# Sustainable Development Goals in IS research: Opening the agenda beyond developing countries' research

*"The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice." (UN.org)*

The 17 UN Global Sustainable Development Goals (GSDG) aim to unite the world around problems and not regions or countries. This understanding has yet to influence the IS research that could also have a global reach. The advancement of technology including cloud computing, web 2.0 technology, mobile technology, virtualization and IoT among many others could open the door for new understanding of the IS discipline beyond the current division around developing and developed countries research. It provides an opportunity to closely engage with GSDG crossing traditional research chasms. New research could emerge that connects worlds, problems and solutions.

This SJIS Special Issue aims to bring the sustainability theme and the GSDG into the broader IS domain beyond being a developing countries concern. It is an opportunity to take a global perspective and for researchers to explore and openly discuss IS research on any of the GSDG topics despite the region of research. While context has proven to be important in IS research, a wider global consideration of this context could be fruitful in taking local context and connect it to others so problem sharing becomes more visible and solutions could be more sustainable. For example, connecting education technology in a country to providers in other countries, health systems in a country to health systems in another, or sellers of digital platforms in a country to platform owners, designers and buyers in other countries could be fruitful. Another focus could be on understanding the sustainability of systems, platforms and technologies, and IS practices. How sustainable an IS solution is in its local and global setting? And what is the impact of this solution? Research could also focus on the sustainability of data, algorithms, data centers, technological waste reduction effort

The SJIS Special Issue encourages fresh and risky ideas. It welcomes IS studies from all traditions and theoretical approaches.

Possible topics:

- Digital platforms and Algorithms
- Wearable and Apps-based computing
- Healthcare systems
- Education, legal and disaster management systems
- Information security and security technologies
- Crowdsourcing
- Information Infrastructure
- Digital humanitarian
- Technostress and mental health.

Possible areas:

- Education
- Gender equality
- Healthcare
- Fresh water and sanitation

- Identity management
- Refugees and marginalized groups
- Work and employment
- Environment and conservation

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