



Norwegian Universities and the Sustainable Development Goals

SDG CONFERENCE 2018, THE UNIVERSITY AULA – BERGEN

KNOWLEDGE FOR OUR COMMON FUTURE

PLENARY PROGRAMME

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 8

09:00–10:00 Morning coffee and registration

10:00–10:30

Conference opening

Professor Dag Rune Olsen, Rector, University of Bergen

Minister of Research and Higher Education **Iselin Nybø**,
Government of Norway

Professor Annelin Eriksen, Vice-Rector for Global Relations,
University of Bergen

10:30–12:00

Panel 1: Universities and the role of knowledge in shaping and implementing the SDGs

Dr. Katherine Richardson

Professor of Biological Oceanography, University of Copenhagen,
and member of the group of eminent scientists and experts who will
prepare the UN Global Sustainable Development Report

Dr. Shantanu Mukherjee

Chief, Policy and Analysis Branch, Division for Sustainable Development,
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)

Dr. Anna Nordén

Project Manager, SDSN Northern Europe, Centre for Environment
and Sustainability (GMV), Chalmers University of Technology and
University of Gothenburg, Sweden

Dr. Tore Furevik

Professor, Geophysical Institute, and Director of the Bjerknes Centre
for Climate Research, University of Bergen (UiB)

Moderator: **Professor Inga Berre**

Department of Mathematics, University of Bergen (UiB)

*In his letter of May 2017 to Leaders of Universities and other higher education
institutions around the World, then President of the United Nations General
Assembly, Peter Thomson, emphasized the importance of Agenda 2030 and
the SDGs: "How can universities promote relevant knowledge in approaching
and implementing the SDGs?"*

12:00–13:00 Lunch

13:00–14:30

Panel 2: The social, economic and ecological dimensions of development and their relevance for the SDGs

Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi

Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Dr. David C. Smith

Coordinator, Institute for Sustainable Development, University of the West Indies, and member of the group of eminent scientists and experts to prepare the United Nations Global Sustainable Development Report

Dr. Katja Hujo

Senior Research Coordinator, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

Dr. Peter M. Haugan

Professor, Geophysical Institute, University of Bergen (UiB), and Chair of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO)

Dr. Henrik Österblom

Associate Professor, Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University, Sweden

Moderator: Professor Amund Maage

Marine Director, University of Bergen (UiB)

An UNRISD report from 2016 concluded that "by bringing together the social, economic and ecological dimensions of development, the 2030 Agenda seeks to lay the foundation for a new twenty-first century compact. How is this "new compact" to be developed?"

14:30–14:45 Coffee break

14:45–16:15

Panel 3: Transformation from within: creating SDG-reformed universities

Dr. Pam Fredman

Professor and former Rector, Gothenburg University, and Chair of International Association of Universities (IAU)

Dr. Ingerid S. Straume

Senior Academic Librarian, University of Oslo (UiO)

Ms. Liz Helgesen

International Secretary for global activities at Unio (Confederation of Unions for Professionals), Norway

Dr. Victoria W. Thoresen

Associate Professor and UNESCO Chair for Education about Sustainable Lifestyles, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences

Dr. Edward K. Kirumira

Professor and Principal of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Makerere University, Uganda

Moderator: Mr. Jakob Grandin

PhD candidate, Department of Geography, University of Bergen (UiB)

Many universities are transforming themselves to accommodate the SDGs as part of their education and research, be it through curriculum changes, revision of learning outcomes. How do we best educate students for the jobs of the future?

16:30–18:00 Parallel workshops

University Aula and Student Centre

19:30 Conference dinner

The conference dinner is at Schøtstuene, Øvregaten 50, 5003 Bergen



#SDGbergen

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9

08:30–09:00 Morning coffee

09:00–09:30

**Prime Minister Erna Solberg,
Government of Norway**

Commentary by: **Dr. Gunnar Bovim**
Rector, Norwegian University of Science and Technology

09:30–09:45 Coffee break

09:45–11:15

Panel 4: Knowledge and politics: the science-policy interface

Dr. John Hearn

Professor of Physiology, University of Sydney, and Chief Executive of the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN)

Dr. Desmond McNeill

Professor, Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo (UiO)

Dr. Helge Brattebø

Professor of Industrial Ecology, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), and Acting Director of NTNU Sustainability

Dr. Hilligje van't Land

Secretary-General and Executive Director, International Association of Universities (IAU)

Mr. Samuel Malinga

Managing Director, Sanitation Africa, and one of the 17 Young Leaders for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, working with the Office of the United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth

Moderator: Associate Professor Kikki Kleiven

Department of Earth Science, University of Bergen (UiB)

The design and agreement by the United Nations on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals was an intense process involving delegations, politicians, civil society and scientific experts. The global academic community and its networks engaged in this process. How can universities as a global network contribute with politics in the implementation of the SDGs?

11:15–11:30 Coffee break

11:30–12:00

Minister of International Development Mr. Nikolai Astrup, Government of Norway

Question by a student from the student meeting organised by the Executive Committee of the Student Parliament at the University of Bergen.

12:00–12:30 Lunch

12:30–14:00 Parallel workshops

University Aula and Student Centre

14:00–14:15 Coffee break

14:15–14:45

Special event on SDG14: Universities and the Future of the Ocean

Mr. Peter Thomson

United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean

Mr. Bjørn K. Haugland

Executive Vice President and Chief Sustainability, DNV GL Group

Dr. Peter M. Haugan

Professor, Geophysical Institute, University of Bergen (UiB), and Chair of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC-UNESCO)

In June 2017, the UN highlighted SDG14 and the special role of the ocean in Agenda 2030 by hosting a large Ocean Conference in New York. The conference produced a call for action and more than 1400 voluntary commitments were made. Can work with SDG14 lead the way for how to deal with the other SDGs?

14:45–16:15

Panel 5: The way forward for the SDGs: How can universities make a difference?

Dr. Dag Rune Olsen

Rector, University of Bergen (UiB)

Dr. Åse Gornitzka

Vice-Rector, University of Oslo (UiO)

Dr. John-Arne Røttingen

Chief Executive, The Research Council of Norway

Mr. Jon Lomøy

Director General of the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)

Ms. Borghild Tønnessen-Krokan

Executive Director, The Norwegian ForUM for Development and Environment

Mr. Kai Grieg

Adviser, United Nations Association of Norway

Ms. Johanne Vaagland

MA student, Department of Administration and Organization Theory,
University of Bergen (UiB)

Moderator: **Professor Edvard Hviding**

Department of Social Anthropology, University of Bergen (UiB)

Universities need to reform themselves as organisations, as teaching institutions, and in their research profiles. Universities need to give advice on difficult issues and take on academic controversies about how the SDGs can best be realised. How do we reform curricula to ensure that students are graduating from our institutions with the necessary SDG credentials?

16:15–16:30 Closing

Professor Annelin Eriksen

Vice-Rector for Global Relations, University of Bergen (UiB)





uib.no/en/sdgconference



Norwegian Ministry
of Foreign Affairs



Norwegian Ministry
of Education and Research