



# Accompanying Change and Progress in the Asia Pacific



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY



**Universities play a critical role in accompanying change and progress as creators and disseminators of knowledge and as drivers of innovation.**

Alongside government and industry, universities also contribute significantly to economic development and societal wellbeing. As the global community begins to look to a post-Sustainable Development Goals agenda, universities must now be at the vanguard of those considering diverse world views of change and progress.

UNSW has demonstrated commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through university-wide policy, planning, and action over the past decade. As Australia's leading research university, UNSW's programmatic and policy contributions span pioneering renewables and critical recyclables, sustainable and just transition frameworks for water, energy, and food, surveillance and therapeutic treatments in medicine and population health, equitable and innovative education pathways, intergenerational wellbeing, and digital engineering for the common good.

In the coming months, UNSW is poised to release a Societal Impact Framework to help guide implementation of university strategy from 2025. The framework rests upon ongoing, coordinated faculty initiatives on equity, diversity, and inclusion as well as activities of UNSW's SDG Steering Committee. It also leverages two new university offices that are purpose built for

UNSW's intention of accompanying social change and progress: the University Office of Global Affairs and the Division for Societal Impact, Equity and Engagement.

Converged by the new UNSW Global Strategy Workstream on Partnerships for Sustainability and Resilience, significant efforts are under way by faculties and their research partners across the region to better understand vulnerability and reimagine indications of change and progress that matter in a post-SDG world.

The following pages provide diverse examples of UNSW's accompaniment of progress in the Asia Pacific region through contributions to thought leadership, innovation, and engagement; knowledge exchange; and research partnership. Their variety helps illustrate UNSW's commitment to staying aware of societal and planetary interdependence while catalysing social change and progress.

**In 2023, UNSW ranked in 18th place globally in the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings – the first global attempt to measure university progress around SDGs adopted by all United Nations states.**



**This publication was prepared by the UNSW Institute for Global Development.**

Serving as UNSW's centre for converging university capabilities with the needs and interests of communities in and around Australia, the Institute for Global Development leverages UNSW expertise to curate critical conversations and to provide context-specific intermediation and accompaniment.

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#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

UNSW is located on the unceded territory of the Bedegal (Kensington campus), Gadigal (City and Paddington Campuses) and Ngunnawal peoples (UNSW Canberra) who are the Traditional Owners of the lands where each campus of UNSW is situated.

# 1 End poverty in all its forms everywhere

The **Social Policy Research Centre** (SPRC) at UNSW tackles critical social issues with a focus on the intergenerational aspects of poverty, inequality, wellbeing and justice. They have particular expertise in the extent and nature of poverty in Australia as well as China, Indonesia, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Pakistan, where the SPRC has produced research and analysis on poverty reduction and child protection, including for the World Bank & UNICEF. Strategic initiatives include research on the impact of SDG 1 on child poverty internationally.

UNSW's long-term partnership, research and impact collaboration with the **Australian Council of Social Service** (ACOSS) is sharpening the national focus on poverty and inequality through high-quality research, policy development and advocacy to effect change. Backed by a consortium of 13 NGO and philanthropic partners, the collaboration monitors trends in poverty and inequality over time, explores drivers, and develops solutions to sharpen the focus and stimulate action to tackle these policy challenges.

**Yuwaya Ngarra-li** is an initiative that promotes two-way learning between Walgett's **Dharriwaa Elders Group** (DEG) and a range of UNSW Faculties. Through the Yuwaya Ngarra-li partnership, the DEG and UNSW work in collaboration to improve the social and physical wellbeing, built environment and life

pathways of Aboriginal people in Walgett by collaborating on evidence-based programs, research projects and capacity-building, and by evaluating this model of 'CommUNITY-Led Development' as a way of working with other Aboriginal communities.

**Nura Gili: Centre for Indigenous Programs** is our student-facing services, programs and study facility, providing study spaces and meeting places for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and researchers. The Centre provides pathways for prospective Indigenous students to study in all UNSW faculties, and works to enhance the student experience for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, including student success, tutoring, workshops, and events.

The **Centre for Social Impact** (CSI) is a research and education collaboration between UNSW, **Swinburne University of Technology**, the **University of Western Australia**, and **Flinders University**. CSI's research develops and collates knowledge to understand social challenges and opportunities across issues; including health, children and young people, ageing and disability, financial inclusion and employment, population diversity and mobility, education and housing. CSI produces the Australian Social Progress Index – the only tool that holistically measures social equity in Australia.

UNSW is committed to research, education, and partnerships that tackle poverty, inequality, wellbeing and justice.

1 NO POVERTY



# 2 End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture



The **Future Food Systems Cooperative Research Centre (FFSCRC)** supports innovation and growth across the food sector, bringing together leading experts and laboratories across disciplines to transform the sector and create global impact in sustainable, nutritious and secure food systems.

FFSCRC partners with **The George Institute for Global Health (TGI)**, whose food policy team work globally to reduce death and disease caused by diets high in salt, harmful fats and added sugars. In 2013, The George Institute was designated a **World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre on Population Salt Reduction**, with a remit to support countries worldwide to achieve the new 2025 target for reducing salt by 30%.

**The Food and Health Research Group** in the School of Chemical Engineering drives innovation in nutrition, food safety and sustainability, with a view to address the debilitating effects of micronutrient deficiencies and assess risks to food safety along the value chain. Researchers are delivering real-world impact in food science, nutrition and food safety in Papua New Guinea and Sri Lanka, assessing population-wide nutrition status to identify gaps in nutrient intakes. Professor Jayashree Arcot's work at the intersection of food engineering and public

health nutrition is addressing micronutrient malnutrition in the Asia Pacific region through food-based interventions. Associate Professor Alice Lee's work connecting food science, food chemistry, and safety to risk assessments along the food value chain is addressing issues with the delivery of healthy food to the population, especially school children in Sri Lanka.

UNSW's **Aquaculture Research Group (ARG)** conducts research and capacity-building activities to improve aquaculture production for food and income security in the Asia Pacific. For over 10 years, Professor Jes Sammut has collaborated with the **National Fisheries Authority** in Papua New Guinea. Professor Sammut and his team lead a fish farming research project, teaching more efficient aquaculture practices to people in remote villages – including how to dig ponds, manage water quality, feed fish, identify the sex of fish, and increase fishpond yields. This project has become part of a long-term strategy to address food and income security through fish farming research in the Asia Pacific region. ARG also collaborates with the **PNG University of Technology** in Papua New Guinea, **Permakultura Timor Lorosa'e** in Timor Leste, **Can Tho University**, the **Cuu Long Rice Research Institute** and the **Research Institute for Aquaculture** in Vietnam, and the **Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries** in Indonesia.

**In pursuit of zero hunger, our collaborations with Asia Pacific partners are reducing salt in diets worldwide and co-designing better aquaculture processes to support sustainable livelihoods in Papua New Guinea, Vietnam and Indonesia.**

# 3 Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

UNSW is the lead academic institute for the **Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (APO)** and one of five universities across the Asia Pacific region that provides policy research inputs to the APO. Focusing on providing evidence-based policy advice, the **UNSW School of Population Health** has provided advice to Pacific leaders to address pertinent policy challenges, including the ageing Pacific population, the use of digital health to achieve universal health coverage goals, and health system governance and financing reform.

**The Global Health Equity and Justice Research Group** at the **Kirby Institute** is an interdisciplinary group, grounded in principles of community engagement, equitable partnerships, and improved access to health care for vulnerable and key populations globally, with particular emphasis on Asia and the Pacific. The group has wide-ranging expertise, including in HIV, sexually transmitted infections, human papillomavirus (HPV) and cervical cancer, and tuberculosis, as well as broader sexual, reproductive and maternal health issues. The Kirby Institute has a long-term partnership with the

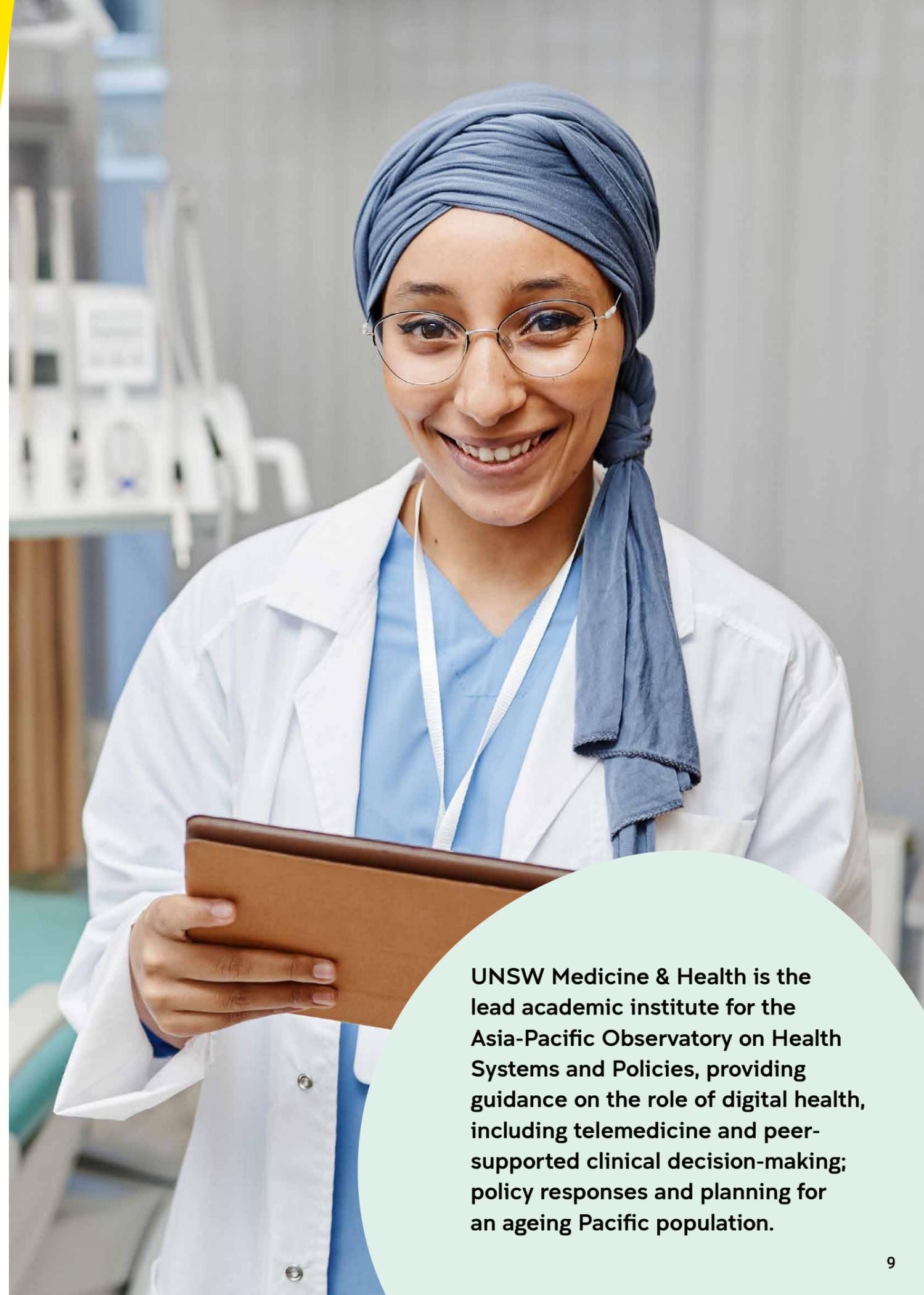
**PNG Institute of Medical Research**, collaborating to improve HIV viral load testing and detection of drug resistance in Papua New Guinea, which has the highest burden of HIV in the Pacific region.

**The George Institute's (TGI) Global Injury Research Program** is a designated **WHO Collaborating Centre on Injury Prevention and Trauma Care**, aiming to improve the safety of men, women and children, especially those in low- and middle-income countries, and optimise their care and rehabilitation in the event of an injury. Research undertaken in Fiji and Samoa by TGI resulted in significant policy changes that are helping to reduce salt intake in Pacific Island countries.

UNSW's Food Science program is exclusively recognised by the **Institute of Food Technologists**, USA, and includes a specialist course in food and health security. The **Food and Health Research Group** in the School of Chemical Engineering is partnering with the **World Food Program** through its expertise in Food Science, Engineering, and Food Safety to deliver nutritious and safe food for children through school meal programs. Professor Jayashree Arcot has recently partnered with the Global School Meal Consortium (GSMC) to evaluate the school meal program delivery in Sri Lanka from a nutritional perspective.

The **UNSW Cities Institute** is a member of the **Asia Pacific Alliance for Healthy Cities** and the **International Society for Urban Health**. Scientia Academic Dr Jinhee Kim has recently hosted the **Korean Healthy Cities Alliance**.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



**UNSW Medicine & Health is the lead academic institute for the Asia-Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies, providing guidance on the role of digital health, including telemedicine and peer-supported clinical decision-making; policy responses and planning for an ageing Pacific population.**

# 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



UNSW is one of 16 member universities of the **Australia and New Zealand School of Government (ANZSOG)**, a regional education institution, which provides teaching and government-focused research relevant to the public sector. To address the need for increased support to universities and think-tanks in the Pacific, particularly with reference to policy and administrative capacity-building for the civil service along the lines of ANZSOG, UNSW is expanding mentorship and training opportunities for civil servants in the Pacific on policy responses to pressing developmental challenges.

UNSW's **School of Education** is actively engaged in high-impact projects in the education system in Australia and abroad. For example, the **Gonski Institute for Education** brings together world-leading scholars, policymakers and practitioners to conduct research that will help improve academic and wellbeing outcomes throughout Australia, particularly for disadvantaged students and those in rural and remote areas, with implications for educating disadvantaged students worldwide.

The **Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC)** has conducted research for Australia's Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability on co-teaching approaches to inclusive education, changing communities' attitudes and behaviours towards people with disability, and access to services for people with disability from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

The **Australia Graduate School of Management (AGSM)** at the **UNSW Business School** offers experiential, world-class programs designed to equip a new generation of leaders to make an impact in an accelerating world. In addition to degree programs and short courses, UNSW is offering opportunities for senior civil service and security personnel from the Asia Pacific to obtain certification and training.

UNSW's commitment to increasing social impact includes ensuring a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive student community. Through its ambitious Gateway Equity target, UNSW is committed to ensuring that 25 percent of commencing undergraduate domestic students will be from low-socio-economic backgrounds and/or socio-educationally disadvantaged schools by 2027.

UNSW partners with one of Africa's newest universities, **Gulu University**, in Uganda to develop programs for Gulu University academic staff, and support visiting research fellowships and PhD scholarships (in both directions) in areas of shared interest such as mental health, justice, renewable energy, and infectious diseases.

UNSW is establishing a new city campus in Canberra, with construction of teaching and research spaces expected to be completed in 2026. The Canberra City campus will allow for the expansion of postgraduate and professional offerings, as well as the opportunity to explore bespoke educational programs to address domestic and international needs.

**UNSW is offering mentorship and training for civil servants in the Asia Pacific on policy responses to pressing development challenges.**

# 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

On International Women's Day 2024, UNSW launched its first **Gender Equity Strategy**, aligning efforts across the university to drive institutional change over the next four years that supports gender equity.

The **Women's Wellbeing Academy (WWBA)** works to create positive impacts nationally and globally, in key areas of women's wellbeing through collaborative translational research and practice to advance gender equity and equality. Over the next 5 years, the WWBA will be working towards unique projects in medicine and health, arts and social sciences, and partnerships and alliances.

The **Gendered Violence Research Network (GVRN)** is a joint initiative of **UNSW Arts, Design & Architecture** and **UNSW Law & Justice**. The GVRN undertakes rigorous and reliable multidisciplinary research, which focuses on real-world outcomes, uniting the University's significant domestic and international research expertise to respond, prevent, and end gendered violence in Australia and beyond.



GVRN's activities include providing extensive training, advisory and research activities around preventing family violence in Papua New Guinea, and preventing sex trafficking and domestic violence

in Asia. Recently, the GVRN co-hosted their annual anti-gender-based violence campaign with the University of Edinburgh and **Dr B R Ambedkar University Delhi**, exploring demands for institutional change from Australia, the UK and India.

UNSW's increasing focus in the region includes engagement with **UN Women** to support building safer university campuses in Timor-Leste, including interacting to support the development of action plans to prevent gendered violence. In Papua New Guinea, UNSW is exploring the development of secure digital platforms for women to network, obtain legal advice, seek funding and engage in advocacy on issues related to gendered violence.

Dr Joyce Wu, of the **School of Social Sciences**, is currently the Gender and Social Inclusion Advisor for the Australian Government's **Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)**: South Asia, South-East Asia, and Pacific Island Countries, assisting ACIAR to implement a gender lens into their agricultural research and ensuring that women have the opportunity to benefit from research and development.

**Pathways to Politics for Women** is a national, proudly non-partisan initiative that aims to change the face of politics by equipping women with the skills, knowledge, confidence and networks they need to run for elected office



and thrive as political leaders. The program seeks to address the underrepresentation of women in Australian politics. The program is running for the fourth time in NSW in 2024, delivered by UNSW. It is hosted by the **Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law at UNSW Law & Justice**. Pathways to Politics has realised significant impact in advancing female political participation since it launched in 2016, with 34 electoral successes achieved nationally across the political spectrum at local, state and federal levels of government.

The **Centre for Social Impact** leads a portfolio of research on gender-lens investing and inclusive innovation, including analysing public and private investment mechanisms to address gender inequality in start-ups, venture capital, and investment funds internationally, working with state and federal governments.

**In partnership with the UN in Papua New Guinea, UNSW is exploring the development of secure digital platforms for women to network, obtain legal advice, seek funding and engage in advocacy on issues related to gendered violence.**

# 6 Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

The **Global Water Institute (GWI)** is a world leader in water research, innovation and problem solving. The Institute is a truly multidisciplinary venture. Drawing on water expertise from 400 researchers, seven faculties, and 13 specialist centres across the University, the Institute has created Australia's most advanced water knowledge hub. GWI provides secretariat support for the **Water Policy Group**, partnering to produce the Global Water Policy Report, a global survey of water ministers and national water agency heads.

In collaboration with the **Water Authority of Fiji**, GWI supported the inclusion of interactions on the challenges facing Pacific Island Countries and Territories at the **UN 2023 Water Conference** where Pacific Ministers shared the challenges facing Pacific Island Countries and Territories and discussed the concrete actions that must be taken to meet SDG 6. GWI Director Greg Leslie supports **Permakultura Timor Lorosa'e's** community-based water conservation efforts in Timor-Leste to help reduce water supply volatility.

The **Water Research Centre (WRC)**, considered the birthplace of coastal engineering in Australia, has over 60 years of experience providing multidisciplinary research in water resources, engineering and developing tools to improve aquatic and atmospheric environments. Much of WRC's work is relevant to the Asia Pacific, including the research of Associate Professor Martin Andersen who is investigating seawater ingress into drinking water aquifers in the Pacific, and its effect on water quality.

Part of the **School of Civil and Environmental Engineering**, WRC is also home to Australia's second-largest wave research simulator, essential for modelling coastal and inland water behaviour to improve fundamental understanding of the forces that are shaping coastlines now and in the future.

**Australia's most advanced water knowledge hub, the UNSW Global Water Institute, provides support to Pacific Island governments, communities and private sector to provide solutions to the estimated 1.8 million people in the region who are living without safe sanitation.**

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



# 7 Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



The PERC solar cell was first invented at UNSW in our labs in 1983 and today powers more than 85% of all new solar panel modules all over the world.

The **Energy Institute** comprises the largest and most diverse grouping of energy experts in Australia, and for more than 30 years, UNSW has carved a formidable reputation as one of the world's leading research and technology hubs for energy innovation. The first PERC solar cell was invented in the labs at the **School of Photovoltaic & Renewable Energy (SPREE)** in 1983 and today powers more than 85% of all new solar panel modules all over the world, a development for which Scientia Professor Martin Green – often described as the “father of modern photovoltaics” – was awarded the **2023 Leigh Ann Conn Prize for Renewable Energy** and the **2023 VinFuture Grand Prize**, the first major scientific prize based in Asia Pacific. Development of the technology at UNSW also resulted in training a generation of students who, with Professor Green's support, applied their skills to establish solar cell manufacturing in Asia.

SPREE continues to be at the forefront of leading-edge research and development as global economies transition to renewable energy. For example, Professor Richard Corkish is leading the **Énergie Renouvelable Vanuatu (UNSWERV)** project, which utilises the expertise of UNSW SPREE students to design solar photovoltaic (PV) systems for remote villages in Vanuatu, addressing communications and lighting needs for health and education. Capacity-building and skills transfer within the region are a growing component of the project.

Technical innovation is complemented across UNSW with specialists working on policy analysis, economic and market design, laws, standards and regulation, social acceptance and energy equity. Associate Professor Paul Munro, from the **School of Humanities & Languages**, for example, works on political ecology analysis of Vanuatu's grid electricity policies, helping to provide off-grid renewable energy access.

Scientia Professor Rose Amal, Co-Director of the **ARC Industrial Transformation Training**

**Centre for Global Hydrogen Economy** is pioneering research on affordable renewable fuels, which will be transformational for Small Island Developing States, which are dependent on aviation and shipping fuels for commerce and movement.

In response to the Efate Outcome Statement adopted by 20 Pacific countries in 2023, UNSW's Dr Rahman Daiyan and Professor Iain MacGill are leading the development of the **Pacific Hydrogen Strategy** in partnership with the Australian Government's Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW). The Strategy recognises the potential of green hydrogen and its derivatives in decarbonising the region.

Led by UNSW, the **Australian Centre for Advanced Photovoltaics (ACAP)** brings together solar photovoltaic research institutions across the country, driving innovations in solar technology. Today's lucrative global solar industry exists as a direct result of ACAP's proud history of collaboration with partners around the world, having brought solar power to millions of people globally. Executive Director of ACAP and UNSW Professor Renate Egan was named co-chair of the **Australia-India Solar Taskforce** in 2023, which aims to accelerate solar PV deployment and enhance supply chains across the two nations.

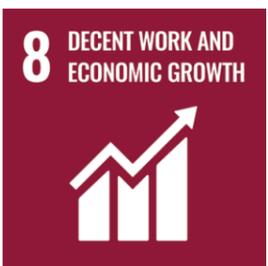
With technological change at the heart of the net zero transformation, UNSW's R&D portfolio offers rewarding and durable pathways for collaboration in areas such as energy. Recently, UNSW and India's **The Energy and Resources Institute of India (TERI)** renewed their agreement to seed deeper partnerships in research, education, and technology development. Their many areas of shared research interest include digitalisation of energy systems, decentralisation of energy supplies, and cross-sectoral energy-related issues at the heart of agriculture, transport, industry, and regional development.

# 8 Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

**UNSW Law & Justice** is facilitating leadership from the business and human rights sectors to examine how Australia's legal framework can ensure that business practices detect and prevent modern slavery, through methods such as mandated corporate disclosures. With the support of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Dr Mario Gomez and Professor Melissa Crouch are working on a project that seeks to reimagine vulnerability in light of COVID-19 in Sri Lanka. UNSW Law & Justice is the home of the Australian Human Rights Institute, which works in partnership with government, industry and human rights defenders through advocacy, education and public engagement to work towards a world where each person and community can realise their rights.

affected workers. Undertaken in partnership with **Baptist World Aid Australia, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, Human Rights Law Centre, Business and Human Rights Centre (RMIT), University of Melbourne, University of Notre Dame Australia** and **University of Western Australia**, the project drew attention to weaknesses in Australia's Modern Slavery Act (2018) and highlighted good practice examples to conduct human rights due diligence.

**UNSW UNOVA** is a transdisciplinary research and development lab, founded in the **UNSW Business School**, which brings industry partners and government together in research to inform policies and practices with positive societal impact. With the support of the **Australia-ASEAN Council of DFAT**, UNOVA's research demonstrates the effect of e-commerce and the current state of women's digital entrepreneurship initiatives in Indonesia. UNSW UNOVA's short courses (**Skills@UNOVA**) are designed to help people maximise their potential and develop skills to meet challenges in a rapidly changing digital economy, regardless of their starting points.



The **Australian Human Rights Institute** recently concluded their multi-year collaborative research project aimed at improving responses to modern slavery and access to remedies for



Dr Joyce Wu, from the **School of Social Sciences**, recently worked on an evaluation with the **International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)**, 'Gender-Sensitive Risks and Options Assessment for Decision Making (ROAD)' to Support Work in Freedom Phase 2', an International Labour Organization programme in Bangladesh, Nepal and Lebanon, funded by the UK Government. The programme aimed 'to reduce vulnerability to trafficking and forced

labour of women and girls across migration pathways leading to the care sector and textiles, clothing, leather and footwear industries (TCLFI) of South Asia and Arab States.' To address women and girl's vulnerability to forced labour, exploitation, and trafficking, the WiF-2 program implemented pre-migration outreach interventions in countries of origin (Bangladesh, India, and Nepal) and developed a Women's Empowerment in Migration Index (WEMI).



# 9 Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation

UNSW is host for the \$15M NSW Decarbonisation Innovation Hub, supporting critical sectors to collaborate and increase the uptake of new technologies to decarbonise NSW.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE



UNSW is home to the **New South Wales Decarbonisation Innovation Hub**, which is led by UNSW Scientia Professor Deo Prasad. The flagship government initiative works to achieve the goal of reaching net zero emissions by 2050 and the recently updated objective to reduce emissions by 50% below 2005 levels by 2030. The Hub brings together government, industry and researchers to fast-track decarbonisation technology.

The **Centre for Infrastructure Engineering and Safety** facilitates advanced research in all aspects of civil engineering infrastructure, including building structures, bridges, tunnels, roads, railways, pavements and materials. Its vision is to be the leading internationally recognised research centre in the region for investigating, understanding and predicting the safety and behaviour of engineering infrastructure. The Centre's Professor Adrian Russell has been involved in an ARC-funded project which aims to prevent catastrophic dam failures worldwide, saving lives and the environment.

Founded by 2021 NSW Australian of the Year, Scientia Professor Veena Sahajwalla, the **Centre for Sustainable Materials Research and Technology** (SMaRT) is renowned for

pioneering innovative environmental solutions for the world's biggest waste challenges. The SMaRT Centre is behind the invention of Green Steel, an important technology that is enabling the decarbonisation of steel production, which accounts for 7 percent of global carbon emissions. The SMaRT Centre is also at the forefront of innovative MICROfactory technologies, which convert waste materials, such as glass, plastic and textiles into new value-added materials and products, such as engineered green ceramics.

**ARC Research Hub for Resilient and Intelligent Infrastructure Systems** (RIIS) is an industry and ARC-funded research and innovation hub for smart infrastructure. A frontier arena of research, the RIIS Hub led by Scientia Professor Nasser Khalili, Head of the **School of Civil and Environmental Engineering**, focuses on the development and delivery of transformational technologies for Australia's critical infrastructure. It integrates advances in sensor technology, connectivity, data analytics, machine learning, robotics, smart materials, and reliable models to deliver resilient and adaptive infrastructure systems in urban, energy and resource sectors – critical to Australia's prosperity and well-being.

# 10 Reduce inequality within and among countries

UNSW strives to be an international exemplar in equity, diversity, and inclusion. In 2017, the University was the first Australian university to appoint a Deputy Vice-Chancellor Equity Diversity & Inclusion. In 2021, UNSW awarded over \$6 million in Equity Scholarships to almost 1,000 students; and, in 2023, the University committed to a new ambitious target, which will see 25 percent of commencing domestic undergraduate students drawn from sectors of society historically underrepresented in higher education by 2027.

UNSW is committed to improving the social and physical wellbeing, built environment and life pathways of Indigenous peoples in Australia and the region. Professor Megan Davis, Pro Vice-Chancellor Society UNSW, has provided instrumental leadership for constitutional reform in Australia as a United Nations expert with the **UN Human Rights Council's Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**. Through the **Yuwaya Ngarra-li partnership**, UNSW is refining a new model of 'CommUNity-Led Development', where the University is embedded in and responsive to community needs and priorities rather than academic paradigms or metrics.

to protect traditional knowledge, promote local bio-economies, and encourage fair and equitable benefit sharing to improve outcomes for local producers across the Pacific. Professor Daniel Robinson is working to decolonialise and expand legal geography's remit, coining the term 'Antipodean legal geography' to highlight the distinctive contributions to legal geography made by Indigenous peoples in Australia and New Zealand. Nutrition researchers at The **George Institute for Global Health's** centre in India recently concluded a study assessing the Indigenous food systems of vulnerable tribal communities in India, promoting resilient, nutritious, and sustainable food systems

Millions of people are displaced by catastrophic natural events, conflict, human rights abuses and climate change impacts. The **Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law** is the world's leading research centre dedicated to the study of international refugee law. The Centre works to create safe, lawful and sustainable mobility pathways for refugees and displaced people. They are examining how countries have used humanitarian corridors to provide safe passage, and how community sponsorship schemes and migration opportunities can open up additional avenues for protection.

Focusing on global financial stability, banks' systemic risk and financial institutions, the **Institute of Global Finance** (IGF) seeks to promote global prosperity and reliable and

effective global governance. Housed at Australia's leading **UNSW Business School**, and one of the top 5 Business Schools in the Asia Pacific, the IGF undertakes cutting-edge research with policy applications for the finance industry. IGF has strong and valuable relationships within the finance industry, collaborating closely with **NYU Stern Business School's Volatility and Risk Institute**, and serves as a leading finance advisory body for policymakers.

The **Social Policy Research Centre** (SPRC) partners with government and NGOs in the Asia Pacific to improve the wellbeing of people with disabilities. A project in Indonesia is exploring the implementation of quota policies, while a project in China is examining cultural considerations regarding services and family support for children with disabilities. SPRC has also partnered with the **UNSW Department of Developmental Disability Neuropsychiatry** (3DN) to evaluate the Statewide Tertiary Intellectual Disability and Mental Health Hubs. Evaluations assess the outcomes of the Hub model to improve services.

In 2024, SPRC partnered with the **United Nations in Papua New Guinea** to scope disability inclusion. With support from **Divine Word University**, UNSW and the UN identified contextually relevant themes and entry points for policy, programming and research to improve disability-inclusive action.

The **Disability Innovation Institute** (DIIU) is a world-first initiative that harnesses inclusive, interdisciplinary research to seek solutions alongside people with disability. In 2024, Rosemary Kayess, one of the DIIU's academic leads, began a five-year term as Disability Discrimination Commissioner with the **Australian Human Rights Commission**, and continued her work with the UN as the Vice Chair of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Professor Jackie Leach Scully, DIIU Director, works within the **ARC Centre of Excellence in Automated**



**Decision-Making and Society** (ADM+S), one node of which is hosted by UNSW. Bringing together universities, communities, government and industry, research undertaken within the DIIU will play a pivotal role in understanding Automated Decision-Making's potential for the world of disability.

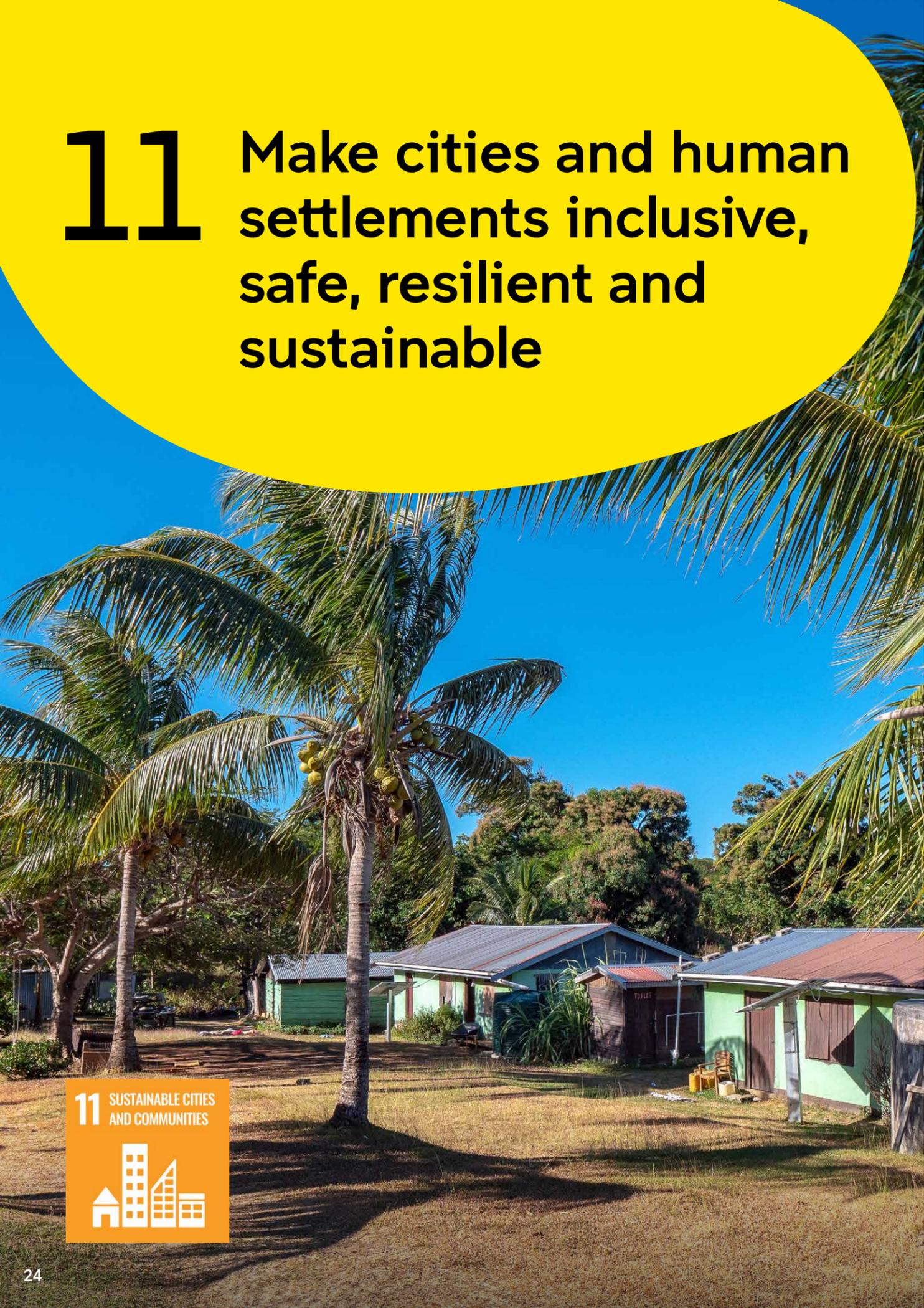
In 2023, in partnership with the **Australian Human Rights Institute**, DIIU led the Asia Pacific regional consultation process to formulate inputs for the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities' comment on Article 11 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities relating to situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies.

The **Centre for Social Impact's** Australian Social Progress Index gives each state or territory a performance score, tracking its social progress over time. Categories include basic human needs – such as shelter, medical care, water, sanitation and personal safety – as well as access to basic knowledge, advanced education, personal rights and environmental quality. The index is Australia's only practical tool to track community wellbeing over time, guiding policymaking and investment decisions.



UNSW researchers, led by Professor Daniel Robinson, have supported the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in 11 Pacific countries, helping

# 11 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



UNSW has considerable research, development, and advocacy expertise supporting disaster risk reduction and humanitarian response.

The **UNSW Cities Institute** is a collaboration between practitioners, academics, futurists, policymakers, analysts and experts who take a holistic view of the urban world. The Institute draws on UNSW disciplinary exceptionalism spanning all faculties, centres and labs. It has a leadership team grounded in practice with significant government experience in urban policy. The Institute has recently completed work for the NSW Premier, state and local government. It approaches all problems through the lens of what matters and for whom to ensure that cities of the future are both sustainable and equitable.

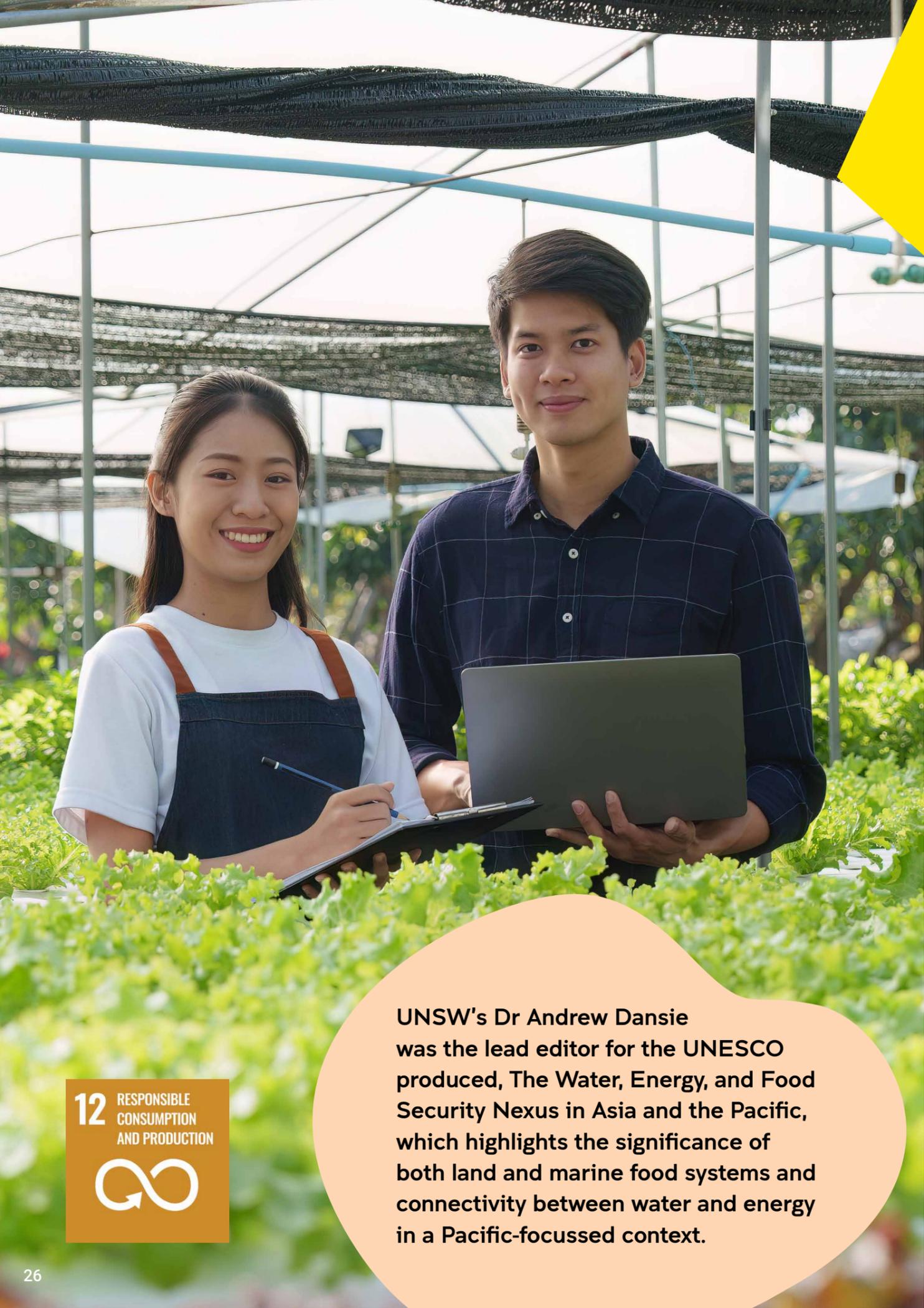
Since 2005, the **City Futures Research Centre** (CFRC) has grown as a national leader in scholarly applied public interest research on cities to develop evidenced-based solutions for tackling the complex challenges of urban change and growth. In 2023, City Futures Senior Research Fellow Dr Chris Martin was invited to Parliament House to brief MPs and advisors on the Centre's research into housing and homelessness, making the case for an ambitious mission-oriented housing and homelessness strategy.

Professor David Sanderson is the Inaugural Judith Neilson Chair in Architecture. He co-led the **Resilience Project**, a partnership between UNSW, the **Australia Pacific Security College** at the Australian National University and **Australian Red Cross**. The project examined how Fiji, the Solomon

Islands and Vanuatu are responding to increasingly frequent and severe tropical cyclones and floods. Professor Sanderson is also set to lead the new HowWeSurvive initiative, aimed at changing how community-centred recovery is understood and enacted in Australia and beyond. UNSW's work on Disaster Risk Reduction aligns with the UN development cooperation issue-based coalition on building resilience.

With the ambient air quality of Pacific Island Countries shown to be deteriorating in recent years, **UNSW Humanitarian Engineering** Academic Lead, Dr Andrew Dansie, is leading a collaborative research partnership with the **University of the South Pacific's** (USP) Tonga campus to provide continuous air quality monitoring and sampling and build in-country capacity of air quality monitoring. Alongside researchers Jimmy J Hilly and Khadija Al Nabhani, the field research program aims to improve understanding of air pollutant sources and compare health impacts across Tonga and neighbouring countries. In 2023, the project expanded to include Vanuatu and, to date, the project now has air quality monitoring stations in Suva, Fiji, Honiara, Solomon Islands, Nuku'alofa, Tonga and Port Vila, Vanuatu as part of a broader Pacific Air Quality Monitoring network.

In 2023, UNSW ranked 9th in the world in the THE Impact Rankings for SDG 11.



# 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

The **Sustainable Manufacturing and Life Cycle Engineering Research Group**, within the **School of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering**, is currently partnered with the **Australian Research Council** and **Baxter Australia** to investigate how energy and water flow in manufacturing environments in order to identify hot spots for reduction or reclamation of energy and water usage.

Through the **Institute for Industrial Decarbonisation**, UNSW is further investing in its leadership as a national and regional provider of industrial decarbonisation research and development and skills. Working across multiple laboratories and teams within the University, the Institute's initial focus is on developing new methods and technologies for decarbonising processes in construction, mining, manufacturing, industrial chemicals, and critical infrastructure. Professor Stephen Foster's research explores the greening of the concrete/cement supply chain, while Professor Rose Amal co-leads the **ARC Industrial Transformation Training Centre for Global Hydrogen Economy** and the **NSW Power Fuel Network**, including research into the development of sustainable aviation fuels.

Founded in 2008, the **Centre for Sustainable Materials Research and Technology (SMaRT)** at UNSW aims to develop novel research for

sustainable materials and manufacturing processes, build industry partnerships to activate research for real-world impact and to disseminate green materials and manufacturing technologies that benefit industries, local communities, and enhance sustainable economic growth internationally. The key pillars of SMaRT, influencing Australian and worldwide practice, are the Sustainable Communities and Waste Hub, the ARC Microrecycling Research Hub, and the ARC Green Manufacturing Research Hub.

The **Bourke Community Garden** project, a collaborative initiative informed by the success of the **Yuwaya Ngarra-li** partnership between the **Dharriwaa Elders Group (DEG)** and UNSW, addresses critical issues related to food security in Australia's rural and remote areas by providing accessible and high-quality nutritional produce, with an innovative, community-led design and cultural space that embeds First Nations worldviews into its design, implementation and operation. The project is funded until 2026, with potential to extend. Supported by the **Global Water Institute** and the **School of Built Environment**, dietetic students and landscape architecture students have actively contributed to practical education initiatives – including cooking classes, nutrition label education, propagation education, and more.

UNSW's Dr Andrew Dansie was the lead editor for the UNESCO produced, **The Water, Energy, and Food Security Nexus in Asia and the Pacific**, which highlights the significance of both land and marine food systems and connectivity between water and energy in a Pacific-focussed context.



# 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

The **Climate Change Research Centre (CCRC)** is one of Australia's largest research facilities dedicated to physical and biogeochemical climate science. Through novel models and evaluation frameworks, the CCRC is providing answers to questions on climate dynamics, global climate change, and extremes of weather and climate. CCRC staff engage in a wide array of projects in the Asia Pacific, including improving extreme rainfall projections for Southeast Asia, understanding how El Niño and La Niña affect variations in the Indian Ocean, and downscaling future rainfall on Pacific Islands. With the support of the **Global Climate Fund**, CCRC is providing regional training to assist with national adaptation plans in developing countries.

The **Institute for Climate Risk and Response** brings together expertise from **UNSW Science**, **UNSW Business** and **UNSW Law & Justice**. In partnership with industry, the Institute focuses debate on behavioural responses to the risks and opportunities of climate change. Set up

to be a leading voice in climate risk and response nationally and in the Asia Pacific, it informs risk management frameworks regarding the impacts of climate change for business, government and policymakers.

The **Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Law** is examining the role of international law in addressing mobility in the context of climate change and disasters and strategies for future law and policymaking. In 2016, the **UN High Commissioner for Refugees** appointed Professors Jane McAdam and Guy Goodwin-Gill to help develop its institutional strategy on climate change and disaster displacement. Their recommendations formed the basis for UNHCR's ongoing strategic engagement in this area.

The **Water Research Centre (WRC)**, part of the **School of Civil and Environmental Engineering**, has over 60 years of experience providing multidisciplinary research in water resources and engineering. Work is underway to build resilience to climate change and its impacts in the Pacific, including research by Associate Professor Kristin Splinter to improve coastal protection in the Cook Islands, and work by PhD student Eleanor Earl on improving the flood resilience of Pacific Island urban communities.

UNSW hosts the **Secretariat of the International Universities Climate Alliance (IUCA)**, an initiative established in 2020 by UNSW. The Alliance represents more than 40 leading leading climate research universities across 25 countries.

UNSW hosts over 700 academic staff undertaking research in climate change science, impacts, adaptation, mitigation, solutions, and policy across more than 30 Centres and Institutes. This includes foundational climate science and research into the impacts of climate change on security, law, policy, health, ecosystems, tourism, biodiversity, the built environment, coastal infrastructure, energy, decarbonisation, and water management.



The Global Lead for the **International Universities Climate Alliance** is UNSW Scientia Professor Matthew England. Through the IUCA Secretariat, UNSW engages with the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** and other international organisations to enhance the roles of universities in globally coordinated climate action. In 2023 UNSW co-hosted the Partnerships for Climate Action Symposium within the Asia Pacific Region to explore how universities can accelerate meaningful partnerships for the Goals. Outcomes were presented at the Australian Government Pavilion at **COP28** in Dubai. Through the Alliance's Oceania Chapter, UNSW supported Pacific climate change ministers to participate at the **Australian Circular Economy Forum** and help shape the development of a 2030 circular economy roadmap.

UNSW is supporting a 'joined-up' approach that facilitates and coordinates Australian university and industry expertise on climate and the circular economy for government and the UN in the Asia Pacific. The consortium approach is curating a series of high-level interactions among government, industry, academia, and community in Australia and its near region to shape an essential policy narrative on climate adaptation accompanying circular economy and vice versa, and highlighting the critical interdependence of mountainous and oceanic communities for climate resilience. Ultimately, this consortium approach will converge on supporting and shaping the Australian-Pacific joint bid to host the **COP31 on climate in 2026** and the Australian bid to host the **Global Circular Economy Forum in 2025**.



UNSW also co-leads the **Australian Centre for Excellence in Antarctic Science (ACEAS)**, a consortium of eight Australian universities that seeks to improve projections of future climate and sea level changes, deepen understanding of the effect of climate change on the Antarctic, and identify the impacts of deglaciation on ecosystems.

Comprising UNSW, **The Australian National University** and **Monash University**, the **Universities Climate Consortium (UCC)** consolidates a significant grouping of strategic skills, resources and institutional investment on climate-related issues. The UCC represents about 80 percent of the significant university-based teaching and research on climate issues in Australia.

UNSW is affiliated with the **UN Environmental Programme International Methane Emissions Observatory (UNEP IMEO)** and is advancing the use of atmospheric measurements of greenhouse gases for verifying the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change National Inventory submissions.

Researchers from the **Centre for Marine Science and Innovation (CMSI)** are conducting advanced research on the impacts of climate change and innovative ways to mitigate its impacts. Examples include the research to develop new capacities to 'future-proof' natural oyster populations and the Australian oyster industry and contribute to the restoration of degraded oyster habitats that are of enormous importance to Indigenous Australians. The Centre also pioneers research on marine heatwaves and how changes in global ocean currents affect climate.



**In 2023, UNSW ranked 2nd in the world in the THE Impact Rankings for SDG 13.**

# 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development



The **Global Water Institute (GWI)** focuses on Healthy Oceans and Coastlines as a core component of its work. This includes activities to protect ecosystems and infrastructure at the intersection of marine and freshwater environments, with a focus on identifying and adapting to anthropogenic threats including storm surge, sea level rise and pollution. GWI also works with partners from the Cook Islands to raise awareness about the synergy between traditional knowledge & science and to promote opportunities for students to pursue careers in coastal engineering.

The **Water Research Laboratory (WRL)** is a world-leading fundamental and applied research organisation tackling the most challenging water engineering problems, WRL maintains CoastSat, an online open-source interactive platform that provides

global longitudinal, remote sensing, satellite-derived shoreline position data on sandy coastlines worldwide.

The **Centre for Marine Science and Innovation (CMSI)** is a multidisciplinary mix of ecological and

biological sciences, physical and biological oceanography, environmental impact assessment, as well as coastal geomorphology and engineering. CMSI focuses on researching fundamental knowledge on the functions, processes, interactions and changes in the marine environment and developing innovative solutions for management, conservation and economic developments. As part of the **Sydney Institute of Marine Science** partnership, CMSI's Living Seawalls project aims to revolutionise the way we think about building in the ocean by developing adaptable and affordable mechanisms to bring life back into marine developments across the world.

In partnership with the Sydney Institute of Marine Science, the **NSW Environmental Trust** and the **NSW Department of Planning and Environment**, CMSI researchers are leading Project Restore, the multi-habitat restoration project aimed at enhancing connected habitats in Sydney for marine life and humans to thrive. This project is amongst the first, globally, to move beyond habitat-by-habitat restoration, providing an example of how multi-habitat restoration can be conducted at seascape scale to not only maximise ecological but also socio-economic benefits.

Importantly, this initiative has led to the **World Harbour Seascape Restoration Programme**, endorsed by the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science.

CMSI's Living Seawalls, a partnership project with the Sydney Institute of Marine Science (SIMS), **Macquarie University** and industrial designers from the **Reef Design Lab**, is revolutionising the way we build in our oceans and have developed adaptable and affordable mechanisms to bring life back into marine developments across the world. The project has now several installations nationally and internationally and has successfully enhanced local biodiversity in Sydney Harbour.

The **Centre for Ecosystem Science (CES)** engages in pioneering research on offshore artificial reefs, the first of which was deployed in the ocean off the coast of Sydney in October 2011. CES' recent research has shown that artificial reefs can increase fish stocks in estuaries with little natural reef.

The **Sustainable Development Reform Hub (SDR Hub)** coordinates worldwide activities of the **Global Ocean Accounts Partnership**, a multistakeholder partnership, co-chaired by the **Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada** and the **UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**, which enables countries and other stakeholders to go 'Beyond GDP' to measure and manage progress towards sustainable ocean development. Its key achievements so far have included establishing global and regional communities of practice, supporting pilot activities in over 15 countries and securing high-level political commitments from 17 heads of government to develop national ocean accounts.

The SDR Hub also serves as the interim **Secretariat of the Pacific Blue Shipping Partnership**, an open coalition of Pacific Island Countries (co-chaired by Fiji and the Marshall Islands) that have established commitments to decarbonise their national maritime transport sectors through efforts to secure large-scale investment in low-carbon infrastructure replacement and development.

UNSW is a member of the **Australian Water Partnership (AWP)**, an international initiative, funded by the **Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**, which draws on Australian expertise to respond to requests for water assistance from partners in the Asia Pacific region. The AWP is actively responding to the SDGs by working collaboratively to implement development activities, share knowledge, build capacity and improve water management approaches.

**UNSW is home to a world-leading community of more than 400 researchers, professional staff, and PhD students supporting collective action and multidisciplinary solutions to enhance water governance and security, improve coastline and ocean resilience, and enable access to safe water through culturally appropriate solutions.**

14 LIFE BELOW WATER



# 15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

The **Centre for Ecosystem Science (CES)** produces high-level research impact in relation to the environment and land degradation. The CES is a unique unit within UNSW, with world-class researchers in ecosystem science and a diverse range of scientific expertise

in terrestrial ecology, GIS, remote sensing and the use of conservation tools. The CES is involved in the reintroduction of locally extinct species, woodland restoration and strategic adaptive management. Led by

Professor David Keith, CES is collaborating with scientists and practitioners from around the world to test the listing criteria on a range of ecosystems and develop novel tools to assist in their implementation. Like the Red List for Threatened Species, the **Red List of Ecosystems** will influence policy, assist allocation of conservation resources and contribute to slowing the loss of the world's biodiversity. This is important to governments and NGOs, who need credible methods to assess risks to biodiversity that are consistent, transparent and theoretically sound to support conservation policy and management.



Established in 2007, the **Evolution and Ecology Research Centre's** purpose is to build capacity for the quality of research in the interaction between ecology and evolutionary biology, drawing together over 50 academic staff from across UNSW. Current projects include 'The repeatability of evolution and its implications for biodiversity', 'The ecology of invasive species', 'Does overgrazing reduce ecosystem functions provided by shrublands?' and 'Mathematical models of infectious disease evolution'.

The **Earth and Sustainability Science Research Centre (ESSRC)** is a transdisciplinary research centre that investigates the drivers and impacts of a changing Earth. Through the greenhouse gas measurement laboratory, the ESSRC is helping partners map the location of greenhouse gas emissions, identify priority targets for mitigation spending, verify their greenhouse gas accounting, and track Net Zero progress. The ESSRC is uniquely set up to take car- and aircraft-based measurements of greenhouse gas emissions from facilities, farms and large regions.

UNSW is currently designing a longitudinal program that utilises digital technology to better understand upriver land and forest use to reduce harmful impacts on downstream aquaculture and marine resources in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste.

UNSW's Andrew Dansie and Will Glamore have been investigating pontoon design and stability for floating mangrove plantations in collaboration with **UNESCO**. This new system of forestry in coastal areas could function as a new and clean source of local timber resources, improve ecosystem services and livelihoods for coastal communities, and aid in the preservation of shore-based mangroves and sequestration of atmospheric carbon.

**In 2023, UNSW ranked 10th in the world in the THE Impact Rankings for SDG 15.**

# 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels



The **Australian Human Rights Institute** delivers multidisciplinary research that empowers communities and educates the next generation of human rights leaders. Working with more than 100 Associates, the Institute's collaborations with UN agencies have included the **UNDP** in Bangkok, **UNICEF** in Geneva, and the Pacific Regional Office of the **United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights** (OHCHR ROP) in Fiji.

The **Diplomacy Training Program** (DTP), co-founded at UNSW by José Ramos Horta, President of Timor-Leste and Nobel Peace Prize

winner, has a Memorandum of Understanding with OHCHR ROP. Affiliated with **UNSW Law & Justice**, DTP enables the organisations to work together to provide capacity-building training to civil society organisations and human rights defenders on issues such as sustainable development, business and human rights and the climate crisis rights in the Pacific region.

The **Defence Research Institute** (DRI) unifies UNSW's defence-related research capabilities with global academic and industry partnerships to develop and deliver ground-breaking defence and security capabilities. The DRI performs research in areas such as artificial intelligence, cyber security, conflict studies and defence-related public sector

management. The Institute enables UNSW to bring its research strengths to bear on problems at the intersection of development, politics, and security.

The **Andrew & Renata Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law** examines the capacity and limits of existing international legal and institutional frameworks and bases for cooperation on refugee protection in various regions, including the Asia Pacific, Europe and Africa.

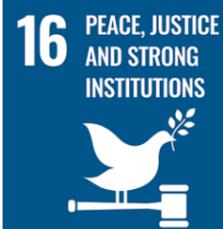
UNSW has a global reputation in the development of Artificial Intelligence, Data Science and Machine learning technology. The **Capabilities Systems Centre** and **UNSW.ai** are designing programs that provide digital technology to understand and address complex governance and developmental problems that create and perpetuate insecurity and inequality in the Asia Pacific.

UNSW helps to convene representatives of international agencies working in Afghanistan and Afghan organisations to discuss

security and governance issues surrounding humanitarian and development assistance in Afghanistan and the region.

UNSW is partnering with the **University of Edinburgh**, the **Centre for Policy Alternatives** in Sri Lanka, **Niti Foundation** in Nepal and the **International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance** to support discourse and practice on constitutional governance, focused on new frameworks to assess and narrate a more authentic relationship between norms, institutions, and constitutional experiences within the conditions of transitional states in the Asia Pacific.

In partnership with the **Centre for Peace & Conflict Studies** in Cambodia and **Niti Foundation** in Nepal, UNSW is establishing a longitudinal program, funded by the **Australian Civil-Military Centre**, that reimagines the provision of development support for public safety in conflict-affected contexts in the Asia Pacific. Through institutional partnerships, the **Australian Graduate School of Management** is offering executive leadership education to police force leaders in the Asia Pacific.



# 17 Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

As a global research-centred knowledge resource, UNSW is committed to strategic accompaniment with key partners such as the UN, and other multilateral and regional organisations to support community-determined outcomes in the Asia-Pacific region. These partnerships, alongside government and industry, seek to provide practical support and solutions for resilience to some of the most divisive contemporary global sustainability challenges such as climate change exacerbated displacement; environmental and health issues in small island developing states; water, energy, food security; and coastal/marine adaptation. Emphasising a community-centred approach, UNSW research and training partnerships place community capabilities and dignity at the centre, while also acknowledging contextual factors that cause vulnerability.

**Development Coordination Office**, UNSW has jointly curated and convened interactions in Australia, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Fiji between the UN and academia to pilot knowledge partnerships on development priorities in the Asia Pacific region.

The creation of a dedicated university workstream on sustainability and resilience in 2024 has also enabled UNSW to enhance cross-faculty emphasis on converging university capabilities with contexts that are increasingly vulnerable. Collaborations have been launched with **Arup Australia**, **PNG University of Technology**, **Permakultura Timor Lorosa'e**, **Swire Shipping**, and **Gaia Project Australia** to accompany community-determined initiatives in digital security, resilient infrastructure, coastal rehabilitation, water conservation, and low-cost closed-loop agriculture.

Alongside our partners at the United Nations, UNSW honours the global effort to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and accepts that success will be partial. Notwithstanding the fact that the UN Sustainable Development Goals have provided a multi-decade framework for collective action on sustainability across the

world absent any other, now is the time to consider other orientations of change and progress as they relate to human beings and nature. As a content partner for the **Times Higher Education Global Sustainable Development Congress 2024**, UNSW co-hosted a roundtable with the United Nations on 'Water, Energy, and Food Goals Post 2030: Can Carbon be the Currency to a Just World?' and curated a workshop on 'The Last Urban Migration and a Post-SDG Agenda for Cities: What Do We Measure and For Whom?'. UNSW is committed to conversations like these that intentionally provoke self-critical reflections of knowing and encourage new imaginings of how change and progress may be indicated.

**UNSW partners with the UN Development Coordination Office, Regional Office – Asia and the Pacific to accelerate towards the UN Sustainable Development Goals and achieve social impact.**



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Since 2022, UNSW has adopted a whole-of-institution approach to support the United Nations to accelerate sustainable development. In collaboration with the **United Nations**

**“UNSW has a proud history of expertise and action in climate science, sustainability and addressing global development challenges. We are committed to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals and embedding ‘SDG Thinking’ throughout the University”**

Professor Attila Brungs  
UNSW Vice Chancellor and President



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We support the Sustainable  
Development Goals

