



SDGs NEWSLETTER-UoM

Welcome to the second edition of the UoM SDGs Newsletter



2nd Edition - April 2020



Message from the Vice-Chancellor

Intensifying our efforts to keep SDGs on track

PROFESSOR D JHURRY,
C.S.K., G.O.S.K.
Vice-Chancellor

It gives me great pleasure to welcome this second edition of our SDG newsletter as we intensify our efforts to promote the SDGs at the University of Mauritius with the hope that they can further impact on our country's development and progress.

Nature's Editorial of 2 Jan 2020 stresses that at the current rate, most of the SDG goals will not be met. One of the identified problems at country level is that the goals are competing with GDP goals. The Editor raises the question of how the 2030 agenda can be put back on the right path? Universities must play a more prominent role in embracing the SDGs or should I refer to the 6 entry points recommended by the UN-expert working group in December last, namely: human well-being (including eliminating poverty and improving health and education); sustainable economies (including reducing inequality); access to food and nutrition; access to — and decarbonizing — energy; urban development; and the global commons (combining biodiversity and climate change).

UoM's vision, coined in 2017, to develop a research-engaged and entrepreneurial University focused on innovation is itself inspired from SDG 9 which is about building resilient infrastructure, promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation. SDG 9 targets refer to enhanced scientific research, upgrading of the technological capabilities of industrial sectors, increasing the number of research and development workers per 1 million people and public and private research and development spending. Science and technology underpins all these and investment in Science & Technology should not be curtailed.

The UK for instance has announced a huge increase in research funding and it means a lot for Universities. The coronavirus pandemic teaches us the lesson that we should maintain our trust in science and continue investing in research.

The creation of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) at the UoM and the re-engineering of the faculties of Science and Agriculture into a Faculty of Science, Agriculture and Technology (FSAT) is a leap forward for the University and the country. The mission of the FMHS will be to consolidate training but also strengthen research and clinical translation for the better impact in the local Public Health sector in line with SDG 3 targets. Bringing the physical, biological, agricultural and marine sciences together under the FSAT should enable academics to address key SDG issues such as climate change, food security and ocean matters in a more organized manner. The mobile apps competition on the SDGs very successfully organized by the UoM Students' Computer Club with industry support is another laudable initiative which shows the concern and interest of our students.

Amidst all the challenges Universities have to face - disruption, technology-driven, university-business cooperation, entrepreneurial-focused and socially-engaged, Transnational Education, partnerships, openness - we should nonetheless reflect on how to contribute more effectively to the SDGs and on how Universities can align their actions and partnerships in a concerted manner.

The Association of Commonwealth Universities SDG Network is finalizing an action plan around Globally-engaged citizens, Civic contributions, Research, Estates and stewardship and of course Partnerships which cuts across all four.

The UoM is proposing to host a conference on '*Building University Clusters for SDGs*' in October 2020. The Conference goals are to pool together University partners around selected SDGs and build clusters around them with a leader University for each SDG. We shall invite participation not only from Universities but also from the public sector, industry and the NGOs. More to come on this conference.

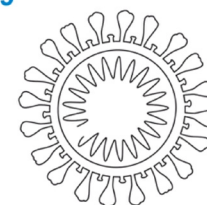


SDGs and Coronavirus – A Reflection

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COVID-19



The ethos of the SDGs was to provide a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. The 17 SDGs are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership.

The globalization of the COVID-19 outbreak has shown that both developed and developing countries are vulnerable as we share the same planet. It is showing to us that the survival of the human being is above all market laws. Achieving the 17 SDGs will no doubt help us to realize that health, hunger, poverty, education and partnership should be above all balance of power.

How did we react on humanitarian grounds to the needs of the Chinese while travel bans were being put in place on China? A World Health Organization (WHO) team of international experts led by the Canadian epidemiologist Dr Bruce Aylward, went to Beijing to investigate China's coronavirus as death toll surpassed the number killed globally by the SARS epidemic. The Director-General of WHO Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus travelled to Beijing for talks with President Xi Jinping and Chinese ministers in late January 2020 to receive approval for the international mission.

“Iran exported 2 million medical masks to China as humanitarian aid in the wake of the Coronavirus outbreak”, said the secretary general of Iran and China Joint Chamber of Commerce Majid Reza Hariri. [1]

A team of Chinese medical experts from Sichuan was sent to Italy after Italian Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio asked China for help. China's government has also sent assistance and medical supplies to Iran and South Korea. [2]

Chinese Red Cross Chairman Chen Zhu said that expert teams sent to Iran were tasked with helping their Iranian counterparts contain the virus with accurate and effective quarantine measures. Chen said China helped to identify four types of people—confirmed cases, their close contacts, suspected cases and fever patients with pneumonia-like symptoms. The top Chinese experts and their Iranian counterparts have worked together for consensus on virus control. [3]

WHO Director-General emphasized that new data from China has helped to form a “clearer picture”. He said ‘now is the window of opportunity to ensure countries are prepared’ and he called on the world to sense the urgency. [4]

Eleanor Fish*, an immunology professor at the University of Toronto, explained that there are two kinds of masks being used. The traditional surgical mask and the N95, which is made of thicker material. “The issue with the surgical mask is it doesn't protect your eyes and they're loosely fitting but with the major advantage of preventing large droplets from coming in contact with parts of the face”, said Eleanor. “Wearing a surgical mask, that is very well-fitted, would reduce the amount of virus you'd be exposed to”, she added.

Prof Eleanor pointed out that it is more important for people to remember common hygiene practices — the same ones that prevent the spread of the regular flu - including keeping your hands away from your nose and mouth, washing hands regularly, and coughing or sneezing into your elbow.

All these events show that it is the duty of all countries to contribute towards making the SDGs a reality. The coronavirus outbreak should help all of us in our reflections in moving towards a sustainable society.

Will the global community absorb the lessons from the COVID-19 episode and rethink the individualistic economic model or shall we just go back to normal once a vaccine is on the market until the next outbreak? Are we going to welcome a paradigm shift in world affairs based on trust and cooperation? We require international scientific cooperation to strengthen WHO mission. The coronavirus has reminded us of how vulnerable we are as a species. UoM together with all national stakeholders are working to embrace SDG17 to make the country resilient to the impacts of the coronavirus. Worth pondering. ➔

<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses>

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ON MAURITIUS ISLAND

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I came to the island of Mauritius at the invitation of the University of Mauritius to lecture on industrial environmental issues, and to give recommendations based on the existing solid waste management situation and processes. In the past I was an environmental engineer in the chemical industry, in charge of environmental development, mainly to have efficient wastewater treatment processes to meet environmental legislation, and to reduce waste at every step of the manufacturing processes. Waste has a cost.

Regarding solid waste management, Mauritius has five transfer stations where the waste collected by truck in towns and villages arrives, and then it is transferred by large trucks to the only landfill in the country. I visited one of the transfer stations and was surprised that there is no sorting out of the waste: everything arrives by truck in bulk and sorting out, reuse or recycling is absent. Household food and yard waste are the most important ones, then comes paper and plastic, and finally metal, glass, textile and others.

There is a hierarchy of waste treatment to better protect the environment and human health: reduction at the source is the most important step. Less waste generated means the lower the cost of treatment. Then comes reuse of the same product, followed by recycling of the waste which gives value to it as it becomes a raw material to make new products. Green waste has value too. After biodegradation, the

resulting compost can be used as bio-fertilizer for farmers. The then remaining waste can be incinerated to generate electricity. Finally, there is the ultimate landfill where waste that has no value anymore is sent. Landfill is the last resource of the different waste management steps.

If Mauritius continues to handle its waste like it does today, the country will become a waste dump nobody will be attracted to, especially tourists. It is a beautiful place, so it must be protected by implementing better and stricter environmental legislation and by improving its waste management processes. Universities could become role models by putting bins around campus that would help segregate waste. Also, focusing on Environmental Education is important. Without such education, progress cannot be made. The people must become aware of its consequences if no better legislation is implemented or no action is taken. There is no Mauritius "B." The young generation of future scientists, engineers, managers, and politicians of the country have a great responsibility. They must leave schools and the universities by being environmentally conscious that the natural environment must be protected from waste, which consequently benefits the quality of life of the population.

Mauritius is a spiritual place. It is the place of Hinduism, Christianity and Islam. Protecting the environment can also become a religion, a spiritual value. If we don't love nature, we cannot be part of these religions. Buddha, 2500 years ago, already said that the environment must be protected, and the trees and forests respected. If the planet waits until we reach the tipping point, it will be too late, the destruction of ecosystems and our civilization, is irreversible.

Page 2 ...SDGs and Coronavirus – A Reflection

Sources

- [1] <https://en.trend.az/iran/3194974.html>
- [2] <http://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202003/12/WS5e69234fa31012821727e4b5.html>
- [3] <http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202003/11/WS5e681e8aa31012821727df8d.html>
- [4] <http://www.chinadailyglobal.com/a/202002/18/WS5e4aef97a3101282172782f5.html>

**Prof Eleanor Fish leads the Beyond Sciences Initiative (www.beyondsciences.org). During the 2003 outbreak of SARS in Toronto, her lab initiated studies to investigate the therapeutic potential of interferon in SARS patients. Encouraging results have directed her group's efforts toward examining interferon activity against a number of emerging infectious diseases, such as avian H5N1 and pandemic H1N1 influenza viruses. She is a member of a WHO Working Group to evaluate the therapeutic effectiveness of different vaccine and antiviral interventions against Ebola virus.*

Dr Archana Bhaw-Luximon was a keynote speaker at the 5th Annual Conference of the Beyond Sciences Initiative, February 2020. Prof Eleanor Fish provided her views and advice on the outbreak to UoM.

Be **READY** for #coronavirus

WHO is giving advice on how to protect ourselves & others:

Be **SAFE** from coronavirus infection

Be **SMART** & inform yourself about it

Be **KIND** & support one another

Learn more about #COVID19 & share with your loved ones: www.who.int/COVID-19



Education for Sustainable Development:

Experiential Learning in Food Science & Technology courses at the Faculty of Agriculture

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Youth education plays a vital role in developing knowledge, values and competencies required to secure decent jobs for a dignified life and sustainable development (**SDG 4: QUALITY EDUCATION** and **SDG 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**).

Since 1914, the Faculty of Agriculture has played an instrumental role in ensuring food and nutrition security (**SDG 2: ZERO HUNGER**) through capacity building for the agricultural and food sectors in Mauritius and the region. The first undergraduate course in food science was offered in 1997. It aimed at developing the necessary competencies for a career in the food sector.

During the past two decades, the Faculty has responded to the rapid growth in demand for higher education in food science and technology by delivering a diverse range of courses, namely: Diploma/BSc (Hons) Food Science; BSc (Hons) Agriculture with Food Science; BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology; BSc (Hons) Food Science with Marketing; BSc (Hons) Food Science with Home-Economics; BSc (Hons) Food Science with Nutrition; BSc (Hons) Food Safety and Quality; BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology (minors: Seafood Technology; Food Microbiology); BSc (Hons) Food Science and Technology (minor: Food Entrepreneurship).

A two-year part-time top-up programme, BSc Food Hygiene and Environmental Health, was also introduced to upgrade the qualifications of Public Health and Food Safety inspectors. At postgraduate level, the following programmes have attracted part-time students: MSc Food Science; MSc Food Technology which included one student from Botswana. The MSc Food Safety and Food Innovation programme will be offered next academic year. Four Faculty of Agriculture graduates in food science and technology have obtained their PhD at the University of Mauritius, and two graduates are currently undertaking their MPhil/PhD projects in a related field of study. Most

of the students trained in food science and technology have been young women (**SDG 5: GENDER EQUALITY**).

Quality education and skills development have been central to teaching and learning activities at the Faculty of Agriculture. Interaction with stakeholders, alumni and students indicated the need to contextualise learning within real-life situations. Potential employers have expressed recurrent concerns that graduates experience difficulty in making the transition into the workplace. In 2002, the Faculty responded proactively by integrating 6 to 8 weeks student placements in some undergraduate courses.

In the light of experience, reflective practice, students' and placement providers' feedback, the student placements were extended to 6-month sandwich work placements and internships. In April 2016, graduates of the food science and technology programme were the first cohort of the Faculty's students to complete their degree with 6-month work placement experience.

An empirical study which was undertaken by academics of the Faculty of Agriculture in 2016/2017, has provided evidence that the 6-month work placement enhances graduate employability skills. In addition to achieving youth employability outcomes, other unintended benefits have emerged, namely: team building among Faculty's staff; sustained connectivity between academia and the real world; opportunities for several undergraduate student research year projects in food organisations, including food industries and the hospitality sector. Sustainability of this good educational practice depends on continuing involvement of Faculty's staff, students, alumni and stakeholders.

The implementation of experiential learning has demonstrated that it is an effective higher educational strategy to respond to **SDG 4: QUALITY EDUCATION** and **SDG 8: DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH** towards enhanced youth engagement in achieving the United Nations 2030 Agenda for sustainable Development.

Entrepreneurship addressing Sustainability Developmental Goals at the University of Mauritius

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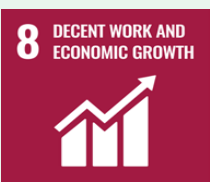
During 2015 a number of countries from around the world embraced the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development together with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), (UN, 2017a). When considering sustainable development, studies have shown that entrepreneurship can lead to an irradiation of poverty through an increase in financial performance.



In addition, there can be greater access to education through effective selling and buying competition, access to clean water, improvement in health and awareness creation about climate change challenges. (Shane & Venkataraman, 2000). It is already generally accepted that the impact of entrepreneurship capital is more convincing than that of knowledge capital (Bajjal, 2016).



Higher education has for some time been accepted as a platform for the economic security of a country. It may boost the human capital component of the labour force and, in turn, increase national productivity (Mankiw, Romer, and Weil, 1992). It may also form the basis from which an increase in the innovative competence of the national economy may be generated. The new knowledge will in turn encourage the expansion of new technologies, inventions and practices (Aghion and Howitt, 1998). The discipline of entrepreneurship education enables universities to shift towards preparing young graduates to be entrepreneurs and job creators, as opposed to being job seekers.



The Republic of Mauritius is moving towards a service-oriented economy that is driven by innovation. (SADC, 2012: Online). University of Mauritius (UoM) is the oldest and largest university in the country with six faculties, of which the Faculty of Agriculture (FoA) is the oldest. It operates on the UoM farm, which is an open laboratory of 21 acres (UoM, 2015: Online). The FoA academics recognise the need for entrepreneurship and the need for it being part of the curriculum. This is in line with existing

curriculum structures at UoM, where entrepreneurship modules have already been introduced as part of most of the qualifications in the Faculty. Some of the objectives on which the modules or courses function are to manage agricultural enterprises, identify new ventures, contribute to the development and growth of small and medium food enterprises and food industries and also to develop the wider enterprising proficiency of students to understand the dynamics of the 'entrepreneurial process'. Furthermore, the academics are in touch with the mandate they received from the ministry and the Tertiary Education Commission. This mandate is to join hands with industry, develop a capable workforce, and drive the concept of entrepreneurship to uplift the economy and thus create jobs. This system of the Scholarship of Integration addresses the UN SDGs directly and the manner in which entrepreneurship is offered, encouraged and implemented it may be predicted that the Faculty and the University will have a significant impact on achieving SDGs 1, 2, 4, 8 and 9.

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- *Ms Smith undertook a study visit from 18 to 25 June 2018 at the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Mauritius, in the context of her PhD research on Entrepreneurship Education.

New research findings link benefits to forest biodiversity with benefits to commercial fruit growers in Mauritius

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New research (Krivek et al., 2020) published online and coming out in the April 2020 issue of *Journal for Nature Conservation* provides rationale for improved evidence-based management of the native biodiversity of Mauritius while showing promise to alleviate a highly-publicized local human-wildlife conflict that has been worsening severely in recent years.

Since 2002, to increase profits, fruit growers have been lobbying government to cull the Mauritius Flying fox *Pteropus niger* – the only of three original *Pteropus* species of Mauritius to have survived human activities so far, and a species threatened with extinction (Florens and Baider, 2019). In 2015, the country finally weakened its biodiversity protection law to enable culling the animal (Florens, 2016), and within less than three years, Mauritius had halved the bat's global population and heightened the species' extinction risk from 'Vulnerable' to 'Endangered' (Kingston et al., 2018). As predicted by experts, the culls did not improve commercial fruit production (Florens and Baider, 2019). In fact fruit production dropped, further underscoring the inadequacy of culling as a management to increase fruit growers' profits. Discontentment of fruit growers remains. Meanwhile, Mauritius' fruit export industry is earning the reputation of being destructive to threatened biodiversity.

In this context, evidence-based management is required that would avoid spending time and resources on a management that does not improve the situation for fruit growers but which does worsens the country's environmental stewardship reputation and elevates risks to its already highly threatened terrestrial biodiversity. Indeed, it is noteworthy that the Mauritius Flying fox is a "keystone species" meaning that its ecological role supports a very large number of other native species. This is mainly because the fruit bat can spread seeds of at least 53% of the woody native plants of Mauritius (Florens et al., 2017a), thereby fostering their reproduction hence promoting forest regeneration and function.

The newly completed research shows that invasion by alien plants in Mauritius' forests leads to a substantial reduction of fruit resources in the bats' native habitats. This would encourage the bats to search for alternative food afar including in orchards and gardens. Our research also established that the simple removal of invasive alien plants restores much higher fruit production by native trees, a difference which

the bats do detect, as they feed much more in forests weeded of alien plants than in nearby invaded forests. Furthermore, we found that bats prefer ripe to unripe fruits, implying that they would promote spreading of viable seeds rather than kill seeds before they ripen.

In a context where Mauritius forests are highly invaded by alien plants (Florens et al., 2016) and where even protected forests lost half of their trees in about 70 years (Florens et al., 2017b), the new findings show that controlling alien plants would not only help conserve the bulk of Mauritius threatened biodiversity and restore ecosystem function but also help reduce the loss of commercial fruits to bats, thereby positioning itself as a true solution, unlike culling, for helping farmers.

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UoM Computer Club

The UoM Mobile App Competition 2020: A Student-Led Initiative with an SDG Twist



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The First edition of the UoM Mobile App Competition 2020, also known as UoM App Cup 2020, an initiative of the UoM Computer Club, was held from the 4th to the 6th of March 2020. The event was supported by big names in the ICT industry such as Huawei Technologies (Mauritius) Co. Ltd, MCB (Digital Factory), SD Worx (Mauritius) Limited, ELCA as well as IEEE (Mauritius) and Nestle.

The aim of this competition was to influence and showcase the talents of registered UoM students in mobile application design, including both front-end and back-end as well as to encourage innovative skills, creativity as well as to instil teamwork habits - all this through an SDG-lens.

More than 120 participants have registered for the competition and a preliminary was held where 16 teams were selected for the UoM Mobile App Cup Competition 2020. These three days were a rollercoaster ride for the participants with intense moments of talent sharing and exchanges enhancing the coding skills of participants.

The theme for this event encompassed 4 Sustainable development goals namely:

SDG 1 No poverty;

SDG 2 Zero hunger;

SDG 3 Good health and well-being; and

SDG 4 Quality education.

Participants were required to identify the existing problems, propose and design an appropriate mobile application as a solution to the problem.

After the constant evaluation of judges from the 4 sponsoring companies and a lecturer from the University of Mauritius, the laureates for the UoM Mobile App Competition 2020 were announced in the closing ceremony. The deserving winners were as follows:

- The winning team (Team Ternary) constituted of: GOOMANY Muhammad Isfaaq, SEEGOLAM Yuvraj Chiranjiv, and RAMPERSAND Nirmal Kumar.
- The 1st Runner Up (Team Teckno) included: IMRIT Mohammad Ismail, PEEROO Khidir, and SK-HEERAH Zafir.
- The 2nd Runner Up (Team Me and the boys) consisting of: RITTOO Reeshal, BOODHUN Akhilesh, RAGHOONUNDUN Hevin, and NUNDLALL Yadhav Kumar.

Amongst the various applications conceived, some were theme-based on donations of vegetables, donation of blood amongst others.

This Competition was an initiative of the executive member 19/20 of the Club:

Head Organizers: Lavnish Maunthrooa and Haidar Ally Deenmahomed

Co-Head Organisers: Tavish Bhikea, Yogeshdass Mohall, Kishan Rughoo, and Hashil Ramnial.

The UoM Computer Club has the vision to empower students towards innovation for a better tomorrow and has more projects to come in line with the SDGs.

Constitutionalising Environmental Human Rights in Mauritius

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If a native American saying goes on to say that: “*When the last tree has been cut down, the last fish caught, the last river poisoned, only then will we realise that one cannot eat money*”, it is time to think for the next generations to come and in which state and conditions we have left the world as it is actually.

Therefore, if the content of this short article is alarming (ozone depletion, Green House Gases-GHG emissions, environmental degradation, unsustainable development, over exploitation of the sea and other natural resources, stockage of nuclear wastes-*EHP v Canada 27 Oct. 1982* or climate change), it explores legal issues as to constitutionalising environmental human rights in the small island of Mauritius.

Mauritius is too vulnerable to climate change as this may have a very negative impact on our environment in addition to internal legal issues such as complaints from individuals (*Aret Kokin Nu Laplaz*) with an unexhausted list on environmental nuisances (erosion, marine pollution, air and noise pollution, troubles de voisinage-*Hossenkhan H v Aubeeluck F & Ors 2011 SCJ 436A/SCR 58332 and Leon*, the local case of *L.Ramdhony v The Municipal Council of Vacoas Phoenix 1995 SCJ 275*, and the case of *Agnieska Kania v Poland 2009, 12605/03*), lack of drain or diseases such as *Chikunguya*) irrespective they are private or public nuisances placing our citizens at risk (*Hermic Limited v Cie des Magasins Populaires Limitée and Anor 1981 SCJ 162*).

Although there are relevant and important legislations (*The Maritime Zones Act 2005, The Wildlife and National Parks Act 1993, The Fisheries and Marine Resources Act 2017, The Dangerous Chemicals Control Act 2004* or section 110 of *The Criminal Code (Supplementary) Act 1870*) on the subject matter, nevertheless very few of them really prove to be effectively enforced with persuasive sanctions before the relevant tribunal (*Environment and Land Use Appeal Tribunal Act 2012*) with a right of appeal before the Supreme Court in its unlimited jurisdiction in both civil and criminal proceedings as per section 76 of the Constitution.

Mauritius has also signed and ratified regional (*The African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources 1968*, and *The Maputo Convention 2003*) and international legal instruments (*Convention on*

Biological Diversity 1992, Kyoto Protocol 1997, and the *Aarhus Convention 1998*) in addition to a long existing list international conventions (*The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1966*) and various agreements (*The Paris Agreement 2015*). Most of these conventions reiterate that “All people shall have the right to a general satisfactory environment favourable to their development”-*The Oguni People’s Case, Nigeria 2001, 155/96*). In strong precedents, most countries have closely associated constitutional environmental human rights to the right to life (*Kessy and Ors v The City Council of Dar es Salaam 1991* before the High Court of Tanzania or the Indian High Court in the case of *T.D.Rao v Special Officer Municipal Corporation, 1987*).

Yet and very far behind, compared relatively to some other countries (*Comoros Constitution 2001, Indian Constitution 1949, Maldives Constitution 2008, Nigerian Constitution 1999, Seychelles Constitution 1993, or the South African Constitution 1996*) which have already implemented constitutional environment human rights, and despite repeated United Nations’ (UN) Conferences and various Declarations (*Stockholm Declaration 1972* and *Rio Declaration 1992*), Mauritius has still not amended its Constitution to implement an explicit provision to recognise the protection of the environment as a right to life in its Constitution. After the passing of the *Environment Protection Act 2002 (EPA 2002)*, the *Climate Change Bill 2020* is before members of Parliament to better cater for a more responsible and environmentally sustainable development policy.

More than three quarters of the Constitutions worldwide now explicitly refer to environmental rights and responsibilities. Nevertheless, the term ‘environmental rights’ remained unknown in our laws and legislations as it has not yet been defined, interpreted and construed statutorily but are both terms correlated? As an illustration, the UN Environment Programme gave a definition in very clear terms such that: “Environmental rights mean any proclamation of a human right to environment conditions of a specified quality” coupled with strong precedents where it was held that the primary concern of environmental rights is to ensure that each and every human being has access to an “essential standard of living”.



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Aims and scope

The *Sustainable Development Goals* Newsletter aims to highlight the contribution of the UoM in implementing the 17 SDGs. Postings will include information on research, discovery, knowledge creation, capacity building and community outreach activities related to the SDGs.

The Newsletter will be published online every 3 months (on a quarterly basis) by the University of Mauritius. It will be available UoM website and accessible to everyone.

Script requirements

- Articles must be between 300-500 words
- Name of author(s) should be in bold letters with font size 12 (Times Roman)
- Contact details of the main author e.g. email address
- All material should be typed in single spacing (or 1.5) with font size 12 (Times Roman).
- Headings(Title) should be in bold with font size 14 (Times Roman).
- Name of Department and email address of main author should be in italics with font size 10 (Times

Roman).

- Tables and Figures (with brief and self-explanatory captions) should be clearly shown.
- Photographs should be clear with acceptable resolution so it is easier for the reader to analyze. The magnification should be indicated by an internal scale.
- The Harvard system (author and date) should be used for citation in the manuscript and in the list of references.
- Corresponding SDG should be specified at the bottom of the article.

Decisions regarding content and inclusion in the newsletter will be the responsibility of the editorial team. **Priority will be given to projects or activities that have been completed or are close to completions.** Some submissions may go in future/subsequent issues, even if the deadline is met. Multiple simultaneous submissions from the same author will not be considered for publication in the same newsletter. Writing style should be inclusive of a broad readership, to cater for those individuals who may not be familiar with the subject matter. All articles should clearly state the SDG addressed, the link between the activities and the SDG as well as the benefits.

Authors should send their manuscripts to the following email: sdg@uom.ac.mu in order to be considered for publication in the next edition by the end of **July 2020**.