



Top Action Tips

Academic librarians

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1: Strategize

Incorporate the [SDGs](#) into an academic library's strategic thinking.

2: Use existing resources

Identify, review, and re-use work of library associations addressing the SDGs, e.g. products and graphics produced by the [American Library Association](#) (ALA)'s SDG Task Force; and the [International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#) (IFLA)

3: Support SDG research

Identify and support campus researchers who are helping make the world a better place—just, healthy, inclusive and sustainable.

4: Share SDG strengths

Help institutions identify, celebrate and champion relevant research strengths. Share information about areas of SDG strengths with other libraries (local, national, regional, global).

5: Guide Users to SDG content

LibGuides are already used as a content management system in thousands of academic libraries, bringing together resources on a

particular topic. Many examples of up-to-date and excellent SDG LibGuides already exist e.g., [University of Michigan Library](#).

6: Curate SDG collections

Recruit and support campus and community members to create bespoke, curated collections related to SDGs. For example, (1) collaborate with a teacher of adult, immigrant English language students to invite and support the adult language learners in creating collections to offer the community introductions to different cultural knowledge and assets; (2) invite resource people knowledgeable in areas of interest to the campus & community to create collections based on their area of expertise.

7: Refine metadata

Promote Knowledge Democracy including elevating the voices of historically unrepresented communities in data processes. Facilitate/support diverse contributions toward producing more inclusive data, and informing policy making and programs for addressing pressing social issues in a more equitable manner.

8: Cultivate literacy

Create educational programming to advance literacy in all key SDG areas including information, data, media, and sustainability.

9: Walk the SDG walk

Align with campus sustainability initiatives. These exist on pretty much every campus, often thanks to the great work of students and dedicated staff who help us all see the university as a kind of laboratory where sustainability-friendly practices are encouraged.

Consider becoming a green library as defined (in 25 languages) by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutes (IFLA): <https://www.ifla.org/ifla-green-library-definition/>

10: Opt for open

Set the default to open: support open access, open source, open data, etc. Consider science as a global public good, view open science services as essential research infrastructures, governed and owned by the community and funded collectively. Incentivize open science practices among researchers. Invest in capacity building and human capital. [Review the UN's Open Science site.](#)

11: Convene

Facilitate open discussion of library's SDG policies among stakeholders e.g. collection specialists, students, researchers and other library users regarding strengths and gaps in library holdings pertinent to individual and collective achievement in particular SDGs and sustainability progress broadly.

12: Assess

Conduct user (and potential user) research to learn how library patrons go about seeking information on the SDGs.

13: Communicate

Share with potential users on campus and in the community the resources available to them regarding the SDGs. Encourage their exploration and use.