

# UNISUSTAINATHON: SUSTAINABILITY AS AN OPPORTUNITY.

## UNIVERSITIES FOR EXPO 2020 DUBAI

### #challenges

#### #Awareness - Raising awareness on the themes of the 2030 Agenda

The 2030 Agenda is global guideline to build a sustainable future: with its historic adoption, “it is an Agenda of the people, by the people and for the people” (United Nations, Transforming our world, A/RES/70/1 par. 52). To achieve its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, all sectors of the society are called to act, including the people and the civil society. The first step to succeed is therefore to raise awareness among people and sectors. Universities play a relevant role in this process: not only by embodying sustainability into teaching programs and research, but also by carrying out initiatives for the benefit of all their stakeholders. The challenge is to find innovative ways for higher education institutions to boost the spread of the culture of sustainable development, inside and outside their structures.

#### #Spaces – Spaces for future Universities

Spaces represent a fundamental part of university life, because not only they host students, teachers and staff everyday, but also they allow socialization and experiences. In this sense spaces must be conceived both as a physical and a social environment where large groups of people spend most of their day and interact with places. In light of this, the challenge is to imagine how university spaces can become more sustainable in the future and to define how the social needs of different social groups can be better met.

PARTNER



MEDIA PARTNER

CON LA COLLABORAZIONE DI

PARTNER ISTITUZIONALI



## #Community - Relationship with the territory

Universities play a crucial role in the social life of cities and territories. Both the presence of young students as well as the activities carried out by universities can have a relevant impact on local societies in terms of cultural experiences and services that can be accessed and benefited from by a larger public. In light of this, the challenge is to reflect on what prompts the relationship between universities and their hosting cities and territories with the aim of identifying possible strategies that can enhance the mutual benefits arising from the cooperation between university and its community.

## #Inclusion – University welfare for old and new needs

Inclusion is the condition in which all people live in a state of equity and equal opportunities, regardless of their possible vulnerable conditions. Inclusion, therefore, indicates the status of belonging in something, it is based on thoughts and feelings of participation and acceptance that need to be underscored so that it can be understood in full. University Inclusion does not confine itself to consider the integration of some individuals, it is also concerned with the 'conditions' and features of the environments that should allow *everybody* active participation and decent levels of education and life satisfaction. From this viewpoint, inclusion has no boundaries: it will have to make its way dynamically in and out of universities, affecting studying, working, and leisure time. In light of this, the challenge is to identify what activities/actions should be performed for more inclusive universities.

PARTNER



MEDIA PARTNER

CON LA COLLABORAZIONE DI

PARTNER ISTITUZIONALI

