

EXPO 2020 DUBAI
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Global Goals Week



Universities in action for the UN 2030 Agenda

**The UN Decade of Action by
Higher Education Institutions**

**Universities and young generations –
Together for People, Planet and Prosperity**

In the frame of partnership with the Italian Pavilion at EXPO 2020 DUBAI, the Rete delle Università per lo Sviluppo sostenibile (RUS) organizes an event during the Forum promoted by the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development (ASviS), within the Global Goals Week: students will present their ideas for the university in 2030 and higher education institutions will share best practices to actively contribute to the UN Decade of Action.



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CONTEXT

The commitment of Universities to sustainability becomes particularly effective when teaching and research, as well as public engagement and the governance, aim to reach the same objectives and goals. This awareness is at the basis of the Rete delle Università per lo Sviluppo sostenibile – RUS (the Italian University Network for Sustainable Development), an unprecedented experience of coordination and sharing among all Italian universities engaged in the issues of environmental sustainability and social responsibility. Among the main purposes of RUS is the dissemination of culture and good sustainability practices, both inside and outside. Universities, sharing skills and experience, in order to amplify both the positive impacts of the actions implemented by the individual universities and the promotion of the SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals - in order to help in their achievement. At the same time, RUS is conscious that only 10 years are left to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals; therefore, it is more important than ever for the global community to mobilise for accelerated action. What are universities effectively already doing in order to achieve the goals set for 2030? What kind of university do students envision for the future? One way to measure the progress is to focus on the “Ps” that shape the SDGs, in particular RUS is concentrating its efforts on 3 of them: People, Planet and Prosperity.

THE THREE Ps

The UN has identified as roadmap “5 Ps” that shape the SDGs: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships. They highlight how the SDGs form an intertwined framework instead of a group of siloed goals. RUS decided to focus the sessions of its Forum on 3 of them: People, Planet and Prosperity.

— people

The SDGs declare the world’s determination “to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.” The university system can face and defeat poverty through actions focused on education accessibility, skill development, inclusion and social justice.

— planet

The SDGs set as their goal to protect the planet “so it can support the needs of the present and future generations.” The university system can play an important role as a trendsetter for actions suitable to tackle the global challenges of climate change and environmental crisis.

— prosperity

The SDGs aim to “ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature.” Higher education institutions are labs for a new cultural and governance model that allows the possible growth of the economies in an environmentally sustainable way.

