



SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals

Equator University of Science and Technology

Times Higher Education Sustainability Impact Ratings 2026

17.2.4 Collaboration for SDG best practice

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) actively collaborates with national and international partners to exchange knowledge and promote best practices for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

EQUaT's Contribution to Global SDG Best Practice through Research Collaboration

Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) actively engages in international collaborations and research to promote SDG best practices. In 2024, EQUaT partnered with universities across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and North America to conduct comparative studies on health innovation, pharmaceutical nanotechnology, and sustainable scientific development. These collaborative publications reflect the university's commitment to reviewing global research practices, generating evidence-based approaches, and disseminating publicly available findings that contribute to international SDG best practice development. Some examples from 2024 are given below:

Global Research Collaboration on Nano-Engineered Drug Delivery

Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) collaborated with researchers from the University of Lahore (Pakistan), Tecnologico de Monterrey (Mexico), University of Zabol (Iran), North Khorasan University of Medical Sciences (Iran), University of Sharjah (UAE), Shoolini University (India), and Yeungnam University (Republic of Korea) on the study **"Nano-engineered Solutions for Ibuprofen Therapy: Unveiling Advanced Co-delivery Strategies and Nanoparticle Systems."** The research advanced innovative approaches to improve drug delivery and therapeutic effectiveness.

Evidence:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1773224724004842>

Global Collaboration on Nanogel-Based Drug Delivery Research

Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) collaborated with national and international partners, including the University of Poonch Rawalakot (Pakistan) and Soochow University (China), on a study titled **"Sodium Alginate-Based Fast Swelling Nanogels for Solubility Enhancement of Chlorthalidone: Synthesis, Characterization, and Biosafety Evaluation."** The research advanced nanogel-based pharmaceutical formulations to enhance



drug solubility and safety, demonstrating EQUaT's commitment to global scientific collaboration and innovation in health sciences.

Evidence:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39602882/>

Collaborative Research on Tuberculosis Treatment Innovation

Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) contributed to an international study titled **“Responding to Hitch in Fighting Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Through Arginine Multi-Functionalized Mucoadhesive SNEDDS of Rifampicin.”** The research involved collaboration among institutions from Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the United Kingdom, including the University of Oxford. The study focused on developing advanced nano-formulations to enhance tuberculosis treatment efficacy.

Evidence:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39319685/>

International Research on Rheumatoid Arthritis Therapy

Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) collaborated with international partners including King Saud University (Saudi Arabia), University of Technology of Compiègne (France), and Ibn Zohr University (Morocco) on a study titled **“Therapeutic Potential of D-Limonene in Rheumatoid Arthritis: Modulation of Inflammatory, Anti-inflammatory Cytokines, and Prostaglandin E2.”** The research explored natural compound-based therapeutic approaches for inflammation management, and demonstrating EQUaT's continued engagement in global, data-driven scientific collaboration.

Evidence:

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/39460415/>

International Collaboration on Nano-Botanical Oral Hygiene Solutions

Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) collaborated internationally on a study titled **“Progression in Nano-Botanical Oral Hygiene Solutions: The Dawn of Biomimetic Nanomaterials.”** This research involved partnerships with international universities. The study explored the use of biomimetic nanomaterials for innovative oral hygiene applications.

Evidence:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2772417424000918>

Some key collaborations and engagements from 2024 are highlighted below:



Memberships and Applications to Sustainability Networks

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) is currently applying to join the **Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Uganda (SDSN-U)** in order to align its teaching, research, and community engagement with global best practices for achieving the SDGs.

The university is also seeking membership in the **Climate Action Network Uganda (CAN-U)** to collaborate on national strategies that address climate change adaptation, mitigation, and resilience.

In addition, EQUaT is applying to join the **Green Forum Uganda**, which will allow the university to participate in multi-stakeholder dialogues, policy discussions, and initiatives that advance environmental sustainability.

At the continental level, EQUaT is pursuing membership in the **Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA)**. Through this membership, the university aims to connect with regional partners to advocate for climate justice, influence policy reforms, and contribute to Africa-wide sustainable development initiatives.

Commitment to International Collaboration

Through these networks, EQUaT intends to strengthen its capacity to share and adopt comparative approaches for implementing the SDGs. It is committed to developing and disseminating international best practices, while also fostering collaborative research and community-based initiatives. This approach demonstrates the university's dedication to contributing to the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Collaboration with Sudan International University (SIU)

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sudan International University to support displaced students and academic staff affected by the Sudan civil conflict. The partnership promotes cross-border education, knowledge exchange, and research, reinforcing international cooperation towards SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

Evidence:

<https://equsat.ac.ug/news/equat-signs-mou-with-sudan-international-university-to-support-students-affected-by-civil-war>

VODAN Conference



The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) participated in the international Virus Outbreak Data Network (VODAN) Conference held in Leiden, Netherlands, to advance dialogue and collaboration on health data governance and FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) Data practices. Through its active contribution, the university was selected to champion the FAIR Data initiative in Uganda, following best international practices for SDGs.

Evidence:

<https://equat.ac.ug/news/equat-selected-to-champion-fair-data-at-global-vodan-conference>

QS Africa Forum 2024

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) participated in the QS Africa Forum 2024 in Accra, Ghana, engaging university leaders, policymakers, and development partners in regional dialogue on quality education, innovation, and sustainability. The university contributed policy insights and recommendations that fostered cross-border collaboration and the sharing of best practices in advancing education and the SDGs across Africa.

Evidence:

<https://equat.ac.ug/news/equat-vice-chancellor-participates-in-accra-conference-on-quality-of-education-in-africa>

UNESCO Strategic Plan

The Equator University of Science and Technology (EQUaT) joined stakeholders from government, academia, and international organizations in reviewing the Uganda National Commission for UNESCO's Strategic Plan. The meeting aligned national priorities with international standards on sustainable quality education, culture, science, and communication, demonstrating EQUaT's contribution to international policy dialogue and best-practice development for the SDGs.

Evidence:

<https://equat.ac.ug/news/equat-vice-chancellor-participates-in-review-of-uganda-national-commission-for-unesco-strategic-plan>