



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

SDG Accord Reporting 2021 CASE STUDY

The Fruit Routes

The Fruit Routes Initiative is a platform for community projects connecting the university with the local community. The activities mainly focus on sustainability and art and try to enhance the engagements between campus and the town fulfilling our role as a civic University. One of the most popular activities is the annual fruit harvest on campus. In partnership with our School of Architecture academics and students an Apple Store (AS) was designed as a focal point of these activities. Architecture students attended a Summer school where they were asked to design and ultimately build the store fulfilling the aim to work towards 'enhancing and building communities' as part of their architecture profession as this aspect is more important than ever before. As part of the development of this award-winning project the opportunity to showcase the campus as a living laboratory and work with our own students became a reality.

The project was a collaboration between the Loughborough University Sustainability Team, School of Architecture, Hiroshima Institute of Technology Japan and Environmental Artist and Fruit Routes Founder Anne-Marie Culhane. 70 students signed up to the Summer Schools in 2018/19 including 40 students from Japan. "The AS is based on a dynamic exchange of creative ideas and energies between university folk and people from Loughborough and beyond. The Fruit Routes ethos of abundance, the give and take between nature and people, has taken material expression through the idea of the AS which will be a functional and aesthetically interesting space across all seasons. A meeting place for folk to come together to pick and store fruit, to take shelter and share, not just the produce of the Fruit Routes, but companionship, appreciation, and a caring for each other and nature. Precious gifts and a lasting legacy for all who stop at the "AS" as they pass by the orchard, along the FR". *Steven King, local resident & Transition Loughborough*

BENEFITS

1. This experience is extremely rare in architecture education and is highly important to the employability of architecture graduates. Students are prone to limit their discussions about their work to architecture academics and their peers, which creates a significant gap between university projects and professional practice. There is an emerging need for graduates that can effectively communicate and collaborate with others without an architectural background (i.e. clients, communities, developers, engineers), a skill that is neglected by our standard architecture education.
2. The most important and unique impact of this program is to directly connect "Clients" and students and involve both sides actively in the design process.
3. The project provides cutting-edge construction technology experience (computational design and digital fabrication) and experience in sustainable design principles.

BARRIERS

1. Funding. There wasn't any. We used our Sustainability budget to support and in kind teaching from academic and professional service colleagues.
2. Gaining support to fully embed the programme into the curriculum. This will depend on where the institutional objectives are. However, this type of project can provide a great case study of how teaching, research and operations can fit together. How campus can support curriculum.

SDG Accord Reporting 2021 CASE STUDY

Students showing progress with their models for the Apple Store to academic colleagues and clients.



CONCLUSIONS

The project continues to have a sector wide reach through workshops at conferences and teaching provision. A group was created to work with the local town and wider county to expand the project and two books have also been published.

Additionally, the project involves students and academics of 5 major universities in Japan: The University of Tokyo, Hiroshima Institute of Technology, Keio University, Kyoto University and Kyushu University. Colleagues and students are actively involved in the dissemination of this project in Japan through social media to target both wider public and local communities. A prototype project will be built in Hiroshima to test the idea of supporting local communities with a micro-infrastructure pavilion.