

LET'S GET DIGGING!

STEP 1

ACTIVITY KEY CARD

Suggested amount of participants: 8-80

Estimated time: 100 minutes

Materials: Paper, Markers, Pens, Resources



DIGIN

Dig In aims to illustrate the many facets of Sustainable Development through educational activities that connect participants worldwide.

We aim to foster active global citizenship by developing individuals' attitudes, skills and knowledges on the area.

In this first activity we want to introduce the participants to core concepts of Sustainable Development and challenge their understanding of how sustainability can be used to understand a problem in our world. We also take a look at the UNs new Sustainable Development Goals and ask ourselves:

Will fulfillment of these ensure a sustainable future?

Enjoy!

The Dig In team.

ASK

Attitudes

- *Willingness to change point of view and current perceptions of Sustainable Development.*
- *Willingness to engage in open discussion about current challenges and possible solutions to Sustainable Development.*

Skills

- *Ability to distinguish between different types of Sustainable Development.*
- *Ability to analyze how the Sustainable Development Goals connect to one another.*

Knowledge

- *Knowledge of Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.*
- *Understanding the global interdependence of Sustainable Development.*

Before you start

- Make sure you have an overall understanding of the activity and the three pillars of sustainable development before running the activity.
- Did the cases in the activity spark your or the participants' curiosity? Check the "Further reading" section for good articles on the subjects.
- Don't forget to take pictures and send these along with your name, number of participants, and where it was run to digin@ijb.cisv.org!
- Looking to print the activity? There is a print friendly version available [here](http://bit.ly/digin-1) (bit.ly/digin-1) to help you save ink!
- Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Issuu](#).

PART 1

10 minutes

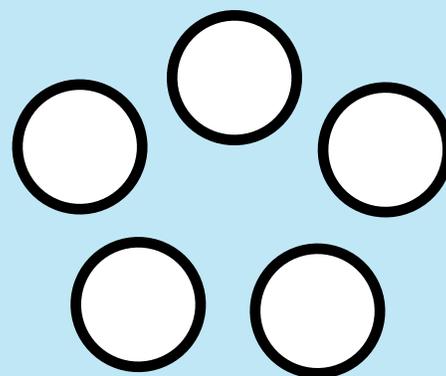
Divide into groups of four to six people. Ask the participants in their groups to discuss what sustainable development means to them. What is their own explanation of what it is? Have them write down a loose interpretation that the group agrees on.

OPTION 1: Ask the participants after they discuss within their groups to take out their smartphones and access the [Dig In facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/diginijb) (facebook.com/diginijb) and find the post or resource with the team's definition of sustainable development. Ask them to read it by themselves or out loud to the group.

Have one of the participants comment (replying to our post) their own definition that they came up with or any thoughts they have that they want to share.

OPTION 2: If the participants don't have access to the internet via smartphones, then the facilitators should use a projector if possible to project the image of Dig In's facebook page with the post, or use one big piece of paper with the definition written on it.

DO
50 minutes



PART 2

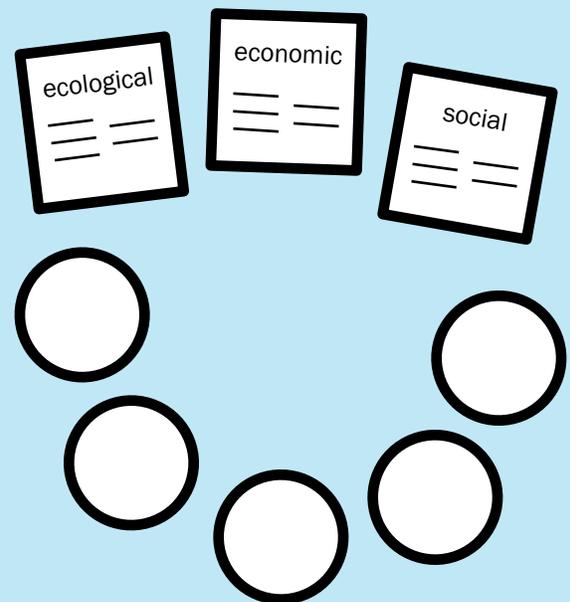
15 minutes

Each group is given the following words:

Environment, Democracy, Growth,
Diversity, Basic Human Needs, Equality,
Consumption, Human Rights, Society,
Energy, Material (re)use, Innovation,
Peace, Zero hunger, Education, Health,
Employment.

Each group is also given three papers with
“Ecological”, “Economic” and “Social” written
on them.

1. Ask them to write the words given to them on the paper of the three pillars that they feel it best fits and explain their decisions. Tell them there is no right or wrong answer!



PART 3

30 minutes

Mix the group up and present them with a few “cases” of unsustainable situations happening in the world today (you can find these in the materials section):

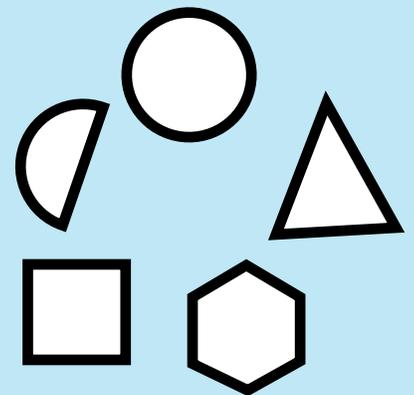
Tip for facilitator

To get the most out of the activity, research local or national cases and bring these examples as newspaper or online articles to get a more personal connection for your participants.

You would also give each group a paper with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

For each case, the group would have to answer:

1. How does the article relate to sustainability from an economic point of view?
2. How does the article relate to sustainability from an ecological point of view?
3. How does the article relate to sustainability from a social point of view?



Once everyone has answered the three first questions, wrap up with this fourth one:

4. Can the article be linked to one or more of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals? How? Positively/Negatively?

Optional: Rotate the cases (or the groups for some sweet moving around) so that each group gets to discuss a few cases if there is enough time.

For the reflect and generalise part, create new groups or merge two groups together and ask them to discuss these questions...

1. Was it hard finding connections between all the pillars of sustainable development and your case? Were there any positive connections?
2. Was the situation in case(s) only partly covered or completely missed by Sustainable Development Goals?

REFLECT
10 minutes

1. How would you describe the relationship between the different pillars of SD?
2. What do you think could happen (positive or negative) if we act on one of the pillars at a time?
3. Who/what contributed to the current situation?
4. Who/what is responsible for correcting it?
If there are more than one, who/what is more responsible and why?

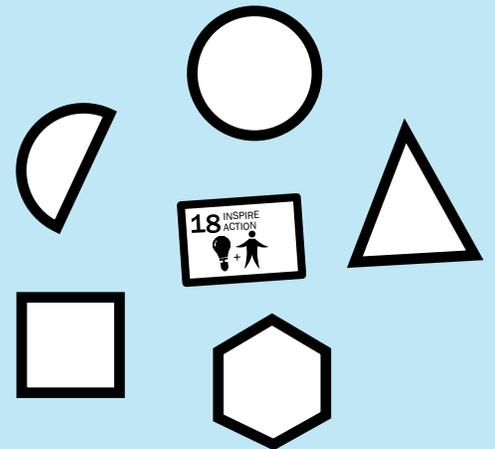
GENERALISE
15 minutes

Come up with an 18th Sustainable Development Goals that would compliment the 17 Sustainable Development Goals as well as one of your articles. Make a drawing of your goal to fit in with the rest!

If your group feels like, take a picture of your group and your 18th goal and publish it on our [Instagram](#).

APPLY

10 minutes



RESOURCES

UN SDGs



Explanation of Sustainable Development

“Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. To make it easier to understand, it is often divided into three pillars: Economic, Ecological and Social sustainable development. Economic sustainable development

is about how we can keep up or increase the wealth in the world without destroying the environment or creating inhumane living conditions. The ecological aspect is about how our actions and habits affect our planet. Finally, the social pillar is about the societies and cultures we are part of, and making sure all people are treated fairly and equally, respecting their human rights and basic needs. These three pillar together show the many sides of sustainable development.”

Mining projects in northern Sweden

“For hundreds of years, the government of Sweden has allowed and encourage the mining of iron ore in the northern parts of the country. In the many rivers in this region of the country, many dams have been constructed to provide electricity. Selling the iron to other countries has given Sweden large profits and the cheap electricity has helped the country to develop into a better society.

However, long before Sweden was even thought of as a country, this land was home to the indigenous group called Sami. The relation between the Swedish state and the Sami has always been troublesome and the state has more than once

violated their indigenous rights. Discrimination has also been widespread. The Sami have lived in the northern parts of Norway, Finland, Sweden and Russia for thousands of years and have traditionally made their living of herding reindeer, hunting wildlife and fishing. The opening of mines and construction of dams destroy the lands that the Sami are dependent on for their traditional economic activities. This has led to many cases where the rights to land and cultural heritage has been taken to court, with the Sami on one side, and the state or companies on the other.”

Poverty in India

“During the last decades, India has seen an increase in wealth which has helped to lift millions of Indians out of poverty. However, 20% of India’s 1.2 billion people still earn less than 1.90USD per day, and live with all the challenges that poverty poses in people’s everyday life. In the big city centers the quality of life is high and the material wealth is equal to that of any developed country. But in the outskirts of the cities, in the slums and on the countryside, many still struggle with problems that are typically connected with poverty: lack of sanitation, lack of education, lack work.

India has historically had widespread poverty, but the millions of people who now make up the new middle and upper class are challenging that view. However, this has also meant an increasing inequality between rich and poor. What can be extra troublesome in India’s case is that wealth and poverty often coincide with class, caste and religious lines, which could increase the tensions between groups.

Canada's Tar Sands

The world is still much dependent on fossil fuels like oil, despite the fact that everyone knows it causes global warming and won't last forever. In Canada, oil companies have turned to tar sands to feed the economy's addiction to energy. Basically, tar sand is sand mixed with oil that can be found beneath the ground, and exists in large quantities in Alberta, Canada. To get to the sand, large dig sites have to be created, destroying forests and natural habitat for animals and leaving nature scarred. When separating the oil from the sand, massive amounts of clean water is polluted and toxic waste let out into the environment. Because the tar sand fields are located far away from cities

and the coast, transportation is expensive and long, running through lands that are populated by indigenous people.

The supporters of the industry point at oil being Canada's biggest export to the world and is one of the most important parts of the Canadian economy. The regional government in Alberta claim that 112.000 people are, directly or indirectly, employed in the companies working with tar sands and that this number could grow to 500.000 in 25 years, helping hundreds of thousands of Canadians who today might be struggling to find a job.

Latifundios in Brazil

A latifundio is a type of huge farmland typically found in Latin America, owned by large companies and generally using machinery, pesticides and genetically modified crops to increase their yield. In many Latin American countries, land ownership is very unequal and Brazil is no different. One of the reasons behind this situation is the colonial heritage, as indigenous peoples' lands were taken from them by force, and another is the government policies during the dictatorship between 1964-85.

If the unfairness of the distribution of land wasn't enough, much "latifundio-land" is not even actively used for farming but kept for the social status it

gives the owner. Meanwhile, thousands of Brazilian farmers are without land which puts them at a high risk of ending up in poverty. For decades, the organisation MST (Brazilian Landless Workers Movement) have worked towards politicians for a land reform. The MST have also occupied unused latifundio-land or land they believe has been wrongfully taken or given to these large landowners or corporations, and MST activists have been blamed for breaking into farms and destroying crops and equipment.

Inequality in UK households assets

9% of the poorest British households' belongings, resources and debt have a negative total value, while the richest 5% have a value above £1.2 million per household. The poorest 1% of households even have a negative wealth of more than £16,000, because their debts are much bigger than the value of their belongings. On the other side of the pyramid, the top 1% of households have net wealth of more than £2.4 million each. With seven out of 10 households owning their homes outright or buying them through a mortgage, the average wealth of a household is £172,000.

The study by the Institute for Fiscal Studies shows that the UK is a more unequal country when

measured by wealth – the value of assets such as housing, pensions and shares – than it is when measured by income.

Further Reading

Mining projects in northern Sweden

<http://www.thelocal.se/20131224/mining-threatens-sami-reindeer-grazing-traditions>

Poverty in India

<http://www.poverties.org/poverty-in-india.html>

Canada's Tar Sands

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/rob-magazine/why-the-oil-sands-matter-to-every-canadian/article21331322/>

Latifundios in Brazil

<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2014/feb/13/brazil-landless-workers-movement-mst-protest-30th-anniversary>

Inequality in uk households' assets

<http://www.theguardian.com/business/2015/nov/19/inequality-uk-households-assets>