



UCD School of Geography celebrating



The UN 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Prof Enda Murphy, University College Dublin

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Synopsis: The UN 2030 Agenda is a historic and wide-ranging inter-governmental policy agreement signed in 2015 that touches not only the entire geography of the globe but potentially all aspects of how society, economy and the polity is organised. Fundamental to the Agenda is the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, an ambitious vision for all UN Member States to transition towards a sustainable future. Accompanying each goal is a set of well-defined targets that anchor the overall vision. In order to monitor progress towards achieving the SDGs, 169 data indicators are utilised to track progress. To date, progress has been slow globally but there are clear signs that the SDGs are gaining ground in national and international policymaking. Ireland's progress on the SDGs has been mixed; in particular, it is a laggard on the environmental pillar. This lecture discusses the SDGs from an international perspective before focusing in on Ireland and research being conducted on assessing Ireland's performance on the environmental SDGs.

