



STRATEGIC PLAN 2019–2022



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VISION

Our vision is to enable transformative change towards a more sustainable and socially just world.

MISSION

Our mission is to support, enhance and promote UCC's commitment and capacity to promote sustainable global development.

VALUES

The Centre for Global Development will be guided by six core values:

1. **Equity** – Participatory | Partnership | Diversity | Gender
2. **Dialogue** – Engaging | Connectedness | Open-minded | Democratic | Inclusive
3. **Transformative** – Change | Innovative | Creative | Advocacy | Activist
4. **Social Justice**
5. **Sustainability** – Reduce footprint
6. **Ethical** – Integrity

The CGD will incorporate these values into its internal and external relationships and practices. This includes a focus on individuals and groups experiencing social and economic discrimination and marginalisation, such as LGBT+, asylum seekers/refugees, and those marginalised by long-term economic forces and, in line with the fundamental principle of the SDGs, a focus on *leaving no-one behind*.

Foreword

Our world is faced with major global challenges, including the growing impacts of climate change, the need to ensure food security, increasing economic and health inequalities, and the degradation of natural resources. While rapid technological change offers many opportunities for societal improvement, it is essential that we find solutions to these major challenges to move towards more sustainable and just societies. Universities can and must play a substantial role in developing solutions to these pressing issues, both through research and through ensuring that students become socially responsible global citizens interested in contributing to creating a more equal society.

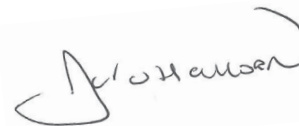
University College Cork (UCC) is committed to playing a major role in addressing these global challenges and in achieving major societal impact, as indicated in UCC being ranked 21st out of over 450 Universities worldwide in the first Times Higher Education (THE) Societal Impact ranking released this year. UCC's current Strategic Plan emphasises the University's focus on an international outlook with informed and creative engagement on local and global issues. The University has established the Centre for Global Development (CGD) to harness and encourage collective engagement in UCC on international development and global sustainability issues and thereby contribute to delivering on our Strategic Plan. There are many academics in UCC who are deeply engaged in global development issues but who sometimes work in relative isolation: the CGD provides a structure to bring this expertise together in multi-disciplinary activities addressing the major societal challenges we face.

The CGD has now developed its own Strategic Plan for the period 2019-2022, following a detailed consultation process both within UCC and with external stakeholders. The Plan is closely aligned with UCC's

overall strategy, its academic strategy and research and innovation strategy. It is also developed in the context of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Government of Ireland's new International Development policy: A Better World. Alignment with these key external drivers will ensure that the CGD's work is societally engaged and relevant, will contribute to dialogues around key development challenges and help find solutions to pressing problems.

The CGD's Plan proposes twenty-one actions in the three broad areas of research, learning and teaching, and public engagement. This is an ambitious plan which will enable UCC to further enhance its commitment to meaningful social and economic engagement to achieve societal impact and to promote sustainable development. The CGD can harness some of the unique attributes of the University sector – including its public sector not-for-profit status, its role in the generation of knowledge for public good, its capacity to provide an independent and critical voice on key issues, and its convening power with multiple stakeholders – to make a distinctive contribution to global development. These expanded networks will benefit UCC academics and students as well as the broader community.

It is exciting to see the development of this wide-ranging Plan: I look forward to its effective implementation and to UCC further enhancing its role as an outward-looking, progressive and socially committed agent of positive change.



Professor John O'Halloran
DEPUTY PRESIDENT AND REGISTRAR
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK



Brief Background

The **Centre for Global Development (CGD)** is a UCC grassroots initiative which sprung out of the need for the university community to engage globally to meet our international obligations in the context of the UN Millennium Development Goals. The CGD produced its first report in 2012. It was recognised that a University-wide forum could usefully build on the various initiatives which were taking place within the University, and the many global connections, partnerships and collaborations that were in place. This continued a long tradition in UCC of engagement in international and global development issues, including in the areas of food security, health, and human rights. During this period, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were agreed in 2015. Over this time the CGD's engagement in global development issues has been growing significantly. This has included a leading role for UCC in the areas of famine and food security, water, and global health, amongst a number of areas of expertise. UCC has positioned itself to be at the forefront of global development, and the CGD has continued to grow in terms of its roles in influencing development policy, conducting applied research, enhancing knowledge and awareness on global development issues through learning and teaching activities, and engaging with the wider development community and the public to broaden the effectiveness and impact of these actions.



UCC's 2017–2022 Strategic Plan reaffirmed its commitment to Global Development and to the role of the CGD in supporting the realisation of that commitment in order to address key twenty-first century global challenges.

The collegiality between staff, students and the wider UCC community are a window into the kind of global citizenship that UCC likes to foster. Building on Ireland's long tradition in global development, through the work of humanitarian agencies, missionaries and other development actors, UCC has shown a passion in its commitment to the developing world ensuring a better world for all humankind and the planet. As the Irish proverb goes: *Is ar scath a chéila a mhaireann na daoine* or *It is in the shadow of each other that we live.*

What is Development Studies?

Development Studies (also known as 'international development studies' or 'international/global development') is a multi- and inter-disciplinary field of study rather than a single discipline. It seeks to understand the interplay between psycho-social, social, economic, political, technological, ecological, cultural and gendered aspects of societal change at the local, national, regional and global levels.

DEFINITION ADAPTED FROM EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTES (EADI)

Context of the CGD 2019–2022 Strategic Plan

GLOBAL CONTEXT

The United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the associated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), provide the high-level global framework for the work of the CGD. While all 17 SDGs are of importance, areas of particular focus for the CGD and for the partners we work with at home and abroad, are in relation to poverty (SDG 1), hunger (SDG 2), health (SDG 3), education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), clean water and sanitation (SDG 6) and climate action (SDG 13). Expertise exists within UCC to make research and other contributions in relation to almost all of the SDGs.

Other recent landmark developments in the global context include the 2015 Paris Climate Accord, the Agenda for Humanity arising from the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit, and the Global Compact for Migration signed in December 2018 consequent on the UN General Assembly's New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (2016).

Despite encouraging progress in global development in many areas of the world in recent years, and commitments by the international community to address key issues, ongoing and intersecting crises of migration, conflict, climate change and human rights abuses present major challenges to the international community and to all of those working for a better, fairer and more sustainable life for all.

Through its programme of activities, and its engagement with a wide range of state, non-state and multilateral actors, the CGD seeks to make a meaningful contribution to global development, and to continuously raise awareness of global challenges among the UCC community and the wider public.



Women processing food, southern Ethiopia.
Photo: E. Lahiff



LEFT: UCC joins PUSH (Presidents United to Solve Hunger), committing to actions to address global hunger.

Photo: Tomas Tyner



NATIONAL CONTEXT

UCC staff and students have a long history of engagement with Irish Aid, the Irish government's official aid and development programme, in the areas of research, teaching and policy, with particular emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Building on past consultations around the Irish Aid White Paper and related policy processes, in 2018 the CGD led the contributions of UCC to the formulation of Irish Aid's new International Development Policy, "A Better World", launched in February 2019.

In its last strategy period Irish Aid operated in over 30 low-income countries worldwide, with an emphasis on nine priority countries. In the new policy Irish Aid expects to significantly expand its global footprint and development impact, including reaching the UN target of 0.7% of GNI allocated to development expenditure by 2030. This funding is regarded as an investment in a better, safer and more equal world. The new policy prioritises gender equality, reducing humanitarian need, climate action and strengthening governance. In order to meet these policy objectives Irish Aid proposes actions in three broad intervention areas, relating to protection, food, and people, with an emphasis in all its actions on supporting those most at risk of being left behind. Irish Aid has a strong commitment to upholding multilateralism, and contributes widely to conflict reduction and building resilience, with the long-term aim of reducing the need for humanitarian interventions. The values and priorities of Irish Aid, rooted as they are in the deep solidarity felt by Irish people, provide a constant point of reference for the activities of the CGD.

The values of solidarity with the world's poor and marginalised people are similarly embodied in the extraordinary work of Ireland's non-governmental development organisations, from leading organisations with global reach such as Trócaire, Concern Worldwide, Oxfam and Self Help Africa to the smallest local volunteer organisations. Particular strengths in Ireland's NGO sector include humanitarian action, agriculture, health, human rights, climate action and sustainability. The formulation of the SDGs (in which Ireland played a leading role) has also created an impetus for greater collaboration between development actors: this is manifested in Coalition 2030, an alliance of over 60 civil society organisations working together to ensure Ireland keeps its promise to achieve the SDGs, both at home and abroad. The coalition is made up of both international and domestic NGOs along with youth organisations, environmental groups, academics and trade unions. The CGD intends to join this coalition to strengthen our commitment and contribution to addressing major development challenges.

Potential exists for greater involvement in development by the private sector, in areas such as agri-business, information and communications technology, healthcare and many other areas, including opportunities for new forms of corporate social responsibility, research collaboration and philanthropic funding.

The CGD is committed to working with the full range of actors throughout Ireland as a catalyst for new and innovative solutions to pressing international development challenges.

LOCAL CONTEXT

The CGD is at the heart of UCC's commitment to engagement by staff and students in international development and sustainability, at home and abroad, as reflected in UCC's Strategic Plan:

In 2017, UCC renewed its commitment to its Centre for Global Development to encourage collective engagement on international development and global sustainability issues. The centre provides a forum for global development initiatives and enables interdisciplinary cooperation

UCC STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2022, PG 13.

In particular, the CGD, through all its activities, is a means of implementing Goal 3 of the UCC Strategic Plan:

Create value for our community through an international outlook and informed and creative engagement on local and global issues.

The CGD is committed to delivering across all key elements of UCC strategy, including learning and teaching, research and civic engagement.

In line with UCC's Academic Strategy 2018-2022, the CGD aims to connect to important components of the Connected Curriculum which emphasise the holistic development of students and staff through research-based collaborative enquiry. It is designed to prepare students for their future, combining academic with professional, community-based, field-based and inter-professional learning to develop values, skills and aptitudes that promote civic participation, social inclusion, sustainability and impactful global citizenship. Similarly, the CGD connects to the development of students' core values and graduate attributes – the skills, knowledge and abilities of our graduates, beyond disciplinary content knowledge, that are applicable in a range of

contexts in their lives: socially responsible and effective global citizens who recognise and challenge inequality and promote social justice.

In the field of research, the CGD is fully committed to delivering on the UCC Research & Innovation Strategic Plan 2017–2022, through a focus on aligning research areas with external drivers including the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); the promotion of interdisciplinary research projects in strategic research priority areas such as health and well-being, food and nutrition, and sustainability and climate action; and demonstrating societal impact across research and innovation activities.

In terms of civic and community engagement, the CGD aligns with the UCC Civic Engagement Plan 2017–2022, and the national Civic and

Community Engagement Charter of the IUA's Campus Engage initiative; contributing an important global dimension with specific emphasis on the challenges facing lower income countries and populations around the world, including a focus on the local and global dimensions of development challenges and the need to engage with citizens beyond “traditional” audiences.

Through its strategic focus on sustainable development, the CGD contributes to UCC's Sustainability Strategy developed in 2016, and supports UCC's Gold rating award under the AASHE STARS programme, a global self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance.



ACHIEVING SOCIETAL IMPACT

Universities are increasingly called on nationally and internationally to demonstrate their societal impact. Ireland's National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030 places social and economic engagement alongside research and teaching and learning as the three core roles of higher education. The Irish University Association's Campus Engage Charter 2014 commits Irish universities to having open engagement with wider society infused across every aspect of their mission. International engagement is a factor that is valued by the local and regional public. In a household survey administered in the Munster region on behalf of UCC by Milward-Brown in 2017¹, 69% of public respondents agreed that UCC should broaden its international engagement as a strategic priority².

UCC has recently been recognised globally for its focus on achieving societal impact. In 2018 a new Times Higher Education (THE) impact ranking system was launched, which measures Universities' societal impact in terms of their contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. UCC was ranked 21st out of over 450 Universities globally in this ranking, and was ranked first in the world for responsible production and consumption.

The CGD is uniquely placed within UCC to enable the University to enhance and measure its societal impact, in terms of support to the development of global partnerships, implementation of activities addressing different SDGs, and mobilising the knowledge and data to demonstrate societal impact.

1. Supported by the Office of the Vice President External Relations.

2. UCC Civic and Community Engagement Plan (2017) p. 24.



The 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals provide a framework for CGD actions in the Plan period. A keyword search showed extensive coverage of all the SDGs in existing taught modules in UCC.



Market communication by mobile phone, Ethiopia.
Photo: T. Balcha

Achieving societal impact in health: using technology to improve health access

Funded by the Irish Research Council, the ‘IMPACT Project’ (using Mobile Phones for Assessing, Classifying and Treating sick children) is an interdisciplinary collaboration between Information Systems (IS) experts including Dr. Ciara Heavin, Dr. Yvonne O’Connor, Dr. Grace Kenny and Mr. Emmanuel Eze from the Health Information Systems Research Centre in UCC, and Dr. Eddy Ndibuagu from the Department of Community Medicine, Parklane Teaching Hospital, Enugu State University of Technology (ESUT), Enugu, Nigeria. A memorandum of understanding was signed between UCC and ESUT. IMPACT is focused on assessing the feasibility of a mobile health solution (mHealth) at the level of community healthcare in Enugu State. As part of this project, two research visits to Enugu have been undertaken to date. The IMPACT research team acquired rich insights into the feasibility of deploying a leading edge mHealth solution (IMPACT) using robust secure cloud-based data storage in a rural community, where the availability and reliability of technical infrastructure is a challenge.

Tackling social exclusion: new research on social inclusion of rural migrants in Vietnam

The Department of Food Business and Development at UCC is engaged in a research project titled *Social inclusion of rural migrants in Hanoi City, Vietnam*, funded by the Irish Research Council in collaboration with Irish Aid. The project, under the direction of Dr Edward Lahiff, is a partnership with the University of the Social Sciences and Humanities, National University of Vietnam, based in Hanoi. Running from April 2019 to October 2021, the project will investigate the social and economic conditions of poor rural migrants, and particularly women, as they seek to establish themselves in a new and often hostile urban environment. Critical attention is paid to the role of grass-roots organisations in providing assistance to migrants, as well as to the role of public agencies at various levels. It is anticipated that the findings of this research will contribute policy inputs to the work of Irish Aid and other development agencies active in this sector, as well as producing a range of high-quality academic publications.



Discussing with rural migrants in Hanoi.
Photo: Anh Vu Thu

The UCC–MZUNI, Malawi Partnership

UCC and Mzuzu University (MZUNI) in Northern Malawi have been collaborating on a health oriented capacity-building project since 2012, when an MoU was signed between the two institutions. This capacity building project is spearheaded by CGD Steering Group members Dr Rosarii Griffin (Learning and Teaching) and Colette Cunningham (School of Public Health), along with Dr Patricia Leahy-Warren (School of Nursing and Midwifery). This professional collaboration helps mitigate against the worst effects of poverty in Malawi through the up-skilling of health professionals on the ground.

The MoU outlines the partners' commitment to greater cooperation on curriculum design and implementation, assessment practices, pedagogical approaches and teaching and learning techniques including technology enhanced learning (TEL). It also includes the generation of research projects to enhance Malawi's baseline health data, addressing Malawi's Health Sector Strategic Plan (HSSP).

UCC and MZUNI co-operate in up-skilling nurses, midwives, and HSAs in areas of their professional knowledge, core skills and overall capacity development. This specifically focuses on SDG 3 Good Health, SDG 4 Quality Education, SDG 5 Gender Equality and SDG 17 Partnership for the Goals. Through the adoption of cross-institutional dialogue, teaching and learning, research collaborations, professional development inputs and peer-to-peer mentoring, this project aims to promote global partnership with the global south, creating more awareness of active participation as global citizens. The partnership has been funded by UCC's Strategic Fund, Irish Aid and the Esther Partnership Alliance (now aligned with the Health Service Executive (HSE)).



UCC-MZUNI researchers, Mzuzu University, Malawi.
Photo: R. Griffin



VALORAM research team. Photo: Barbara Doyle Prestwich

VALORAM – Valorizing Andean microbial diversity through sustainable intensification of potato-based farming systems

This project was funded under the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme FP7/2007-2013 (Grant No: 227522, 01/02/2009-31/01/2014).

The overall objective of VALORAM was to promote the sustainable development of potato-based systems in the inter-Andean valleys and Altiplano areas to focus on cropping systems that could make use of natural microbial resources as inputs to improve production of high quality potato crops.

The strategy for VALORAM implementation was to engage local and EU partners in developing collaborative research activities and synergies with local farmer associations and other organisations in Latin America to sustainably improve potato-based systems <https://www.ucc.ie/en/valoram/> The project included partners from Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Belgium, Ireland, Austria and Germany.

Global Development at UCC

UCC has a large number of academic staff working on issues of Global Development across many academic units, and about fifty staff members are affiliates of the CGD. Many of these staff work in areas linked to the SDGs. For example, academics in the Department of Food Business and Development and School of Food and Nutritional Sciences are engaged in research on food security and nutrition in Ethiopia and Tanzania; academics in the Department of Business Information Systems and School of Public Health are engaged in a range of health-related projects in Nigeria and elsewhere; the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences and the Environmental Research Institute run the GEMS/Water Capacity Development Centre which promotes and supports water quality monitoring and assessment on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme and is building Regional capacity across developing country regions; many staff in the ERI also work on climate action, renewable energy and other aspects of sustainable natural resource management on land and in coastal/marine communities and the blue economy (through the MaREI Centre for Marine and Renewable Energy); in some cases with a developing country focus.



External stakeholder workshop.
Photo: S. Cullen

In the School of Law a number of academics are involved in research related to water and environmental law, and disaster law, with a strong focus on African and other developing countries. In the School of Applied Psychology there is a strong research focus on the psychology of peace and conflict and psychosocial/psychotherapeutic interventions to support children's well-being, including in post-conflict situations in Sub-Saharan Africa. In a number of academic units in the College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences there is a strong focus on research on migration, including researching causes of international migration linked to conflict and humanitarian crises, and research on – as well as practical support for – the conditions of migrant communities arriving in Ireland. Other areas of focus include gender equality, reduced inequalities and quality education including development education.



Student on placement discusses with Kenyan farmer.
Photo: E. Lahiff

The CGD is developing linkages with a wide range of cognate academic Units and networks within UCC. In addition to Departments/Schools with specific disciplinary focus, these include the Environmental Research Institute (ERI), the Institute for Social Sciences in the 21st Century (ISS21), the ASSERT Centre in the College of Medicine and Health, the Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights (CCJHR) and the Centre for Law and the Environment.

A large number of student societies in UCC support student engagement in global development and social justice-related issues. These societies include the Africa Society, Amnesty International, Engineers without Borders, Environmental Society, Friends of MSF, Hope Foundation Society, International Development Society, Stars Society, SUAS Society and Surgeon Noonan Society. The existence of such societies demonstrates the high level of interest and commitment amongst UCC students to engage in broader global citizenship.

UCC runs a growing number of under-graduate and post-graduate programmes with a focus on global development issues. In addition for many years Adult Continuing Education at UCC has offered a Diploma programme in Development and Global Human Rights Studies which has expanded the reach of UCC's development-related engagement beyond campus-based full-time students and into the wider community. UCC's Community and Civic Engagement activities will strengthen this focus.



UCC undergraduate student Ellie Carley on placement in Kenya.

Photo: Ellie Carley

Learning & Teaching on Global Development in UCC

Within UCC, the BSc International Development and Food Policy has a predominant focus on building students' knowledge, skills and attributes to address global development challenges. It includes a 22-week overseas work placement with a development organisation in a developing country.

In addition there are a number of programmes in UCC at under-graduate and post-graduate level which include a focus on global development issues. These include:

- BSc Public Health
- BSc Government
- MA Sociology of Development and Globalisation
- MSc International Public Policy and Diplomacy
- LLM International Human Rights Law and Public Policy
- MSc Food Security Policy and Management

The University-wide Module on Sustainability, which is available to staff, students and the wider public is an important focus for learning and public engagement, as is the Adult Continuing Education Diploma programme in Development and Global Human Rights Studies.

At the module level UCC already has a significant focus on the SDGs in its learning and teaching activities.

Researching agriculture-nutrition linkages in Ethiopia

The Department of Food Business and Development has developed long-term institutional partnerships in Ethiopia, particularly with Mekelle and Haramaya Universities, led by Dr Nick Chisholm. The Department, collaborating with researchers in the School of Food and Nutritional Sciences, led the multi-institutional “AgriDiet” project during 2012–17, funded by Irish Aid, which undertook research and capacity-building activities in Ethiopia and Tanzania on the relationship between agricultural systems and nutritional status of vulnerable households. Very high levels of maternal and child under-nutrition were found in both countries, varying with season. Dietary diversity was generally very low. In the course of the project six PhD students (three each from Ethiopia and Tanzania) were trained and are now working back in their local Universities.

The Department is now collaborating with the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), Mekelle University and Teagasc on a project in the Tigray Region of northern Ethiopia on climate-resilient watershed development based on agro-forestry practices.



Research on agriculture-nutrition linkage in Ethiopia.
Photo: E. Lahiff



Research on agriculture-nutrition linkage in Ethiopia.
Photo: E. Lahiff



Focus group discussion in rural Tanzania. Photo: E. Lahiff



UCC student on placement at the World Agroforestry Centre, Nairobi. Photo: E. Lahiff

Developing the CGD Strategic Plan

The process of developing this Strategic Plan has been led by the CGD Steering Committee, which comprises representatives from each of the four Colleges, plus co-opted members from key units in UCC.⁵ It followed an evidence-informed planning steps and process⁶ comprised of a series of workshops supported by an experienced external facilitator; the completion of a best-practice review and benchmarking against current global development trends and approaches used by similar Centres in Ireland and internationally; a “town hall” meeting of interested academics across UCC; a consultation meeting with student societies; and a meeting with external stakeholder organisations (Irish Aid and Irish development NGOs). A survey of academics across UCC interested in global development issues was conducted early in the process, and this has also served as a basis for developing a group of staff affiliated with the Centre with diverse interests and expertise.

5. EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) Unit, Civic and Community Engagement, Sustainability Officer, Learning & Teaching and Students Union.

6. This evidence-informed planning approach was modelled on the planning steps and process underpinning UCC’s Civic and Community Engagement Plan.

STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

As a unit with a University-wide focus, the CGD has a range of stakeholders within UCC, including the four Colleges, Research Institutes and Centres, Adult and Community Education (ACE), the CGD Assembly, and the student body (including adult learners and local community organisations) and their various societies addressing global development issues. Nationally, the stakeholders include Ireland’s development community – Irish Aid, development NGOs/CSOs, other HEIs and the DSAI, and the wider public whom the CGD will engage with on development issues. There is also scope to engage with the private sector including through CSR activities, and with philanthropists in relation to innovative actions supported with non-traditional funding.

At the international level there are major opportunities to engage in strategic partnerships with HEIs and research institutes in key areas of SDG-related research, including building on existing relationships and networks. Some of this work is located in countries where Irish Aid also has a strong presence which allows for possible synergies with the Irish Aid programme. Considerable scope exists to participate in international consortia working on large-scale research programmes funded by multi-lateral organisations (including the European Commission, UN agencies and the World Bank) and by large Foundations. There are also opportunities to develop learning partnerships with Irish and other NGOs to work jointly to find solutions to practical problems within community-based development programmes and to measure programme impact. It is also important for the CGD to engage in high-level fora addressing key global development policy issues.



Addressing the risks and impacts of disasters through international disaster law

Led by Dr Dug Cubie, the School of Law's Centre for Criminal Justice and Human Rights (CCJHR) has worked in partnership with the International Red Cross / Red Crescent Movement since 2016 to examine legal and policy frameworks relating to disaster risk reduction, humanitarian action, climate change adaptation and sustainable development. The CCJHR led a joint Irish Research Council-funded project with the Irish Red Cross Society in 2017–18 to develop networks between academics and humanitarian practitioners across Europe and further afield. One outcome was a series of information sheets on different aspects of international disaster law, such as disaster displacement, gender-based violence in disasters, and children's rights in disasters. A new project between the CCJHR and the Disaster Law Programme of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Geneva will assess the risks and vulnerabilities Africa faces due to natural hazards and climate change. It will develop data enabling national authorities and the African Union to adopt more integrated policies in the areas of disaster risk management, climate change adaptation and sustainable development thereby promoting compliance with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.



Ethiopian farmer growing guava.
Photo: N. Chisholm



Groundnut cultivation, Malawi.
Photo: S. Cullen



Sustainable development of potato-based farming systems, Andes.
Photo: Barbara Doyle Prestwich

Objectives and Strategic Actions

PURPOSE OF THE CGD

The Centre for Global Development has been established within UCC to encourage collective engagement on international development and global sustainability issues. The Centre provides a forum for global development initiatives and enables interdisciplinary cooperation. The Centre will build on some of the unique attributes of the University sector – including its public sector not-for-profit status, its role in the generation of knowledge for public good, its capacity to provide an independent and critical voice on key issues, and its convening power with multiple stakeholders – to further the aims of the development sector.



Launch of EAT-Lancet report, UCC.
Photo: T. Tyner



Nick Chisholm, CGD Director, at EAT-Lancet launch.
Photo: T. Tyner

OBJECTIVES

The overarching strategic objectives of the CGD are:

- 1** To bring about positive transformative change through its actions for sustainable global development
- 2** To work collaboratively with local, national and international partners to co-create knowledge contributing to sustainable global development
- 3** To build and harness the collective knowledge, capacity and creativity of the UCC community and unique University attributes to promote a range of activities contributing to attaining sustainable global development.

To achieve these objectives the CGD will engage in strategic actions in three broad areas, supported by a range of management and governance actions to enable delivery:

Research-based actions – with a focus on mobilising resources to undertake inter-disciplinary research to achieve significant societal impact

Learning and teaching-based actions – strengthening the global focus of the connected curriculum and promoting global citizenship

Engagement actions – promoting wider understanding of key global challenges both within UCC and in the wider community.

The UN GEMS Water Capacity Development Centre

The UN GEMS Water Capacity Development Centre was established at UCC in 2015. It is a Centre of the School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences and the ERI. The functions of the Centre are to promote and support water quality monitoring and assessment on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme and in co-operation with UN Water and its thematic priority area of Water Quality (SDG 6.3.2.). The Centre is engaged in identifying capacity and training needs in developing countries, and developing training for delivery in-situ and on-line in countries all over the world. To meet training needs, the Centre has developed short on-line courses:

(<https://www.ucc.ie/en/gemscdc/shortonlinecourses/>)

and a Postgraduate Diploma in Freshwater Quality Monitoring and Assessment: (<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ckr55/>).



SDG day in UCC. Photo: E. Lahiff

Capacity building for enhanced food security in Tigray Region, Ethiopia

The Department of Food Business and Development ran a joint MSc in Rural Development with Mekelle and Hawassa Universities in Ethiopia during the period 2005-14, funded both by Irish Aid and the World Bank. The majority of students were mid-career professionals working in the Government of Ethiopia Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources for whom the MSc programme was an important input into strengthening their capacity to address major challenges of rural poverty and food insecurity. The programme graduated about 150 students, many of whom have become senior policy makers within the Tigray Regional Government.



Graduates of UCC-Mekelle University MSc in Rural Development. Photo: N. Chisholm

Research-based actions

CGD research will primarily focus on two broad overarching themes:

- **Food, Environment and Health**
- **Inclusion, Equality and Rights**

The CGD will aim to promote research approaches which explore the inter-connecting elements of these broad themes.

Over the duration of the plan period, the CGD will:

>>> promote independent, applied and policy-relevant inter-disciplinary research on key development issues, responding to grand societal challenges⁷ and building on UCC's research priorities and existing significant strengths in UCC⁸

>>> leverage UCC's strengths in other cross-cutting areas, e.g. in migration, post-conflict interventions, human rights, and applications of ICTs/big data, to expand the global development focus in these areas

>>> promote societally engaged research⁹, using its convening power to facilitate multi-stakeholder discussion and dialogue with external partners aimed at identifying innovative and sustainable solutions to practical development problems

>>> support innovative approaches that engage lay people more deeply with research, through encouraging participatory research, and a reciprocal and empowering knowledge development relationship with citizens and civil society

>>> promote networking and development of partnerships with external organisations, including other Irish Universities, Irish development organisations, international organisations and Universities in the Global South, to develop innovative inter-and trans-disciplinary research at a larger scale to enhance societal impact

>>> actively identify external sources of research funding and collaborate with the UCC Research Support Office to disseminate targeted information on funding opportunities

>>> over the lifetime of this plan, move towards becoming a fully-designated research centre initiating and leading development research in UCC

>>> act as a dedicated research hub providing support to researchers, including visiting researchers, working on global development issues

7. Challenge-based research is an increasing feature of donor funding calls, IRC, and Horizon 2020.

8. Including food security and nutrition, sustainable agriculture/plant science; health; water; sustainability, climate action & renewable energy; gender equality; civic engagement, democracy and inequality; education, amongst others.

9. As in EU Responsible Research and Innovation frameworks, Ireland's Engaged Research Report and Framework (Campus Engage 2017) and other approaches.

Learning and teaching-based actions

Over the duration of the plan period, the CGD will:

>>> actively engage with Working Groups established in UCC to implement the Connected Curriculum in order to support the focus on developing values, skills and aptitudes that promote civic participation, social inclusion, sustainability and impactful global citizenship

>>> develop and deliver a new University-wide module on Global Development and promote broad access to the module including through collaboration with the Continuing Professional Development office

>>> partner with interested academic leaders within UCC to strengthen the focus of new and existing academic programmes on global development issues, facilitating also the involvement of research centres, institutes and units in offering such programmes

>>> collaborate with development NGOs and other external stakeholders to expand opportunities for practice-based learning such as student internships, structured service placements, and community-based research and for dialogue on innovative and relevant curriculum design and content, including delivery methods to increase access to courses (e.g. online content)

>>> engage with academics and practitioners involved in Development Education, including in collaboration with UCC's Civic and Community Engagement Plan, to develop students' global citizenship in an experiential manner through community-based learning approaches, with a focus

on international development and development education, and engage with “non-traditional” communities including school students and local community groups/communities of interest

>>> identify opportunities for collaborative projects with developing country institutions (and funding agencies) with a strong capacity-building component (i.e. short-term or long-term (including PhD) training)

>>> engage with external academic institutions including the Development Studies Association of Ireland (DSAI) and the European Association of Development Institutes (EADI) to explore the potential for external professional accreditation of UCC programmes addressing global development.



The CGD is affiliated with the Development Studies Association of Ireland (DSAI) and has recently started to host the communications and outreach function of DSAI. It is also one of only two development-oriented institutions in Ireland (the other being DSAI) affiliated to the European Association of Development Institutes (EADI), the leading European network in the field of development research and training.

Engagement actions

Over the duration of the plan period the CGD will:

>>> create and collaborate in an extensive range of education and public engagement activities that will enhance knowledge and awareness around key development issues, in partnership with academic units, student societies and the general public. Specific activities will include:

- hosting high-profile visiting speakers from around the world, including academics, social activists and representatives of a wide range of governmental, NGO and international institutions
- holding workshops, seminars and conferences in collaboration with a range of partner organisations, including leading Irish and international NGOs
- marking major annual commemorations, such as World Aids Day (1st December), World Food Day (16th October) and World Refugee Day (20th June)
- contributing to UCC events engaging with community and other external groups, including UCC Community Week and UCC Engaged Research Day¹⁰
- supporting and contributing to Cork's UNESCO Learning City programme, bringing UCC's international development experience to this initiative

>>> assist UCC to cohere its community-facing research and other infrastructure, through close interaction and alignment with the University Civic and Community Engagement initiative, the Equality Diversity and Inclusion Unit, Green Campus, ACE, Creative Campus, and other mutually reinforcing initiatives

>>> act as a focal point for the public and the development sector to engage with UCC around international development; using its convening power to create spaces for dialogue and discussion with a wide range of actors to identify innovative solutions to development challenges

>>> contribute to major national and international fora and networks shaping research agendas, policy and programming in relation to key global development issues

>>> use effective communications and dissemination activities targeting key audiences, including a dedicated CGD website, dynamic social media channels, frequent press releases, a quarterly newsletter and the CGD annual report

>>> develop mechanisms to promote students' global citizenship, through for example developing a digital badge, providing information on relevant volunteering opportunities for students^{11, 12} and promoting innovative student projects addressing global development issues.



Jessica Fanzo talking at the Irish launch of the EAT-Lancet report.

Photo: Tomas Tyner

10. As per UCC's Civic and Community Engagement Plan.

11. Making a Difference – A Research Report on Student Volunteering in UCC (2018).

12. For example, encouraging student participation in the UCC Works Citizenship Pathway.

Management and Governance

In order to deliver on its strategic goals, the three areas of activity need to be facilitated and supported by an appropriate management and governance structure, the main purpose of which is to ensure that the CGD functions effectively as a University-wide entity promoting interdisciplinary activities and delivering on UCC's societal mission. This requires mobilisation of existing and additional human, financial and physical resources to ensure the CGD builds a critical mass of activity to deliver meaningful societal engagement and impact.

Over the duration of the plan period the CGD will:

- identify internal and external funding sources, including sources of revenue generation; secure human resources, including a (part-time) administrator and research support officer; and secure adequate physical space on campus
- promote participation by staff and students in its activities, including annual meetings of the CGD Assembly, a Development Day with Student Societies, an active social media presence, and creation of mechanisms to promote and recognise global citizenship
- ensure an active and effective Steering Committee representative of all four Colleges with clear guidance on election and duration of service of Committee members

- establish as needed ad hoc working groups from within the Steering Committee to deliver specific activities and programmes (e.g. speakers, conferences, Annual Report)
- convene an external advisory group comprising leading development experts including international experts, to provide broad guidance on trends, opportunities and challenges in relation to global development
- establish an internal evaluation and monitoring framework based on the logic model.



EAT-Lancet launch attended by UCC President O'Shea.
Photo: T. Tyner

CENTRE FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT – LOGIC MODEL (2019–2022)

INPUTS

GOVERNANCE

Steering Committee¹² & CGD Assembly
Deputy President and Registrar
External Advisory Group
Affiliated with four UCC colleges
Student representation

OPERATIONAL / FUNDING SUPPORTS

Director, administrative staff support, research support officer
Strategic level support and direct access to the President and Registrar's Office
Support from the Research Support Office
UCC central funding, research and teaching income /overhead

STAKEHOLDERS

Staff and Students
Citizens in partner countries
NGOs
Statutory Agencies, EU Agencies
Other university centres (in Ireland and internationally)

ACTIVITIES

RESEARCH ACTIONS

Become an interdisciplinary¹³ research centre, with a dedicated research support hub
Host visiting fellows & apply for research funding
Promote research clusters of engaged UCC academics around key development issues
Promote research networks and partnerships

LEARNING & TEACHING ACTIONS

Promote global development-related courses and develop a university-wide module on Global Development

ENGAGEMENT ACTIONS

Host workshops, seminars and conferences with partners
Communications and dissemination plan
Networking & policy engagement¹⁴ plan
Participation of UCC staff and students in CGD activities

Promote/recognise students' global citizenship
Joint events with DSAI and other bodies

Develop partnerships with Irish development actors

OPERATIONAL ACTIONS

Funding plan – internal/external, including sources of revenue generation
Secure P/T administrator; research support officer
Secure adequate space on campus
Governance structure

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Establish External Advisory Group

OUTPUTS

4 overarching societal engaged research themes identified and 1 flagship interdisciplinary research project initiated

1 visiting scholar¹⁵

2 collaborative papers published in peer reviewed web of science journals

2 significant research grants secured

4 research clusters formed addressing key research themes

Global Development module launched in September 2019

2 research conferences, and 2 research seminars organised (2 co-delivered with external partners)

4 Policy Briefs developed

Web, mass media, social media, newsletter, delivered

Students and staff engage with the CGD Assembly

CGD engages with Student Societies

At least one long-term partnership developed with Irish development actor

Best practice physical and organisational structure established

OUTCOMES

The collective knowledge, capacity and creativity of the UCC community, and its community partners, is harnessed towards sustainable global development. CGD research, education and knowledge development increased

Increased student global citizenship and curricular participation in global development courses and modules

Stronger networking, connections, engagement by CGD with local, national and international stakeholders. Strong institutional identity and recognition through CGD brand awareness

National and International profile of the CGD is raised

Sustainable organisational and funding model for the CGD secured

Strategic use of investment demonstrated and evaluated

IMPACT

Societal impact through enhancing universal equity, dialogue, transformative change, social justice, sustainability and ethical engagement

CGD recognised as a centre of excellence for inter-disciplinary global development partnership, societal engaged research, teaching and practice; aligned with the SDGs

CGD recognised for its contributions and impact on national and international policy development and influence

UCC's university impact ranking is increased

12. The CGD is managed by a steering committee representative of each college, plus co-opted members from relevant college offices. Its Annual Assembly helps shape CGD direction. Its work programme is advanced via ad-hoc working groups.

13. Building on existing significant strengths in UCC in relation to SDGs –including food security/nutrition/agriculture; health; water; sustainability, climate action & renewable energy; gender; inequality; education; and building on strengths in other areas, e.g. in migration, conflict/human rights, indigenous worldviews, ICTs/big data.

14. With state agencies (e.g. Irish Aid), Irish and International NGOs; academic associations (e.g. EADI); NGO forums (e.g. DSAI, Dochas).

15. Marie Curie/CAROLINE, Fulbright etc.

Professor Pat Fitzpatrick, the first Director of the CGD, presided over the formal launch of the Centre in 2012. The CGD was then formally included into UCC's 2013–2017 Strategic Plan. This reaffirmed UCC's commitment to adopting a global perspective in all of the Universities' activities. Following Professor Fitzpatrick's retirement in 2013, the Director's role passed briefly to Dr Paul Conway until 2014. It was then assumed by UCC's Dr Rosarii Griffin, (a former Director of a Centre for Global Development for Education in Limerick), who took on the role of Acting Director until the formal appointment of Dr Nick Chisholm in 2018.







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