



Connecting Yale Teaching and Research to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

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Background: In 2015, the Yale Office of Sustainability started a project aimed at helping understand how Yale teaching and research aligns with the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It took a team of students just over two years to audit the 4,400 Yale faculty members. The objectives of this project were:

1. Identify pathways for collaboration between disciplines.
2. Provide a rationale for thinking of higher education sustainability beyond operational commitments.
3. Identify the expertise Yale might lend to the process of achieving the SDGs.

Process: The team used an online form to collect information, including: full name, NetID, title, email; primary and secondary appointments; centers, labs, programs, or other affiliations; specialties and interests; links to website(s) and courses; connections to each of the 17 goals.

Conclusions: Yale has ample coverage for each SDG. Every academic department or school has at least one faculty member whose work relates to the SDGs.

What now? The data is currently being used for three purposes:

- Create multidisciplinary lists of faculty with shared interests in key topics.
- Integrate academic highlights into a set of sustainability action plans for professional schools and academic departments.
- Develop department-specific reports to be used to start discussions with department leadership and faculty.

What Next? The next phase of this project will be a set of ground-truthing interviews, departmental reports, and reports by SDG. The team will also explore platforms to share the data.

Yale Faculty Connections to the SDGs



Yale Faculty Connections SDG 3

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Total Faculty 1,722

Faculty of Arts and Sciences
25 out of 50

Professional Schools
9 out of 11

Medical School Departments
27 out of 27

