Activity Report submitted on the 28th of April 2023 for SDG 3: Good Health and Well-being, within the IAU HESD Cluster
Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC)- Open University of Catalonia
IAU SDG3 Cluster Draft Status Report

About US

The IAU SDG3 cluster on Health and Wellbeing, Universities for Good Health, is an open network comprised of 7 higher education institutions across 5 continents including Western Sydney University (Australia), Makerere University (Uganda), Universidad de Caldas (Columbia), Universitas Gadjah Mada (Indonesia), Karolinska Institutet (Sweden), , University College of Dublin (Ireland) and Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) *in Spain. Spearheaded by the UOC's eHealth Center in Barcelona, and a part of the Global Cluster on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) hosted by the International Association of Universities, it is a higher education champion, promoting an integrated approach to health, in support of equity and wellbeing worldwide in line with the United Nations' 2030 Agenda.*

April 2022 to April 2023 in a nutshell

2022-2023 was a busy year for the IAU SDG3 Cluster. The Secretariat was consolidated to help deliver on its strategy and concrete areas of activity which have been summarised in the following infographic.

With these priorities in mind, the cluster coalesced around some actionable low hanging fruits:

· In 2022, after a successful webinar entitled " Higher education under examination: are we ready to train the future healthcare workforce?" and summarised in the "Rethinking healthcare workforce education" paper in the December 2021 issue of IAU Horizons and in the communications piece "Lessons from the pandemic to educate future healthcare professionals.") in 2020, the cluster delivered another webinar, entitled "Exploring the nexus between health, equity, and gender." Please see the infographic summarizing the key learnings of the webinar here.

· The SDG3 cluster also launched its website and infographic to help socialize the strategy and to start to share knowledge, both internally and externally.

· Members were encouraged to share knowledge through an internal cluster newsletter.

·   An internal benchmarking of cluster activities was conducted

·   Bilateral activity and cooperation were stimulated through the information sharing process.

·   Some members participated in the IAU HESD Survey 2022 – Accelerating Action for the SDGs | HESD - Higher Education for Sustainable Development portal (iau-hesd.net)

·   The SDG3 Cluster also adapted the survey to SDG3 and related SDGs to gain a better understanding how its SDG3 cluster members are incorporating SDG3 in their institutions, research and teaching.
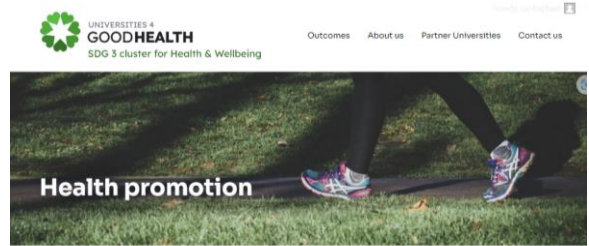
After exactly three years since the in-person meeting was initially scheduled and cancelled due to the COVID pandemic, the UOC was very pleased to host the **IAU SDG3 Cluster´s very first face to face workshop** from March 7-9, 2023. entitled *"catalysing collaboration for an integrated approach to health, in support of equity and wellbeing worldwide."*
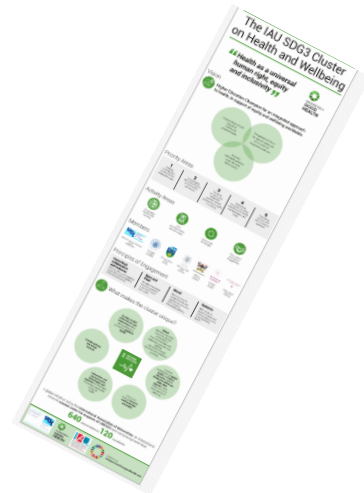
The aims of the meeting were:
●   To connect and get to know cluster members and their institutions more deeply.
●   To share knowledge on key cluster priority areas
●   To create a space for members to identify areas of collaboration and institutional exchanges.

An ambitious agenda was created, in accordance with these aims.

·   The first day, members came together to present themselves, their institutions, and how they are currently integrating SDG3 and the SDGs in their institutions. In the afternoon, a session was dedicated to painting a picture of how Universities are radically redefining the concept of health, taking a transdisciplinary and individual centred approach. Members then shared practical examples, around how they are actively co-creating with communities in research, teaching and in defining health care needs and solutions for delivery.
·   The second day was about creating connections outside academia. Members were invited to meet external institutions such as the WHO, doing interesting complementary work on SDG3. The afternoon session explored the need for, the case for, the enabling environment and challenges around cross sector collaboration in the healthcare sector.
·   The last day was dedicated to integration - defining key learnings and an action plan moving forward.

Throughout the three days, members presented some inspiring examples of how their institutions are currently working towards an integrated approach to health, in support of health and equity worldwide. Some highlights include:

- Western Sydney University has created [a programme](#) to prevent and manage diabetes with and for the Samoa community.
- Universitas Gadjah Mada has developed a [Health Promoting University Programme](#) environment in the University and engages students to [volunteer in the community](#) as part of their degrees.
- The UOC, together with IS Global and La Universidad de Pompeu Fabra have launched a [joint Masters in Planetary Health.](#)
- Universidad de Caldas has created a [simulation centre in communities](#) and uses [telehealth](#) to strengthen public health education and facilitate the delivery of health care to communities.
- UCD has welcomed students from several countries to their [SDG Awareness week](#), building awareness around the SDGs.

- Makarere University actively supports its students to become leaders on the SDGs and SDG3 through [YISH Ug,](#) a Youth-led Initiative for Sustainable Health, and has a created a virtual [Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Health,](#) together with Karolinska Institutet in Sweden.

The cluster will be publishing a white paper and case studies with more detailed examples from the event. In the meantime, please see a ==summary of the key learnings from the day here.== (Link to key learnings news piece and video can be provided when it is ready)

The cluster's next webinar will be held in winter of 2023, and will look at both the potential and challenges of e-health tools as a mechanism of delivery to deal with the mental health crisis that the world is currently facing.

For more information, please contact universities4goodhealth@uoc.edu

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