

# INTERNATIONAL SDG PROJECT SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION THROUGH GLOBAL EXCHANGE



## RESULT REPORT

The University of Rwanda in Kigali has been in a partnership with the Campus of Design of Trier University of Applied Sciences for many years. As part of the "Sustainable Construction" project, an interdisciplinary group of students from the University of Rwanda as well as practice partners from the Don Bosco Technical School Gatenga and the Rhineland-Palatinate/Rwanda Partnership Association visited the Campus of Design in June 2024. The aim of the project was a scientific and artistic exchange on sustainable construction methods in the context of the two partner countries.

The Dean, Prof. Dr. Matthias Sieveke, together with the team from the International Office at Trier University of Applied Sciences, welcomed the guests from Rwanda in the auditorium at Paulusplatz. During a subsequent campus tour, they were given a comprehensive insight into the courses, the workshops and studios at the Design Campus.

Throughout the week, the students from the University of Rwanda participated in various workshops together with students from Trier University of Applied Sciences. The workshop "Street Photography" by Prof. Valerie Schmidt dealt with documentary photography in urban space. The aim was to photograph randomly formed sculptural shapes in Trier's city center off the well-known routes of the Moselle metropolis. The photographers were in search of the ephemeral and the unconventional. The aim was to create an individual serial photographic work, which was later assembled into a long sequence by the entire group.

Prof. Robert Thum's "Cyanotype" workshop focused on the two-thousand-year-old settlement history of the city of Trier and the discovery of the different time periods that coexist in the city's structure. As an introduction, the historical significance of Trier was examined and research was carried out into how Roman and medieval eras, as well as the Renaissance and modern times, have left their mark. The students documented their findings using techniques such as frottage, cyanotypes and photographic field recordings.

The program was rounded off with technical excursions and cultural trips to the region, to the Centre Pompidou in Metz and to Bernkastel-Kues. At social evening events, such as a joint barbecue, the students also got to know the delegation from Taiwan, who were visiting the Design Campus at the same time. The resulting works were presented at the end of the week in the form of an exhibition. University President Prof. Dr. Dorit Schumann was also a guest at the event and was impressed by the results of the international collaboration during the week: "This is a prime example of intercultural work at the highest creative and scientific level."

**TITLE**  
Sustainable Construction Through Global Exchange

**DEPARTMENT**  
Architecture  
Transdisciplinary teaching/ artistic design

**PARTNERS AT HOME AND ABROAD**  
University of Rwanda | Rwanda  
Don Bosco Technical School Gatenga | Rwanda  
Rhineland-Palatinate Partnership Association | Rwanda

**CONTACT**  
Prof. Dr. Matthias Sieveke  
sieveke@hochschule-trier.de

