

**STARS, the SDGs & Project Drawdown -  
Opportunities for Advancing your  
Sustainability Goals**

# Session Speakers & Overview

Amy Dvorak, Lewis & Clark - UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Yolanda Cieters, Seattle University - STARS

Sarah Stoeckl, University of Oregon - Project Drawdown

Meghan Fay Zahniser, AASHE - Moderator



# Learning Outcomes

- Connecting the dots - understanding SDGs, STARS & Drawdown and their linkages
- Understand what tools & frameworks have worked well for some campuses (and maybe not for others) |
- Understand the opportunities for advancing sustainability goals with these frameworks



# Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development



RCEs around the world

There are 166 acknowledged RCEs as of September 2018.

# WHAT IS STARS?

## Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (2007)

- Tool developed by AASHE
- Self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure sustainability performance. Review conducted by AASHE.
- 937 institutions registered with STARS – 39 countries -> most widely recognized standard for higher education sustainability in the world
- Institution can earn points toward a STARS Bronze, Silver, Gold, or Platinum Rating, or earn the STARS Reporter designation.





# STARS framework:

1. Definition of sustainability follows **UN's Sustainable development goals** and plan of action for “people, planet, and prosperity”, encompassing human and ecological health, social justice, secure livelihoods, and a better world for all generations.
1. STARS attempts to translate this broad and inclusive view of sustainability to measurable objectives at the campus level.
  - STARS includes credits related to an institution's **environmental, social, and economic performance**
  - Measure sustainability performance in **all sectors of higher education**

# STARS framework:

## 1. ACADEMICS:

- a. Curriculum
- b. Research

## 2. ENGAGEMENT:

- a. Campus Engagement
- b. Public Engagement

## 3. PLANNING & ADMINISTRATION:

- a. Coordination, Planning, Governance
- b. Diversity & Affordability
- c. Health, Wellbeing, and Work
- d. Investment

## 4. OPERATIONS:

- a. GHG
- b. Buildings
- c. Dining Services
- d. Energy
- e. Grounds
- f. Purchasing
- g. Transportation
- h. Waste
- i. Water

## 4. INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP



# DRAWDOWN



UNIVERSITY OF  
OREGON

# Top 10 Drawdown Solutions

1. Refrigerant Management
2. Wind Turbines (Onshore)
3. Reduced Food Waste
4. Plant-Rich Diet
5. Tropical Forests
6. Educating Girls
7. Family Planning
8. Solar Farms
9. Silvopasture
10. Rooftop Solar



# DRAWDOWN





HOW ARE THESE TOOLS  
CONNECTED TO HIGHER ED?

