

## **Social and environmental commitment of the University U.D.C.A. In incorporating the ODS: Environmental Course and Integrated Environmental Management System**

### **Pereira, Masiel**

Environmental coordinator, University of Applied and Environmental Sciences, Colombia, mpereira@udca.edu.co

The incorporation of the Sustainable Development Goals, is a fundamental and structuring subject within the University of Applied and Environmental Sciences (U.D.C.A for its acronym in Spanish), of the City of Bogotá, Colombia. The environmental theme is a transversal axis within the substantive functions of the University and the Institutional Educational Program. As a strategic part for the incorporation of environmental awareness and knowledge within the university community, the Environmental Course was created; a basic subject linked within each curricular program, whose purpose is to sensitize the students in the environmental theme, so that they approach from their approach and professional rigor socio-environmental situations and problems, with an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary perspective. And it is from this academic space, where the Sustainable Development Goals have been approached as a fundamental axis in the application of each professional formation.

On the other hand, the University of Applied and Environmental Sciences - U.D.C.A., is located in the northern part of the City of Bogotá, Colombia; In an area of high environmental sensitivity. The University is surrounded and partially included within the Thomas van der Hammen Forest Reserve, near wetland areas - Guaymaral wetland and the Eastern Hills. On the other hand, this area of the city does not have a sewage system, which means that additional actions are required for the functioning of the University, including the implementation of a water treatment and reuse program, construction and Operation of a Wastewater Treatment Plant. Likewise, there is an Environmental Tree Management Plan of the campus, which directs actions for the appropriate silvicultural, landscape and green infrastructure present at the University. In addition, strategies, actions and follow-up are established for other issues such as hazardous and non-hazardous waste. With these and other aspects, the UDCA within its organizational structure, created an administrative unit of senior management, called Technical Secretariat of the Integrated System of Environmental Management (ST-SIGA for its acronym in Spanish) in charge of defining guidelines in terms of management Environmental management of the university, adequately managing environmental aspects and strengthening environmental awareness.