

The Sustainable Development Goals and ICS Research Programs

In September 2015, the member states of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. At the core of this agenda are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ranging from ending poverty, ensuring quality education, and achieving gender equality, to fostering innovation, reducing inequalities within and among countries, and combatting climate change. These SDGs and their 169 targets engage both developing and developed countries to ensure that complex economic, social and environmental challenges are addressed through sustainable development carried out in a balanced and integrated manner. Actions are underpinned by commitment to the five 'Ps' – People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.

The Institute for Culture and Society is well positioned to contribute to the attainment of the SDGs. Even though the SDGs make very few explicit references to the value of culture and cultural heritage, institutions such as the British Council and consultancy groups such as Curating Tomorrow have demonstrated how culture, and cultural bodies, infrastructures and actors, are essential to realising the SDGs, and therefore to achieving the overarching, integrated aims of a sustainable biosphere, inclusive societies and economic growth.

Each of ICS's six Research Programs aligns with multiple SDGs. Each research program's alignment draws on the projects clustered under it. Alignment is based on the details of the targets associated with each SDG. The ICS and Young & Resilient Research Centre projects considered for this mapping are either currently active or concluded in 2020, with the mapping being indicative rather than comprehensive. Whilst projects themselves may have synergies with more than one research program, for the purposes of this mapping only one program per project has been considered.

Automated Worlds

Automated Worlds aligns overwhelmingly with

- SDG09: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
 - Target 9.1: Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.
 - Target 9.5: Enhance scientific research, upgrade the technological capabilities of industrial sectors in all countries, in particular developing countries, including, by 2030, encouraging innovation and substantially increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending.

Automated Worlds also contributes to the following:

- SDG08: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- SDG10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.

- SDG16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Borders and Diversity

Borders and Diversity aligns substantially with

- SDG04: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
 - Target 4.7: By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the 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.
- SDG10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.
 - Target 10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
- SDG11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
 - Target 11.3: By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.
 - Target 11.4: Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

Borders and Diversity also contributes to the following:

- SDG16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Cultural Infrastructures

Cultural Infrastructures aligns substantially with

- SDG11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
 - Target 11.4: Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.
 - Target 11.A: Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.
- SDG09: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

- Target 9.1: 'Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all.

Cultural Infrastructures also contributes to the following:

- SDG08: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
- SDG10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.
- SDG12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.

Environment and Technology

Environment and Technology aligns substantially with

- SDG15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
 - Target 15.5: Protect biodiversity and natural habitats.
 - Target 15.6: Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed.
 - Target 15.9: Integrate ecosystem and biodiversity in governmental planning.
- SDG16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
 - Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.
 - Target 16.B: Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.

Environment and Technology also contributes to the following:

- SDG09: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.
- SDG10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.
- SDG11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
- SDG13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- SDG17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

Urban Futures

Urban Futures aligns overwhelmingly with

- SDG11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

- Target 11.1: By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums.
- Target 11.3: By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries.
- Target 11.A: Support positive economic, social and environmental links between urban, peri-urban and rural areas by strengthening national and regional development planning.

Urban Futures also contributes substantially to the following:

- SDG01: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
 - Target 1.3: Implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.
- SDG12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
 - Target 12.6: Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle.
 - Target 12.8: By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.

Young and Resilient

Young and Resilient aligns overwhelmingly with

- SDG16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
 - Target 16.1: Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.
 - Target 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.
 - Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.
 - Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.
 - Target 16.10: Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

Young and Resilient also contributes significantly to the following:

- SDG10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.
 - Target 10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

and aligns with the following SDGs as well:

- SDG03: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages.
- SDG04: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
- SDG05: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
- SDG17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.