

# Green Impact Project Case Study

## Veg Patch Creation

### Background

Institution: University of Sheffield

Team Name: SITraN

No. of years participating in Green Impact: 7

### Highlights

- The main highlight was the togetherness shown in the department by different staffing groups and students and a shared interest
- The food harvested will be enjoyed by SITraN as well as the donation to a foodbank to help others

### Description

*Please write less than 200 words about your case study; what you did, how you did it, where it happened, who was involved, the impact it had and any other relevant information.*

At SITraN we have created a vegetable patch in the grounds of SITraN, when completed it will be a place that staff and students, as well as people from the local community can come to relax and help maintain the area with watering, pruning and harvesting on lunch breaks, this is important to the well-being of everybody.

We had an unsightly overgrown area that was transformed into a vegetable plot, we tested soil quality and added top soil to increase the chances of growth and therefore success.

We sent a survey via Google, which we had 28 responses, asking if people would like to help create and/or maintain the patch as well as what people would like to see grown and if they could donate anything to help the cause. We also asked if people had eaten home-grown produce before and if they intend to eat home-grown produce in the future, we will repeat this survey at the end of the growing season to compare the responses.

As we had poor weather and winter we were unable to get anything growing in time for the deadline, we therefore will start planting soon and will keep you updated on our progress throughout this year.

We envisage this project to be a huge success and enjoyed by all.

Photographs



## Self Assessment

### Team engagement

The team were all keen to get the vegetable patch started and also eager to start planting and all team members would like to upkeep the patch, **(5 points)**

### Reach

As mentioned in the pipette tip box case study, we have a Sheffield Hallam student that engages in Green Impact each year, they were a part of this project and enjoyed their time. Members of the department that are not in the team were keen to get involved this was shown by idea suggestions, donations of seeds and pots and offers of help in the survey.

I spent the morning at Rivelin Primary School to tell the reception class children how they could re-use plastic (such as empty yoghurts pots) to grow things. I also brought in some home-made compost and spoke to the children on what they could use to make their own compost. This compost was used, along with some seeds that I had donated they were cut-and-come-again plants – lettuce, chard and mixed herbs for the children to cultivate, harvest and eat themselves to show them the benefits of re-using the plastic pots, making compost and sowing the seeds. Having been to the school again to check on progress, all three types have now sprouted (I didn't have my phone to take a photo) and the teacher said all the children were enjoying the experience and excited to grow the plants and eat the produce.

**(10 points)**

### Creativity

I think that this idea is quite creative and I guessing that there are not many University departments that have their own vegetable patch. **(5 points)**

### Impact & measurability

As this project is in its early stages we are hoping to either donate the produce to food banks, we could weigh the food or itemise it, or charge members of the department a fee to take the produce, of which the money could be donated to a worthy cause. So we do have options, we are not sure which to go with yet. **(8 points)**

### Proportionality

With the amount of interest in the project by the department it will definitely be ongoing, we may ask a an external speaker to attend so that staff, students and local residents can learn more about growing their own produce. I think it will take quite a few members of the team to keep on top of the maintenance and so the outcome would be proportional to the team size and given the difference that the area will make. **(5 points)**

**Replication**

We were talking of extending the vegetable patch size in the future, it would not be easily replicated but definitely achievable, as would the prospect of another team making their own vegetable patch too (space dependant). **(5 points)**

**Legacy**

As mentioned above, the keen interested taken by everybody will keep this project going, the enjoyment to be had and the good that we can do will push people to sustain the area. **(5 points)**

**Outcome**