been developed while respecting high energy standards and the most recent construction standards. The residence therefore meets the High Energy Performance (HPE) standards. The property is also connected to the GeniLac and Central Heating District (CAD) networks for cooling and heating respectively. All common areas benefit from LED lighting as well.



What influence can Grand Morillon have on the Institute's other real estate portfolios in the near future?

Grand Morillon is the continuation of a long-term strategy and effort started more than 10 years ago by the Institute.

De Picciotto residence and the Maison de la Paix are among the first buildings connected to the GeniLac network in Geneva. Grand Morillon is just the continuation of this commitment to the sustainable development of the building stock. This effort will continue with the Villa Barton project which, in partnership with the Geneva Industrial Services, has developed a pilot project intended to exploit an underground water table under the Domaine Barton site as a source of geothermal energy using 100% renewable energy to its cooling and heating needs.

What improvement(s) do you think are desirable to improve the durability of the residence?

As everywhere else, the efforts made in infrastructure and real estate equipment comes along with a change in the behaviour and habits of users, consumers, and occupants. Each individual must take care to reduce their consumption as much as possible (turn off the lights, reduce their water consumption, limit their production of household waste, sort and recycle their waste, etc.). A significant effort must be made to raise awareness, inform, and train residents on these topics.

