Thinking about the Sustainable Development Goals

Optional activity to accompany slide 5 of More or Less Equal? introductory slideshow.

- Print out and place the SDG cards around the room. Explain that for this activity the Sustainable Development Goals have been arranged into seven themes:
  - Poverty
  - Health and well-being
  - Education, skills and jobs
  - A just world
  - Sustainability
  - The environment
  - The Global Goals

- Explain that each of the SDG cards has information about one of these seven themes. Ask learners to take their time to explore each of the cards and to then stand near the card (SDG theme) that they think is the most important thing about or for development. Learners may feel that more than one theme is important but they should choose the one which they think is the top priority. One card is blank. Explain that learners can stand near the blank card if they feel that there is something else that is more important than the seven SDG themes.

- Once learners are in place, select individuals to share their choice and the reasons for it, using the following questions as prompts:
  - Did you find it hard to choose?
  - Why do you think your theme is the most important?
  - Which theme do you think is the least important and why?
  - Are you persuaded by the choices of anyone else in the room?
  - Which SDG theme do you think is most likely to succeed and why?
  - Which SDG theme do you think is least likely to succeed and why?
  - Is there something else that you feel is more important than these SDG themes? What is it?

- If time allows, give learners the opportunity to shift their position if they wish. Ask any learners who have changed position to explain why they have done so.

- Tell learners that progress on the SDGs will be measured by governments every year, in order to help achieve them all by 2030.

Further ideas

- Ask learners to investigate the SDGs in more detail. Find out more: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/sustainabledevelopmentgoals
  www.globalgoals.org

- Ask learners to use Oxfam’s education resources to support their learning about the SDGs: www.oxfam.org.uk/education/resources/sustainable-development-goals
SDG Theme 1 – Poverty

No poverty
Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

Reduced inequalities
Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries.

Credit: Abbie Trayler-Smith/Oxfam
Credit: Tom Pietrasik/Oxfam
SDG Theme 2 – Health and well-being

Good health and well-being
Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Clean water and sanitation
Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

Zero hunger
Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.
SDG Theme 3 – Education, skills and jobs

Quality education
Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all.

Decent work and economic growth
Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
SDG Theme 4 – A just world

Gender equality
Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Credit: John Ferguson/Oxfam

Peace, justice and strong institutions
Goal 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.

Credit: Crispin Hughes/Oxfam
SDG Theme 5 – Sustainability

Accordable and clean energy
Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.

Industry, innovation and infrastructure
Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

Sustainable cities and communities
Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

Sustainable living
Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
SDG Theme 6 – The environment

Climate action
Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

Life below water
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Life on land
Goal 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.

Credit: Caroline Irby/Oxfam
Credit: Liz Newbon/Oxfam
SDG Theme 7 – The Global Goals

Partnership for the goals

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Credit: Rob Pinney/Avaaaz
My own goal is...