



Job Specification – SDG Internship 2020/2021

Please submit your C.V. and a personal statement (maximum 500 words) by email to Vanessa.McCorquodale@ed.ac.uk

For any queries, email the same address by Friday 25 June 2021.

Job title

Sustainable Development Goal Analyst

Description of department and job purpose

Department: Social Responsibility and Sustainability

Job Purpose: Over a two week period, from 1 July to 16 July 2021, to complete a short piece of work to pull together the data from the Sustainable Development Goals. Using an evidence-based analysis to highlight the essential role of compassion in achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs). After collecting the data, an infographic will be created using shared ideas of how to present this data effectively, in order to communicate the key points to the public.

Main responsibilities (what you want the intern to do and what experience they will gain)

The Task:

Each of the SDGs were set out in order to rectify a specific crises in the world in. Each of the 17 crises affects people and the planet and cause some form of suffering (some goals are more specific than others – e.g. hunger / disease, lack of employment)

This task will summarise what the “suffering” in each of the crises across the 17 goals and summarise the stats and the actions need to alleviate the crisis

To do this we will map each of the SDGs against these five questions:

1. What is the challenge / suffering behind each goal in 2015 and now – i.e. why was the goal developed – to alleviate x amount of poverty.
2. What do each of the facts and figures about each goal actually mean for people affected
3. What is the 2030 vision of what the goal is leading to and what the world would look like without this crises
4. What actions do the SDG targets and indicators require
5. What works and what hasn't worked – case studies/ examples

The outputs:

Approximately 1-2 pages on each SDG, using an existing template.

An infographic capturing the information

Background:

While we have much of the science to tackle each of the Sustainable Development Goals, and there is a rising global awareness of the urgency, the will to take action is still largely absent. At individual, community, societal, national and regional levels activity is taking place, but collectively we have failed to grasp the vision set out in the preamble of the SDGs of a world that is “healed”. This paper asks whether we need something else alongside the science of sustainable transformations, something which has the capability of transforming the way humanity lives with each other and the planet. Could compassion underpin this needed transformative strategy? Compassion is not in itself a new economic,



or social, or ecological paradigm, but it shapes the way that such a paradigm can emerge. Monica Worline and Jane Dutton in their 2017 book 'Awakening Compassion at Work: The quiet power that elevates people and organizations' described compassion as a 4-part process, of noticing pain and suffering, interpreting the suffering, feeling empathic concern such as sadness, or sorrow, and acting to alleviate this suffering in some way. At the heart of their work was an acknowledgment that compassion has the capacity to bring about change.

This paper sets out a dashboard of compassion interaction against each of the SDGs, to understand the strategy of the goals and to measure what and how compassion drivers can contribute to meeting targets of each goal.

Detail on the task

In order to begin to look at how compassion might be the glue that holds the SDGs together and a driver to take action on each goal, the relationship between suffering and the goals has to be set out and why we need to look at each differently.

The specific tasks for this work:

For each goal, capture information for the following sections

Section 1

The suffering that sits beneath each unmet goals -

- In 2015 a brief capture of what was the challenge that the goal was set up to tackle – what was the type of suffering that the goal was trying to alleviate - x number of people living below poverty line,
- Currently in the context of what COVID-19 has done - a brief capture of the current state of need - i.e. how many people are still in poverty / how many are out of education (much of this will be estimates)

Section 2

What do each of the facts and figures about each goal actually mean for people affected. What information can we bring together on what these statistics mean (i.e. draw together some facts of what it means to live below 1.90 a day – what are the consequences of being poor, of not getting schooling, or of oceans being contaminated). Much of this will be stating what the UN has on its site, but in a way that is reachable and makes people listen.

Section 3

The 2030 vision of what the goal is leading to and the potential for change.

Brief statement of what the goal would look like if all the indicators were achieved – (just summarising the indicators Across the world X people would be lifted out of poverty which would enable them to XXX - if we can draw on infographics that would be great).

Section 4

The steps set out in the SDG framework of what is needed to reach the goal.

Brief summary of a group of steps needed (again as set out in the targets and indicators - - the goals have many targets so conscious that this could be summarised/ There are lots of descriptors of this so really useful if we can pull a few together and reference them – it doesn't need to be new thinking but would be tremendous if it was in a visual form).

Section 5

A couple of examples of what works/ isn't working and why there are still gaps - what is needed to reach the goal, why are there failings – what could be done differently (if we can get some short case studies – (just 2 or 3 lines of what works) – any thoughts from students of how actions that were more compassionate/ or if people/ systems were compassionate things would be different, actions would happen / or actions would stop



happening – e.g. if Banks were more aware that their investments were hurting some of the poorest people while making money for shareholders would they chose the investments., could they look at more ethical investments).

This role is an opportunity to:

- Participate and contribute in current research
- Develop your skills in analytical research and in writing
- Practise and develop your creative skills to enhance science communication methods
- Drive real impact in the engagement and delivery of the SDGs

Person specification (essential and desirable knowledge, skills and experience required)

Essential:

- Analytical skills such as the drawing out pertinent information from academic literature
- Computer literate (use of Microsoft applications) and able to work remotely with confidence e.g. communications by email, Teams and in the use of online virtual meetings
- Understanding of quantitative and qualitative research methods
- An interest in issues around the Sustainable Development Goals

Desirable:

- Experience of creating infographics
- Experience in using various communication style to communicate a message
- Familiarity with the Sustainable Development Goals

Grade and pay

UoE Grade 5

Hours of work and preferred pattern/restrictions (if applicable)

35 hours per week, pattern to be negotiated. Please check your visa and [UKVI](#) for any maximum number of hours you can work before proceeding with the application.

Interview date

29/6/2021

Planned start date

1 July 2021 (estimated)

Planned end date

2 week period, (no later than 16 July 2021)

Location (which building internship will be based)

Office work: due to current COVID-19 restrictions, the role will be fully virtual and meetings will take place by Microsoft Teams or Zoom.