



Concept Note

The “Why It Matters” Conference was held at Utah Valley University in Orem, Utah on October 5—7, 2022. The Conference took place as the Decade of Action continues the countdown towards 2030. Academic institutions play a crucial role as the next ten years will determine the success of the initiatives that aim at ending poverty, protect the planet, and ensure human rights and prosperous and fulfilling lives for all. Academic institutions are uniquely qualified to bring to the table discussions and approaches that can be incorporated into the action plans in other social sectors.

Co-sponsored by the United Nations Department of Global Communications through the Academic Impact Initiative and the Civil Society Unit, the conference was an important opportunity to mobilize academic experts and civil society advocates to study the mechanisms of implementation and success of the Sustainable Development Goals. Conference participants were part of a global conversation that defined an inclusive and culturally appropriate international and regional messaging, academic approaches and advocacy strategies, partnerships and governmental accountability frameworks including financing for development. The conference was the first forum of its kind.

The purpose of this conference was to harness strategies, expertise and resources across the widest spectrum of academic thought to unleash a range of education initiatives that ensure inclusive, safe, and equitable quality sustainable development that may serve as a blueprint for higher education institutions, civil society organizations (CSOs), private sector corporations, and governmental entities to successfully incorporate the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs into their work programs.

(For more information go to: uvu.edu/global/wim22/concept)

- WIM Conference Executive Committee/ UVU Office for Global Engagement— 2**
- Conference Participation— 3**
- Published Peer-Reviewed Academic Papers— 4**
- Opening Plenary— 10**
- Special Session/ Thematic Sessions— 11**
- Presentations— 13**
- Poster Presentations— 18**
- Side Events— 20**
- Service Project— 21**
- Closing Plenary— 22**
- “Why It Matters” Conference Coverage— 23**

WIM Conference Executive Committee

- Íñigo Arbiol Oñate—** Director Master in International Relations and Business Diplomacy, University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain
- Mark Charlton—** Director of Social Impact & Engagement, De Monfort University, Leicester, United Kingdom
- Yuan-Kwan Chan—** Head of Communications, United Nations University, Tokyo, Japan
- Ramu Damodaran—** First Chief of the United Nations Academic Impact, New York City, USA
- Elsie Ngowo Effange-Mbella—** Minister Plenipotentiary of Foreign Affairs, Cameroon
- Susana Mosquera Monelos—** Vice Dean of Research, Professor of Law, University of Piura, Peru
- Felipe Queipo—** Co-chair, United Nations NGO Relations & Advocacy Communications Officer, New York City, USA
- Jayashri Wyatt—** Chief, Education Outreach at United Nations Department of Global Communications
- Baldomero Lago—** Chair, Chief International Officer, Utah Valley University

UVU Office for Global Engagement

- Baldomero Lago—** Chair, Chief International Officer
- Carlos Alarco—** Associate Director
- Amy Barnett—** Program Director, Global Events and Hosting
- Veronica M. Caballero—** Coordinator
- Lina Varionova—** Student Employee
- Hailey Scott—** Admin Support III



Conference Participation

3

60 Participating Countries
Around the World



717 Virtual Registrations

908 In-Person Attendees

121 Presenters



Total: 1,746 participants



974 UVU Students

148 UVU Faculty/Staff

624 General Public

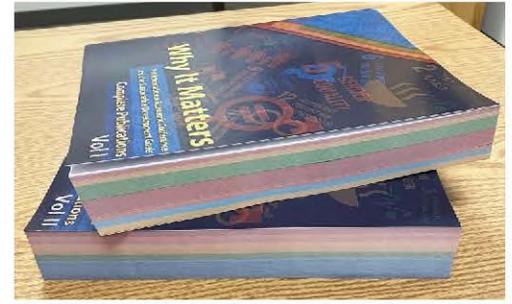
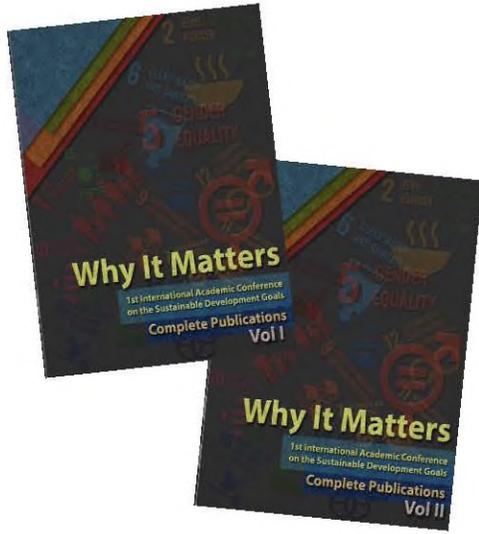
82 presentations x 20 students per class = 1,640 UVU Students Impacted

Published Peer-Reviewed Academic Papers

4



To read the Complete Publications, visit our website at:
uvu.edu/global/wim22/paperpres



33 Youth Papers **3** UVU Student Papers
43 Adult Papers **5** UVU Faculty/Staff Papers

221 Paper Submissions
76 Published Papers
34% Accepted



Bangladesh: 2	Commonwealth of Dominica: 1	Greece: 1	Kenya: 2	Spain: 4
Benin: 1	Gambia: 1	India: 12	Malaysia: 1	Thailand: 2
Cameroon: 16	Germany: 1	Indonesia: 1	Mali: 1	Uganda: 4
Canada: 2	Ghana: 1	Israel: 1	Nigeria: 1	United States: 24
China: 1		Japan: 1	Peru: 4	

SDG 1: No Poverty

Awath Java Abdat, Babirye Esther, Emmanuel Kato, Kuteesa Jesse Kirule, and Owen Ssembuya— The Mukono Micro-Livestock Farming Project Designed to Tackle Sustainable Development Goal No. 1, No Poverty

Helen Linonge-Fontebo— The Socio-Economic Effects of Child Marriage on the Wellbeing of the Girl-Child: An Analysis of the Implementation of Agenda 2030 in Cameroon

Nabulya Justine, Susan Nankunda, and Masibo Sharon— The Relationship Between MSMEs and Poverty Eradication in Makindye Division Kampala, Uganda

Warner Woodworth— Ending Poverty and Inequality: What Matters and Why

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

Bebe Alfred Dembele, Sidi Dembele, and Souleymane Sidi Traore— Dynamique Spatio-Temporelle de l'occupation de Sol et de son Implication à la Sécurité Alimentaire en Zone Cotonnière de Mali

Priyanka Prem Kumar, Ankur Rangi, and Anirban Roy— Assessment of Sustainable Food Systems in Mountain Regions of India through Climate Smart Agriculture during Covid-19 Pandemic: The Case Study of AI for Rural

Isaac Okola— The Contribution of Input-Output Multi-Objective Optimization Model of Sustainable Consumption and Production in Food-Energy-Water Nexus

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being

Andre Ben Moses Akuche, Precious Tariela Ebikabowei Victor, and Kennedy Nsan— The Universal Health Coverage in Nigeria: The Perception of Public Health Professionals Towards the United Nations Sustainable Development

Emmett Chad, Ron Harris, Sarah Hall, and Carolus Prasetyadi— Tsunami Preparedness in Indonesia: The WAVES Initiative

Alice Chen, Laura Duffany, Kathleed Gifford, Katie Goettle, Dream Intarachumnum, Lauryn Jones, Wei Ngai, Tiffany Pang, Heidi Shen, and Jannah Wing— Reducing Child Mortality in Sierra Leone with a Sustainable Diagnostics Device for Sickle Cell Disease

Mohan Sudabattula, Gabrielle Hoyer, Sam Philips, and Audrey Pozernick— Understanding the True Healthcare Impact of Nonprofits Serving the Navajo Tribe During the Covid-19 Pandemic

Karuna Jain and Sandhya Mishra— Can Just Any Country Achieve UHC?: Lessons from Different Health Systems

Mireille Sylviane Dongmo Nguepi, Bernard Tientcheu, and Achidi Aduni Ufuan— The State of Food Security and Nutrition: Building Climate Resilience for Food Security and Nutrition in the South West Region, Cameroon

Esum M.E., Roland N. Ndip, and Sumbele I. U.N— Trends of Malaria in the South West Region of Cameroon: Overview, Challenges, and Perspectives

Chunhong Yan— For Objective 3: Good Health and Well-Being Eye Health Management

SDG 4: Quality Education

Baktybek Abdrisaev, Rusty Butler, Wendy Jyand, and Teki Uday— Inclusive Co-Curricular Educational Model for Implementation of Sustainable Development for Rural and Mountain Communities

Faïssou Amadou— Strengthening Civil Society Capacity for Education for All in Republic of Benin: The Important Role of Universities and Other Research Institutions

Joy Ayebare, Racheal Babirye, and Kenneth Wabuteya— A Study of Enhancing the E-Learning and the 21st Century Competence Skills Training in Institutions of Higher Learning

Jihong Cai— Instituting Dynamics and Practical Experiences in K-12 Education in Underdeveloped Regions: Redefinition, Augmentation, and Diversification of Teaching Qualification to Promote Equitable Educational Access

Joyce Coffey and Melanie Mosqueda— Racial Diversity— A Secret of High-Performing School Districts Across the United States

Girish Dalvi and Tanaya Vyas— Perspectives on Integrating the Local Context for Environmental Literacy: An Exploratory Study with Middle-School Teachers in India

Kenna Lee Edler and Jonghwi Park— Culture and the Sustainable Development Goals: An Outlook of Future Opportunities

Martina King and Tai Munro— Building Capacity and Awareness for the UN Sustainable Development Goals through Project-Based and Community-Engaged Pedagogies

Eunmi Jung— The Effect of Different Instructional Methods and Beliefs towards Mental Computations

Rungrawee Samawathdana— The First Phase of Development of Health Learning Package by Applying Technology Based with Autonomous Learning Approach to Enhance Covid-19 Literacy and Health Behaviors as Lifelong Learning Skills

Lauren Taylor— The Power of Education Women and Ending Generational Poverty: A Comparative Study of Women in Ghana and Liberia



SDG 5: Gender Equality

Cristen Dalessandro and Daniel Patterson— Who Gets to Choose? A Global Perspective on Gender, Work-Life Balance, and Choice in the Post-Pandemic Workplace

Kimberly Madsen— Can Performance and Representation Improve Public Perceptions of Police Legitimacy in Pursuing Domestic Violence Case?

Balram Rao and Kunal Rao— Gender Disparities in Educational Attainments: Does Gender Gaps Matter?

Antra Singh— Differential Impact of School Closure on Adolescent Girls during Covid-19 Pandemic: A Study of Slum Dwellers in Delhi

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Jane-Francis TatahKihla Akoachere, Roy Lyonga Mbua, and Engome Regina Wotany— Diarrheal Diseases and Evaluation of Inhabitants' Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices Regarding Water Safety, Sanitation, and Hygiene in Cholera Endemic Localities of Douala, Cameroon

Anna Cardall, Kaylee Tanner, and Gustavious Williams— STARS-c, A Google Earth Engine Tool to Evaluate Long-Term Water Quality Trends Globally

Aaron Kasule, Rebecca Nakato, and Philip Nsubuga— The Study of Clean Water and Sanitation in Bunyenye and Bunyaka Villages in Luwero District SDG 6

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Louis Musong Katche, Emmanuel Tanyi, and Pierre Tsafack— Renewable Energy for Rural Electrification of Sub-Saharan Africa: Why It Matters

Nde Nguti, Divine Ngwashi, and Emmanuel Tanyi— Improvement of the Livelihoods of Rural Populations of Sub-Saharan Africa through Post-Harvest and Cook Technologies Powered by Renewable Resources

Parth Ponshe— Financing Sustainable Energy in the Ghanaian Energy Market— A Comprehensive Policy Review and Recommendations

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Abdul-Wahab Abdul-Hamid and Hassanuddeen B. Abd. Aziz— SDGs, Islamic Banks, and Economic Growth Nexus: A Case Study of Malaysia

Leo Borders, Laura Muro, Paolo Saonda, and Azad Abul Kalam— Financial Development, Governance Systems, and Economic Freedom as Determinants of Financial Inclusion

George Lwanda— Development Cannot Do Us Apart: Why SDG Interconnections Matter in Reducing Youth Unemployment

Md. Anisur Rahman— Higher Education and Human Capital Development

Anu Rao, Balram Rao, and Kunal Rao— Decent Work and Wellbeing in Modern World of Work: Empirical Evidence from Delhi NCR Region

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

Mary Foss— Promoting Sustainable Development Goals through Project-Based Learning: A Case Study of the Concept Center

Estibaliz García— La Necesidad de un Convenio Internacional para Fortalecer Alianzas en la Mitigación de los Desechos Espaciales

Michael Ekonde Sone, Denis Tcheukam Toko, and Nestor Tsamo— Partnering to Maximize the Impact of Technological Innovation in Postharvest Processes in Rural Areas



SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Cyprian Amutabi— Do Education Level and Employment Status Matter for Financial Inclusion? Evidence from Kenya

Tomas Atarama and Maria Delfino— Narrative Transmedia Corporative: Un Modelo Para Promover el Compromiso por los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible de la Agenda 2030

Ayuk Justine Eta, Helen Linong-Fontebo, and Emmanuel Yenshu— Addressing the Growing Gender Inequalities in New Conflict Areas in Africa: The Case of Cameroon and Nigeria

Ndoumbe Richard Alain— Le Processus de Decentralisation au Cameroun: Avancées, Pesanteurs et Perspectives

Clifton Farnsworth, Jacob Neil, and Andrew South— Exploring the Role of Ethics and Sustainability in the Decision Making of Engineering and Construction Professionals” Toward Developing Sustainable Cities and Communities

Trinidad Fernandes and Stella Schroeder— The World Towards the Future. Global Initiative for Healthy Cities. Piura, Peru

Matt Jensen, Brett Stone, and John Salmon— Improving Air Quality by Reducing Aircraft Fuel Use and Emissions with Semi-Autonomous Electric Tugs

Mabel Nechia Wantim, Nchini Livinus Mchini, and Samuel Ndonwi Ayonghe— Monitoring and Predicting Future Eruptions of Mount Cameroon: A Requirement for Ensuring Sustainable Development in Communities withing the Area (SDG 11, SDG 7)

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Michael Bown, Clifton Farnsworth, Andrew South, and Robert Sowby— An Exploration of How Large Corporations Use Sustainable Development Goals and Standardized Reporting Structures within their Sustainability Strategies

Hilary Ngouabo Dassi— Logiques Neopatrimoniales et de Gouvernance par la Ruse Dans la Gestion Durable des Forets au Cameroun

Angie Higuchi, Schwalb Maria Matilde, Roger Merino, and Franklin Ibáñez— International Quality Pressures and Banned Pesticides in Peruvian Quinoa



SDG 13: Climate Action

Basil Ewane, Aminkeng Lucienne Fuanyi, and Tata Emmanuel Sunjo— Problems of Climate Change-Related Hazards in African Coastal Communities

Lara Gil, Paraskevi Karpos, Nefeli Karpodini, Sabrina Reinbacher, and Marina Rodriguez— Climate Change and Environmental Migration Case Studies that Indicate Potential Future Movements Due to Climate Events: Austria, Greece, Spain, and the United States

Nakita Bruno Green— A Grounded Theory Study Exploring Why and How the UNEP Young Champions of the Earth Create Sustainable Innovations for a Flourishing Planet

Hannah Moss— Mindsets and Air Pollution in a Dynamic Urban Environment: How Attitudes and Behaviors May Aggravate Public Health Outcomes in Almaty, Kazakhstan

Claudia García Zaragoza— The Regressive Effect of Climate Change on Social Inequalities: Analysis and Policy Recommendations

Katelyn Hickman— The Integral Role of the Coastal Microbiome in Mangrove Conservation

SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Atangcho Akonumbo, Albert Mbiatem, and Emile Sunjo— Partnering to Reduce Inequalities, Attain Peace, Justice, and Build Strong Institutions in Cameroon

Dr. Maayan Amir— Authorizing the Use of Visual Force: Strategic Analysis and Examination of Incriminating Visual Images Presented at the United Nations Security Council

Dr. Biswajit Bandyopadhyay— Building Strong Anti-Corruption Institutions for Sustainable Development: Enhancing Peace, Justice, and Public Trust in Public Policy Process

Natasha Byrd— Issues in Refugee Adaptation After Resettlement

Buddhodev Ghosh and Akanksha Prajapati— Why Does the Indian Perspective Matter? A Search for the India Views on the Concept of Ecological Harmony and Sustainable Development

Zoë Gormon— Contested Spaces in Mali: Justice, Security, and the State

Talatou Maiga and Chitranjali Negi— Confronting Violence Within and Between Communities: A Case for the Creation and Strengthening of More Peace and Justice Mechanisms in India and Mali

Jacques Moli— Remobiliser les Traditions Ancestrales Dans la Construction D'une Paix Durable en Afrique: un Enjeu de Développement Durable

Obasesam Okoi— Entrepreneurship and Peace in Nigeria's Oil Region: Why Sustainable Development Matter

Nandini Praveen— Gender Based Violence in Armed Conflict and Displacement and Sustainable Development Goals: A Case Study in International Law

Lia Baez Vidal— Genocides of Coloniality: Power, Race, and Genocide as a Foundational Practice in Colonial America

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Eta Mercy Aki, Sophie Ekume Etomes, and Linda Melem— Enhancing Quality Education through Partnerships: Why It Matters in Higher Education in Cameroon

Simo Krsmanovic— The Impact of Decentralization on Creating Enabling Environments: Whole-of-Society Implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Horace Manga Ngomo— An Assessment of the University of Buea as a hub of Excellence and a Center of Partnership for the SDGs

Greeting

Baldomero Lago
UVU Chief International Officer

Land Acknowledgement

Larry Cesspooch
Ute Spiritual Leader, Filmmaker, Storyteller

Remarks

Baldomero Lago

Remarks

Dr. Astrid Tuminez
President of Utah Valley University

Remarks

Mr. Robb Skinner
United Nations

Video Message

UN-USG Melissa Fleming
United Nations

Remarks

Hon. Franz Kolb
State of Utah Governor's Office

Remarks

Bishop Todd Budge
Presiding Bishopric, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Dance Performance

Utah Valley University Contemporary Dance Ensemble

Remarks

Ms. Lauren Taylor
Youth Representative

Closing Remarks

Mr. Ramu Damodaran
"Why It Matters" Conference Executive Board Member



21 Century Refugees

Moderator: **Robert Skinner** (Outreach Division, United Nations Department of Global Communications)

Panelists: **Seyyed Ahmadi** (Afghanistan), **Dona Ibrahim** (Somalia), **Chit Chit Poe** (Myanmar), **Silvain Sangano** (DR Congo), **Tamin Solhadost** (Afghanistan), and **Alexandra Zubko** (Ukraine)



Thematic Sessions

SDG 1: No Poverty

Moderator: **Lonny Ward** (Choice Humanitarian)

Panelists: **Javier Cortés** (COPE & UNCO), **Kristin Yee** (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Relief Society), and **Nadini Praveen** (His Highness the Maharajas Government Law College)

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

Moderator: **Jennifer Hogge Ellsworth** (Engage Now Africa)

Panelists: **Luis Camara Manoel** (Ecclesiastical Representative), **Yvonne Nsabimana** (Ngoma Y'Africa Cultural Center), and **Rebecca Rios Kohn** (Arigatou International)

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being

Moderator: **Padmini Murthy** (NYU-Medical College)

Panelists: **Sarah Hall** (UVU, Professor Global Health), **Carolyn Reynolds** (Children's Health IHC), and **Omar Aboud-Samra** (American Red Cross)

SDG 4: Quality Education

Moderator: **Efrem Yildiz Sadak** (University of Salamanca, Spain)

Panelists: **Faissou Amadou** (Ministry of Labour and Civil Service), **John Wilson** (BYU Pathway), and **Sarah Callaway** (UNICEF USA)

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Moderator: **Elsie Effange-Mbella** (Minister Plenipotentiary of Foreign Affairs, Cameroon)

Panelists: **Carol Ann McConkie** (NGO CSW Geneva), **Dr. Jessica C. Hill** (UVU), and **Kunal Rao** (Indian Institute of Technology)

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Moderator: **Kelly Honecker** (Water for People)

Panelists: **Robert Sowby** (BYU), **Carmen Valdez** (Healthy Environment Alliance of UT), and **Lauren Brooks** (UVU)

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

Moderator: **Ben Kolendar** (Former Department of Defense)

Panelists: **Laura Muro** (St. Louis University, Madrid), **David Utrilla** (CEO US Translation Co.), and **Sahar Taghdisi Rad** (University of Westminster, London)

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Moderator: **Susana Mosquera** (University Piura, Peru)

Panelists: **Samantha Butterworth** (Director of Project Management, Welfare and Self-Reliance Services, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints), **José Borjón** (Cónsul de México en Utah), and **Marian Edmonds-Allen** (Parity)

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Moderator: **Íñigo Arbiol** (University of Deusto)

Panelists: **Victor Ukorebi** (Schools Foundation in Africa), **Sophia Nicholas** (SLC Sustainability), and **Kylie Schuyler** (Global G.L.O.W.)

SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Moderator: **Ramu Damodaran** (Former UN Chief Academic Impact)

Panelists: **Maritza Sotomayor** (Utah Valley University), **Hannah Salzl** (Sustainability Provo City), and **Saul Leal** (Onemeta)

SDG 13: Climate Action

SDG 14: Life Below Water

SDG 15: Life on Land

Moderator: **Hilary Hungerford** (Utah Valley University)

Panelists: **Lara Gil** (Universidad País Vasco, Spain) and **Wendy Fisher** (Utah Open Lands)

SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Moderator: **Felipe Queipo** (United Nations)

Panelists: **Maggie O'Donnell** (Responsible Business Initiative), **Kim Sadique** (De Montfort University), and **Ryan Koch** (International Affairs)

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Moderator: **Jayashri Wyatt** (United Nations)

Panelists: **Sharon Eubank** (President Latter-Day Saint Charities), **Eider Inunciaga Serna** (BBK Foundation), and **Baldomero Lago** (Utah Valley University)



37 Youth Presenters

38 Adult Presenters

4 UVU Student Presenters

10 UVU Faculty/Staff Presenters

105 Submissions
72 Presentations

69% Accepted



Bolivia: 1	Ecuador: 1	Indonesia: 1	Nigeria: 2	United Kingdom: 3
Brazil: 1	Germany: 2	Italy: 1	Peru: 1	United States: 30
Burundi: 1	Ghana: 1	Mauritius: 1	Philippines: 1	
Cameroon: 10	Greece: 1	Mexico: 2	Spain: 3	
DR Congo: 1	India: 2	Nepal: 2	Uganda: 2	

SDG 1: No Poverty

Francis Bomba, Woquan Sama Luma, and Bopda Mtopi Orelie— The Urgent Need to Standardise and Valorise the Usage of African Herbal Medicine for a Contribution to Alleviation of Poverty and to Good Health and Well-Being in Sub-Saharan Countries

Charlotte Pamboudam Mfondoum— The Role of Vegetable Crops Production in Livelihood Strategies in the Noun Plateau, West Region of Cameroon

Titus Nwana— Unmasking Covid-19 from Green Revolution to New Technological Food Drive and Resilience

Olusegun Oladeinde— Covid-19 Pandemic and Social Fractures in Nigeria: Challenges to Building Gender Inclusive Social Policy

Maren-Machel Ostlund— Housing Security and Interventions to Homelessness

Andere Gomez Yabar— El Diseño de una Máquina Peladora de Aloe Vera



SDG 2: Zero Hunger

Tange Denis Achiri, Christopher Ngosong, and Silke Ruppel— Adapting Beneficial Microbes and Plant Bio-Active Materials to Control the Invasive Fall Armyworm Pest in Maize Production Systems

Amber Hendrickson, Nicasio Nango, and Kinsey Oldroyd— Addressing Campus Food Insecurity with CARE

Christopher Ngosong, Marie Noela Enyoe Olougou, and Silke Ruppel— Engineering Beneficial Microorganisms to Rebuild the Rhizosphere Microbiome Interactions and Improve the Nutritive Value of Soybean to Mitigate Hidden Hunger

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being

Brooke Blanchard— Vision for Everyone: Accelerating Progress Towards the SDGs through Eye Health

Sarah Blessed, Afuswa Nanyonga, Racheal Rubowa, and David Ssejinja— Stigma and Discrimination Among HIV/Aids Care Patients

Pennie Sessler Branden and Janice Hawkins— SDG Roadmap to a Healthier World: Why Nurses Matter

Grace Duke, Samara Everman, Matthew Rivera, and Noah Weaver— Reducing the Maternal Mortality Rate in Sierra Leone: A Grassroots Approach

Giavanna Gast, Margaret A. McLaughlin, Jonathan Osika, Evy M. Rahmey, Tram U.H. Vo, and Sebastian R. Wick— EcoRealm: Biophilic Solutions to Improve Student Wellbeing

Raiden Gaul, Mykin Higbee, and Noelle Taylor— International Collaboration in Nursing Education: A Key Strategy to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

Alain Chichom-Mefire, Gregory Edie Halle-Ekane, Dickson Nsagha, and Robert Tchounzou— Transformational Changes in Health Care Services Delivery in Sub-Saharan African Countries to Achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3 in the Context of Covid-19

Elizabeth Zeuko'o Menkem, Seraphine Eko Mojoko, and Armel Jackson Seukep— The Urgent Need for Multisectoral Action on Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance in Sub-Saharan Africa to Achieve Good Health and Well-being

Mattie Murphy— Improving Health and Well-being: Flaws in Covid-19 RT-PCR Testing Procedural Techniques

Isabel Oberbeck and Timon Schorling— A Case Study of Cold Plasma Based Products to Support the Fulfillment of the SDGs

Jazmin Sanchez— Gestión de los Centros de Salud Física y Mental: Radiografía de los Desafíos en el Perú

SDG 4: Quality Education

Jafari Abuyi— How Christ in Touch Foundation (CTF) is Taking Action On, No Poverty and Why It Should Matter to You and Me

Mary Michelle Arsenault, Immaculate Nabasumba, and Moses Ssenjogera— Why Rural Access to Quality Education Matters

Sandra Maldonado Blaur— Children and Youth Protection Against Covid-19

Hannah Ells, Nikita Lad, Derek Lough, and Ratna Lubis— The Potential of an SDG Rubric in Academic Publishing and Beyond

Vishvanath Falegaonkar and Sridhar Iyer— Training Students to Apply Computational Thinking to Solve Locally-Relevant Authentic Problems

Melissa Nelson and Anne Stone— Global Goals and Gateways: Co-curricular Programs and the Liberal Arts

Arthur Niyonkuru— Quality Education, The Foundation of Economic and Social Development in Africa

Martin Olavarrieta— Best Practices and Participation Towards Baur International Model United Nations Relating to the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the Climate Action Summits and the Conference of the Parties (COP-UNFCCC) in this Decade of Action

Sangya Pandey— The Crisis of Learning: A New Beginning of Endless Sustainable Possibilities in Nepal

Sean Schrader— Covid-19 and It's Impacts in the Community

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Christiana Vegah Abonge— Meeting the Challenges of Gender Inequality and Poverty for Persons with Disabilities: Lessons to be Learnt from Best Practices in Cameroon

Helen Adams and Merriah Hamaker— Poverty, Gender Equality, and Birth Control Access

Liggera Edmonds-Allen and Eliza Hallinan— Hetero-Compulsory Sandwich

Grace Enriquez, Emma Hartmann, and Rolake Tomoye— Women in Government: The Fight for Female Representation in Leadership and Decision-Making in Nigeria

Promise Ozuzu— Gender Equality in Developing Countries— Why Expanded Access to Contraceptives, Safe Abortion Services, and Economic Empowerment Matters for Women and Girls in Developing Countries

Sophia Isabel Salvador— Discovering the Existing Flaws in a Country Labelled Gender Equal Through the Perspective of Women Superlatives

SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Brian Barthel, Alexis Geist, and Kevin Larsen— Empowering Cambodian Lives, A Collaborative Effort to Improve Sanitation and Well-Being

Rukmagat Kafle— Waste Management: A Mutual Activity to Achieve Multiple SDGs

Renata Kondu and Michael Yeboah— The Nexus Among Sanitation and Access to Clean Water on Girls Education: Mapping Out Intervention Policies and Practices

Robert B. Sowby— Sustainable Irrigation: Balancing Returns Flows with Efficiency

Layne Bruton and Lakshmi Viswanath— Development of Efficient Organic Solar Cells

Christelle Flora Majoh Kuetche, Armand Fopah Lele, and Emmanuel Tanyi— Reversible Hydrogen-to-electricity Technology as a Renewable Energy Option

**SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

Ana Diaz Alvarez and Daniel Gomez Serrano— Diseño y Evaluación de Políticas Sostenibles: Un Modelo para la Empleabilidad Juvenil en el Marco del ODS 8

Emarie Majors— Sustainable Economic Growth for Pacific Small Island Developing States Through the Cultural Industry

Maxima Mancilla and Casto Willy Mendoza— Fortalecer el Emprendedurismo Productivo de Jóvenes, con Enfoque Micro Empresarial e Inclusión de Género

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

Thaksheel Alleck, Bezawit Mulatu, and Cedrique Wekesa— Creating an Ecosystem of Entrepreneurial Scientists to Foster Innovation on the African Continent

João Pedro Lopes, Tathiana Moreira, and Hebert Rossetto— Circular Economy from Rice Husk Biomass: New Perspectives

Nur Bella Octoria and Ayomi Dita Rarasati— Assessing Transport Sustainability of Railway Existing Network and Services in DKI Jakarta

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

Liggera Edmonds-Allen— Wednesday's Voyeur

Emily Hall, Gabby Jensen, Sarah Keeley, and Jake Reed— Math Mentors: A Successful Solution for Helping Students Overcome Roadblocks

Lukas Parrish— Income Inequality and What Defines a Wealthy Country

SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Oumarou Toumba, Mojoko Mbella, and Eyole Monono— Managing Urban Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Neglected Dimension of Urban Poverty

Melissa Nelson, Robert Sanders, Bruce Stephenson, and Anne Stone— Supporting Professional Development Around the Global Goals through Internationalization

Kim Nielson, Kevin Shurtleff, and Weihong Wang— Efficient Energy and Sustainable Designs for Tiny Homes

Hannah Reynolds— The Tongass Under Threat: Opportunities for Environmental Justice and Resilience Under Well-managed Forest Systems

Mariana Bittermann— Political Responsibility for “Blood Diamonds”: A Philosophical Examination of Structural Injustice in Production Chains

Cayla Brint, Emma Burke, Marissa Hastings, Will Huckins, David Krawczyk, Erika Ramirez, and Kirsten Sjoberg— Combatting the Plastic Waste Crisis through Micro-Recycling Facilities across the Philippines

Martina Magni— An Exploratory Research on Circular Ecosystems Scalability— An Identification of Six Directions and Determining Circular Practices

SDG 14: Life Below Water

Casey Su-Morrill— Environmental Factors that Drive Oxygen Minimum Zone Formation, Duration, and Overturn with Consequences for Life Under Water

**SDG 15: Life on Land**

Kalani Egginton and Jaimi Butler— Great Salt Lake Matters: Robust Outreach Informs Local Communities

SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Stefanos Alevizos— Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect in Greece during Covid-19 Era

Daniel Barragán— El Acuerdo de Escazú y el Fortalecimiento de la Gobernanza Ambiental: ¿Por qué es Importante para el Logro del Desarrollo Sostenible?

Tiffany Chan— Educating and Engaging Youth Through Legislative Advocacy for the Equal Rights Amendment

Katherine Chipman— Redefining Strategies to Protect the Planet: Utilizing Random Forest Machine Learning to Predict Conflict

Marian Edmonds-Allen— Blessed by Difference: A Utah Story of Faith, LGBT Homeless Youth, and Bridging Divides

Dallas Karren and Alitha Thompson— Establishing Rule of Law for Equal Justice in Rural and Mountainous Colombia: A Case Study of the Post-Conflict Era

Rahel Meyer— Refugee Policies and Public Perception

Ellie Anders Thompson— Untapped Power of Worldview Motivation: How Interfaith Engagement Might Grow Your Work

SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

Oihane Aldayturriaga, Nora Sarasola, and Eider Inunciaga Serna— BBK Kuna: Social Innovation and Sustainable Development, from Local to Global

Cassie Bingham, Agustin Diaz, Summer Valente, and Jonathan Westover— Designed to Fail: A Critique of the Implementation of the SDGs

Maria Blevins, Leandra Hernandez, Meaghan McKasy, and Michael Stevens— Bea‘Utah’ful Collaboration: A Case Study of a Collaborative Research Project

Suman S. Shanker— Achieving Partnerships for the Sustainable Development Goal: A Study of Victim Assistance Program and Sexual Abuse Awareness Workshops in Delhi



13 Youth Posters

3 Adult Posters

1 UVU Student Poster

51 Submissions

15 Presented

29% Accepted



Cameroon: 6

Nigeria: 1

United States: 6

Ethiopia: 1

Spain: 1

SDG 1: No Poverty

Eyassu Gachira Yimenu, Alealign Ademe Mengistu, and Kumilachew Alamerie Meless— Impact of Productive Safety Net Program on Household Food Security in Kenna District, Konso Zone, Southern Ethiopia

SDG 2: Zero Hunger

Roosevelt Tabi Ndip, Mabel Nechia Wantim, and Tabi James Ndip— Food Insecurity Status of Households, Associated Hazards and Risk Reduction Strategies as Determinants for Sustainable Development, in Southwest-Cameroon

SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being

Diana Gladys Koliieghu Tcheumeni, Henry Dilonga Meriki, and Samuel Wanji— Prevalence of Advanced HIV Disease in People Living with HIV under Antiretroviral Treatment at the Buea Regional Hospital and Coinfection Rate of *Mycobacterium* spp. and *Cryptococcus* spp.

Tanumoy Banerjee, Agnivo Gosai, and Ganesh Balasubramian— Biomolecular Simulations to Enable Drug Discovery for Global Health Sustainability: SARS CoV 2 as a Case Study

Chantal E. Nkwelle, Jane-Francis TK. Akoachere, Lucy M. Ndip, Franklin A. Nzang, Seraphine F. Esemu, and Roland N. Ndip— Asymptomatic Urinary Tract Infection in Pregnant and Non-pregnant Women in the Limbe Health District of Cameroon: A Phenotypic and Biochemical Analytic Study

SDG 4: Quality Education

Ashley Belnap and Clayton Rawson— Excellence and Innovation e2i

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Tiffany Chan— Educating and Engaging Youth about the Equal Rights Amendment through Legislative Advocacy

SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Tabot Terrence, Jane Chiamaka Zikora, and Emmanuel Tanyi— Rain-to-Electricity Conversion System

Sontia Martial Jorece, Koukoui Fotsing Christophe, and Dr. Pierre Tsafack— Intrusive and Non-intrusive Energy Harvesting Techniques from Water Distribution Networks: The Case of Buea in Cameroon

SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

Alejandro Álvarez-Nobell, María-Belén Barroso, and Isabel Ruiz-Mora— Purpose-driven Organizations and New Economies in the 2030 Agenda and SDG: The Role of Citizenship and the Reputation of Companies in Spain

Emarie Majors— Sustainable Economic Development and The Digital Visual Arts Industry: A Case Study of Tuvalu

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

Essien Oku Essien— Wealth Creation and Urbanization Strategies, An Advocacy Framework Towards Sustainable Rural Inclusion

SDG 14: Life Below Water

Honorine N. Mbaakhu, Judith G. Makombu, and Geneva O. Nikongho— Potential of Ornamental Fishes in the Lower Guinea Rainforest Rivers South West Region, Cameroon

SDG 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

Rahel Meyer— Sustainable Development in Refugee Integration: Examining the Impact of Restrictive Refugee Policies on Negative Public Perception

David Hawley— Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Campus Initiative at NC State University

Water & Mining– Reliable Controls

Presenters: **Ed Macha** (President & CEO), **Sam Arce** (Deputy Director, Advanced Technology), and **Monica Barnes** (Program Manager)

Interfaith Dialogue

Presenters: **Ryan Koch** (Public and International Affairs, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints), **Rebecca Rios Kohn** (UNICEF), **Marian Edmonds-Allen** (Parity), **Ellie Thompson** (UVU), and **Quivido Oregines** (Xavier University)

Sustainable Universities

Presenter: **Sahar Taghdisi Rad** (University of Westminster)

Diplomacy and Sustainable Development

Presenters: **Franz Kolb** (Governor’s Office of Economic Development), **Sarah Bateman** (Sustainability Outreach Program Manager), **Elsie Effange-Mbella** (Minister Plenipotentiary of Foreign Affairs, Cameroon), and **Javier Cortés** (COPE & UNCO)

Sustainability in the Fashion Industry & Sustainable Fashion Show



Culture of Peace and Art

Presenter: **Aixa Portero** (International Artists, Arts Professor)



On the second day of the “Why It Matters” three-day Conference, participants and community members assembled over 2,000 newborn kits for refugee and immigrant mothers in Utah. The conference worked with the community service program JustServe.org to collect new items such as blankets, bottles, diapers, and pacifiers for the Service Project. The kits will be donated to local charities in Utah.



“I wanted to make sure we would roll up our sleeves. I wanted to make sure we really mean what we’re talking about” —Baldomero Lago, Co-host

Welcome

Felipe Queipo
UN Communications Officer, Executive Board
Member, Co-Chair

Remarks

Wayne Vaught
Provost, Sr. Vice President– Academic Affairs

Remarks

Jayashri Wyatt
Chief, Education Outreach United Nations

Performance

Dr. Melissa Heath
Utah Valley University

Remarks

Priyanka Prem Kumar
Youth Representative

Closing Remarks

Baldomero Lago
Chief International Officer, Executive Board Chair

Remarks

Dr. Íñigo Arbiol Oñate
Universidad de Deusto, Executive Board Member

Video Message

Mr. Unai Tellería

Dance Performance

Utah Valley University Cultural Envoy





Sister Eubank highlights the importance of trust, relationships in collaborating for sustainable development

Sister Eubank participates in panel as part of the International Academic Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals at UVU

By Sydney Walker | 7 Oct 2022, 7:22 PM MDT



Sister Sharon Eubank speaks during a panel discussion at the international academic conference on the Sustainable Development Goals at Utah Valley University in Orem, Utah, Oct. 5, 2022. (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints)



UVU and UN kick off 'Why it Matters' conference with sustainability discussion

By Ashtyn Asay | Oct 5, 2022



Opinion: The American spirit is alive and well in refugees

Utah Valley University is hosting a U.N. Conference focused on 17 global sustainability goals. Refugees now living in Utah can teach us much about all of that.

By Jiy Evensen | Oct 5, 2022, 7:35pm MDT



Topics on part of a refugee panel during the 'Why it Matters' early in Orem Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022. The conference, led by academic experts speaking on the U.N.'s 17 Sustainable Development Goals, is the first of its kind at UVU.

— the kind that both the West, innovated its way to new frontiers that other nations might have considered wretched. It was in Utah — some recently and some several years ago — that the Challenge at Utah Valley University on Wednesday... that they have encountered from Americans whose... from those of us who have lived in Utah.



'Why it Matters' UN Conference convenes at UVU

A conference opens in the morning, the 'Why it Matters' UN Conference convened and began at UVU, beginning three days worth of discussions on the U.N.'s sustainable development goals.

By Matthew Erickson

1 week ago

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UVU to host United Nations conference on sustainable development

By Ashtyn Asay | Oct 5, 2022

"WHY IT MATTERS"
The 1st INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC CONFERENCE ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
5-7 October 2022 | Utah Valley University

Utah Valley University is partnering with the United Nations to host the Why It Matters Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals from Wednesday through Friday, Oct. 5-7, 2022.

Utah Valley University announced last week that it will partner with the United Nations to host the Why It Matters Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals from Wednesday through Friday, Oct. 5-7, 2022.

The conference will take place this Wednesday through Friday and will bring together experts and in Orem, Utah, to discuss some of the world's most pressing current issues.

Why it Matters – 1st International Sustainable Development Goals Conference | I.M.A.M. Attends

October 12, 2022

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I.M.A.M. Attends the 1st International Academic Conference on Sustainable Development Goals – "Why it Matters"

A delegation from I.M.A.M., an active NGO with consultative status with the United Nations, led by Sayyid M.B. Kasimiri (vice chairman of I.M.A.M.) and Dr. Sejed Masoud Noori (I.M.A.M. representative) to the UN participated in the International Academic Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals – "Why it Matters" on October 5-7th, 2022, in Orem, Utah.



Opinion: Worried about drought, incivility, economic uncertainty? Join the conversation

UVU is hosting the Why it Matters Conference, sponsored by the United Nations to discuss growing concerns about drought, economic uncertainty and incivility.

By F. Wayne Knight | Sep 29, 2022, 8:00pm MDT



Utah Valley University in Orem is pictured on Wednesday, Feb. 9, 2022. (Jeffrey D. Alford)

As Utah Valley University premier and senior vice president of academic affairs, I talk with a deep respect about the future — issues that will impact our students and our community. Many of them have... that will include some of the world's leading experts from dozens of countries... quality education, affordable clean energy, economic growth and gender...

Caring for the earth is a sacred duty, Bishop Budge explains

He spoke at Utah Valley University as part of the International Academic Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals

By Ryan Jensen | 6 Oct 2022, 11:53 AM MDT



Bishop L. Todd Budge, second from left, speaking at the International Academic Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals at Utah Valley University on Oct. 5, 2022. (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints)



Opinion: 'A seed nurtured half a world away' — What do Utah farms have to do with the U.N.?

UVU's upcoming symposium, "Why it Matters" connects the United Nations with the farmsteads of Utah.

By Renee Demaree | Sep 23, 2022, 9:44am MDT



Non-GMO, organic, genetically modified crops are a pilot project... established by Utah State University in the 1970s with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, a university in Germany and the International Livestock Center for Africa. did just that.

Loren E. Martin and Leonard C. Koop of UVU described it as an "avenue to establish through international cooperation a world data bank on the genetic value and use of livestock." This... a variety emblematic of the... of the United Nations and... on Lake... Together we seek to reach across barriers and boundaries in the great work of... creating a world in which we include, sustain, serve and, more importantly, love our... neighbor."

We Cannot Afford to Think O Today: Bishop Budge Speaks for the Earth

He highlights six ways the faith is reducing its environmental footprint and Sister Sharon Eubank also speaks

1 October 2022 - Orem, Utah | Environmental Stewardship

For the second time in five days, a leader in The Church of Jesus Christ spoke on the importance of caring for the earth. On Saturday evening, October 1, 2022, Presiding Bishop G. Duane Budge, Second Counselor in the Presiding Bishopric of Utah Valley University's "Why it Matters" conference on the Sustainable Development Goals... Budge's topic was "The Divine Gift of Creation."



What feeling God's love has to do with ending poverty, Sister Yee says at U.N. conference

Relief Society leader participates in 'End poverty in all its forms everywhere' panel as part of U.N.'s International Academic Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals

By Sydney Walker | 6 Oct 2022, 7:29 PM MDT



Sister Kristin M. Yee, second counselor in the Relief Society general presidency, participates in a panel titled "End poverty in all its forms everywhere" as part of the First Annual International Academic Conference on the Sustainable Development Goals held at Utah Valley University in Orem, Utah, Oct. 5-7. The conference is titled "Why it Matters." | Screen shot from YouTube