The UZH as a UNAI Hub for the SDG 13 on Climate Action

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What is the United Nation Academic Impact (UNAI)?

– United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) is a consortium of 1,300 academic and research institutions in more than 130 countries (https://academicimpact.un.org/)

– UNAI is a programme of the Outreach Division of the United Nations Department of Public Information (http://www.un.org/en/sections/departments/department-global-communications/outreach/)

– "UNAI aligns institutions of higher education with the United Nations in supporting and contributing, through research and education, to the realization of the Organization's goals and mandates."

What is a UNAI SDG Hub?

– Hubs are UNAI members selected as exemplars for their innovative engagement related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

– "Institutions have been designated for three-year renewable terms and will serve as resources for best practices for the UNAI network, currently composed of over 1,300 universities and colleges in some 140 Member States"

– SDGs Hubs are selected with geographic balance in mind and considering the expertise of the universities in areas or fields directly related to each goal

– The announcement about the 17 SDG Hubs was officially made on 24 October 2018 in occasion of the UN Day

The 17 UNAI SDG Hubs

SDG 1: *No Poverty* - Kristu Jayanti College (India)
SDG 2: *Zero Hunger* - University of Pretoria (South Africa)
SDG 3: *Good Health and Well Being* - New Giza University (Egypt)
SDG 4: *Quality Education* - University of La Punta (Argentina)
SDG 5: *Gender Equality* - Ahfad University for Women (Sudan)
SDG 6: *Clean Water and Sanitation* - University of Manitoba (Canada)
SDG 7: *Affordable and Clean Energy* - Energy Policy and Development Centre, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Greece)
SDG 8: *Decent Work and Economic Growth* - Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering and Management Sciences (Pakistan)
SDG 9: *Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure* - Nagaoka University of Technology (Japan)
SDG 10: *Reduce Inequalities* - Western Sydney University (Australia)
SDG 11: *Sustainable Cities and Communities* - Carlos III University of Madrid (Spain)
SDG 12: *Responsible Consumption and Production* - Faculty of Economic Sciences, University of Buenos Aires (Argentina)
SDG 13: *Climate Action* - University of Zurich (Switzerland)
SDG 14: *Life below Water* - University of Bergen (Norway)
SDG 15: *Life on Land* - University of Zanjan (Iran)
SDG 16: *Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions* - De Montfort University (United Kingdom)
SDG 17: *Partnerships for the Goals* - American University in Dubai (United Arab Emirates)

Why has the UZH been selected SDG 13 Hub?

– UZH has been UNAI member since 2015

– Importance of academia in general as a contributor to achieve the SDGs

– The #SDGsinAcademia project started in May 2018 and showcased what UNAI members are doing on SDGs and UZH was specifically mentioned with reference to climate action

– Multidisciplinary and diverse climate expertise at UZH

– Geographic balance of the 17 Hubs

Why does it mean for the UZH?

– As the UNAI Hub for SDG13, the UZH can strengthen international visibility on its commitment to climate research and sustainability

– The SDG Hub initiative offers a platform to promote SDG13 related activities within the UZH and to strengthen the interdisciplinary climate network

– The nomination well fits with the strategic goals of the UZH Internationalization Strategy "Global Engagement"

– The nomination also perfectly complements plans to establish a UZH competence centre for sustainability

UNAI SDGs Hub – To Dos

– UNAI Hubs are required to undertake at least two activities per academic year that support the given UNAI principle (*which we are likely doing anyway*)

– As a SDG Hub we are expected to further the work of the United Nations, such as conducting meaningful research and teaching directly related to UNAI principles or engage on practical initiatives on campus *(most likely we are already doing it..)*.

– UNAI launched an online series entitled **#SDGsinAcademia**. The articles published contain information and resources for use by faculty and students alike and a selection of the activities, initiatives and proposals carried out by UNAI member institutions related to particular SDGs; this series could provide us with some ideas.

– Hosting academic, scientific conference and workshop (*like we are doing today*)

– Be inspired by the UN international days to organise some related events (*check UNAI website*)

– Write a news feature for the UNAI website (https://academicimpact.un.org/archive/news) to showcase the Hub (*UZH is coming in 2-3 weeks*)

– Submit a yearly activity report to the UNAI

How can you engage with the UNAI initiatives?

– We encourage you to use the SDG UNAI logo as much as possible (in proposals, public events, etc)

– In order to compile the annual activity report, we invite you to get in touch with us before end of January to let us know about your climate related activities

– Send us a couple of photos which might be connected to the SDG13 (for the news feature)

– We encourage you to use this opportunity in any way you think might be useful to your research, teaching and various other activities

Please get in touch with us: veruska.muccione@geo.uzh.ch

Acknowledgments

The UNAI SDG initiative has been made possible with the invaluable support of the UZH International Relation Office (Sara Elmer) and the Sustainability Team (Matthias Huss).

Thank you!