The Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal set of 17 goals and 169 targets that United Nations member states are expected to use to frame their agendas and policies by the end of 2030. They were officially adopted in September 2015 during the United Nations (UN) summit in New York and became effective as of January 1, 2016.

The Sustainable Development Goals are the result of two years of intensive public consultation and engagement with civil society and other stakeholders around the world—the largest consultation program in UN history—with special attention paid to the voices of the poorest and most vulnerable.

Unilever has a simple but clear purpose—to make sustainable living commonplace. Since William Hesketh Lever’s founding of Lever Brothers in 1885 and his revolutionary development of Sunlight Soap, Lever’s vision was to make cleanliness commonplace. That sense of purpose and mission has always been part of Unilever’s culture. Unilever supports the UN SDGs through its Sustainable Living Plan, and through initiatives with WE such as this educational resource and the WE Lead for Change Speaking Tour.

Visit WE.org/weleadforchange for more information on how you can get involved.
# WE’s commitment to the SDGs

WE understands that eliminating poverty is the greatest global challenge for sustainable development. That’s why each of the WE Villages Pillars of Impact align with the following Sustainable Development Goals to create a better future for all.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Education:</strong></th>
<th>Through the Education Pillar, WE Villages brings long-term, sustainable education opportunities to communities that need it most. Some projects include building new schools, providing leadership programming and starting extracurricular school activities like health clubs. This Pillar aligns with SDG 4, to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water:</strong></td>
<td>The Water Pillar helps provide communities with clean water and education on sanitation, with projects such as building hand pumps and wells, and training. This Pillar aligns with SDG 6, to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health:</strong></td>
<td>With access to health care, communities can pull themselves out of the grip of chronic illness and eventually out of poverty. Through the Health Pillar, WE Villages helps communities by bringing programs like vaccinations to schools and teaching communities about hygiene. This Pillar aligns with SDG 3, to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Food:</strong></td>
<td>Food security is a complex issue that directly impacts a community’s health, access to education and livelihoods. Some of the projects that WE Villages helps support alongside communities include agriculture training and planting school gardens. This Pillar aligns with SDG 2, to end hunger by achieving food security, improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Opportunity:</strong></td>
<td>Through the Opportunity Pillar, WE Villages can help empower communities with the tools they need to lift themselves out of poverty. Some projects include vocational training, business and financial literacy workshops, and clubs. This Pillar aligns with SDG 8, to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit [WE.org/weleadforchange](https://WE.org/weleadforchange) for more information on how you can get involved.
How can you support the SDGs with WE?

No matter what you are passionate about, there is an SDG that you can apply to it. Select an issue and an SDG that you are passionate about, and plan your actions. WE Schools makes it easy to combine your passions and the SDGs into one action. Here are some ways you can get started:

1. Use the WE Villages Classroom Resource. This was developed to help educators introduce students to the concept of human rights and sustainable development through WE Charity’s own history and sustainable development model, and its connections with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

   Educators will have the opportunity to engage students from grades 1 to 12 with the lessons and activities found inside the resource, including topics on needs and wants, and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

2. Take action through WE Schools service-learning action campaigns such as:

   - **WE Go Green**: Commit to becoming more aware of the impact you have on the environment, how you can shift your everyday choices to be more sustainable and keeping the Earth green.

   - **WE Volunteer Now**: Choose an SDG you are passionate about, find an organization that you can help and take action by volunteering your time for your cause.

   - **WE Give Health**: Learn about the importance of health care and raise awareness on the health issues that impact communities worldwide.

3. Sign your school up for the WE Lead for Change Speaking Tour! The WE Lead for Change Speaking Tour is an SDG-focused speaking tour launching in 2018/19 across Canada and the U.S. It’s designed to teach youth and educators how to become leaders and take action in their local and global communities in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Made possible by Unilever. Learn more and register your school at [WE.org/weleadforchange](http://WE.org/weleadforchange).

Visit [WE.org/weleadforchange](http://WE.org/weleadforchange) for more information on how you can get involved.