LEAP!

PRME WORKING GROUP SUSTAINABILITY MINDSET

2026 INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY MINDSET FESTIVAL

OCTOBER 26

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Time	Activity	Description
#1 **06 00 GMT**	**Evidence before solution: Developing social entrepreneurial judgement for sustainability action** *Bee Ching Gan, Malaysia*	AI has made generating solutions easier than ever. The harder educational task is teaching students how to determine whether the problem and the proposed solution deserves to be believed. This session shares an emerging teaching approach developed from my work in Social Entrepreneurship education. It responds to a recurring pedagogical challenge: learners can move quickly from recognising a social or sustainability issue to proposing an intervention or venture, while the validation of the problem itself may receive comparatively less explicit attention https://meet.google.com/qok-pfyd-eif
#2 **11 00 GMT**	**How graduates grew sustainability leadership and changed the world** *Madeleine van der Steege Netherlands*	This is a story about what happens when graduate students stop studying sustainability from the outside and start leading it from within. In this talk, we follow my students' journey from learning about sustainability leadership to how they begin to live it. I'll introduce you to my class, share their learning map, their Sustainability Mindset Pret-est at the onset, and how their journey to leadership transformation unfolded into transforming the world. Join in this LINK
#3 **13 00 GMT**	**From curriculum to social impact** *Estatira Shirkhodaee Canada*	This session explores how advocacy can be embedded directly into teaching through a social marketing and global citizenship lens, where each class is intentionally designed around real-world challenges and the Sustainable Development Goals. Join in this LINK
#4 **14 00 GMT**	**Who funds the transition? Identity, bearable loss and the sustainability mindset at the moment of commitment** *Clare Nickson Australia*	The ventures a sustainable economy depends on — green hydrogen, regenerative agriculture, climate tech — are funded first by individuals writing their own cheques into radically uncertain start-ups, most of which will fail. Drawing on interviews with 25 angel investors in six countries and 20 bank board directors, Clare Nickson-Havens shows that what gets these decisions made is not the numbers and not the 'sustainability' label, but who the investor thinks they are and how they transform a probable loss into something they can bear. The session sets out what this means for anyone who wants more of these ventures funded, and for practitioners who want the sustainability mindset to produce more action: activate identity, build bearability, and tell stories rather than spreadsheets. Join in this LINK

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#5 **14 30 GMT**	**An integrity journey** *Elena Salcedo Allende* *Spain*	A paradigm shift cannot be explained: it has to be rehearsed. 'Viaje de exploración de sentido' (A Journey in Search of Meaning) works first on worldview, values and ethics, and only then on action. Questions as its guiding thread, art as a language, and reason and emotion on an equal footing. I will share what happens when an intergenerational group gives itself twelve weeks to re-examine the place from which it inhabits the world, what we learned from designing and accompanying it, and what mapping it against the twelve Sustainability Mindset principles revealed was missing. Join in this LINK
#6 **15 00 GMT**	**Managing Social Sustainability in SMEs: Cases, tools, and best practices** *Aušrinė Šilenskytė* *Finland*	This session introduces an open-access digital infrastructure for leading change toward social sustainability in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), developed through the EU-funded DEI4SME project. The session will showcase practical resources that can be applied in teaching, professional development, and organizational improvement initiatives. The session is particularly relevant for those seeking practical and research-informed ways to advance social sustainability in SMEs while fostering more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable organizations and business development. Join in this LINK
#7 **16 00 GMT**	**SustyGrab, the card game that combines fun and purpose** *Johanna Wagner* *France*	SustyGrab is a simple, friendly game, designed to be played with family, friends or colleagues, with a deeper aim: to raise awareness of ecology and encourage cooperation. At any age, it's possible to have fun and create activities with our cards designed to combine fun, strategy and real impact! Join in this LINK
#8 **16 00 GMT**	**From learners to leaders: students as co-designers of an SDG open learning experience** *Andrea Niosi* *Canada*	The Global Persuasion Lab for Sustainable Development (the "Lab") is an open-licensed, web-based learning project that invites students to critically examine how social, cultural, and environmental systems—framed through the SDGs—require community allies to achieve meaningful change. Grounded in open pedagogy, the Lab positions students as co-designers of the learning experience and contributors to public knowledge. As content creators, students engage in critical thinking and self-directed learning, producing work that reflects their lived experiences and worldviews. Join in this LINK
#9 **17 00 GMT**	**The Art of Be-Act-Impact: Ancestral-teaching stories for expanding the Sustainability Mindset** *Alba Torres S.* *Brazil*	What if expanding our sustainability mindset begins with expanding our awareness of how we BE, ACT and IMPACT? Join in this LINK

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#10 18 00 GMT	**Who are the real ecosystem engineers?** *Gregory F. Tague* *USA*	Discussion of ecosystem engineering, the cultural ecology of food, and wildlife sustainability. Join in this LINK
#11 19 00 GMT	**Watching my daughter grow: A mother's perspective on Forest school** *Giulia Faedo* *Luxembourg*	This session will introduce the Forest School concept in Luxembourg through the perspective of a mother whose daughter attended a forest school from ages 3 to 6. I will explain how a typical day was organised, the activities and learning experiences offered, and the skills, attitudes, and personal qualities I observed developing in my daughter through daily immersion in nature. Join in this LINK
#12 21 30 GMT	**Beneath the buzzwords: Principles, research and inner work behind the Sustainability Mindset** *MaryGrace Neville* *USA*	Sustainability mindset is everywhere at this Festival. Many of us, and many of our students, speak its language fluently: climate change, complex global economies, ESG, regeneration. Yet we often sense a gap between knowing the vocabulary and deepening a paradigm shift. Influencing how people think, feel and act requires both. Join in this LINK

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Time	Activity	Description
#13 11 00 GMT	**The Thomasian Angelican S.E.A.L. identity** *Eunice Mareth Q. Areola* *Philippines*	UST Angelicum College develops a sustainability mindset through OIKOS: The Angelicum Green Curriculum, a transformative framework that aligns Dominican education with Pope Francis's Laudato Si' and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Driven by its institutional framework to remain Safe, Smart, and Sustainable, the college molds learners who see ecological action as a calling rather than just an academic checklist- an action that takes root through the involvement of the youngest cohort of the institution, and seeps through all the departments and offices. Join in this LINK
#14 12 00 GMT	**Are you familiar with the Sustainability Mindset Indicator?** *Isabel Rimanoczy* *USA*	In this session Isabel Rimanoczy will share the story about the origin and research that led to the development of this triple award-winning instrument. She will share the latest in how colleagues are using the Sustainability Mindset Indicator as a pedagogical resource, as a research tool to assess impact, as a personal development instrument and as a guide to tailor classroom activities to accelerate the mindshift needed for shaping a better world. Join in this LINK

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#15 **12 30 GMT**	**Yoga based practices for enhancing wise decision making abilities** *Ashish Pandey* *India*	I will present the series of experiment and survey based studies to strengthen the psychological pathways leading to responsible decision making in business scenario. Responsible decision making is the reflection of sustainability mindset. Join in this LINK
#16 **13 00 GMT**	**Sustainable happiness education and resources** *Catherine O'Brien* *Canada*	Sustainable Happiness - a novel area of research that intersects sustainability, well-being and positive psychology. Dr. O'Brien will introduce Sustainable Happiness, provide a brief theoretical framework for the fields it intersects with and conclude with practical applications of Sustainable Happiness for personal, professional and educational environments. Join in this LINK
#17 **13 00 GMT**	**Sustainability Mindset - Stories of connection, collaboration and courage** *Deirdre Garvey* *Ireland*	I will give an overview of our "Consortium for Change" project which commenced in 2024, with the ambitious objective of developing sustainability leadership to address the critical global challenges in a local context in the West of Ireland. The project aimed at creating a "consortium" of stakeholders in the region to complete the ATU accredited Postgraduate Certificate Sustainability Leadership and the Sustainability Mindset was integrated into the programme. In the session we will share the insights from the Mindset profiling, the outcomes, and the many connections and projects which have happened as a result. Join in this LINK
#18 **14 00 GMT**	**Insights on the use of sustainability mindset tools in agribusiness and related pedagogy** *Alexander T.K. Nuer* *Ghana*	The session will highlight students insights and how the use of SM has and continue to shape their worldview and career pathways Join in this LINK
#19 **15 00 GMT**	**The Sustainability Mindset Detective: What shapes the way we see solutions?** *Homeira Ekhtari* *Canada*	This experiential session invites participants to become "Sustainability Mindset Detectives" and discover how mental models, values, experiences, and stakeholder perspectives shape the way we understand sustainability challenges and choose solutions. Using a smartphone and its life cycle as a familiar example, participants will engage in Mentimeter-based word clouds, live polls, playful dilemmas, a sustainability auction, and an innovation-or-transformation challenge. Each experience will be followed by a brief, evidence-informed reflection that connects participants' responses to systems thinking, stakeholder perspectives, the circular economy, and sustainability transitions. Participants will leave with new questions, greater curiosity, and practical ideas. Join in this LINK
#20 **18 00 GMT**	**Permission to wonder: What creativity does to the brain and what it opens** *MaryGrace Neville* *USA*	When did you last lose track of time making something? Or stop in your tracks because something was simply beautiful? For many accomplished adults, those moments have been crowded out by schedules, screens and the steady pressure to be productive. Yet neuroscience now shows that creativity, beauty and awe aren't luxuries. They change how our brains work, lowering stress, sharpening attention and opening us to new possibilities. In this relaxed, hands-on session, you'll try a few simple practices drawn from neuroscience, creative-life coaching and Sustainability Mindset principles. You'll

		see what happens when you give yourself permission to notice, play and wonder. No artistic talent required, just curiosity. You may find it touches something deeper: a sense of innovation, purpose and connection. Join in this LINK
#21 **19 00 GMT**	**Sustainability Mindset in program evaluation and accreditation** *Krista Hiser* *Hawaii, USA*	The SEAC (Sustainability Education Accreditation Commission) is an emergent accreditor for sustainability degrees in higher education. Our peer-developed Guidelines document is the first articulation of shared program standards and best practices to shape the profession of sustainability problem-solvers. How does a student's mindset factor in these standards? How do programs "create" professionals with an enduring mindset to drive impactful and satisfying careers? How do they "assess" mindset as a standard? Join in this LINK
#22 **20 30 GMT**	**REDMES-NETWORK the change is possible** *Griselda Lassaga* *Argentina*	Our purpose is to consolidate an initiative focused on leadership, education, and sustainability, with a strong emphasis on developing the capacities and potential of women across Latin America. **(session in English y Español)** Join in this LINK

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#23 **11 30 GMT**	**Expanding perspectives: Navigating sustainability dilemmas** *Nisha Ninan* *India/Spain*	This interactive session brings together PhD research into Sustainability Mindset and a decade of applied neuroscience practice through ANM™ (Applied Neuroscience Methodology) to explore how we can widen our lens and become more intentional about the perspectives we bring to complex choices. Join in this LINK
#24 **14 00 GMT**	**Fireside conversation: Finding abundance, embracing creativity in uncertainty** *Aušra Sermonté* *Lithuania*	An open conversation about finding abundance and embracing creativity in times of uncertainty. Drawing on personal experience, we will create space to share perspectives, reflect together, and explore the possibilities that emerge when we approach uncertainty with curiosity and imagination. Join in this LINK
#25 **15 00 GMT**	**Decision making with a Sustainability Mindset** *Karen Thompson* *UK*	Our actions are driven by the decisions we make. The Sustainability Mindset shapes who we are. How do our thoughts and feelings inform decisions and actions? In this session we will explore what evidence we use to make decisions, and the consequences. We will provide templates to encourage you to interrogate your own decision-making processes. We will then invite you to identify one specific change to test in your own practice and invite you - should you wish to accept - to join a continuing inquiry into whether such changes survive contact with working conditions. Join in this LINK
#26 **16 00 GMT**	**When Artificial Intelligence meets Spiritual intelligence: Reimagining a sustainable future** *Ayako Huang* *USA*	This session presents a Sustainable Mindset pedagogy for working with Artificial Intelligence through the lens of Spiritual intelligence. Before writing prompts or accepting AI responses, students pause to ask deeper questions: Who am I? What is my purpose? What problem do I want to help solve? Why does it matter to me? What impact do I want to create? Join in this LINK

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Time	Activity	Description
#27 10 00 GMT	**From classroom to action: Developing a Sustainability Mindset through a final student project** *Aline B.A.Avelar* *Spain*	This session presents an experiential final project designed to help business students move beyond learning sustainability concepts toward applying them in real organizational contexts. Throughout the project, students analyze a company from multiple perspectives, including ethics, stakeholders, social responsibility, sustainability, and responsible management, and progressively connect course concepts to managerial decisions. Join in this LINK
#28 12 30 GMT	**Cultivating sustainability through art and contemplation** *Ekaterina Ivanova* *Russia*	This session will offer a brief overview of The Power of Arts-Based Pedagogies: Transforming Mindsets to Shape Our Future, followed by a reflective discussion with co-editors and selected authors. Drawing on the work of the PRME Working Groups Arts for Impact and Sustainability Mindset, the session will explore how contemplative practices and arts-based pedagogies can encourage self-awareness, creativity, empathy, and transformative learning. Join in this LINK
#29 13 00 GMT	**From Sustainability Mindset to classroom practice: Lessons from the SMIP Pilot in Indonesia** *Wulan Wulandini* *Indonesia*	This session shares our experience developing the Sustainability Mindset Integration Program (SMIP) in Indonesia and insights from its first cohort of educators. We will explore how Sustainability Mindset principles can move from awareness and reflection into educational practice through dialogue, collaborative learning, and lesson-plan design. We will share emerging lessons from the teachers' experiences, examples from their lesson plans, and participant feedback, while reflecting on both the possibilities and challenges of integrating Sustainability Mindset into everyday teaching. The session will also invite participants to exchange ideas and consider how similar approaches might be adapted in their own educational contexts. Join in this LINK
#30 13 00 GMT	**SMP resources for employability learning, and business leader case studies** *Karen Cripps* *UK*	This session will share two of my favourite applications of the Sustainability Mindset Principles (SMPs) in teaching. Firstly, within a session on 'Career storytelling for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In the age of AI, it is even more important for students to tell an authentic story of who they are, what they value, and their strengths. I use the SMPs to help students translate job role specifications into a meaningful and memorable story. Secondly, I use the SMPs to help students identify leadership attributes through case studies. For both sessions, I will share full 'pick up and go' resources - which can be easily adapted across subjects and levels. Join in this LINK
#31 14 00 GMT	**Ethical supply chain management: Use of theatre to enhance emotional learning** *Morgane Fritz* *France*	I will describe how I and why I developed this Master level course and the importance of incorporating emotional learning and its impact on students. Join in this LINK
#32 15 00 GMT	**The Importance of Being** *Orla Kelleher* *UK*	This session explores how society became increasingly disconnected from nature and how this shift influenced education, moving it towards a focus on rationality, technical expertise, and measurable outcomes while often neglecting deeper human dimensions. It offers a deep context for why addressing sustainability challenges requires not only Thinking (knowledge) and Doing (action), but also Being: the development of values,

		purpose, self-awareness, and our relationship with others and the natural world. Drawing on Sustainability Mindset research, the session highlights the importance of Spiritual Intelligence and Emotional Intelligence in fostering meaningful and lasting sustainability engagement. Using examples of student work, I will illustrate how these dimensions can be re-introduced (carefully) in higher education. Finally, I will consider what a Regenerative University for the 21st century might look like, one that nurtures not only knowledgeable and skilled graduates, but also compassionate, purposeful, and ecologically connected citizens. Join in this LINK
#33 **16 00 GMT**	**YEL Earth: Learning through play, exploration, and a Sust. Mindset** *Anne R. Ledvina* *USA*	LiftUp Alabama's YEL Earth program transforms the school playground into a living innovation lab where students explore ideas for a healthier planet. Through playful discovery in the garden, students learn to see environmental challenges not simply as problems, but as opportunities to imagine and create new possibilities. By making play, exploration, and student voices central to learning, the program helps young people develop the confidence and imagination to become active creators of a more sustainable future. Join in this LINK

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#34 **10 00 GMT**	**Developing Sustainability Mindsets through SEL and PBL in international mobility programs** *Madeline Ayoub* *Australia*	The global movement toward Sustainable Development has placed mounting pressure on Higher Education Institutions to cultivate Sustainability Mindsets among students. Mobility experiences are increasingly acknowledged as impactful strategies. Gaining insight into how these experiences shape students' perspectives can inform the creation of transformative educational practices that equip graduates to tackle global sustainability challenges. Although interest in sustainability education is growing, there remains limited research examining how mobility experiences affect students' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours related to sustainability. This presentation explores the influence of mobility experiences on the development of Sustainability Mindsets among tertiary students. It specifically examines how the integration of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and Problem-Based Learning (PBL) within mobility programs contributes to shaping students' knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours concerning Sustainable Development. Join in this LINK
#35 **11 00 GMT**	**The inner shift: Exploring Spiritual Intelligence as the root of sustainable living** *Karthyeni Sridaran* *Australia*	Spiritual intelligence (our capacity for awareness, meaning and connection) is the heartbeat for sustainable living. Sustainability efforts that ignore inner lives often fall short. Lasting change requires more than better systems and technologies. Without inner work, sustainability becomes performance. With spiritual intelligence, sustainability becomes purposeful life. It begins turning the lens inwards and with simple ways to live more sustainably from within. Drawing on my research and lived experience this session is an invitation to explore how through spiritual awareness and practices, we can live sustainably and inspire others in our circle of influence, one person at a time, to tip the balance for a sustainable future. Leave with simple spiritual practices and become part of the solution for a sustainable future. Join in this LINK
#36 **12 00 GMT**	**The Literary Palette: Cultivating management wisdom through reading and the arts** *Judita Peterlin* *Slovenia*	Traditional management education heavily relies on quantitative analysis and standard case studies, often overlooking the critical human, emotional, and creative dimensions of leadership. This interactive workshop introduces an innovative pedagogical framework that fuses arts-based management education with collaborative reading clubs to bridge this gap. Join in this LINK



Organizing Committee: Estatira Shirkhodaee
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