Getting started with the SDGs: Charting a course for implementation

Thursday 2nd July   10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Course Objectives

Building on the handbook "Getting Started with the Sustainable Development Goals: A Guide to National Planning" (1), developed by the Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) 2015 Human Ecology class, SDSN will host a training session during the High level political forum.

The main goal is to provide tools on how to begin the process of planning for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through developing a multi-stakeholder national vision. In this framework, we will have group exercises that aim at replicating the national process of developing a common vision on the SDGs, in which different stakeholders will present their views and agree on a shared mission statement.

Later, we will introduce the Two-Day Sustainable Development Strategy Workshop proposed by the handbook, and get live feedback from the participants on its content and structure.

In the final part of the course, we will present tools and practical steps that are useful for getting started with the implementation of the SDGs, as well as case studies to illustrate how the process looks in different countries.

Additionally, we will provide examples of how civil society, businesses and other stakeholders can actively participate in the process. We will facilitate the workshop as an open dialogue, inviting questions and comments from the audience, and will hand out a compilation of tools and case studies, based on the Handbook.

Preliminary Agenda

3pm   **Introduce the Two-Day Sustainable Development Strategy Workshop Facilitators**
        - Introduce Handbook
        - Structure and mission of the workshop
        - The importance of a national vision

---

[1] http://sdghandbook.sumit.io

4:00pm   **Open discussion and feedback from the audience**
Facilitators
- Use iClicker for audience to anonymously provide feedback
- Open dialogue about experience

5:00pm   **Getting Started – Steps to the Implementation Process**
Facilitators
- Use case studies to illustrate next steps from designing a multistakeholder national vision
* Low, middle and high income countries;
* Local governments;
* Engaging youth in the process (SDSN Youth)
- Benchmarking
- Backcasting and identifying opportunities
- Budgeting
- Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)
- Useful tools and resources

5:45pm   **Conclusion and distribution of handouts**
Facilitators

Organizer

Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

Instructors

Ms. Jessica Espey
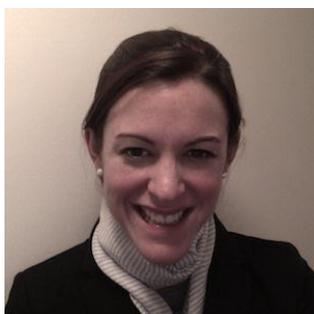
Jessica Espey is the Associate Director of the SDSN and head of its New York office. Jessica also leads SDSN's post-2015 monitoring and accountability initiative, which also explores investments and innovations that could help to strengthen national and global monitoring systems. Prior to joining SDSN, Jessica served as a special adviser on the post-2015 agenda within the Office of the President of Liberia, supporting the work of The High Level Panel of Eminent Persons (of which President Sirleaf was co-chair) and the development of the Common African Position on the Post-2015 Agenda. For three years prior, she was a senior researcher for Save the Children UK, who initially supported her work in Liberia on secondment. She has also worked as a researcher at the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) and the British Institute in Eastern Africa (BIEA). She has particular expertise in the study of inequality, age and gender discrimination. Jessica holds a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Modern History from the University of Oxford and a Masters of Sciences in the Political Economy of Development from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Professor Patrick Paul Walsh

Patrick Paul Walsh is the Chair of International Development Studies in University College Dublin, Ireland. During the Academic Year 2014-2015 he will be a Visiting Scholar at the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Earth Institute, Columbia University in New York.

He received a Ph.D. in Economics from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is a Fellow with the Government of Ireland, Marie Curie (Brussels), IZA (Bonn), RSA (London) and REPOA (Tanzania).

His current research is on Agricultural Productivity in East Africa, Social Security for all, Socioeconomic impact of HIV/AIDS in clinical trials, Election Outcomes in Malawi, Patterns of Post-Conflict Resolution in the Great Lakes Region, Cartels and Global Food Security and issues surrounding the proposed Sustainable Development Goals, among other issues. During 1992-2007 he worked in Trinity College Dublin a College Fellow and Dean of Social and Human Sciences. He was a Visiting Professor at K.U. Leuven during 1997-1999 and a Research Scholar in the Department of Economics, Harvard University, during the academic year 2002-2003.

He is the chair of the Academic Steering committee of the Global Association of Masters of Development Practice that is based at the Earth Institute at Columbia University as well as a member of the Social Science Committee for Science Europe.

He has published in the Review of Economics and Statistics, Economic Journal, Journal of Industrial Economics, International Journal of Industrial Organization, and Journal of Comparative Economics.

Ms. Liz Moyer

Liz Moyer is currently a consultant working with the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, to develop a handbook for SDG implementation. She commenced the project whilst studying at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs.

Working in partnership with more than 20 other Masters students she prepared a prototype of the handbook entitled "Getting started with the Sustainable Development Goals: A guide to national planning," which offers resources and tools to begin the SDG implementation process. She holds a Master's in Public Administration in Development Practice (MPA-DP) from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), through which she specialized in advanced management techniques and social policy for sustainable development.