

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) is a global network that mobilises scientific and technical expertise to promote practical problem solving for sustainable development including the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## The opportunity

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which came into effect in 2016, are inspiring stakeholders from all sectors and countries to come together around a shared agenda of ending extreme poverty, promoting prosperity and well-being for all, protecting the environment, addressing climate change, and encouraging good governance, peace and security.

The SDGs offer an unprecedented opportunity for universities and knowledge institutions to apply their combined expertise, capacity for innovation, and education of the next generations towards addressing some of the most critical issues facing the world.



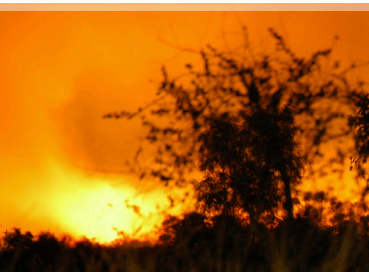
**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**

# A global network of problem solvers – The Sustainable Development Solutions Network

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) was launched in 2012 by United Nations Secretary General Ban-Ki Moon to mobilise global scientific and technological expertise in support of sustainable development and the SDGs.

SDSN is a global network of leading universities, sustainable development experts and knowledge institutions, which partners with government, business, civil society, and the United Nations on a range of practical initiatives:

- » **Support for the SDGs and Agenda 2030** through analysis and technical recommendations on areas such as integrated sustainable development pathways, data, monitoring and review, financing for development, and the SDG Index and Dashboards.
- » **National and Regional SDSN networks** that mobilise and empower over 500 member universities and other knowledge institutions from over 80 countries in support of the SDGs.
- » **Thematic Networks** that foster collaboration and knowledge sharing among experts on key areas of sustainable development, such as health, cities and sustainable agriculture.
- » **Solution initiatives** including deep decarbonisation pathways for countries and collaborative projects with governments and business.
- » **SDG Academy**, an online platform offering free online courses in sustainable development topics from world leading experts.
- » **SDSN Youth** to mobilise young people around the world to prioritise the SDGs and to promote practical youth-led solutions.



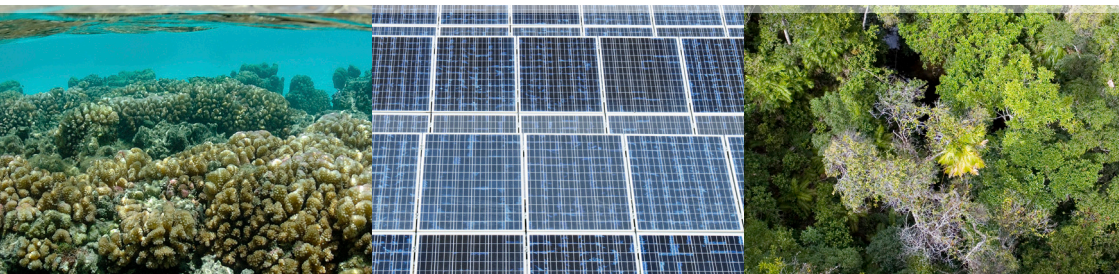
## A unique regional perspective – SDSN Australia/Pacific

The SDGs are a global agenda, but to make a difference in our region their implementation must address our unique regional, national and local contexts. And while national governments have official responsibility for addressing the SDGs, involvement by all sectors and partnerships between them will be necessary for success. These discussions are happening in our region now, and the participation of universities and knowledge institutions is essential.

SDSN Australia/Pacific aims to mobilise universities and knowledge institutions in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific to play a leading role in the implementation of the SDGs through their core capabilities of research, graduate and undergraduate education, capacity building, student leadership, corporate responsibility, and community leadership.

We work to bring our collective strength to:

- » **Support universities to advance the SDGs** by linking institutions and individuals both within our region and across the global SDSN community to share ideas, approaches and expertise.
- » **Leverage more funding and grow partnerships** with local and international institutions by identifying opportunities for collaborative research initiatives related to sustainable development.
- » **Increase our regional influence** by advocating for universities to be included in national and regional discussions on the SDGs.
- » **Increase academic collaboration** with governments, business and NGOs on developing and implementing solutions to the SDGs.
- » **Increase our global impact** with governments and organisations, including the UN, by providing an influential voice for our region in global high-profile SDSN activities.
- » **Prepare our students** with the skills, knowledge and networks for addressing major global challenges through teaching resources and a global youth network.



## Our network

SDSN Australia/Pacific currently comprises almost 30 SDSN member institutions based in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands, and is steadily growing. Members include universities, research institutions and NGOs with deep expertise in one or more areas of sustainable development knowledge generation or application.

Our Secretariat is hosted by Monash University and chaired by Professor John Thwaites, who is also a Co-Chair of the global SDSN Leadership Council.

Our current focus areas are:

- » **SDGs and Universities:** Supporting universities to engage with the SDGs and demonstrating their importance in SDG implementation. Initiatives include the guide *Getting Started with the SDGs in Universities* and has initiated the signatory-based *University Commitment to the SDGs*.
- » **SDG localisation:** Since 2013, we have been fostering leadership in the local and national implementation of the SDGs in our region and beyond through capacity building across all levels, creating cross-sector dialogue and action, and identifying the opportunities of the SDG.
- » **Deep decarbonisation pathways:** The Australian contribution to SDSN's global flagship project, which mapped how the world's largest emitters can transform their energy systems to keep the rise in global temperatures to less than 2°C.
- » **SDSN Youth:** We work to support the establishment of SDSN Youth, which was set up by passionate young people in our region and is now part of the global SDSN

## Our members

- » Auckland University of Technology
- » Australian Council for International Development
- » Australian National University
- » Australian Sustainable Built Environment Council
- » Canberra Urban and Regional Futures
- » Centre for Policy Development
- » Centre for Responsible Citizenship and Sustainability, Murdoch University
- » ClimateWorks Australia
- » Council for International Development, New Zealand
- » Curtin University Sustainability Policy Institute
- » Deakin University
- » Global Ideas
- » James Cook University
- » Massey University
- » Monash University
- » The Mulloon Institute
- » Pacific Center for Environment and Sustainable Development, University of the South Pacific
- » The Pacific Community/ Communauté du Pacifique
- » Pacific Institute for Public Policy
- » RMIT University
- » Unitec Institute of Technology
- » University of Adelaide
- » University of Auckland
- » University of Melbourne
- » University of Queensland
- » University of Technology, Sydney
- » University of Western Australia
- » Victoria University of Wellington

## Contact us

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## Join the SDSN

Learn more about SDSN membership benefits and apply at [unsdsn.org/join](https://unsdsn.org/join)

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