

During the 2016/2017 reporting period, University of Southampton undertook a number of activities that underscore its commitment to UNAI and its principles. The following examples stand out as particularly noteworthy:

Public Lecture Series :

The University held a public lecture series themed around the environment and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Speakers were drawn from industry, policy-making and academia to explore challenges and potential solutions.

1. Sustainable Cities (SDG11) :

The first lecture was on Sustainable Cities (SDG11), and explored the challenges, trade-offs and innovative approaches to make urban systems more environmentally sustainable. The speakers discussed how



cities may develop to allow people to feed and accommodate themselves, power themselves with renewable sources of energy, and provide efficient, mass transit systems. They also explored how we may protect such cities against sea level rise, flooding, natural and man-made disasters, heatwaves and the spread of disease.



Disclaimer: This activity report has been submitted by University of Southampton and does not necessarily reflect the views of or represent an endorsement by the United Nations Academic Impact.

2. Food Security (SDG2)



Food security (SDG2) was the subject of the second lecture, and in particular holistic approaches to address the “perfect storm” – the nexus of food water and energy, all of which need to increase by 30-50% by 2030 in order to stop events such as mass migration and conflict from occurring. Ensuring food security links to most of the other Sustainable Development Goals getting food right will enable many of the other challenges to be addressed.

3. Oceans and Climate (SDG14)

The third lecture focussed on oceans and climate (SDG14). The World Ocean has changed substantially over the last 60 years. The delicate balance of heat exchange between the ocean and atmosphere has been broken, and the oceans are inexorably warming as a consequence of our carbon dioxide emissions. At the event, the challenges and innovative approaches used to understand and predict global ocean change were explored and discussed.



4. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



The final lecture was on delivering the Sustainable Development Goals, The 17 SDGs are a massive challenge to the international community, and will require concerted action over the next decade and beyond. Our keynote speaker, Baroness Scotland, Director General of the Commonwealth, explored some of the major challenges at the political level to deliver the SDGs, and the role that bodies like the Commonwealth might play in bringing countries

Disclaimer: This activity report has been submitted by University of Southampton and does not necessarily reflect the views of or represent an endorsement by the United Nations Academic Impact.

together. The event also looked at development aid from nation states, and the role that universities and academic experts can play in supporting national and international policy makers over the coming years.

Link : www.southampton.ac.uk

Disclaimer: This activity report has been submitted by University of Southampton and does not necessarily reflect the views of or represent an endorsement by the United Nations Academic Impact.