Tool: **SDG Framework**

Introduction: SDG Framework in Sustainable Entrepreneurship for Universities

MMS, Ireland

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Introduction

The SDG Framework Tool helps universities and organizations align with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by integrating sustainability into operations, research, teaching, and community engagement. It provides tools for assessing impacts, setting priorities, and tracking progress. Resources like the SDG Impact Assessment Tool and SDG Compass support implementation, with expected outcomes including enhanced sustainability practices and collaboration. Examples from University College Cork and University College Galway show successful SDG Framework integration in higher education.

01 SDG Framework Purpose & Description

02 Resources & Supports Needed & Expected Outcomes

03 Instructions to Use SDG Frameworks Tool and Expected Outcomes

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SDG Framework in Sustainable Entrepreneurship for Universities

Purpose

Challenge: Proper Linkage, Frameworks, and Alignment with SDGs in Sustainable Entrepreneurship
Framework: SDG Framework: Sustainable Entrepreneurship Alignment Framework
Tool Name: SDG Alignment Toolkit for University Entrepreneurship

The SDG framework is designed to assist universities, departments, and faculties in aligning their orientation strategies for sustainable entrepreneurship with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It provides a structured approach to integrating SDG-linked objectives into entrepreneurial education, research, and practice, ensuring relevance to global sustainability challenges.

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Instructions: How to Use + Expected Outcomes

1. Review the "Getting Started with SDGs in Universities" guide for foundational strategies.

2. Map institutional activities to relevant SDGs using the SDG Compass.

3. Use the SDG Impact Assessment Tool to evaluate current impact.

4. Align curricula, research, and partnerships with identified goals.

5. Apply findings to develop targeted actions, policies, and innovations.

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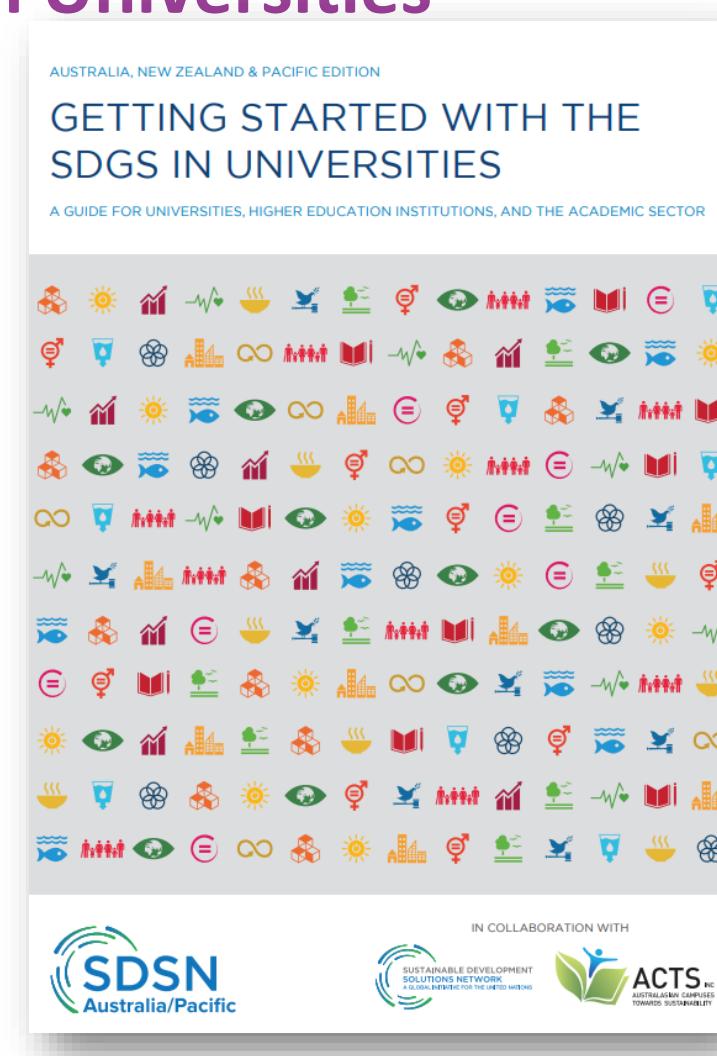
Expected Outcomes

1. Clear SDG-aligned strategy and goals.

2. Sustainable innovation in curricula and research.

3. Enhanced university-industry-community collaboration.

4. Improved ability to measure and communicate impact.

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TOOL: Getting Started With The SDGs In Universities

Developing a Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) framework tailored to sustainable entrepreneurship is a commendable initiative for universities aiming to integrate sustainability into their core activities. This presentation helps provide guidance, examples of university applications, valuable frameworks and case studies to assist in your journey.

'Getting Started with the SDGs in Universities": This guide is a great tool to help you start providing practical approaches for universities to engage with the SDGs, including case studies and strategies for integration across teaching, research, operations, and partnerships.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND & PACIFIC EDITION

GETTING STARTED WITH THE SDGS IN UNIVERSITIES

A GUIDE FOR UNIVERSITIES, HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, AND THE ACADEMIC SECTOR

SDSN Australia/Pacific

IN COLLABORATION WITH

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

ACTS INC
AUSTRALASIAN CAMPUSES TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY

Universities Role in Supporting the SDGs

Due to their unique position in society as drivers of both innovation and knowledge dissemination, Universities have a critical role to play if we are to achieve the SDGs by 2030. Significantly, Universities can also greatly benefit by engaging in the SDGs.

RESEARCH

Addressing the challenges of the SDGs requires new knowledge, new processes, hard choices between competing options, and in some cases profound transformations. Universities drive technological and societal progress through research, discovery, knowledge creation, and adoption.

EDUCATION

Universities play a key role in inspiring and educating current and future leaders, decision-makers, teachers, innovators, entrepreneurs, and citizens with the knowledge, skills and motivation that will help them contribute to achieving the SDGs.

GOVERNANCE AND CULTURE

Universities are diverse and complex and often have a large footprint in their communities. By implementing the principles of the SDGs within their own governance, operations and culture, universities can directly contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.

PARTNERSHIP AND OUTREACH

Due to their position as a neutral and trusted stakeholder in society, universities are able to guide and lead the local, national, and international response to the SDGs. Public engagement is also critical for establishing broad understanding and acceptance of the SDGs.

The Case for University Engagement in the SDGs

How do the SDGs help universities?

Create increased demand for SDG related education

Provide a comprehensive and globally accepted definition of a responsible university

Offer a framework for demonstrating impact

Create new funding streams

Support collaboration with new external and internal partners

Knowledge

Learning

Demonstration

Impact

Collaboration

How do universities help the SDGs?

Provide knowledge, innovations and solutions to the SDGs

Create current and future SDG implementers

Demonstrate how to support, adopt and implement SDGs in governance, operations and culture

Develop cross-sectoral leadership to guide the SDG response

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

https://ap-unsdsn.org/wp-content/uploads/University-SDG-Guide_web.pdf

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SDG Framework Description

The SDG Framework enables third level institutions to:

❑ Map their entrepreneurial activities and strategies to specific SDGs.

❑ Design programs, curricula, and research initiatives that enable sustainable innovation.

❑ Establish clear metrics for evaluating the social, economic, and environmental impacts of entrepreneurship activities.

❑ Facilitate collaboration between academic institutions, industry, and communities to address sustainability challenges effectively.

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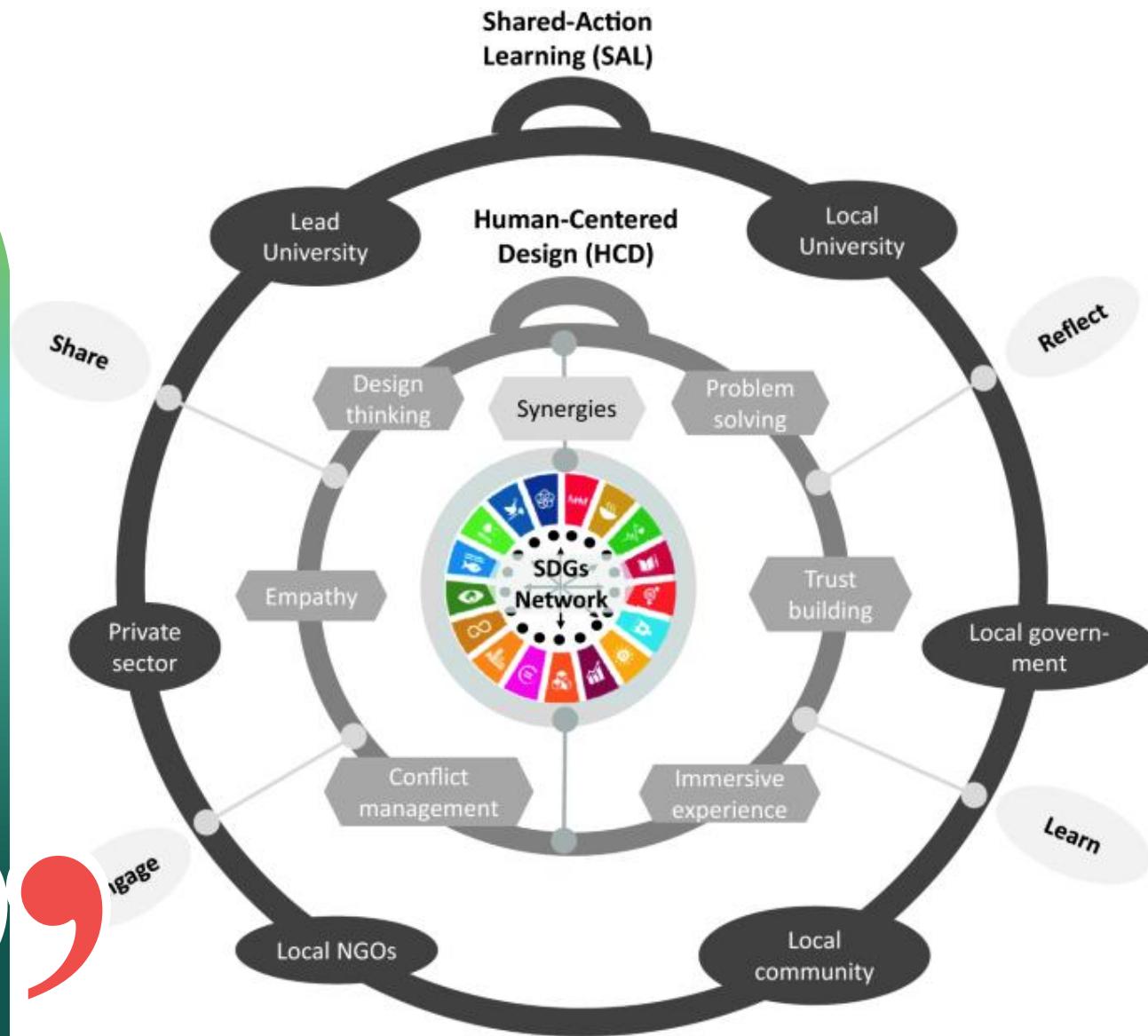
Classification Criteria

✓ **SDG Relevance:** Align activities with one or more SDGs (e.g., SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure, SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production).

✓ **Scale of Impact:** Focus on local, regional, or global impact.

✓ **Stakeholder Involvement:** Engage lecturers, students, faculty managers and administrators, industry partners, and community members.

✓ **Type of Initiative:** Categorise activities as educational, research-driven, or community-based.

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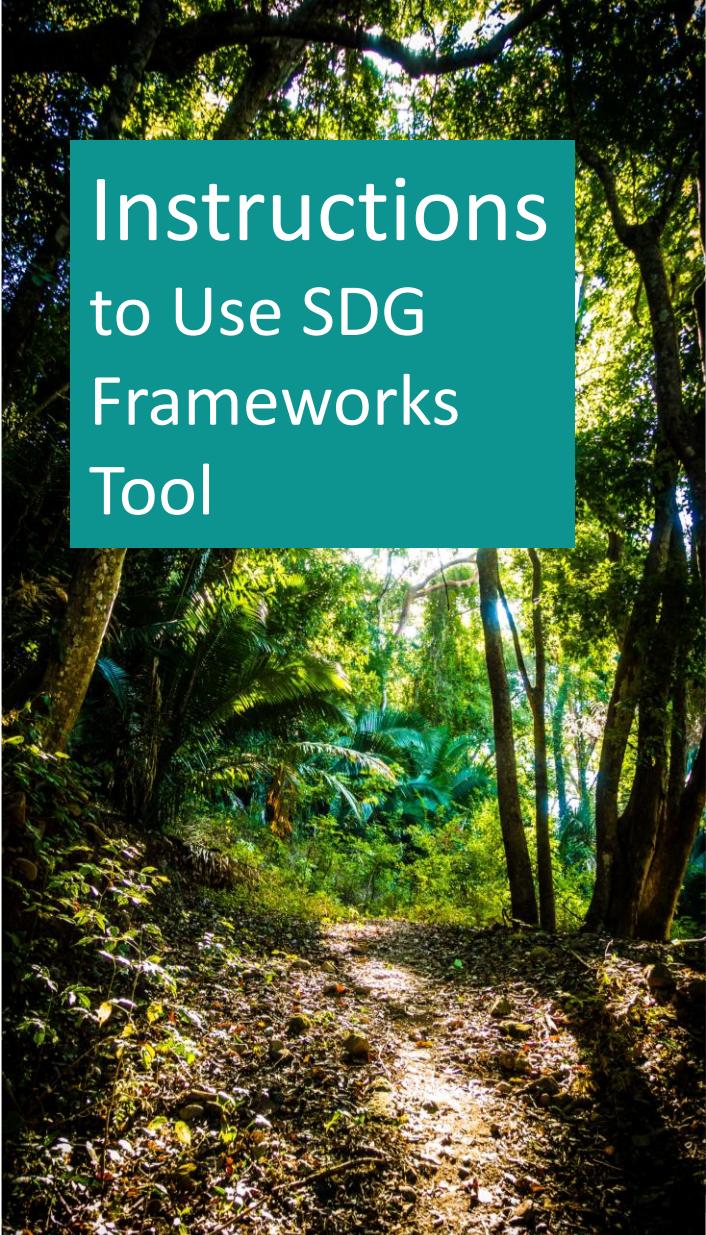
"University of Galway was awarded SDG Champion status for the year 2023/24. The SDG Champions Programme aims to raise public awareness of the SDGs and highlight institutions making significant progress towards achieving them. The role of an SDG Champion is to act as an advocate and promoter of the SDGs and as a good practice example of how an organisation can contribute to the SDGs and integrate the SDGs into their work and activities. As part of its Champion tenure University of Galway hosted the Government of Ireland national SDG Champions on campus for a day of discussion and dialogue on the themes of Climate Action (SDG 13) and Partnerships (SDG17)."

University College Galway, Ireland

A framework for developing university-led initiatives for the co-creation and implementation of SDG solutions

Instructions
to Use SDG
Frameworks
Tool

1

Orientation and Awareness

Conduct workshops to familiarise faculty and students with SDGs and their relevance to entrepreneurship.

2

Mapping Current Activities

Use a mapping exercise to identify existing entrepreneurial initiatives and their potential links to SDGs.
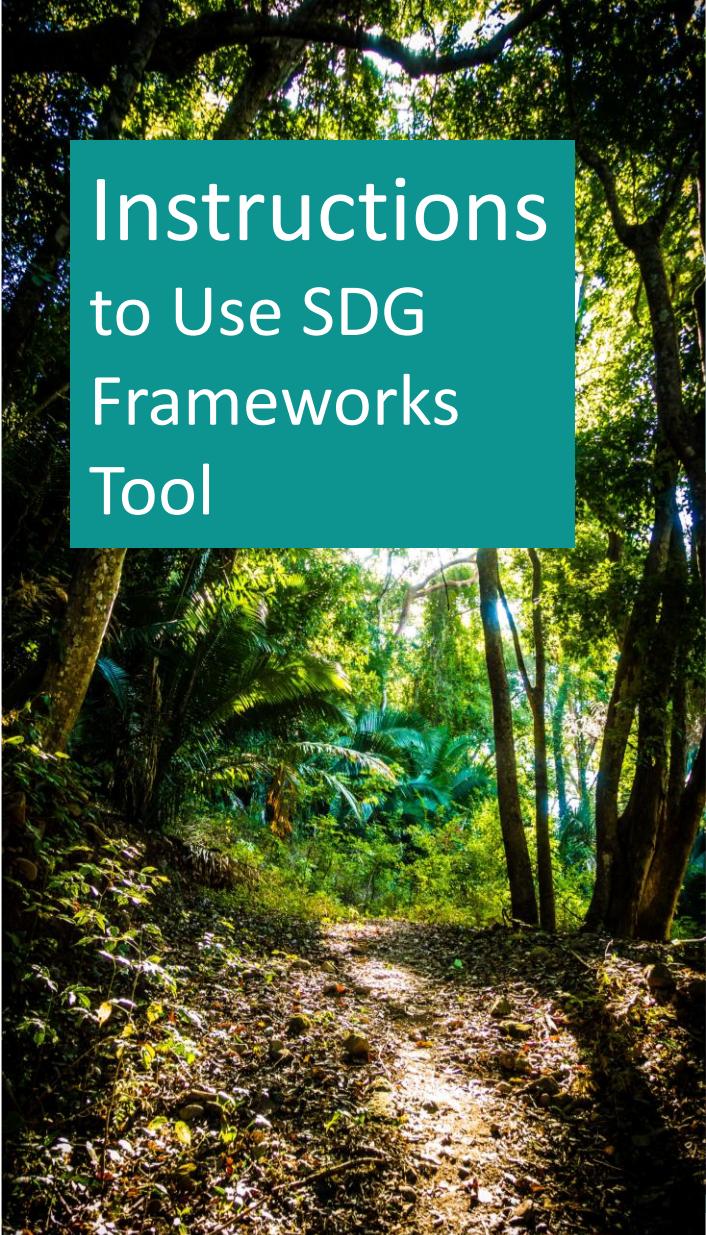
3

Framework Application

Apply the framework to evaluate and adjust current strategies to align with specific SDGs.

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4

Capacity Building

Provide training in sustainable entrepreneurship practices and SDG impact assessment.

5

Implementation and Monitoring

Develop action plans, implement initiatives, and regularly monitor progress using SDG-aligned indicators.

6

Reporting and Sharing

Share outcomes with stakeholders through reports, case studies, and academic publications.

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Thank you

Any questions?

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