



UNITED NATIONS SUMMER ACADEMY 2017

Localising the 2030 Agenda

21 – 25 August 2017, Bonn, Germany

Summary



Contents

Foreword.....	ii
Preface	iii
Acknowledgements.....	iv
Summary	1
Programme	4
Schedule of AppLabs.....	6
About the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC).....	8
About the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development.....	8

Foreword

The United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) hosted the UN Summer Academy from 21 August – 25 August 2017 at its Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development in Bonn, Germany.

Now in its sixth edition, the UN Summer Academy has become an annual learning event for the Staff College, focusing on core challenges and opportunities for global development actors. Since the opening of our Knowledge Centre in Bonn in 2016, we have decided to dedicate the UN Summer Academy to sustainability issues and include concrete examples from Germany and the region of North Rhine Westphalia into our discussions.

The UN Summer Academy is a cross-cutting learning event underpinning the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development's capacity development approach, organised around six interdependent building blocks—examine, empower, partner, measure, lead, and communicate.

UN Development progress requires holistic thinking, moving beyond separate mandates and structures and exploring linkages between different thematic issues. It requires us to foster new partnerships to identify key problems and opportunities, leverage means of implementation, and facilitate joint action to ensure progress and maximise results.

We are conscious that learning events like the UN Summer Academy can never be organised in a vacuum. In fact, the city of Bonn provides the perfect setting for us to discuss not only sustainable development, but also this year's theme of localising the 2030 Agenda.

As one of four Sustainability Hubs in Germany, Bonn is a "powerhouse" for sustainable development. It is home to 20 different UN entities and around 150

international organisations, addressing sustainable development issues through scientific research, policy implementation, and knowledge transfer. In November 2017, Bonn hosted the COP 23, with over 25,000 participants from around the world in a concerted effort to maintain the momentum of the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change and accelerate its implementation. Bonn also represents localisation in action, playing an active role in sustainable cities networks, spearheading numerous sustainable development initiatives at the local level, and supporting similar efforts in its six partner cities.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is universal and rights-based. Localisation of the Agenda, where all relevant actors and stakeholders actively commit to sustainable development and play a part, is therefore key in catalysing transformative change. This report captures the discussions and reflections that took place during the Summer Academy. It is my hope that the networks forged on our campus in Bonn continue beyond the Summer Academy, sparking new partnerships and innovative solutions to leave no one behind.



Jafar Javan
Director
United Nations System Staff College

Preface

In September 2015, member states adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), reaffirming their commitment to sustainable development and pledging to ensure sustained and inclusive economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection, fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies through a new global partnership. For the first time, the world has a universal and integral plan of action for people, planet and prosperity, requiring all countries and stakeholders to act in concert.

The 2030 Agenda challenges the way development partners work, calling for a holistic understanding of sustainable development and requiring a cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder, and integrated approach, in considering all dimensions of sustainable development.

Implementing the 2030 Agenda cannot fall within the responsibility of national governments alone. Instead, it requires a whole-of-society approach, ensuring that all relevant actors and stakeholders have a seat at the table so that their interests are heard and their knowledge and capacities can be factored into implementation approaches in the long-term. It also requires recognising and scaling up local initiatives, to multiply and accelerate impact and change.

However, translating a global agenda and goals to the local level undoubtedly comes with challenges. In our discussions during this year's Summer Academy, we spoke about the need for greater awareness and understanding of the integrated approach required to catalyse sustainable development. Many also raised the sensitivities in adapting solutions to address local contexts and realities, as well as the challenges of monitoring and reporting on progress, among others. In fact, the process of localising the 2030 Agenda requires contextualising locally adapted solutions, generating trust among actors through inclusive processes and brokering political compromises aiming at societal well-being in the long-term.

Implementing the 2030 Agenda at the local level presents opportunities for more inclusive partnerships among different stakeholders—ranging from national and local governments, to the private sector and civil society—and for shaping a more democratic and participatory process that catalyses change from the ground-up. We need to enable these processes by creating safe spaces for frank and honest dialogue. This is also important for constructing a common language and a holistic understanding of the multi-dimensional nature of sustainable development, and the approaches needed to achieve it.

This year's UN Summer Academy embodied this very spirit of safe spaces and open exchanges of ideas across different sectors and stakeholders, as captured by this report. The success of the 2030 Agenda depends on action by all. The 2030 Agenda is more than a technical framework guiding development interventions. It lays out a vision for a better world that recognises that long-term social and economic progress for all will depend on the way we handle natural resources today, as well as the foundation we lay in terms of the values we transmit and the behaviours we forge in the long term.



Patrick van Weerelt
Head of Office
United Nations System Staff College
Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

Acknowledgements

To our partners

The UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development is thankful to its partners, without whose support the UN Summer Academy 2017 would not have been a success. We are particularly grateful to –

The German **Federal Foreign Office**, for its continued and enthusiastic support for the presence of the UNSSC in Bonn and for supporting us whenever necessary, including in making the very set up possible at the historic Haus Carstanjen, which provided an ideal and conducive ambience for our programme and participants;

The German **Federal Ministry of Cooperation (BMZ)**, for its financial support towards the establishment and functioning of the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development, which has made our presence in Germany possible;

The **State of North-Rhine Westphalia**, for its generous financial support towards a full-day excursion to the City of Eschweiler where participants had the opportunity to experience a real-life example of a city undergoing structural and transformational changes towards sustainable development;

The **City of Bonn**, for its active role in enabling an environment that facilitated the organisation of the UN Summer Academy in Germany's sustainability hub, and also for organising the welcome reception hosted by the Lord Mayor Ashok Sridharan at the Old Town Hall;

Engagement Global, for its generous support in sponsoring delegates from the City of Bonn, as well as from the project partner cities of Bonn, to enable them to participate in and contribute to the UN Summer Academy;

The **German Diplomatic Academy**, for selecting and co-sponsoring a delegation from Sudan, Ukraine, Egypt, Jordan, Brazil, and Bangladesh to share on their experiences in planning, coordinating, and financing programmes on sustainable development at the national level;

The **City of Eschweiler**, for warmly hosting the participants of the UN Summer Academy, and for thoughtfully curating an interesting learning experience during the excursion.

To the volunteers and the organising team

As the coordinator of the UN Summer Academy 2017, I would like to thank the people behind the scenes whose effort and commitment led to the successful completion of the weeklong programme.

The UN Summer Academy rested on the able shoulders of a group of enthusiastic volunteers who were ready to go the extra mile in ensuring the success of the Academy and that our guests, participants, and speakers were well taken care of. I am particularly grateful to Angelica Ferreira Murakami, Anna-Maria Senn, Ann-Sophie Holz, Dina Buescher, Dissa Julia Paputungan, Eldhos Vakkana, Florian van Weerelt, Laura Berger, Lionel Tchoungui Bidzogo, Mae Ballena, Mariana de Cunha Oliveira Santos, Mariana Gissele Luna Torres, Nicole Anschell, Ramona Haegele, Ruby Amor C. Barraca, and Samantha Ncube Thokozile.



Our UN Summer Academy Volunteers

The Organising Team

I am especially thankful to the organising team, including, Paramita Dutta for overseeing the overall organisation of the Academy and managing the volunteers, Paulyn Duman for overseeing all communication and outreach efforts and managing the Share Fair with over 120 participants and presenters, Mhabeni Bona for overseeing social media efforts and the launch of the UNSSC-Simpleshow Volunteer Initiative, Branca Barulli for managing the logistics and administration and liaising with all vendors and partners involved, Allison Pizzolato for managing communications with the participants and handling the backend logistics from Turin, as well as Jacqueline Liu for guiding the note taking volunteers and acting as general rapporteur. All together looked out for the welfare of our volunteers and ensured the smooth running of the programme stepping in for each other whenever needed.

Thanks to all staff at the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development for their valuable contributions in moderating sessions, organising energisers, facilitating AppLabs and supporting speakers and presenters, DJing on the boat and helping out in every possible way. Final thanks go to Patrick van Weerelt, the Head of the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development for his overall guidance and support throughout the programme and beyond.

Simona Costanzo Sow
Policy Support
United Nations System Staff College
Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

Summary

The Setting

The UN Summer Academy is an annual 5-day programme that offers executive education, learning and knowledge exchange to those working to advance sustainable development approaches. Combining academic rigour with cutting-edge thinking, it provides a platform for participants to engage in discussions on issues of relevance for the work of the UN and its partners in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

This year marked the sixth edition of the Summer Academy, held from 21 – 25 August 2017 in Bonn, Germany. Themed “Localising the 2030 Agenda”, this year’s Summer Academy focused on the different means to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at national and sub-national level, and highlighted the particular role of cities and local authorities in the process. This was also our largest edition yet, with around 90 participants, and up to 120 participants and speakers during the Share Fair, from 50 countries joining us on the lawn outside our offices in Haus Carstanjen to analyse, reflect, and discuss the opportunities and challenges to localise the 2030 Agenda.

The programme included a range of formats from presentations and panel discussions with German government agencies, UN entities in Bonn, and other experts, to 40 different AppLabs, or Application Labs, where participants could discuss a wide range of thematic areas and explore new tools within a safe space. The programme also included an excursion to Eschweiler, and a Share Fair, which featured the work of different organisations on sustainable development, providing networking opportunities for participants. A keynote address by Patricia Espinosa, Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the UN Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC) and closing remarks by Ambassador Ingrid Jung, Ambassador of Germany to the United Nations, concluded the UN Summer Academy.

Summary

By endorsing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, the world community reaffirmed its commitment to sustainable development. Through this Agenda, 193 member states pledged to ensure sustained and inclusive economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection, fostering peaceful, just, and inclusive societies through a new global partnership.

During this year’s UN Summer Academy on “Localising the 2030 Agenda”, participants discussed the **core principles of the 2030 Agenda, which is premised on the ideas of universality, leaving no one behind, interconnectedness and indivisibility, inclusiveness, and multi-stakeholder partnerships.**

In particular, participants agreed that it is important to **consider the dimensions of sustainable development in a holistic way** and to recognise the interlinkages between the different dimensions, while **using an integrated, cross-cutting, and multi-stakeholder approach** based on the 5P’s—People, Prosperity, Peace, Partnership, and Planet.

As an ambitious plan of action for not only countries and the UN system, but also for all other actors, **it is imperative that the 2030 Agenda is implemented and owned at the local level,**

driven by individuals and communities working in partnership with organisations, corporations, and national governments.

One lesson learned was that **the implementation of the 2030 Agenda must go beyond a technical exercise and requires policy coordination at the local level** to translate and align a global vision and goals with national policies. Efforts should also be viewed within a larger context due to the interconnectedness of the different dimensions of sustainable development. For example, in the area of climate action, environmental sustainability and climate change are integral to sustainable development and should not be tackled in isolation from other policy areas.

Another key takeaway was the **importance of garnering buy-in**, which is essential in gaining trust and support for efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda whether at the local or national level. Other key ideas included building on pre-existing dynamics and local contexts to catalyse sustainable solutions, and creating safe spaces for dialogue and learning, which in turn contribute to identifying innovative solutions and forging new partnerships, essential for SDG implementation.

The 2030 Agenda also highlights the importance of cultivating the “right partnerships” where all relevant actors with different backgrounds and experiences can have a seat at the table in order for their voices to be heard and equally importantly, for their capacities and expertise to be tapped on in implementation efforts. In terms of localisation, catalytic partnerships between local governments are also crucial to multiply and upscale efforts already made on the ground.

This aspect was extensively discussed during the excursion to Eschweiler, a German city between Aachen and Cologne. Previously centred on coal mining, the city is now embarking on a long-term plan to transition to renewable energies in line with nation-wide efforts to do so through the *Energiewende*. This transition continues to alter the landscape, culture, and identity of the city, which has required the local government to manage a delicate balance of views and interests from different groups of people. Overall, participants noted the long-term and comprehensive planning needed to manage such changes. In addition, solutions finally envisaged always represent political compromises, which cannot be judged as objectively right or wrong, but need to be measured against their ability to safeguard the long-term interests of a given territory, contributing to the well-being of its population, while respecting and safeguarding planetary boundaries, without harming populations elsewhere.

The 2030 Agenda is also a “game-changer” as it demands transformative thinking, and a much more democratic and participatory process.

Currently, the 2030 Agenda is often primarily viewed as a global agenda within the responsibilities of national governments. On the contrary, it must be seen as a people’s agenda. However, to get ordinary people on-board and to advocate for sustainable development, there is a need to raise public awareness of the 2030 Agenda. In this spirit, the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development and the Simpleshow Foundation jointly announced the launch of the UNSSC-Simpleshow Volunteer Initiative during the UN Summer Academy. The initiative engages people worldwide in creating simple and entertaining explainer videos about the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. As participation is an essential element of the 2030 Agenda, enabling people, and especially young people, to create accessible information will allow them to contribute directly to global efforts to address challenges and highlight opportunities for action.

Participants were also encouraged to consider the relevance of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs to their work and daily lives. They were encouraged to “walk the talk” and concretely

move forward based on the lessons learned from the UN Summer Academy. For instance, some participants said that they were now better equipped with a framework to implement the SDGs in their workplace. While others also mentioned that they would continue to contribute back to their own communities whether in terms of helping the poor and needy and thereby directly acting on the SDGs, or in terms of raising awareness of the need for an integrated approach towards sustainable development.

This call to action was also emphasised by the keynote address and discussion with Patricia Espinosa, Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the UN Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC). Ms. Espinosa pointed out **that the 2030 Agenda presents both challenges and opportunities and urged for “action by all”** to implement the changes demanded by the Agenda. She recognised that individuals, local groups, and cities have already made many changes and steps towards sustainable development. Ms. Espinosa encouraged participants to build on their understanding of the concept of and approaches to sustainable development to multiply these efforts, contributing towards a “stable, secure future where peace and prosperity flourish and opportunity is open to all”.

Key Takeaways

1. The 2030 Agenda requires a holistic and integrated approach. People, prosperity, planet, partnership and peace, also known as the 5P's, are at the heart of the Agenda. In order to achieve genuine sustainability, we must consider these five dimensions, as well as the synergies, trade-offs and spin-offs related to these dimensions.
2. Localising the 2030 Agenda means cultivating the “right partnerships”. It requires multi-stakeholder engagement and leveraging on a wide range of expertise, experiences, and knowledge to ensure that goals reflect local realities, encourage local ownership, and improve accountability.
3. The 2030 Agenda is also a “game-changer”, demanding transformative thinking and democratic processes, where all actors “walk the talk”.
4. Communicating about and advocating for sustainable development is crucial. Based on the understanding of the 5P's and the dimensions of sustainable development, we can convey a common language and understanding of the concept of sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda.
5. Approaches to sustainable development are contextual and political, and go beyond technical exercises. The purpose of a global development agenda is not to prescribe development strategies, but to provide guidance for priority setting at all levels.
6. Governments will not achieve the 2030 Agenda alone. The rights-based principle of “Leaving no one behind” must guide efforts to reach a truly sustainable result, through dialogue spaces, which are as inclusive as possible and allow all relevant actors to be truly heard.

Programme

Monday, 21 August 2017

Day One: Setting the Scene

- 9am Welcome Speech
by Patrick van Weerelt, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development
Introduction
by Simona Costanzo Sow, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development
- 10.30am Group Photograph and Tea and Coffee Break
- 11am The Concept of Sustainable Development and the 2030 Agenda: Where are we coming from and what is new?
Presentation by Simona Costanzo Sow, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development
- 12.30pm Lunch
- 2pm The Agreements behind the Agenda
Group discussions led by Simona Costanzo Sow, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development
- 2.30pm Localising the 2030 Agenda
Panel discussion with Yunus Arikon, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability; Johannes Krassnitzer, UNDP, ART Initiative; and Ilcheong Yi, UNRISD
Moderated by Simona Costanzo Sow, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development
- 3.45pm Tea and Coffee Break
- 4pm UN Bonn: The Contribution to the 2030 Agenda
Panel discussion with Pradeep Monga, UNCCD; Olivier Adam, UNV; Juan Carlos Villagran de León, UN-SPIDER, UNOOSA; and Shyamal Majumdar, UNESCO-UNEVOC
Moderated by Simona Costanzo Sow, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

- 6pm Reception at Bonn Town Hall
Hosted by the Lord Mayor Ashok Sridharan

Tuesday, 22 August 2017

Day Two

- 9am Exploring the Network
Energiser led by Ugo Caruso and Daniela Cepeda Cuadrado, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development
- 9.30am AppLab Session 1 (10 parallel workshops)
- 10.45am Tea and Coffee Break
- 11am AppLab Session 2 (8 parallel workshops)
- 12.30pm Lunch
- 2.15pm The German Sustainable Development Council: From Agenda 21 to Agenda 2030
Presentation by Günther Bachmann, German Sustainable Development Council
- 3.15pm Tea and Coffee Break
- 3.30pm Climate Action in the Context of Sustainable Development: The role of the UN Climate Change Secretariat and the Paris Agreement – the 'what' and the 'how'
Panel discussion with Sergey Kononov, Marcela Main Sancha, Bernd Hackmann, and Alejandro Kilpatrick (UNFCCC)
Moderated by Natalia Galat, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

Wednesday, 23 August 2017

Day Three: Managing the Transition

- From Fossil to Renewable Energy – Managing the Transition
Excursion to Eschweiler

Thursday, 24 August 2017

11am Tea and Coffee Break

Day Four

9am	Transferring Knowledge Energiser led by Angela Wagner and Samant Kakkar, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development Excursion debrief led by Simona Costanzo Sow, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development	11.15am	Review Processes for the 2030 Agenda at National and Sub-National Level Presentation by Cormac Ebken, BMZ; and Thomas Wollnik, GIZ
10am	Launch of UNSSC-Simpleshow Volunteer Initiative Share Fair	12.15pm	Walk the Talk: Action Planning and Next Steps Led by Simona Costanzo Sow, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development
12.30pm	Lunch	1pm	Lunch
2pm	AppLab Session 3 (10 parallel workshops)	2pm	An Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development
3.15pm	Tea and Coffee Break		Keynote address by Patricia Espinosa, Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the UN Climate Change Secretariat, UNFCCC
3.45pm	AppLab Session 4 (9 parallel workshops)	3pm	Closing Farewell speech by Ambassador Ingrid Jung, Ambassador of Germany to the United Nations
6pm	Boat Ride and Dinner on the Rhine		Remarks by Patrick van Weerelt, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

Friday, 25 August 2017**Day Five**

9am	Energiser led by Angela Wagner and Samant Kakkar, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development Catalysing Systemic Change: The Concept of Positive Peace Presentation by David Hammond, Institute for Economics and Peace
9.45am	Local Sustainability: Lessons Learnt Panel discussion with Jessica Baier, Engagement Global; Verena Schwarte, City of Bonn; and Mary Suzan Abbo, CREEC Uganda Moderated by Ugo Caruso, UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

Schedule of AppLabs

Tuesday, 22 August 2017	
9.30am – 10.45am	11am – 12.15pm
<p>Introduction to the Art of Simple Explanation</p> <p><i>Sven Gabbert, Susanne Illemann, Ilya Kompassov (Simpleshow Foundation)</i></p>	<p>Introduction to the Art of Simple Explanation</p> <p><i>Sven Gabbert, Susanne Illemann, Ilya Kompassov (Simpleshow Foundation)</i></p>
<p>Communicating Sustainable Development Goals with Good Storytelling</p> <p><i>Heike Janssen (ARD)</i></p>	<p>Communicating Sustainable Development Goals with Good Storytelling</p> <p><i>Heike Janssen (ARD)</i></p>
<p>A Step Ahead – The Contribution of Early Warning Systems to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</p> <p><i>Juan Carlos Villagrán de León (UN-SPIDER)</i></p>	<p>A Step Ahead – The Contribution of Early Warning Systems to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</p> <p><i>Juan Carlos Villagrán de León (UN-SPIDER)</i></p>
<p>Localising the SDGs – Tools and Examples</p> <p><i>Johannes Krassnitzer (UNDP)</i></p>	<p>Localising the SDGs – Tools and Examples</p> <p><i>Johannes Krassnitzer (UNDP)</i></p>
<p>Localisation of SDGs and the Social and Solidarity Economy</p> <p><i>Ilcheong Yi (UNRISD)</i></p>	<p>The Energy Trilemma</p> <p><i>Ahmed Ibraheem (Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs)</i></p>
<p>Transition Towns – A Social Movement to Reimagine and Rebuild Our World – Anywhere and also in Bonn</p> <p><i>Gesa Maschkowski (Bonn im Wandel)</i></p>	<p>Transition Towns – A Social Movement to Reimagine and Rebuild Our World – Anywhere and also in Bonn</p> <p><i>Gesa Maschkowski (Bonn im Wandel)</i></p>
<p>Community Management of Beach Sand Mining in Cape Coast, Ghana</p> <p><i>Fredrick Ekow Jonah (University of Cape Coast)</i></p>	<p>Managing Change</p> <p><i>Sabine Bhanot (UNSSC)</i></p>
<p>Sustainable Energy for All Design Approach</p> <p><i>Mary Suzan Abbo (CREEC)</i></p>	<p>SDGs – Tools Offered by the UN SDG Action Campaign</p> <p><i>Susanne Salz, Laura Hildebrandt (SDG Action Campaign)</i></p>
<p>Creative Communication for Results: Engaging Youth to Advance the SDGs through Comics</p> <p><i>José Ignacio Martín Galán (UN RCO Office, Haiti)</i></p>	
<p>SDGs – Tools Offered by the UN SDG Action Campaign</p> <p><i>Susanne Salz, Laura Hildebrandt (SDG Action Campaign)</i></p>	

Thursday, 24 August 2017	
12.30pm-1pm	
Corporate Volunteering in the Context of Sustainable Development <i>Alexandra van der Ploeg (SAP SE)</i>	
2pm – 3.15pm	3.45pm – 5pm
Introduction to the Art of Simple Explanation <i>Sven Gabbert, Susanne Illemann, Ilya Kompasov (Simpleshow Foundation)</i>	Introduction to the Art of Simple Explanation <i>Sven Gabbert, Susanne Illemann, Ilya Kompasov (Simpleshow Foundation)</i>
Communicating Sustainable Development Goals with Good Storytelling <i>Heike Janssen (ARD)</i>	Communicating Sustainable Development Goals with Good Storytelling <i>Heike Janssen (ARD)</i>
A Step Ahead – The Contribution of Early Warning Systems to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development <i>Juan Carlos Villagrán de León (UN-SPIDER)</i>	
Saudi Vision 2030 <i>Ali Albajjan, Amani Al Shehri, Nesma Hassan, Ayat Al Barakati (Direction)</i>	City to City Learning <i>Michael Woodbridge (ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability)</i>
Positive Peace – Factors that Create and Sustain Peaceful Societies <i>David Hammond (Institute for Economics and Peace)</i>	Managing Change <i>Sabine Bhanot (UNSSC)</i>
How to Get Support from UN Online Volunteers for your SDG-Related Projects <i>Annika Diederich (UNV)</i>	Rolling Out the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Ethiopia <i>Kiros Hintsu (UN RCO Office, Ethiopia)</i>
How to Measure the Results and Impact of the SDGs at Local Level <i>Edgar Adolfo Pacheco Teran (Autonomous Municipal Government of La Paz)</i>	Sustainable Energy for All Design Approach <i>Mary Suzan Abbo (CREEC)</i>
Can Cooperation Management Serve as a Theory of Change to Operationalise the SDGs in a City Context? <i>Günter Meinert (GIZ)</i>	Design of Green and Healthy Buildings in Asia <i>Henry Tsang (Green Architect; Keimyung University)</i>
Creative Communication for Results: Engaging Youth to Advance the SDGs through Comics <i>José Ignacio Martín Galán (UN RCO Office, Haiti)</i>	SDGs – Tools Offered by the UN SDG Action Campaign <i>Susanne Salz, Laura Hildebrandt (SDG Action Campaign)</i>
SDGs – Tools Offered by the UN SDG Action Campaign <i>Susanne Salz, Laura Hildebrandt (SDG Action Campaign)</i>	

About the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC)

The United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) is the primary provider of inter-agency training and learning for staff of the United Nations system. Its overall objective is to promote and support UN inter-agency collaboration, increase the operational effectiveness of the UN system as a whole and provide UN staff with the required skills and competencies to face today's global challenges.

UNSSC conducts a variety of learning and training activities, in Turin, Bonn, and UN Headquarters, as well as at the regional and country levels. All such activities effectively respond to the cross-agency, far-reaching reform agenda of the United Nations.

About the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

With the support from the Federal Government of Germany, the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC), on 1 January 2016, opened the Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development in Bonn to equip the UN and its partners with a vehicle to deliver on the learning agenda pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Its mission is to respond to the comprehensive learning, training, and knowledge management needs of the UN staff and partners in the context of the 2030 Agenda as well as the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development supports the policy and operational work of the United Nations through the development of learning tools, platforms for interaction and a mature set of learning offerings for UN Staff. It also serves as a catalyst and convener prompting dialogue and knowledge sharing on issues relevant to the vision and mission of the UN between UN staff and a diverse set of stakeholders from academia, the private sector, and civil society.

Approach to Learning at the Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

The sustainable development agenda demands new approaches to knowledge and skills development for all actors. Development progress requires holistic thinking, moving beyond separate mandates and structures and exploring linkages between different thematic issues. The 2030 Agenda requires an issues-based operandi, fostering new partnerships to identify key problems and opportunities, leveraging diverse means of implementation, and facilitating joint action to ensure progress and maximise results. In this context, life-long learning must be seen as a key component of personal as well as organisational development.

To address the requirements of the 2030 Agenda, the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development integrates knowledge across UN agency mandates and thematic pillars of sustainable development. The Knowledge Centre fosters inter-agency coherence, and strengthens dialogue and networks within and beyond the UN system. It is committed to facilitating catalytic learning across the UN system and beyond in support of sustainable development results. Through its work, the Knowledge Centre contributes to enhancing coherence of development interventions and increasing operational and conceptual capacity of UN staff as well as a multitude of other partners.

The capacity approach of the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development is organised around six interdependent building blocks:

EXAMINE: We provide concrete learning opportunities where UN Staff and partners can learn and examine the sustainable development agenda.

EMPOWER: We assist UN Country Teams in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda by identifying their learning needs and providing customised learning programmes.

PARTNER: We help the UN and partners to better engage in constructive partnerships to become genuine catalysts for sustainable development.

MEASURE: We recognise the importance of a coherent measurement language in the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda, which is reflected in our learning offerings.

LEAD: We create a space where leaders across sectors can hone their craft, becoming more effective, strategic facilitators, implementers, and leaders of transformational change.

COMMUNICATE: We facilitate learning on effective communication and advocacy for sustainable development and engage alumni and the larger community in continuous discussions through diverse knowledge management platforms and training formats.



Learning Opportunities at the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

The UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development offers online and face-to-face courses. Face-to-face courses combine lecture-style sessions delivered by subject matter experts with interactive and participatory modules, leveraging the expertise of participants and enhancing their understanding of the realities of the respective entities represented in a course. Online courses combine live webinars with renowned experts on sustainable development with knowledge application to real-life and training scenarios, as well as group work and collaboration, thus strengthening cooperation among course participants from different entities.

To enrol in our courses, please click [here](#).

For further inquiries, please contact us at sustainable-development@unssc.org.