2023 HESI GLOBAL FORUM
17 JULY 2023, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
CONFERENCE ROOM 2, UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK & VIRTUAL

HIGHLIGHTING THE CRITICAL ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Starting soon!

OPENING
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Opening segment & keynote address

SESSION 1
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM
High-level panel with university leaders

The role of higher education in accelerating the recovery from COVID-19 and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda at all levels

SESSION 2
11:15 AM - 11:50 AM
Rapid presentations on levers of sector transformation

Featuring key higher education initiatives and action groups that drive implementation of the SDGs

SESSION 3
11:50 AM - 12:55 PM
Student & youth led panel

Harnessing the creativity, passion and innovation of students and young people for driving implementation of the SDGs

CLOSING
12:55 PM - 1:00 PM

Organized as a special event to the United Nations High-Level Political Forum 10 - 19 July 2023
2023 HESI GLOBAL FORUM

OPENING SEGMENT AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

More: https://sdgs.un.org/HESI

Open remarks

Ms. Maria-Francesca Spatolisano
Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs of United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Ms. Stefania Giannini
Assistant Director-General for Education of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

Keynote address: Transforming higher education in a disruptive digital era

Professor Tshilidzi Marwala
Rector and Under-Secretary-General, United Nations University
SESSION 1:

HIGH-LEVEL PANEL WITH UNIVERSITY LEADERS
10:30 - 11:15 AM


MODERATOR

Mr. Nikhil Seth
United Nations Assistant Secretary-General, Executive Director, UNITAR

SPEAKER

Mr. Ángel Cabrera
President
Georgia Institute of Technology

SPEAKER

Ms. Julia Christensen Hughes
President and Vice-Chancellor
Yorkville University

SPEAKER

Ms. Romeela Mohee
Commissioner of the Higher Education Commission, Mauritius

SPEAKER

Ms. Susan Rundell Singer
President
St. Olaf College

SPEAKER

Ms. Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi
Chancellor
Nelson Mandela University

More: https://sdgs.un.org/HE
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SESSION 2:
RAPID PRESENTATIONS ON LEVERS OF SECTOR TRANSFORMATION
11:15 - 11:50 AM

FEATURING KEY HIGHER EDUCATION INITIATIVES AND ACTION GROUPS THAT DRIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGS, PARTICULARLY FOR GOALS UNDER REVIEW AT HLPF IN 2023

FACILITATOR
Mr. Jean-Christophe Carteron
President
Sulitest, HESI Co-Chair

Ms. Debra Rowe
Co-Chair
HESI Education for Green Jobs Action Group

Mr. Duncan Ross
Co-Chair
HESI Ratings, Rankings and Assessments Action Group

Mr. Aurélien Decamps
Managing Director and Co-Founder
Sulitest

Ms. Jayashri Wyatt
Chief of Education and Outreach
United Nations Department of Global Communications and United Nations Academic Impact

Mr. Chirag Jay Patel
Head of Sales, Americas
Human+AI, SDGs, Science Communications
Cactus Communications

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More: https://sdgs.un.org/HESI
**WHAT PROBLEM ARE YOU WORKING TO SOLVE?**

**HESI ACTION GROUP: EDUCATION FOR GREEN JOBS**

- **What:** Increase the rate and quality of workforce preparation for inclusive transitions to green and sustainable human societies globally.

- **How:** Provide practical tools, key opportunities, actionable guidance and a virtual international community of practice.

- **For Who:** Educators, employers, career advisors, recruiters, policymakers, program developers and other allies.

- **Focus Areas for Improvement:**
  - Student recruitment and career advising
  - Employee Placements and Retention
  - Curricular upgrades and integration
  - Professional development
  - Inclusion
WHAT PROBLEM ARE YOU WORKING TO SOLVE?

HESI ACTION GROUP: RATINGS, RANKINGS & ASSESSMENTS

• Higher Education has a significant role to play in addressing the SDGs.
  ◦ With more than 35,000 HEIs globally, their potential for impact is significant – thus support and encouragement of their progress are critical to achievement of the SDGs.

• Although there is no single organization with oversight of HEIs, there are a number of ranking, rating and assessment organizations that assess HEI performance.

• By encouraging these organizations to focus on the appropriate measures of sustainability we can help to change the sector.

• This is one of the levers that can be used (although there are others).
• No one can afford not knowing nor acting about sustainability NOW

• How to increase the sustainability literacy of all current and future decisions makers?

• How to build the common language that enable individuals to collaborate and act for a sustainable future?

• How to equip higher education institutions and organizations with relevant tools and data to pilot and demonstrate their impact on sustainability literacy?
WHAT PROBLEM ARE YOU WORKING TO SOLVE?

HESI ACTION GROUP: SDG PUBLISHERS COMPACT

• Drive progress towards the SDGs

• Provide practical tools and actionable guidance that publishers, editors, researchers and practitioners can use to prioritize SDGs in the research agenda and in educational materials while improving connections between practice and research
WHAT PROBLEM ARE YOU WORKING TO SOLVE?

THE UNITED NATIONS ACADEMIC IMPACT (UNAI)

• The United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) is an initiative that engages institutions of higher education with the United Nations in supporting and contributing to the realization of the Organization's purposes and principles, including the SDGs
  ◦ 1,600 member institutions
  ◦ 150 countries

• **Voluntary University Reviews (VURs)** could form an important connection

• The responsibility of UNAI member institutions is to actively support at least one of the Sustainable Development Goals or the 10 UNAI principles. This support will enable a sharing of experiences and best practices as well as the infusion of scholarship to advance social, economic and sustainability objectives.
WHAT PROBLEM ARE YOU WORKING TO SOLVE?

- Knowledge gap on integrating SDGs into higher ed globally
- Connect higher education institutions, networks & student organizations to facilitate transfer of knowledge
- Focus on curricula; research and development; campus practices
**ACTIONS & FUTURE PLANS**

**HESI ACTION GROUP: EDUCATION FOR GREEN JOBS**

**This year:**
- Expanded the virtual community: ~ 4000 participants from over 100 countries
- Created seven Solutions Summits
- Compiled and shared resources
- Developed a toolkit highlighting opportunities and good practices
- Supported the creation of cross sector stakeholder alliances
- Connecting cities, students, and experts, with a special emphasis on the global south
- Empowered youth to be change agents

**Future plans:**
- Increase collaboration within and across countries for better workforce development, placements, inclusion and retention
- Deepen the efforts within the virtual community to fill in the gaps in existing efforts
- Empower and support key system shifts to accelerate workforce development and meet the needs for an inclusive transition to sustainable societies

For more information, see:
- [cleanenergyministerial.org/ipec-convenings/](cleanenergyministerial.org/ipec-convenings/)
This year:

• Working with the joint task force on outcomes to understand how measurement of activities across all aspects of sustainability can move from measuring inputs towards measuring differential outcomes.

• Gathering data on existing initiatives in the rankings and ratings space

• This year has also seen the review of several methodologies, and an extension of the number of HEIs providing data to sustainability measurements.

Future plans:

• Encourage accreditation agencies to adopt sustainability as part of their requirements

• Work with the bibliometrics suppliers to explore ways of evaluating the SDGs

• Continue to evaluate existing rankings and ratings by refreshing the survey
**SULITEST**

**ACTIONS & FUTURE PLANS**

**This year:**
- Task- The Assessment of Sustainability Knowledge
  - Online robust assessment
  - Systemic model of sustainability knowledge
  - Producing reliable & comparable data
  - A certificate to demonstrate a level of sustainability knowledge

- A community of Change Leaders
  - Higher education institutions committed to mainstream sustainability literacy
  - Learning from their peers & stakeholders

**Future plans:**
- TASK sets a new international standard of sustainability knowledge
- A systemic impact on curriculum redesign and education

**Join the Sulitest HLPF Side Event – 18 July 18.30-20.00 – Conf Room C**
**ACTIONS & FUTURE PLANS**

**HESI ACTION GROUP: SDG PUBLISHERS COMPACT**

**This year:**
- Published 8 Top Action Tips guides - [sdgcompactfellows.org/top-action-tips](http://sdgcompactfellows.org/top-action-tips)
- Presented Top Action Tips at 8 targeted training and engagement events, including
  - Two Solutions Summits for Editors and Researchers - [tinyurl.com/ActionTipsSummits](https://tinyurl.com/ActionTipsSummits)
  - DORA@10 Workshop on Plain Language Summaries - [tinyurl.com/PlainLanguageSummaries](https://tinyurl.com/PlainLanguageSummaries)
- Developed the SDG Rubric for Textbooks: [sdgcompactfellows.org/s/SDG-Textbook-Rubric.pdf](http://sdgcompactfellows.org/s/SDG-Textbook-Rubric.pdf)
- Created cross stakeholder alliances

**Future plans:**
- Increase number of members of SDG Publishers Compact - [un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdg-publishers-compact/](http://un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdg-publishers-compact/)
- Grow the community connected to the SDG Compact Fellows - contact us via the website
- Host three more summits
- Motivate more stakeholders to publish and implement Top Action Tips
- Publish more SDG related content, make it easy to find, and accessible
- Publish on emphasizing research outcomes instead of citation outputs
- Leverage AI to improve SDG content useability and accessibility

**Learned:**
- We can all make a difference, and often small changes can have a big effect (such as implementing our Top Tips!)
- There is lots of support for the SDGs but incentives structures don’t always align with the SDGs - a role for academics, funders, policymakers
UNAI SDGs workshops & trainings

- UNAI hosts a series of workshops and trainings to build capacity for universities and colleges, emphasizing the contributions of academia in advancing the SDGs and fostering the involvement of these institutions. This year, UNAI has led 20+ trainings.

SDG Toolkit, partnerships & conferences:

- UNAI partners with aggregators of research to create informational SDGs toolkits; to provide platforms of discussion for side-events, including this year's 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women and UN Water Conference; and to engage at conferences in learning and sharing best practices.

Voluntary University Reviews:

- UNAI is guiding member institutions in the formation of a standardized method for delivering Voluntary University Reviews, intended for institutions to track their own progress as well as increase the UN's analytical capacity in implementing the 2030 Agenda.
This year:

• Mapped expertise and conducted needs analysis
• Organized first brainstorming workshop
• Workshop on Curricula group

Future plans:

• Organize workshops for other focus groups
• Continue deepening relationships & partnerships
• Expand membership

SDGS.UN.ORG/HESI/PARTNER
SESSION 3:

STUDENT & YOUTH LED PANEL
12:05 - 12:50 PM

HARNESSING THE CREATIVITY, PASSION AND INNOVATION OF STUDENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE FOR驅動實施SDGs

MODERATOR

Mr. Brighton Kaoma
Global Director
SDSN Youth

Featuring a student viewing party organized by the United Nations University represented by Mr. Bright Osei Yeboah
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CLOSING SEGMENT

12:55 PM - 1:00 PM

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Mr. Sam Barratt
Chief, Environmental Education and Youth Unit, United Nations Environment Programme, Co-Chair of HESI

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THANK YOU FOR JOINING!

More & recording: https://sdgs.un.org/HESI

Organized as a special event to the United Nations High-Level Political Forum 10 - 19 July 2023
Green Gown Awards International

Awards Ceremony
17th July 2023 - 1330 EST

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JOIN VIRTUALLY AT: WWW.GREENGOWNAWARDS.ORG/INTERNATIONAL AWARDS-CEREMONY