

Integration of Sustainability in Oral Health Care

Milena Hegenauer

Introduction

Humanity stands before undeniable hurdles. In order to overcome these, 17 Sustainable Development Goals have been defined by the United Nations. Being an **Oral Health Professional (OHP)** provides you with the possibility to engage on many levels - not only Good Health and Wellbeing (SDG3) but also **Climate Action** (SDG13), while connecting both with Global Partnerships (SDG17).

Objectives

- Survey OHPs' and dental students' current interest in climate action and their level of knowledge on this topic
- Finding possibilities to educate OHPs in terms of Sustainability, Environmental Care and Planetary Health

Methods

- Creating and promoting the YSOH Manifesto
- Collecting signatures and comments globally on the YSOH Manifesto
- Surveying German dental students
- Raising awareness globally through Social Media and lectures

YSOH Manifesto



Youth for sustainable Oral Health (YSOH) calls out for the implementation of Sustainability into every Oral Health Professionals curriculum

In line with the **FDI sustainability project goals**, YSOH focuses on:

- Raising awareness (online lectures and Social Media)
- A curriculum for students
- Research

Results

- Over 300 signatures on the Manifesto from around 50 different countries
- OHPs and dental students do care about sustainability
- Survey shows, that initial sustainable measures have already been taken in some German universities, but more education is needed!



Conclusion

Oral Health Professionals need to be educated about their impact on the environment in order to take action and to educate others.



OHPs should **share** their **knowledge** about **sustainability**. To do so local **collaborations**, such as the **Toothbrushing Education and Restorative Treatment of Caries** program launching in **Jacmel, Haiti**, and global partners such as the **Alliance for Oral Health Across Borders**, are needed.