Learning Module

How can we make our world a better place?

An introduction to the Global Goals.

Target group: Student teachers and young educators,
learners aged 15+, youth groups or young adults, 10-25 people.

Learning outcome & Acquisition of skills: The participants know the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (Global Goals). They know why these are important, and how they refer to their own living environment. Participants reflect on the Global Goals and their indicators in relation to their home country. They encourage each other to improve the world and get involved. They develop ideas to teach others about the Global Goals. They develop measures for the implementation of the Global Goals. Participants gain the ability to reflect on their own values and actions, and to position themselves in the sustainability discourse, as well as the ability to develop and apply their own vision of the future.

Global Goal: With this learning module, they are contributing to the implementation of Global Goal 4.7.

Timeframe: Two teaching units
→ First unit 90 - 120 minutes
→ Second unit approx. 90 minutes
Both teaching units should take place approximately a week apart, so the participants have enough time to prepare their tasks for the second unit.

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Unit 1:

Introduction to the Global Goals

Preparation for the first unit:

→ WIFI or mobile phone reception
→ Make sure each participant has a suitable device (mobile phone, tablet, or laptop)
→ Hang the 17 individual Global Goals around the room, before the participants enter the room.
→ Collect information and sources about the Global Goals in relation to your home country at
www.globalgoals.org/worldslargestlesson
→ Find relevant homepages and sources to inform yourself about the current implementation of the Global Goals in your country.
→ Hang up the following questions:

> *What are the biggest problems facing people in the world today?*
>
> *What are the biggest problems facing people in my country?*
>
> *What are the biggest problems facing people in my hometown?*

Part 1: Introduction to the Global Goals (approx. 45 minutes)

Task 1: Each person takes a piece of paper and folds it into three sections. Everyone has five minutes to think about the three questions and write down their answers in bullet points.

Task 2: Get the participants to work together in pairs to identify the biggest problems. For each question have them prioritise two problems. They can discuss their ideas and/or write them down. Share the answers with the group.

Task 3: Have the participants take a stance on the Global Goals and then position themselves in the room, so that they are in front of the Global Goal they find most important. Ask all participants to justify their choice. After all explanations have been heard, give them the opportunity to change to another Global Goal. Discuss the viewpoints of the participants.

Points for consideration:
* When you look at your own point of view and that of others: What do you notice?
* What surprises you?
* Would you support the same point if your personal environment was different /you came from a different region /were a different gender /were a different age group /were a different religion /had kids?
* In your opinion, which Global Goals are inextricably linked, and which seem incompatible?

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Part 2: Background information on the Global Goals and their origin
(approx. 45 minutes)

Presentation and background knowledge (10 minutes)

1.) Introduce the Global Goals. Discuss other terms (e.g. SDGs) and have the participants watch a video on the Global Goals:
https://worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/resource/

2.) Provide background information on the United Nations, the Millennium Development Goals, and the process of developing the 2030 Agenda.
https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda

3.) Explain Goal No. 4 "Quality education". Describe sub-goals and indicators. Show several online sources about the status of the goal in relation to their country of origin and the implementation of this goal.

Research the sub-goals (30 minutes):

Ask the participants to choose a Global Goal that they would like to learn more about. Form groups of maximum five people (minimum three groups, maximum five groups). Make sure that each person/group has a device and WIFI/mobile phone reception. Give them 20 minutes for the following task:

> ### Research the sub-goals of the Global Goals
>
> a) As a group choose one Global Goal
> b) Research online and explain to each other what the sub-goals of the Global Goal entail.
> c) Choose a sub-goal and check how it is implemented and monitored in your country.

Get the participants to discuss their findings. Ask the group what surprised them about their findings, what they would like to share about their research or what they found out about the Global Goals in relation to their country. Allow space for questions, disappointments, criticism, doubts, best practices, and motivation.

Task "How can we make our world a better place?"
(5 minutes)

Give the participants the following homework for the next session:

> ### How can we improve our world?
>
> Bring something to the lesson that has improved the world. **Present to the class a single message, insight or appeal that makes the world a better place, in small or large ways.** Show in a memorable way what we can do together. Make your message as creative as possible. Craft the message so that everyone understands it. Use any media of your choice.
>
> Timeframe: Exactly 60 seconds (no longer!)

If applicable, give a general outline in relation to the target group of the presentation.
For example: Children between 6 and 12 years old / People who cannot read.

If applicable, set restrictions in the assignment to encourage creativity. For example, you can specify which media should be used.

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Unit 2:

How can we make our world a better place?

Preparation for the second unit:

→ Arrange a set-up based on the outline of the task "How can we improve our world?". For example, prepare a lectern and whiteboard.
→ Hang the Global Goals up around the room once again.

Part 1: Presentation

Have your participants present their work from Unit 1 "How can we improve our world?" for one minute each.
Remember that you will need roughly three minutes per person for the presentation, even if they only present for a minute each. Depending on how many people there are in the group, you can ask questions directly after each individual presentation or discuss all together at the end.

Part 2: Discussion

Discuss the presentation. Let the participants interact with each other and combine their ideas.

Points for consideration:
* What was surprising?
* Who can benefit from these ideas?
* Which Global Goal did you contribute to with your idea?
* What do you think the next step is from here?
* What are the biggest obstacles to overcome?
* What are the obstacles to the implementation of the Global Goals?

* What criticisms could someone have about the Global Goals?
* What possibilities for action arise for us after the presentations?
* How can we develop your ideas together? (For example, individual learning units can be created, and the presentations can be shared with others).

Part 3: Feedback

At the end of the second session, take time to go through some feedback. You could use the following five questions to collect feedback.

> *What have you learned?*
>
> *What has surprised you?*
>
> *What did you miss?*
>
> *What unanswered questions do you have?*
>
> *Where do you go from here?*

Address any uncertainties and questions related to the implementation of the Global Goals. Encourage action and reflection.

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Further Sources

Education for Sustainable Development Expert Network: https://esd-expert.net/

Global Learning Portal of the World University Service: (DE)
https://www.globaleslernen.de/de/bildungsmaterialien/alle/die-ziele-fuer-nachhaltige-entwicklung-im-unterricht

SDG Academy: https://sdgacademy.org/

Sustainable Development Goals - Resources for educators:
https://en.unesco.org/themes/education/sdgs/material

Teach SDGs: http://www.teachsdgs.org/

The United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs Sustainable Development:
https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda

The World Largest Lesson: https://worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/

10 Ready-to-use Lesson Plans on the Sustainable Development Goals:
https://www.bookwidgets.com/blog/2019/12/10-ready-to-use-lesson-plans-on-the-sustainable-development-goals

This learning module was developed by Suni e.V.. It was implemented in 2022 in Germany and Namibia in cooperation with the University of Trier, THE BLUE MIND e.V. and the Light for the Children Foundation. Suni e.V. is a German-Namibian association and supports the implementation of the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. www.suni-ev.de

This English translation has been possible thanks to the PerMondo project: Free translation of website and documents for non-profit organisations. A project managed by Mondo Agit. Translator: **Tasmin Mistry**

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