



Publishing for Sustainable Development

How publishers and libraries can support the SDGs

Nicola Jones, Head of Publishing, Springer Nature
SDG programme

SPRINGER NATURE

Outline

- What is the Springer Nature SDG Programme and why do we have one?
- The role of libraries in supporting the Goals
- Open research for Societal Impact
- Facilitating interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration
- Developing and showcasing the content that supports the Goals

SPRINGER NATURE GROUP
SDG Programme



supporting the Sustainable Development Goals

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SPRINGER NATURE

The Springer Nature SDG Programme

We want to make sure that SDG research gets attention!

"The themes of the UN Sustainable Development Goals are inspirational to us at Springer Nature. Across our publishing and services and across the disciplines, we are focusing on helping researchers make the world a better place for future generations."

— Sir Philip Campbell, Editor-in-Chief of Springer Nature



<https://www.springernature.com/gp/researchers/sdg-programme>

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Menu

The Sustainable Development Goals Programme

Delivering real progress against urgent societal needs

Springer Nature's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Programme aims to connect the researchers who are tackling the world's toughest challenges with the practitioners in policy and business who desperately need those insights to achieve their goals in improving the world, by making our publishing activities more visible to our key communities through a variety of channels.

"The themes of the UN Sustainable Development Goals are inspirational to us at Springer Nature. Across our publishing and services and across the disciplines, we are focusing on helping researchers make the world a better place for future generations." - Sir Philip Campbell, Editor-in-Chief of Springer Nature

Researcher attitudes to societal impact

Innovating to support the SDGs

Acting as a responsible business

SN Sustainability Community



How is Springer Nature delivering against the SDGs?

Supporting and amplifying the SDGs

We will be a leading publisher of SDG-related content, encouraging new research contributions to address grand challenges.



4

Innovating to support the SDGs

We will use our knowledge, convening power and communications capabilities to bring research-based solutions to the attention of the practitioners who need it.



Acting as a sustainable business

We will address the environmental and social impacts of our business, setting and reporting against targets, and sharing evidence of progress.



The role of libraries in supporting the Goals

How do libraries support the SDGs?

Libraries around the world offer a wide range of products and services that promote the achievement of each and every one of the SDGs.

From promoting literacy, to offering free access to information, libraries are safe, welcoming spaces, at the heart of communities. They come with the indispensable support of a dedicated staff with a deep understanding of local needs. They advance digital inclusion through access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT), internet connection and skills. They promote innovation, creativity and access to the world's knowledge for current and future generations.

As illustrated in IFLA's booklet and handout "[Access and Opportunity for All: How Libraries contribute to the United Nations 2030 Agenda](#)" and in the "[Development and Access to Information \(DA2I\)](#)" report published in partnership with [TASCHA](#), most existing activities, projects and programmes delivered by libraries worldwide can be related to one or more of the SDGs.

Taken from Libraries and the Sustainable Development Goals: a storytelling manual
© 2018 by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)



SDG 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls:

Libraries offer programmes for women and girls to access information about their rights and health. They also provide ICT and literacy programmes, as well as coding-clubs and entrepreneurship training. Libraries provide a safe environment for women to read or pursue learning, access computers and the internet, undertake technology training, or talk with other women.



SDG 6 - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all:

Libraries provide public access to information on water, energy usage and sanitation. They offer access to research and evidence for policy makers and development organisations, to support the effective allocation of resources to sustainable water infrastructure and sanitation projects.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS & LIBRARIES

The UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a framework of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) spanning economic, environmental and social development. SDG stories demonstrate how libraries and access to information contribute to improved outcomes across all SDGs. Select a country to see relevant stories.

[SUBMIT YOUR STORY](#)



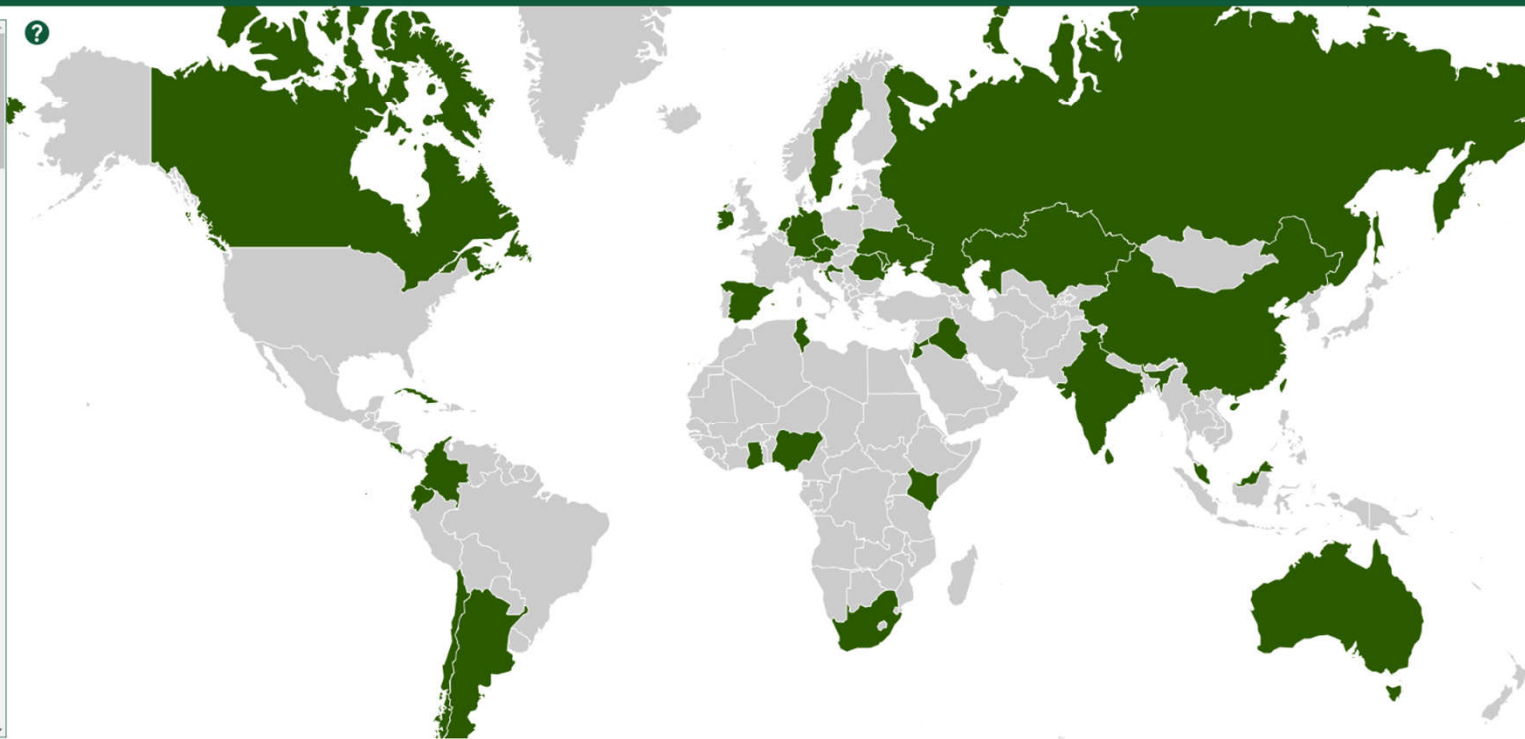
SDG STORIES

Search

33 Countries
55 Stories

Select a country to view stories.

- GOAL 1. No Poverty**
4 Stories
- GOAL 2. Zero Hunger**
4 Stories
- GOAL 3. Good Health and Well-Being**
10 Stories
- GOAL 4. Quality Education**
39 Stories
- GOAL 5. Gender Equality**
8 Stories
- GOAL 6. Clean Water and Sanitation**
4 Stories
- GOAL 7. Affordable and Clean Energy**
3 Stories
- GOAL 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth**
10 Stories
- GOAL 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure**
16 Stories
- GOAL 10. Reduced Inequalities**



LEGEND

- Countries with SDG Stories
- Selected Country
- No Data Available

+
-

Higher education and publishing working together to achieve the Goals



<https://www.springernature.com/gp/researchers/sdg-impact>



Open research is fundamentally changing the way that researchers communicate and collaborate to advance the pace and quality of discovery. New and dynamic open research-driven workflows are emerging, thus increasing the findability, accessibility, and reusability of results. Distribution channels are changing too, enabling others — from patients to businesses, to teachers and policy makers — to increasingly benefit from new and critical insights. This in turn has dramatically increased the societal impact of open research. But what remains less clear is the exact nature and scope of this wider impact as well as the societal relevance of the underpinning research.

A new strategic partnership

In order to tackle and begin to answer these key research questions, Springer Nature and The Association of Universities in the Netherlands (VSNU) have formed a new strategic partnership – in the form of a Joint Impact Working Group (IWG). Already in place is a national read and publish [Open Access agreement](#), which both organisations were the first in Europe to pioneer in 2015. It is in the same pioneering spirit that this IWG now intends to advance our knowledge in the nature of open research, with outcomes and results to be released from late 2019 onwards.

[Read the Press Release](#)

Our partners



Our technology partner



Open Research for Societal Impact - what we found

Conclusion:

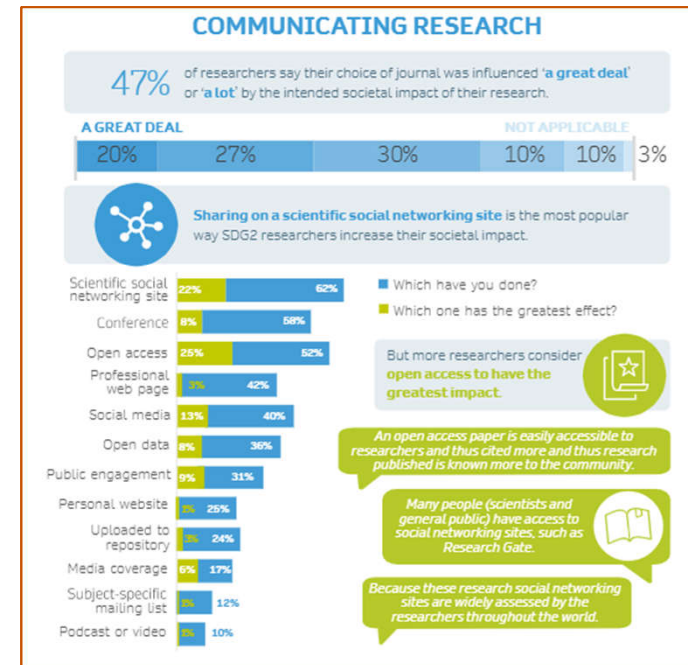
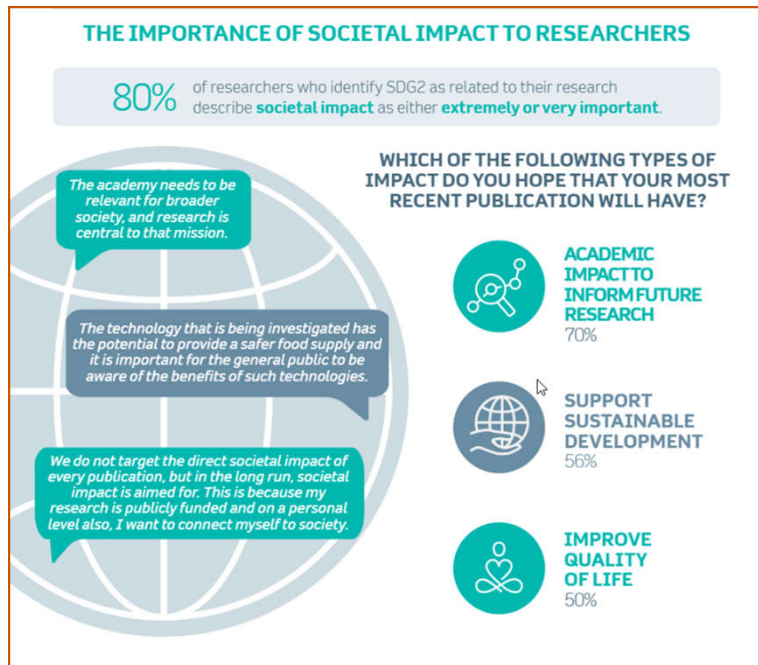
Open access publication increases the reach of research relating to the global challenges set out in the UN Sustainable Development Goals, to audiences beyond academia

- SDG related OA articles are downloaded more frequently than SDG related subscription access articles
- SDG related OA articles have higher Altmetric scores than SDG related subscription access articles
- There is no clear citation difference between SDG related OA and subscription access articles
- Users not actively conducting or publishing research themselves are much less likely to have access to the full text of articles than users who are actively conducting and publishing research
- All users reported that they were more likely to share OA articles than subscription access articles

A toolkit to help researchers achieve societal impact for their work

“Maximising how the results of research are used to benefit society”

<https://www.springernature.com/gp/researchers/sdg-impact/societal-impact-toolkit>



Facilitating interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration

Research → Policy + Practice



- Further develop existing knowledge infrastructures, institutions, and governance that encourage and enable continual, iterative engagement between policymakers, researchers, and the community in diagnosing problems and in decision-making processes.
- Increase the translation of the results of scientific assessments across all scales into practical guidance for policymakers and implementers.
- Raise scientific literacy and awareness of the SDGs among citizens and policymakers through greater collaboration, advocacy, and outreach.

<https://www.springernature.com/gp/researchers/sdg-programme/science-for-a-sustainable-future>

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Facilitating interdisciplinary and cross-sector collaboration

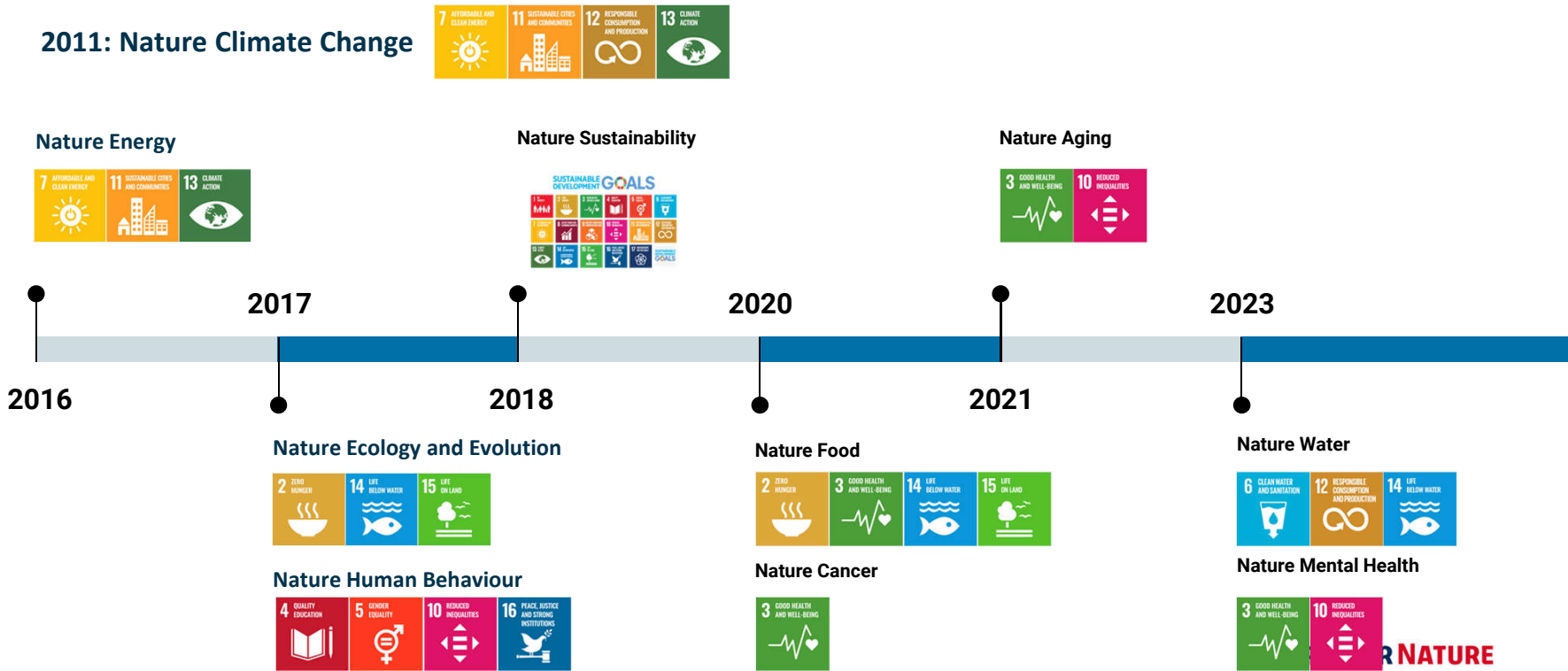
Learning from Crises: from Covid to Climate

What? A deliberate effort to convene interdisciplinary conversations in order to explore the challenges presented by two global crises, and how the different responses could inform future action.

Why? The Covid-19 pandemic forced a change in behaviour and policy at all levels, across all countries in order to respond to an urgent situation. At the same time, the effects of misinformation were amplified, and existing societal inequalities exacerbated. The Climate Crisis is an equally urgent societal challenge affecting the Earth's population, sharing many of the same features, but the response has been markedly different. With COP 26 taking place in Glasgow in November 2021 we wanted to bring together groups of people who would not have otherwise met, in order to facilitate the development of a common understanding on which to build solutions.



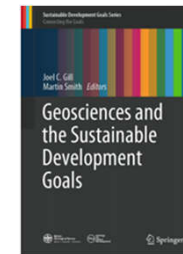
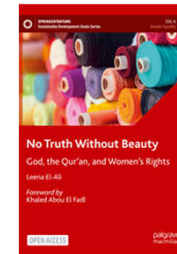
Ensuring our journals and books are committed to supporting those who are working on solutions



Developing and showcasing content that supports the SDGs

SDG hubs: [www.springernature.com/sdg-programme/sdg\(X\)](http://www.springernature.com/sdg-programme/sdg(X))

SDG Book Series



Springer Nature Sustainability Community:
<https://sustainabilitycommunity.springernature.com/>

THE POWER OF KNOWLEDGE

At Springer Nature, we harness the positive power of knowledge to enable progress towards a better future for all. We open doors to discovery – so that researchers, educators, clinicians and other professionals can access, trust and make sense of the latest research, to improve knowledge and benefit future generations.





Thank you!

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Resources:

SDG Programme homepage:

<http://www.springernature.com/sdgprogramme>

Sustainable Business report:

<https://group.springernature.com/gp/group/taking-responsibility>

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