

# **2025 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Teach In: Introduction Webinar**

**5 February 2025**



# Agenda

- Introduction to SOS-UK
- SDGs overview
- SDG Teach In
- Impact of the 2024 Teach In
- Case studies
- Next steps
- Questions and answers



# Housekeeping

- The webinar will be **recorded** and shared afterwards including the slides
- To avoid disturbance and to maintain a good connection, please remain on mute with cameras off unless you wish to speak
- There will time to answer any questions at the end
- Please remember to be kind and respectful to everyone and their opinions

# Introduction to SOS-UK

Students Organising for Sustainability UK (SOS-UK) is an educational charity, launched in October 2019

SOS-UK engages, inspires and empowers students to lead on sustainability. Long-term investment in education today for a better future tomorrow.



## Our Mission

- Getting more students **leading on**, and **learning about**, sustainability.
- Embedding sustainability in all types of education, **from early years to adult learning**.
- Making sustainability **more inclusive** for everyone.

# What is the SDG Teach In?

# Introducing the SDG Teach In

An annual campaign calling upon educators, trainers, and facilitators around the world to **integrate** the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their **teaching, learning, or assessment**.

## Aims:

- Raise awareness of the importance of sustainable development and just transitions
- Embed sustainability across all teaching, training and learning
- Link learning and teaching to local, regional, and global issues
- Equip students with skills, attributes, and knowledge to support them in making a difference to the world's greatest challenges

# Why do we deliver the SDG Teach In?

Student demand for sustainability education is growing. In 2020, SOS International surveyed 7000 students from over 100 Higher Education institutions worldwide:



**92%** agree that sustainable development is something which all universities and colleges should actively incorporate and promote



**73%** agreed that sustainable development should be actively incorporated into and promoted by all courses



**Only 26%** of respondents report sustainable development as being covered **in depth** in their course. **40%** said **little to no coverage**.

The 2023 to 2024 SOS-UK Sustainability skills survey showed similar results

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**Why do you think  
sustainability education is  
important?**

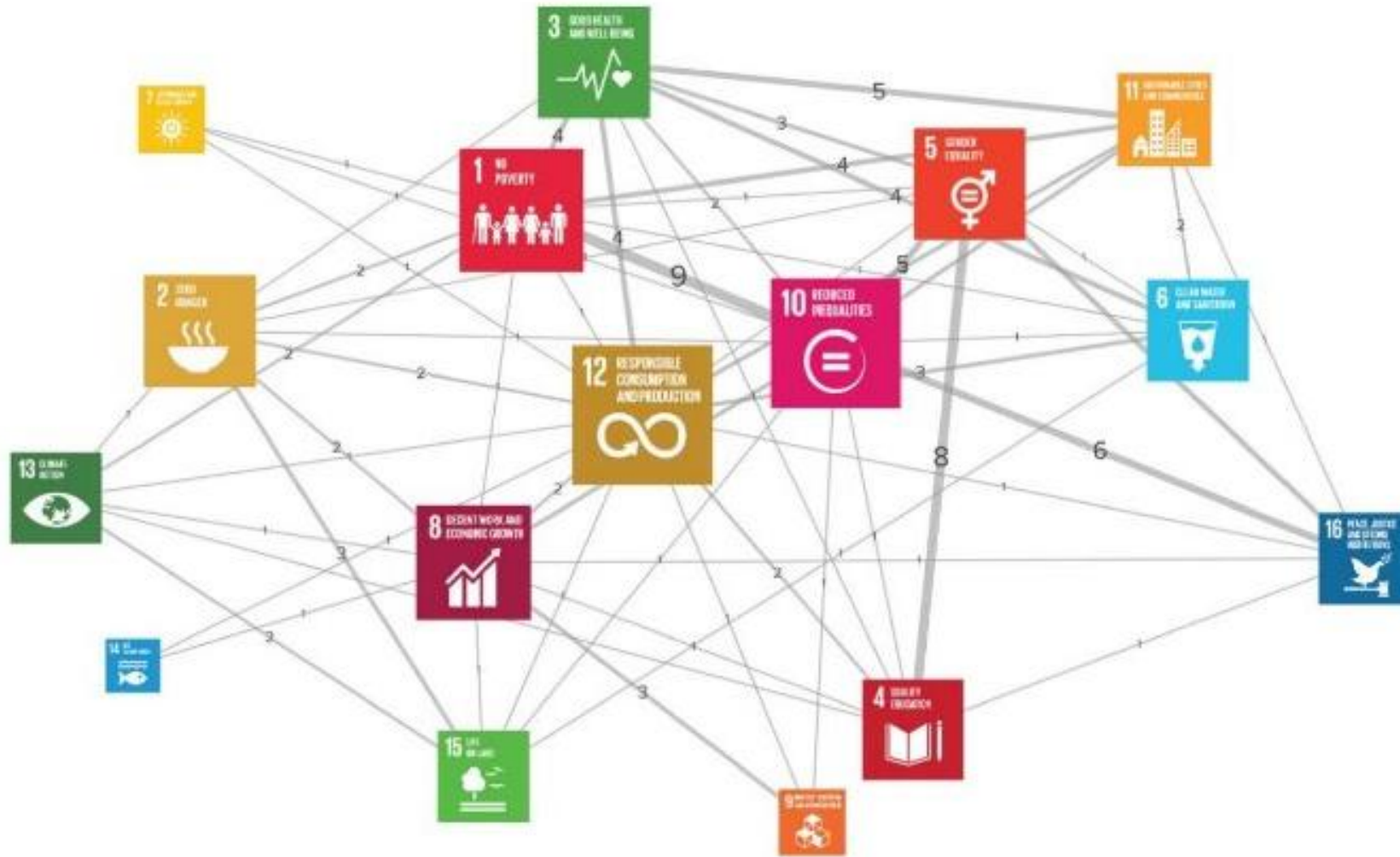


# The Sustainable Development Goals

# The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



# Interconnections between the SDGs



# Why the SDGs?

- Clearly demonstrate links, and interconnectivity between social, environmental, and economic challenges, relates to different disciplines and professions
- Effective conversation-starter
- Wide international recognition, shared language for sustainability across borders and sectors

# Why the SDGs?

It is also important to critically engage with the SDGs:

- What topics are missing? Whose worldviews are included or not?
- We hope through the Teach In, educators and learners will be able to identify how they can supplement the SDGs with other topics or approaches and so contribute to tackling various social and environmental problems and injustices worldwide
- We welcome educators to supplement the SDGs e.g., environmental justice, multispecies sustainability, inner development goals, and others

# Impact of the SDG Teach In 2024

# SDG Teach In 2024



**1059** educators  
pledging to  
incorporate the SDGs  
into their teaching  
and learning



**85** educational  
institutions taking part,  
including schools,  
colleges, universities,  
students' unions and  
training providers



**105,412** students &  
learners reached  
through lessons,  
workshops and  
tutorials

Since 2018, the Teach In has reached nearly 500,000 students across 50 countries.

# A global reach

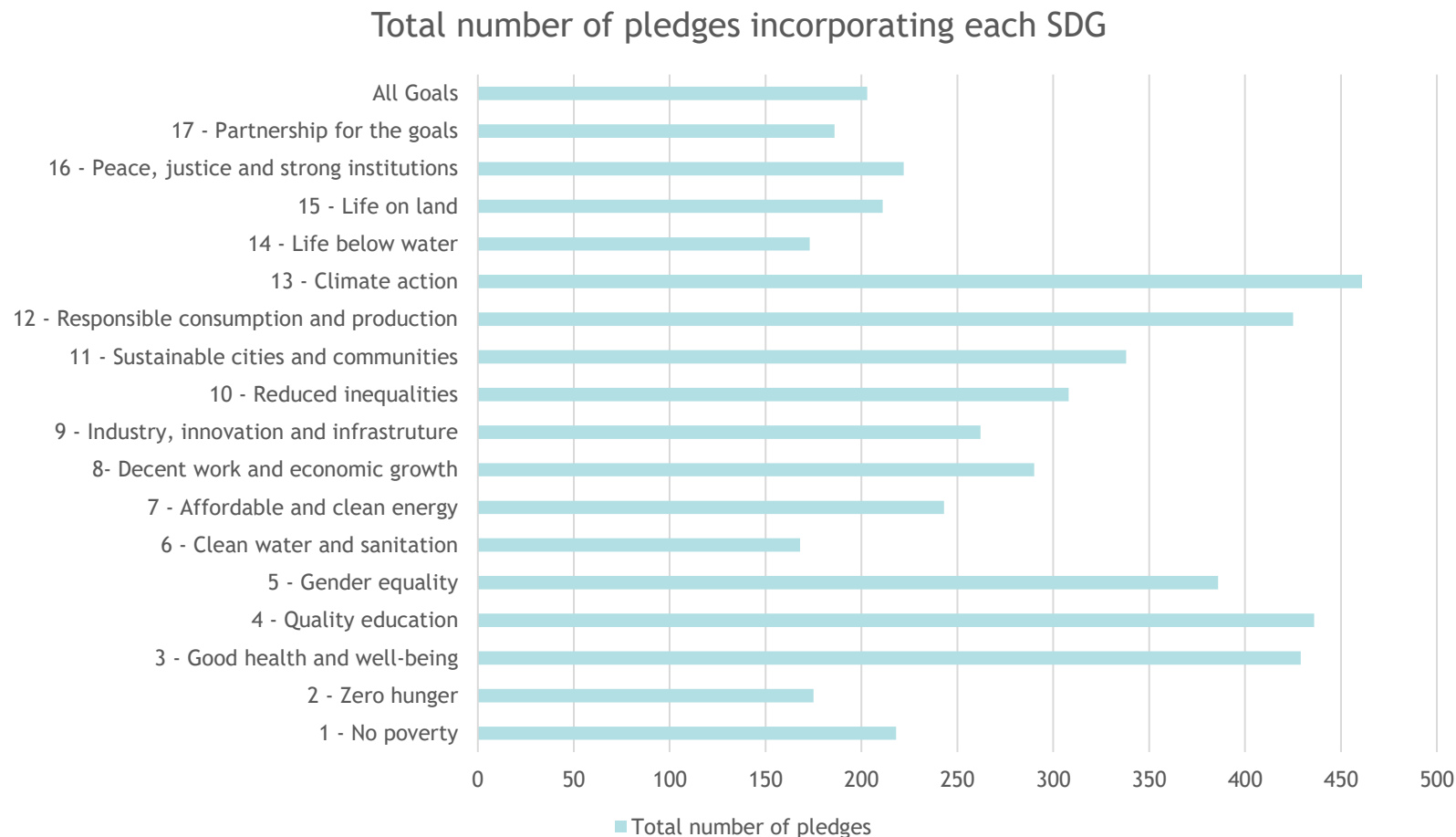
Although majority of educators (97.8%) were from the UK, the Teach In engaged educators across 33 countries globally!





# The most popular Goals in the 2024 SDG Teach In

Each educator shared which of the 17 Goals they incorporated as part of the Teach In. The most popular Goal in 2024 was **Goal 13: Climate Action**. Good health and wellbeing was the most popular in 2023.

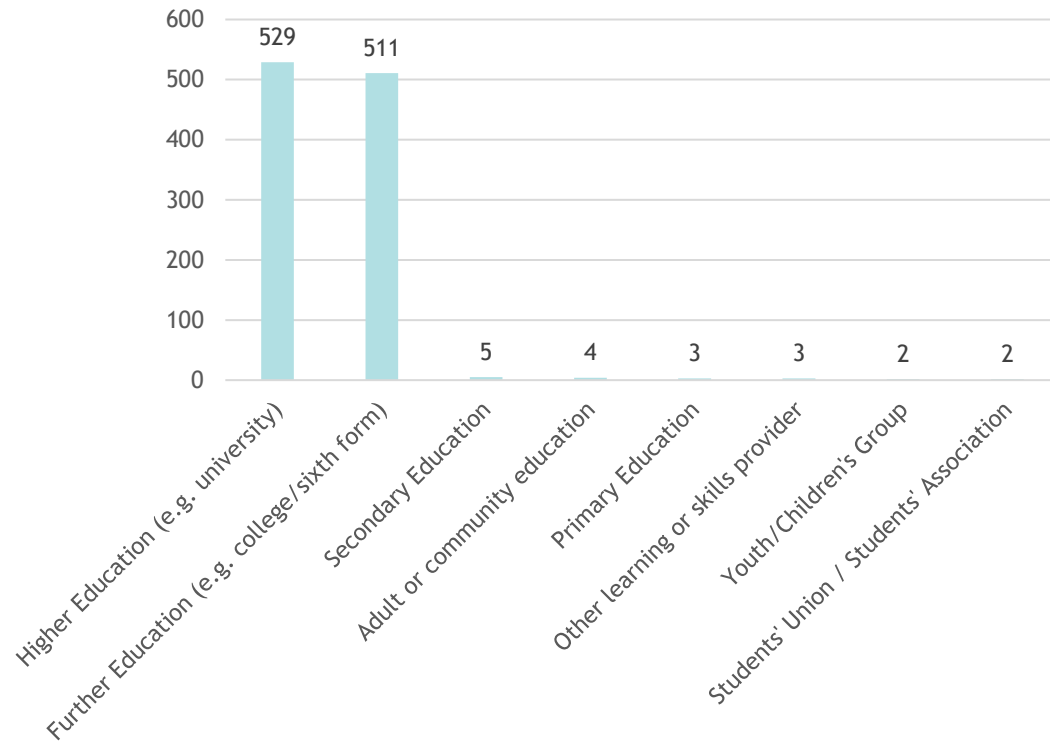


The number of instances each Goal was incorporated into teaching and learning as part of the Teach In

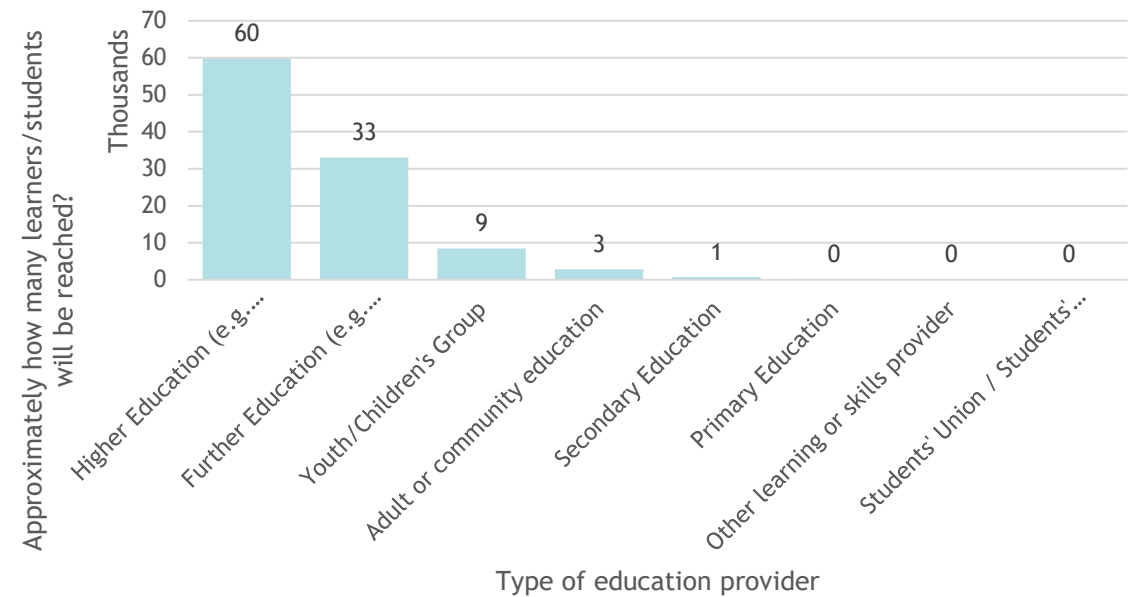
# Reaching different stages of education

**49.9% of pledges** were made by educators within higher education, **48.2%** within further education and just under **1%** within primary and secondary education.

Number of educators pledged by education type



Number of learners reached by education type



# Case studies

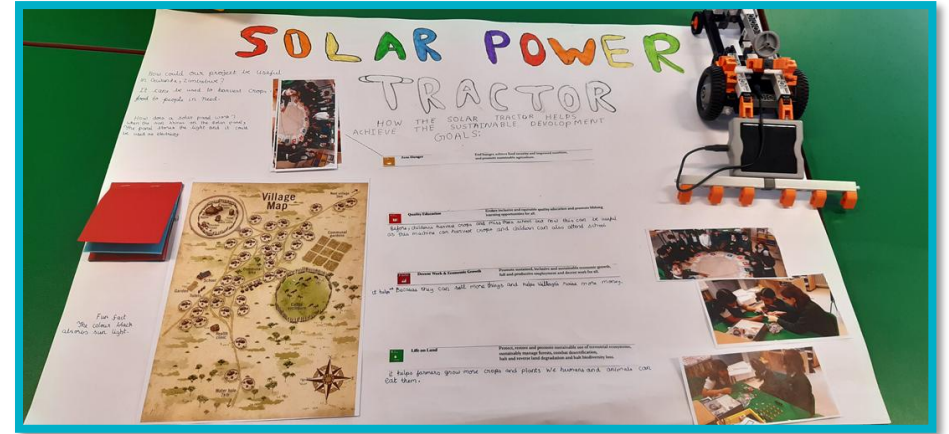
# Case study 1: The British School of Brussels, SDG Teach In 2023

## Approach to the Teach In:

Explored how energy and lack of access to it affects life in developing communities across the world.

- Discussed importance of renewable and affordable energy across the world
- Mapped how **climate, life on land and water-related SDGs** are interconnected and how health and education rely on access to energy.

“The children’s learning was focused on practically applying the science of solar cells to tackle real world issues in real communities. Their creative ideas and genuine wish to find good solutions for the challenges faced by being off grid provided a great model for the future of education and learning.” - Teacher



# Case study 2: Dunard Primary School, Glasgow, 2023

## Approach to the Teach In:

All students from nursery to primary levels were challenged to complete SDG tasks with a member of their family or as part of their community. Students gained bronze, silver, or gold awards.

- Each year group were given 8 challenges that they could choose to complete. These covered curriculum areas such as literacy, art and design, STEM and outdoor learning
- To ensure equity for all, some activities were completed with support within the school

"All parents were invited and saw families on a guided walk along our canal and litter picking. Families were also taught about sustainable infrastructure and the history of the wonderful Glasgow canal. Overall, the day was a huge success."

- Claire McEachran, teacher at Dunard Primary School



## Case study 3: Mathematics for sustainability, University of Exeter, 2021

### Approach to the Teach In:

Group projects about the potential and limits of mathematical modelling, computing and data science tools for addressing social and technological challenges relating to the environment.

- Explored “Optimal decision making for the renewable energy economy”, “Social and Ecological systems” and “Infectious diseases” themes
- Students aligned their projects with the SDGs

“This was a unique module - it gives you the chance to work on projects within other disciplines and relates them to what you are studying. Instead of simply watching mathematics, this module allows you to explore your own interests or even find them if you’re still in the dark. Mathematics opens many doors, but it was through this module that I decided which doors to walk through.” - Student



# The SDG Teach In 2025

# SDG Teach In 2025 - 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March

## Optional weekly themes:

- ▶ Week 1 (March 1-7): Environmental Sustainability
- ▶ Week 2 (March 8-14): Social Sustainability
- ▶ Week 3 (March 15-21): Economic Sustainability
- ▶ Week 4 (March 22-31): 'Care, Collaboration, and Creativity'

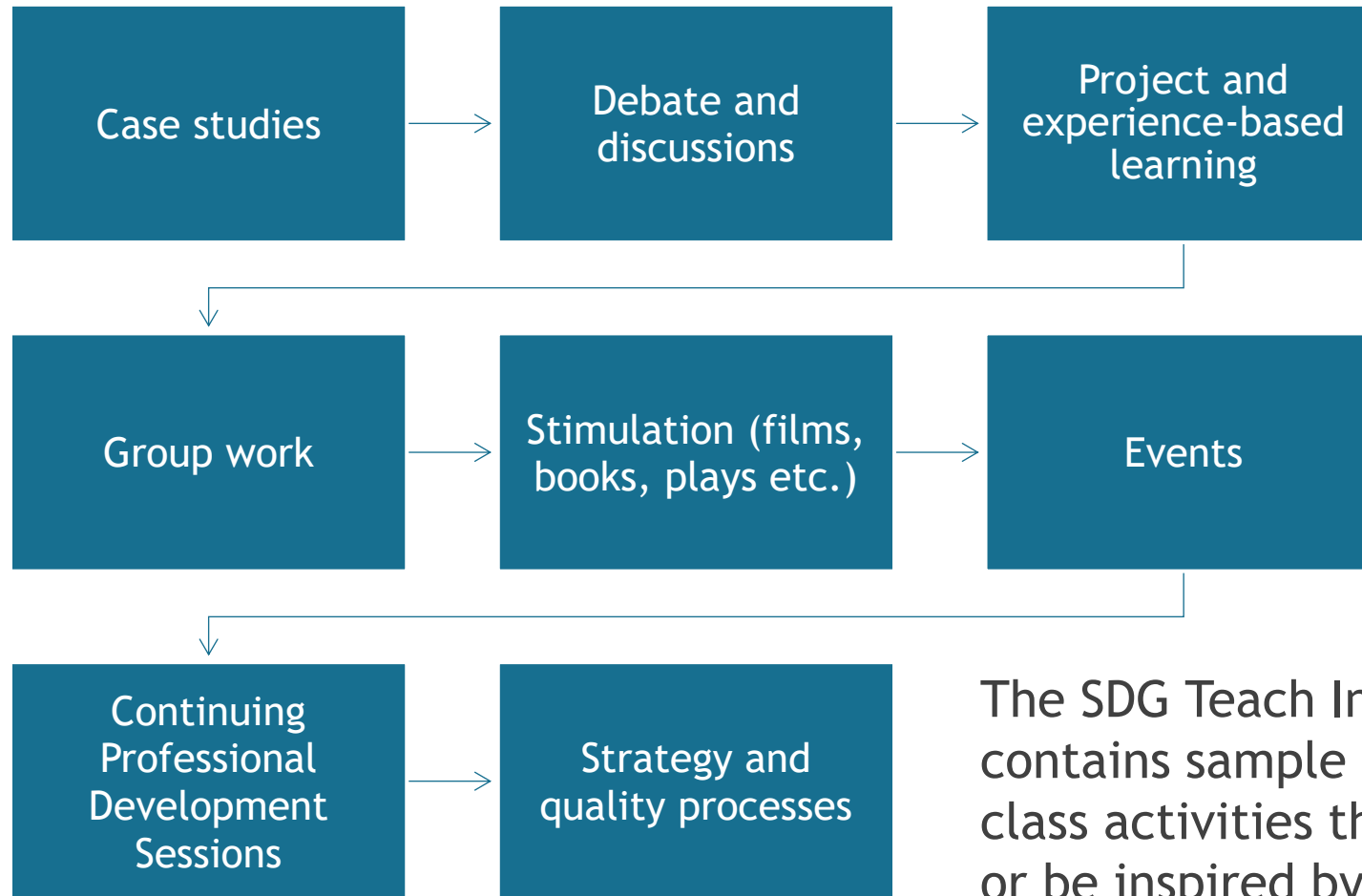
Themes help breakdown the vast field of sustainable development.

Educators can engage in one or several of the weeks at any time.

Each week, reminder emails will be sent to those that have pledged to take part including advice and recommended resources from our evolving [SDG Teach In Resource Bank](#).



# Examples of how you can embed sustainability in education



The SDG Teach In Resource Bank contains sample lesson plans and class activities that you can use or be inspired by

# Going beyond the SDG Teach In



# Teach the Teacher

Student-led climate education campaign offering students the opportunity to be in the driving seat!

Provides **free training, support and resources** for students, empowering them to deliver a one-hour climate change workshop with their teachers. [Read](#) our blog post about the campaign.

Onboarding  
45 mins

Session delivery  
1 hour

Preparation  
2 hours

Creating change  
Up to you!

Sign up today!



[teachtheteacher.uk](https://teachtheteacher.uk)

Email: [jack.difrancesco@sos-uk.org](mailto:jack.difrancesco@sos-uk.org)



# Education for Sustainable Development

We need to deliver Education for Sustainable Development **all year round**.

SOS-UK runs several projects, campaigns, and consultancy work to support staff and students to lead on and learn for sustainability within the education sector:

## Responsible Futures

Responsible Futures: a whole-institution supported change programme to embed sustainability into formal and informal learning.

## TEACH THE FUTURE

Teach the Future: a campaign run by school students to improve education on the climate and ecological crisis in the UK



Learning Academy: our hub of learning designed to progress sustainability across the education sector.

Contact us if you would like to discuss additional support from SOS-UK or find out about any of our programmes and campaigns: [hello@sos-uk.org](mailto:hello@sos-uk.org)

# Student-led sustainability curriculum mapping

SOS-UK also offers a support package for mapping the SDGs across all modules/courses within the formal curriculum through a student-led audit.

University of Winchester and NUS developed a training and support package for mapping the curriculum to the SDGs through a student-led audit, led by SOS-UK.

## Benefits can include:

- Institution-wide engagement with the SDGs
- Identifying many unknown pockets of good practice and allies
- Student skill development and leadership
- Increased buy-in from faculties
- Increased support for academics



Interested? Contact:  
[Hello@sos-uk.org](mailto:Hello@sos-uk.org)

# Next steps to get involved with the SDG Teach In 2025

# SDG Teach In next steps - how can educators get involved?

- [Complete our online form](#) to take part in the SDG Teach In 2025 from now until 31 March.
- Promote the Teach In to your colleagues and wider networks with our SDG Teach In 2025 [External Communications Pack](#)
- Already embedded one or several of the SDGs or applied other frameworks in your teaching and learning? [Pledge](#) to let us know and browse our [Resource Bank](#) for how you can go even further.
- Contact your local [Enactus network](#) to collaborate
- Share your stories with the #SDGTeachIn2025. Towards the end of the campaign, surveys sent to those that have [signed-up](#) for feedback and chance to share how you took part in the Teach In!

# SDG Teach In next steps - how can students get involved?

- Promote the Teach In to your teachers, lecturers, or facilitators using ready-made emails and graphics in our [External Communications Pack](#)
- Tell them why you want to learn about the SDGs and how you would like to learn.
  - Be creative! E.g., artwork, outdoor learning, creating videos, role-playing, debates, and more.



# Any questions?

# Thank you!

Email: [sdgteachin@sos-uk.org](mailto:sdgteachin@sos-uk.org)



@sosuk\_charity

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Students-organising-for-sustainability