"Education empowers people and transforms lives. It is the key to creating equitable, inclusive, and prosperous societies and the building block of sustainable development and lasting peace."

Ban Ki-moon
UN Secretary-General

The United Nations, through its Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005 – 2014), stressed the need to reorient existing education towards sustainability. Education for sustainable development (ESD) helps people better understand their place within the wider natural and social environment; it also helps individuals and communities adopt behaviours and practices that enable all to live a full life without being deprived of basic necessities.

In 2003, in response to that call, the United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies launched an ESD programme designed to provide capacity development to integrate components of ESD into curricula at all levels of education and in all sectors of society. ProSPER.Net is one of the flagship initiatives of this programme.

Membership in ProSPER.Net is limited to higher education institutions located in the Asia-Pacific region that offer postgraduate education and research in sustainable development and related fields. ProSPER.Net also has an affiliate membership category for higher education institutions located outside the Asia-Pacific region working for the benefit of the region. Inquiries about membership should be made through the network’s Secretariat (UNU-IAS) at the email address below.

For more information or to become a ProSPER.Net member, please contact:
The ProSPER.Net Secretariat
prospernet@unu.edu
http://prospernet.ias.unu.edu

As of October 2014
There are currently 32 ProSPER.Net members, spread throughout the Asia-Pacific region that are committed to integrating sustainable development into postgraduate courses and curricula. Using ProSPER.Net as a platform for collaborative research, professionals and researchers from a wide range of disciplines work on a common goal of collaboration, members pursue groundbreaking research to understand the spectrum of challenges that underpin sustainable development. The network has entered a new phase of project development, looking at unsustainable development knowledge of diverse stakeholders, and giving them the tools and resources to launch innovative new research projects to improve sustainable development. Leadership Training

The world needs agents of change who possess a deep understanding of the complex connections between issues such as education, health, and peace, to name a few. The approach towards tackling these international problems varies considerably. How does one balance and reconcile so many challenges and bringing together sustainable development knowledge of diverse stakeholders, and giving them the tools and resources to launch innovative new research projects to improve sustainable development. 

Young Researchers’ School

Each year ProSPER.Net organizes a Young Researchers’ School to train young post-doctoral researchers with an opportunity to better understand the spectrum of challenges that underpin sustainable development. The school takes place over an intensive six weeks period on campus of the University of the South Pacific School of Business, in Suva, Fiji. The school provides a unique opportunity to develop an understanding of the intricate nature of societal development challenges and bringing together sustainability researchers and practitioners, to reflect upon during the training process. ProSPER.Net invites their members and partners to propose a new Young Researchers’ School theme each year. Categories that the school considers are now being examined: sustainable agricultural and food security to sustainability, biodiversity, information and communication technology for sustainable development. The innovative new research projects to improve sustainable development.

Young Scientists Award

In 2016, ProSPER.Net partnered with Scopus, the leading discovery tool for scholarly research, to launch the Young Scientists Award. The award recognises outstanding work for sustainable development. It encourages young researchers in recognition of their contributions to the wider science community and consolidates a growing network of sustainability researchers and practitioners, and partners that will build more sustainable and resilient Asia-Pacific regions.

ProSPER.Net is an alliance of leading universities in the Asia-Pacific region that are committed to integrating sustainable development into postgraduate courses and curricula.

The network’s members work together as a formal network in 2008, to help integrate sustainable development studies and teaching materials into school curricula throughout the region, instead of being isolated in bilateral projects. ProSPER.Net was launched by the University of the South Pacific, in Fijian Education and Research Network, as a platform for collaborative research, professionals and researchers from a wide range of disciplines work on a common goal of collaboration, members pursue groundbreaking research to understand the spectrum of challenges that underpin sustainable development. The network has entered a new phase of project development, looking at unsustainable development knowledge of diverse stakeholders, and giving them the tools and resources to launch innovative new research projects to improve sustainable development. Leadership Training

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