

2024 Sharing Information on Progress **(SIP) Report**

Sofia University St. Kliment
Ohridski

August 2024

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About the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME)

The Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) is a United Nations-supported initiative founded in 2007 that aims to raise the profile of sustainability in their classrooms through Seven Principles focused on serving society and safeguarding our planet.

PRME engages business and management schools to ensure they provide future leaders with the skills needed to balance economic and sustainability goals, while drawing attention to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and aligning academic institutions with the work of the UN Global Compact. Driven by its mission to transform management education, PRME equips today's business students with the understanding and ability to deliver change tomorrow. As a voluntary initiative with over 800 signatories worldwide, PRME has become the largest organized relationship between the United Nations and management-related higher education institutions.



“*The PRME initiative was launched to nurture responsible leaders of the future. Never has this task been more important. Bold leadership and innovative thinking are needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).*

Antonio Guterres

Secretary-General (2017 - Present)

United Nations

”

Principles of PRME



Purpose

We advance responsible management education to foster inclusive prosperity in a world of thriving ecosystems.



Values

We place organizational responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the core of what we do.



Teach

We transform our learning environments by integrating responsible management concepts and practices into our curriculum and pedagogy.



Research

We study people, organizations, institutions, and the state of the world to inspire responsible management and education practice.



Partner

We engage people from business, government, civil society, and academia to advance responsible and accountable management education and practice.



Practice

We adopt responsible and accountable management principles in our own governance and operations.



Share

We share our successes and failures with each other to enable our collective learning and best live our common values and purpose.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

In September 2015, all 193 Member States of the United Nations adopted a plan for achieving a better future for all – laying out a path over the next 15 years to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect our planet. At the heart of Agenda 2030 are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 related targets that address the most important economic, social, environmental and governance challenges of our time. The SDGs clearly define the world we want – applying to all nations and leaving no one behind. Successful implementation of the SDGs will require all players to champion this agenda; the role of higher education is critical to this.





Purpose

We advance responsible management education to foster inclusive prosperity in a world of thriving ecosystems.

Letter of Commitment

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski demonstrates its commitment to PRME's Principles through the following letter from senior leadership.

ОБРЪЩЕНИЕ НА РЕКТОРА

Уважаеми читатели,

С удовлетворение ви представям третия доклад на Софийския университет „Св. Климент Охридски“. Той отразява как иновативният подход към устойчивостта има реално въздействие върху вътрешната ни академична общност и външните заинтересовани страни от публичния, частния и гражданския сектор.

От наша страна в периода приехме няколко ключови институционални политики, включително Стратегия за постигане на Глобалните цели на ООН за устойчиво развитие и План за работа по опазване на околната среда, намаляване на последиците от климатичните промени, повишаване на ресурсната енергийна ефективност. Актуализирахме Програмата за прозрачно управление, превенция и противодействие на корупцията. Те са част от нашата визия и стратегия за развитие, организационна култура, научни, образователни и административни дейности и илюстрират продължаващата ни подкрепа за въвеждане и спазване на принципите на Глобалния договор на ООН в четирите тематични области – права на човека, трудови практики, опазване на околната среда и антикорупция.

Нашият успех е продукт от усърдната работа и експертния потенциал на академичната колегия, която постепенно превръща Университета в национално място за дебат по темите за устойчивото развитие на страната.

проф. д-р Георги Вълчев



Institutional Mission, Vision, and Strategy

The following outlines Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski's institutional mission, vision, and strategic approach to responsible management education.

Mission, Vision, Strategy or Purpose

Vision and mission of Sofia university

Relevant Stakeholders

All

Purpose

Софийският университет се стреми да утвърждава своята роля на образователен, научен и културен център с общоевропейско значение, да бъде лидер в обучението, науката и ключовите проекти за развитие, да работи на нивото на добрите практики в развитието, управлението и използването на науката за жизнените цели на обществото и отделния човек.

[Supporting Links](#)

Mission.vision

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Values

We place organizational responsibility and accountability to society and the planet at the core of what we do.

RME Leadership Accountability

At Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, accountability for responsible management education is structured as follows:

Yes, but the role is formalized elsewhere within the PRME signatory's organization (e.g., center/institute leader, faculty/staff member), but not in senior leadership team

Responsible team

The team consists of:

- a Dean, a vice dean and 20 volunteers

Assoc. Prof. Atanas Georgiev, PhD

Assoc. Prof. Marina Stefanova, PhD

Organizational Structure for RME

The following organizational entities at Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski are responsible for RME:

- ❖ Research-Focused Entity
- ❖ Teaching-Focused Entity
- ❖ Community Engagement Entity



Teach

We transform our learning environments by integrating responsible management concepts and practices into our curriculum and pedagogy.

RME Elements in Degree Programs

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski integrates responsible management education into its degree programs through 3 different approaches:

Professor-Discretionary Course Topics

Bachelor and master courses

Academic year 2022-2023

Department

Various

Learning Object Subject

Sustainability, ESG

Educational Level

Bachelor and master

Learning Outcome

Described below

Interactivity Type

Described below

Learning Object Description

Sustainability-related disciplines

SU-doklad 2022-2023-large-77-87

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Course-Level RME Learning Goals

Bachelor and master courses

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Program-Level RME Integration

Specialized Disciplines in Sustainability

Education in the three fields of Sustainable development at Sofia University has a long tradition. Over the past few years, there has been diversity in the content, duration and format of the learning products. These include specialised programmes, academies, individual subjects, courses and extracurricular activities.

The new courses and specializations focus on conservation and responsible management of the environment and resources, social responsibility, sustainable development, circular economy, and other through which we strive to achieve the Global Goals. Among the most active faculties in this direction are the Faculty of Economics, the Faculty of Biology and the Faculty of Philosophy.

The specialised courses in the different curricula are more than 230, diversifying and enriching the University's portfolio.

◆ The Faculty of Biology also offers to its students a variety of specialised courses in the context of CSR and, in particular, in the field of management, planning and environmental protection, such as: Environmental Impact Assessment, Global Environmental Impacts, Bioresources and their Conservation, Strategic Environmental Management and Planning and Sustainable Development, Current issues of Climate and Water Resources, Ecological Footprint, Modern Chemical Technologies and Emissions Management, Separation and Purification Processes, Sustainable Development and Ecology and many more. All described specialised courses are integrated into the curricula of Bachelor's and Master's programmes.

◆ In the Faculty of Law in addition to the specialized subjects in the curricula, students also have the opportunity to participate in complementary forms of learning such as extracurricular activities – circles dealing with the topic of human rights: the Circle of International Public and Private, which addresses the topics of the interrelation between human rights and refugee law, the international

legal protection of the mentally ill, the international legal protection of the health sector. (the interaction between international humanitarian law and the law of protection, human rights to respond to attacks on health and research institutions); Constitutional Law Circle – the relationship between human rights and people's sovereignty.

The topic of human rights is also strongly covered in the specialized courses offered in the Faculty of Philosophy such as Human Rights, Rights of Persons from Minority Groups, Social and Health Policies.

Other courses in the context of CSR are Corruption and Anti-Corruption, Regional and National Project Management, Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Public Services, Green Policy, Environmental Impact Assessment in Spatial Planning, Branding and Social Responsibility, Contemporary Debate on Social Justice, etc.

SPECIALIZED COURSES

In the academic year 2023-2024, the Responsible and sustainable Governance Master's programme welcomed its third class of students. Over the period 2022-2023, a total of 39 sustainability professionals studied in the programme. The programme seeks to create an entirely new group of experts in the field of sustainability and corporate social responsibility, addressing

their significance for Bulgarian politics, administration, industry and the civil sector.

The Responsible and Sustainable Governance Master's programme aims to fill this important new niche in the labour market and to play a leading role in academia, research and the business environment. Its launch is in accordance with the strategy of the Faculty of Economics to align the Master's programmes with practical applications, responding to the demand for highly qualified specialists.

The studied disciplines cover all important aspects of sustainability in a practical context, addressing topics such as business modelling, corporate compliance, natural and human capital management, investing and societal progress reporting. The main courses focus on sustainable leadership, social and environmental entrepreneurship and responsible finance. Practical applications are also emphasized, with courses such as corporate compliance, public-private partnerships, responsible communications, and CSR management systems and standards.

Partnership agreements have been signed with WikiRate and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of the Republic of Bulgaria. The Master's programme is implemented with the active assistance and visits of leading expert guest speakers, including members of the Bulgarian Network of the UN Global Compact, Association of Sustainability Specialists, Bulgarian Stock Exchange.



Research

We study people, organizations, institutions, and the state of the world to inspire responsible management and education practice.

RME Elements in Research

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski incorporates responsible management education into its research endeavors through 3 different methods:

Research Conferences

Sustainability-related publication and conferences

List of conferences and selected publications for the period 2022-2023

Date

January, 2022 - December, 2023

Location

Bulgaria

Speakers

Numerous

Sustainability-related events

Sustainability related publications and conferences

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Required Research Reporting

Responsible team

The team consists of:

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Date

January, 2022 - December, 2023

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Numerous

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Regular Research Seminars

Sustainability-related publication and conferences

List of conferences and selected publications for the period 2022-2023

Date

January, 2022 - December, 2023

Location

Bulgaria

Speakers

Numerous

Sustainability-related events

Sustainability related publications and
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Partner

We engage people from business, government, civil society, and academia to advance responsible and accountable management education and practice.

Partnership Approaches for RME

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski partners with external stakeholders to advance responsible management education through 4 different approaches:

Knowledge Translation and Dissemination

Impact and contribution

The University works to build students' skills as future value creators in the public, civic and business sectors, while actively contributing to the sustainable development of society as a whole. In the area of research, SU aims to address current research needs and to offer practical solutions that have a positive impact on both societal well-being and the environment.

To business

◆ ESG Academy. In April 2022 Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and Yettel, UBB, UniCredit, ASU signed an agreement for strategic partnership and for providing training in ESG Academy at the Faculty of Economics. The agreement will allow the parties to collaborate in the activities of the ESG Academy at the Faculty, which will also involve company employees. The Academy is the

first national certification programme for training sustainable management specialists in Bulgaria.

◆ In July 2023 Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" hosted the international conference "Clean technologies for a sustainable environment and circular economy". The conference was part of the project "Clean Technologies for a Sustainable Environment – Water, Waste, Energy for a Circular Economy". The leading partner of the project was Sofia University with its five science

faculties – Faculty of Biology, Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Faculty of Geology and Geography, Faculty of Physics and Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics. The interaction between science and business was presented through the perspective of the Cleantech Bulgaria Foundation. Real examples from practice in the activities of the Centre's researchers and associated partners Sofia Water, Sofia Municipality in the face of the Sofia Waste Treatment Plant,

Energy Agency of Plovdiv and their international partners.

◆ On 13-15 December 2023, the Faculty of Economics held its annual international conference under the title "Sustainability, Social Economy and Digital Transformation". During the opening ceremony of the conference the Bulgarian premiere of the film "World at Risk" was presented. It is produced by the FEB Fund and established with a donation from the Founding Dean of the Faculty of Economics – Prof. Dr. Georgi Tchobanov,. The film has already had its world premiere at COP28 in Dubai. It will serve as the basis for the Kaleidoscope Visual Science Center, the first

large-scale project of the FEB Foundation built with a broad ecosystem of business partners of the Faculty of Economics. International cooperation and the academy-business relationship are in the DNA of the Faculty of Economics.

To Nature

In January 2022 the "Plan of Sofia University for work on environmental protection and climate change mitigation linked to the achievement of high resource and energy efficiency" was published. The plan is in line with the institutional European values and standards and the principles of sustainable development, environmental institutional standards and ISO 14001 environmental management systems. It lays the foundations for a gradual development of high standards, in line with the world's sustainability goals and standards. The Climate Plan is in line with the newly adopted integrated Sustainable Development Strategy, and is aligned with and includes realistic and achievable measures-actions to achieve progress towards achieving the 17 UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development.

The plan was prepared by an inter-university working group, under the direct leadership of Prof. Eliza Stefanova, including: Faculty of Biology, Faculty of Physics, Faculty of Geology and Geography, Faculty of Economics. Sofia University strives to mitigate its environmental impact by reducing the institution's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The GHG inventory is considered to be the first step towards developing an effective GHG management and offset strategy. It is carried out within the framework of the Work Plan for Environmental Protection and Climate Change Mitigation, linked to the achievement of high resource and energy efficiency

(2022-2024). The action covers measures 3.4 and 3.5 of point 1 "Increasing resource – and in particular energy – efficiency, following the principles of the circular economy and stimulating the introduction of low-carbon, resource-efficient measures and smart solutions" of Objective 1. "Circular and low-carbon economy".

To society

◆ In April 2022, the Academy for Business and Child Rights took place. It was organized by Unicef Bulgaria and the Faculty of Economics at Sofia University. The third national capacity-building programme on Child Rights in Business provided an overview of new developments and changes in EU legislation related to the impact of businesses on children. The focus was on social investment, ESG reporting and companies' contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The Academy contained three modules – "Children's Rights and Business Principles", "The UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development and Business Contributions" and "Shared Value Partnerships". The programme was open to professionals in the fields of corporate social responsibility, human resources, health, welfare, education, law, finance, business, government and civil society.

◆ In the academic year 2022/2023, the PhD students from FJMC participated in the digital skills training project. "Innovative Education in Humanities and Social Sciences through Digital Transformation and Curriculum Modernization in Partnership with Foreign Universities

from Greece, Poland and Romania". 33 PhD students from the Media and Communication Department of the FJMC participated in the training in the period 06.03.2023 – 01.06.2023.

◆ ESG Academy, ESG Lab, The Faculty of Economics and 24 Hours announced a partnership in support of responsible entrepreneurship. The main goal is to promote and strengthen the practices of responsible entrepreneurship in Bulgaria.

As part of the project, every Monday the newspaper "24 hours", as well as the website of the publication, will publish texts about ESG in a new section dedicated to the topic. With the assistance of the Faculty of Economics, the articles will explain the important role of ESG indicators, which businesses in Bulgaria must now take into account, both in a social and legislative sense. By partnering with "24 Hours" newspaper, the team of the Faculty of Economics believes that it is taking a step forward in its mission to introduce to and educate more people about sustainability and responsible entrepreneurship.

External Community Dialogue

Impact and contribution

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Collaborative Problem Solving

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In January 2022 the "Plan of Sofia University for work on environmental protection and climate change mitigation linked to the achievement of high resource and energy efficiency"

was published. The plan is in line with the institutional European values and standards and the principles of sustainable development, environmental institutional standards and ISO 14001 environmental management systems. It lays the foundations for a gradual development of high standards, in line with the world's sustainability goals and standards. The Climate Plan is in line with the newly adopted integrated Sustainable Development Strategy, and is aligned with and includes realistic and achievable measures-actions to achieve progress towards achieving the 17 UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development.

The plan was prepared by an inter-university working group, under the direct leadership of Prof. Eliza Stefanova, including: Faculty of Biology, Faculty of Physics, Faculty of Geology and Geography, Faculty of Economics. Sofia University strives to mitigate its environmental impact by reducing the institution's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The GHG inventory is considered to be the first step towards developing an effective GHG management and offset strategy. It is carried out within the framework of the Work Plan for Environmental Protection and Climate Change Mitigation, linked to the achievement of high resource and energy efficiency

(2022-2024). The action covers measures 3.4 and 3.5 of point 1 "Increasing resource – and in particular energy – efficiency, following the principles of the circular economy and stimulating the introduction of low-carbon, resource-efficient measures and smart solutions" of Objective 1. "Circular and low-carbon economy".

To society

◆ In April 2022, the Academy for Business and Child Rights took place. It was organized by Unicef Bulgaria and the Faculty of Economics at Sofia University. The third national capacity-building programme on Child Rights in Business provided an overview of new developments and changes in EU legislation related to the impact of businesses on children. The focus was on social investment, ESG reporting and companies' contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The Academy contained three modules – "Children's Rights and Business Principles", "The UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development and Business Contributions" and "Shared Value Partnerships". The programme was open to professionals in the fields of corporate social responsibility, human resources, health, welfare, education, law, finance, business, government and civil society.

◆ In the academic year 2022/2023, the PhD students from FJMC participated in the digital skills training project. "Innovative Education in Humanities and Social Sciences through Digital Transformation and Curriculum Modernization in Partnership with Foreign Universities from Greece, Poland and Romania". 33 PhD students from the Media and Communication Department of the FJMC participated in the training in the period 06.03.2023 – 01.06.2023.

◆ ESG Academy, ESG Lab, The Faculty of Economics and 24 Hours announced a partnership in support of responsible entrepreneurship. The main goal is to promote and strengthen the practices of responsible entrepreneurship in Bulgaria.

As part of the project, every Monday the newspaper "24 hours", as well as the website of the publication, will publish texts about ESG in a new section dedicated to the topic. With the assistance of the Faculty of Economics, the articles will explain the important role of ESG indicators, which businesses in Bulgaria must now take into account, both in a social and legislative sense. By partnering with "24 Hours" newspaper, the team of the Faculty of Economics believes that it is taking a step forward in its mission to introduce to and educate more people about sustainability and responsible entrepreneurship.



Practice

We adopt responsible and accountable management principles in our own governance and operations.

RME Policy Implementation

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski has implemented 7 policies to support its commitment to responsible management education:

Greenhouse gas emissions

Policies on environmental protection and climate change mitigation

This Plan is consistent with institutional European values and standards and the principles of sustainable development, ecological institutional standards and environmental management systems ISO 14001. Its natural basis is the functioning of the Quality Management System / QMS/. This plan lays the foundations for a step-by-step development of high standards, consistent with the global goals and standards of sustainable development /SD/ in the field. The plan is in accordance with the Project of the National Program for the Development of Bulgaria 2030, it is aimed at building a complex Strategy of the SU for sustainable development /represents the ecological part of it/. It is tailored and includes realistic and actionable action measures to progress the implementation of the 17 UN Global Goals for SD and will be developed and enriched in stages. This is the first stage of the Plan and focuses on Priority Development Axis 2 of the National Program 2030.

Scope

Environmental protection

Enforcement Date

January, 2022

Revision Date

August, 2024

Number Of Pages

11

Publisher

Sofia University

Media

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Water

Policies on environmental protection and climate change mitigation

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Buildings/real estate

Policies on environmental protection and climate change mitigation

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Local staff/student/faculty transportation

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Travel

Policies on environmental protection and climate change mitigation

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Employee equity, diversity, inclusion

Policies on employee (including faculty) equity, diversity, inclusion

This regulation governs the organization and management of educational activities for students admitted to study at Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" respectively for Bulgarian citizens and citizens of countries from The European Union and the European Economic Area and for foreign students.

Scope

General regulation

Enforcement Date

December, 2014

Revision Date

April, 2021

Number Of Pages

25

Publisher

Sofia University

Media

website

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PRAVILNIK_education-28.04.2021 (1)

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Student equity, diversity, inclusion

Policies on students (including faculty) equity, diversity, inclusion

Plan on equal opportunities, diversity and inclusion

Scope

Equal rights, diversity and inclusion

Enforcement Date

September, 2021

Revision Date

August, 2024

Number Of Pages

5

Publisher

Sofia University

Media

website

[Supporting Links](#)

GEP-SU-prietAC29.09.2021 (3)

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Institutional Aspiration Targets

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski has set aspiration targets in 1 different area:

- ❖ Environmental and Climate Adaptation Plan of Sofia University



Share

We share our successes and failures with each other to enable our collective learning and best live our common values and purpose.



Performance Disclosure and Transparency

Regarding transparency in RME performance disclosure, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski operates with the following approach:

Full Transparency Disclosure

Website of disclosure of performance

Website

Author

Sofia university

Published Date

April, 2024

Degree Of Recognition

International

Media Name

Sofia university official website

Media Type

website

Duration

ongoing

[Supporting Links](#)

Sustainability report 2022-2023

Bi-annual sustainability report

Author

Sofia university

Published Date

April, 2024

Degree Of Recognition

International

Media Name

Sofia university official website

Media Type

report

Duration

100 pages

[Supporting Links](#)

SU-SIP report 2022-2023

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