



2018 ProSPER.Net Young Researchers' School

'Sustainable Urban Development for the World's Megacities'

4 to 11 March, 2017

Application

Applications: Applications are open for postgraduate students from ProSPER.Net member universities to participate in an interdisciplinary intensive Young Researchers' School on 'Sustainable Urban Development for the World's Megacities'.

Resource Persons: Sustainability experts from United Nations University - Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability and ProSPER.Net member universities will coordinate lectures, group work, and other activities.

Aims: Participants in the Young Researchers' School will:

- Develop advanced knowledge and skills in sustainability research and practice, with a special focus on urban development;
- Develop in-depth research design and planning skills;
- Enhance transferable skills on communication, presentation and group work;
- Become part of a network of sustainability researchers in the Asia-Pacific region.

Study Theme: The emerging phenomena are set to significantly impact how we use and allocate resources and how infrastructures are designed and built to facilitate flow and access. Human populations are increasingly shifting from rural to urban lifestyles – meaning that cities, especially megacities, must maintain access to supplies of resources for growing urban populations. It must be recognized that a changing climate is affecting the natural resource cycles upon which human society is critically dependent on, with dire consequences for human populations. The Young Researchers' School will provide the participants with the opportunity to explore different dimensions of sustainability issues related to the current situation in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) focusing on issues pertinent to megacities such as climate change mitigation and impacts, transportation systems, water security, waste management, built environment, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity & ecosystems, among others, specifically how policies and projects may provide integrative solutions to tackle sustainable development challenges. Field trips related to specific projects by different stakeholders in a city will focus on how research can be applied to promote sustainable practices. Along with a series of lectures by resource persons, participants will be introduced to sustainability challenges related to urban development and management faced by local communities and the innovative approaches that can be used to address these. Based on these lessons, students will develop individual solutions and find ways to promote sustainable solutions.

While the programme will focus on urban development, students interested in any topic related to sustainable development are encouraged to apply, and will receive mentoring on the development of their own thesis proposal.

Tasks will include:

- Small group work on research proposal development, integrating lecture and fieldtrip topics into proposal that addresses sustainable development challenge in the region
- Individual presentation development, using three minute thesis presentation to help students with their own thesis development
- Active participation in all lectures, group work, and field trips, engaging with resource persons and fellow students
- Research communication activities

The Young Researchers' School will engage students in the joint investigation of sustainability issues and also help them develop the important research skills needed for interdisciplinary problem-based research. Workshops at the Young Researchers' School will focus on research skills and strategies for effective research design and planning, including student research plan presentations.



Selection Criteria: Participants will be selected on the basis of written application according to the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled in a PhD programme in a ProSPER.Net member university.
- Chosen a research topic for their PhD thesis work
- High level of understanding of written and spoken English language.
- An advanced understanding of sustainability and its relevance to their own research.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team environment and contribute to community service activities.
- Limited seats are offered to Master students in ProSPER.Net member universities

Scholarships: A limited number of scholarships are available. The scholarships cover all costs of the Young Researchers' School tuition, a round-trip economy class ticket to Tokyo, visa processing fee (if applicable) and most meals. Travel insurance is mandatory and is the participant's responsibility to insure with participant's own cost.



2017/2018 ProSPER.Net Young Researchers' School

Application Form

Family name:					
First and other names:					
Date of Birth (day/month/year):			Gender:		
Email:					
University:					
Department:					
Name of University ProSPER.Net Representative:					
Email:					
Telephone:					
Need of scholarship: Yes / No			University Certification I certify that the information provided by the applicant is true.		
Please inform the stage of your postgraduate course Master studies (1 st year, 2 nd year...) Ph.D. studies (1st year, 2nd year, 3rd year...):			Signature of Supervisor		
Please indicate your English level ability from 1 to 5			Date		
	Poor		Excellent		
Reading	1	2	3	4	5
Writing	1	2	3	4	5
How does your PhD research relate and contribute to sustainable development? (maximum 500 words)					
Demonstrated ability to work in a team environment and experience in community development/service activities (maximum 500 words)					
What is your vision to build a sustainable society? (maximum 500 words)					
Research publications and/or presentations (conferences and dissertation defense, etc)					
Have you ever participated in the ProSPER.Net YRS and/or Leadership Programme (LP)?					
No / Yes (if yes, Which programme?			Which year?)		
Certification I certify that the answers to the above questions are true.					
Signature			Date		

This form should be completed and emailed as an attachment ***in Word or PDF format***, together with a ***recommendation letter*** from the direct supervisor to ProSPER.Net Secretariat (yrs@unu.edu) by **11:59 pm, 15 January 2018 (JST)**.