



Taylor & Francis
by informa•••

Publishing with purpose:

Sustainable Impact Report



Welcome

At Taylor & Francis, our purpose is to foster human progress through knowledge. This commitment drives our sustainability efforts, as we strive to create a positive impact on society and the environment.

Our sustainability program focuses on reducing our environmental footprint, advancing equitable access to knowledge, supporting the global journey towards achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and creating a positive impact in our communities.

In this report, we share stories of our impact across these areas. We highlight our significant progress in reducing waste and emissions in our print supply chain, as well as our work to quantify the impact of digital products.

We also demonstrate how the breadth and depth of our publishing programs champion sustainability through content that addresses global challenges, increasing open access research, and aligning with the UN SDGs.

Finally, we explore the programmes and partnerships that help enhance research access and accessibility, support researcher training and development, and positively impact the communities where we operate.

Inside this report



Our path to net zero

See pages 4 to 7



Championing sustainability through quality content

See pages 8 to 11



Driving equity and participation in scholarly publishing

See pages 12 to 14



Supporting our communities

See pages 15 to 19

Progress at a glance 3

Our path to net zero 4

From overproduction to optimization: building a sustainable book supply chain	5
Digital publishing and sustainability	6
Pioneering plastic-free packaging for journals	7

Championing sustainability through quality content 8

Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals: progress through publishing	9
Publishing for quality education	10
Resources for sustainable development	11

Driving equity and participation in scholarly publishing 12

Reducing barriers to knowledge: our positive impact since 2020	13
Advancing accessibility in education and research	14

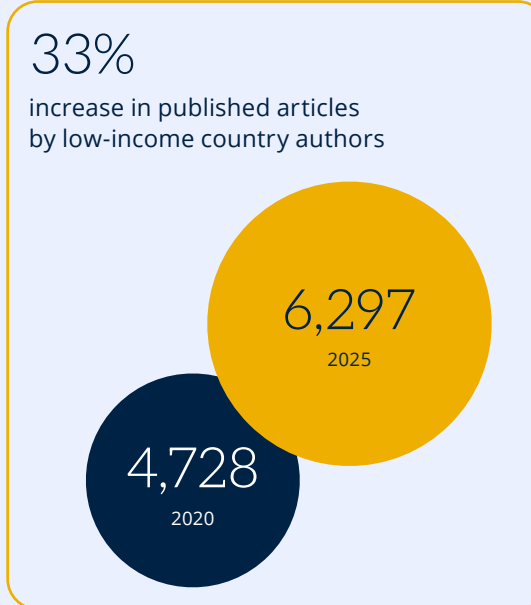
Supporting our communities 15

Walking the world for charity	16
Supporting literacy through reading volunteering	17
Helping communities support children's education	18
Sprouting success in Bengaluru	19

Progress at a glance

Driving sustainability through purposeful publishing

How we've cut supply chain emissions and waste, addressed global challenges through impactful research, and expanded access to knowledge.



>70,000 researchers trained from low-income countries since 2020

>18,000 financially disadvantaged authors' open access fees waived since 2020

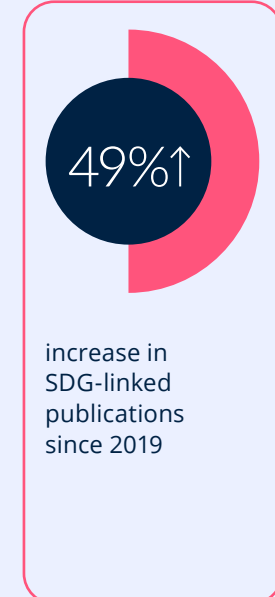


- Our aims and achievements**
- Remove barriers to knowledge and advance scholarly diversity
 - Increase research addressing global challenges
 - Reduce supply chain emissions & waste

£17m in value has been delivered to charities, non-profits, and individuals through our development initiatives since 2020

>90% of journal titles are now mailed plastic-free, up from 60% in 2021

28,930 Number of SDG-linked articles cited in policy documents since 2019



Over 35% reduction in print supply chain emissions since 2019

Our path to net zero

Our commitment

To respond to the urgent challenges of a changing world, we are taking steps to reduce our carbon and waste footprint. This work supports our commitment to becoming a net zero carbon and zero waste business by 2030.

In this chapter

From overproduction to optimization: building a sustainable book supply chain	5
Digital publishing and sustainability	6
Advancing plastic-free packaging for journals	7

Progress highlights

> 35%

reduction in print supply chain emissions since 2019

80%

of books are printed on demand (up from 32% in 2019), reducing returns by >100,000 books per year

> 90%

of journal titles are mailed plastic-free, up from 60% in 2021



From overproduction to optimization: building a sustainable book supply chain

The most sustainable book is one that is read by many and used for years to come. However, it's no secret that overproduction and returns have for many years been a major driver of waste and unnecessary emissions in the publishing industry.

Improvements in print-on-demand technology since its introduction in the early 2000s have helped publishers to address this issue. At Taylor & Francis, we have spent many years transforming our global print business to better match supply with demand. This has helped reduce waste and lower emissions across our print operations.

Driving change at scale

Since 2019, we've reduced supply chain emissions in our print book and journal business by over 35%. While academic publishing has shifted toward digital formats, print remains a key focus. More than 30% of our emissions reductions come from changes in how we print, including expanded print-on-demand, increased local self-printing, and smaller print runs.

In 2019, 32% of titles were printed on demand. Today, it's nearly 80%, reducing returns by over 100,000 books annually.

>35%

reduction in print supply chain emissions since 2019

>100,000

fewer book returns each year

Overcoming challenges

One challenge with print-on-demand is the distance products travel and the transport methods used to ensure quick delivery. Transportation accounts for nearly 40% of our books' lifecycle emissions. Airfreight, while faster, is more emissions-intensive and costly. To address this, we've expanded our network of printers and distributors in core markets and partnered with couriers and freight providers with strong sustainability practices. This reduces delivery times and transport emissions, while providing customers more purchasing options.

Our approach to offsetting

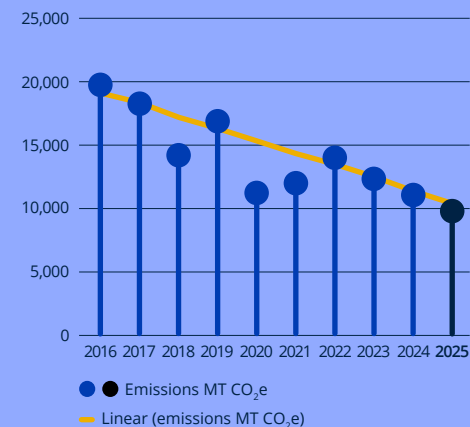
After minimizing emissions as much as possible, we use high-quality, third-party certified carbon offsets to compensate for unavoidable emissions. These offsets provide co-benefits such as poverty alleviation, health improvements, education, and nature conservation.

Focusing on the future

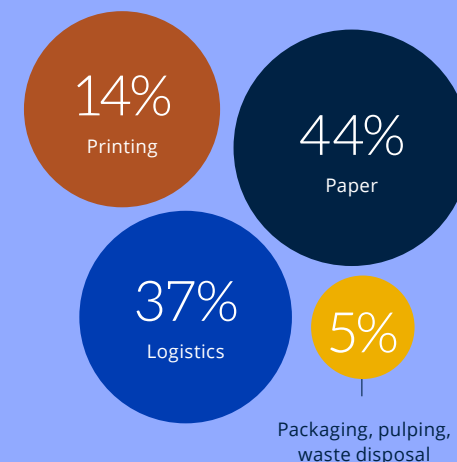
Our work to reach net zero emissions and waste across our business operations and print supply chain is far from complete. We firmly believe in the value of print publications and remain committed to investing in initiatives that better match supply with demand and reduce unnecessary waste. Going forwards, we will expand our focus to include working with printers to encourage 100% renewable energy usage, improving recyclability of packaging used by our suppliers, lower emission transport options, and sourcing lower carbon paper stocks.

Find out more about our progress and performance against our wider organisational climate and Science Based Targets

Supply Chain Emissions (thousands)



Print Emissions by Activity



Digital publishing and sustainability

The rise of ebooks and digital journals since the early 2000s has dramatically transformed publishing, research, and education. In recent years, much has been made of the scalability, accessibility and particularly the lower environmental impact of digital products. But with our growth in digital offerings and integration of AI systems into the publishing process, it's important to increase our understanding of the climate change impacts of these digital products.



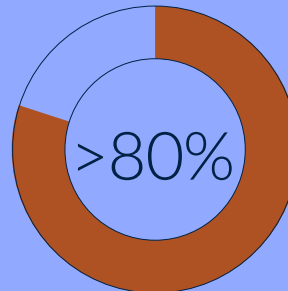
Since 2020, Taylor & Francis has participated in the Digital Impact project (DIMPACT) – a pioneering initiative to understand the carbon footprint of digital content and its consumption. Mapping and measuring the impact of digital platforms is notoriously complex, but using DIMPACT's carbon calculator has allowed us to understand the emissions associated with our ebooks and journals platforms.



This work has revealed that:

10–16x

E-books and digital journals are between 10 and 16 times less emissions intensive than their physical counterparts



of digital emissions come from users reading and downloading content



Future focus:

Going forwards, we are turning our attention to the environmental impact that AI is having on all areas of publishing and content consumption. Our two main areas of focus include using server and software providers whose data centres utilise and invest in renewable energy, and continuing our participation in the DIMPACT project and cross-publisher initiatives that seek to understand the benefits and impacts of AI across the full value chain.



Find out more about AI at [Taylor & Francis and our AI policy](#).

Advancing plastic-free packaging for journals

Over the past decade, we have been increasing the transition of journal readership to digital first. However, we still have many publications where customers prefer physical copies. In 2020, we started working on a variety of initiatives to remove plastic packaging. This included pilots to test alternative packaging approaches, such as potato starch wrap, paper envelopes, and mailing without any packaging.

Customers prefer zero plastic

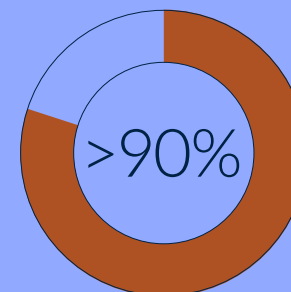
The results of these initial trials showed that readers overwhelmingly preferred plastic-free packaging options, and that journals mailed without any packaging arrived in very good condition. In 2023, we took things a step further and worked with our suppliers to roll out paperwrap for all titles printed and mailed from the UK. Unlike paper envelopes, which can often be torn in transit, paperwrapped journals consistently reached their recipient with little or no damage. It also enabled the insertion of additional materials, such as flyers, while complying with global shipping standards. To further minimize environmental impact, the paperwrap used comes from certified, responsibly managed sources.

As of 2025, over 90% of our journal titles are now mailed completely plastic-free. This has saved over 20 tonnes of single-use plastic packaging in the past 5 years. In addition to eliminating the remaining plastic packaging from our remaining journals, we are expanding our focus to include our books business.

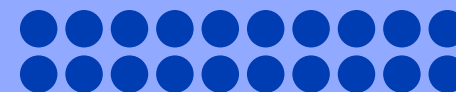
Spotlight

“ Removing plastic wrap reflects our commitment to sustainability and innovation. Looking back, I feel a deep sense of pride in how far we’ve come and the positive impact we’ve created for both the environment and our customers. ”

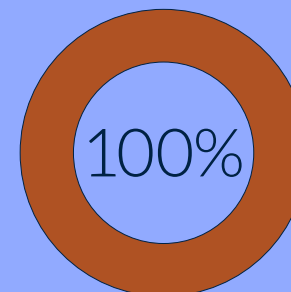
Becky Nobes
Senior Manufacturing Controller



>90% of journal titles now mailed completely plastic-free



> 20 tonnes of single-use plastic avoided



100% of UK-mailed journals now use paperwrap

Championing sustainability through quality content

Our greatest impact on the world is through the specialist content we publish, helping address society's greatest challenges.

We are committed to helping students, researchers, and professionals by equipping them with quality resources that progress sustainable development and the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In this chapter

Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals: progress through publishing	9
Publishing for quality education	10
Resources for sustainable development	11

Progress highlights*

49%

increase in SDG-linked articles published since 2019

28,930

Number of SDG-linked articles cited in policy documents since 2019

35%

of SDG research published is open access, up from 19% in 2019

38%

of the books we publish each year address at least one SDG

*Data obtained from Dimensions SDG classifier and Overton Index



Supporting the Sustainable Development Goals: progress through publishing

As a global academic publisher, we're committed to fostering progress through knowledge. We play an important role in advancing the UN SDGs by sharing research and ideas that can improve lives.

Much of our humanities and social sciences publishing maps directly to the SDGs – from social justice and inequality, to education, sustainable communities, peace and cultural heritage. We're also addressing sustainability themes through our science, technology and medicine lists, developing publishing portfolios that reflect the interconnected nature of these issues.

Growing our output and impact

Since 2020, we have published over 300,000 articles and 16,000 books focused on the themes of the SDGs. The scope of our publications has grown significantly, with over 33% of all content published annually addressing at least one of the 17 global goals. Additionally, we have increased the proportion of articles linked to these goals from 20% of all articles published each year to over 35%. This research is making a tangible impact – 28,000 articles from Taylor & Francis have been cited in policy documents by organizations such as the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization, directly influencing strategies to address poverty, health, and climate change.

Amplifying global voices

Initiatives such as Routledge India Originals help bring more perspectives into the global conversation – especially from regions where SDG challenges are most pressing. By publishing more authors from the Global South, we can help ensure that both the debate and the solutions reflect lived experience, not just theory.

Innovation through technology

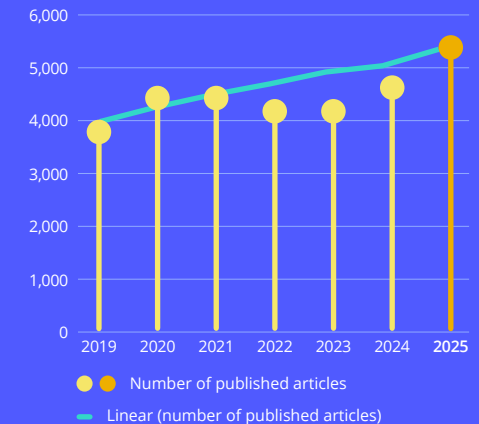
We're constantly investing in technology to make SDG research easier to publish, discover, and use. These measures include:

- **Smarter platforms:** We have advanced search tools to help readers find SDG content across millions of articles, 2,500+ journals, and 100,000+ ebooks
- **AI-enabled workflow:** AI streamlines manuscript handling, provides translation services, and enriches content with accurate tags for faster discovery
- **Data-driven commissioning:** Analytics identify emerging SDG topics and research gaps to guide commissioning
- **Custom collections:** Products such as SDG Online equip lecturers and students with curated content and resources across all 17 global goals

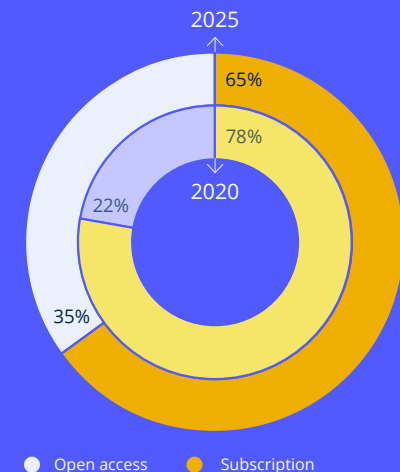
Creating lasting impact

By combining established expertise, diverse research, technological innovation, and a commitment to open access, we continue to play a vital role in the global journey toward sustainable development.

Increase in SDG-linked articles



SDG articles subscription VS. open access



Publishing for quality education

In conversation with Hannah Greenop and Alison Foyle, Senior Education Publishers

Hannah Greenop
(HG)



Alison Foyle (AF)



Q How has our publishing supported the themes of UN Sustainable Development Goal 4 – Quality Education?

HG When we talk about how our publishing supports UN SDG 4, a lot of it comes down to where we put our editorial weight. Many of our journals are anchored in SDG 4 themes, which include inclusivity, lifelong learning, literacy and numeracy, and gender disparity. We've run special journal issues on refugees, inclusive education, gender equality and language inequality. We work with societies such as the *National Science Teacher Association* to ensure the content is relevant. We've also partnered with the International Association for Human Rights Education to publish its journal, *Human Rights Education Review*, which tackles emerging issues head on.

AF From the books side, SDG 4 shows up in the choices we make about series and subject focus. Our books play their part through focused series. Series such as *Educational Leadership for an Equitable, Resilient and Sustainable Future* look at equity, inclusion and sustainability. Others – *Education Poverty and International Development*, *Perspectives on Education in Africa and Global South Perspectives on TESOL* – bring regional and social contexts to the fore. Resources such as *Teaching Sustainable Development Goals to Young Citizens* help educators embed empathy, advocacy and all 17 SDGs into their lessons.

Q Taylor & Francis and the Routledge brand are known for their extensive education portfolio. What has led to the success of our publishing program?

HG I believe our education portfolio's success is due to both range and quality. We offer more than 280 education journals, from established titles such as the *Journal of Educational Research* to new ones covering emerging topics. By maintaining high editorial standards and partnering with academic and professional societies, we make sure they serve both researchers and practitioners.

AF I'd add staying close to the field. Our editors understand education inside out, so authors trust us. We've grown our list by keeping ahead of new policies and practices and by publishing across all stages of education, from early childhood to higher education. Conferences and events keep us in touch with what educators and researchers need.

Q Over the past five years, which education topics have seen a growth in demand for research and resources?

HG If you look at the past five years, we've seen a growth in sustainability-linked topics. Journals that focus on technology and social justice have been particularly popular – *Interactive Learning Environments*, *Qualitative Studies in Education and Disability and Society*, for example. These areas speak to the need for inclusive, equitable education in a digital age.

AF We see the same pattern in books. Educators are looking for guidance on key issues such as diversity, equity and inclusion, mental health and wellbeing, culturally responsive teaching, artificial intelligence in classrooms and supporting neurodivergent children. These topics all contribute to more inclusive, sustainable education systems, and the books we publish on them have become trusted resources.

Resources for sustainable development

Sustainable Development Goals Online

A *curated interdisciplinary collection* of over 28,000 chapters, 2,700 journal articles, and 340 teaching and learning materials mapped to the United Nations' 17 SDGs.



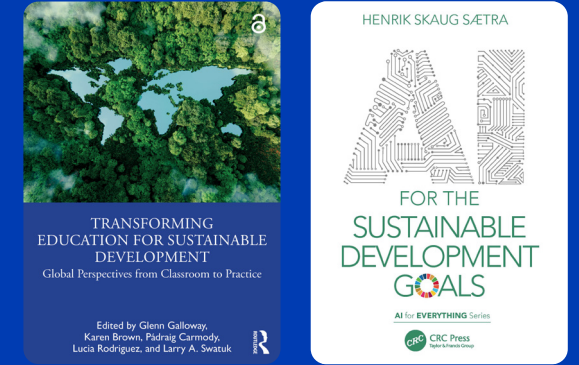
Interdisciplinary journals

All Life and *All Earth* are multidisciplinary open access journals that use the UN SDGs as the framework for collaboration and information sharing across the Life Sciences and Earth Sciences.



Books and series across the goals

Under our different imprints and series, we publish over 3,000 titles each year that address the 17 global goals across over 60 subject areas.



Open research for sustainable development

F1000 is an *open research publisher* and services provider, enabling the swift publication of different article types in over 10 gateways. The rapid and open format ensures that research addressing global challenges is made as widely and as rapidly available as possible.



Driving equity and participation in scholarly publishing

We multiply the positive impact we create by improving access to knowledge.

Through the content we publish, we help to connect and inform those who struggle to access knowledge.

We aim to reduce inequalities by:

- **Enhancing access to research and digital resources**
- **Removing financial barriers to publish open access**
- **Providing researchers with high-quality training**

In this chapter

Reducing barriers to knowledge: our positive impact since 2020 13

Advancing accessibility in education and research 14

Progress highlights

> 70,000

researchers from low-income countries trained since 2020

> 18,000

financially disadvantaged authors' open access fees waived since 2020

33%

increase in published articles by low-income country authors (from 4,728 in 2020 to 6,297 in 2025)

£17m

in value delivered to charities, non-profits, and individuals through our development initiatives since 2020



Reducing barriers to knowledge: our positive impact since 2020

Removing barriers that stop people from accessing quality content and taking part in scholarly publishing are an essential part of driving equity and inclusivity. Since 2020, our development initiatives have delivered £17m of in-kind value and reached over 189,000 individuals.

£17m

in-kind value delivered through access initiatives since 2020

189,000

individuals reached globally

>90,000

visually-impaired students equipped with free ebook access

1

We've focused on three key areas:

Enhancing access to research

We work to make research accessible in resource-constrained regions. Through Research4Life, we provide free or low-cost access to subscription content in over 120 countries. Since 2020, authors in these countries have cited our content in over 4,500 journal articles, with 52 cited in policy documents.

Our STAR program has supported independent researchers and NGO professionals in low-income countries for over 15 years, offering free access to journal articles.

To ensure accessibility for readers with visual impairments or print disabilities, we partner with BookShare (US) and RNIB Bookshare (UK). These partnerships provide free access to 95% of our ebook titles in accessible formats. Over the past five years, more than 90,000 students and educators have accessed our books through these platforms, helping to remove barriers to successful learning and research.

Users of our STAR programme tell us access to quality research helps them strengthen submissions and find the right journals for their work:

“ As a scholar from an under-resourced region, I dreamed of contributing my voice to global scholarship. T&F's STAR access programme became a crucial resource in making that dream a reality, providing me with access to top-tier articles that were unavailable through my university library during my time as a PhD student. STAR played a transformative role in my career, helping me evolve from a voiceless scholar to a confident and visible contributor to academic discourse. ”

2

Removing barriers to publish

Open access makes published academic research freely available online so that anyone, anywhere can read it and build on it. But article publishing charges can still be a hurdle for many researchers. Alongside out work on Read and Publish agreements and alternative funding models, we offer significant discounts on the article publishing charge (APC) for qualifying authors. Since 2020, more than 18,000 researchers have benefited from either 50% discounts or complete fee waivers, helping to ensure that their work is free to read from the point of publication.

3

Providing high-quality training

Training and resources help researchers build skills and confidence in publishing and peer review. Each year, we conduct close to 100 free workshops, many tailored to regional needs. Over the past five years, we've supported over 70,000 researchers from lower-income countries to develop their publishing and peer review skills. This is part of our wider work to strengthen diversity, equity, and inclusion in scholarly publishing.

Advancing accessibility in education and research

At Taylor & Francis, accessibility is a core value embedded in our mission to make education and research inclusive for all.

We are dedicated to ensuring our products, services, and platforms are accessible, enabling everyone, regardless of ability, to benefit from our content.

Our approach goes beyond compliance, aiming to create content that is 'born accessible.' This means accessibility is integrated from the start of the creation process. As signatories of the UK Publishing Accessibility Action Group (PAAG), we encourage the publishing industry and academic communities to adopt this mindset. By embedding accessibility into our business culture, we ensure continuous improvement and innovation.

We follow internationally recognized standards, including the W3C's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2 AA Standard, ensuring our content is perceivable, operable, understandable, and robust. This allows seamless compatibility with assistive technologies, such as screen readers, while ensuring clear communication for all users.



Received the 2021 International Excellence Award for Accessible Publishing from the Accessible Books Consortium.

Our achievements include being a Global Certified Accessible™ (GCA) publisher, a DAISY Consortium Inclusive Publishing Partner, and earning a Gold ranking ASPIRE Publisher Score of 100%. In 2021, we also received the International Excellence Award for Accessible Publishing from the Accessible Books Consortium.

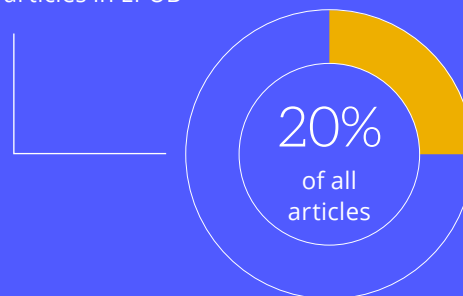
With 95% of our ebooks available in PDF and electronic publication (EPUB) formats, over 180,000 titles in EPUB3, and 100% of journals published in HTML, PDF, and EPUB formats, we are making significant strides. Looking ahead, we remain committed to enhancing accessibility, expanding image descriptions, and ensuring ancillary materials meet compliance standards to empower all learners and researchers.

Accessibility in numbers



180,000+
ebooks in EPUB3, the most accessible format

1 million
journal articles in EPUB



20,000
ebook titles published with 100% alt text since 2022

12,332
journal articles published with alt text since 2022

Supporting our communities

At Taylor & Francis, we aim to promote a positive future for everyone through our work. This includes community involvement through corporate fundraising, charity partnerships, donations, and volunteering.

In this chapter

Walking the world for charity	16
Supporting literacy through reading volunteering	17
Helping communities support children's education	18
Sprouting success in Bengaluru	19



Walking the world for charity



“ Walk the World is the highlight of the year for many colleagues. Spending time together outside, reconnecting, and fundraising for local charities, always makes it a special day. Walk the World is something we’re really proud of! ”

Catherine Hodgson
Senior Sustainability Manager

The idea behind Walk the World is simple. Every year, colleagues from all over the world get the opportunity to spend a day away from work, take part in a walk, and raise money for local causes that matter to them.

From New Delhi to Cape Town, and from Philadelphia to the streets of London, we’ve been walking the world for over 10 years!

£200,000+

raised since 2021

70+

charities supported

50+

walks in 5 years



Supporting literacy through reading volunteering

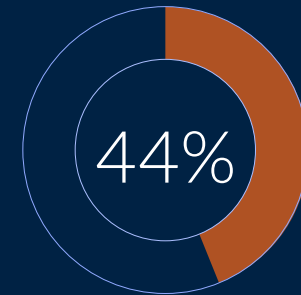
Since 2020, Taylor & Francis has partnered, in the UK and US, with Chapter One – a literacy charity that connects corporate volunteers with primary school children for weekly, 30-minute online reading sessions. These pupils often come from disadvantaged backgrounds and are struggling with their reading.

In the past four years, over 130 Taylor & Francis colleagues have helped foster human progress through knowledge by providing more than 1,300 hours of reading sessions and directly helping more than 200 pupils improve their literacy skills. The impact that our volunteers have had on children's literacy is truly inspiring. On average, pupils participating in the programme increase their reading level by 44% in a year. There is also a 25% increase in students reading at the expected level for their age by the end of the year compared with the beginning. 87% of teachers also report that the children show greater confidence in their reading after having weekly sessions with their reading buddy.

The positive effects of the Chapter One program also extend to our volunteers. This is what one of our long-term reading buddies has to say about the programme:

“ For over four years, I've had the joy of being a reading volunteer, and each year it becomes even more rewarding. Reading with the pupils is such a wholesome experience, and it's truly heartwarming to watch their confidence grow as they develop their reading skills. I'm so grateful to play a small part in their journey – it's a privilege that always fills my heart. ”

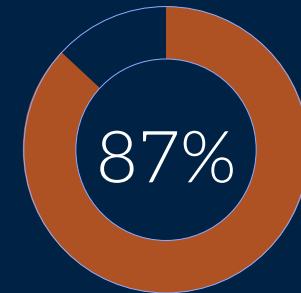
Mahnoor Butt
Deputy Production Manager, UK



average improvement in pupils' reading levels



1,300+
hours of reading sessions



of teachers report increased reading confidence



130+
colleagues volunteered

Helping communities support children's education

For many years, we have built strong community partnerships in New Delhi focusing on children's educational upliftment and wellbeing. We started our journey over 5 years ago by partnering with Ina Raja Memorial Education Trust (IRMET) – an organization that provides free remedial education and skills training to over 150 children from underprivileged backgrounds and builds their confidence through theatre, music, and art.

We have since expanded our community partnership program and work with the National Federation of the Blind of India (NFB), the largest self-help organization for the blind in India, Nirantar Prayas, an NGO working to support children and adults with autism and other intellectual disabilities, and the Kamalini Vocational Training Centre run by the Educational & Development Initiatives (EDI), supporting vocational training for women facing social and economic challenges.

Our support has helped educate students on aspects of nutrition and medical care, as well as providing accessible and equitable education, skills enhancement, social inclusion and job-readiness.



Sports Day with Nirantar Prayas



Walk for Autism event



Women attending a training session at Kamalini



Representatives from all community partners

Since 2020, these partnerships, along with our financial support have helped over 600 students receive improved levels of education, positively impacting 1,000 families. Our work with NFB has helped equip over 20,000 visually impaired students with accessible learning materials, and we've helped over 60 students to secure employment.

The close partnerships we have built in New Delhi are a source of pride for our colleagues and create strong and purposeful connections within the wider community that we continue to nurture.

Sprouting success in Bengaluru

The Green Prints initiative was launched by our Bengaluru office to connect colleagues with environmental stewardship and sustainability opportunities. It also contributes to improving local biodiversity through the creation of forested areas. Green Prints also commemorates colleagues' work anniversaries and career milestones by planting trees, fostering a culture of longevity and environmental responsibility.

Our inaugural sapling plantation drive, in 2024, saw the planting of 250 saplings at the Railway Hospital in New Yelahanka Town, with enthusiastic participation from colleagues, senior leaders, and community members. Since then, we have worked with Sankalptaru to expand our reach with two further programs: an Urban Plantation initiative and a Rural Livelihood program. Together, these efforts resulted in the planting of 3,000 saplings, addressing both environmental and economic needs. The Rural Livelihood program, in collaboration with Sankalptaru, supports farmers by planting fruit-bearing and arecanut saplings, enhancing biodiversity and providing sustainable income opportunities.

Through volunteer participation, geotagging for transparency, and ongoing maintenance, we look forward to growing the impact and reach of our Green Prints program.

“ Our Green Prints initiative prioritizes environmental needs while empowering communities with sustainable livelihoods. It also celebrates our colleagues' service milestones through meaningful sapling plantations. ”

**Lalita Gowda -
Green Prints Lead**





Taylor & Francis
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