

**Activity Report submitted on the 8th of May 2023 for SDG 2: Zero Hunger, within the IAU HESD Cluster by the Universidad Antonio Nariño (UAN), Colombia, Leader of SDG 2**

**IAU Cluster Activity Report (January 2022 - April 2023)**

**Institutional commitment**

UAN has integrated the 2030 Agenda into its new [Development Institutional Plan \(2022-2026\)](#) as a cross-cutting axis to guide its approach to sustainable development. We have invited an SDG leader from Sweden that is working at UAN with our SDG development, our network and Pro Bono consultancy to contribute to our Global Engagement Internationalization model and Agenda 2030 implementation efforts.

**Research Projects**

UAN has funded, started, and supported research projects related to SDG 2, focusing on food security, agriculture, major grain food sources and farming sectors. Research like this can engage communities and often involve the private sector, fostering collaboration in addressing hunger and malnutrition. 9 projects aimed at contributing to SDG2 have been funded by UAN and 6 with external funding.

<b>UAN Projects SDG 2 - External Funding. Active projects as of April 30, 2023.</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Classifier of Hass avocado maturity in the tree (2023). Link: <a href="http://repositorio.uan.edu.co/handle/123456789/6530">http://repositorio.uan.edu.co/handle/123456789/6530</a></li> <li>● Implementation of a sustainable productivity model based on the synergy of reproductive biotechnology, animal welfare and agro-industrial transformation at the service of small livestock producers in the department of Cauca (2022-2026).</li> <li>● Quantification of Pharmaceutically Active Compounds (CFAC) and pathogenic bacteria in wastewater and irrigation water, soil and food using new generation techniques: Proposal of alternatives for their elimination (2021-2024).</li> <li>● Application of nuclear techniques in genetic improvement and evaluation of rhizobacteria to increase productivity of creole potato (<i>Solanum phureja</i>) (2021-2023).</li> <li>● Boar welfare: comparative proteomics of seminal plasma in search of heat stress biomarkers (2021-2023)</li> <li>● Effect of Pharmaceutically Active Compounds Detected in Lettuce Crop (Irrigation Water and Consumer Product) on Cellular Metabolic Activity and Detection of Crop-Associated Pathogenic Microorganisms. Human Health Risk Perspective and Possible Solutions (2021-2024) Link: <a href="http://repositorio.uan.edu.co/handle/123456789/6380">http://repositorio.uan.edu.co/handle/123456789/6380</a></li> </ul>



**International Cooperation Projects**

As the cluster leader for SDG 2, we have focused on expanding our network and fostering collaboration among IAU HESD members. We have organized webinars and conferences, inviting experts and stakeholders from around the world to discuss challenges and opportunities related to SDG 2. These events have enabled us to share best practices and strengthen our collective efforts towards achieving Zero Hunger.

UAN has been actively involved in various international cooperation projects, such as:



- [Youth for Action](#): A transnational and multidisciplinary program fostering bilateral mobility and enhancing educational and professional awareness of Colombian and American students through collaborative efforts with local communities.
- UNIPAZ - [Iberoamerican Network for forensics research](#) : A unit at UAN that promotes sustainable peace through cooperation between educational institutions, state bodies, NGOs, and the private sector at national and international levels.
- [Leadership Program for Students](#): A program in alliance with the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) to enhance soft skills among students, contributing to their global citizenship training, networking, and intercultural awareness.

### **Publications, Visibility, and Participation in Strategic Events**

UAN has participated in international conferences, such as the [XIX International Congress on Environmental, Cultural, Economic, and Social Sustainability in Slovenia](#). Additionally, our faculty members have contributed to international book chapters and research publications related to sustainable development.

### **Satellite Collaboration**

As part of our strategy to create the world's best alliance of HEIs, we have established a sub-cluster comprising Universidad Federal de Ouro Preto (UFOP), University of Oslo, and Kaunas University of Technology. This sub-cluster aims to engage national and local clusters with HEIs, governmental agencies, civil society, and NGOs with experience in addressing world hunger and promoting SDG 2. Additionally, UAN leads a local collaboration initiative with other universities in Bogota to share good practices and measure the impact of HEIs on the Global Agenda.

### **Developing a Comprehensive Model and Building Alliances**

UAN is committed to pioneering new models and strategies for other HEIs to follow in their efforts to lead SDG 2 practices. UAN has also developed a comprehensive model, strategy, and initiatives aimed at creating the world's best alliance of HEIs to address SDG 2. We have identified, ranked and reached out to HEIs that have firsthand experience with world hunger and starvation in the most affected regions, as well as those with extensive research and expertise in SDG 2. Our goal is to form a sub-cluster of leading institutions as our new satellites and continue working together and start a sustainable global legacy that will continue worldwide to achieve Zero Hunger.

Our organizational plan envisions a tree-like umbrella structure where IAU and the HESD network make the top of the pyramid, UAN serves as the cluster leader for SDG 2, and each satellite HEI coordinates and engages with national and local clusters, which include governmental agencies, civil society organizations, and NGOs. This approach allows us to create a strong, interconnected network of entities dedicated to addressing world hunger.

### **SDG Office Development**



UAN has been working intensively on developing an SDG Office as a central hub for SDGs, research, programs, and projects, focusing on SDG 2, SDG 6, SDG 16, SDG 5, and SDG 10.

### **Engagement in IAU Meetings and Projects**

UAN actively participates in IAU meetings as well as 16th General Conference (University College Dublin, Ireland. Session: Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development - What is the Role for University Leadership?) and engages in projects such as the Adelante 2 triangular cooperation LAC and EU programme, which aims to develop proposals related to SDGs and development. We are also exploring opportunities with the LAIF Program, Horizon, EU CELAC, and more.

### **Conclusion**

Despite the challenges, UAN has made significant progress as the cluster leader for SDG 2 in the IAU HESD network. We remain committed to expanding our network, sharing best practices, and implementing innovative strategies to achieve Zero Hunger and contribute to sustainable development.