



Futures Institute at Dollar Academy - October 2024 Update

This month's newsletter theme highlights FIDA's expanding reach—not only is its presence growing across Scotland, but FIDA has also been featured on the global stage, with mentions at the United Nations in New York and at the Architectural Association's Climate Matters Week in London.

As always, we hope you find this update informative and welcome any questions or feedback. Please feel free to [contact us](#) at any time.

FIDA gets a mention at the UN



Our esteemed colleague and supporter [Andrew Whalley OBE](#) has been speaking at a number of events this month and using his platform to showcase our FIDA initiative. On 28 October, he participated in the Carbon-FreeCities:Climate Action Conference at the United Nations in New York where they discussed the latest advances in technology and practice to adopt strategies needed to achieve net-zero urban development.

On 31 October he was the keynote speaker at the Architectural Association's Climate Matters Week in London - a week-long festival of events and activities bringing together students, staff and invited guests to explore architectural ideas and responses to ongoing climatic and ecological changes worldwide.

Andrew, Dollar FP (1980) and Chairman at [Grimshaw](#), gifted us the design of our new [Futures Institute](#), and we would like to thank him for his continued support of FIDA.

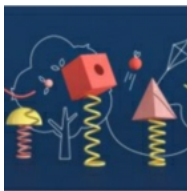
FIDA listed on UCAS



We are delighted to announce that the FIDA International Sustainability Diploma has now been listed on UCAS; this means the first cohort of 75 pupils from our seven Diploma pilot schools across Scotland can use it to help access University and College courses.

In an exciting development, the University of Stirling has taken the further step of formally listing the Diploma as an accepted qualification to meet entry requirements.

Diploma Unit 2 launched



Our International Sustainability Diploma pilot learners are progressing to Unit 2 of the course, where they will choose from a menu of Global Challenge Projects, each of which involves designing a solution to a real-life problem aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

To succeed, they will need to demonstrate independent research, critical thinking, problem-solving, collaboration and communication skills that will equip them for their next steps beyond school. We wish them well as they progress to this important stage of the Diploma.

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Sharing our learning



Interest in our educational programme is growing, with FIDA's Director Jackie Smith invited to speak at a [School Leaders Scotland](#) (SLS) workshop this week. The SLS is the key provider of professional learning for secondary school leaders in Scotland.

Jackie will also be presenting at two Career Long Professional Learning (CLPL) sessions at different centres in Edinburgh over the coming weeks, one focusing on Project-Based Learning, the other on embedding Learning for Sustainability in schools.

Fundraising appeal receives a further boost



We are delighted to have received a £43,000 legacy donation from a Former Pupil this month. This donation, along with all previous donations to the appeal, represents a significant investment in the future of education in Scotland, and we continue to be deeply grateful for the support. Find out more about how you can support us by clicking below.

[Read More](#)

UNSDG - Goal of the Month

SDG 2: Zero Hunger Despite work to create a world free of hunger by 2030, we face an urgent crisis that has escalated alarmingly since 2015. The number of people experiencing chronic hunger surged to approximately 733 million in 2023,

What our donors say...

"I decided to support FIDA as I really like the scope and focus of the initiative and in particular its offering to school

representing 9.1% of the global population. Factors such as the pandemic, conflict, climate change, and deepening inequalities have all contributed to this dire situation. Additionally, around 2.3 billion people struggled with moderate to severe food insecurity, a stark increase from previous years.

students across Scotland."

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Futures Institute at Dollar Academy - Dollar, Clackmannanshire, FK14 7DU
<https://fida.world/> - fundraising@dollaracademy.org.uk

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