



Game Begins for Sustainable Development Goals

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Heroes of the SDGs (SDG Challenge)



Type of The Game

Card Games



Target Groups

Young people and Youth Workers



Duration

60+ minutes

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Objectives

- Encourage participants to think creatively, innovatively, and critically in developing strategies to achieve the chosen SDGs.
- Promote understanding of the SDGs and their interconnectedness.
- Enhance participants' communication, cooperation, and teamwork skills.
- Provide a platform for participants to share ideas, receive feedback, and learn from each other's strategies.
- Foster sustainable and inclusive approaches in achieving the SDGs.

Materials needed

- SDG cards (with a variety of SDGs printed on them)
- Resource cards (with various resources and factors that can contribute to achieving the SDGs printed on them)
- Round table or a space where participants can gather and access the cards

Instructions

- Arrange the SDG cards and resource cards on a round table or in a space accessible to all participants.
- Explain to the participants that the objective of the game is to develop strategies to achieve the randomly chosen SDGs/targets using the resources they select.
- Participants choose one SDG card randomly and three resource cards randomly from the available options.
- Give participants 10 minutes to develop a strategy to achieve the chosen SDG/target using the selected resources. Encourage them to think about practical, sustainable, and inclusive approaches.
- After 10 minutes, each participant or group presents their strategy to achieve the chosen SDG. They should explain their approach, highlighting the resources they selected and how they will utilize them.
- Other participants provide feedback on whether they consider the strategy to be an "achievement" or not. If they agree that it is an achievement, they can simply

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acknowledge it. If they have rejections, they need to explain the reason behind their rejection.

- The facilitator acts as the final arbiter and decides if the strategy is deemed an achievement or not, considering the feedback and the objectives of the game.
- Participants then move on to the next round, selecting a new SDG card and three new resource cards. Repeat steps 4-7 for the subsequent rounds.
- Ideally, three rounds are recommended for small groups, allowing participants to explore multiple SDGs and resource combinations.
- Facilitate discussions after each round to reflect on the strategies developed, the feedback received, and the pros and cons of different approaches.
- Encourage participants to learn from each other's strategies and consider how they can be adapted or improved.
- Throughout the game, emphasize the importance of creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration in addressing the SDGs.

Tips for facilitator/adaptations/notes...

- Adjust the number of SDG and resource cards based on the group size and time available.
- Encourage participants to think outside the box and consider unconventional approaches to achieve the SDGs.
- Create a supportive and inclusive environment where participants feel comfortable sharing their ideas and receiving feedback.
- Prompt participants to consider the interlinkages between different SDGs and how strategies can address multiple goals simultaneously.
- Foster discussion and debate during the feedback phase to deepen participants' understanding of the challenges and complexities of achieving the SDGs.
- Consider incorporating additional prompts or constraints to challenge participants further or focus on specific aspects of the SDGs.
- Adapt the game to virtual settings by using online platforms for card selection and conducting discussions through video conferencing.



Useful links/further reading

- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

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