

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS NETWORK PHILIPPINES

c/o Ateneo Institute of Sustainability
Selga Hall, 2/F Manila Observatory, Fr. Masterson Drive
Ateneo de Manila University, Katipunan Ave., 1108 Quezon City

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The Evolving Role of Universities in Sustainability

13 March 2023 (Monday) | 4:00-5:30pm (GMT+8:00) Escaler Hall, AdMU & via Zoom

Registration link: https://go.ateneo.edu/EvolvingRoleInSustainability

After decades of bringing sustainability to the forefront, the movement has finally reached a rapid acceleration of attention around the world. With the shift in the landscape, together with the clamor from stakeholders of businesses to operate responsibly, more and more organizations adopt sustainability practices into their supply chain and day-to-day operations.

A testament to this is the establishment of business functions in the form of strategic offices, committees, and officers dedicated to driving the vision for sustainability. Opportunities around environmental management, diversity and inclusion, supply chain management are set to grow and can encompass multiple business aspects, ranging from management, audit, assurance, reporting, communication, and public relations among others. As appropriate skills and knowledge are requisite to these opportunities, academic institutions play a pivotal role in equipping the current and future workforce with the competencies aligned with emerging career paths in sustainability.

With this context in mind, Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), Ateneo Institute of Sustainability (AIS) and John Gokongwei School of Management (JGSOM) of Ateneo de Manila University (AdMU), and Sustainable Development Solutions Network Philippines (SDSN PH) are partnering in organizing a public plenary entitled "The Evolving Role of Universities in Sustainability". Synergizing the efforts and leveraging the combined expertise of GRI, AdMU, and SDSN PH would create a platform to engage a wide network of stakeholders in meaningful dialogue that would aim to discuss how the sustainability agenda has become a material determinant of success across industries and organizations.

The public plenary briefly introduces what sustainability is about, the current landscape of the industry and where it is going. In his public plenary, Eelco van der Enden, CEO of GRI will highlight how the changing landscape of sustainability transformed the role of universities in sustainable development. With the fight against greenwashing, stakeholders demand greater accountability from investors, businesses, and governments and this movement is a subject the universities could actively partake in. The event also intends to encourage participants to look more closely at the right avenues and opportunities in sustainability business management and reporting. This will be followed by a fireside chat and panel discussion featuring experts in the industry and academe.



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Working Program Flow

Host and moderator: Daniele Coronacion

Regional Program Manager, GRI

Time	Segment	Speaker
3:30-4:00pm	Registration	-
4:00-4:10pm	Welcome	Daniele Coronacion Regional Program Manager, GRI
4:10-4:25pm	Keynote speech (in-person) Sustainability trajectory: What's in it for the Universities?	Eelco van der Enden, CEO, GRI
4:25-4:40pm	Fireside chat and Q&A with Eelco (in-person)	Dr. Maria Assunta Cuyegkeng Professor, Department of Educational Leadership and Management, Ateneo de Manila University
4:40-5:10pm	Panel discussion (online) Discussion points: How the business landscape changed for sustainability-related career opportunities How the university programs and curriculum changed State and challenges of universities in integrating sustainability Role of universities in government efforts on sustainability and reporting	Agnes de Jesus Chief Sustainability Officer, First Philippine Holdings Raelanie Loyola Business Development and Membership Manager, Business for Sustainable Development Dr. Gumilang Aryo Sahadewo Chairperson, ASEAN University Network for Business and Economics
5:10-5:25pm	Q&A with the audience (online)	
5:25-5:30pm	Closing remarks (in-person)	Dr. Allinnettes Go Adigue Head, ASEAN Regional Hub, GRI



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About the organizers

The **Sustainable Development Solutions Network Philippines** (<u>SDSN PH</u>) seeks to contribute to the attainment of the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) with collaborations among academic institutions, civil society, the business sector, the Philippine government, and international partners. Interested institutions may <u>apply</u> to join the continuously growing Philippine network.

The **Ateneo Institute of Sustainability** (AIS), now in its 10th year, is the University's hub to advance the sustainability agenda within the campus and beyond. AIS works together with likeminded individuals and organizations on various programs in campus sustainability, climate and disaster resilience, and the sustainable development goals.

The **John Gokongwei School of Management** (<u>IGSOM</u>) of Ateneo is in the business of developing people who see themselves looking for gaps in the marketplace. The mission of JGSOM is to shape its students into business leaders who can respond to the needs of tomorrow's world. One avenue for this is through offering graduate courses such as Masters of Science in Sustainability Management.

The **Global Reporting Initiative** (GRI) envisions a sustainable future enabled by transparency and open dialogue about impacts. This is a future in which reporting on impacts is a common practice by all organizations around the world. As the provider of the world's most widely used sustainability disclosure standards, GRI is a catalyst for that change.