

SDG Roadshow 2018 for the UK

Making Global Goals Local Business – Liverpool

Event Report

MAKING GLOBAL GOALS LOCAL BUSINESS



Date: 1 October 2018

Location: Arup, Liverpool

Number of delegates: 65

Speakers:

Steve Kenzie, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network UK

Garry Banks, Director, Liverpool Office, Arup

Alison Ball, Associate Director, Sustainability, Arup

David McDiarmid, Corporate Relations Director, Princes

Carly Bilsbrough, Global Responsible Sourcing Manager, Shop Direct

Olivia Clark, Pro Bono Associate, DLA Piper

David Connor, Founder, 2030hub Liverpool

John Hall, Chief Executive, Professional Liverpool

Mike Riley, Head of Department of Built Environment, Liverpool John Moores University

SLIDES

AGENDA

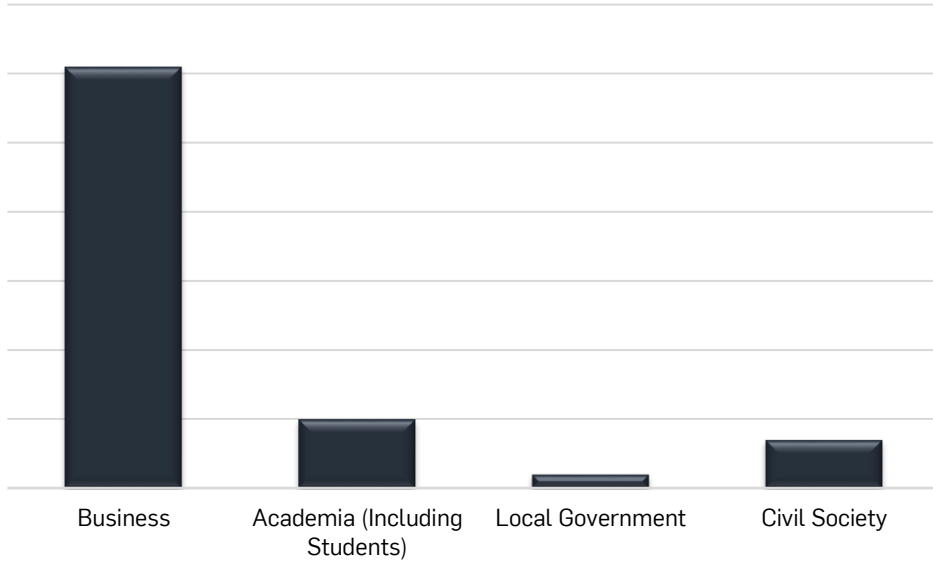
SDG Roadshow 2018: www.sdg-roadshow.org.uk

Contact us: secretariat@unglobalcompact.org.uk

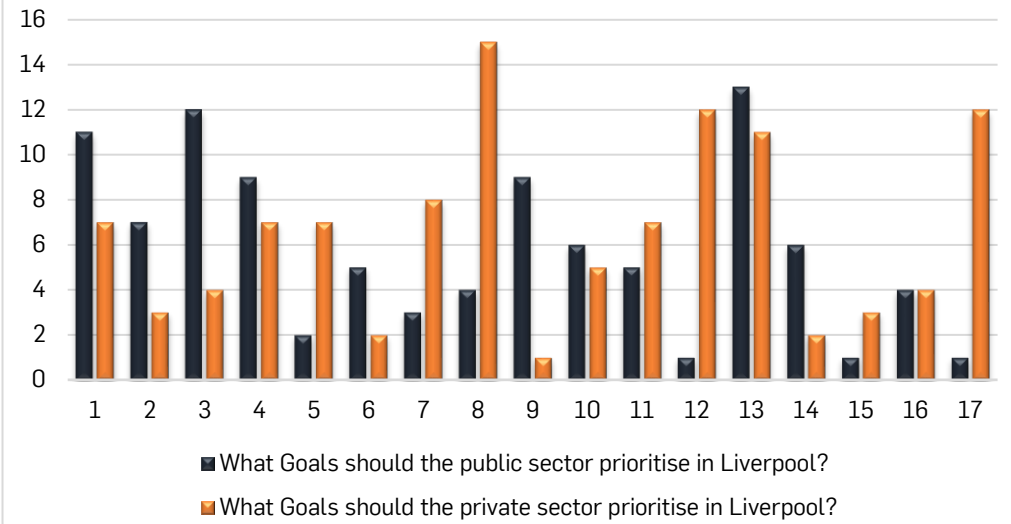
UN Global Compact's website: <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

UN Global Compact Network UK's website: <http://www.unglobalcompact.org.uk/>

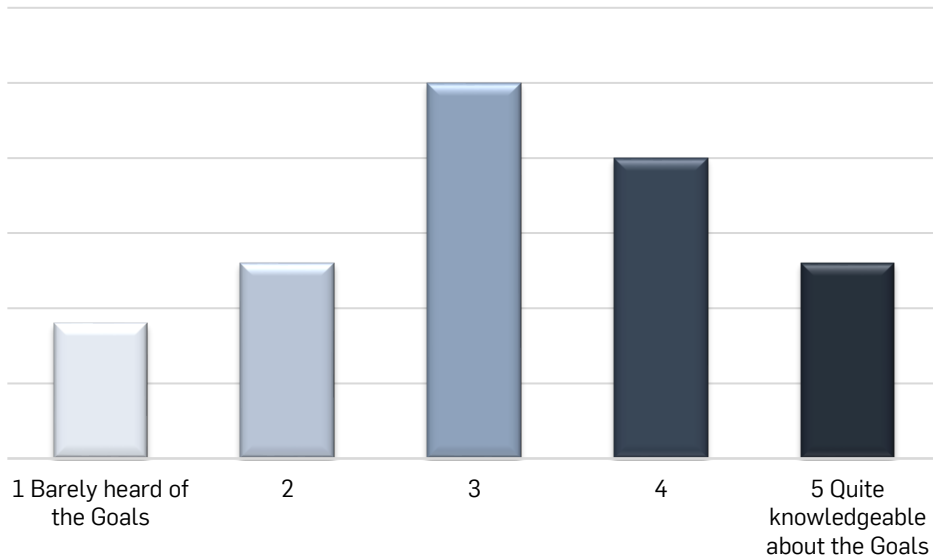
Audience breakdown



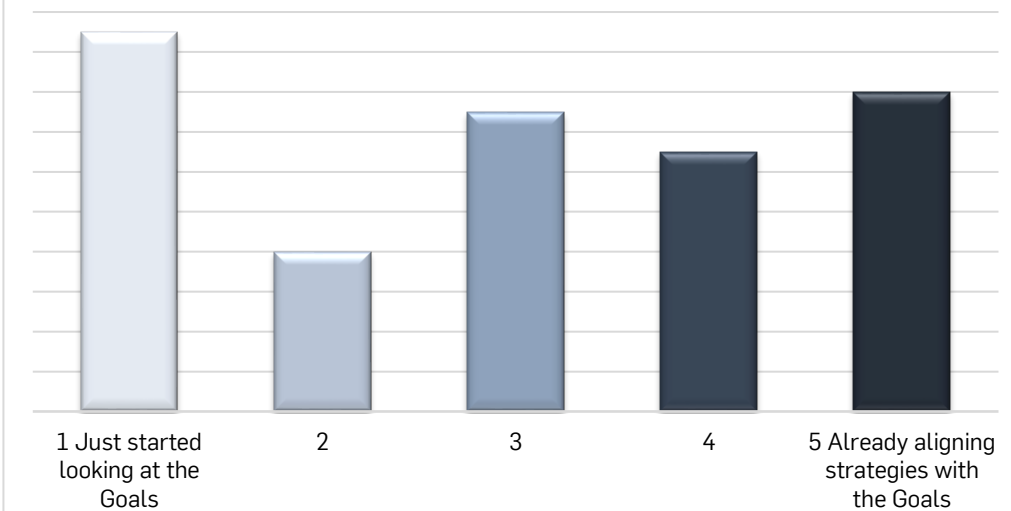
DOT Voting: Finding positions of strength



SDG awareness before the event



Level of engagement with the Global Goals



By attending Making Global Goals Local Business - Liverpool, delegates were able to develop an understanding of:

- What the Global Goals are.
- Why should businesses care about them.
- How can business contribute to achieving the Goals and benefit from doing so.

On Global Goals:

After the largest public consultation ever undertaken, the SDGs were adopted in 2015 by the UK and the other 192 Member States of the United Nations. At the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, they call for economic growth, innovation, circular economies and upgraded infrastructure, as well as providing a path to end extreme poverty, fight inequality, and protect the planet.

The Global Goals were hailed as a 'paradigm shift for people and planet' by former Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon. They are going to transform our world, and that transformation will create opportunities for new business models to deliver new products and services into new markets.

Every company (and every citizen) needs to understand this important global mega-trend!

Key insights from the event:

- The SDGs go far beyond traditional CSR. They are about maximising the value of solving societal problems.
- The Goals are bringing people together to act on sustainability.
- Although it is still early days, the awareness of this agenda in the UK is way too low.
- The Goals are Global but are very much relevant to local projects.

- This agenda should not be ignored as it will shape the future of business.
- The SDGs provide us with a lens to translate global needs and ambitions into business opportunities.
- Policy and investment will increasingly relate to the SDGs.
- The 17 SDGs are a useful framework to have conversations with stakeholders and make decisions on how to deliver on sustainable development.
- Taking action on the SDGs should not be seen as a cost, but as a long-term investment.
- Companies which are embedding the SDGs within business strategies will attract the best talents.
- In a circular economy, every stakeholder has responsibilities and must do its part.

- As it is a journey, not having all the answers is normal. The SDGs should be used to raise the right questions to shape the work going forward.
- If your organisation is already doing a good job on sustainability, the SDGs shouldn't come as a surprise.
- The first step is to look at what the company is doing already and map it against the SDGs. However, the process should not stop there. Then it is about understanding what can be changed and aligned to this agenda.
- Try to identify the SDG(s) on which you can have the greatest leverage.
- It is important that the internal staff is trained to understand these issues.
- It is key to measure and report progress against the SDGs.
- We need a range of disciplines coming together in order to come up with different and creative solutions to deliver on the Goals.
- Collaboration is crucial to achieve the SDGs as one can't do it in isolation.
- One existing challenge is to try to engage customers by being more transparent and pro-active.

- The ambition now is to turn Liverpool into global leaders in sustainability, by getting the great and the good of the city together. 2030hub Liverpool can be the platform for this.
- All the organisations that were in the room have the potential to make a big noise in Liverpool.

LINK TO THE SDGs

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



All the best with your SDG journey !

