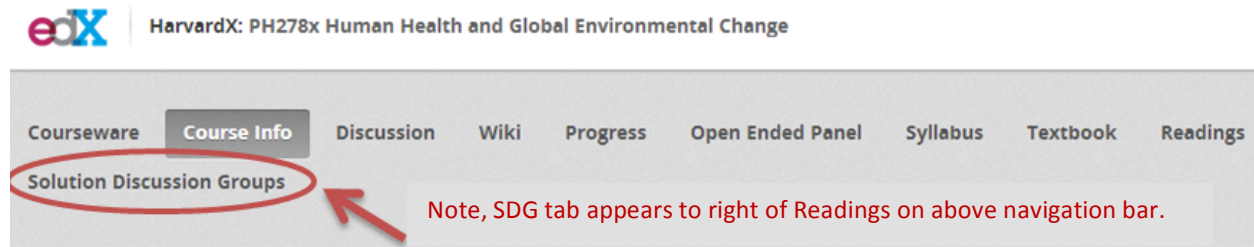


How to participate in the Solution Discussion Groups (SDG)

Step 1. Enroll in ONE of the pre-selected topics

Click on the “Solution Discussion Groups” tab located at the top menu of the course website.



Here you will find the list of the topics open to discussion. Take a look at the full list and select your favorite topic (your enrollment is limited to only ONE topic). Click on the name of your selection on the list.

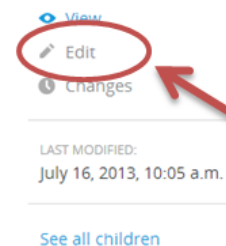
Participation List	SDG-Week 1	SDG-Week 2	SDG-Week 3
1. Agricultural Food production	Topic 1-Wk1	Topic 1-Wk2	Topic 1-Wk3
2. Airports & air travel	Topic 2-Wk1	Topic 2-Wk2	Topic 2-Wk3
3. Aquaculture and seafood management	Topic 3-Wk1	Topic 3-Wk2	Topic 3-Wk3
4. Athletic Footwear & apparel	Topic 4-Wk1	Topic 4-Wk2	Topic 4-Wk3
5. Automobile manufacture	Topic 5-Wk1	Topic 5-Wk2	Topic 5-Wk3
6. Biregional planning	Topic 6-Wk1	Topic 6-Wk2	Topic 6-Wk3

This will take you to a wiki-page where you will be able to enroll in this group. Click on the “Edit” link at the right menu and write your edX username under the next empty entry number available, as illustrated in the screen shot below.

1. Agricultural Food production (Do not edit before July 17th!)

Please include your username in the list by clicking on the "Edit" link on the right side menu. Then type your username in the next empty entry number and delete the <> characters. **Do not delete previous entries.**

- 1.
- 2.



Groups will be limited to the first 100 students to register for this topic. We suggest you choose another topic if your first option is already full. **We ask that students register for an SDG topic by 11:59 pm EST on Sunday, July 21, to allow you time to participate in Week 1 discussions. Week 1 closes on Wednesday, July 24; student participation cannot be made retroactive for any week’s discussions after the closing dates listed in these instructions.**

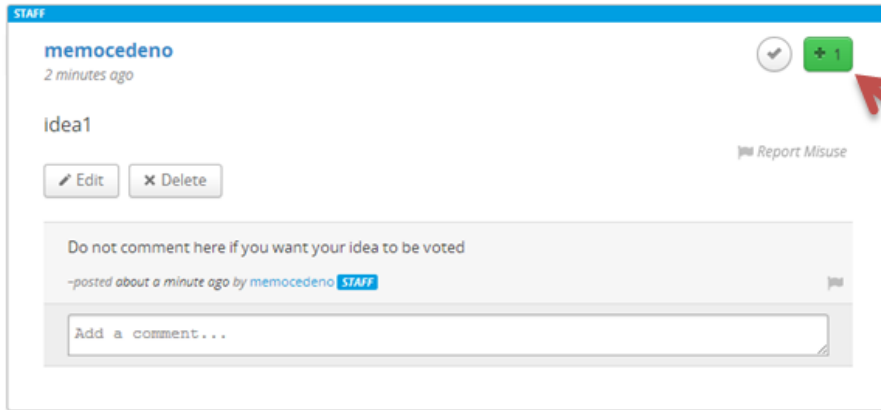
Week 1- Nominations

Once you are registered in the participation list, go back to the main table located at the “Solution Discussion Groups” and click on the link to the Week 1 discussion thread for that topic:

Participation List	SDG-Week 1	SDG-Week 2	SDG-Week 3
1. Agricultural Food production	Topic 1-Wk1	Topic 1-Wk2	Topic 1-Wk3
2. Airports & air travel	Topic 2-Wk1	Topic 2-Wk2	Topic 2-Wk3
3. Aquaculture and seafood management	Topic 3-Wk1	Topic 3-Wk2	Topic 3-Wk3
4. Athletic Footwear & apparel	Topic 4-Wk1	Topic 4-Wk2	Topic 4-Wk3
5. Automobile manufacture	Topic 5-Wk1	Topic 5-Wk2	Topic 5-Wk3
6. Bioregional planning	Topic 6-Wk1	Topic 6-Wk2	Topic 6-Wk3

For week one, the discussion will focus around examples of “Best-in-class” companies, services, public sector services, etc. related to this topic. Nominate one example and briefly justify your decision in 2-3 sentences. You will also have to read the participation of other members of your SDG. At the end of Week 1 (July 24), vote for the best contributions (as many as you want, including yours). Vote by clicking on the plus “+” sign at the upper right corner of each post, as illustrated in the screen shot below. Please add your participation as a RESPONSE not as a COMMENT. In this way, others will be able to vote for your ideas as well. A list of 5 to 10 nominees with the top number of votes will be chosen by the SDG moderator to make it to the next stages of the activity.

Sample SDG nominations are found at the end of these instructions.



Vote (by clicking on the plus sign) for those examples that you consider are good nominations for “best in class” within your group.

Week 2- Criteria & Metrics of Environmental Performance

Search for criteria/ metrics of sustainability, environmental and social performance relevant to your SDG topic. For example, what measures of sustainability metrics, environmental metrics, and social metrics does this company use to lessen its impact or bring about awareness of sustainability practices and ethics? Look at the companies’ website, mission statement, affiliations or claims to help you with your research. Do they have a sustainability report or [GRI](#)? How do they measure their reduced environmental impact? Post your findings in 2-4 sentences under new discussion group created for week 2, as below.

Participation List	SDG-Week 1	SDG-Week 2	SDG-Week 3
1. Agricultural Food production	Topic 1-Wk1	Topic 1-Wk2	Topic 1-Wk3
2. Airports & air travel	Topic 2-Wk1	Topic 2-Wk2	Topic 2-Wk3
3. Aquaculture and seafood management	Topic 3-Wk1	Topic 3-Wk2	Topic 3-Wk3
4. Athletic Footwear & apparel	Topic 4-Wk1	Topic 4-Wk2	Topic 4-Wk3
5. Automobile manufacture	Topic 5-Wk1	Topic 5-Wk2	Topic 5-Wk3
6. Binregional planning	Topic 6-Wk1	Topic 6-Wk2	Topic 6-Wk3

As in week 1, read other students’ posts in your SDG and vote for the best ones in the thread by clicking on the plus sign at the upper right corner of each post. Don’t forget to upload your participation in a new response block so that those in your SDG can vote for your post; comment boxes cannot be voted upon. At the end of week 2, the moderator for each SDG will compile a list of

the sustainability criteria/metrics which received the most votes in each discussion group.

Week 3- Applying Criteria and “Best in Class”

The short-list of 5-10 nominations selected by your SDG moderator after Week 1 will be posted under the new SDG topic thread for Week 3. Use the metrics/criteria chosen in the previous week and apply them to the corresponding top companies/services/public sector services short-listed from week 1. Post your findings in the new discussion group created for week 3. Again, vote for the best contributions by other classmates.

Participation List	SDG-Week 1	SDG-Week 2	SDG-Week 3
1. Agricultural Food production	Topic 1-Wk1	Topic 1-Wk2	Topic 1-Wk3
2. Airports & air travel	Topic 2-Wk1	Topic 2-Wk2	Topic 2-Wk3
3. Aquaculture and seafood management	Topic 3-Wk1	Topic 3-Wk2	Topic 3-Wk3
4. Athletic Footwear & apparel	Topic 4-Wk1	Topic 4-Wk2	Topic 4-Wk3
5. Automobile manufacture	Topic 5-Wk1	Topic 5-Wk2	Topic 5-Wk3
6. Binational planning	Topic 6-Wk1	Topic 6-Wk2	Topic 6-Wk3

This will help us come up with the final list of “best in class” practices within each discussion group. Don’t forget to upload your participation as response in order to get voted by others.

Example SDG nomination posts: the following two examples illustrate the type, purpose, and sequence of SDG discussion posts we are aiming for across these three weeks.

A. Example₁ Hotel/Lodging entry:

Week 1: The Clinton Street Guesthouse in Portland, Oregon reduces the building footprint of new hotel space in the city by converting this residential property into a sustainable bed and breakfast inn. Not only does the guesthouse sit three blocks from public transit, but Clinton Street is a designated “bicycle corridor” closed to through-traffic. Guesthouse owners promote use of bicycles and buses by providing city transit maps to all its overnight guests.

Week 2: (Sustainability Criteria) The Clinton Guesthouse was renovated from a private home through the reuse and recycle of local construction materials. Reclaimed Douglas Fir was used in the cabinetry, furniture and interior details, together with salvaged stained glass windows, to upgrade this 1920s carpenter cabin. Water is placed in each guest room in recycled glass bottles, and breakfast is sourced from local farmers' markets.

Or: (Metrics) The Clinton Guesthouse offers only four guest rooms but has a 90-95% occupancy rate during its 10 months of yearly operation. 4 rooms x .9 occupancy x 30 days x 10 months = 1080 overnight guest stays/year operated without additional building footprint or heating/cooling energy to this home.

Week 3: (Assume this nomination reaches the final voting week, TAs will post 3-5 criteria to be applied to this SDG topic.)

TA Criteria 1: Material reuse and recycling.

Student post: Rather than purchase new construction materials, local salvage materials were put to new use.

TA Criteria 2: Use of public transit.

Student post: Location of guesthouse near bus lines and directly on cycling corridor eliminates need for car travel.

TA Criteria 3: Locally sourced food.

Student post: Reduces transportation emissions from hauling food across long distances before purchase and supports local agriculture and dairy producers.

B. Sample₂ Transportation systems (public transit) entry:

Week 1: Portland's Bicycle Transit Authority has worked across 3 decades creating and promoting a "bicycle culture" which gives cyclists and motorists equal rights to the road. Bicycles enjoy safety and street access through their own "green bike lanes" as wide as those for cars, while a 10-mile "green bike corridor" snakes through residential streets where through-traffic by vehicles is now banned. When the Bike Share program makes its debut later this year in Portland, no one will even raise an eyebrow.

Week 2: (metrics) Example₁: Portland has installed a bike counter which literally counts the bicycles which cross Williamson bridge each day. Some 22,000 bike trips have been made across this bridge from January-July 2013. The Bicycle Transit Authority hopes this number will reach 90,000 annually by 2015, a program laid out in its Plan 2030.

Example₂: The conversion of on-street parking spaces to 500 on-street bike stands generated \$250,000 in additional 2012 sales revenue to merchants on blocks where the bike parking has been installed, to the satisfaction of all stakeholders.

Example₃: Since the introduction of the green bicycles lanes in downtown Portland, reported traffic accidents involving cyclists have been reduced by 36% (police reports), while serious injuries to cyclists have dropped by 52% (hospital admittances).

Week 3:

TA Criteria 1: Promotion of fossil fuel vehicle alternatives.

Student Post: Portland's designated bike lanes, green corridors, and bike culture creates an easy and obvious alternative to fossil-fuel car use, reducing urban air pollution.

TA Criteria 2: Sustainable cities.

Student Post: The widespread use of bicycles as a commuting alternative relieves vehicle congestion on city streets, parking areas, and has produced an overall reduction in car-related pedestrian injuries.

TA Criteria 3: Monitoring and evaluation.

Student Post: The use of the bicycle counter on the Williamson bridge documents the rise in bicycle use to inform plans for municipal spending on expanded city bike infrastructure.