



## 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



#### **Durham University and COP26**

The 26<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 26) will be held under UK-Italy presidency in Glasgow, from 1-12 November 2021.

The University is using COP 26 as a key driver for facilitating active participation of students, staff and the wider community in knowledge transfer, through implementing the UNFCCC aim of Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE). It pursues the objective of empowering all members of society to engage in climate action, through education, training, public awareness, public participation, public access to information and international cooperation on these issues. An internal COP steering group, led by Dr Petra Minnerop (Durham Law School), a specialist in Climate Law, includes representation from estates, professional services, renowned researchers in climate and energy research and students. The group is developing a catalogue of events, including a monthly seminar series in partnership with the University's Energy Institute.

A key initiative is the ECO2 Smart Schools Climate Conference that the University is delivering in partnership with Durham County Council and charity Oases. The conference will bring schools together from around the world to think about the issue. Each school will be partnered with a school in another country. This partnering will enable the young people involved to explore other pupil's experiences of and feelings about climate change, the COP (and the issues being debated at the COP 26) global perspectives, experiences and actions on climate change.

The ECO2 COP will also seek to encourage the young people to share their experiences and concerns about climate change, to share the actions that they are taking to combat climate change, to think of actions that they (and their school) can take to combat climate change and become carbon zero to engage with the COP 26 debate.

## *SDG Accord Reporting 2021 CASE STUDY*

Outline the benefits of integrating this theme.

- 1.** Greater coordination on climate action across all areas of the University's work
- 2.** Shared learning within the University about relevant initiatives
- 3.** Greater visibility and awareness among external stakeholders about Durham's work on Climate Action

### **BARRIERS**

**1.** Action on Climate change across multiple domains of the University is diffuse and therefore complex to map and coordinate. Establishing academic leadership to facilitate wider buy-in has been critical. Convening a regular planning group with representation from across the University has been essential to share information, including via an online repository for information and events.