TOR VERGATA
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI ROMA



Sustainability Report 2025



Message from the Rector

In a time marked by profound transitions and increasingly complex global challenges, our University firmly reaffirms its commitment to growth that is sustainable, fair, and inclusive.

The Sustainability Report represents, for Tor Vergata University of Rome, a tool for accountability, transparency and direction, through which the University organically reports the results achieved, the actions undertaken and the lines of development that guide its institutional activity. In a historical phase marked by profound transformations, accelerations and fragilities affecting the global system, the Report allows an integrated reading of the University's commitment in teaching, research, third mission, inclusion, innovation and social and environmental responsibility. Sustainability, in fact, is not exhausted in the careful management of resources, but concerns more broadly the capacity of a public University to produce knowledge, generate opportunities, strengthen social cohesion and contribute to the development of the territories and communities it serves. This perspective also frames the theme chosen for the inauguration of the 2025/2026 academic year, "A future to be shaped in the space of the community", which recalls the value of knowledge as a tool for understanding the present and contributing to the construction of a shared future, founded on responsibility, collaboration and collective commitment. This is a vision fully consistent with the path that Tor Vergata University of Rome is pursuing, in the awareness that the university is not only the place where knowledge is transmitted, but also a space for growth, dialogue and participation, in which skills, critical thinking and civic responsibility are formed. Because the university, today more than ever, is not only the place where knowledge is generated and transmitted, but the space in which a community chooses the future it intends to build. The Report therefore sits within this framework and represents a concrete translation of it: on the one hand it documents the University's choices and results, on the other it makes evident the will to consolidate an open, aware university community capable of facing the complexity of the present. Students, teaching staff, and technical, administrative and library staff each constitute, in their own part, an essential component of this community, called to contribute to the quality of university life, the improvement of services, the growth of research and the strengthening of the link with the territory, the productive system and international knowledge networks. In this framework, sustainability takes on a broad and structural meaning for Tor Vergata University of Rome: it means investing in the quality of education, scientific and technological innovation, the international dimension of studies, inclusion and the well-being of the university community; it means promoting responsible use of resources, but also consolidating the public function of the University as a place of cultural elaboration, democratic debate and construction of the future. It is with this approach that the University continues to interpret its role, making the Sustainability Report not only an informative tool, but also an expression of the institutional responsibility with which it intends to account for its work and its development priorities.

The Rector
Prof. Nathan Levialdi Ghiron

Message from the Vice-Rector for Sustainability

For nine years, Tor Vergata University of Rome has published the Sustainability Report to account for its contribution to the goals of the UN 2030 Agenda. The 2025 Report highlights progress in environmental, social and economic sustainability, with an increase in research projects, publications and educational offerings dedicated to sustainability, also thanks to strengthened collaborations. The results are confirmed by external recognition: the University ranks in the world's top 18% of the QS Sustainability ranking, compared with 20% the previous year, and is the only university among the 240 "Sustainability Leaders 2025" identified by Il Sole 24 Ore.
Sustainability guides the University's strategic choices: from the Office for Sustainable Development to the 12 study prizes for master's theses dedicated to the 2030 Agenda, from the Green Charter, aimed at reducing the carbon footprint, to the enhancement of the Botanical Garden and biodiversity. The Sustainable Development Festival and Action for Climate, with excursions organized together with the CAI, involve the university community and the territory in protecting the environment and the responsible use of resources.

Vice-Rector for Environment, Sustainability and Energy Transition
Prof. Antonella Canini

Message from the Coordinator of the University Mission and Vision Committee

The gain of 13 positions in the QS World University Rankings 2027 and of 137 over ten years testifies to the growth of Tor Vergata University of Rome, the fruit of the commitment of its community. The 2025 Sustainability Report tells the story of the results and the economic, social, cultural and environmental value generated through education, research, inclusion, innovation and third mission. This vision also takes concrete form in the V.A.L.O.R.I.® project (Vision, Belonging, Bonds, Objectives, Results and Impacts) and in the Albero delle Identità® (Tree of Identities), a participatory artwork created with reclaimed materials, a symbol of the University's collective identity. The leaves represent people and their contribution, the roots represent governance and the third mission, the trunk represents education and research, the circle represents internationalization, while the four branches recall the dimensions of sustainability: well-being and health, enhancement of diversity, environmental protection and economic responsibility. The Tree of Identities is linked via QR code to the website https://valori.uniroma2.it/, which illustrates and systematizes the University's values, objectives, projects, results and impacts in the 2022-2025 period. The University thus configures itself as a Laboratory of the Future, in which people, knowledge and relationships create shared value. The V.A.L.O.R.I.® model, replicable in other organizations, integrates participation, art and impact measurement, promoting transparent and innovative sustainability reporting.

Coordinator of the Committee for the implementation of the University's Mission and Vision in favour of Sustainable Development
Prof. Gloria Fiorani

The Vision and Mission of Tor Vergata University of Rome

The virtuous system of sustainability

Tor Vergata University of Rome lives sustainability in an integrated way across all its functions and activities, to the point of defining its own Vision and Mission in favour of sustainable development, so as to become-through continuous change-an academic excellence in the European context. It therefore commits to fuelling a virtuous circle that combines the principles of economic, social, environmental and institutional sustainability with the creation of public and shared value, and to supporting and applying the ten principles of the Global Compact within its sphere of influence. Cornerstones of this integrated system are the capacity to offer quality education and cutting-edge research, to promote the third mission, to attract key actors and develop partnerships at national and international level, including through membership of the RUS - to collaborate with other development agents in the territory and to create added value for the reference communities.

Visit the website to read the University's Vision and Mission in full

The principle of sustainability is therefore set out in the Strategic Plan, as a programming document useful for defining the University's development lines in favour of sustainable development. This document, together with the Integrated Plan of Activities and Organization (PIAO), the Performance Report and the Sustainability Report, contributes to the integration and synthesis of Mission and Vision, as well as to the articulation and monitoring of the University's policies and strategies.

Strategic Plan

Integrated Plan of Activities and Organization

Performance Report

To give concreteness to the actions undertaken to pursue the strategic sustainability objectives, since 2016 Tor Vergata University of Rome has relied on an interdisciplinary Committee for the implementation of the University's Mission and Vision in favour of Sustainable Development, which brings together the sustainability representatives appointed by the University's Departments, coordinated since 2022 by Prof. Gloria Fiorani.

University Committee for Sustainable Development

University Governance Team

The University's numbers

6 Macro-areas **18 Departments**

Education and training offer divided into:

- > 120 degree programs
- > 142 master
- > 37 PhD doctoral courses
- > 52 specialized schools

355th among universities worldwide and 8th at national level according to the **QS World University ranking 2026**, which measures the reputation, quality of education and research and the employability of graduates of universities around the world, positioning itself among the "top 23"

331st globally, 160th in Europe and 15th in Italy in the fourth edition of the **QS World University Rankings dedicated to Sustainability**, which measures the ability of universities to address the major environmental, social and governance (ESG) challenges

12th among Italian universities and 1st among large state universities in the central-southern area in the THE World University Ranking of the best universities in the world in the main academic missions (range 301-350)

Reading guide

Tor Vergata University of Rome prepares its Sustainability Report annually, in accordance with the GRI Standards and the RUS-GBS Standard and Implementation Manual. This edition, approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting of 28 July 2026, gathers data referring to the 2025/2026 academic year and the 2025 calendar year. It tells the story of the path that the University, thanks to the full and active involvement of all components of its Community, is pursuing to establish itself as an attentive, efficient, responsible and sustainable institution. To enhance the impact of the actions undertaken, the activities and results described in the following sections are marked graphically with icons corresponding to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda, as well as the four thematic areas of the United Nations Global Compact's Ten Principles (human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption). This visual system allows each area to clearly reflect the University's specific contribution to the global sustainability goals promoted by the UN.

The brochure contains hyperlinks and QR codes to access further information on the institutional pages, in the Sustainability Report and in the V.A.L.O.R.I. project.

What do you expect from a Sustainable University? Your opinion matters!

Teaching and services offered to students and to participants in first - and second-level master's programmes

Tor Vergata University of Rome sees students as the true point of reference for the design of teaching and the management of its activities. It is for this reason that the University guarantees continuous improvement of the services offered and ensures innovative, interdisciplinary educational pathways, in line with sustainability themes, with the aim of training responsible citizens prepared to face the challenges of the world of work.

33.795 enrolled students for the 2025–2026 academic year
42% male and 58% female (+2,78% compared to previous academic year)

4.080 international students enrolled enrolled in the 2025-2026 academic year (+3,65% from the 2024-2025 academic year), mainly from Asia and Europe

1.548 students participated in mobility programs such as Erasmus+, Student Traineeship, and OverSeas, of whom 724 incoming and 824 outgoing

7.108 graduates: including 4.225 bachelor's degrees, 2,324 master's degrees, and 559 single-cycle degrees

102 participants in advanced courses • 516 participants in first-level master's programmes • 1.373 participants in second-level master's programmes

2.806 scholarships, prizes, and grants awarded to deserving students, totalling €6.098 k

66,2% of graduates find employment within one year of graduation, against 60.2% for the average of national universities
44% of graduates rate their university experience decidedly positively
71% would enrol again in the same degree programme at Tor Vergata University

Inclusion at Tor Vergata

- **778 students with disabilities and 678 students with SLDs specific learning disorders (DSA)**
- **+12,5% tutoring interventions** delivered by CARIS-the University Committee for the Inclusion of Students with Disabilities and SLD

Education for sustainable development

- **258 courses and over 20 master's programmes and external courses** relating to sustainable development, territorial governance, social innovation, sustainability reporting, quality of life, health and safety, and inclusion
- **382 certificates** (of which 267 to students and 115 to teaching and technical-administrative-library staff) issued over the last six years following completion of the ASviS e-learning course "Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals"
- **11 technical-administrative-library staff members** completed in 2025 the e-learning course "Azienda 2030 - The opportunities of sustainable development"
- **12 study prizes and 13 special mentions** awarded in the 1st edition of the Prize for the best master's and single-cycle master's theses dedicated to sustainable development themes - Agenda 2030
- **24 theses awarded** in the two editions of the "Giulia Cecchettin" Degree Prize on gender issues, equal opportunities and combating violence

Value and impact of research

For Tor Vergata University of Rome, research is the driver for development and well-being, an engine capable of advancing society along a path of sustainable growth. To this end, the University commits to setting out sustainable development across all disciplinary areas, promoting internal excellence, attracting talent at national and international level, stimulating joint and participatory projects, and creating synergies at national and international level.

353 tenured researchers (162 women and 191 men)

617 research fellows (326 women and 291 men)

1.461 doctoral students (777 women and 684 men)

193 international PhD students (107 women and 86 men)

5.021 scientific publications in 2025 with growth of 3% compared with the previous year (4.871 in 2024)

1,54 average citation impact

22,4% were published in top-tier national and international journals

42 active patent families, mainly relating to scientific and engineering disciplines

5.616 international collaborations with universities and companies in the four-year period 2022–2025, predominantly located in Europe and Asia-Pacific

2.387 contracts research agreements on commission

€5.869k in revenue generated by competitive and commissioned research in 2025

Research in the Field of Sustainability

- **3,5% growth in the number of publications in the field of sustainability** compared with the previous biennium, totalling 1.976 in 2025
- **39,3 publications out of 100 addressed topics related to sustainable development**
- **2 awards** granted in the 1st edition of the "**Rosalind Elsie Franklin**" Prize, intended for women doctoral researchers in the University's Chemistry and Life Sciences Area, to enhance female scientific merit
- **6 participations in entities operating in the field of sustainable development and social innovation**
- **2 projects in the researchers category** (Ty.Re.C.S and MycoMed Research) **and 1 project in the students category** (Shock Morph) **among the winners of the 11th edition of StartCup Lazio 2025**

Dissemination and knowledge sharing. Initiatives on the environment and collaboration with multiple social and economic actors

The University carries out numerous non-profit initiatives with educational, cultural, and societal development value, aimed at communicating and sharing the activities and benefits of higher education and research.

16 events organised within the **Festival of Sustainable Development 2025** promoted by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS)

around 80 participants in Action for Climate - Climbing for Climate 7, an awareness-raising initiative on climate change promoted by the RUS (Network of Universities for Sustainable Development), in collaboration with the CAI (Italian Alpine Club) of Rieti

more than **20 projects and interventions** promoted by the **Pro-Rectorship for Social Innovation Policies** since its establishment in 2023, to foster prevention, inclusion and well-being, counter fragility and inequalities and strengthen the link between the University and the territory

8 cohabitations activated through the solidarity housing project **"Insieme siamo migliori/Together We Are Better"**, which connects out-of-town and international students looking for accommodation with families willing to share their home, fostering inclusion and intergenerational exchange

9 assistance and healthcare services reserved for the university community, relating to psychological counselling, sexual health counselling, listening, combating gender-based violence and basic health assistance

16 initiatives promoted by the University's Equal Opportunities Committee (**CUG**) - Single Guarantee Committee, also in collaboration with the University's Office for Sustainable Development, aimed at spreading knowledge and protecting equal opportunities and anti-discrimination policies

18 events organized by **CUS Roma Tor Vergata** within the **PRO-BEN project**, including sports and recreational activities, outdoor outings and amateur events, reserved for the student community

more than **1.000 participants involved**, with 80% of target students enrolled in a CUS sports activity at the end of the project

6 educational initiatives were held at the **Botanical Garden** to promote environmental sustainability, protect biodiversity and promote social integration

The Albero delle Identità® (Tree of Identities) of Tor Vergata University of Rome - "VALORI"

In 2025 the University, in collaboration with the MARIS Master's programme, carried out an artistic-educational pathway to enhance individual abilities and identities and strengthen participation and sense of belonging to the university community. Structured across 3 workshop days, the project involved about 130 participants among students, teaching staff and technical-administrative-library staff in creating an *identity-leaf*, a symbolic expression of one's contribution to the life of the University. The leaves gave rise to a permanent collective work, exhibited at the Faculty of Economics. Discover the Tree of Identities and the contributions that make up the work. Want to create your own identity-leaf? Take part in the upcoming workshops and help grow the collective work. Sign up here!

Enhancing and involving human resources

Working for Tor Vergata University of Rome means being part of an organization where everyone is empowered to contribute to shared goals and express their talent and professionalism. Human capital is the University's greatest strength and competitive advantage in delivering quality services, teaching, and research.

2.300 employees working in various areas of the University
1.301 faculty members (489 women and 812 men)
999 managerial and technical, administrative and library staff (628 women and 371 men)

+7% improvement in the Glass Ceiling Index (equal opportunities' index) of the teaching staff compared to 2023

7.168 hours of professional training provided to technical, administrative, and library staff in foreign languages, IT, and interdisciplinary areas

571 participants in specialised training and professional development courses

19% of total working hours carried out in agile mode, used 65% by women employees and 35% by men employees

7 initiatives for the psycho-physical well-being of the staff, with the provision of welfare assistance services, sports, cultural, and recreational services, such as including insurance plans, public transport subsidies, Metrebus travel passes, nursery reimbursements, etc.

621 participants in 2025 in Spritzzzzzy...amoci a Tor Vergata - Third edition, an initiative dedicated to the university community to foster opportunities for meeting and sharing, as well as strengthen the sense of belonging to the University (+475% compared with the launch of the initiative in 2023)

University Gender Budgeting and Equality

Tor Vergata University of Rome promotes the advancement of equal opportunities through measures for the prevention and contrast of gender-based violence. Since 2020, the University has promoted gender equality through the publication of a Gender Budget, which identifies strengths and areas for improvement in achieving gender parity, so that these elements become a stimulus for planning actions aimed at achieving specific gender equality objectives. These insights inform targeted actions. Since 2021, the University has also published a Gender Equality Plan, outlining its internal strategy to foster gender equality and equal opportunities.

For more information, consult the five editions of the Gender Budget and the five editions of the Gender Equality Plan available on the University website.

Protection of and respect for the environment

Protecting the environment, the efficient management of resources and care for the territory constitute a fundamental priority for Tor Vergata University of Rome.

100% of electricity came from renewable sources, certified by Guarantees of Origin (GO) issued by GSE

19.076 kWh total electricity consumption (-5,56% compared with 2022, also thanks to *relamping* projects in the Humanities, Engineering, and Economics macro-areas and the optimization of air-conditioning systems in 2 campus locations, carried out over the four-year period)

99.934 m^3 total water consumption, (-4,53% compared with 2024), also due to the installation of aerators that regulate flow and favour water savings

5.319 tCO_2eq total emissions, of which 1.538 tCO_2eq from direct emissions (Scope 1) and 3.781 tCO_2eq from electricity consumption (Scope 2) (-9,9% from 2024)

51.888 kg of waste produced, non-hazardous or similar to municipal waste (-22,5% from the previous year)

3 projects* to improve the environmental sustainability of the Campus:

- **"SEDIA" project** aimed at creating outdoor rest and gathering spaces through the installation of **18 eco-sustainable educational-recreational stations** (solar charging modules with outdoor benches) located across the campus (among the Macro-areas and the Rectorate)
- **"CARTA" project**, a circular economy project created with the aim of raising awareness among the academic community about paper recovery and reuse, with **8 paper collection bins** located across the campus
- **"GOCCIA" project**, aimed at significantly reducing single-use plastic consumption within the University through awareness-raising on the use of reusable bottles and the installation of **26 water dispensers** across macro-areas in the campus

5 days of sustainable catering in all faculties and macro-areas, during the **2025 Green Food Week**, with low environmental impact menus, inspired by FoodInsider guidelines

350 hectares of green areas available to the university community and the public, comprising:

- **83 hectare Botanical Garden** with lines of intervention dedicated to climate change mitigation, research and environmental innovation, energy transition and circular economy
- **17 hectares of the historic gardens of Villa Mondragone**, characterized by thousands of centuries-old trees and a historic olive grove of about 7 hectares, with around 3,000 specimens of Olea europaea of different cultivars
- **1 garden of the Rectorate**, which contains over 120 trees and several hundred native shrubs, selected to enhance local vegetation

* carried out by the Office for Sustainable Development and the Technical Office as part of the MARIS Master's program

Green Charter

Approved in March 2024, the Green Charter represents the strategic document that the University adopts to promote its ecological transition, in line with the objectives of the **2030 Agenda** and the **European Green Deal**. The Charter defines 34 operational actions on priority themes such as energy, water, mobility, waste, green procurement, food and environmental education. The central objective is to integrate environmental sustainability into the University's management and organizational choices, through a systemic, measurable and participatory approach.

Details on the lines of action and environmental objectives are available in the web section dedicated to the Green Charter.

Ethical and transparent management, economic sustainability, and performance improvement

Tor Vergata University of Rome plays a leading role in the territorial economy, interpreted by the entire university community according to principles of ethics, transparency, responsibility and efficiency.

2.292 hours of training on anti-corruption were delivered to 99 staff members

331.702 total accesses to the "Transparent Administration" website, with over 30,000 in 2025 alone

about 50% of the University's suppliers come from the local reference territory

€376.855k economic value attracted by the University (+4,25% compared with 2024)

€356.900k economic value distributed among internal stakeholders (professors and TAB staff), institutional stakeholders (PA), and external stakeholders (financial intermediaries, partners, and suppliers) (+4.33 compared with 2024)

Future outlook

WHAT...

RAISE AWARENESS WITHIN THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

The University aims to promote a culture of sustainability in its ordinary teaching, research and third mission activities.

PROMOTING ACADEMIC COMMITMENT

The University seeks to encourage academic reflection by students and doctoral candidates on the principles and objectives of the 2030 Agenda.

STRENGTHENING THE WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY

The University commits to expanding opportunities for prevention, care and promotion of the psycho-physical well-being of the university community.

GIVING VALUE BACK TO THE TERRITORY

The University intends to enhance its historical and cultural heritage as a resource open to the community and the territory.

STRENGTHENING SPACES FOR TEACHING

The University wants to adapt and innovate university environments to respond to the needs of a growing student community.

HOW...

TRAINING AND INVOLVEMENT

Develop academic programs and initiatives aimed at increasing knowledge on sustainability topics and fostering the adoption of responsible lifestyles within the Campus.

PRIZES FOR DEGREE THESES AND RESEARCH

Give continuity to prizes dedicated to degree theses and research pathways on sustainability themes in a multidisciplinary and applied key.

PREVENTION AND WELL-BEING

Develop integrated interventions aimed at students and staff, fostering healthy lifestyles, prevention of risk factors and greater accessibility to assistance and care services.

CULTURE AND SHARED KNOWLEDGE

Recover and make accessible places and historical and cultural heritage, fostering their knowledge, dissemination and sharing with the public.

NEW SPACES AND TECHNOLOGIES

Expand and innovate spaces intended for education through new technological, accessible classrooms integrated with teaching practice.

The brochure of the 2025 Sustainability Report of Tor Vergata University of Rome was produced by:
Coordination: Prof. Gloria Fiorani
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In collaboration with the Sustainable Development Office

The preparation of the contents of the University Sustainability Report was handled by Dr Carola Gasparri, Head of the University's Budgets and Sustainability Reports Office, with the support of a working group led by a coordination team composed of Prof. Gloria Fiorani and Eng. Domenico Genovese.
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To consult the full version of the 2025 Sustainability Report:

To consult the V.A.L.O.R.I. web reporting project (2022–2025)

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