Sustainable Development Goals in Web of Science

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as a universal framework to address global challenges, encompassing objectives such as ending poverty, protecting the planet, and fostering peace and prosperity for all. Since their adoption by the United Nations in 2015, the SDGs have gained increasing recognition as crucial benchmarks for societal progress.

In assessing societal contributions towards these goals, the importance of measuring research impact has emerged as a pivotal aspect. A 2023 survey revealed that research contribution towards SDGs ranked among the top three performance indicators for research offices, underscoring the growing significance of this endeavour. Understanding how scientific advancements align with the SDGs is imperative as we approach the target date of 2030.

Reports, such as the one developed by STRINGS (Steering Research and Innovation for Global Goals), shed light on the alignment between science, technology, and innovation priorities and the SDGs. The findings emphasize the need for continuous measurement and course correction to ensure research priorities effectively address global challenges.

Published research serves as a tangible indicator of impact on SDGs, enabling the assessment of research volume, participation, and alignment with specific goals. Notably, different bibliometric databases offer unique approaches to mapping research to SDGs with ongoing efforts to enhance accuracy and consistency.

Clarivate’s InCites platform, a cornerstone in tracking research output, has been instrumental in aligning research articles with the SDGs. In the latest data refresh for 2024, improvements have been made to expand SDG coverage, including the addition of SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). This enhancement reflects a commitment to providing a comprehensive view of research contributions towards global sustainability efforts.

By integrating SDGs into research assessment methodologies, we pave the way for a more focused and strategic approach to addressing pressing global challenges. This synergy between research measurement and the broader objectives of sustainable development facilitates informed decision-making, fosters innovation, and accelerates progress towards a more sustainable future for all.

1. Start by searching for an author’s identifier (ID) or an institution:
2. To see the visual representation of all the SDGs related to the output of a selected author or institution, go to Analyze Results from the Search results page:

3. Select Sustainable Development Goals from the drop-down:

4. You can see the visual analysis of the SDGs related to the output of a selected researcher or institution, as well as interact with the chart, download results, or continue your search by clicking on any of the fields:

To learn more about SDGs in Web of Science, please refer to our help guide.