

# King's Christian Collegiate

## Model United Nations

### Delegate Guide



United Nations Development Programme

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## Dear Distinguished Delegates,

It is my honor to welcome you to the eighth annual King'sMUN Conference: Voices of the Voiceless. Since the debut of the King'sMUN conference in 2013, we have striven to create a conference that enables students to push past their comfort zones, connect with their peers, and learn more about the world around them.

Model United Nations (MUN) is a youth simulation of the United Nations where students have the chance to debate the world's greatest issues, problem-solve, and produce creative resolutions with their peers. Throughout my MUN journey I have developed my critical thinking, teamwork, leadership, and communication skills, which have transferred into many different avenues of my life and which I attribute to many of my successes in high school.

We are living in a time where certain people groups are marginalized and discriminated against based on prejudice and unjust systems. At King'sMUN we strive to lift the songs of those who are oppressed and listen to the stories and experiences of those whose mouths have been sealed for far too long. This year, the theme of the King'sMUN conference is Voices of the Voiceless. I hope you take this to heart both during the conference and as you move forward into your future.

These past few years have, without a doubt, been ones of hardship and challenge. The COVID-19 Pandemic has built many barriers not only between countries, but within countries, communities and families. At King'sMUN we acknowledge the past to live actively in the present, but look to the future with hope. One thing the COVID-19 Pandemic has not taken away is our creativity and will to connect to one another. With a range of committees branching from tutorial to advanced, and real to fictional, delegates with all levels of experience have an opportunity to collaborate with peers and grow as young leaders and changemakers at King'sMUN, despite the current predicaments.

Once again, I am extremely excited to greet each and every one of you at the eighth annual King'sMUN conference. Myself and the King'sMUN Secretariat look forward to seeing you on Friday, February 25th and Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Sincerely,  
Arianna Mastrolonardo  
Secretary-General, 2022  
King'sMUN

## **UNDP Overview**

The UNDP works in about 170 countries and territories, helping to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities and exclusion, and build resilience so countries can sustain progress. As the UN's development agency, UNDP plays a critical role in helping countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Currently, the UNDP is the world's leading development organization. The UNDP does more for the future of our planet than perhaps any other United Nations organization. There are immense benefits resulting from UNDP work including increased market access, added connectivity for more human beings, and increased cultural values in society.

## **History/ Background**

The United Nations Development Programme was formed in 1965 by the General Assembly of the United Nations. It was created by the merging of two committees: The United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (1949), and the United Nations Special Fund (1958). The former body focused on providing education and technical instruction, while the latter served to assist with the implementation of sociopolitical programs. The rationale for this move was explained as “avoiding duplication of [their] activities”.

The UNDP's first successful campaign was eradicating desert locusts during famine in 42 countries in the 1960's. By 1970, the battle was won, and this would be a model for future projects under the UNDP's supervision. Their first global project, “*Global One*”, was to develop a high-protein maize (corn) in Mexico. Over time, the programme developed several new varieties, and trained hundreds of people from dozens of countries in improving their maize production. In 1990, the UNDP published the first ever Human Development Report which combines three indices- life expectancy at birth, adult literacy rates, and purchasing power. These join together to create the Human Development Index.

Through these developments, the UNDP has made very considerable developments in countries all around the globe. Whether it be assisting development in Palestine, combating disease in Africa, fighting drought in Mozambique, boosting environment protection in

Guatemala, or assisting in the wake of the Rwandan genocide, UNDP has played a very fundamental part in boosting world development.

In 2000, the UN approved 8 goals named the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which were superseded by the SDGs in 2015. The United Nations Millennium Declaration, signed in September 2000, commits world leaders to combat poverty, hunger, disease, illiteracy, environmental degradation, and discrimination against women. Several of the targets within the goals had been met and were on their way to being met. Target 1.C. was to halve, between 1990 and 2015, the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, and by 2013, the number of underweight children in developing countries had fallen from 28% to 17%.

#### Key MDG achievements

- More than 1 billion people have been lifted out of extreme poverty (since 1990)
- Child mortality dropped by more than half (since 1990)
- The number of out of school children has dropped by more than half (since 1990)
- HIV/AIDS infections fell by almost 40 percent (since 2000)

### **Sustainable Development Goals**

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were developed as a means to replace the Millennium Development Goals in 2015. The goals put forth by the MDG were still to be finished. The UN felt they needed to continue, to work diligently and to broaden their scope of how to tackle these world problems.

One of the UNDP's main targets is to work on the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals. They were adopted by the UN in 2015 and are meant to be a universal call to action to end poverty, protect our planet, create peace, and many other things by the year 2030. These goals are all connected, so by working on one, the rest of them are also benefited. Unlike many committees and programs, the UNDP focuses on achieving the targets of all 17 of the Sustainable Development Goals. The goals are as follows:



Since the effects of COVID-19, the progress of the goals has been slowed down drastically. Most sustainability practitioners have reported that the progress in reaching these goals has been poor, particularly in reducing inequalities and preventing poverty. Life Below Water (14), Reduced Inequalities (10), Life on Land (15) and No Poverty (1) are seen by experts as the SDGs where society's level of achievement has lagged the most. In contrast, the most positive progress can be seen in Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (9) and Partnership for the Goals (17). The most alarming issue with this is that the specific SDGs that are meant to be most urgent are the ones yielding the most unsatisfactory results.

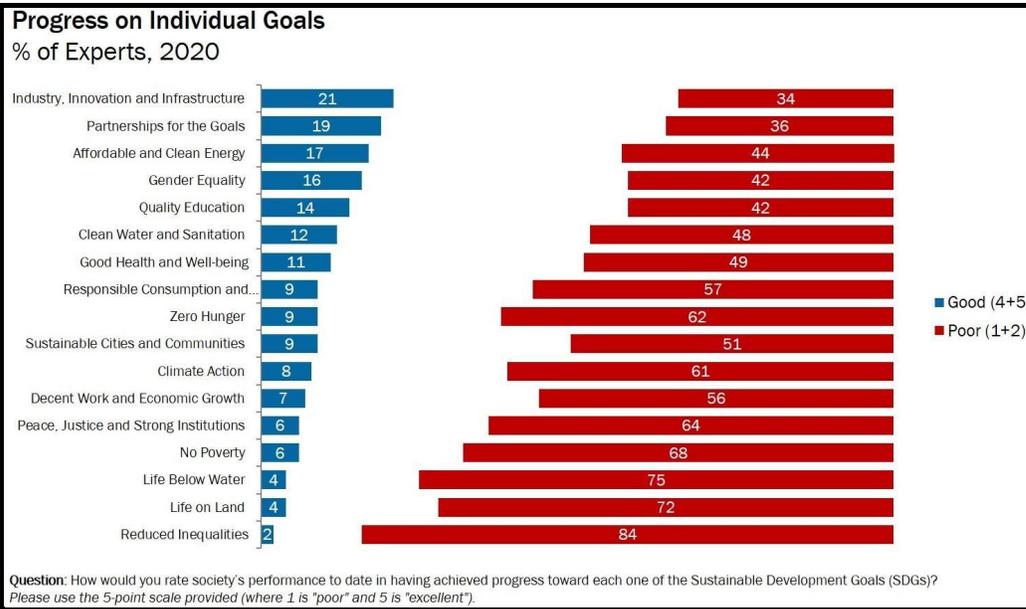
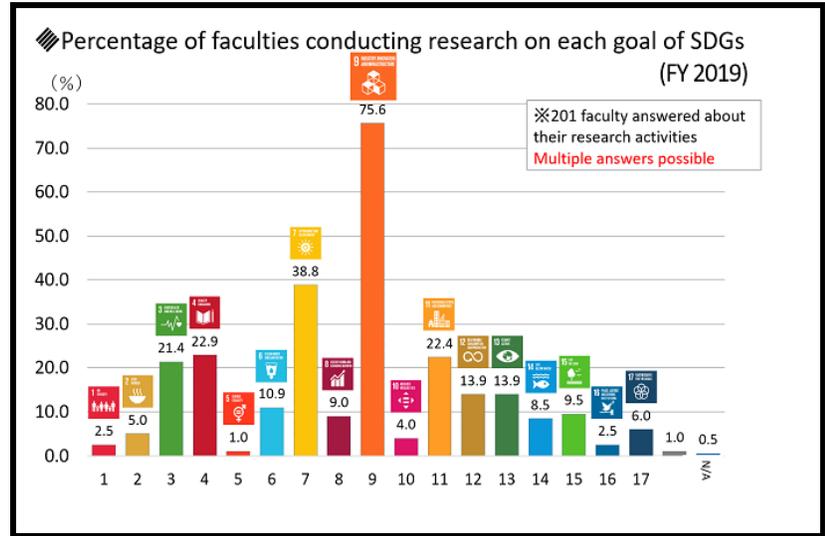
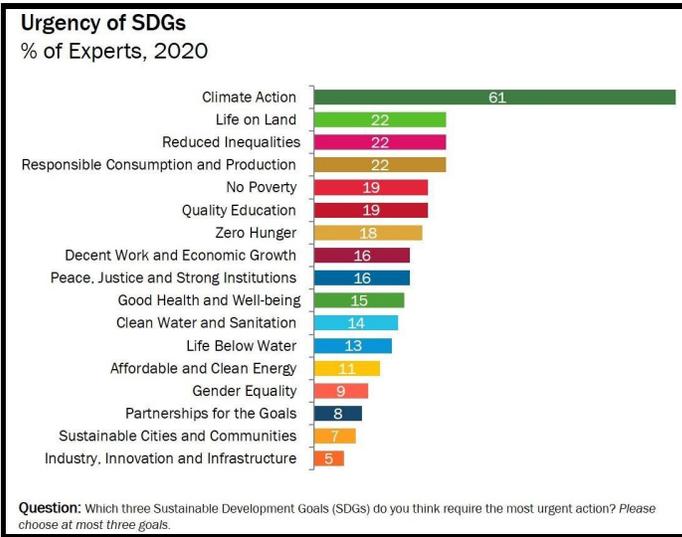
According to experts, the goals receiving the least attention yet are seen as the most urgent include No Poverty (1), Zero Hunger (2) and Reduced Inequalities (10) (Malmqvist). Despite these being the most urgent, combined they yield only 11.5% of the facilities conducting research on the tasks set by the individual goals. These most urgent SDGs are the ones receiving the smallest amount of attention, and without that attention and work, they will fail to be accomplished by the set timeframe.

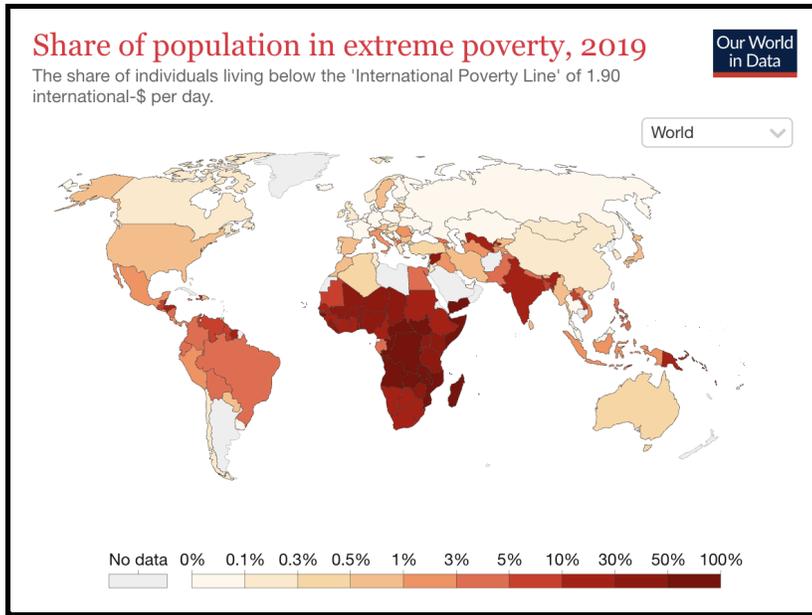
## Questions to Consider

1. Which of the Sustainable Development Goals do you think are most important to focus on in the 2030-2045 timeframe?
2. Is the UNDP doing enough to ensure that the goals are met as quickly and thoroughly as possible? What could be done better?

- How can we prioritize the more urgent SDGs while keeping an eye on the remaining ones?
- Are we currently giving the correct attention to the specific SDGs?

## SDG Graphs





## Sources:

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