



# UCD SDG WEEK 2025

22-26 SEPTEMBER

UCD SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS  
WEEK 2025

EVENTS, ACTIONS, IMPACT



University College Dublin  
An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath



## WELCOME TO UCD'S PROGRAMME OF EVENTS CELEBRATING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG) WEEK 2025!

UCD is a Government of Ireland SDG Champion for 2024-25 and the aim of UCD SDG Week 2025 is to raise awareness and deepen engagement within and outside the university on the urgency to achieve the SDGs and the wider 2030 Agenda.

We are delighted to showcase over forty diverse events taking place between 22 and 26 September all across campus, including role play games, seminars, film screenings, workshops on everything from upcycling textiles to identifying greenwashing and much, much more.

[A full schedule is below.](#)

[I encourage you to attend and look forward to seeing you there.](#)

**PROFESSOR TASMAN CROWE**

UCD Vice-President for Sustainability





# WHAT ARE THE SDGS?

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the **Global Goals**, are a set of 17 interconnected goals adopted by all United Nations member states in 2015. They represent a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. The SDGs address global challenges like poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, prosperity, peace and justice and all of us can play a role in achieving them.








## EVENTS: Monday, 22nd September


### UCD SDG WEEK 2025 LAUNCH


 09:30 – 10:30

 UCD Global  
Lounge

We are excited to invite you to a warm and insightful welcome address from Professor Tasman Crowe, the Vice President for Sustainability. He will be joined by special guests.


### LAUNCH OF 'GREENING NEWMAN' INITIATIVE

 10:00 – 12:00

 C218 Newman  
Building

Join us for the 'soft' launch of our 'Greening the Newman' initiative in the School of English, Drama, Film and Creative Writing as we begin the work of planting sustainable food in our corridors. The launch will include gelli-printing, seed swaps and home-made jam and bread!


### LIFE IN THE AIR


 10:00 – 12:00

 Chess Garden at  
the Main Lake

A biodiversity-focused campus walk celebrating the diversity of bird species across UCD's Belfield campus. Led by knowledgeable guides, this event will explore key habitats around the campus, highlight species you may not have noticed before and open a conversation about how we can better support urban biodiversity.


### ROOTS AND SHOOTS: A HIGHER EDUCATION GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP INITIATIVE


 12:00 – 14:00

 UCD Greenacre  
Sustainability  
Hub

UCD in the Community, in partnership with Student Volunteer Ireland and Gaisce, are excited to invite staff and students of UCD to the launch of 'Roots and Shoots: A Higher Education Global Citizenship Initiative', a joint partnership between Gaisce – The President's Award and Student Volunteer Ireland ([StudentVolunteer.ie](https://www.studentvolunteer.ie)), funded by Irish Aid. The new Gaisce and Student Volunteer Ireland programme welcomes UCD students to join in and explore volunteering and community action locally and to make a difference with international communities.

### CLIMATE STORIES; INSPIRING PUBLIC CONVERSATIONS

 12:00 – 14:00


 Museum of  
Literature  
Ireland, 86 Saint  
Stephen's Green,  
Dublin, D02 XY43


How do we tell climate and environment stories that cut through the noise and connect with people and shift public sentiment from apathy to empathy? In this lunchtime discussion, moderator, writer and broadcaster Ella McSweeney will be joined by journalist Kevin O'Sullivan, Science and Environment Editor with The Irish Times; nature poet Jane Clarke, whose work addresses the climate and ecological crises; Ricky Whelan, podcaster and Biodiversity Officer with Offaly County Council and Dr Treasa De Loughry from UCD School of English, Drama and Film, whose work explores world literary approaches to climate change. This seminar is co-hosted by UCD Earth Institute and Athena Media.



## EVENTS: Monday, 22nd September

### CROCHET LIKE A KWEEN – WORKSHOPS @ THE LOOP


 13:00 – 14:00

 The Loop, Level 4, James Joyce Library

Learn how to get started with a crochet hook to make a simple “granny square” in a friendly environment with a small group of learners.

Facilitator: Ava Rosa Moore, fourth year BA Humanities student.

### IMAGINING BETTER: A TRAINING IN RADICAL IMAGINATION

 13:00 – 15:00


 Meeting Room 5, UCD Village

Join us for an interactive workshop in radical imagination. Discover what we can learn from those who imagined in the very worst of times – and leave with practical tools to do the same. Walk away with your very own “Imagination 6-Pack” to spark creativity and envision bold new possibilities.

This in-person event will challenge you to think outside the box and explore new possibilities. Don’t miss this opportunity to unleash your creativity and be part of shaping a brighter tomorrow!



### WEAVING STORIES OF SUSTAINABILITY AND BIOECONOMY IN THE BEO AND RAJA COMIC SERIES – BOOKS, ANIMATIONS AND PUPPET SHOWS


 15:00 – 16:00

 UCD Global Lounge

Weaving Stories of Sustainability and Bioeconomy in the Beo and Raja Comic Series: Dive into the world of Beo and Raja, two imaginative characters who bring sustainability and bioeconomy to life through comics, animations and puppetry. This talk showcases how storytelling can creatively engage young audiences and the public on critical environmental topics.

Part of the BioBeo EU project, the series has reached thousands across Europe and continues to grow, with a fifth comic launching soon. Hear about the creative process, the educational goals and how this multimedia journey is helping shape bioeconomy awareness.

### CRISIS 2050: A SUSTAINABILITY THEMED ROLE-PLAYING GAME

 18:00 – 19:30

 UCD Global Lounge

The year is 2050. Climate tipping points have been crossed, resources are scarce and global cooperation is fragile. What will you do?

Crisis 2050 is an engaging, interactive role-playing game where participants take on key roles in navigating a climate emergency scenario. Work in small groups to negotiate, problem-solve and make tough decisions that shape the outcome of a world in crisis.

Whether you’re new to climate issues or an experienced sustainability advocate, this game encourages deep thinking, creative collaboration and real-world insights into climate governance.



## EVENTS: Tuesday, 23rd September

### SUSTAINABLE FOOD PROCUREMENT

- 09:00 – 11:00
- H060 (Crean),  
Innovation  
Academy, O'Brien  
Centre for Science

What does truly sustainable food look like on campus? This interactive stakeholder workshop invites UCD students and staff to co-create ideas and provide input on the university's approach to sustainable food procurement. The session will explore values, practicalities and opportunities for embedding sustainability across campus catering, food services and supply chains.

### ADVICE AND TIPS ON REDUCING YOUR DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

- 11:00 – 12:00
- UCD Global  
Lounge

From cloud storage to streaming and email overload, our digital habits carry an often overlooked environmental cost. This informative seminar explores the impact of digital storage and data consumption on energy use and carbon emissions. You'll gain practical tips to reduce your digital footprint – without compromising productivity – helping you contribute to a more sustainable digital culture.

### EFFICIENT RECOVERY OF PHOSPHORUS FROM BIOWASTE: SINFERT

- 12:00 – 13:00
- H2.40, Science  
Hub, O'Brien  
Centre for Science

Phosphorus is a critical, non-renewable resource – essential for agriculture, yet often lost in waste streams. This seminar introduces the SINFERT project, which explores innovative methods for recovering phosphorus from biowaste to support a circular and sustainable bioeconomy.



### PAWFECT DOGGIE BOW TIES WORKSHOPS @ THE LOOP

- 13:00 – 14:00
- The Loop, Level 4,  
James Joyce  
Library

Whether new to sewing or sew addicted, learn to make a super cute bow tie for your dog in a friendly environment with a small group of learners. Facilitator: Mary Farrelly, Assistant Professor in Spanish Studies

### SUSTAINABILITY LUNCH TIME EVENT WITH REGISTRY!

- 13:00 – 14:00
- The CUBE, UCD  
Tierney Building

\*UCD Staff Only

Take a break, grab a bite and join the UCD Registry team for a lively and meaningful SDG-themed lunch event. This is a relaxed, drop-in session designed to connect staff, spark conversations and inspire simple, impactful actions for sustainability.



## EVENTS: Tuesday, 23rd September

### UCD ENERGY COST CALCULATOR WORKSHOP – HOW TO SAVE MONEY ON ELECTRICITY



13:00 – 14:00



Q114, UCD  
Lochlann Quinn  
School of  
Business

This interactive workshop introduces the [UCD Energy Cost Calculator](#), a user-friendly tool designed to help you understand and reduce household electricity use.

Note: this event is most suited for homeowners and anyone who has access to their smart meter.

### THE NATURE OF RISK AND RISK TO NATURE – FINANCING A LIVING PLANET



15:00 – 16:00



E102, UCD  
Michael Smurfit

Exploring how ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss impact the real economy and the financial sector, this session will examine the risks, impacts and opportunities, alongside the tools that enable financial decisions which deliver positive outcomes for nature.

Facilitated by [Dr. John Garvey](#) University of Limerick and [Diarmuid Murphy](#) – Director, Sustainability & International Markets, Institute of Banking (IOB)

### SDGS AND THE EPA STATE OF IRELAND'S ENVIRONMENT REPORT



18:00 – 19:30



UCD Global  
Lounge

Join two EPA staff members for this interactive event, which offers an overview of the EPA's [State of Ireland's Environment Report 2024](#), connecting key findings of the report to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



### GREENWASHING UNCOVERED: ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND RESPONSIBILITY



18:00 – 20:00



Q118 EY  
Innovation  
Hub and  
Contemplative  
Space, UCD  
Lochlann Quinn  
School of Business

How can we distinguish real climate action from clever marketing? This interactive panel discussion, co-hosted by UCD [GreenWatch](#) and the [Green Team Network](#), brings together experts in sustainability, financial services and digital innovation to discuss the risks of greenwashing and explore how companies can be held accountable.


Featuring insights from UCD's GreenWatch AI project, the session will explore how emerging technologies are being used to detect false sustainability claims and support genuine corporate responsibility. Join us for networking, drinks and nibbles!






## EVENTS: Wednesday, 24th September

### SDGS REIMAGINED: A GLOBAL COLLAGE FOR CHANGE


 10:00 – 12:00


 H060 (Crean),  
Innovation  
Academy, O'Brien  
Centre for Science

An exciting hybrid collage workshop connecting universities worldwide. Students collaborate internationally to create mixed-media artwork using hands-on techniques and digital tools. Share cultural perspectives, have fun and build global friendships while crafting unique pieces.

All skill levels welcome – unleash your creativity and connect across continents in this fun, interactive experience!

### EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: UCD CASE STUDIES


 11:00 – 12:00


 Teaching and  
Learning Unit,  
F309, Newman  
Building

This event begins with a brief 10-minute overview of UCD Teaching & Learning's current initiatives on the theme of ESD, delivered by Dr Leigh Wolf, followed by an interdisciplinary poster exhibition.

The posters showcase SATLE-funded projects from across the university that highlight how sustainability is being woven into curriculum design, pedagogy and academic practice.

### DEVELOPING A CARBON-NEUTRAL SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE


 13:00 – 14:00


 H2.40, Science  
Hub, O'Brien  
Centre for  
Science

An overview of how the School of Computer Science proposes to develop and operate a carbon-neutral, circular economy School.

The workshop will review the internal organisational and educational support structures for staff and students that will be introduced and the technological systems that will increase the performance while reducing the environmental impact of its computing infrastructure.

### THREAD THERAPY, INTRO TO CROSS-STITCH – WORKSHOPS @ THE LOOP

 13:00 – 14:00

 The Loop, Level  
4, James Joyce  
Library



Unwind, get creative and learn the art of cross-stitch. No experience necessary – just bring yourself and join our friendly environment and small group of learners.

Facilitator: Elspeth Sinclair, SFI Research Centre in Applied Geosciences





## EVENTS: Wednesday, 24th September

### CAN DO! SEE WASTE DIFFERENTLY (WITH UCD CIRCULAR)

 13:30 – 14:30  
 H060 (Crean),  
Innovation  
Academy, O'Brien  
Centre for Science



Join student-led UCD Circular for an interactive upcycling workshop that reimagines waste as a valuable resource. Using donated tin cans (either bring your own, or you can have one of ours!), participants will transform what is often seen as rubbish into useful everyday items.

### THE INNER SUSTAINABILITY GAME – DEEPENING ENGAGEMENT WITH THE SDGS

 14:00 – 15:00  
 UCD Global  
Lounge

Through guided prompts and peer exchange, participants reflect on their own sustainability journeys and discover new ways to stay motivated and engaged in collective action. A thought-provoking experience for anyone seeking deeper meaning in the sustainability agenda.

### VOLUNTEERING FOR SUSTAINABILITY – PERSPECTIVES THROUGH STORYTELLING

 14:00 – 16:00  
 Dramasoc  
Theatre, UCD  
Student Centre

This multidisciplinary, storytelling event hosted by **UCDVO** will showcase five storytellers with a diversity of experiences sharing their personal perspectives of volunteering, both locally and globally. Similar to the Irish seanchaí tradition, stories will be reflective, contemporary and express their lived experience through the spoken word.

This event will also include key note words from **Maxine Mpofo** from Northumbria University and musical performance from the multi-instrumentalist and composer **Seamas Hyland**.

**CONCERN**  
worldwide



### 2030 AND BEYOND: THE FUTURE OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

 18:00 – 19:30  
 Village  
Auditorium in  
the UCD Student  
Village


As 2030 approaches, what lies ahead for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

This panel discussion – hosted by Una Europa and moderated by UCD's Vice President for Sustainability, Prof. Tasman Crowe – brings together thought leaders from academia and policy to reflect on SDG progress and to envision bold, inclusive pathways beyond the 2030 agenda.



## EVENTS: Thursday, 25th September


### BUILDING ENERGY AWARENESS AMONG STAFF & STUDENTS

 12:00 – 13:00

 FS01, UCD  
Agriculture and  
Food Science  
Building

This seminar provides insight into UCD's energy consumption patterns, highlighting efforts to improve energy efficiency across campus. Learn about key initiatives, energy-saving technologies and behavioural changes that make a measurable difference.

### IRISH CULTURE AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION: LESSONS FROM THE IRISH LITERARY REVIVAL


 12:00 – 14:00


 UCD Trapdoor  
Theatre, Newman  
Building,  
(Basement)

What can the achievements of the Irish Cultural Revival of the early twentieth century teach us about navigating climate challenges today? This seminar-workshop draws on insights from the Climate KIC Irish Deep Demonstration project to explore how past social transformations in Ireland can guide community-based, sustainable change in the present.

Held in UCD's Trapdoor Theatre, this interactive session combines presentations, critical reflection and discussion to inspire new ways of thinking about the green transition through a cultural lens.


### WELLNESS CULTURE & WELL-MEANING WHITE LADIES


 13:00 – 14:00

 L246 Sutherland  
School of Law

This thought-provoking lecture explores the rise of wellness culture and its complex intersections with privilege, race, consumerism and power. Through a critical lens, the session examines how wellness movements – often led by and targeted toward white women – can unintentionally reinforce structural inequalities while aiming to promote personal well-being.

### SHINE BRIGHT LIKE A DIAMOND – WORKSHOPS @ THE LOOP

 13:00 – 14:00

 The Loop, Level  
4, James Joyce  
Library


Learn how to make your own jewellery by making a simple phone charm in a friendly environment with a small group of learners.


Facilitator: Atsu Moriff, third-year student in the College of Social Sciences and Law



## EVENTS: Thursday, 25th September

### 'PLACEHOLDER' – A SHORT FILM ON RESILIENT MUSIC SCENES.


 14:00 – 15:00


 UCD Trapdoor  
Theatre, Newman  
Building,  
(Basement)

This session features a short film screening exploring themes of precarity, resilience and cultural sustainability in DIY and underground music scenes.

The screening will be followed by a facilitated discussion on urban cultural sustainability and the role of grassroots creativity in shaping more inclusive futures.


### HACKED: HACK EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE

 14:00 – 16:00

 H064  
(Shackleton) &  
H060 (Crean),  
Innovation  
Academy, O'Brien  
Centre for Science

Participate in a fast-paced and hands-on problem-solving session (with snacks!) to design education for the future. Collaborate with diverse minds to reimagine education for the 21st century. No hackathon or tech experience required – just bring your creativity and passion for change!


### VOLUNTEERISM AND THE SDGS


 15:00 – 17:00

 UCD Global

Learn about volunteer opportunities at UCD, meet like-minded peers and explore how you can create meaningful impact during your time on campus. Whether you're already volunteering or just curious, this session will show you the power of participation.

### REEL FOOD

 18:00 – 20:00

 George Moore  
Auditorium,  
O'Brien Centre  
for Science


Join us for an engaging evening of film, discussion and live podcasting. The event begins with a documentary screening exploring the environmental, social and economic challenges in today's food systems.

Following the film, members of the Co-Centre for Sustainable Food Systems will take part in a panel discussion, addressing both pre-prepared questions and audience "burning issues."



## EVENTS: Friday, 26th September


### ECO-ARTMAKING WORKSHOPS @ GREENACRE

 10:00 – 12:00

 UCD Greenacre, Sustainability Hub, (Tip – use Google Maps)

Join an inspiring eco-art workshop at UCD's Greenacre, our vibrant outdoor sustainability hub. Create beautiful nature-inspired art while enjoying hands-on creativity surrounded in the outdoors. Connect with the UCD community, learn sustainable art techniques and let the fresh air fuel your imagination in this unique outdoor creative experience.

### UCD SRI GREEN LABS SUSTAINABILITY


 11:00 – 13:00

 UCD Global Lounge

Explore practical sustainability in research environments at this Green Labs workshop hosted by UCD's Sustainable Research Initiative (SRI).

The session will focus on nitrile glove recycling – a key challenge in lab waste – and mark the launch of the new SRI website, which supports sustainable lab practices and resource sharing across UCD.

### DENIM REBOOT: REWORK & REPAIR

 13:00 – 15:00

 UCD Global Lounge

Old jeans gathering dust in your wardrobe? Denim too long/short/BORING? Join us to reboot them into new styles fit for the Belfield runway and beyond – and all on a student budget! In this hands-on workshop we will use patchwork, distressed styles, two-tone looks and jeans-to-skirts/shorts transformations to revitalise your denims and learn lifelong repair skills.

This event is hosted by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council with [Change Clothes](#).



### GREEN PAPER, GREENER FUTURE: RECYCLING PAPER WASTE INTO SEEDING PAPER

 UCD Singapore

UCD Singapore University College Dublin (Singapore) is proud to launch the sustainability initiative, "Green Paper, Greener Future: Recycling Paper Waste into Seeding Paper", supported by the [SG Eco Fund](#), Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment. This project aims to promote creative, hands-on recycling practices within organisations across Singapore.

UCD students will be trained to pulp and recycle paper from our donor companies and turn the waste paper into plantable seed paper. This paper embedded with seeds can be used to plant herbs and vegetables in urban gardens. Our UCD Singapore Sustainability Ambassadors will then in turn share their skills with our donor companies and help their employees to recycle waste paper into seeding paper.



# EXHIBITIONS

## UCD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT SHOWCASE

 **Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd September**

 **O'Brien Centre for Science**

View a selection of stories from UCD's community engagement efforts at the O'Brien Centre for Science on Monday and Tuesday! This event will highlight the impact of UCD Community projects and initiatives on the local community.

## FROM INSIGHT TO IMPACT: BUSINESS SCHOLARS CHANGING THE WORLD

 **Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th September**

 **Contemplative Space, UCD Lochlann Quinn School of Business**

This poster display highlights research from UCD's College of Business that contributes to real-world change across sustainability, social justice and innovation. Alongside the posters, enjoy a panel discussion with faculty sharing their perspectives on how research is being translated into impactful solutions – shaping business practices, influencing policy and improving lives.

Drop in to browse the posters, speak with researchers over coffee and get inspired by the diverse ways business scholarship is helping build a better world.

## UCD SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMUNITY POSTER EXHIBITION

 **Wednesday 24th to Friday 26th September**

 **Foyer & Contemplative Space, UCD Lochlann Quinn School of Business**

Explore the latest in sustainable energy research from across UCD at this visual showcase of posters developed by researchers, students and community partners. Researchers will be available for Q&A during a dedicated session on Wednesday morning (10:00–12:00), offering a chance to learn more about the work and its real-world impact.

Learn more about sustainability at UCD: [www.ucd.ie/sustainability](http://www.ucd.ie/sustainability)

**Please note:** Photographs and/or video may be taken during UCD SDG Week. By attending, you consent to being photographed and/or filmed and for these images and recordings to be used by UCD for promotional and/or reporting purposes.



University College Dublin  
An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath

[WWW.UCD.IE/SUSTAINABILITY](http://WWW.UCD.IE/SUSTAINABILITY)