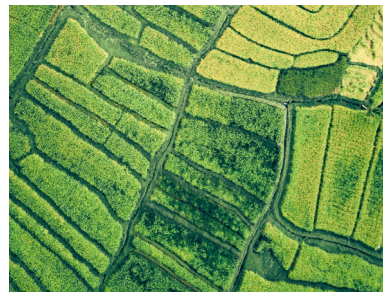




ANNUAL REPORT 2022



SDGacademy





TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT	4-5
LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR	6-7
ABOUT THE SDG ACADEMY	8
NEW COURSES	9
OUR FACULTY	10
OUR LEARNERS ON EDX	11
COURSE ENROLLMENTS	12
MEASURING SUCCESS	13
COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH	14-15
WEBSITE REACH	16
BOOK CLUB WITH JEFFREY SACHS	17
SDG ACADEMY LIBRARY	18-19
ONLINE MASTER'S PROGRAM	20-21
THE MDP PROGRAM	22
COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE	23
MISSION 4.7	24-25
GLOBAL SCHOOLS PROGRAM	26





EVENTS	27-29
ENGAGING OUR ALUMNI	30
PARTNERSHIPS	31
FUTURE DIRECTION & OUTLOOK	32-33
OUR TEAM	34
OUR ACADEMIC ADVISORY COUNCIL	35
GET INVOLVED	36-37

SDGacademy

An Initiative of the Sustainable
Development Solutions Network



LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT, JEFFREY SACHS

Dear friends and colleagues,

It is my honor to present the 2022 SDG Academy Annual Report. I am pleased to share with you the growth and development of the SDG Academy over the past year, as we pursue our mission to prepare this generation and the next to achieve sustainable development. I believe the SDG Academy is well positioned to lead the push to achieving Agenda 2030.

As the President of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network and a faculty member of many SDG Academy courses, I am inspired by how the SDG Academy has continued to evolve to include efforts aimed at supporting content development, pedagogy, and training, as well as building community.

Over the past year, we have seen the effects of the pandemic and conflict disrupt learning environments. Despite these setbacks to education in the classroom, the SDG Academy has been able to continue to support a global community of online learners and educators with open and free online educational resources,

adding two new courses to the portfolio and expanding opportunities for engagement.

Additionally, I was delighted to congratulate the first cohort of the Online Master's Programs at University College Dublin and Sunway University for finishing their Master's in Sustainable Development.

I am encouraged by the continued growth of our community, and I am especially enthusiastic about our expanding work with universities and businesses to offer innovative learning pathways, courses, and new engagement opportunities.

The SDG Academy is immensely grateful for the leadership and generous support of Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah and the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation. We give deep thanks to the worldwide faculty and partners for their continued support. We are also incredibly thankful to our learners worldwide, who demonstrate their dedication and commitment to a just and sustainable world for all.

I look forward to further progress in realizing the SDG Academy's mission, and I heartily commend the SDG Academy team for their wonderful efforts.

Best wishes,
Jeffrey D. Sachs



"I am inspired by how the SDG Academy has continued to evolve to include efforts aimed at supporting content development, pedagogy, and training, as well as building community."

Jeffrey D. Sachs
President, SDSN



“The most basic challenge for global survival and well-being is to turn our knowledge into action. The world’s scientists are clear on the dangers. The technologists are clear on the solutions. The challenges are therefore political and ethical, to use our knowledge wisely, for the common good. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and the International Energy Agency have done their part to inform us of what needs to be done. The challenge is now ours and our governments to act for the common good.”



Professor Sachs at the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, June 2022.
Photo: Gabriella Clare Marino/PAS

LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR, PATRICK PAUL WALSH

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the third edition of the SDG Academy Annual Report. We are delighted to share the breadth and depth of our work over the past year. This is a time of great challenges for education, but we can see the growing desire of people, in all walks of life, to learn and work together for peace and sustainable development.

While I have been with the SDG Academy in an advisory role for the last ten years, I had the great privilege of taking over for Chandrika Bahadur as Director of the SDG Academy in May 2022. I would like to take an opportunity to recognize the contribution Chandrika made to Education for Sustainable Development. She leaves behind a wonderful legacy of open education resources, a talented team, and spirited partnerships for us to foster.

While Chandrika still remains with SDSN as a member of the Leadership Council, we wish her all the best in her future endeavors. We strive to honor her vision and legacy by taking the SDG Academy to the next level in the years to come.

The mission of the SDG Academy is rooted in the early days of broadcasting Professor Jeffrey Sachs' lectures from Columbia University in 2007. The lectures included guest speakers from leaders in government, practitioners in development, and UN leadership. The combination of mixing academic rigor with policy and practice to address issues of human development was electrifying for students in an in-person classroom.

To reach an even larger audience, Professor Sachs wished to broadcast these live sessions and have two-way dialogues with classrooms all over the world. This was the start of Global Classroom and the development of our 38-course portfolio that can be found on edX and other platforms.

The SDG Academy seeks to fulfill Professor Sachs' vision of having free online, open education resources, which include curriculum, pedagogy, degrees, training, and community, for all stages of education and life. Resources under a creative commons license that can be edited, translated, and adapted for local needs will create the opportunity for extensive worldwide accredited teacher training, academic degrees, and professional training in sustainable development.



“This is a time of great challenges for education, but we can see the growing desire of people, in all walks of life, to learn and work together for peace and sustainable development.”

Patrick Paul Walsh
VP of Education, SDSN & Director, SDG Academy

Education for sustainable development is the key enabler to implement the vision of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We set out to make that vision a reality over the coming years, working with our partners in Mission 4.7 and UNESCO on the SDG 4 pathway to 2030, including the upcoming TES at the UN General Assembly in September 2022.

Over the past year, we have seen the effects of the pandemic, war, and conflict disrupt learning environments. Despite these setbacks to education in the classroom, the SDG Academy was able to continue to expand its broad range of activities thanks to the leadership and generous support of Tan Sri Jeffrey Cheah and the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation.

Because of this generous support, the Masters in Development Practice program was able to welcome the University of British Columbia, Canada as the latest institution to join this network of programs. The Global Schools Program trained 504 teachers in 92 countries, and the SDG Academy added two new courses to our portfolio among other notable accomplishments.

We are thankful for the professional support of our Academic Advisory Committee, partners on creating the open education resources, and our wonderful SDG Academy staff in our New York, Dublin, and Kuala Lumpur offices, who literally work 24/7 all around the clock given our time zone coverage. We are also grateful to welcome back Dr. Amber Webb to the team who took over the role of Managing Director.

Last but not least, we are indebted to our committed learners and alumni on our platforms and degree programs in University College Dublin and Sunway University that are working hard for peace, justice and sustainable development all across the world. You are the reason we get up each morning and dedicate ourselves to the work of the SDG Academy and to our governmental, university, and corporate partners.

Sincerely,
Patrick Paul Walsh



On June 30, 2022, the SDG Academy, Global Schools, The Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations, Center for Sustainable Development, Columbia University, and Mission 4.7 came together for the UNESCO Transformative Education Pre-Summit.



The session was moderated by SDG Academy Director Patrick Paul Walsh and dove into the best practices to produce a tangible summary of recommendations from stakeholders on the possibilities that digital innovation can create transformative education.



ABOUT THE SDG ACADEMY

The SDG Academy is the premier source of high-quality resources and guidance on education for the SDGs, with the mandate to enrich the field of sustainable development and achieve Agenda 2030.

■ Our Vision

Our vision is a world in which the SDGs are achieved through the efforts of multiple generations of educators, policymakers, practitioners, and citizens. By providing avenues of learning, collaboration, and partnership, we mobilize a truly global movement aimed at advancing sustainable development everywhere.

■ Our Mission

Our mission is to create and curate relevant content on the SDGs, share innovative pedagogies and training models, and nurture a global community of learners to prepare this generation and the next to achieve sustainable development.

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) was established in 2012 under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General to mobilize global academic and scientific expertise to promote practical solutions for sustainable development, including the implementation of the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement.





[View all 38 SDGacademy courses in our portfolio](#)



NEW COURSES

We are pleased to have added two new massive open online courses (MOOCs) to our catalog in FY22. We thank our dedicated educational content provider partners around the world, without whom these courses would not be possible.



Understanding Poverty and Inequality

Launch date: September 20, 2021
Led by: John W. McArthur, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at The Brookings Institution, and Chandrika Bahadur, Former Director of the SDG Academy



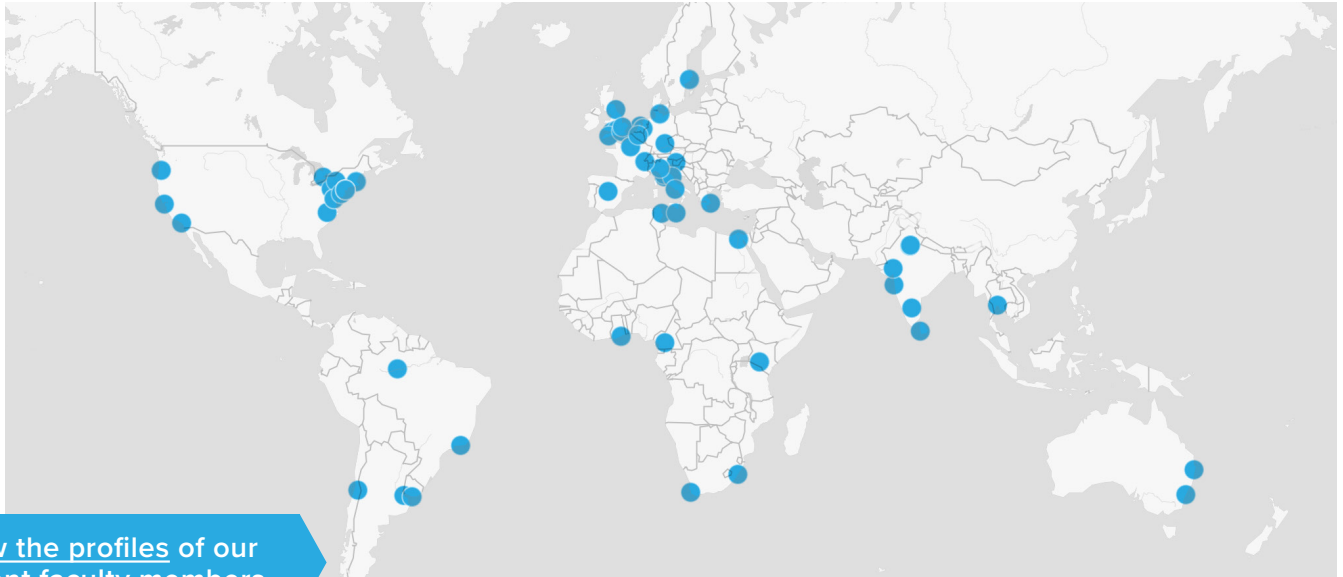
Living Heritage and Sustainable Development

Launch date: January 24, 2022
Led by: Cristina Amescua Chávez, Professor and holder of the UNESCO Chair for Research on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Cultural Diversity at National Autonomous University of Mexico



OUR FACULTY

Our global faculty consist of more than 270 academics, practitioners, and other experts in sustainable development who believe in the power of education to mobilize meaningful changes in society. As an initiative of SDSN, the SDG Academy is able to engage in various collaborations with leading experts among our SDSN partners around the world for our educational content.



[View the profiles of our current faculty members](#)

New Faculty Highlights



Cristina Amescua Chávez, Professor and Chairholder, UNESCO Chair for Research on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Cultural Diversity at National Autonomous University of Mexico, Lead faculty for “Living Heritage and Sustainable Development.”



Mr. Nigel Encalada, Director of Belize’s Institute for Social and Cultural Research (ISCR) of the National Institute of Culture and History (NICH). Faculty member for “Living Heritage and Sustainable Development”.



John McArthur, Senior Fellow and Director, Center for Sustainable Development at the Brookings Institution. Lead faculty for “Understanding Poverty and Inequality.”



Makada Henry-Nickie, Non-resident Fellow in Governance Studies at the Brookings Institution. A faculty member for “Understanding Poverty and Inequality.”



Filming for the new course “Changing Behaviour for Sustainable Development” launched on August 1, 2022. New faculty members featured include Liam Smith, Director and co-founder of BehaviourWorks Australia, and John Thwaites, Professorial Fellow and Chair of the Monash Sustainable Development Institute and Climateworks Centre, Monash University.

OUR LEARNERS ON

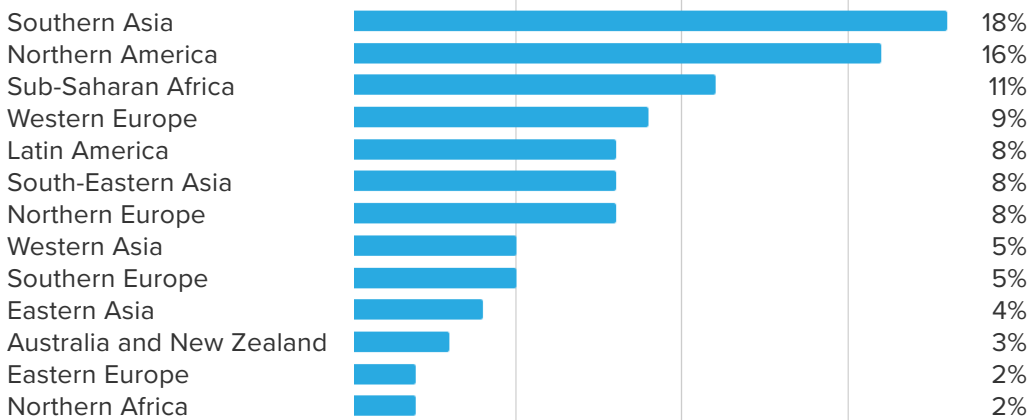
We moved to edX in September 2018. Statistics from July 2021 - June 2022

Our courses on edX are
100% self-paced

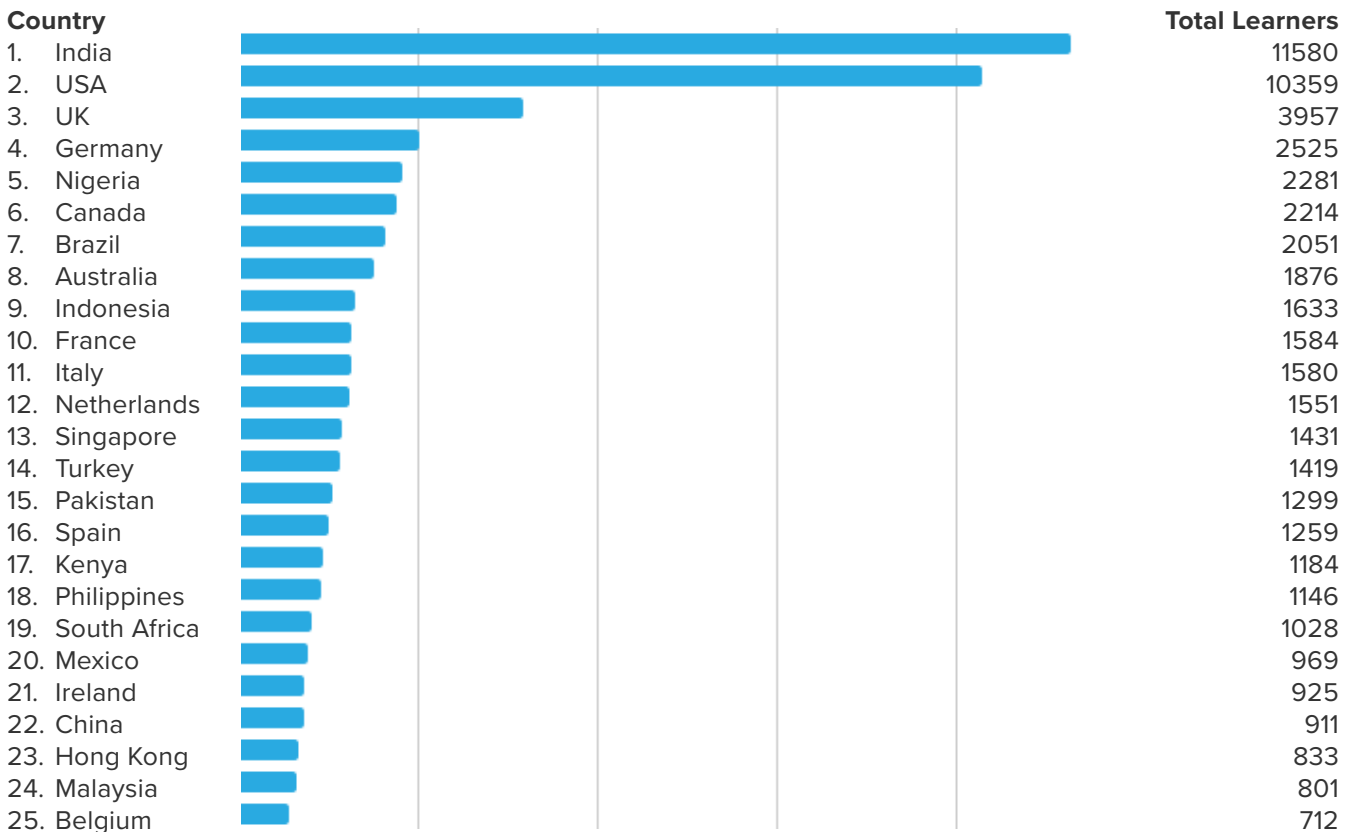
Active and archived courses total
142 unique course runs

100% of FY22 courses have verified enrollment levels above the edX average

Profile of our Learner Cohort



Top Country of Origin in FY22



COURSE ENROLLMENTS

Our Courses at a Glance

Total enrollment in FY22
July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

80,753

Total enrollments since the
launch of our first course on edX

443,501

Total enrollments across all
platforms since first course

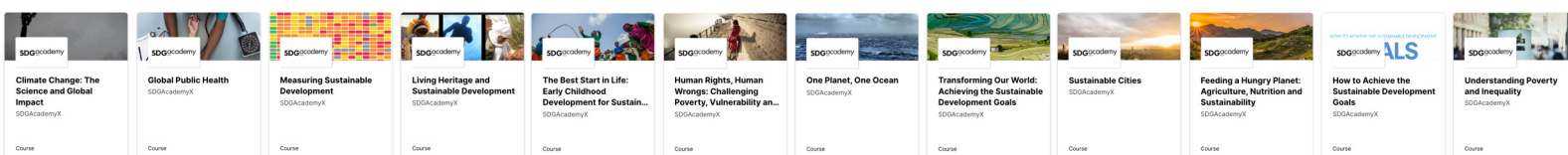
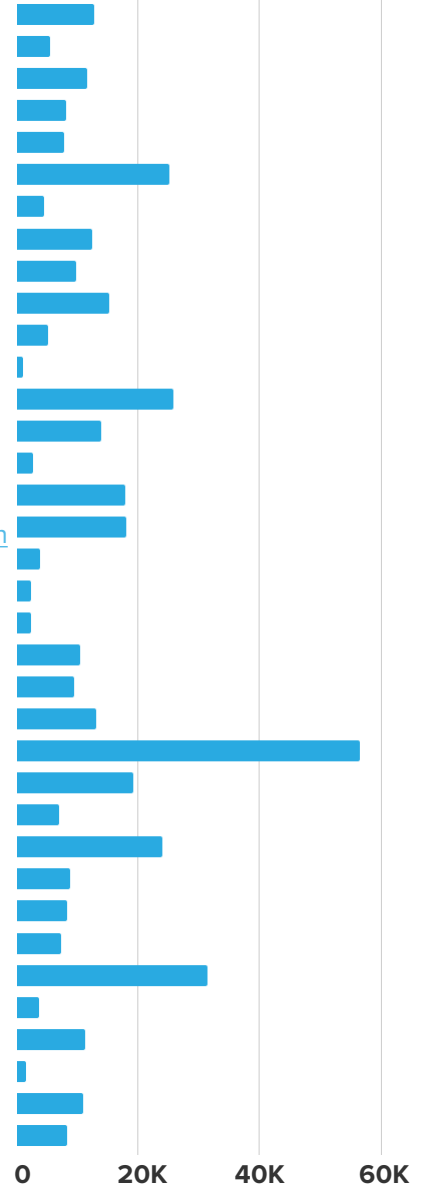
729,020

Total Enrollments by Course on edX

Course Title

- [Age of Sustainable Development](#)
- [Book Club with Jeffrey Sachs](#)
- [Cities and the Challenge of Sustainable Development](#)
- [Climate Action: Solutions for a Changing Planet](#)
- [Climate Change Science and Negotiations](#)
- [Climate Change: The Science and Global Impact](#)
- [Conversations with Global Leaders: Leading on Sustainable Development](#)
- [Environmental Security and Sustaining Peace](#)
- [Ethics in Action](#)
- [Feeding a Hungry Planet: Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainability](#)
- [From the Ground Up: Managing and Preserving Our Terrestrial Ecosystems](#)
- [Getting a Good Deal: Negotiating Extractive Industry Contracts](#)
- [Global Public Health](#)
- [Globalization: Past and Future](#)
- [Governance for Transboundary Freshwater Security](#)
- [How to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Challenging Poverty, Vulnerability and Social Exclusion](#)
- [Industrial Policy in the 21st Century: The Challenge for Africa](#)
- [Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home](#)
- [Living Heritage and Sustainable Development](#)
- [Macroeconomics for a Sustainable Planet](#)
- [Measuring Sustainable Development](#)
- [Natural Resources for Sustainable Development](#)
- [Nature-based Solutions for Disaster and Climate Resilience](#)
- [One Planet, One Ocean](#)
- [Planetary Boundaries](#)
- [Sustainable Cities](#)
- [Sustainable Development: The Post-Capitalist Order](#)
- [Sustainable Food Systems: A Mediterranean Perspective](#)
- [Tech for Good: The Role of ICT in Achieving the SDGs](#)
- [The Best Start in Life: Early Childhood Development for Sustainable Development](#)
- [The Korean Story: Secrets of an Economic Miracle](#)
- [Transforming Our World: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [Understanding Poverty and Inequality](#)
- [Water: Addressing the Global Crisis](#)
- [Work and Employment for a Sustainable Future](#)

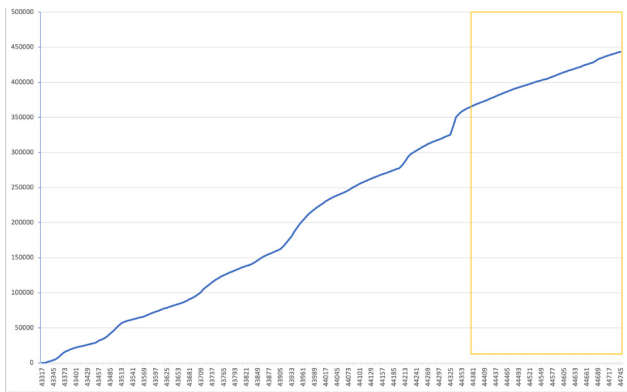
Total Enrollments



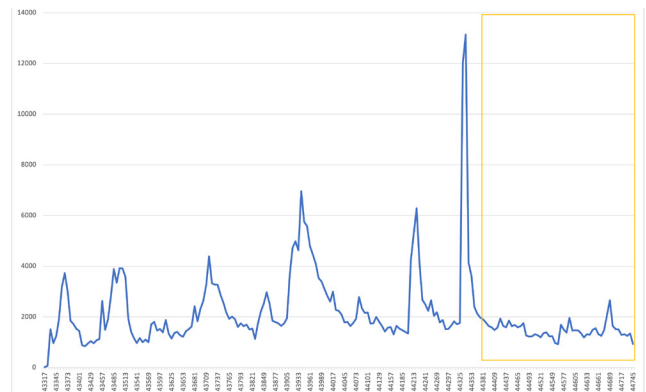
MEASURING SUCCESS

The following graphs show the performance of SDG Academy enrollments over time. Both graphs feature a golden box highlighting our performance in FY22. The left graph is a measure of cumulative enrollment, showing overall growth over time. The right graph shows cyclical enrollment trends that coincide with the academic calendar. This suggests that learners enroll in SDG Academy courses to align with or imitate formal coursework.

Overall edX Learners over Time



Weekly edX Enrollment over Time



Top edX Courses by Enrollments

Overall Course Runs

Overall Course Runs	Learners
Nature-based Solutions for Disaster and Climate Resilience	56507
The Best Start in Life: Early Childhood Development for Sustainable Development	31447
Global Public Health	25898
Climate Change: The Science and Global Impact	25242
Sustainable Cities	24111
One Planet, One Ocean	19287
Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Challenging Poverty, Vulnerability and Social Exclusion	18118
How to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals	17980
Feeding a Hungry Planet: Agriculture, Nutrition and Sustainability	15468
Globalization: Past and Future	14061



SDGacademy

COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH

As one of the most external-facing programs of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the success of the SDG Academy can be tracked by the reach of our courses and brand recognition. As a result, the marketing, outreach, and branding of the SDG Academy is key.

Channels of Outreach

Newsletter
78,448 subscribers

Mobilize
3,943 group members

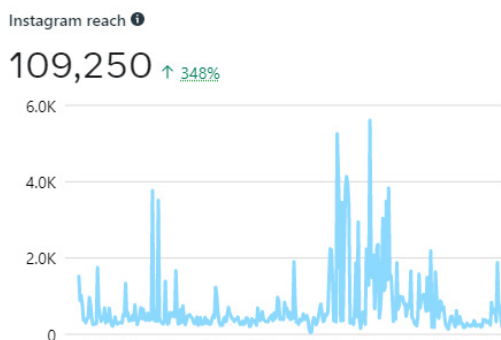
Social Media Platforms
 Instagram, Facebook,
 LinkedIn, Twitter, TikTok

Social Media Snapshot

Instagram

6,900 followers

Reach: +348% in FY 22 (largest reach in FY 22)

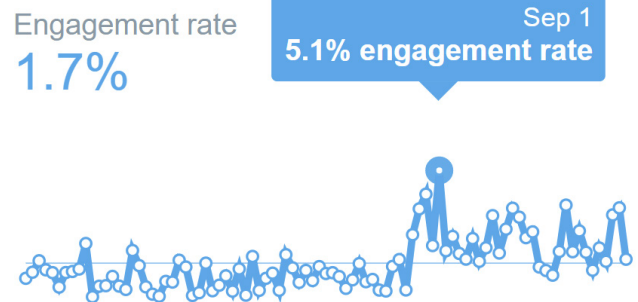


The first spike in September 2021 is attributed to the first reel post. The largest spikes in February and March correlate to the implementation of daily reels, multiple of which received thousands of views.

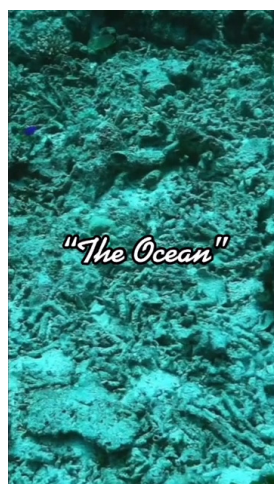
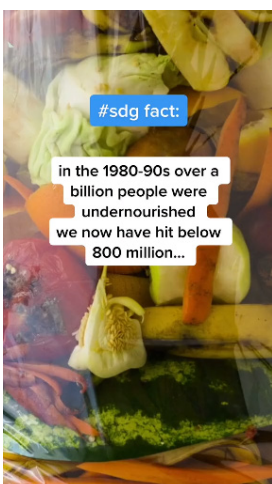
Twitter

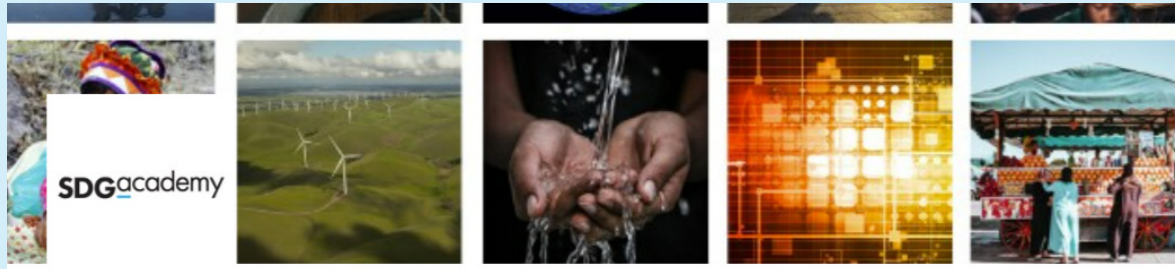
14,273 followers

Twitter allows us to engage with the largest audience through live tweeting during events.



Our largest spike in engagement on Twitter corresponds to the announcement of the re-launch of 27 of the SDG Academy courses on September 1, 2021.





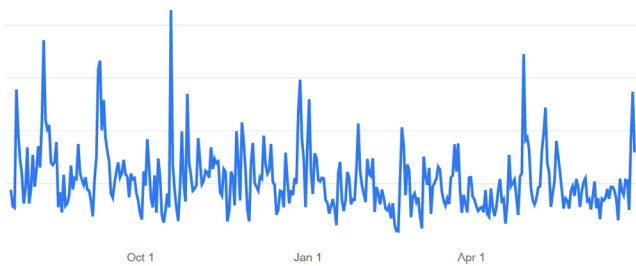
SDG Academy

Free, open educational resources from the world's leading experts on sustainable development. An initiative of UN SDSN.

Facebook

52,867 followers

Alumni Facebook Group: 5,984 members



The Alumni Facebook group provides a platform for SDG Academy Course Alumni to consistently engage with each other throughout the year.

LinkedIn

20,148 followers

+8,035 followers (biggest growth in FY 22)



We have consistently seen growth in our followers on LinkedIn over the past year as the platform is becoming an increasingly popular outreach tool.

TikTok

235 followers since February 2022

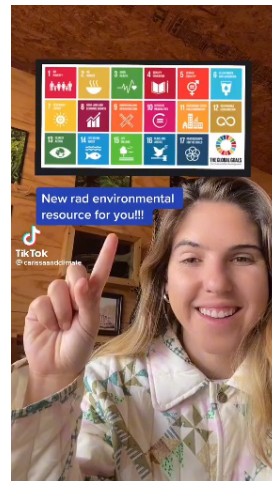
8,190 likes

19.2k views on the most popular video

This year we implemented a new social media medium—TikTok—to increase our digital presence and reach new audiences.

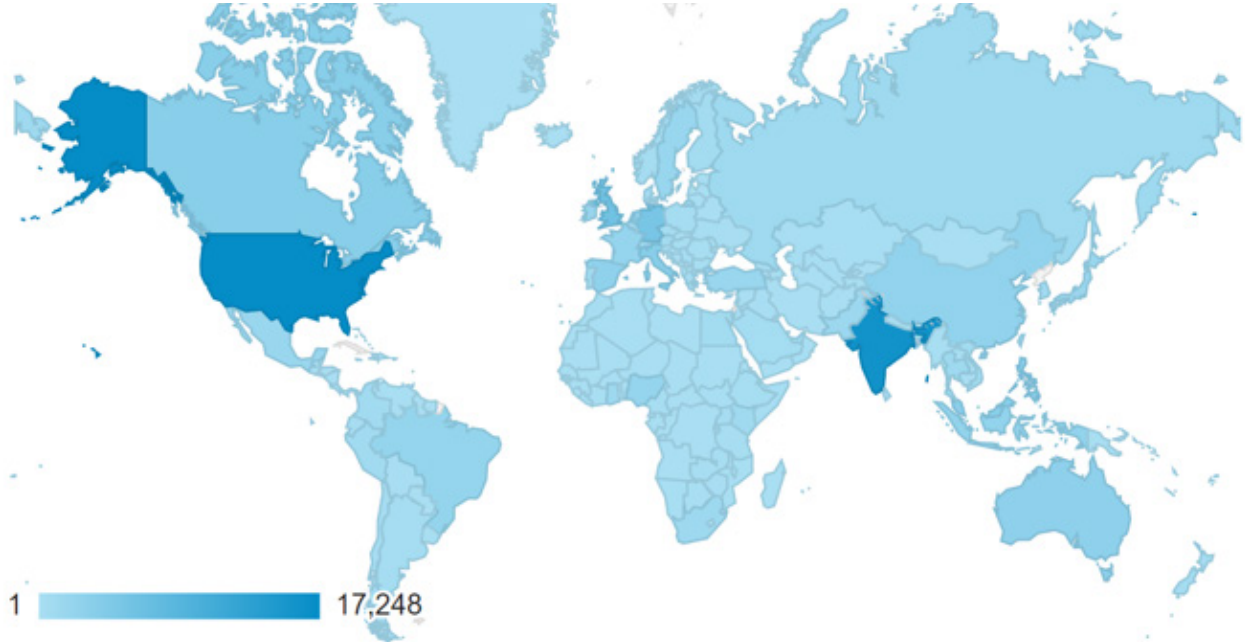
The largest spike in weekly enrollments during FY 22 came during the last week of April. This spike correlates to a viral TikTok and multiple very well-performing TikToks.

To further our presence on social media through TikTok, we also began reaching out to “eco influencers.” We saw success with one micro influencer, @carissaandclimate, who made a great promotional video for us.



WEBSITE REACH

Visitors to the SDG Academy website show the geographic spread of our global community of learners.



Website Users (Statistics from July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022)

Total number of views
343,253



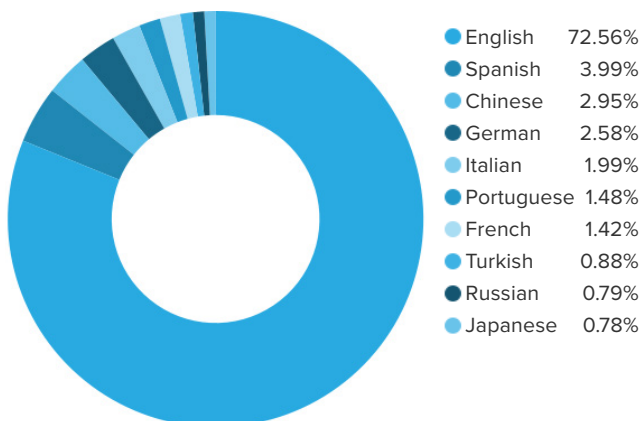
Total number of visits
168,573



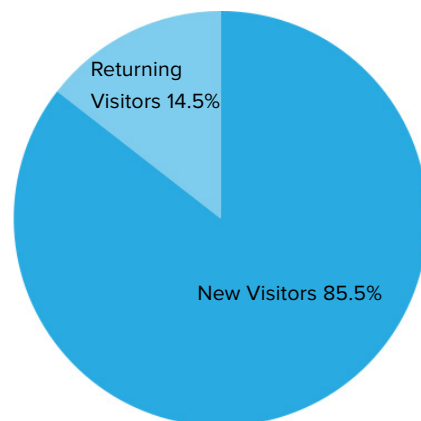
Total number of users
122,377



Language of Users Engaging with the Site



Visitors to the Site



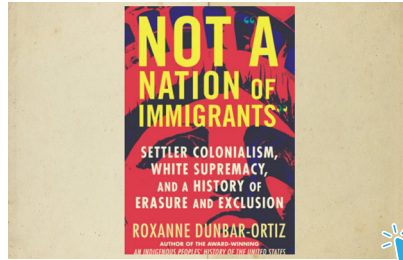
BOOK CLUB WITH JEFFREY SACHS

Launched in January 2021, the [Book Club with Jeffrey Sachs](#) features monthly interviews with renowned authors about their groundbreaking work in economics, globalization, public policy, history, sustainability, and more. Each interview is featured as a [podcast](#) with new episodes launching every month! Episodes can also be viewed in the [SDG Academy Library](#).

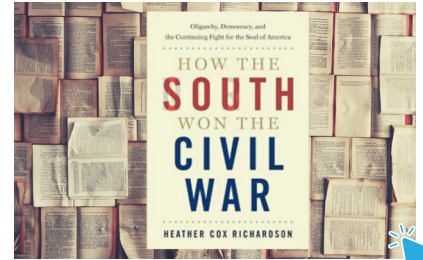
Authors featured in FY 22 include:



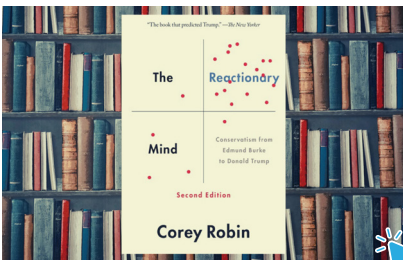
Rick Perlstein
Reaganland: America's Right Turn 1976-1980



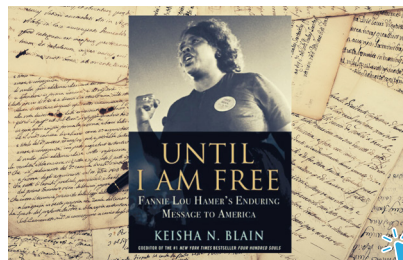
Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz
Not "a Nation of Immigrants": Settler Colonialism, White Supremacy, and a History of Erasure and Exclusion



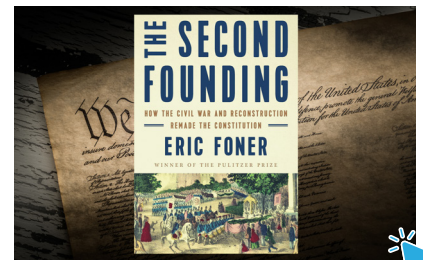
Heather Cox Richardson
How the South Won the Civil War: Oligarchy, Democracy, and the Continuing Fight for the Soul of America



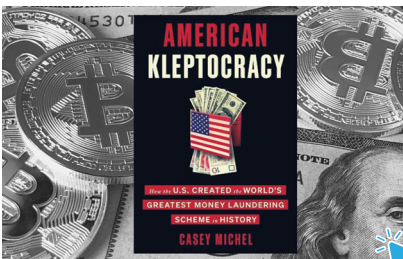
Corey Robin
The Reactionary Mind: Conservatism from Edmund Burke to Donald Trump



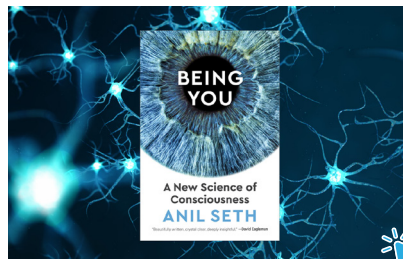
Keisha N. Blain
Until I Am Free: Fannie Lou Hamer's Enduring Message to America



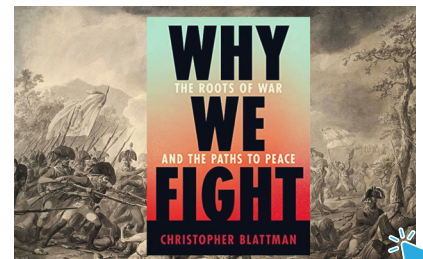
Eric Foner
The Second Founding: How the Civil War and Reconstruction Remade the Constitution



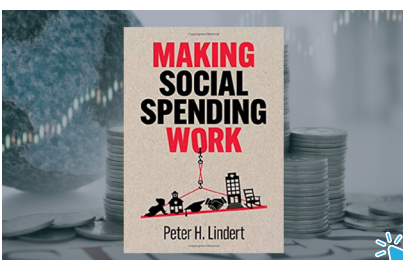
Casey Michel
American Kleptocracy



Anil Seth
Being You



Chris Blattman
Why We Fight



Peter H. Lindert
Making Social Spending Work

16 episodes to date
38.1K downloads

SDG ACADEMY LIBRARY

Launched in 2019, the SDG Academy Library is a searchable repository for high-quality, open educational materials on sustainable development curated from our course videos, SDG Academy and SDSN webinars, online events, and partner contributions. All of the materials are curated in ways that are easily accessible and searchable by SDG, Lecturer, Subject, and more! The SDG Academy Library continues to grow and develop as an essential part of remote teaching and learning in this digital age.

New Video Series: “Spotlight” Initiative

In FY22, a new video series called the SDSN “Spotlight” Initiative was launched to give individuals or teams of researchers and practitioners the opportunity to share the knowledge they have gained through their work.

The series is made up of 3-4 minute videos on a specific topic, case study, project outcome, research process, or initiative done by SDSN members that addresses a sustainable development issue or topic related to one or more of the SDGs.



Nanomaterial-catalyzed hydrothermal treatment of wastewater towards water reuse project by North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University.



Parlamento 2030 initiative, which gathers information from national parliaments related to Agenda 2030, by Political Watch.

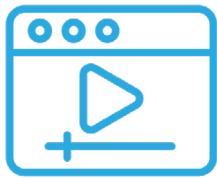


Tree for the three: birds, landscape and ecosystem services by University of Lisbon.



Hinablon Sa Cebu: A Community Extension Project of Cebu Technological University.

Usage of the SDG Academy Library (Statistics from July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022)



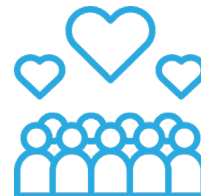
Videos viewed for a total of
517,517 minutes

A **25.1%** increase in minutes
from last year



Videos downloaded for a total of
2,395 downloads

A **42%** increase in downloads
from last year

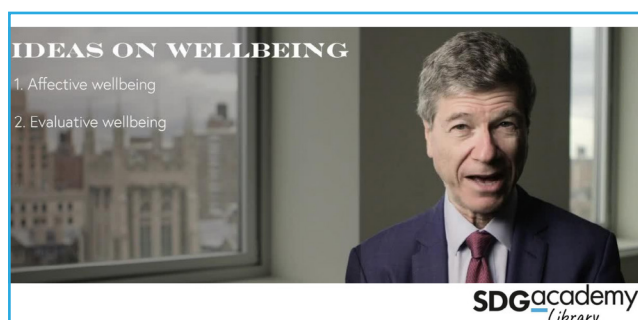
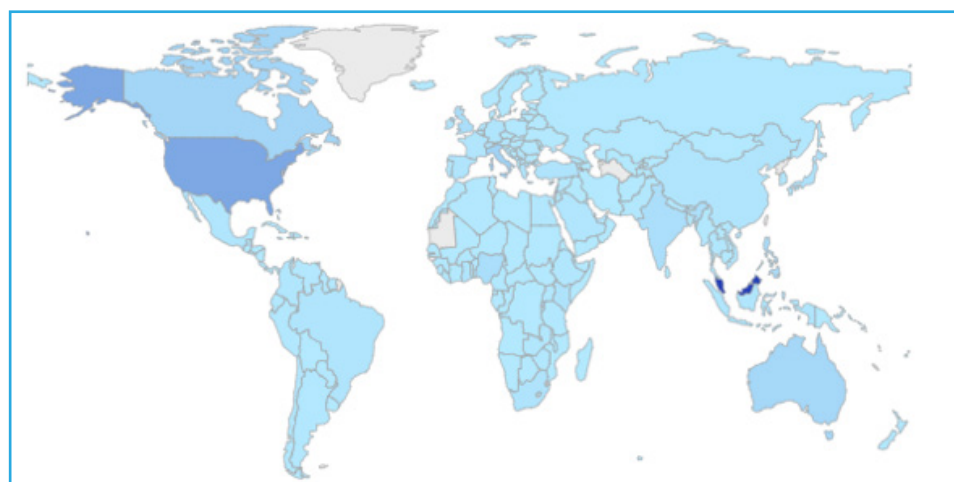


A total of
199,878 impressions

A **37.1%** increase in impressions
from last year

Top Countries

1. Malaysia
2. United States
3. Italy
4. Canada
5. Australia



Most shared and downloaded video from the last FY:
Why Sustainable Development is Important: Happiness
and Wellbeing

Top Videos

1. Why Sustainable Development is Important: Happiness and Wellbeing
2. Introducing Sustainable Development
3. The Role of Business in the SDGs
4. Getting to Know the SDGs
5. Collective vs Individual Rights

ONLINE MASTER'S PROGRAM

Our two [Online Master's Programs](#), offered in partnership with University College Dublin and Malaysia's Sunway University, use the accessibility of online learning to extend world-class education to students around the world, preparing the current and next generation with the tools, skills, and knowledge to contribute to sustainable development.

University College Dublin

Since its launch in 2020, University College Dublin's multidisciplinary Online M.Sc. in Sustainable Development has graduated 35 students. In FY22, the program enrolled 74 new students (20 full-time and 54 part-time) from 23 countries. Many are upskilling as working professionals, with 54% above 30 years old.



University College Dublin

What students said about the program at University College Dublin...



"The program's electives covered a range of topical issues, and each module was reinforced by the wealth and depth of the SDG Academy resources. We also enjoyed guest lectures by inspiring speakers such as Taiwan's Digital Minister, and held discussions to get viewpoints from our international student cohort."

Ailbhe Joyce, Educator and Founder of ulemu.com, Malawi

Read about her work in the [SDG Academy Blog!](#)



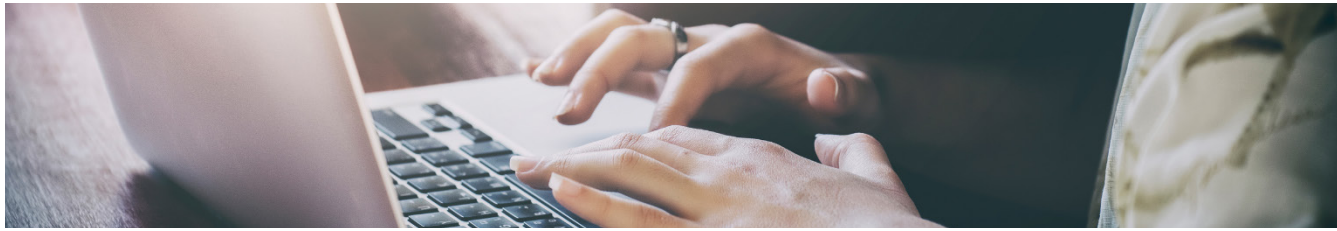
"The diverse cohort of students and their willingness to engage, support, and assist each other will lead to lifelong friendships and partnerships that will (hopefully) aid in changing the current course of humanity and our suffering planet. Each one brought their own expertise, experiences, and perspectives along with a willingness to share and contribute which added tremendous value to the program."

Jeremy Ferguson, Management Consultant, United States



"The program provides a uniquely multi-disciplinary learning experience that enhances my ability to solve complex issues and to prepare my own students to do so as well. The international student body is intellectually engaged, passionate, and inspiring, and the courses are led by global thought leaders committed to a vision of the world that catalyzes thoughtful action and meaningful change to lead a transition to a more sustainable future."

Steven McCarty, Environmental Lawyer and Professor, United States



Sunway University

The online track of Sunway University's Master's in Sustainable Development Management (MSDM) has graduated 4 students since its launch in August 2020, and currently has 34 students enrolled. With an average age of 40, many are upskilling professionals from the tourism, energy, IT, and legal industries, among others.

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY



What students said about the program at Sunway University...



"The program has provided a strong foundation on sustainability, global issues and case studies for complex and diverse topics. I am also very happy to have lecturers who are extremely supportive and encouraging, from class lectures and tutorials to assignments and research projects."

Kenneth Sam, Urban Development Consultant, Singapore



"If it was not an online program, I wouldn't have taken this course. The program has provided a lot of flexibility, especially with classes conducted during weekends, providing better convenience for working adults like me."

Yeoh Min Li, Biofuel Project Engineer, Hong Kong

THE MASTER'S IN DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE PROGRAM

This year, the Master's in Development Practice (MDP) programs strengthened its Student and Alumni Advisory Council (SAAC). As of 2022, there are over 6000 alumni from more than 30 MDP programs in 26 countries, as well as over 550 current students. To date, each of the six MDP regions (Africa, East Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America, and South Asia & Central Asia) has SAAC members and leadership in place. Through monthly meetings, events, and social media tools, such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and WhatsApp, SAAC has succeeded in uniting the students and graduates of the MDP.



GLOBAL MDP
Student and Alumni Advisory Council



[Watch the trailer to learn more!](#)

Global Classroom, a 13-week online class offered since 2008, saw consistent participation numbers of 150 students per class, an increase from 75 before the pandemic. This trend is expected to remain the same or even increase in 2022.

The University of British Columbia, Canada is the latest institution to join this network of programs. With the revision of the Global Association of MDP program membership guidelines, growth will continue.

Prospective MDP programs no longer have to create a program from scratch; they can adapt existing programs.

Special recognition goes to the Universiti Sains Malaysia, an MDP-offering institution, that in the [2022 Times Higher Education Impact Ranking](#), placed fourth when compared to hundreds of academic institutions worldwide that work on achieving the SDGs.



Learn more about the [MDP!](#)

COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

2022 marks the second year of the Community of Practice, which is characterized by a member-centered approach, knowledge, growth, and expansion. Despite the global pandemic, interest and participation in the Community of Practice grew by 10% to a total of 63 members in 29 countries.

Its members—institutions of higher education, NGOs, businesses, and even a government organization—reaped the benefits of 10 informative, member-facilitated webinars on a variety of topics, including one created by two faculty members at the Windesheim Honours College in the Netherlands on learning about SDGs through gaming.



February 11, 2022
9:00 am ET | 14:00 UTC

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

The 4E-Model for Value Creation: Addressing the SDGs through serious gaming
with Dr. Liesbeth Rijdsdijk & Maria Garcia Alvarez, MA

SDGacademy
Community of Practice

For the first time, students also joined the Community of Practice. Through the [Community Colloquium](#), 5 students presented to attendees from around the world, sharing their research and answering questions from the audience.

Colloquium topics included *The performance of international scientific associations in relation to the SDGs: the case of the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNi)*, from the University of Campinas, Brazil, and *The Attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals in the MENA Region*, from University College Dublin, Ireland.



Featuring presenters
Naira Fahmy from
University College Dublin
& Thais Dibbern from
University of Campinas
Brazil!

[Email us to get involved!](#)

What students said about the Community Colloquium...



"The Colloquium gave me a chance to share my research on an international platform. I received insightful comments and questions not only about the technical aspects of my research but also its contribution to sustain development."

Mariana Gabrielle C. Reyes, PhD Student, International Program in Climate Change and Sustainable Development, National Taiwan University



"Being chosen to present to the Colloquium audience was an opportunity I am very thankful for. It made me proud that my research is of interest to other people, while it also showed that the people's awareness of the SDGs is increasing. This inspired me to continue my path to applying for PhD programs with regards to Sustainable Development."

Naira Fahmy, Master of Arts in International Development, University College Dublin

MISSION 4.7

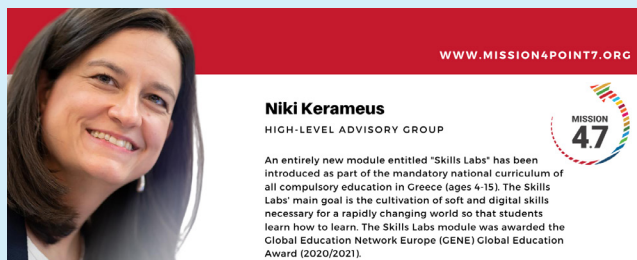
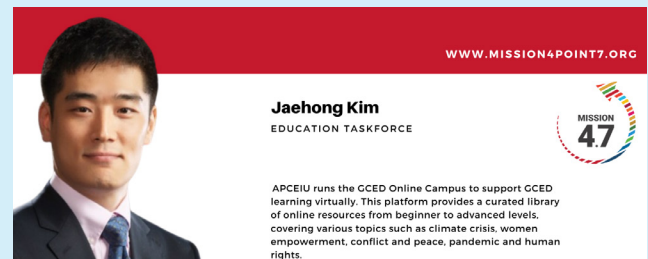
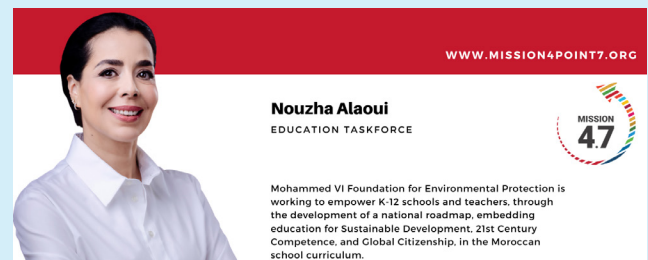
Launched in 2020 at the seventh annual Vatican Youth Symposium by its patrons, former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay, [Mission 4.7](#) is a global initiative to advance transformative education for the SDGs.

Its Secretariat comprises representatives from the SDG Academy, Global Schools, UNESCO, the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens, and the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University. It is advised and supported by experts who serve on the High-level Advisory Group (HLAG) and Education Task Force (ETF).

In FY22, the SDG Academy supported Mission 4.7's continued advocacy for transformative education for sustainable development through a variety of activities that advanced crucial conversations and shared best practices from across its community.



In November 2021, the **#WeChampion social media campaign** highlighted commitments and activities from members of the Mission 4.7 High-level Advisory Group and Education Task Force.



Columbia University's Andrew Kruczkiewicz [discusses his work as a Climate Science Translator](#) in the **#WeChampion Speaker Series**, which showcases innovative approaches to transformative education in a variety of fields.

“Mission 4.7 is an effort to support the education of a generation of global leaders with global citizenship values; real, tangible knowledge of the SDGs; and 21st century skills that we believe are the real path to improving the state of our world for all.”

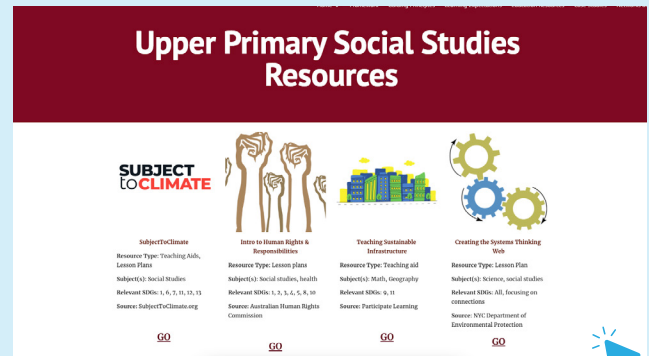
Dino Varkey, CEO of GEMS Education



 @mission4point7
mission4point7.org



Director Patrick Paul Walsh spoke at a roundtable session co-hosted by Mission 4.7 and the International Association of Universities at the **UNESCO World Higher Education Conference 2022**.



The SDGAcademy supports colleagues at the **Columbia University Center for Sustainable Development to curate resources** for teaching sustainable development and global citizenship across the curriculum.



On behalf of Mission 4.7, we have joined a series of **Stakeholders Consultations for the UN Transforming Education Summit** hosted by UNESCO, which invite leading education organizations to offer feedback on preparations for the Summit set to be held in September 2022.



In May 2022, Mission 4.7 was an official knowledge partner of the **International Conference on Transformative Education for Global Citizenship and Sustainable Development**, with Global Schools Program Director Sam Loni delivering a workshop on global citizenship education.



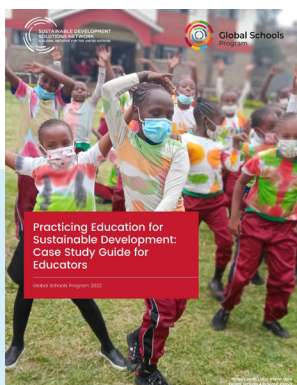
GLOBAL SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The [Global Schools Program](#) is an international program working across approximately 90 countries to bring education for sustainable development to schools worldwide.

Its flagship initiative is the Global Schools Advocates Program, a comprehensive teacher training program to improve sustainable development literacy in primary and secondary classrooms.

This past year, Global Schools trained **504** teachers in **92** countries. These teachers reached **108,112** students with **9,300+** engaging lesson plans and whole-of-school activities on sustainable development. Additionally, they trained **12,300+** other teachers through the program's trainers-of-trainers model, as well as engaged **30,000+** community members, administrators, and parents.

Global Schools continuously looks for opportunities to celebrate and engage its network of students. It celebrated World's Teachers Day 2021 with a campaign, resulting in **21,900** impressions on Twitter, **18,300** impressions on Facebook, and **8,400** impressions on Instagram. Also, it launched the Global Schools Student Symposium, a two day event where students shared sustainability solutions on the world stage.



Global Schools launched its inaugural guidebook: *Practicing Education for Sustainable Development in the Classroom: Case-Study Guide for Educators*, which has since been viewed by **4,195** people. Global Schools also published translations of its lesson plan curriculum in Greek, Bengali, Georgian, Turkish, and Italian.

EVENTS

High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

The Role of Further Education to Drive Collective Action for the SDGs: Building a Sustainable a Resilient Recovery

On July 7, 2021, the SDG Academy participated in the HESI HLPF Special Event, “The Role of Further Education to Drive Collective Action for the SDGs.” The event focused on the opportunities and challenges facing higher education as the world continues to face the COVID-19 pandemic.

12 July 2021
8:30 AM - 10:15 AM EDT

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

- International Association of Universities
- SDG Academy
- L'Agence universitaire de la Francophonie & Association of Commonwealth Universities

Filling the gaps in further education for the 2030 Agenda and inspiring action towards the SDGs

More Info: <http://bit.ly/SDGSLearning2021Session9>
Registration: <http://bit.ly/SDGSLearning2021Register>

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs | unitar

Education for Sustainable Development: The Role of Higher Education in Mission 4.7

On July 14, 2021, SDG Academy alumni Rosane Romero and Noa Urbach along with other distinguished speakers presented on behalf of the SDG Academy at the HLPF side event, “Education for Sustainable Development.” During the session, panelists touched on the role of Higher Education to create education pathways that create the knowledge and the virtues to achieve Target 4.7 by 2030.

SDGacademy | SUN UNIVERSITY

(VIRTUAL) SIDE EVENT AT THE UN HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: Education for Sustainable Development: The Role of Higher Education in Mission 4.7

14th July 2021 1300-1430 (New York City Time)

Join us to discuss education pathways (or lack of) that will help prepare you with the tools, skills, and knowledge to promote sustainable development.

Role of Higher Education: (Intergenerational transfer and creation of Knowledge to promote Sustainable Development; Upstream and Downstream Influence on Science- Policy- Practice Interfaces; HEIs SDG Capacities across Nations)

SDG Target 4.7 "By 2030 ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development"

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS NETWORK | HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | SDG Academy

International Conference on Sustainable Development

Language of Sustainable Development: Making Sense of the 2030 Agenda Within and Across Contexts

On September 20, 2021, the SDG Academy hosted the parallel session “Language of Sustainable Development.” Our aim was to consider other ways that the global sustainable development narrative was being translated. The session sought broad applications of how work, issues, solutions, and initiatives could be translated from context to context.

How can we engage students in ESD?

I expect you all to be independent, innovative, critical thinkers who will do exactly as I say!

Panelists: Meredith Storey, David Dutton, Sarah Hefner, Heather MacCread, Scott Branson

Envision 2050

On September 20, 2021 during ICSD, three of the winning groups from Envision 2050: Designing Sustainable Futures, a dynamic ideathon that tasks participants with designing the next set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), or redesigning them entirely, were highlighted for excellence in the field. Each of the hackathon winners discussed their project work, SDG-relevance, and operationalizing their projects.

ICSD

Cheyenne Maddox (ICSD Organizing Com... | Dr. Meredith Storey

Kyle Gracey [he/him/his] - Earth Hacks | Marcela Jiménez Zacur

EVENTS

International Conference on Sustainable Development

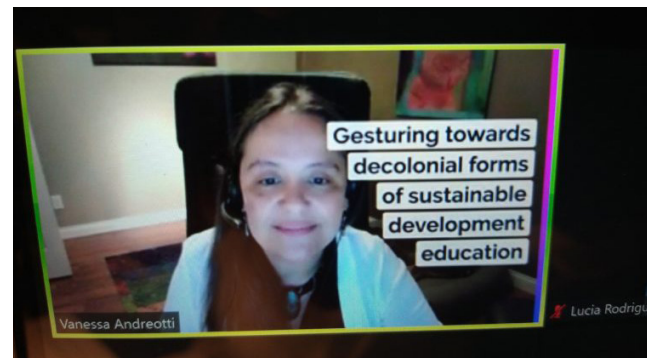
Chat with a Teacher: How do you use education to create a better world?

On September 21, 2021, Mission 4.7 and Global Schools organized “Chat with a Teacher.” This session featured four outstanding classroom teachers—all Global Schools Advocates—who spoke about the obstacles, opportunities, and impact of teaching the next generation to understand and address the world’s greatest challenges.



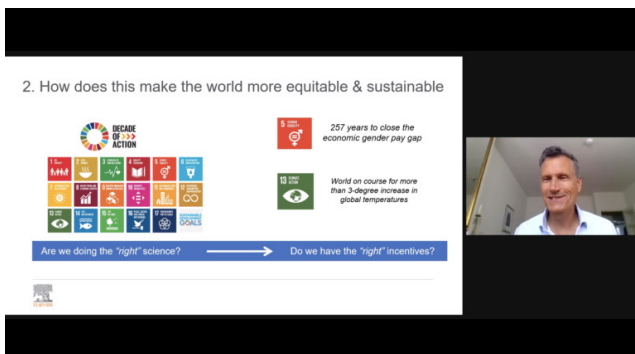
Decolonizing Sustainable Development Education

The Global Association of Master’s in Development Practice (MDP) programs organized the ICSID side event “Decolonizing Sustainable Development Education” on Sept. 22, 2021. The event emphasized that decolonization must be addressed with the right type of education. This type of education is engagement in the in-depth practice of hyper self-reflectivity.



SDG Publishers Compact: Aligning Scholarly Activity with the Sustainable Development Goals

On September 22, 2021, the SDG Academy participated in the “SDG Publishers Compact” ICSID side event. The event informed, amplified & encouraged significant concrete action on the SDG Publishers Compact that will ultimately influence the priorities of faculty researchers, bringing scholarly activity in greater alignment with the SDGs.



Vatican Youth Symposium

Education for Sustainable Development

The Global Schools Program moderated the panel on Education for Sustainable Development at the Vatican Youth Symposium in December, 2021, engaging in conversations with the panelists and the keynote given by the Honorable Niki Kerameos, Greek Minister of Education and Religious Affairs.



Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum

SDG 4: Examples from the Global Schools Program of Youth in Action

In April 2022, Global Schools hosted a side event on SDG 4 at the ECOSOC Youth Forum to discuss innovative ideas for implementing education for sustainable development at the local level.



Stockholm+50

ESD as a Pathway for Community Resiliency & Environmental Sustainability

On June 3, 2022 the Global Schools Program hosted a Stockholm+50 Associated event on “ESD as a Pathway for Community Resiliency and Environmental Sustainability” to review progress toward Stockholm+50’s Leadership Dialogue 2: “Achieving a Sustainable and Inclusive Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic.” The event linked education and climate action, sharing best practices as well as showcasing youth actions being taken at both the K12 and higher education levels.

Global Schools Program IN ASSOCIATION WITH **STOCKHOLM+50**

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
as a pathway for
Community
Resiliency and
Environmental
Sustainability

Speakers:
 FIKAYO AGHA, UNESCO SDG 4 Youth Network Rep, Nigeria
 VLADISLAV KAIM, UN Secretary General's Youth Advisor on Climate Change
 RADHIKA IYENGAR, Chair of Mission 4.7 & Director of Education, Center for Sustainable Development
 AMANDA ABROM, Program Manager, Global Schools Program
 LUCIA RODRIGUEZ, Director, Masters in Development Practice Program, SDG Academy
 HANDRICH HERNANDO, Coordinator, Social Impact and Sustainability Program, the Harbour School

Friday June 3, 12pm UTC

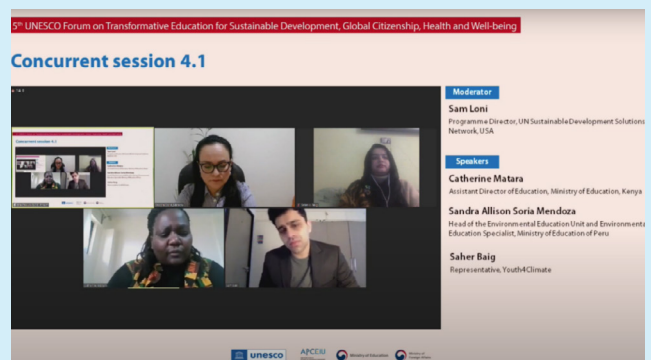
UNESCO Forum on Transformative Education

What does progress in transformative education look like? Conclusion and next steps - 4.1 Policymakers

From November 29 to December 1, 2021, UNESCO and APCEIU brought together experts in education for sustainable development, global citizenship education and education for health and well-being to discuss good practices, progress, monitoring and mainstreaming transformative education towards Sustainable Development Goal target 4.7.

1600 policy makers, education practitioners, experts and young people actively participated in the Forum to share their experience and knowledge.

Sam Loni, the Director of Global Schools, moderated a panel session with education policymakers, including: Ms Catherine Matara, Assistant Director of Education, Ministry of Education, Kenya; Ms Sandra Allison Soria Mendoza, Head of the Environmental Education Unit and Environmental Education Specialist, Ministry of Education of Peru; and Saher Baig, Youth Representative, Youth4Climate.



To read more about all our events, visit the [SDG Academy Blog!](#)



ENGAGING OUR ALUMNI

Created in 2018, the SDG Academy Alumni Network Facebook Group provides more than 5,900 course alumni with a platform to discuss the topics they learned in the courses and interact with each other. One of the most powerful components of education is inspiring stories. Through our “Learners’ Perspectives” blog series, we highlight the voices of our alumni to share their experiences, career paths, and overall commitment to sustainable development. Read some of the alumni stories below:

A Story of a Child Unheard

*I awake in the morning,
It is bright outside but darkness all around me.
I await the sweet voice, the warm loving arms,
For the cuddles and kisses, for the smiles.
But my waiting is all in vain.*

*I raise my voice in a loud cry,
And roarrrr, a lioness comes into the room.
She wears bitterness as her coat,
Her eyes beam with hatred,
Her steps fill me with panic,
And her speech is heart-rending.*

*I am dirty, my diaper full of poop,
But I will have to stay like this for a long while.
I am hungry but only to be fed on cold milk.
When I stretch to pick a toy and play,
Her stare keeps me in one place*

*It gets cold, but cannot get a warm cloth over my small body.
I am beaten, I am yelled at for any request I make though a loud cry.
There is no one around to save me,
No one to respond to my cues.*

*Where is she? The sweet voice, the warm loving arms.
She is gone to get the milk, the diapers,
To buy the food and try secure my future.
But I see it's all in vain,
If I do not get the best start in my life.*

*At dusk, agony and ecstasy fill my heart,
As I watch my warm loving arms walk into the dark room.
Her presence lights up my dark world.
Suddenly, the lioness turns to a sheep.
Her head bowed down like a reed,
So gentle, so loving and caring.
The question is, can she remain like this?*

*My mum is tired.
She cannot notice the bitterness that I have faced.
Even when I cry to stay in her loving arms,
She gives me back to the lioness.
She sees a sheep instead.*

*The lioness is not to blame.
She has never experienced happiness in her life.
Poverty surrounded her childhood like a hedge,
Love was very far from her.
She cannot give what she did not get.*

*But I am not alone, the question is,
Who is going to save us?
Where is that heart so loving to see to it that we reach our developmental potential?
Where is the nurturing care?
We are the generation you are counting on to create solutions that will move forward the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the next set of goals in 2030.*

By Eunice Nabadda, Alumna of “The Best Start in Life”



“Education is an important part of life and today; we must add the SDGs so that students understand as well as be able to help accomplish the 2030 Goals. All of humanity must work together in order to achieve the 2030 goals. In my own life, I hope that I have taught my own children how to live sustainably or at least try to live that way. It is a process that just doesn’t happen overnight and if we are quick to realize we are less than 10 years away from 2030. Everyone has the right to live in a sustainable world where we don’t have to fight for an education, food or security because of our ethnicity, race or religion.”

Alison Moran, Alumna of “One Planet, One Ocean”

PARTNERSHIPS

We are truly grateful for the support and commitment of our wonderful partners.



FUTURE DIRECTION AND OUTLOOK

The last year highlighted a critical need to build resilience in education. Emerging from a global pandemic and crises in Afghanistan and Ukraine, the world must reinforce support for education and recapture the gains lost over the last few years. Our educational landscape has been fundamentally altered, and we must adapt to build back better so that our schools, teachers, and students may withstand future crises.

The SDG Academy has long been invested in online education as a means to provide largescale access to quality learning opportunities. Yet, in the current climate, it has also become a means of resilience, ensuring education can continue despite the obstacles we face. Digital innovation is a key effort to evolving our education systems so that they are resilient, inclusive, and capable of meeting the challenges faced by people and the planet.

Within this context, the SDG Academy endeavors to expand its current efforts and launch new strategic activities. Utilizing a three-pillar approach to progress, the SDG Academy will develop work focused on **1. Content, 2. Pedagogy and Training, and 3. Community**. These areas will be enhanced by digital innovations that offer greater access to resources and instruction.





In fiscal year 2023, the SDG Academy will take the following concrete actions:

Content

- Expand the existing course library with new and timely MOOCs
- Curate the content of partners and highlight their work to a new audience
- Continue to grow the Book Club with Jeffrey Sachs Podcast
- Build out and curate content for the upskilling of workers and lifelong learning

Pedagogy and Training

- Increase enrollments in the current Online Master's programs to achieve the goal of scaling to a mass audience
- Expand the Online Master's to launch programs in new regions
- Integrate learning and instructional opportunities across Online Master's programs to build collaboration
- Develop further case studies of the Global Schools program to highlight methods of ESD integration in curricula
- Grow the network of MDP schools to continue to enrich development practice globally

Community

- Explore avenues for increasing access to open educational resources and make them widely available to the public
- Expand the Community of Practice and enrich offerings
- Further engage alumni communities to transition knowledge to action



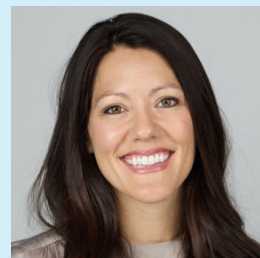
OUR TEAM



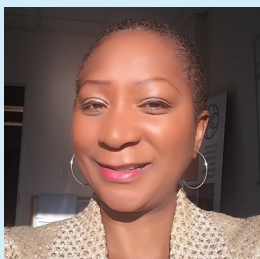
Jeffrey Sachs
President, SDSN



Patrick Paul Walsh
Vice President for
Education, SDSN, and
Director, SDG Academy



Amber Webb
Managing Director,
SDG Academy



Lucia Rodriguez
Director, Master's in
Development Practice (MDP)
Program Secretariat



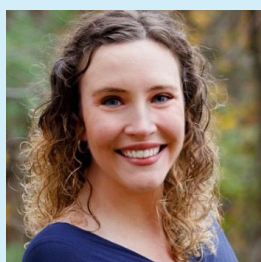
Kayla Colyard
Education Manager,
New York Office



Shannon Kobran
Regional Team Lead for Asia,
Kuala Lumpur Office



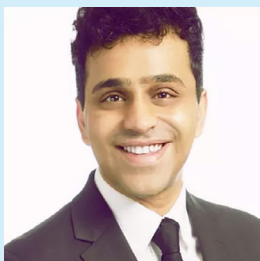
Imran Rasid
Education Manager,
Kuala Lumpur Office



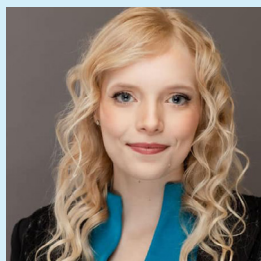
Meredith Storey
Education and Data Analytics
Manager, New York Office



Samantha Thompson
Communications Coordinator,
New York Office



Sam Loni
Director, Global Schools



Amanda Abrom
Program Manager,
Global Schools



Chandrika Bahadur
Former Vice President for
Education, SDSN, and Former
Director, SDG Academy

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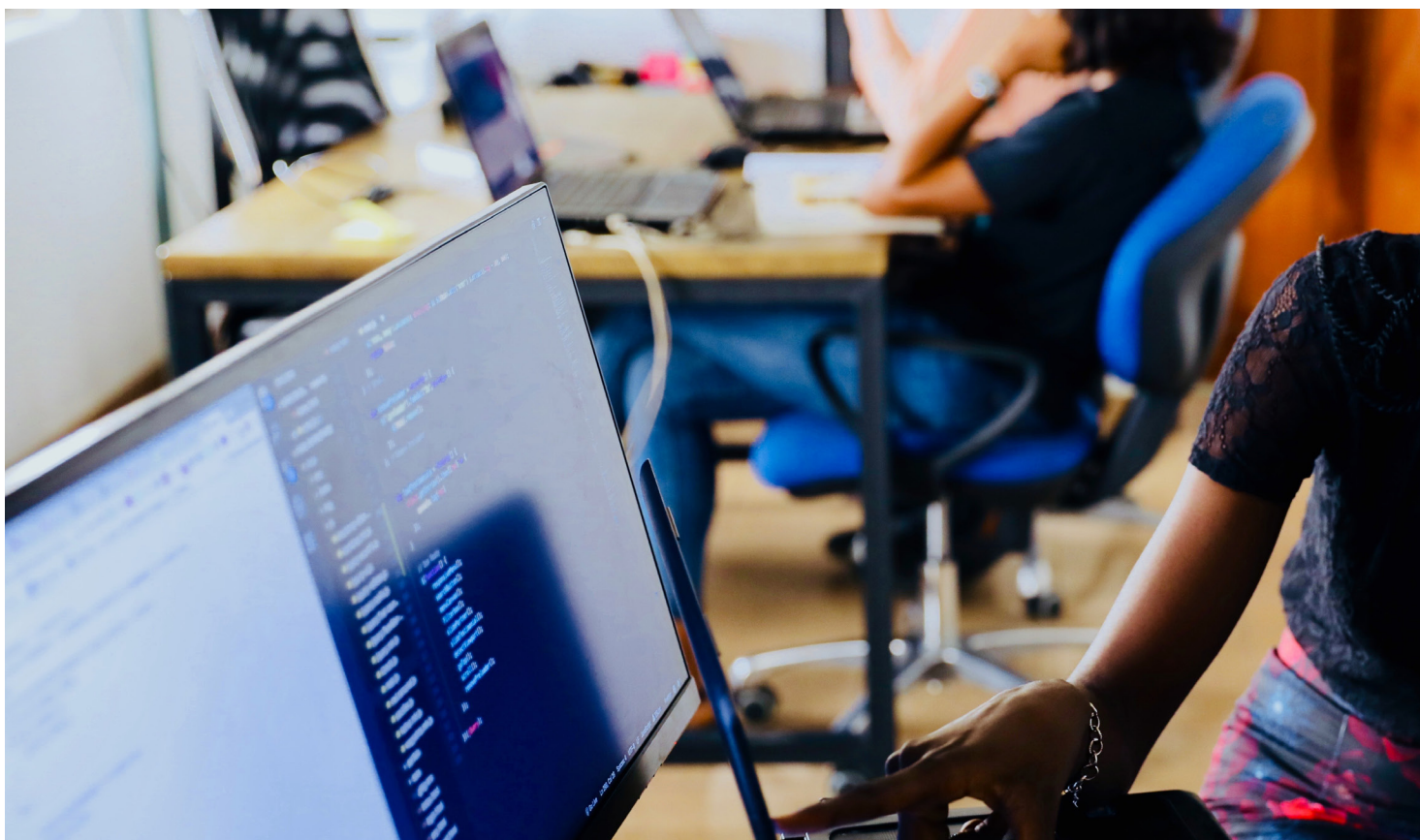
Rocky Tuan
Vice-Chancellor, Chinese
University of Hong Kong, and
Co-Chair, SDSN Hong Kong



Shireen Yacoub
CEO, Edraak



Chengzhi Yin
Executive Director of MDP, and
Associate Professor, School of
Public Policy and Management,
Tsinghua University



GET INVOLVED

We look forward to working closely with you and joining forces to realize education for sustainable development as the vehicle to create a better world for all.

The SDG Academy

Learn more about us
sdgacademy.org

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edx.org/school/sdgacademyx

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Contact us
sdgacademy@unsdsn.org

SDGacademy



■ Global Schools

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globalschoolsprogram.org

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Global Schools
Program

■ MDP Global

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mdpglobal.org

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Facebook Group:
[Master's in Development Practice \(MDP\)
Global Student Network](https://www.facebook.com/Master's%20in%20Development%20Practice%20(MDP)%20Global%20Student%20Network)

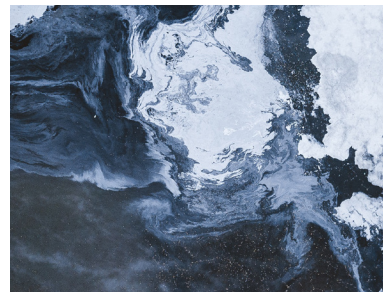
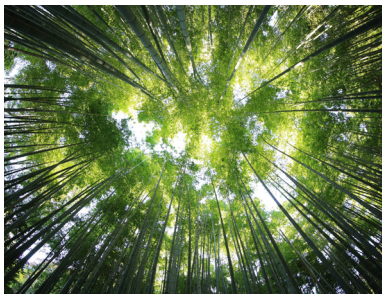


Master's in Development
Practice Secretariat




Produced by the **SDG Academy Team**

Designed by **Amy Au**



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