

Impact of virtual teaching and learning on UN SDGs

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Outline

- Overview of SDGs
- Role of Universities regarding SDGs.
- Link between virtual teaching and the SDGs.
- Virtual learning as a lifelong learning tool.



Objectives of the Session

- Establish a link between virtual teaching and the SDGs.
- Demonstrate virtual learning as a lifelong learning tool.



What are the SDGs?

- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals.
- Adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015.
- Aim to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030.



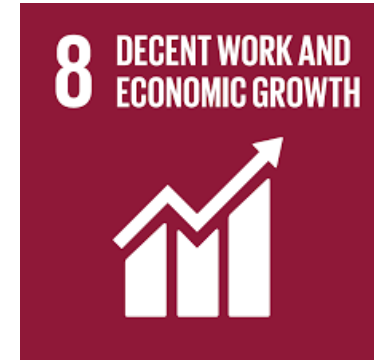
What are the SDGs?

- The 17 SDGs are integrated.
- An action in one area will affect outcomes in others.
- Balance social, economic and environmental sustainability.



Higher Education & SDGs

- Higher education institutions do not only impact SDG 4 "Quality education" but they can also be viewed as a critical player for the attainment of many other SDGs such as :

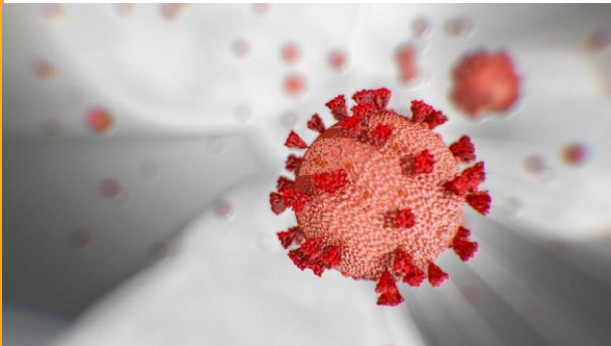
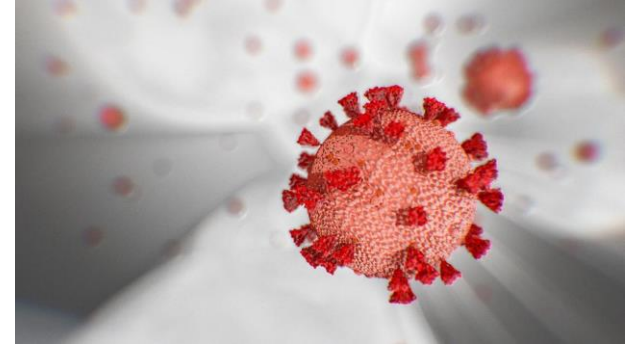


Higher Education & SDGs

- Universities have been advancing dramatically to address the challenges highlighted in the SDGs by:
 - Integrating them into their curriculums.
 - Linking them into their events and activities .
 - Embedding them into their strategic plan.





Coronavirus Pandemic



Current Situation

- Suspension of face-to-face teaching.
- Universities' closure.
- Virtual teaching.
- Online assessments.





Have you been
involved in virtual
teaching?



Virtual Teaching

- It is not new phenomena.
- For instance, in 1960, University of Illinois created an intranet for its students.
- It allows instructors to design and deliver their courses within a flexible framework.
- Enable effective learning and communication.

Link between virtual teaching and the SDGs

- UNESCO estimates that about 1.25 billion students are affected by COVID-19, posing a serious challenge to the attainment of SDGs Goal 4 (Quality Education).
- Virtual teaching was the ‘first aid’ solution to provide sustainable education.




How can virtual teaching supports SDGs?

- Learning opportunities for remote and isolated communities.
- Electronic attendance can reduce dropout rates.
- Sustainable source of knowledge.
- Provide lifelong experience.
- Ease of organizing webinars related to SDGs.

How can virtual teaching support SDGs?

- It can be utilised as a platform for collective action.
- A mechanism to amplify the voice of higher education in the global efforts of supporting the SDGs.





**Can virtual learning
be a lifelong
experience ?**



Virtual learning as a lifelong experience

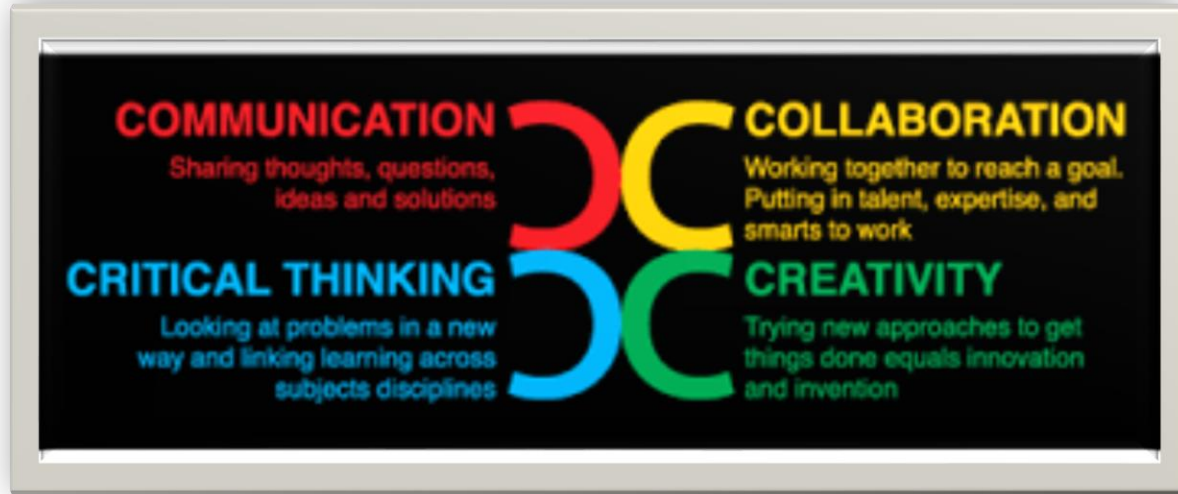
- Lifelong learning is a process in which individuals retain their development of knowledge, skills, and interest in their lives and opportunities of learning (Richardson, 1978).



How can virtual learning be a lifelong experience

- Learner-centred.
- Provides ownership of materials to students.
- Improves time management skills.
- Advances self-confidence & communication skills.
- Builds team-work relationships & networks.
- Boosts IT skills.

21st Century Skills



Conclusion

- Virtual teaching may help universities in their efforts in supporting the achievements of SDGs.
- Positive lessons learned from COVID-19.





Thank you

Any questions?

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