

# Sustainable Development Goals

MCB, 2026/2027

# Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Your MSc Thesis

- Every MSc thesis should consider its contribution to sustainable development
- Identify the SDG(s) most directly addressed by your work
- Justify your selection using clear links between objectives and impacts
- Focus on the SDGs that are genuinely relevant, not all 17

# What Are the SDGs?

- 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations in 2015
- Global framework for sustainable development until 2030
- Cover environmental, social, and economic dimensions
- Provide a common language for discussing societal impact



# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



**SDG 6:** Clean Water and Sanitation

**SDG 7:** Affordable and Clean Energy

**SDG 9:** Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

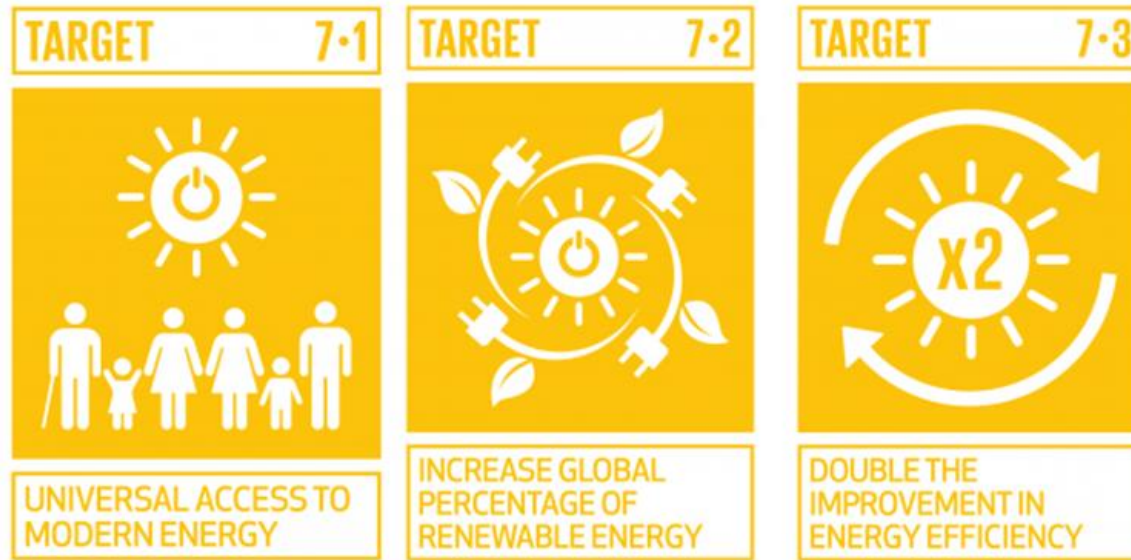
**SDG 11:** Sustainable Cities and Communities

**SDG 12:** Responsible Consumption and Production

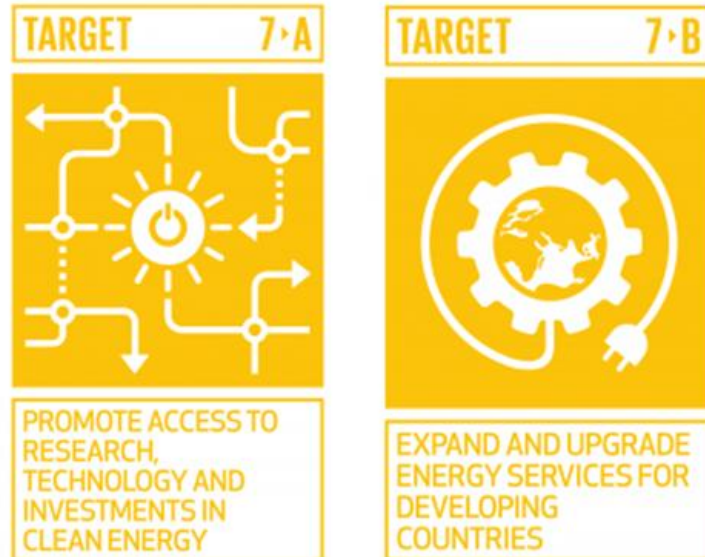
**SDG 13:** Climate Action

**SDG 14:** Life Below Water

**SDG 15:** Life on Land



Outcome-focused



Means of implementation

Figure 8.1. Key targets for SDG 7  
Source: <https://www.globalgoals.org/>

# Why Include SDGs in Your Thesis?

- Connects academic work to real-world challenges
- Demonstrates broader relevance and impact
- Encourages systems thinking and interdisciplinary analysis
- Helps communicate research outcomes to diverse stakeholders

and it is compulsory 😊

# Selecting Relevant SDGs

Ask the following questions:

- What problem does the thesis address?
- Who benefits from the proposed knowledge or solution?
- What environmental, social, or economic impacts are expected?
- Which SDG target is most directly influenced?

**Tip:** Usually 1-3 SDGs are sufficient.

# Examples

## **Solar PV forecasting**

- SDG 7 (Clean Energy)
- SDG 13 (Climate Action)

## **Industrial decarbonisation plan**

- SDG 9 (Industry and Innovation)
- SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption)
- SDG 13 (Climate Action)

## **Energy storage optimisation**

- SDG 7 (Clean Energy)
- SDG 9 (Innovation and Infrastructure)

## **Urban climate adaptation**

- SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities)
- SDG 13 (Climate Action)

# How to Justify SDGs in Your Thesis

Include a short section in the Introduction:

- Identify the relevant SDG(s)
- Explain the connection to the research objectives
- Describe expected societal or environmental benefits
- Reference specific SDG targets when appropriate

# Further Resources

## Official Sources

- United Nations SDGs: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>
- UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform: <https://sdgs.un.org>
- Sustainable Development Report: <https://www.sdgindex.org>