INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON GATHERING AND MEASURING SDG DATA

Masters' Union, Gurugram

Masters' Union takes part in international collaboration to gather, analyse and measure data on the Sustainable Development Goals. This includes co-authored research with international academic partners on how corporate activity contributes to the SDGs, research on SDG disclosure and reporting, and participation in international frameworks, including EFMD BSIS, QS Stars and THE, that collect and assess data on institutional impact and SDG performance.

1. International research on CSR contributions to the SDGs

Dr Anushree Poddar, Programme Director, PGP in Sustainability and Business Management at Masters' Union, worked with researchers from **Arab Open University** and **Nalanda University** on the study **"Aligning Corporate Social Responsibility with Sustainable Development Goals in India Across Pandemic Phases"**, published in **Discover Sustainability** (Springer Nature).

The research team gathered and analysed corporate social responsibility (CSR) expenditure data and mapped it against SDG priorities across the pre-pandemic, intermediate and pandemic periods. It measured how corporate contributions to government schemes shifted over time, identifying a 6.3-fold increase in contributions to central government initiatives during the pandemic. The study shows how international academic collaboration can build evidence on the private sector's contribution to the SDGs.

2. Research on SDG disclosure and governance

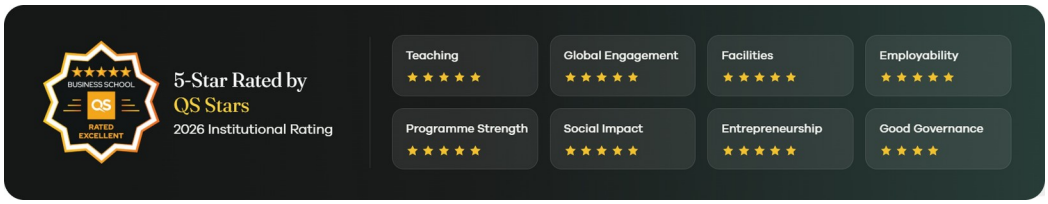
Dr Anushree Poddar and co-authors have also studied **"Board Governance and SDG Disclosure: Evidence from Regional Climate Initiatives in Emerging Markets"**. The research measures how board governance shapes the way companies in emerging markets disclose their contribution to the SDGs, adding to the evidence base on sustainability measurement, accountability and reporting.

3. International frameworks for measuring impact and SDG performance

- **EFMD Business School Impact System (BSIS).** Masters' Union gathered and submitted institutional data for assessment under EFMD Global's international impact framework and received its first BSIS label. BSIS recognises business schools for their impact in industry engagement, societal contribution and regional development, and its assessment measured Masters' Union's educational, entrepreneurial, industry and regional impact.

- **QS Stars (QS Quacquarelli Symonds).** Masters' Union gathered and submitted institutional data for QS's international audit and is rated **5 Stars ("Excellent")** as a business school in the 2026 institutional rating. It received 5 stars for Teaching, Global Engagement, Facilities,

Employability, Programme Strength, Social Impact and Entrepreneurship, and 4 stars for Good Governance.



- **AACSB International.** As a member of AACSB, Masters' Union takes part in an international quality and impact framework for business schools.
- **THE Sustainability Impact Ratings.** Masters' Union gathers and submits SDG-specific data to Times Higher Education, the UK-based global ratings body, for international measurement of university performance against the SDGs. It also publishes goal-specific SDG reports and an annual impact report.

4. International academic partnerships

Masters' Union works with international academic partners including **Griffith University** (Australia), **Illinois Institute of Technology** (USA), **SDA Bocconi** (Italy), **IÉSEG School of Management** (France), **H-FARM** (Italy), **Babson College** (USA), **Singapore Management University** (Singapore), the **Chinese University of Hong Kong** (Hong Kong), **Imperial College Business School** (UK), **IE University New York** (USA) and **Tetr College of Business** (Dubai). These partnerships support faculty exchange, joint learning and knowledge sharing, and provide a platform for collaborative sustainability research.



Masters' Union and Griffith University partnership signing