

Title of presentation

Enhancing SDG Literacy through Authentic Assessment Strategies

Presenters

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Abstract

The proposed workshop will provide an overview of a Sustainability Literacy initiative designed and developed in TU Dublin. Sustainability literacy is defined as “the knowledge, skills, and mind-sets that help compel an individual to become deeply committed to building a sustainable future and allowing them to make informed and effective decisions to this end”(Décamps et al., 2017, p.141). We have used the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to frame our approach to the enhancement of sustainability literacy. We have utilised a learning tool called Sulitest, a UN supported framework encompassing quizzes to enhance knowledge, skills and mindsets in relation to the SDGs. Over 2000 students have taken the test in TU Dublin to date and it has provided us with a focus and common starting point for both understanding and improving sustainability literacy levels in our student cohorts. Embedding the Sulitest quiz into a variety of authentic assessment pedagogies including reflective activities, critical analyses and activism assignments aimed at promoting active learning and global citizenship opportunities among our students has been key to the success of the initiative.

The workshop will engage participants firstly with a taster version of the Sulitest quiz. This exercise will see participants divided into groups to create some competitive rivalry. This part of the workshop will provide participants with some insight into the types of questions comprising the Sulitest quiz and will also provide a general feel for the Sulitest platform.

The second part of the workshop will include an account of how we have sought to embed the enhancement of sustainability literacy as a learning outcome in within the business curriculum. We will share the authentic assessment strategies we have developed along with visual and video-based student exemplars to demonstrate our initiative in action.

For the final part of the workshop, a template will be provided to encourage participants to think about how opportunities for the enhancement of sustainability literacy might be built into the modules and programmes they are involved in.

Having attended the workshop participants should have (i) expanded their knowledge around sustainability literacy initiatives in the university, (ii) been exposed to the Sulitest quiz, a useful tool in generating student engagement with the UN SDG's, (iii) gained some insights into how sustainability literacy can be embedded into existing assessments strategies and (iv) had some time to reflect on the relevance of all of the above for their own teaching, learning and engagement strategies.

Décamps, A., Barbat, G., Carteron, J. C., Hands, V., & Parkes, C. (2017). Sulitest: A collaborative initiative to support and assess sustainability literacy in higher education. *The International Journal of Management Education*, 15(2), 138-152.