



**sustainable**  
**Ca'Foscari**



# **Sustainability Report**

**academic year 2012/13**  
**year 2012**



**This third edition of the Ca' Foscari Sustainability Report documents all the most significant measures made by the University to become more sustainable, reducing the institution's impact on the environment and increasing student, faculty and staff wellbeing. We have grouped the results according to stakeholders and attention has been focused on sustainable education and research thereby making the report a concentrate of detailed yet accessible information.**

**The work entailed in the report is based on the desire to clearly delineate all the projects and activities realized by the university as well as the results achieved, contributing to making Ca' Foscari a virtuous example in the world of sustainable universities.**

**What emerges is a shared and wide-ranging sustainability programme which spreads into every activity the University promotes.**

**The process which results in across-the-board sustainability is, without a doubt, exhaustive as is its narration. If you wish to have any further information or if you have any suggestions to offer in order to improve this report you can fill in the online form or contact us at [sustainability@unive.it](mailto:sustainability@unive.it).**

**An online version of the report can also be consulted at [www.unive.it/sustainability](http://www.unive.it/sustainability).**



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**Sustainability is  
working on roots  
looking at leaves and fruits**

**Chiara Mio**

Delegate on Environmental Sustainability  
and University Social Responsibility

**Sustainability means transforming organizations  
so that they become streamlined, responsive,  
flexible, alert to users' needs, digitalized,  
transparent and inspiring. We are firmly committed  
to making the university experience a learning  
experience in sustainability for all, be they  
students, researchers, faculty or staff.**

**Alberto Scuttari**

General Manager  
Ca' Foscari University of Venice



**a.y. 2012/13  
year 2012**

**Compared to a.y. 2011/12  
year 2011**

# Ca' Foscari in numbers

<b>20 346</b>	students enrolled	<b>+2,7%</b>
<b>1 020</b>	foreign students	<b>+6,9%</b>
<b>326</b>	incoming students	<b>+16%</b>
<b>460</b>	outgoing students	<b>+10%</b>
<b>817</b>	part-time students	<b>- 2%</b>
<b>310</b>	professors	<b>-6,6%</b>
<b>199</b>	researchers	<b>+0,5%</b>
<b>344</b>	external faculty members	<b>-6,5%</b>
<b>57</b>	visiting professors	<b>+171%</b>
<b>559</b>	technical administrative staff	<b>+4,9%</b>
<b>204</b>	external temporary workers	<b>+29,1%</b>
<b>143 130</b>	income (thousand of €)	<b>-3%</b>
<b>139 395</b>	expenditure (thousand of €)	<b>+3%</b>

# Sustainability on Paper (Commitments Charter)

**267 119**  
€ costs for staff involved in sustainability activities

**54%**  
of the University performance objectives regard environmental, social and economic sustainability

**30%**  
of the objectives in the Sustainability Commitments Charter have become common practice

## A comprehensive sustainability

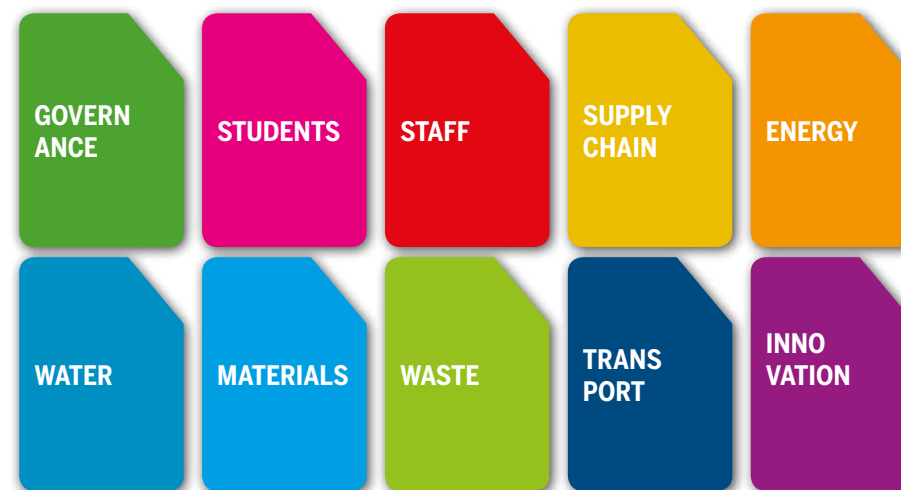
**Adopting the objective of comprehensive sustainability:**

**Strengthening education on sustainability,  
Reinforcing research on sustainability,  
Facilitating the adoption of sustainable processes and behaviours.**

**Objective 10 of the Strategic Plan**

Ca' Foscari has included sustainability among the objectives of its **Strategic Plan**. This involves an ongoing commitment to integrating the principles of economic, social and environmental sustainability within all the spheres of University activity.

The University has also drawn up a **Sustainability Policy** and has, for the last three years, adopted a **Sustainability Commitments Charter – CIS**, a long-term plan divided into 10 spheres of action, describing the measures Ca' Foscari intends to implement on a daily basis.



Our commitment extends to including the principles of **Global Compact**, a UN sponsored international network, and of the **PRME (Principles for Responsible Management Education)** within the fixed objectives of the Sustainability Commitments Charter.



# Sustainability in our hands

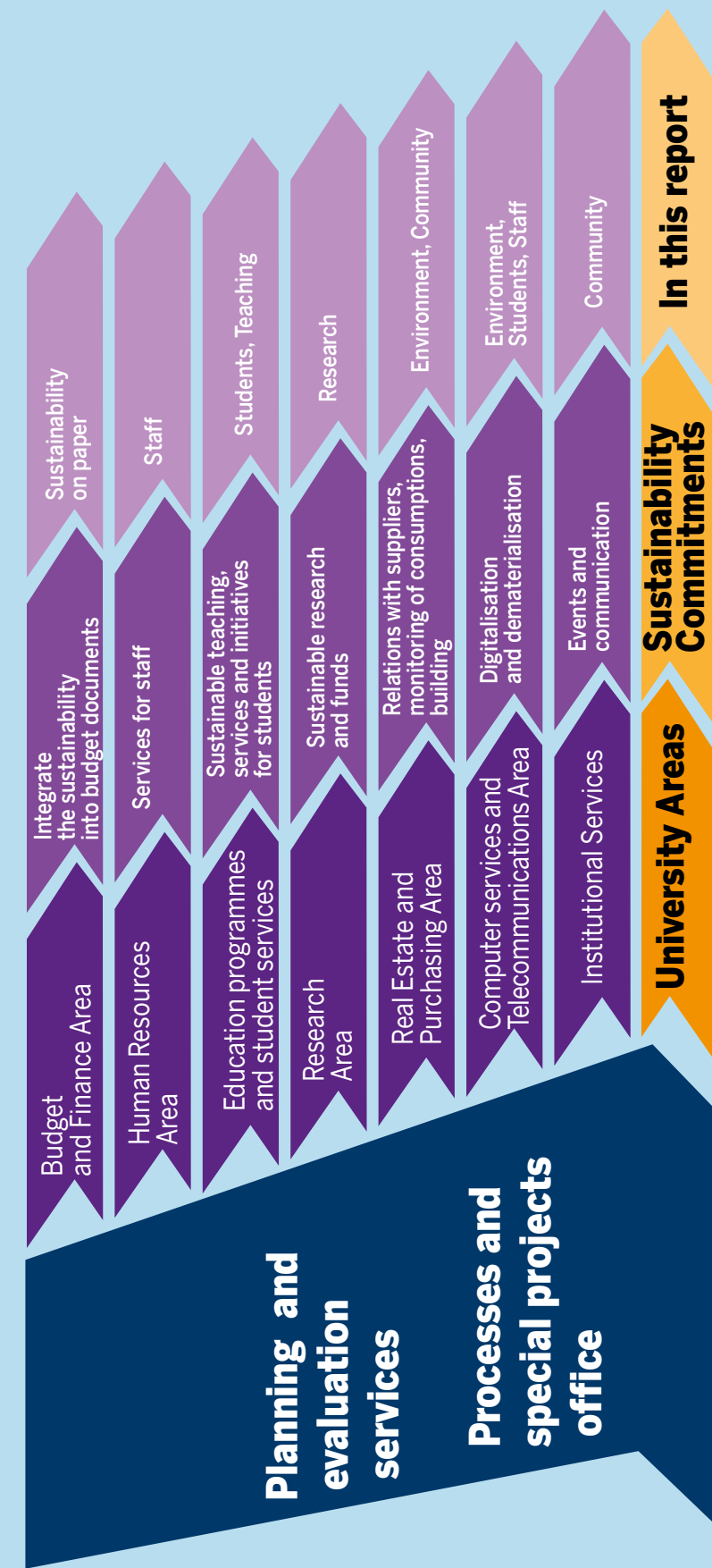
Sustainable actions and policies fall within the **Sustainable Ca' Foscari** project, headed by **Chiara Mio**, the Rector's delegate for Environmental Sustainability and University Social Responsibility. Along with the staff from the **Processes and Special Projects Office** Chiara Mio is active in promoting sustainable actions within the University and communication with the larger national and international community.



The staff deal with:

- **revising the CIS – Sustainability Commitments Charter**, making regular audits and publishing the annual reports;
- **developing new projects** to increase the number of sustainable processes at the University;
- **putting initiatives and events into effect** to raise student and staff awareness;
- **promoting sustainable activities** for the University at workshops, seminars and fairs;
- **forging relations at international level** with universities and networks committed to sustainability;
- **communicating** the policies and achievements of Sustainable Ca' Foscari through both traditional and new medias.

The office deals with various areas of the University according to the type of action required. In this way, the whole organization is involved and stimulated to participate in the building of a more sustainable University.





**students**

**10 512 000**

€ intervention on students' behalf

**2.8/4**

score awarded to Ca' Foscari services by students

**+16%**

foreign students in the 2012/13 academic year compared to the 2011/12 a.y.

**250**

hours LIS - Italian Sign Language interpreting services provided

**359**

times the Carbon Footprint Calculator was accessed in 2012

**-300**

kg reduction in paper waste

## Sustainable projects and services

Ca' Foscari is committed to promoting student satisfaction, student support schemes and increasing the efficiency and efficacy of its services to offer a richer and more satisfying University experience. In 2012 services were improved, international exchanges facilitated and sustainable behaviours in students encouraged.

**Projects:** call for tender for artistic projects on the theme of work security won by a student enrolled at Ca' Foscari, with her production called "Col fiato sospeso e le tasche piene di sassi. The CUG – Equal Opportunities Commission awarded prizes for two theses on the topics of equal opportunities and promoting employee welfare.

**Services:** admission procedures have been simplified and procedures and responsibilities defined to streamline the "information chain" for first time students to Ca' Foscari. For international students online procedures dedicated to orientation and admissions services have simplified access for students to first and second level degree programmes.

**Disabilities:** individual and personal counselling services have been improved, Sign Language Interpreting services (LIS - Italian Sign Language) intensified, and teaching materials have been made available in accessible formats. An online application has been developed to manage requests from students with disabilities and 18 of the University's students have had training to offer other students their practical support when needed.

**Carbon Footprint Calculator:** Ca' Foscari, in collaboration with the Ministry for Environment, Territory and Sea, has developed and put to use an interactive program to calculate the environmental impact of mobility, eating habits and everyday behaviours.

**Online evaluations:** as of the 2011/12 academic year student opinions have been polled online instead of on traditional paper forms. Approximately 60 000 Euros have been saved in management costs and 30% more students were reached.



## Digital Library

New data banks and extended access to previously limited resources by authorized users are two of the investments made by the library system to become more sustainable at campus level.

Particular attention has also been paid to organizing educational support in all the libraries more than doubling the number of available courses, presentations, personal assistance and guides online in 2011.

Further, library opening times have been extended and a number of innovative IT systems have been realized involving data banks and disciplinary services including a new digital storage and retrieval system for theses in the University's repository.

New digital photocopiers have been installed in every location reducing the number of paper copies made and allowing the conversion of numerous research documents to digital format.

## Edizioni Ca' Foscari - ECF

Edizioni Ca' Foscari is the University online publishing house. 18 volumes, including journals and books, for a total of 3118 pages were published online between September 2012 and March 2013.

In some cases ECF has printed volumes on demand. To upgrade its publishing activity, ECF has begun to work with Firenze University Press for the publication of Silvio Trentin's works and is trialling a collaboration with Cafoscarina Publishing.

At a communications level, the website has been completely overhauled and a newsletter has been launched to inform users of new editions and ongoing activities. Other actions to consolidate ECF's activities are planned for 2013.

**- 15%**  
**paper photocopies  
saved respect to 2011**

**+ 50%**  
**opening hours,  
from 20245 hours (2011)  
to 30456 hours (2012)**

**+ 19%**  
**use of available online  
resources and access  
from the home**

**1 449 597**  
**e-books available at  
the University**

**87 261**  
**prints and copies  
produced digitally**

**1 093**  
**digital documents  
entered in the  
University repositories**







# teaching

**45 402 000**

**€ costs for teaching contracts**

**53%**

**costs of teaching contracts covered by tuition fees**

**3.2/4**

**score given to teaching by students**

**669**

**courses with sustainable content**

**1 894**

**courses with at least one sustainable procedure**

**921**

**students have included sustainable competencies within their course of studies in the 2012/2013 academic year**

## Less waste and more sustainable teaching

Teaching activities do not only prepare students for the world of work but also perform a civic role by educating students to adopt sustainable behaviours thereby forming generations of responsible citizens. Ca' Foscari is committed to increasing occasions where sustainability is "learned" in lecture halls by delivery via innovative methods and tools and reducing the use of paper teaching materials.

**Sustainable Study Programmes:** each lecturer may note when filling in the course presentations whether their course presents sustainable aspects in content or teaching method, such as when the number of paper resources are cut in favour of online interactive instruments and open source software. In the 2012/13 academic year 28% of the classes offered sustainable content and 76% were held by sustainable procedures.

**Sustainable competencies:** as of the 2012/13 academic year all students may acquire competencies in sustainability by adding extra-curricular activities to their course programme, offered by each department as an indepth study of the themes of social, economic and environmental sustainability.

**Course Programme guidelines:** 2013/14 course programme guidelines recommend developing e-learning teaching procedures, in particular blended with traditional learning and encourage students towards studying economic, social and environmental sustainability.

**I.S.A. - Insegnare e Studiare Altrimenti:** the I.S.A. (Teaching and Studying Alternatives) project involving students and faculty alike in the use of e-learning platforms and online study means was developed in 2012. Faculty are invited to organize blended courses in which face-to-face teaching is alternated with virtual lessons while students are prompted to study online in a lifelong learning perspective which characterizes the world of knowledge.



**44%**  
funds for  
sustainability  
research projects

**17%**  
active faculty  
currently involved  
in sustainable  
research projects

**190**  
publications on  
themes related to  
sustainability

**16**  
international  
projects  
on sustainability

**12**  
national projects  
on sustainability

**35**  
research grants to  
sustainable projects

## Sustainability in Research

Ca' Foscari is promoting research in social and environmental issues in all its fields of study. In 2012 the University increased the number of research projects in these themes and offered support in terms of funding, fostering current competences and rewarding the results produced within the University.

**Mapping out aims for sustainability:** in 2012 10% of University publications and 21% of research grants were concerned with themes of sustainability . 17% of active faculty currently involved in research projects have included sustainability studies as part of their research.

### International projects

**CITISPYCE - Combating Inequalities through Innovative Social Practices of and for Young People in Cities across Europe.**

This project analyses the inequalities that young people face in Europe and identifies forms of social innovation that can oppose them.

**SEEK - Semantic Enrichment of Trajectory Knowledge Discovery Process.**

The aim of the project is to study the mobility of individuals, animals and objects in order to identify the most efficient urban transport system. This is aimed at encouraging both safer and more sustainable mobility.

### National projects

**Climate change in the Mediterranean area: evolving scenarios, economic impact, risk-reducing policies and innovative technologies.**

The project is aimed at studying the phenomenon of global change induced by current climate modification in the Mediterranean area. Once compiled the data will be used to develop risk-reducing policies and innovative technologies.

**ELECTROSMARTBOATS.**

This project is concerned with the environmental impact of water navigation. Its aims are to support the launching of a new generation of electric propulsion vessels and offer related integrated management services.

research



## Workers' welfare, health and safety

Ca' Foscari works to foster faculty and administrative staff potential by developing training courses to favour wellbeing and to support families and parenthood.

**170 969**  
**€ for training programmes, sports and recreational activities**

**15 685**  
**hours dedicated to training**

**+15%**  
**staff involved in training programmes compared to 2011**

**13**  
**events on equal opportunities**

**19 362**  
**teleworking hours (+15% compared to 2011)**

**59**  
**part-time contracts**

**New Code of Ethical Conduct:** a collaborative revision of the Code is underway. The Academic Senate has approved a first draft used to gather proposals from both staff and students on an online forum. The finalized document will emerge from these contributions upon hearing the Board of Governors and following approval by the Senate.

**Creation of the website dedicated to Risk Management Service:** the Risk Management Service site has been relocated within the University portal after adaptation. Documents on norms, procedures and emergencies can be found here.

**Evaluation of work-related stress:** a first fact-finding study on the risks of work-related stress was concluded in May 2012. All 28 of the University structures were involved and a report was prepared with the results.

**Inhouse courses on sustainability:** the first and second editions of the Management Training Programme for middle management staff (Cat. D and EP) were organized. All the materials have been available online.

**Simplified office procedures:** as of January 1, 2012 accounting documents are sent exclusively via storage devices from office to office, reducing hard copies and easing staff workloads. 13 office procedures were re-engineered and automated in 2012 making existing processes more efficient and efficacious.

**Parent support:** contracts with two daycare centres and a summer camp offering reduced costs for the children of University employees were renewed in 2012.

**staff**





# environ ment

**565 580**  
€ spent on routine  
and emergency  
maintenance for  
sustainability

**11 067 000**  
€ spent on building  
works

**37%**  
of the entire  
University complex  
has been certified

**- 14 981 m<sup>3</sup>**  
estimated amount  
of water saved

**477**  
University  
concession season  
passes

## Energy efficiency and environmental and territorial conservation

Ca' Foscari is involved in refurbishing its infrastructures in a green perspective to improve energy management as well as preserving Venice's complex ecosystem.

**Monitoring energy consumption:** remote gas and electricity sensing systems have been installed which allow for an automatic and real-time meter reading model. A comparative database has also been produced thanks to a shared control procedure with ASIA (Real Estate and Purchasing Area) optimizing the recording of electricity, gas and water consumptions as drawn from the bills.

**Monitoring water consumption:** a database was created in 2012 to put together data from bills and to evaluate the possibility of using remote sensing systems to allow for a constant check of water consumption and a prompt stop to wastage in case of breakages or leaks.

**Plant management:** census and testing of University plant equipment and checks of the central heating systems running costs have begun. Several works were carried out to cut down water consumption.

**Building works:** "water mist" fire protection systems have been installed in the library storerooms of Ca' Bernardo, structural and plant maintenance works for a maximum of € 100 000.00 have been scheduled to start as prioritized on the checklist. A census of all the University buildings was carried out by order of the Prefecture of Venice. An in-depth evaluative study of the seismic resistance of University offices and a plan for subsequent retrofitting interventions will result.

**Use of renewable energy sources:** a project to install a photovoltaic system at the Campus in Via Torino is underway.

**LEED certifications:** a University policy on cleaning, green buying, waste and smoking was drafted in 2012. A Feasibility Study and pre-requisite validation reports were drawn up. Recommendations on how to maximise central heating efficiency at the University Central Administration were also made. Finally, a partnership was entered into with the firms Habitech and Coster. Ca' Foscari is the oldest building in the world certified LEED EB:O&M, the protocol developed by the US Green Building Council (USGBC).



### Risk analysis for the use of chemical, physical and radioactive

**substances:** a risk evaluation for cancerous materials was completed in 2012. As a result a contract with an external firm was signed to further evaluate the risks involved in the use of chemical, physical and radioactive substances

**Ra.Di.Ca. - Recycling at Ca' Foscari:** in 2012, separate waste collection was extended to the University buildings in Venice and Mestre as foreseen by the Ra.Di.Ca. (Recycling at Ca' Foscari) Project. An ongoing evaluation of the current waste management situation has been carried out and a new continuing monitoring system has started with Post-it notes and printed stickers.

**Sustainable mobility:** submit the LEED questionnaire on means of transport used for commuters, renew concession season passes for trains, buses and waterbuses; request bike sharing stands in via Torino

### Consumptions trend

	2011	2012	variation
electricity [kWh]	8 152 994	8 660 858	+ 6 %
gas [Sm <sup>3</sup> ]	849 622	898 651	+ 5,8 %
water [m <sup>3</sup> ]	116 902	119 257	+ 2 %

Increased energy and water consumptions are the result of recent installations and water plants and their new use. Energy was not saved in 2012 as the older, existing plants and installations are still operating.

### Carbon Management

A new and more efficient system of data collection has been created with the support of the Energy Manager Office. This system collects past consumption information, calculates CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and converts data into TOE (tonne of oil equivalent). Our commitment continues in 2013 by formulating and implementing a carbon footprint reduction plan for 2013-2015.

**ISO 14064-3:2006 Certification:** Bureau Veritas Italia has certified the inventory of GHG emissions in accordance to the ISO 14064-3:2006 norm for 2011.

### GHG emissions

Scope	2011 t CO <sub>2</sub> eq	2012 t CO <sub>2</sub> eq	variation
1	1 762	1 873	+6%
2	3 025	3 286	+8,6%
3	7 481	7 711	+3%
<b>TOTALE</b>	<b>12 268</b>	<b>12 870</b>	<b>+4,9%</b>

**Scope 1:** All direct GHG emissions

**Scope 2:** Indirect GHG emissions from consumption of purchased electricity, heat or steam.

**Scope 3:** Other indirect emissions, such as the extraction and production of purchased materials and fuels, transport-related activities in vehicles not owned or controlled by the University, electricity-related activities (e.g. T&D losses) not covered in Scope 2, outsourced activities, waste disposal, etc.

### Emissions per student and per activity

	2011 Kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	2012 Kg CO <sub>2</sub> eq	variation
Student	634	633	-0,2%
Staff working day	120	119	-0,9%





# community

## Shared sustainability

Ca' Foscari supports sustainability for both its internal and external stakeholders. The University is committed to developing a system of Sustainable Public Procurement, to consolidating relationships with other institutions and to offering information about conservation and sustainability at events to the wider community.

**5**  
**social and environmentally sustainable calls for bids and tenders**

**5**  
**international thematic networks**

**31**  
**press releases on sustainability**

**68**  
**news on sustainability website**

**14**  
**events dedicated to sustainability**

### **Criteria for social and environmentally friendly buying:**

Ca' Foscari's "Procurement of value for money Works, Services and Supplies Regulation" foresees that, where possible, specific eco-friendly procedures be introduced to identify purchases of lower environmental impact.

**Sustainability Archives:** the Sustainability Archives (ArcSos) is a project which aims at making multimedial documents available for inspection. These documents are prevalently scientific and dedicated to an integrated sustainability (ethical, environmental, economic, social and cultural) as well as environmental toxicology and health matters. While operating as a library, the Archives also offer Orientation Tutor and Diffuse Tutor services as well as organize promotional events.

**International Recognition:** Ca' Foscari was positioned as the most sustainable university in Italy according the "UI Greenmetric World Universities Ranking 2012" and placed at 90th at international level.

**National Recognition:** FORUM PA – 10X10 Quality Accounts (Public Administration Forum) chose our Carbon Management Project from the ten best projects developed within the Italian Public Service. The paper "Ca' Foscari e la sostenibilità ambientale: il calcolatore informatico di CO<sub>2</sub>" (Ca' Foscari and environmental sustainability: CO<sub>2</sub> software program) was included in the best practices of the Veneto Region in their 2012 Regional Statistics Report.



## Ca' Foscari sociale

In 2012 the University launched the "Ca Foscari sociale" project to boost the university community's cooperation with the Veneto Region's non-profit associations. This was done with a view to meeting the real needs of voluntary services in the area.

Project objectives are to increase awareness of the University's civic role and, at the same time, to value individuals' professionalism taking part in the territorial welfare sphere. All members of the university community are invited to join in the project. Participation is solely on a voluntary basis and is expected to engage those involved outside normal working hours in support of non-profit associations and boards.

## Internazionali networks

Aware that sustainability requires a global perspective, Ca' Foscari is dedicated to the ongoing sharing of its results and best practices internationally. Not only a member of Global Compact Network Italia and adopting the PRME - Principles for Responsible Management Education, in 2012 the University joined 3 international networks:

- GUPES - The Global Universities Partnership on Environment for Sustainability, created by the UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme) in June 2012;
- ISCN - International Sustainable Campus Network;
- International Association of Universities network, the worldwide UNESCO Higher Education Institutions, developing actions in the field of HESD - Higher Education and Sustainable Development.

The University also took part in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development - Rio+20 and became a member of the Higher Education Institutions Initiative - HEI, which aims to highlight the role of universities and research in the field of sustainable development.

Ca' Foscari  
sociale



WE SUPPORT

PRME



INTERNATIONAL  
ASSOCIATION OF  
UNIVERSITIES

INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITIES BUREAU





## Info

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The report was finalised on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013

## Credits

Cover image by Maria Emiliana Ricciardi, who won the section "Web Gallery" of the contest "Climate change - The grand challenge" organised by Associazione Shylock C.U.T. and Sustainable Ca' Foscari

Photograph on pages 2-3 by Alessandro Venturini  
Other images by the university Communication Service

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English translation > Susan De Nardi  
Layout > Martina Gonano / Giovanni Possamai  
Print > Grafiche Veneziane





Ca' Foscari  
University  
of Venice



ELEMENTAL  
CHLORINE  
**FREE**  
GUARANTEED



LONG-LIFE  
  
ISO 9706

HEAVY METAL  
**FREE**  
E 94/02