



SF Global Network - Newsletter



Greetings to everyone, friends, and family of the Sustainable Futures Global Network. We are delighted to share with you some news and updates from across the network. A network that is working through new freedoms and relief at the relaxing of the pandemic impacts, but also new challenges and urgencies as communities and ecologies continue to struggle with social and ecological sustainability. Sustainable development is still interpreted and enacted so differently by different actors. Conflict, miscommunication, misappropriation, and disconnection still challenge our capacity as humans to co-exist with each and our environments sustainably.

The activities and updates shared in this newsletter are guiding our current progress towards a global legal entity that will better support the ever-evolving practices and innovations of the network. The leadership is growing and developing both within the hubs as well as at a global level. The life of the network is sustained and informed by the day-to-day interactions, decisions, and commitments of

each one of our members and affiliates. Individually we juggle, we often struggle, we meander, make leaps, and take pauses; together we make a web, and quite a force – a springboard for the days we need to leap, a cushion for the times we need to fall back.

- Dr Mia Perry, SF Global Network Co-Director

Visit our Website: www.sustainablefuturesglobal.org

SF Global Network Theory Of Change

To better illustrate our work, the leadership team, along with Alasdair Currie and Elli Loose from Multiplied by, have been working on the Network's Theory of Change. This is a living document and will continue to evolve with your input and our collective progress. The purpose of this articulation is for clarity of purpose and practice for external audiences.



5th Annual Symposium – Reckoning meeting

The Network held its 5th Annual Symposium between March 28th – 31st, 2022. This year, as Covid-19 restrictions eased, the network opted for a hybrid format, allowing teams to meet locally (e.g. in Botswana and in Scotland) while meeting with other hubs online. Dr Priscilla Achakpa (Executive Director at Women Environmental Programme – WEP, Nigeria), Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil (UNDP, Eswatini – SFGN Co-Director), Runa Kahn (Executive Director, Friendship, Bangladesh) & Vanessa Duclos (SFGN Manager) travelled to Glasgow to participate in strategic planning sessions hosted by Dr Mia Perry (University of Glasgow - SFGN Co-Director) in the new Advanced Research Centre (ARC) of the University of Glasgow.

Key topics explored through the symposium include:

- Formalising the new structure of the SFG Network, whereby hubs are registering as independent entities and the overarching network registering in the UK as a charity or social enterprise.
- Creation of the board of directors of the new registered international overarching organisation:
 - Prof Oitshepile MmaB Modise – University of Botswana, Botswana
 - Prof Sola Ajayi – First-Technical University, Ibadan, Nigeria

- Dr Twine Bananuka, Makerere University, Uganda
 - Dr Boyson Moyo, LUANAR, Malawi
 - Dr Sizwe Mabaso, UNESWA, Eswatini
 - Prof Daniel Koehn, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany
 - Dr Mia Perry, University of Glasgow, Scotland
 - Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil, SFG Network, Eswatini
- Invitation of hub members to nominate two co-leads per hub (one representing the academia sector, and one representing the NGO or private sector).
 - Current hub administrators to become Hub Coordinators.
 - Roles and responsibilities of the new leadership structure clarified and revision of the membership process.
 - The realization and an appreciation of mentoring as one of the key strengths of the network that needs to be developed further.



1 - From left to right: Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil, Runa Khan, Priscilla Achakpa, Baby Nohan, Dr Mia Perry and Vanessa Duclos



2 - Symposium Dinner - SFG Network Scottish hub members



3 - SFG Network new organigramme





During the symposium, the network also hosted a [public event](#) to celebrate the work of the cohort of early career researchers who participated to the [Sustainable Futures in Writing – Workshop series in 2021-2022](#).

This workshop series has supported a cohort of dynamic international sustainability researchers from the SFG Network by providing one-to-one editorial support, group sessions and networking opportunities. Through workshops and mentoring, writers are developing confidence in structuring and submitting work so that they can move into lead authorship positions and share their findings and ideas with wider communities.

Online Course in the making – A week in Germany

From May 16th to 20th, the Germany hub hosted, in Erlangen, Germany, the trans-disciplinary meeting for the DAAD-IVAC project titled [“Ethical Global Partnerships, Resources and Sustainability: Virtual Collaboration in an interdisciplinary and intercultural inverted classroom”](#). Dr Lavinia Hirsu (University of Glasgow), Dr Mia Perry (Online – University of Glasgow), Joseph Watuleke (Makerere University), Dr Sizwe Mabaso (University of Eswatini) & Dr Raihana Ferdous (Oxford-Brookes University) travelled to Erlangen and were warmly welcomed by Prof Daniel Koehn, Dr Anette Regelous, Jakob Machleidt, Daniel Hafermaas & Dr Johannes Wiest, all from Erlangen-Nuremberg University. Their participation in and contributions to the event were hugely appreciated and integral to the success of the planned activities.

During this week, all project partners jointly finalised the trans-disciplinary, interconnected learning modules for the postgraduate course. The final aims are to enhance digital and inter-cultural skills including geologic knowledge about the countries' resources under the aspect of sustainability and ethical partnerships across the cultures of tutors and students with a global virtual perspective, and to develop a best-practice case for the wider community.



4 - From left to right – Sizwe Mabaso, Daniel Koehn, Anette Regelous, Lavinia Hirsu, Raihana Ferdous, Jakob Machleidt, Johannes Wiest & Joseph Watuleke.

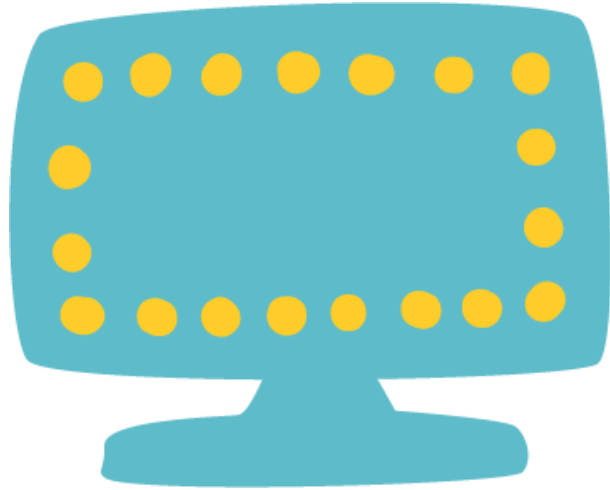


5 - Project partners developing content for the online course

Webinar Series

The most recent webinar session was held on Thursday May 26th, from 12:30 to 13:30 UK time. [The Kitchen Life project](#) team presented on the project, methodological approach, research results & insights on the stakeholder dissemination workshop held in Malawi in April.

The next webinar session will be held on Wednesday June 22nd from 12:30 to 13:30 UK time. Mr John Baaki, Deputy Executive Director at [Women Environmental Programme \(WEP\)](#), Nigeria, will speak on "Addressing gender inequalities and other development challenges caused by climate change."



Awards & new appointments



6 - Prof Ajayi during the celebration

The Nigerian hub wishes to congratulate her hub director, **Professor Sunday Adesola Ajayi**, on his appointment as the New Vice chancellor of First Technical University. He takes over from Professor Ayobami Salami whose term as Pioneer Vice-Chancellor expired on 8th May 2022. The appointment takes effect from 9th May 2022 for a single term of five (5) years.

His appointment by the Joint Council and Senate Selection Board did not take us by surprise following his academic, professional, administrative, and extra-curricular track records ever since he graduated from the prestigious Obafemi Awolowo University in 1991.

Prof Ajayi is an academic cum professional personality person. We believe that his over 28 years of wealth of experience, collaborations and connections will bring about innovatory developments to the University. We are certain that he has what it takes to make a notable impact. We therefore pray for inspired initiatives that will move the university forward in his tenure. *Congratulations Prof. Ajayi!*

Dr Sehinde Ayoola Akinbiola, a member of the Institute for Sustainable Development, First Technical University, was selected as an awardee for the 2021-2022 United States Carbon Program Leadership Award to advance further his carbon cycle science career. The United States Carbon Program is an interagency partnership that provides a coordinated and focused scientific strategy for

conducting federal carbon cycle research. He will be presenting the article co-authored with Dr Brian Barrett and others, titled: *“Assessment of Tropical Forest Structure, Ecological Networks, and Species Extinction in Nigeria Lowland Forest and Cameroun Coastal Lowland Forest”*, at the Food and Agriculture Organization, World Forestry Congress at Korea in May 2022. *Congratulations, Dr Sehinde!*

Congratulations to **Adeyemo Emmanuel O.**, Whose Crisis research assistant in Nigeria who has been awarded admission to my Masters' Programme at the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom to study MA. Applied theatre: Arts, Action Change. The skills gained during the Whose Crisis project (digital literacy, interdisciplinary work, communication and community engagement) strengthen his application.

Congratulations to **Dr Priscilla Achakpa** (Women Environmental Programme) for being honoured in May with a lifetime achievement award for her work for African women and leadership in sustainable development. She received the Albert Balin Award from Hapag Lloyd AG in the city of Hamburg, Germany



7 - Dr Achakpa receiving her award in Hamburg, Germany

[New Executive Director at ArtGlo Centre Africa, Malawi](#)

Sustainable Futures Malawi hub has been in partnership with Art and Global Health Centre Africa (ArtGlo) for nearly 5 years. In these years, its Executive Director, Ms. Helen Todd has been part of the network through ArtGlo. She has been a dedicated member of the Malawi Hub, and has always represented ArtGlo excellently. Her zeal and advice have helped in shaping the Malawi Hub. Of the notable contributions to the hub, Helen was an advisor on SF Global Network's Project "Whose Crisis" in which she worked closely with the hub to make it a success.

Helen recently transitioned from her role as the Executive Director for ArtGlo and we appreciate the work we have done with her under this role. Though Helen has now moved on from ArtGlo, she will continue to be a part of SF Global Network in a more personal capacity.

There is good news however as she introduced us to Willson Chivhanga who has taken up the role as ArtGlo's Executive Director. Willson is the Co-Founder (and former Executive Director) of For Equality Africa – a pan African women's rights organisation. He is also an Obama African Leader and Pan African Democracy Fellow.

We are happy to welcome Wilson to the SF Global Network. We believe that working with him, the network will continue to bear more fruits. The network will gain much from him and he will also learn much from the diverse interdisciplinary SF Global Network team.



8 - Willson Chivhanga, New ArtGlo Centre's Executive Director © Loving Arms



9 - Helen Todd – Former Executive Director © ArtGlo Centre Africa



Network's achievements

Submitted proposals

- School of Education small projects 2022 - £5,000 - *About SUS | A Non-Expert Podcast aiming at illuminating the complex theme of sustainability using north & south insights and transdisciplinary conversations*, PI Dr Marcela Ramos, University of Glasgow **(Successful)**
- ESRC Impact Acceleration Account 2022 - £10,000 - *Whose crisis? Responding to overshadowed experiences of the COVID-19 crisis*, PI Dr Mia Perry, University of Glasgow **(Successful)**
- AAS & ANC Theo Murphy seed grants 2022 – \$3,750 – *Collaborative Workshop about Research Impact with the Sustainable Futures Global Network*, PI Dr Imaina Widagdo, University of South Australia **(Successful)**
- EU Horizon 2022 – 3,500,000 Euros - *Co-creating a sustainable world: bridging the climate policy-practice gap in sub-Saharan Africa through global democratic Governance (CoGo)* PI Dr Juliette Alenda-Demoutiez, Radboud University (Pending)
- CLARE (Climate Adaptation and Resilience) 2022 – 2025 - *Knowledges, Partnerships, and Inclusion for Climate Adaptation and Resilience*. Leadership Team Dr Vincent Muwanika, Mr Mahbub Ur Rahman Ujjal and Dr Mia Perry. The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) (Pending)

- Alliances for Research Challenges (ARCs) 2022 – 2025 - *Behaviours for NetZero (B4NZ): understanding and changing behaviours through social and economic sciences*. PI Dr Agnessa Spanellis. Scottish Funding Council (Pending)

Publications

Mia Perry, Jo Sharp, Kevin Aanyu, Jude Robinson, Vanessa Duclos & Raihana Ferdous (2022) Research partnerships across international contexts: a practice of unity or plurality?, *Development in Practice*, [DOI: 10.1080/09614524.2022.2056579](https://doi.org/10.1080/09614524.2022.2056579)

Rochelle H. Holm, Mavuto Tembo, Victor Kasulo, Medson B. Gavanala, Lettow Chilongo (2022) Institutional, technical and financial sustainability of rural piped drinking water supply on a freshwater island: Case study of Likoma Island, Malawi, *Lakes & Reservoirs*, [DOI: 10.1111/lre.12403](https://doi.org/10.1111/lre.12403)

Carmen Liliana Medina, Mia Perry, Karen Wohlwend (2022). *Playful Methods: Engaging the Unexpected in Literacy Research*. Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.

Contact Us

If you want to get involved, share some good news with the Network about your organisation's work please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Sustainable Futures Global Network

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