Akademia WSB

WSB University

SDG 2
Tracker Report
2025

2 ZERO HUNGER



Zero Hunger: WSB University's SDG 2 Report 2025

WSB University (Akademia WSB), Dąbrowa Górnicza · Reporting year 2025

Executive summary

WSB University contributes to SDG 2 in three areas:

- **Nutrition-related health:** research and clinical education addressing malnutrition in all its forms, including overweight and obesity.
- **Agri-food partnerships:** new partnerships with the agricultural and food sector in Poland and abroad.
- **Community food security:** charitable action that supports food security for children and families in the region.

Key results for the reporting year:

- **Obesity research:** Collegium Medicum presented research on obesity and treatment adherence at the 2025 conference of the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO) in Málaga, challenging stereotypes about patients living with obesity.
- **Care procedures:** within the EduLider project, a WSB team developed care procedures for patients with overweight and obesity, one of eight applied research projects funded by the Just Transition Fund.
- **Nutritional therapy in nursing:** in October 2025 WSB launched a Master's programme in Nursing that includes nutritional therapy and therapeutic education of patients with chronic diseases such as diabetes.
- **Urban agriculture:** WSB was a partner of the Agriverde Start-up conference (27 March 2025) on urban agriculture, environmental start-ups and green innovation.
- **Agricultural partnerships:** the University concluded a cooperation agreement with the Silesian Chamber of Agriculture and opened talks on cooperation with Tashkent State Agrarian University in Uzbekistan.
- **Children's food security:** the University's community supported children's food security through the charity run for Dom Aniołów Stróżów, a Katowice center providing warm meals to children from socially excluded families.

Context

SDG 2 aims to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. Its targets cover:

- access to safe and sufficient food (2.1);
- the elimination of all forms of malnutrition, which the World Health Organization defines as including both undernutrition and overweight and obesity (2.2);
- the productivity and incomes of food producers (2.3);
- sustainable food production systems (2.4);
- investment in agricultural research (2.a).

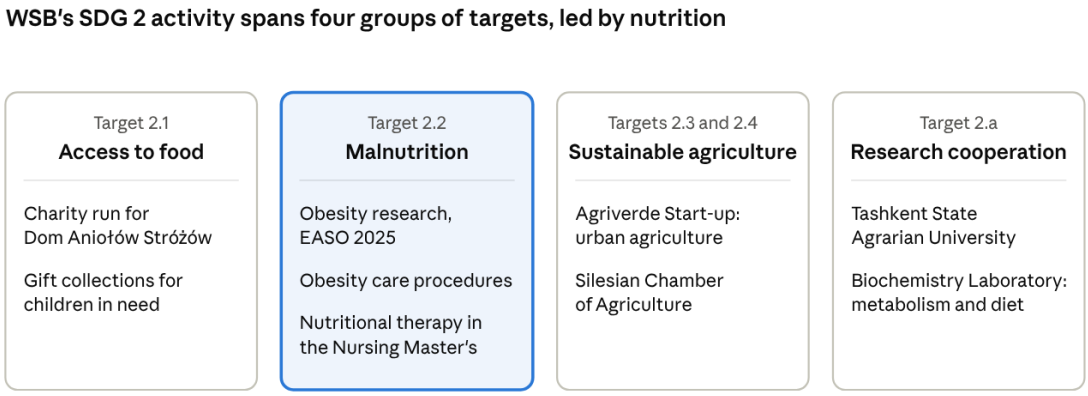
For universities, the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings assess contributions through research on hunger and nutrition, support for food security in the student body and the local community, and engagement with the agricultural and food sector.

WSB University's academic profile centers on management, health sciences, security and engineering. Its contribution to SDG 2 draws on these established strengths:

- **Collegium Medicum:** medical and health-sciences expertise, relevant to nutrition-related disease.
- **Applied research:** research funded through regional programmes.
- **Business and regional partnerships:** an extensive network that now reaches the agricultural sector.
- **Social engagement:** the activity of its community in support of families and children in need.

In Poland, as across Europe, overweight and obesity are a widespread form of malnutrition, and food insecurity is concentrated among families in difficult social situations. Both correspond directly to areas in which the University is active.

Contribution by SDG 2 target



WSBU activities relevant to SDG 2 by target · 2025 and 2025/26 academic year

The University's contribution is most developed under target 2.2, where the expertise of Collegium Medicum addresses overweight and obesity through research, care procedures and the education of nurses. Partnerships with the agricultural sector, established in 2025 and the 2025/26 academic year, extend the University's engagement towards sustainable agriculture and agricultural research.

Nutrition and health: research and education

Research on obesity and treatment

At the conference of the European Association for the Study of Obesity in Málaga (11–14 May 2025), Prof. Monika Bąk-Sosnowska of Collegium Medicum presented research on the relationship between body mass index and medication adherence in chronically ill patients. The study found that patients with obesity show greater engagement in their treatment than commonly assumed. This finding challenges

negative stereotypes and supports efforts to reduce the stigmatisation of people living with obesity. The presentation strengthened WSB's position in research on the health and psychological determinants of obesity.

Applied research: care procedures for patients with overweight and obesity

EduLider (2024–2026) is financed by the European Funds for Silesia programme from the Just Transition Fund. It funded eight applied research and innovation projects carried out by WSB teams. One of them developed care procedures for patients with overweight and obesity. This translates research into practical solutions for healthcare providers in the region.

Research infrastructure

The Biochemistry Laboratory of Collegium Medicum provides facilities for the analysis of metabolic, enzymatic, inflammatory and oxidative processes. Its main research directions include:

- oxidative stress and antioxidant capacity in relation to age, lifestyle, physical activity, nutrition and health-promoting interventions;
- the metabolism of carbohydrates, lipids and proteins.

These areas form the biological basis for research on diet-related disease.

Education of health professionals

In October 2025 WSB launched a second-cycle programme in Nursing. It develops competences in nutritional therapy, coordinated care and the therapeutic education of patients with chronic diseases, including diabetes and cardiovascular disease. The Master's programme in Cosmetology prepares graduates to work in interdisciplinary teams with dietitians, dermatologists and other specialists.

Health education in the community

Further activities promote healthy lifestyles and nutrition in the community:

- **Older adults:** the Patient Club of the Third Age University, run with the "Z sercem do Pacjenta" Foundation, offered health-promoting lectures with stands on disease prevention.
- **Health screening:** Collegium Medicum staff and students provided free blood glucose and blood pressure measurements and skin assessments at the 1st Silesian Conference of Pharmaceutical Technicians.
- **Young people:** the Erasmus+ project JUDO (EUR 250,000, 2024–2026) prepares materials that help sports clubs promote a healthy lifestyle among young people, particularly in smaller communities.

Agriculture and food systems partnerships

Urban agriculture and green innovation

On 27 March 2025 WSB was a partner of the Agriverde Start-up conference, held at the KSSENON business accelerator in Żory. It was organised by the Żory Development Agency with the Katowice Special Economic Zone, the City of Żory, KSSENON and the Silesian Startup Foundation. The programme brought together researchers, entrepreneurs and environmental activists from the region. It included:

- presentations on urban agriculture and green innovation;
- workshops on go-to-market strategies and investor pitches;
- panel discussions on sustainable development and technological breakthroughs;
- networking sessions for residents, start-ups and support institutions.

The event connected WSB's entrepreneurship support with the emerging sector of agri-food and environmental start-ups in a post-industrial city.

Silesian Chamber of Agriculture

In the 2025/26 academic year WSB signed a cooperation agreement with the Silesian Chamber of Agriculture, the statutory self-government of farmers in the Silesian Voivodeship. The agreement provides for:

- joint educational, scientific and research and development initiatives;
- postgraduate studies, training and courses for the agricultural sector;
- the development of programmes and specializations that respond to the needs of the regional economy.

The partnership gives the University a direct channel to the region's farmers and their organizations.

International cooperation in agricultural research

In the 2025/26 academic year Vice-Rector Prof. Katarzyna Szczepańska-Woszczyna represented WSB at the Congress of Universities of the European Union and Central Asia in Samarkand. The congress brought together more than 150 universities and the ministers responsible for higher education in Poland and Uzbekistan. During the visit, WSB held talks with Tashkent State Agrarian University on cooperation in research, international projects and joint education. As the University notes, modern agriculture combines technology, management, food security, logistics, economics and sustainable development, and requires interdisciplinary and international cooperation, particularly in the face of climate change.

Sustainable supply chains and the circular economy

WSB's postgraduate programmes in the Green Competences series, including Logistics Manager and Sustainable Development Manager, cover reverse logistics, waste reduction and the circular economy. These competences apply directly to reducing loss and waste in supply chains. The EduLider project, financed by the Just Transition Fund, also developed an interactive "EkoŚcieżka" (Eco-Path) for environmental education.

Food security in the community

Support for children from excluded families

In 2025 the AWSB Running Team took part in the sixth "Tauron Biegnij dla Aniołów" charity run. The run supports Dom Aniołów Stróżów in Katowice, an organisation that has cared for years for children from families affected by social exclusion. The center gives children a place to do homework, eat a warm meal and speak with a psychologist. University students also organized gift collections for children in need, combining practical help with the development of social responsibility.

The University's charitable activity also includes participation in the nationwide "Szlachetna Paczka" (Noble Gift) programme. Together with the Student Government, WSB prepared parcels containing food products, household furniture, toys and gifts for a family in need.

Material support for students

The University's support system enables students in a difficult financial situation to meet their basic living needs during their studies:

- social scholarships;
- scholarships for students with disabilities;
- one-off hardship grants of up to PLN 5,000, available twice per academic year to students in temporary difficulty.

Volunteering and social policy

The European Solidarity Corps project "United in Action" (2025) engaged international volunteers in activities against social exclusion with children, students and older people. In the 2025/26 academic year WSB also concluded a partnership with the Regional Social Policy Centre of the Silesian Voivodeship. It covers joint education, research and student placements, and strengthens the University's links with the institutions responsible for supporting families in need.

Continuing activities in 2026

The activities begun in 2025 and the 2025/26 academic year continue in 2026:

- **Silesian Chamber of Agriculture:** the cooperation agreement provides a framework for joint education, postgraduate programmes and research for the regional agricultural sector.
- **Tashkent State Agrarian University:** talks continue on cooperation in research, international projects and joint education, extending WSBU's engagement in agricultural research to Central Asia.
- **Nursing:** the second-cycle Nursing programme, including nutritional therapy, completes its first full year.
- **EduLider:** the project, including its research on care for patients with overweight and obesity, concludes in June 2026.
- **Biochemistry Laboratory:** research on metabolism, lifestyle and nutrition continues.
- **Community engagement:** the University's charitable activity and cooperation with the Regional Social Policy Centre continue to support families and children in need.