

ACUNS WORKSHOP ON THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM CALL FOR APPLICATIONS





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WHY ATTEND?

Through presentations by young scholars and practitioners (that is you!), case studies, guided research, special lectures and innovative pedagogies geared towards post-graduate level professionals, this workshop will encourage participants to improve their own skills and capacities for engaging constructively in varying environments in the complex but critical areas of scholarship and practice in sustainable development and security.

THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND SECURITY

April 6-13, 2019

Security Institute for Governance and Leadership in Africa (SIGLA), Stellenbosch University, Saldanha Campus, South Africa

FOR EARLY-CAREER SCHOLARS AND PRACTITIONERS

Senior doctoral students, junior faculty, and equivalent representatives from international organizations, government agencies, and nongovernmental organizations working in areas and disciplines relevant to the theme of the Workshop.

REGISTER TODAY: ONLINE APPLICATIONS

Visit: http://acuns.org/workshop19/

Application Deadline: Friday January 25, 2019

Funding for accommodations and travel provided for successful applicants

Questions? Please email admin@acuns.org or call +44 7392 096221



Feature Image Credit: UN Photo/Cia Pak

WORKSHOP 19

STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Program Theme and Policy Relevance

Sustainable development and security are closely related. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) only explicitly mention Food Security as a specific goal, but in the same vein, reference could have been made to maritime security, environmental security or human security in general. The latter concept supposes freedom from want, freedom from fear and freedom to live with dignity as a critical basis for sustaining and developing livelihoods. Personal and community security is perhaps a significant basis for achieving some satisfactory level of sustainable development.

The absence of a more nuanced security-oriented approach in the SDGs has raised critical questions. While the SDGs should not be turned into a securitization project, the need for traditional security arrangements as well as an understanding of the goals in terms of 'securing' basic human needs is necessary. A clarification of the term 'secure' in connection with specific SDGs "access to land" (SDG 2.2.), "child labour prohibition" (SDG 8.7) "working environments" (SDG 8.8) is required, as is an understanding of the general SDG - security nexus. Without properly securing sustainable development environments, the implementation of the SDG program could come under threat.

Set against this context of security and preventing or mitigating challenges, how should (or how can) the United Nations in cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations, business and civil society organizations, manage and secure spaces in order to allow for sustainable development. Of immediate concern are geographical spaces which are vulnerable: refugee camps, schools, agricultural land, fishing grounds, villages, work places, etc. but also emergent less tangible spaces of the internet and technology.

Learning Objectives

Participants in the workshop will gain scholarly and practice-based knowledge and applied skills in the analysis of a number of issue areas related to the workshop theme. In some measure, the selected areas will be determined by the research proposals of the successful participants, but more broadly the themes and skill-sets to be addressed may be anticipated to include (but not be limited to):

- > Identifying and addressing current security challenges facing the SDGs project;
- > Managing and balancing the security roles and interests of actors at the local, national, and regional levels, including intergovernmental, non-governmental, and civil society parties, with those of the global IOs;
- > The current state of scholarly knowledge regarding non-traditional and human security ideas and debates, and of practitioner understanding regarding policies, doctrine and practices;
- > UN and Member State progress towards the SDGs;
- > Identifying and reflecting upon vulnerable environments and groups that are in need of specific security arrangements with respect to their sustainable development.



WORKSHOP 19

STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Participant Selection

- > Up to 20 participants will be selected by a review committee for the Workshop.
- > Normally, approximately half of the participants come from within the United Nations.
- > Those selected will be expected to submit a five-page draft of a research or policy paper to his or her director no later than 4 weeks in advance of the workshop—terms of references will be provided. Following the workshop participants are asked to submit a revised version of their paper/presentation to the director within 2 months' time (by June 15th, 2019), which will be made available on the ACUNS website.
- > The working language of the workshop is English.
- > The selected participants will receive lowest-cost economy class return air travel between their location and the workshop site, accommodations and some meals for the duration of the workshop.
- > The Workshop is designed to promote collegial exchange and networking in an intense work program. Participants are expected to take part fully in all aspects of the program. For this reason, participants must not be accompanied by spouses, children or other dependents. Neither ACUNS, the host institution nor any other associated organization will be able to offer any services or support for anyone accompanying a Workshop participant.

Application Procedure

Applications must be completed by Friday, January 25, 2019. All applications must be submitted online at http://acuns.org/workshop19/

For Scholars and other non-UN Secretariat Applicants

Scholars in all fields relevant to the Workshop e.g. social sciences and humanities, development, technology and international public policy; and practitioners from NGOs and government institutions in all countries are encouraged to apply. Applications are due **January 25, 2019**, and must include all of the following:

- > A brief (~1,000 words) statement of research interests apropos of the workshop themes
- > A curriculum vitae
- > One letter of reference
- > Application Form

Applicants will be notified of the Selection Committee's final decision by February 8, 2019. Due to the high number of applications, the Committee is not able to provide individual explanations of its selection decisions.

For UN Secretariat Staff

While the same application and submission requirements as mentioned above apply, UN Secretariat Staff will be required to fill out the specific form for UN Secretariat Staff which is also available at http://acuns.org/workshop19/

