

# REIMAGINING UNIVERSITY COLLECTIONS AS SDG-DRIVEN MUSEUMS

CONFERENCE WORKSHOP, WED 14 OCT, 16:30



## CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

University museums and collections are increasingly recognised as important actors in advancing the United Nations SDGs. However, in diverse global contexts, spanning both the Global North and the Global South, these collections often face structural, financial, and institutional barriers that limit their potential to operate as socially engaged and impactful museums.

This interactive workshop brings together young professionals, researchers, and practitioners to explore how university collections can be reimagined and transformed into inclusive, community-oriented, and sustainability-driven museum spaces. Drawing on insights and methodologies developed through the University of St Andrews and ICOMFOM-led, SAREC-supported project “Young People Shaping the Future of Museology through the Lens of the SDGs”, the session foregrounds youth and student audiences as active agents of change rather than passive participants, and will feature real-life video case studies from project partners across diverse global contexts.

Through a combination of short provocations, peer exchange, and co-creation activities, participants will critically reflect on the challenges and opportunities within their own institutional contexts. Particular attention will be given to locally grounded, resource-sensitive approaches that prioritise inclusion, traditional knowledge, and community engagement. While the workshop is targeted at participants from ICOM Category 3–5 countries, it remains open to all conference attendees interested in rethinking the role of university museums in a rapidly changing world.



University of Patras  
Science & Technology  
Museum

ICOM  
International Council  
of Museums  
Greece

UMAC  
International Committee  
for University Museums  
and Collections

ICOFOM  
International Committee  
for Museology

ICOM  
International Council  
of Museums  
Greece

University of  
St Andrews