



The SDG Accord

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

Integration of SDGs in

- Institutional governance/strategic level
- SDGs in research
- SDGs in campus operations
- SDGs in curriculum development
- SDGs in student engagement activities
- SDGs into community activities
- SDGs at a whole-institution level

Focus on

- Goal 1 - No poverty
- Goal 2 - Zero hunger
- Goal 3 - Good health and wellbeing
- Goal 4 - Quality education
- Goal 5 - Gender equality
- Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation
- Goal 7 - Affordable and clean energy
- Goal 8 - Decent work and economic growth
- Goal 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Goal 10 - Reduced inequalities
- Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities
- Goal 12 - Responsible consumption and production
- Goal 13 - Climate action
- Goal 14 - Life below water
- Goal 15 - Life on land
- Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions
- Goal 17 - Partnerships for the goals

Summary

We ran a workshop on food waste with 22 teaching and support staff from Food, Events, Tourism, Hospitality and Leisure.

The workshop: Linked food waste to the SDGs. It then looked at: the impact of food waste on climate change; global, national and household food waste; how to reduce domestic and commercial food waste; the importance of influence.

Feedback

All influencers are better informed - a more balanced viewpoint. Small changes being more effective in the short to medium term than huge - and, by its nature, more likely to fail - shifts in lifestyle.

Realising just how much we do waste. More aware of what is going into the food bin. We now freeze half a loaf when we buy bread.

It was made clear that by making small changes in everyday life, we can make a big impact on the health of the planet. It's something I feel I can work on personally and the workshop gave me the tools necessary to make improvements.

Relevant information in our field.

Outline the benefits of integrating this theme:

- 1. This theme integrated into the professional learning of our staff. They will influence learners, other professionals and suppliers to engage in the fight against food waste. There are plans to introduce food waste reduction into formal and informal teaching and learning.**
- 2. Professionally and as householders, this audience can reduce food waste immediately.**
- 3. Food waste impacts on many environmental, social and economic SDGs. The workshop connected professional and personal lives to global issues.**

Outline the barriers or challenges encountered in integrating this theme and how you overcame these:

- 1. Our participants were all experts in food and professionally trained to minimise food waste. We needed to engage them with a new angle. The workshop sought to impart a global perspective, to bust some myths about food waste, and to provoke thought about domestic and commercial waste. This last developed discussions about food portioning, doggy bags and garnishes.**
- 2. Rather than challenging this group of professionals and causing resistance, the workshop emphasised the power of its participants as influencers in their teaching, buying, marketing, domestic and social spheres.**
- 3. The hospitality and food service industry has been badly affected by the Coronavirus crisis and businesses' survival is more important to them than climate change. We, therefore, emphasised the value of small frequent changes that would not damage profits or turnover but add value and efficiency to businesses.**

Conclusions and recommendations

1. Food waste connects to many SDGs and, as everyone eats, it is a strong and relevant subject to explore the SDGs. It is also an issue on which most people can act.
2. Emphasising and supporting the role of professionals and learner-professionals as influencers is useful in breaking down barriers and in helping to extend messaging the. In behaviour change terms, our participants were already aligned with the food waste fight but our workshop took them through new levels of engagement to become advocates.
3. By definition, the SDGs are global and require global action. This can be off-putting for many audiences. Our group engaged with the concept of committing to small changes in attitudes and choices and with the idea that their actions would have a wider impact. It is important to empower audiences to engage, act and advocate.



Image of from one of the presentation slides highlighting perfectly edible food that we sometimes throw away.