

A Connected Curriculum: Integrating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals within and across the Curriculum

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Abstract

Integration of SDGs across university wide curricula, in most cases, appears compartmentalized and lacking transdisciplinary perspective. The Connected Curriculum framework at University College Cork calls for reorienting curricula towards sustainability with the explicit integration of SDGs and involves not just transmitting knowledge about sustainability, but cultivating the mindset required for teaching staff to guide and equip students to address the critical challenges underpinning sustainable development. The holistic interconnected nature of SDGs has the potential to create context for transdisciplinary learning experiences.

This presentation showcases a dynamic framework highlighting where spaces exist in curricula to integrate SDGs by focusing on action-oriented outcomes. The project aims to provide equal access to ESD, often limited through the informal curriculum, to foster the development of globally minded and action-oriented citizens who are empowered to develop innovative solutions for a sustainable future.