

FAB13 Workshop: Fab Labs and Sustainable Development Goals

Dear Fab Friends who registered/attended our workshop on Fab Labs and Sustainable Development Goals (WS218) during FAB13 c.c. Fab Foundation

During FAB13, the 13th International Fab Lab Conference (Santiago de Chile, 31 July - 6 August 2017), we organised a bilingual workshop [WS218] called "Sustainable Fab Lab Goals" about Fab Labs and Sustainable Development Goals.

After "Fab Lab Life Cycle" workshops on setting-up and running a fab lab at four earlier FAB-conferences and Fab Lab Safety Game sessions during two, it was time for the next level: Fab Labs and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's).

In 2015, countries of the world agreed on 17 Sustainable Development Goals which have to be reached by all in 2030. Fab labs of the world could use these SDG's as a global framework to identify where we could make a difference. This helps clarify our potential impact on local, regional and global scale. It helps us to align our social activities and makes our labs and the whole more sustainable itself as well. Where sustainable development goals and sustainable fab lab goals coincide, new opportunities for structural cooperation and sustainable funding emerge.

Attached you find our report that describes the format of the workshop, its outcomes, the feedback by participants and our own conclusions on how to proceed. In short: our workshop format has been field tested, we learned valuable lessons regarding the workshop content (see above) and our worldwide team is committed to go further with the following recommendations:

* Spread the SDG message to all 1000+ fab labs worldwide (6000+ if you include all variants like makerspaces, innovation centers, etc.).
* Let each fab lab develop its own SDG-profile.
* Make SDG-profiles visible for the whole fab community and for external parties.
* Stimulate bottom-up collaboration on specific SDG's (or SDG profiles).
* Position the global fab community as a global player for a range of innovations.

Amsterdam,30 September 2017  
  
The Fab Lab SDG team, Pieter van der Hijden (chair) - The Netherlands / Suriname ([pvdh@sofos.nl](mailto:pvdh@sofos.nl)), Enrico Bassi - Italy ([enrico@enricobassi.com](mailto:enrico@enricobassi.com)), Vaneza Caycho Ñuflo - Peru ([vaneza@fablablima.org](mailto:vaneza@fablablima.org)), Neville Govender - South Africa ([neville.govender@ekurhuleni.gov.za](mailto:neville.govender@ekurhuleni.gov.za)), Yogesh Kulkarni - India ([Vigyanashram@yahoo.co.in](mailto:Vigyanashram@yahoo.co.in)), Wendy Neale - New Zealand ([wendyneale3@gmail.com](mailto:wendyneale3@gmail.com)).

Facebook #FAB13 Santiago

During #FAB13 Santiago we organised a bilingual workshop [WS218] about Fab Labs and Sustainable Development Goals. See our report at <http://bit.ly/fab13-sdg-report>. Here are our recommendations:

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