



Foreword from the Director

The Geneva Graduate Institute was founded in 1927 with a commitment to international collaboration for peace and with four main missions: research, teaching, expertise and engagement. Nearly a hundred years later, what has become clear is that peace will remain elusive, if not impossible, in our common future without the integration of a strong and systemic sustainability and equity agenda. This is the case at all levels of human coordination, from local communities to international and transnational arenas.

With this reality in mind, sustainability has become a guiding principle for the Institute – one that we are committed to deploy and systematize in the forthcoming years in all dimensions of our missions and activities. This second annual report of the Geneva Graduate Institute Sustainability Initiative shows how our aspiration for sustainability ideas are being implemented across many areas of our work by our large diversity of stakeholder groups.

Marie-Laure Salles

Contents

Initiative team members	4
Our strategy	5
TIS involvement in 2050Today	8
Carbon footprint	9
1- Teaching, Research and Policy Outreach	9
1.1 Interdisciplinary Program	9
1.2 Executive Education Programmes	10
1.3 Research	11
1.3.1 The Centre for International Environmental Studies	11
1.3.2 The Swiss Lab for Sustainable Finance	13
1.3.3 Forum on Trade, Environment & the SDG's	14
2. Communication	15
2.1 Selected Public Events	15
2.2 The Geneva Challenge 2022	18
2.3 Sustainability Awards 2022	20
2.4 Alumna Community	21
2.5 Sustainability Week 2022	22
3. A Sustainable Campus	25
3.1 Green spaces, Biodiversity and Well Being	25
3.2 Waste Policy	28
3.3 Travel and Mobility	28

Initiative Team Members

- Joëlle Noailly, Head of Research, CIES, International Economics, Co-facilitator of the Initiative
- Carine Leu, Head of Alumni Relations and Professional Networks, Co-facilitator of the Initiative
- Cécile de Gardelle, Initiative Coordinator
- Guillemette Carlucci, Executive Education, Portfolio Manager
- Aline Dimitriou Cruz, Senior Career Services Adviser
- Jeanne Cordy, Master Student, Member of the Environment Committee
- Camille Darbo, Master Student, Member of the Environment Committee
- Claire Francioli, Programme Assistant for our Executive Education programmes on Development Policies and Practices
- David Gaymard, Director of Real Estate
- Dan Graham, Head of Communications
- James Hollway, Associate Professor, International Relations, Political Science
- Marc Le Hénanf, Librarian
- Simon Lobach, PhD Student
- Livio Miles Silva Muller, PhD Student
- Varun Paresh Vitahlani, Master Student, the Environment Committee
- Emmeline Perreve, Master Student, Member of the Environment Committee
- Anne Saab, Associate Professor, International Law
- Vanessa Valerio, Project Manager and Assistant to the Administrative Director
- Achim Wennmann, Director of Strategic Partnerships

Guiding Principles

The Geneva Graduate Institute Charter established in 2021 defines the Institute's wide mission and vision:

Vision

A pioneer in the exploration of global issues, the Geneva Graduate Institute opens creative spaces for diverse communities and fosters the understanding and engagement essential to a peaceful, equitable and sustainable world.

Mission

Located in the heart of International Geneva, we produce and share academic knowledge and expertise on international relations, development issues, global challenges and governance. Through a combination of scientific excellence, transdisciplinarity, and critical thinking, we nurture students and professionals to become decision makers on the global stage. We equip them with the competences, confidence, and sense of responsibility necessary to drive positive transformation.

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Sustainability implies striving for building a green, peaceful, and equitable world for current and future living communities.

We aim to integrate considerations of sustainability in research questions, teaching objectives, engagement projects, our daily lives in Geneva and around the world.

Our actions are driven by a sense of responsible and authentic leadership for positive transformation.

The Target Initiative on Sustainability

Due to 2050 Today carbon footprint methodology change in 2022, we will publish our carbon footprint at a later stage.

Established in 2021, the initiative aims to promote and integrate areas of sustainability in all areas of interest of the Institute:

- In research questions,
- Objects of teaching,
- Projects of engagement,
- In our daily lives, in Geneva and the world.

In 2022 18 initiative members worked together to define a Strategic Plan to be implemented from 2023 to 2027.

Our strategic plan main pillars are:

1. TEACHING, RESEARCH & POLICY OUTREACH

Objective 1: Embed sustainability across our teaching curriculum; develop expertise and provide teaching resources on sustainability.

Objective 2: Promote and raise awareness about sustainability careers — Increase knowledge and visibility about green skills and green jobs for students.

Objective 3: Strengthen and promote our executive education courses on sustainability issues.

Objective 4: Support research that actively engages policy makers and stakeholders in the co-production of knowledge and research on sustainability. Foster the creation of communities on cross-cutting issues of environment, climate change, and sustainability.

Objective 5: Make sustainability research more visible to enhance coordination among researchers.

Objective 6: Enhance and share information on research funding and philanthropic support on sustainability issues.

Objective 7: Identify guidelines for sustainable research practices.

2. COMMUNICATION, ENGAGEMENT & VISIBILITY

Objective 1: Promote and support engagement and dialogue within our community on sustainability issues.

Objective 2: Increase the visibility of sustainability issues at the Institute.

4. TRAVEL AND MOBILITY

Objective 1: Reduce our greenhouse gas emissions significantly from professional travel.

Objective 2: Improve data collection and monitoring of mobility-related greenhouse gas emissions.

Objective 3: Improve infrastructure towards low-emission mobility.

Objective 4: Encourage behavioral change towards low-carbon mobility.

5. GREEN SPACES & BIODIVERSITY

Objective 1: Support and promote the Community Garden.

Objective 2: Create more green areas at the Institute and Students' Residences.

6. SOCIAL POLICY & WORK CONDITIONS

Objective: Ensure attractive, motivating and healthy working conditions.

7. FINANCE & INVESTMENT

Objective: Ensure that the Institute's investments are aligned with sustainability goals.

8. FOOD

Objective 1: Raise significantly the share of vegetarian meals purchased at the cafeteria.

Objective 2: Raise the share of local products offered at the cafeteria.

Objective 3: Raise awareness about the carbon footprint of food.

Objective 4: Seek alternatives to Nespresso coffee that are fair trade, organic and without capsules.

9. RECYCLING & WASTE

Objective 1: Increase recycling facilities and reduce the amount of waste that is not recycled.

Objective 2: Raise awareness of our community about recycling facilities and behavior.

Objective 3: Commit to engage and Implement actions based on the Green IT charter.

10. ENERGY

Objective 1: Reduce our greenhouse gas emissions resulting from heating and electricity (Scope 1 emissions).

Objective 2: Develop a roadmap to improve our carbon footprint and assess the feasibility of net zero goals.

Objective 3: Raise awareness of our community on reducing energy use in buildings.

11. SUSTAINABLE IT

Objective 1: Raising awareness about sustainable IT.

Objective 2: Planning data archiving and cleaning.

Sustainability initiative involvement with 2050Today



In 2022, The Institute continued to work with 2050Today towards the aspiration of becoming closer to zero net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.



The Institute has been participating in the respective working groups.

ENERGY – Martin Patel, Energy Efficiency Professor at UNIGE, explained how the project 100 Sustainable Buildings for International Geneva will bring forward change by the development of smart buildings, connection to the Genilac grid and the advancement of a solar energy program within the International Geneva’s buildings.

MOBILITY – Christelle Charat, Director the Geneva Transportation Office, described the program New Paradigms for Mobility and how it will develop a generation of user-centric and socially accepted soft mobility and low footprint solutions.

FOOD – Oriah Kaspi, Senior Manager at Beelong, presented how institutions can affect climate change through the food consumed by their employees. The program Food for a Sustainable Planet will reduce this impact signifi-

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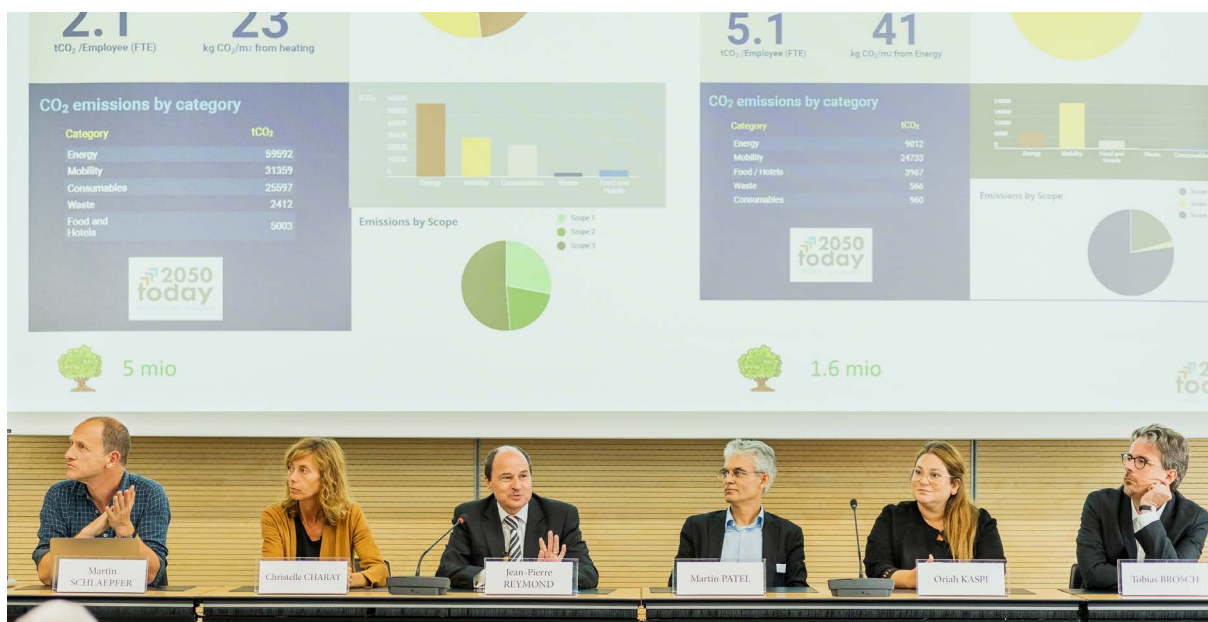
In the face of the climate emergency, let us all be bold, quick, responsible and exemplary, because business as usual is no longer an option. Through our actions, International Geneva can be a symbol of an urgent, resolute and united implementation of the ecological transition.

Jean-Pierre Reymond, 2050Today Executive Director

cantly (up to 50%) by implementing concrete actions and changing the behaviors of individuals.

BIODIVERSITY – Martin Schlaepfer, Ecosystem Services Senior Lecture at UNIGE, presented the project Biodiversity Gardens where members can apply various measures within their properties, such as green roofs and walls and management of green spaces and permeable surfaces. With these concrete steps, we can demonstrate our readiness to implement the actions we have negotiated in legal instruments

PSYCHOLOGY – Tobias Brosch, Consumer Decision and Sustainable Behavior Professor at UNIGE, explained how the human factor, i.e., any deviation from rational-choice models of behavior, should not be overlooked. Behavioral interventions and insights about human decision-making will inform and optimize the strategies developed in all projects.



1. Teaching, Research and Policy Outreach

1,141
students enrolled

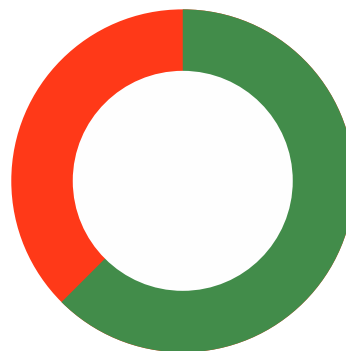
~100
nationalities represented

1,678
applications

~100
admissions in 2022

785
master students

356
PhD students



62%
women
38%
men

1.1 Interdisciplinary Program

Given its educational mission, the Geneva Graduate Institute strives to ensure that students are familiar with the most important principles and concepts of sustainable development and can incorporate them into their actions during their future professional and private lives. Due to its unique position in the international hub of Geneva, the Geneva Graduate Institute offers a very large range of high-quality courses on SDG-related issues.

Our flagship program, the Interdisciplinary Master Program offers courses along seven specialized tracks linked to SDG topics.

- ▶ Conflict, Peace and Security;
- ▶ Environment and Sustainability;
- ▶ Gender, Race and Diversity;
- ▶ Human Rights and Humanitarianism;
- ▶ Mobilities, Migrations and Boundaries;
- ▶ Sustainable Trade and Finance;
- ▶ Global Health.



97 MINT students were part of the Environment, Resources and Sustainability specialisation in the Spring semester 2022:

- 63 MINT as their main specialization (38 MDEV and 25 MIA)
- 31 MINT students chose it as their second specialization (14 MDEV and 17 MIA)



34 MINT students were part of the Environment, Resources and Sustainability specialisation in the Fall semester 2022 (MIA and MDEV distinction no longer exists).

10 Applied Research projects (ARP) on environmental topics

Applied Research projects bring together groups of students from the Geneva Graduate Institute with partners from diverse sectors of International Geneva to conduct innovative research that addresses real-world challenges.

1.2 Executive Education Programmes

Examples of courses offered in 2022 within our Executive Education Programs:

The Geneva Graduate Institute Executive Education programmes leverage the Institute's cutting-edge research, responsible policy engagement, and trusted voice on international affairs to drive inclusive growth for sustainable impact. Our expertise on sustainability issues spans across most of our programmes, some of which are highlighted below:

- ▶ **Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Environmental Governance:** This degree-granting programme offers two modules of eight days each covering the fundamentals of global environmental governance, and with particular focus on the themes of food, climate change, water, energy, and human rights.
- ▶ **LL.M. in International Law:** This is a one-year postgraduate degree programme that provides

advanced, comprehensive and practice-oriented training in international law. The programme offers students the possibility to choose a concentration stream in International Environmental Law.

- ▶ **Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) in Sustainable Finance and Development:** The MAS (60 ECTS) is a one-year postgraduate degree programme that provides advanced, broad-ranging and practice-oriented training. The programme aims to provide core foundations on the sustainable finance system and on how finance can be used to achieve SDGs. The first took edition will take place in 2022.
- ▶ **CAS in SDG Investing:** This programme aims at fulfilling a growing and pressing need – making finance more sustainable, and bringing more finance into the SDGs-driven initiatives. The programme launched in 2019 is organised in two modules of eight-days each.



1.3 Research

The Geneva Graduate Institute hosts 8 Research Centres working on SDG-related themes:

[Centre on Conflict, Development & Peacebuilding](#)

[Centre for Finance and Development](#)

[Centre for International Environmental Studies](#)

[Global Migration Centre](#)

[Centre for Trade and Economic Integration](#)

[Gender Centre](#)

[Global Health Centre](#)

[Albert Hirschman Centre on Democracy](#)

[Global Governance Centre](#)

Activities and academic publications of each centre can be found on the websites of each respective centre. In the following we describe a few highlights of the year 2022.

1.3.1 The Centre for International Environmental Studies



From left to right: Shaila Seshia Galvin, Andhina Irminger, Denis Ruyschaert, Marc Hufty, Liliana Andonova, Romina Pezzot, Imelda, Filipe Calvão, Joëlle Noailly, Timothy Swanson, Isabel Garcia-Godoy, Susanna Hecht, Marianna Fernandes, Feiyang Shi, Pedro Cayul.

Major accomplishments and developments

12

Research projects

85

Publications

53

CIES members

8M

Research funding

28

Public events & seminars

13

Executive education courses

22

Media appearances

3601

Mailing list subscribers



396 Twitter followers



2096 LinkedIn followers



628 Facebook followers

New CIES projects awarded in 2022 :

Emotions and International Law

Anne Saab as the Principal Investigator ran a case study on fear and anxiety in international environmental law and food safety regulations. A Postdoc Researcher in the International Law Department ran a case study on empathy, compassion, and dignity in the use of artificial intelligence in warfare. A PhD researcher was recruited in the International Law Department will run a case study on stigma, shame, and guilt in combating infectious diseases in global health law.

The overall objective of the project was to create a new space for academic reflection by examining the reciprocal influence of emotions on international law and of international law on emotions.

Critical Minerals and the Clean Energy Transition

A major obstacle to the energy transition often overlooked is the critical reliance of future energy systems on a few essential minerals, such as lithium, nickel, cobalt or rare earths elements, vital to the production of batteries, wind turbines and solar cells. Joëlle Noailly will examine policy solutions to mitigate disruptions in the supply of critical minerals via an exploration of the geopolitical and environmental challenges posed by the mining and extraction of critical minerals.

The project, based at the Centre for International Environmental Studies, is a collaboration with VU Amsterdam and includes academic and policy partners from the University of Geneva, the Colorado School of Mines, the World Bank and WIPO.

1.3.2 The Swiss Lab for Sustainable Finance (SL4SF)

The SL4SF is a multistakeholder partnership with members from academia, international organisations, the Swiss government, and the sustainable finance community in Switzerland.

Since the summer of 2022, SL4SF researchers have been working jointly with the world's largest impact investor, the International Finance Corporation (IFC), and UNIGE's Geneva Finance Research Institute (GFRI), a world leader for Sustainable Finance research in order to assess the current state of the art in the ESG reporting of firms and the impact measurement practices of investors.

The project on "impact measurement" is led academically by UNIGE's GFRI Professor Rajna Gibson-Brandon. The research team from the IFC includes Dr. Camilo Mondragon-Velez, Head of IFC's Modeling Team, as well as Paulomi Mehta, Research Analyst at the IFC; and from the SL4SF, Managing Director, Dr. Melita Leousi and Geneva Graduate Institute Ph.D. student, Matteo Ficarra; as well as students associated with the respective institutions.

This research project proposes a roadmap to bridge the gap between ESG and impact measurement and reporting using a comparable impact methodology that will promote transparency and integrity for investors and, importantly, society and the environment.



► Building Bridges 2022

On October 6th 2022, in the context of the Building Bridges week, SL4SF convened a session entitled "Sustainability and impact measurement and reporting". The panelists were Mr. Christoph Baumann (SIF), Mr. Roland Dominice (Symiotics), Professor Rajna Gibson Brandon (UNIGE), Dr. Camilo Mondragon Velez (IFC), Mr. Patrick Odier (Building Bridges) and Mr. Ivan Pictet (Fondation Pictet pour le Développement). The session was moderated by Professor Nathan Sussman (Geneva Graduate Institute).



“

The current system of how value is created and distributed has led to massive environmental damage, economic and social inequality, and corruption. We need, thus, to factor in not only financial returns but also human, social, and natural capital.



Professor Rajna Gibson Brandon

"Impact investors and firms seem to use different approaches to measure and report on their sustainability achievements, in this ambitious research project jointly led by the SL4SF/GFRI/IFC we aim at fostering reliable and comprehensive impact metrics for investors and to propose a roadmap to bridge the gap and foster convergence between firms and investors' sustainability measurement and reporting frameworks."

Rajna Gibson Brandon
Professor of Finance, UNIGE;
Deputy Director, GFRI;
Member of SL4SF
and the SNB Bank Council

1.3.3 Forum on Trade, Environment & the SDG's, TESS

Trade policies have a vital role to play in tackling the triple planetary crisis of climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss. TESS was launched in 2021 to support a trading system that addresses global environmental crises and advances the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Achievements

- ▶ TESS continued in 2022 to play a pivotal role in the forging a Coalition of Trade Ministers on Climate Action.
- ▶ TESS played a leadership role in the creation of the WTO's member-led initiatives on environmental sustainability and trade, and on plastic pollution. TESS continues to play a key role "behind the scenes" supporting the efforts of governments to forge cooperation at the WTO on topics such as promoting trade in goods and services vital to climate action, trade-related climate measures, circular economy, and sustainable agriculture. TESS is particularly recognized as playing a key role in supporting the engagement of developing countries in these discussions.
- ▶ TESS Director Carolyn Deere Birkbeck was invited to moderate two high-level UN events at the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27)

with senior officials and experts on the relevance of sustainable trade to climate action, and links between the plastics and climate crises.

TESS

- ▶ TESS established an International Expert Group of climate and trade scholars to prepare guidance for policymaking on principles and considerations from international law for the design and implementation of trade-related climate measures.

TESS was invited to issue a statement at the open-ended working group meetings to prepare for a UN intergovernmental negotiating committee for an international agreement on plastic pollution.

Activities (August 2021 – December 2022)

- ▶ 68 events organized involving 24 partner organizations, including from developing countries.
- ▶ 62 interventions as speakers in events organized by third parties.
- ▶ 18 contributions to expert meetings and working groups.
- ▶ 14 publications released.

“

At UNEP, we are delighted to partner with the Graduate Institute to foster multilateral cooperation on the trade and trade policies needed to promote green economies and sustainable development.

Steven Stone,
Chief, Resources and Markets Branch,
Economy Division, UNEP

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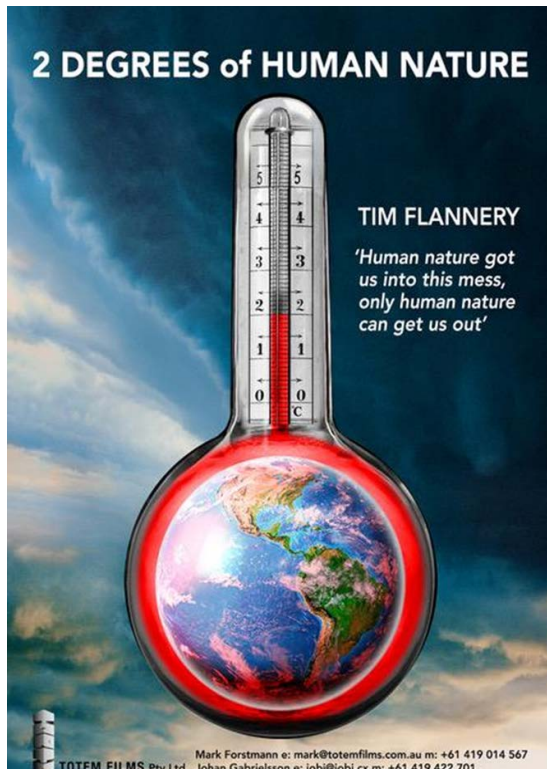
By connecting the dots and focusing on inclusive, strategic dialogue, TESS aims to add value to the growing work of a dynamic set of actors in trade, sustainability and global governance. We hope that you will join us.

Carolyn Deere Birkbeck
The founding Director of TESS

2. Communication & Engagement

As actors of the world we want the Institute's community – from students to alumni – to be engaged in sustainability actions with a broad potential for positive transformation.

The Institute supports many public events as well as several initiatives to reward and promote concrete actions and engagement on sustainability.



2.1 Selected Public Events

2 Degrees of Human Nature: A Search for Climate Leadership follows Professor Tim Flannery as he investigates how the politics of the global climate change negotiations determines our planet's future. In the film, Flannery enters dialogue with communities: from landowners, workers, fossil fuel companies to the government. In doing so the film starts an ongoing dialogue with society.

- ▶ Audience: 55 in person
- ▶ Registration: 151
- ▶ Speaker: Tim Flannery, Fondation Segré Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Geneva Graduate Institute
- ▶ In collaboration with the CIES



Demain Genève is the story of a group of young people who, fascinated by the documentary DEMAIN, wonder if such solutions exist near their homes. Knowing neither the environmental and social challenges their city is facing, nor the initiatives in the region, they decide to meet experts and sustainable project leaders, and invite you to share their adventure.

Strongly inspired by the documentary by Mélanie Laurent and Cyril Dion released in 2015, "Demain Genève" offers a

positive vision of the future, a glimpse of what our region could look like tomorrow.

- ▶ Registrations: 131
- ▶ Audience: 100+ in-person
- ▶ Speaker: Grégory Chollet, Co-Director of "Demain Genève"
- ▶ In collaboration with the CIES

Sustainability Initiative Days - 17-21 October 2022

To celebrate the launch of the Sustainability Initiative Report 2021, the Centre for International Environmental Studies (CIES), the MINT programme and the direction organised a series of events dedicated to better promote awareness on sustainability issues at the institute.

Photo Exhibit

Eddy Mottaz's "Mythologies Alpestres" exhibit at the Institute in the Kogler Hall from September 21st to October 24th.

In a more artistic than militant approach, the photographer from Le Temps fell in love with these desert areas that have become symbols of global warming. Without lecturing, he lets the mountains do the talking.

Meditation and Reconnection

Reconnection to oneself, others, and nature. Based on Mindfulness meditation and deep ecology exercises with a facilitateur TQR membre de Ressource Mindfulness



Feedback

“

The Meditation and Reconnection workshop was wonderful! Our super-knowledgeable guide led us through a series of exercises that helped me feel grounded and present and opened space to reflect on our relationship with nature. I would recommend this workshop to anyone in need of a breath of fresh air — literally and mentally — and sincerely hope I get to participate in another one soon!

Jessica, 2nd year MIA student

“

This meditation workshop, which effectively contained only a couple of minutes of sitting meditation, was an enriching experience that I want to repeat and share with others. Through a couple of exercises, the friendly and engaging instructor guided us to reconnect with ourselves, our environment and others. Bare-footed with the sun on my face, I felt more centered, calm, and in connection with the world than I had felt in a long time. I hope that I will have the opportunity to try the longer version of this workshop soon.

Jeanne, 2nd year MDev student



Repair my Bike Workshop

The professionals of La bicyclette bleue helped repair and showed our community members how to best take care of your bike themselves

“

Interesting to review the connections between all climatic events as well as their interactions with human actions. It was also the opportunity to work in small groups in a very positive atmosphere!

Emmeline, MINT 1st year

“

*It's amazing! I loved it!
Learning and drawing!*

Yang, MINT 1st year

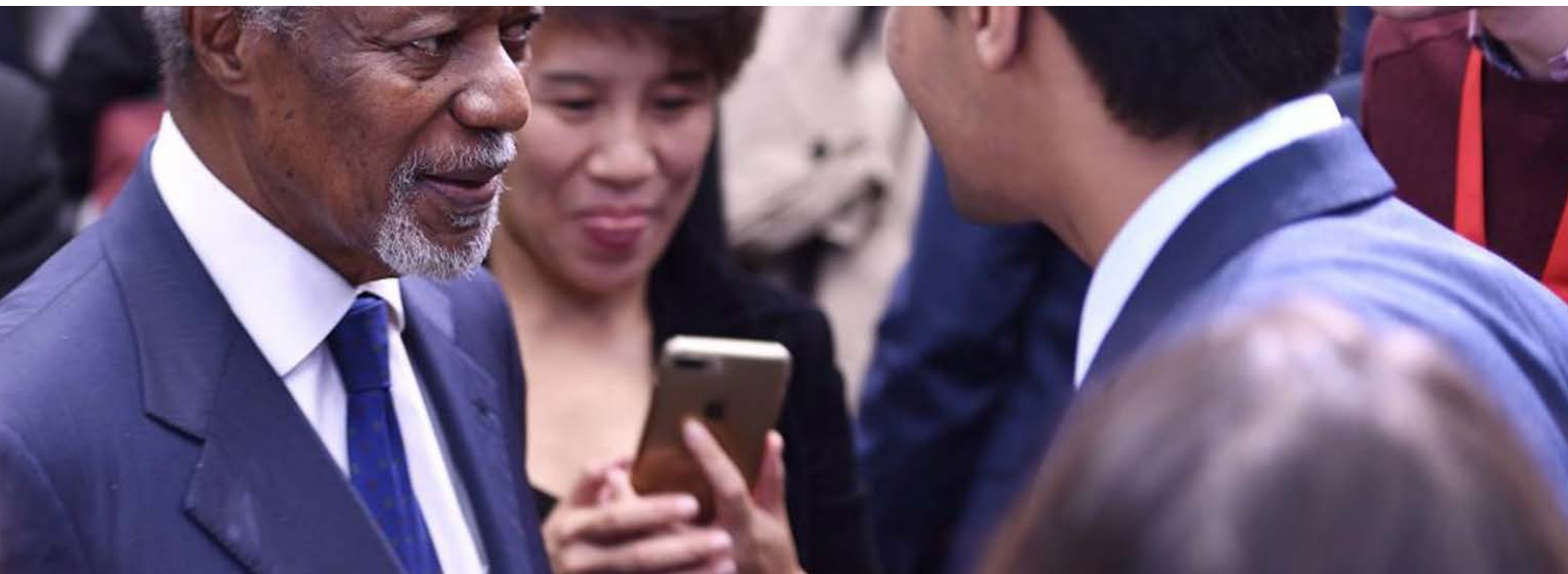
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Mapping out the whole system really helps to see the interactions among the elements. Though we may not make a systematic impact right now, we'll change bit by bit, through our everyday activities.

Ashley, MINT 1st year



2.2 The Geneva Challenge 2022



The 2022 Advancing Development Goals International Contest for Graduate Students aims to present innovative and pragmatic solutions to address the challenges of poverty reduction. The 2022 Edition was focused on the Challenges of Poverty Reduction, and two first prizes were awarded ex aequo.

Team from Africa

JACCA Agro-Warehouse Integrated Solutions : Sustainable Agriculture has been identified by the World Bank and the United Nations as a veritable tool for alleviating rural poverty, as agriculture is the major source of livelihood for the majority in rural settlements. Poor Agro-food value chain magnified by exploitative activities of middlemen is the major limitation to the profitability of rural farmers. JACCA Agro-Warehouse Integrated Solutions seeks to address this challenge by providing warehousing and storage facilities to reduce post-harvest losses and mitigate marketing challenges: serving as a node linking rural farmers with urban markets and subsequently, international markets. Through digitalisation, our warehouse receipt solution is designed to engage stakeholders in a transparent system of direct trade.

JACCA Agro-Warehouse Integrated Solutions is to be piloted in the North-West of Cameroon; it is designed to be scalable to the entire sub-Saharan Africa and it can also be assimilated by other regions comparable to Africa like rural Asia and rural Australia.



ChidinmaLucy UKA, Ayanfeoluwa Oluwanifemi AKINBOLA, Rodrigue Jinyuy BIRKA, Chimwemwe Nalwesya CHIBUYE & Eric Appiah ATIEMO

Team from Europe

Project Connect: The first step out of poverty and mitigation of social inequality could be the improved penetration of the welfare schemes already in place. We propose a simple solution whereby the government high school students of the local community in India will identify eligible but unenrolled individuals and provide them information about welfare schemes during household visits. This will be done over two months voluntarily as a summer internship. For carrying out this activity the students will be provided training at the school by teachers based on the training modules created by us.

We aim to implement this project in two districts in the state of Jharkhand, India because it has the second-highest poverty headcount ratio and has hundreds of welfare schemes with low enrolment rates.



Amit Kumar Mehto, Agnes Laurens, Saurabh Mamtani & Sohee Kim

2.3 Sustainability Awards 2022



The Sustainability Awards recognise the outstanding achievement of an alumna / alumnus in the field of sustainability, with particular emphasis on achieving a significant impact, raising awareness and influencing change,

who have won honours in their field or who have been recognised nationally or internationally. In 2022, the award was attributed to Patricia Espinosa.

UN appointed alumna as climate chief in 2016

Patricia Espinosa (Master in International Law, 1987) chosen by Ban Ki-moon as the UN’s new leader for climate change.

Patricia Espinosa (Master in International Law, 1987), Mexican ambassador to Germany, has been appointed Secretary Executive for the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Ms. Espinosa has more than 30 years of experience at highest levels in international relations, specialising in climate change, global governance, sustainable development and protection of human rights.

According to sources, her election is due to her outstanding work during the UN Climate Change Conferences in Paris, in 2016 (COP21) and Cancun in 2010 (COP16). Now that a UN climate deal has been agreed, her role will be to negotiate the rulebook and put it into action, during a three year mandate, together with UN member states.

Teresa Ribera, former Secretary of State for Climate Change, Government of Spain, says by electing Ms Espinosa, the UN will be presenting Mexico as a key multilateral actor, which amongst climate negotiations “plays an important pathway between industrialised countries and developing countries”.



Patricia Espinosa Cantellano, Mexican diplomat, Executive secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2016-2022) received the Sustainable Award

2.4 Alumna Community

Advanced Performance for Equity - was born in 2012 when Jeanne von Segesser (MIA 2008) went back for a second time to Vietnam, where she traces half of her ethnic origins, to establish a local artisan's network.

Jeanne began travelling the world when she started university, discovering her love for handcrafted products as well as similarities between handcrafted patterns around the world. She went to South and Central America, Africa and Asia, discovering Vietnam for the first time in 2006. The idea of creating a network combining the handcrafted products of diverse ethical minorities with the local know-how of the artisans stemmed from these voyages.

The idea deepened throughout her Master studies in International Relations at the Graduate Institute Geneva in 2008, with specialisation in sustainable development, and during professional experiences in multinational firms in fields such as fashion, events and marketing.

In May 2012, merging her ideas and passions with local craftsmanship, she created a global online retail platform with tailor-made products handcrafted by local artisans from all over Vietnam. By promoting the products featured



Jeanne von Segesser

on *apesigned*, the label hopes to shine a light on the rare artistry found in Vietnamese culture and to stimulate local economies in an equitable and sustainable way.

The word *apesigned* means signed by an ape and is a reference to our origins and the nature we all come from and which we should respect, while the abbreviation ape in the pictogram stands for «Advanced Performance for Equity».

After establishing the on-line platform to increase visibility and fuse artisanal know-how with actual fashion trends, *apesigned*'s next step is to collaborate with small firms producing ecological and sustainable fabrics.



2.5 Sustainability Week 2022

The 2022 Sustainability Week Geneva was a week-long series of events designed to raise awareness among students about environmental issues, promote climate action and to foster discussions about solutions for a greener future.

The week brought together students, experts, and the community to learn about and discuss important issues related to sustainability. The Sustainability Week Geneva 2022 was organised by the Environmental Committee (EC) of the Geneva Graduate Institute in collaboration with the University of Geneva (UNIGE) and took place in March 2022.



More than 300 participants attended events and activities during the week.

The week began with an insect tasting on Wednesday, which provided students with the opportunity to learn about sustainable alternative proteins and sample a variety of food-grade insects. The event was further enhanced by the participation of a local Swiss organic edible insect producer, Entomos, which generously donated tasty treats for attendees to sample. Additionally, the cafeteria offered a selection of insect protein-based meals.

On the same day, the panel discussion "Between Glasgow and Sharm el-Sheikh: The Impacts of COP26 Five Months On" was held, featuring experts such as Sandeep Sengupta, Eric Usher, Professor Liliana Andonova, and Lydie-Line Paroz. The discussion delved into the opportunities and challenges that international climate change policy faces in the lead-up to COP27.

Later in the evening, the event "Facing the Desert, Cultivating Resilience" was a key component of Sustainability Week Geneva. The panel discussion, which featured Yacouba Sawadogo, Loukmane Sawadogo, Dr. Christophe Gironde, Dr. Charlotte Pavageau, René Longet, Dr. Damien Deville, Francois Gicqueau, and Julian Tugwell, examined the practical implementation of agroecology in projects aimed at fortifying the resilience of food systems.

The following day, the Environmental Career Fair was held online, featuring a collection of international organizations that are dedicated to environmental and sustainability issues. The event provided students with an opportunity to learn about potential career prospects and interact with representatives from the World Economic Forum, International Institute for Sustainable Development, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, the Geneva SDG Solution Space, Alphamundi Group Ltd., United Nations Environment Programme, Geneva Environment Network, Symbiotics, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and Centre for International Environmental Studies.



In the afternoon, the Bee-Friendly Gardening Workshop was held, providing students with hands-on experience that encouraged their participation in creating a healthy habitat for bees. At the Grand Morillon Student Residence, students replanted the community garden with a variety of fruits, vegetables, and herbs, and seeded it with local bee-attracting flowers to enhance the pollination ecosystem.

Later in the evening, the panel discussion on Degrowth delved into the concept of degrowth and its relationship to a sustainable future. The panel was composed of experts including Elena Hofferberth, Daniel Akinmade Emejulu and Richard Bridle, moderated by Matthew Archer who engaged in a lively debate on the topic, aimed at better understanding about degrowth and exploring the actions

taken thus far to promote a transition towards a more sustainable reality.

Another significant event, "Private Climate Action - Adequacy & Compliance", discussed the subject of ensuring adequate corporate CO2 reporting and reduction. The panel featured experts such as Anna Stanley, Climate Action Director at the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), Julia Bewerunge, Team Lead Financial Services at Climate Partner, Lea Fink, Global Senior Manager at the Carbon Disclosure Project.

On Friday, the panel discussion "Moving Money to Impact: The Role of Finance in Achieving the SDGs" delved into the crucial role of finance in facilitating sustainable development. The speakers, ranging from diverse sectors, expounded upon the concepts of sustainable finance and impact investing, and their contributions to positive social and environmental outcomes, as well as the respective roles of the private and public sectors.

The event "Wrapping Up Sustainability Week on a Positive Note: The Path Forward" included speakers from a variety of sectors, who shared their perspectives on current climate and sustainability action. Students were given the opportunity to gain insights into the positive impact that the public sector, private sector, NGOs, and academia are making, and to understand the interconnectedness of these sectors in their environmental impact, as well as the kind of work that students can be inspired to pursue in the future.

To bring the week to a close, the students created signs and took part of the global climate strike to join forces with the greater Geneva community in this effort.



Sustainability Initiative Days

Slow Fashion Workshop

21 October 2022, 14:00 - 16:00

Room S4, Maison de la Paix

Registration required

See full programme



Zéro Waste Workshop

Students learned more on the recycling system in Geneva thanks to a workshop led by Esther Peev, an Institute alumna.

- Introduction to the waste management system in Geneva and the recycling sector.
- Comparison of waste production and recycling rate at the international level.
- What are the impacts of waste mismanagement on the environment?
- What are good practices to adopt? 5R rules, circular economy, and zero waste tricks.
- Initiatives, projects, and addresses to know in Geneva.

Slow Fashion Workshop

This workshop allowed students to tackle the subject of sustainable fashion by explaining the environmental impacts of clothing waste while involving the participants. In the first part, they talked about the impacts of Fast Fashion and alternatives to clothing waste. Figures and tips will be given to participants to understand how to limit their ecological impacts with simple everyday gestures.

The second part was dedicated to the creation of an object by each participant as well as an introduction to sewing and group activity for a moment of collaboration.



Inspire students

About the *Inspire Students* series: The Alumni Office, in collaboration with Career Services and the GISA Professional Development Committee, is organizing a series of thematic roundtables aimed at connecting current students and alumni of the Institute around shared interests and experiences.

3. A Sustainable Campus

3.1 Green Spaces, Biodiversity and Well Being

La Nuit est belle

For the first time in 2022 the Institute partnered with the City of Geneva to participate in la Nuit est belle.



Blood donation SDG 10

For the fifth time, the Sustainability Initiative organised a collective blood donation day at Maison des étudiants in the Common Room in collaboration with Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève (HUG).

This initiative stems from the desire of various student initiatives and organisations at Maison de la paix to invest in the development of sustainable projects and services for the community.

Blood donation provides an essential lifeline to those in need, such as cancer and leukemia patients, women who have pregnancy complications, children with severe anemia and others.

Out Community Garden - Testimony

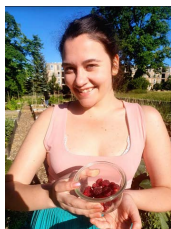
My name is Donika Limani and I am a PhD student in Development Economics. I was motivated to participate in the community garden for a number of reasons. Firstly, I was looking for a new hobby that was both useful and enjoyable. The community garden provided an opportunity for me to grow my own fresh produce and herbs, which not only tasted delicious but was also more environmentally friendly than purchasing conventionally grown produce from the store. Additionally, the physical activity and attention required by the garden provided a welcome break from my studies and helped me feel less stressed.

One of the things I liked most about the community garden was the sense of community and connection it provided. I enjoyed asking advice from others and taking care of their boxes when they were absent, and appreciated the support of my fellow gardeners when it came to caring for her own boxes. The garden was a place where I could depend on my neighbors and build relationships with them. Through my experience in the community garden, I learned a lot about gardening in general and discovered a new, interesting hobby. I found it rewarding to watch the plants grow and produce fruit, and appreciated the opportunity to learn more about plant care, soil health, and other aspects of gardening.

Overall, I would highly recommend others to participate in a community garden. It provides a chance to grow your own fresh produce, get exercise and spend time outdoors, connect with others in the community, and learn about gardening and horticulture. Plus, it can contribute to the beauty of the community and create a welcoming and attractive public space. Just be sure to watch out for those zucchinis, as they can grow a lot!

Thank you Marc & Vanessa :) !

It is with great pleasure that I am sharing with you the testimony for the garden. With my two gardening partners, Stéphanie and Dominique, we decided to group our testimony as we have a very similar experience.



Names: Dominique, Stéphanie et Claire
Programme: Formation Continue

What motivated you to participate in the community garden?

Principalement, notre motivation à participer au Community Garden était l'attrait du contact avec la nature, également de pouvoir côtoyer les membres de l'institut dans un autre cadre qu'à la maison de la paix et le travail habituel. Nous apprécions cette opportunité de faire un travail manuel, mettre les mains dans la terre, le plaisir de faire pousser et récolter les fruits de son travail. Le sentiment de détente lorsqu'on jardine dans ce lieu propice à la méditation, à la détente et au lâcher prise.

What have you liked (or most) about the community garden?

Nous avons aimé manger les framboises et les tomates, avoir un lieu pour se réunir lors de la pause déjeuner sur la table du jardin dans un cadre idyllique et reposant. Observer les autres jardins et constater les résultats du labeur de nos collègues.

Do you get a sense of "community" with the garden?

Pour nous, le jardin décroïssonne les rôles à l'institut, nous sommes tous des jardinier.ère.s en herbe.

Have you had any interactions with the refugees? If yes, can you tell us about the interaction?

Nous avons eu quelques interactions avec les réfugiés, ce sont surtout des échanges autour du jardin, des salutations et beaucoup de sourires.

What have you gained or learned from your experience?

Nous avons appris que nous sommes tous capables d'obtenir des résultats en y mettant du sien. Il n'est pas grave d'expérimenter même si on ne réussit pas du premier coup, l'esprit dans le jardin est bienveillant, il y a une cohésion et on ne se sent pas jugé.

Would you recommend others to participate?

Absolument, c'est une belle expérience que nous avons d'ailleurs déjà recommandée à nos collègues. Néanmoins, il s'agit d'une implication avec des responsabilités pour laquelle tout le monde n'est pas prêt à se lancer.

Any other comments or a gardening tip?

Ne pas attendre trop longtemps pour récolter les radis, en général récolter au bon moment. Il faut aussi faire attention à contrôler certaines plantes qui s'étendent vite.



What a simple but delightful joy to be able to see our plantations, fruits, flowers and vegetables growing and blooming in sometimes less than a month...

We loved collecting our first salad, zucchini, pumpkin...and felt quite proud bringing them home and cooking them. The taste was delicious and I guess that the pride added it up ;=) We shared pictures of our culinary preparations.

I enjoyed upgrading my tea by adding the delicious fresh mint from Afghanistan

While gardening once a week or once every two weeks, I had the chance to meet Ozlem and her husband, Turkish refugees living in the Rigot housing facility next door. The interaction was through a google translate audio app as they only speak very little French. Ozlem even prepared some take away food as I discovered that she was a very talented cook when she prepared a speciality at the get together organised for the season closing. I introduced her to the refugee cooking association "Soleil pour tous".

Thanks to Marc and Vanessa for being such attentive and caring professors ! Looking forward for our season 2023!

3.2 Waste Policy

The Geneva Graduate Institute has adopted a responsible purchasing policy that incorporates the following criteria:

- ▶ Consideration of environmental and social aspects during calls for tenders for the purchase of goods and supplies and for service contracts.
- ▶ The choice of office supplies according to the best environmental standards on the market.
- ▶ The cleaning of buildings according to the best ecological standards by Top Net.

In terms of waste policy, the following measures have been implemented over the last years:

- ▶ Selective bins for sorting and recycling paper, cardboard, glass, PET, aluminium/tinplate, and organic waste.

- ▶ The provision of multi-compartmental Sakatri bags in the Student Residences, which allow easy sorting of waste for deposit in the containers provided for this purpose.
- ▶ The removal of water fountains.
- ▶ The supply of water bottles to employees to encourage them to drink tap water.
- ▶ The recovery and recycling of IT and electronic waste through the Swico Recycling sector, which brings together dismantling of devices. Up to 95% of the materials can thus be reintegrated into the production cycle.
- ▶ Paper printing: Recycled paper with the “Blue Angel” label as the default print medium; default double-sided printing to save paper and hardware maintenance; a Scan-to-PDF function available to avoid photocopies.

3.3 Travel and Mobility

Mobility Bonus

The Institute pays an annual allowance of CHF 500 to eligible employees who give up the use of their personal vehicle to travel to work. To receive the allowance, employees must complete and sign a declaration of honour and provide the necessary supporting documents (TPG pass, CFF pass, P+R) and/or a description of the mode of transport taken to the Institute.

Eligible employees are employees on the Institute’s payroll (minimum 0.5 FTE) with a permanent contract and members of the teaching and research staff (PER regulations) with a fixed-term contract of at least 12 months. In 2021, 70% of eligible Institute employees benefit from a soft mobility bonus.

