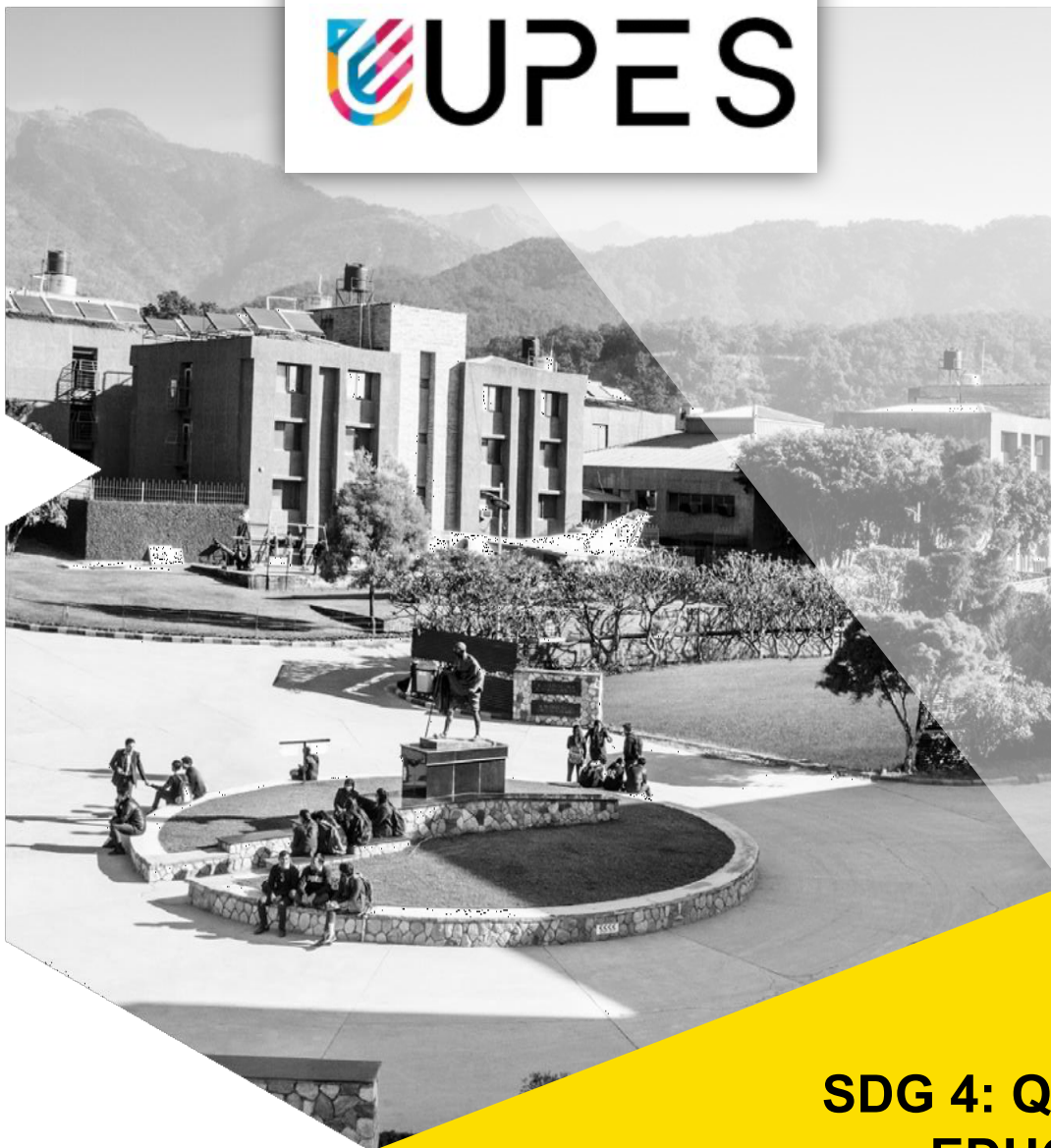# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

UPES

SDG 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

2025

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4.3.3 Does your university as a body host events at university that are open to the general public: executive education programmes (this refers to short courses for people who are not attending the university; this specifically excludes courses like MBA) and/or vocational training?

Executive Education and Vocational Training Programs at UPES (2019–2025)

UPES University (Dehradun) has hosted numerous short-term **executive education** and **vocational training** programs beyond its regular degree offerings in the past four years. These range from one-off workshops and boot camps open to outsiders, to structured continuing-education courses and community skill initiatives. Below, we categorize examples into **ad hoc** programs (single-instance events) and **programmed** offerings (recurring or scheduled training programs), with details on each:

Ad Hoc One-Time Workshops & Boot camps

Startup Uttarakhand Virtual Bootcamp 2021 (Entrepreneurship)

A one-time online bootcamp for aspiring entrepreneurs in Uttarakhand, organized by the UPES Council for Innovation and Entrepreneurship in late 2021 [1]. **Date:** Announced Nov 2021 (registrations open through Dec 15, 2021) [1]. **Description:** Intensive startup incubation workshops and pitching sessions aimed at early-stage innovators, held in collaboration with the state government's Startup Uttarakhand program. Participants received guidance on venture building, with pitching opportunities evaluated by experts. **Format:** Virtual (online sessions). **Accessibility:** Open to startup teams *outside* UPES as well, via public registration [1] (part of a state-level outreach to incubate new ventures).

DevOps Bootcamp (2024, Tech Skills)

A multi-day technical bootcamp conducted on the UPES Dehradun campus to upskill participants in DevOps tools and practices. **Date:** June 2024 (with sessions spanning several days). **Description:** Hands-on training covering DevOps and CI/CD skills (e.g. Docker, Jenkins, cloud deployment) under expert mentorship, designed to "unleash your tech superpowers." The bootcamp brought together top student developers and professionals for intensive learning and projects. **Format:** In-person

workshop series (on campus). **Accessibility:** Open to the tech community; promoted by UPES for both its students and external tech enthusiasts (advertised publicly on social media) [2].

JioGames Two-Day Gaming Bootcamp (2023, Design/Gaming)

A special one-time gaming and creative bootcamp **anchored by the UPES School of Design** in partnership with JioGames. **Date:** 2023 (two-day event, exact dates in mid-2023). **Description:** An "action-packed, two-day extravaganza" focused on game design, e-sports, and creativity [3]. Industry experts and creators held interactive sessions on game development, followed by gaming competitions and hands-on design exercises. This event infused the campus with *"non-stop energy, industry insights, and hands-on"* learning for gaming enthusiasts. **Format:** In-person camp (workshops, talks, and gaming contests on campus over 2 days). **Accessibility:** Open to the UPES student community and young gamers; organized as a public event to fuel creativity and campus tech culture [3].

(Additional examples of one-off programs include sector-specific conclaves and workshops. For instance, UPES's School of Engineering hosted an "Energy Conclave 2022" on August 23–24, 2022, bringing industry and academia together for talks and training in emerging energy trends. These short events were typically open for registration to students, professionals, and other external attendees.)

Programmed Recurring Courses & Initiatives

Runway Start-up Incubator Program (2021–Present, Entrepreneurship)

Runway is UPES's flagship startup incubation and mentoring program launched in 2021upes.ac.in. It runs in **cohorts** (e.g. "cohort 4.0" launched in 2023) and supports start-ups *"within and outside the university"*, providing a structured pathway for entrepreneursupes.ac.in. **Date Range:** 2021 onward (ongoing with multiple batches each year). **Description:** A continuing incubator/accelerator that nurtures business ideas through mentorship, seed funding, investor networking, and training in business skills. Over 250 startups have been incubated since launch, collectively raising more than ₹20 crore in fundingupes.ac.in. **Format:** Hybrid – regular mentorship meetings, workshops, and demo days (largely in-person at UPES's incubator, with some virtual interactions). **Accessibility:** Open to UPES students *and* external innovators (the incubator accepts start-ups from outside UPES as well), through a competitive selection process. Participants receive incubation support and certificates upon completion of the program.

Advanced Diploma in Industrial Safety, Health & Environment (Working Professionals, ongoing)

A 10-month **postgraduate diploma** program in occupational health, safety and environment (HSE) management, offered via UPES's Centre for Continuing Education (UPES CCE) [4].

- **Date Range:** Offered in multiple intakes from ~2020/21 through present (distance mode). **Description:** A comprehensive course for professionals in industrial sectors to become qualified safety officers. Curriculum covers industrial safety regulations, risk management, emergency response, and HSE best practices, with case studies and projects.

- **Format: Weekend online** classes (blended learning) to accommodate working professionals [4]. Total duration ~10 months; delivered via self-learning modules plus live expert-led sessions [4].

- **Accessibility:** Open to **external** applicants with a technical background – e.g. engineering diploma or degree holders (preferably with 2+ years experience) [5]. Participants from various industries enroll and receive a UPES diploma upon completion. *(This program exemplifies UPES's executive education certificates, focusing on upskilling the workforce; it is recognized in industry as filling a crucial safety skills gap [4].)*

ESG, Sustainability and Impact Specialist Program (2024, Executive Leadership)

- A specialized executive education short course launched by UPES's new RISE Center (Research on Impact, Sustainability & ESG) in partnership with Mahindra University and Aspire Circle [6].
- **Date:** First cohort in 2024 (two-part program: September 19–21, 2024 at UPES Dehradun, and Nov 28–30, 2024 at Mahindra Univ. Hyderabad) [6].

- **Description:** An intensive **32-hour** training program to prepare mid- and senior-level professionals for roles such as Chief Sustainability Officer or Head of ESG. Developed over four years of research, the curriculum spans 20 thematic sessions with 50+ caselets and global case studies [6]. It equips leaders with skills in impact finance, sustainable development, ESG strategy, and impact measurement.
- **Format: In-person, split into two modules** (two campus residencies of 2 days each) [6], featuring lectures, case discussions, and networking.
- **Accessibility:** Targeted at experienced professionals (ages ~35–60) across corporations, banks, NGOs, and public policy sectors who are transitioning into sustainability roles [6]. Open to external registrants nationwide; participants are selected/nominated and receive a **joint certification** from UPES and Mahindra University after completion [6].

UPES Online Post-Graduate Certificate Programs (Ongoing, Various Domains)

UPES, through its online education division, offers a portfolio of **10-month PG certificate courses** for continuing education. These are recurring programs with multiple start dates annually.

- **Date Range:** 2021–Present (rolling intakes).
- **Examples & Description:** Key offerings include **Renewable Energy Management, Oil & Gas Management, Power Management** (for energy sector skills), **Logistics & Supply Chain Management**, and tech-focused programs like **Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning, Data Science, Data Analytics** [7]. Each program is designed for working professionals seeking to upskill in a specific domain. For instance, the *PG Certificate in Data Science* covers predictive modeling, Tableau, and machine-learning techniques, aiming to help professionals transition into analytics roles.
- **Format:** Predominantly **online** learning (some in self-paced mode, others with live virtual classes; a few are *hybrid* with brief campus workshops) [7]. All are non-degree, **certificate** courses typically of 10 months duration.
- **Accessibility:** Open enrollment for anyone meeting the basic eligibility (usually a bachelor's degree; some courses prefer relevant experience). These programs are advertised to **non-UPES participants** nationwide as career-advancement credentials, with a simple application and fee-based registration process [5].

Community Skill Development Initiatives (Vocational Training, ongoing)

- As part of its social outreach, UPES also runs continuing **skill-building programs** for the community. For example, the university's **Skill Development Program for support staff** is a recurring in-house training that *"upgrades the skills of [its] support staff including security guards and housekeeping staff"* in areas like basic English, computer literacy, and life skills [8].
- **Date Range:** 2019–Present (regular annual or biannual training cycles).
- **Description:** Short training modules to improve employability and personal development for non-student groups (e.g. campus support employees, local youth, etc.), aligning with government skill missions. UPES has also provided **upskilling workshops for local prison inmates** under the Skill India Mission (to enhance livelihood options) [8].

- **Format:** In-person classes or workshops, often on campus or at the community site (e.g. a series of weekly classes over a few months).
- **Accessibility:** Targeted to specific groups outside the formal student body – e.g. university support staff, underprivileged students from local areas, or even jail inmates – usually free of cost as a CSR initiative. While not open to the general public, these vocational programs demonstrate UPES's commitment to *"lifelong learning and social impact"* through community-focused training [8].

Each of the above programs is **separate from formal degree curricula** (such as B.Tech or MBA programs). They exemplify UPES's efforts in executive and continuing education – from corporate-focused certificates and leadership workshops to grassroots vocational training. In summary, over the past four years UPES has actively hosted both one-off training events (bootcamps, workshops, conferences) and established recurring courses/initiatives, catering not only to its students but also to **external participants** seeking professional development and skill enhancement in fields like entrepreneurship, technology, public safety, energy, and beyond.

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