

UNSSC

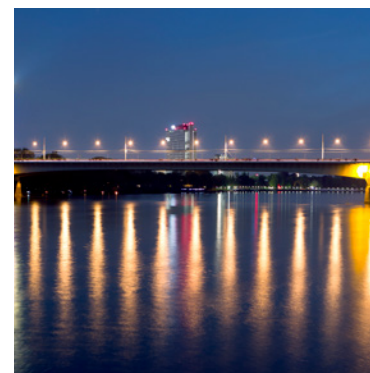
Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development

The UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development



The Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development was established by the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) in 2016 in Bonn, Germany. Its mission is to respond to the comprehensive learning, training, and knowledge management needs of UN staff and partners in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Together they form the most comprehensive blueprint to date for eliminating extreme poverty, reducing inequality, and protecting the planet. Along with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, they constitute an integral plan of action for people, planet, and prosperity which requires all countries and stakeholders to act in concert.



About Bonn

Bonn is Germany's centre for international cooperation and a leading sustainability cluster. It prides itself for being the host of numerous UN entities, federal ministries and agencies, scientific institutions, and non-governmental organizations working in the field of sustainable development. Bonn also stands for culture and nature: situated on the banks of the Rhine, it is a modern, lively, and cosmopolitan city with a history of over 2,000 years. The pattern of Beethoven's hometown is set by its old and famous university, its former role as the seat of government (transferred to Berlin after reunification), its busy commercial life, and ongoing cultural offers at its museums, opera, various theatres, and galleries.

(Photographs: SONDERMANN, Bundesstadt Bonn, UNSSC)

About Sustainable Development

Development is more than the rise of national incomes. It is about creating an environment in which people have opportunities and choices, where they can develop their full potential and lead productive and creative lives in accordance with their needs and interests. The notion of **sustainable development** elaborates further on the necessity to meet the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own. This includes the fundamental obligation to be mindful of the long-term consequences of political, social, and economic choices we make with regard to value systems, social cohesion, stability and peace, and the need to respect planetary boundaries.

By endorsing **the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, including its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the world community has reaffirmed its commitment to the three pillars of sustainable development, namely – to ensuring sustained and inclusive economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection, and to do so in partnership and peace. The 2030 Agenda is universal, transformative, and rights-based. It is an ambitious plan of action for countries, the UN system, and all other development actors.

Combating climate change will be a crucial component to achieve the sustainable development agenda. The **Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change** constitutes a historic agreement to combat climate change and to accelerate and intensify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low carbon future. To support the implementation of the agenda in a holistic and integrated manner, the UN system must seize its strategic position as catalyst for change.



UNSSC Bonn Campus, April 2016.

Sustainable Development Learning

The sustainable development agenda demands new approaches to knowledge and skills development for all actors. Development progress requires holistic thinking, moving beyond separate mandates and structures and exploring linkages between different thematic issues. The 2030 Agenda requires an issues-based modus operandi, fostering new partnerships to identify key problems and opportunities, leveraging diverse means of implementation, and facilitating joint action to ensure progress and maximize results.

Life-long learning must therefore be seen as a key component of personal as well as organizational development. The UNSSC Knowledge Centre is committed to facilitating catalytic learning across the UN system and beyond in support of sustainable development results.





United Nations
System Staff College
Sustainability and the Universal of Agenda 2030

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Learning at the UNSSC Knowledge Centre

The 2030 Agenda profoundly challenges the way development partners work as it requires enhanced multisectoral as well as cross-institutional integration.

To address the requirements of the 2030 Agenda, the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development integrates knowledge across UN agency mandates and thematic pillars of sustainable development. The UNSSC Knowledge Centre fosters inter-agency coherence and strengthens dialogue and networks within and beyond the UN system.

The UNSSC Knowledge Centre's role in inter-agency learning, knowledge sharing, and knowledge management enhances coherence of development interventions and increases operational and conceptual capacity of UN staff as well as a multitude of other partners.

The capacity development approach of the UNSSC Knowledge Centre is organized around **six interdependent building blocks:**



EXAMINE: We provide concrete learning opportunities where UN Staff and partners can learn and examine the sustainable development agenda.



EMPOWER: We assist UN Country Teams in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda by identifying their learning needs and providing customized learning programmes.



PARTNER: We help the UN and partners to better engage in constructive partnerships to become genuine catalysts for sustainable development.



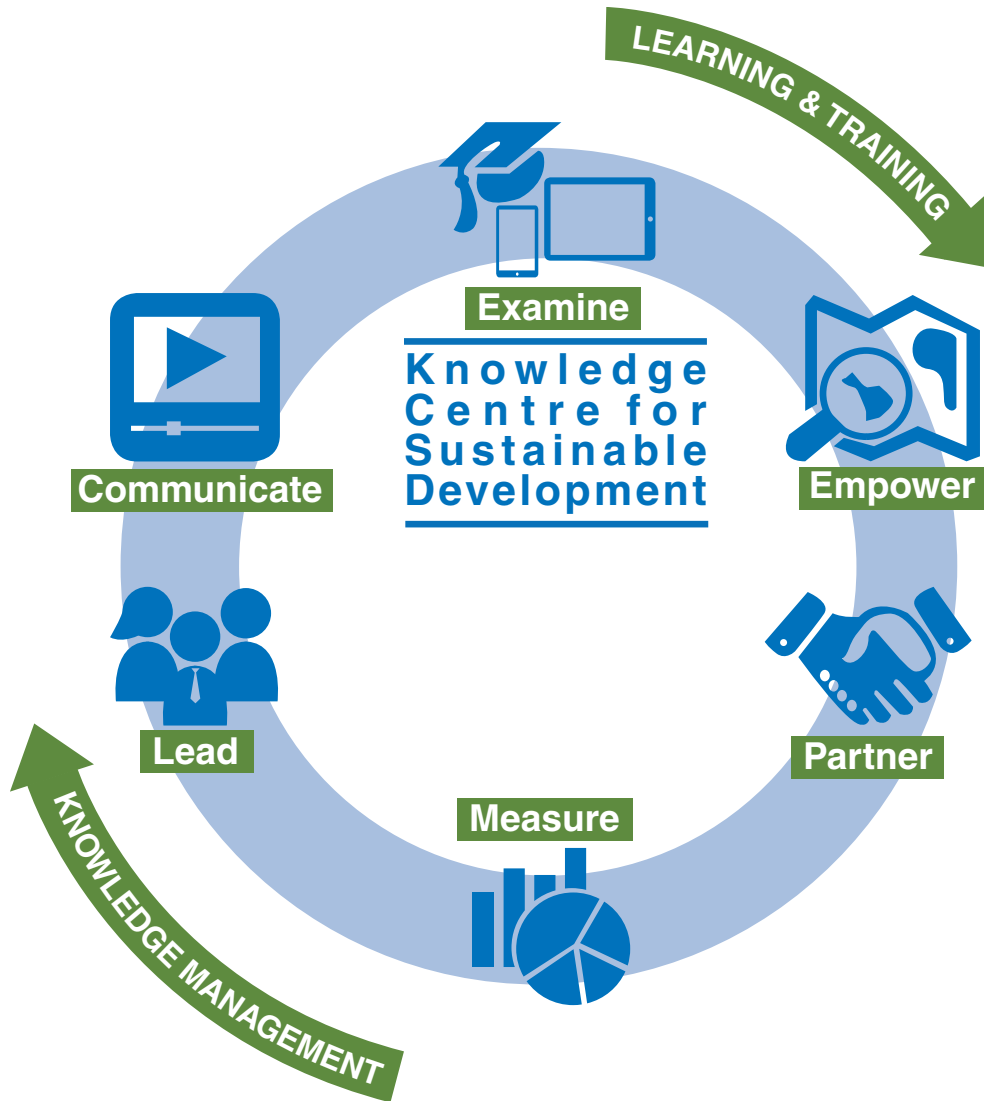
MEASURE: We recognize the importance of a coherent measurement language in the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda, which is reflected in our learning offerings.

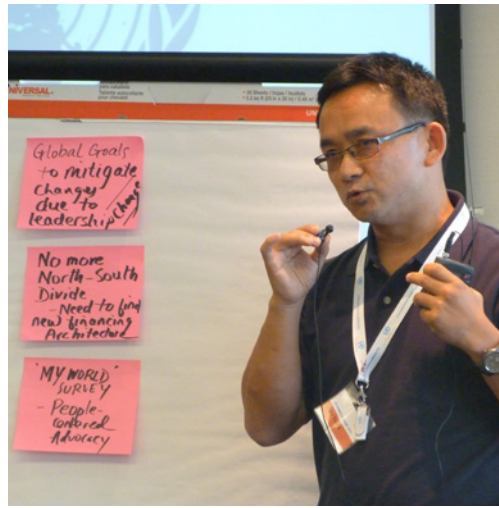


LEAD: We create a space where leaders across sectors can hone their craft, becoming more effective and strategic facilitators, implementers, and leaders of transformational change.



COMMUNICATE: We facilitate learning on effective communication and advocacy for sustainable development and engage alumni and the larger community in continuous discussions through diverse knowledge management platforms and training formats.






Who We Serve

In response to the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement and recognizing the importance of integration, both from a thematic as well as an inter-agency perspective, the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development brings together representatives from across the spectrum of UN entities.

Considering the need for more systematic multi-stakeholder engagement and partnerships, an increasing number of courses also welcome the participation of representatives from the private sector, philanthropic foundations, academia, and civil society.

These courses foster dialogue, enhance sharing of good practices, strengthen networking, and leverage the comparative advantages of different partners in implementing the 2030 Agenda.





**Leading in
Sustainable
Development**



**Monitoring &
Evaluation for
Sustainable
Development**



**United Nations
Summer Academy**



**Stakeholder
Engagement &
Consensus Building
for Sustainable
Development**



**Building Partnerships
for Sustainable
Development**



**Foundational Course
on the 2030 Agenda
for Sustainable
Development**



**Leveraging Big Data
for Sustainable
Development**



**UN Country
Programming in the
Context of the 2030
Agenda**

Learning Opportunities

The UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development offers **online and face-to-face courses**. Face-to-face courses combine lecture style sessions delivered by subject matter experts with interactive and participatory modules, leveraging the expertise of participants and enhancing their understanding of the realities of the respective entities represented in a course. Online courses combine live webinars with renowned experts on sustainable development with knowledge application to real-life and training scenarios, as well as group work and collaboration, thus strengthening cooperation among course participants from different entities.

Additionally, the UNSSC Knowledge Centre stands ready to design and deliver tailor-made learning programmes to meet, among others, the specific needs of sustainable development networks, UN agencies, and inter-agency groups. Furthermore, the Knowledge Centre also offers free of charge learning events and resources such as microlearning modules and the SD Talks series of live webinars.

Selected Learning Opportunities

Open to all stakeholders:

- Foundational Course on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Leading in Sustainable Development
- UN Summer Academy
- Leveraging Big Data for Sustainable Development
- Results Focused Programming for 2030 Agenda Implementation
- Stakeholder Engagement and Consensus Building for Sustainable Development
- UN Reflection Series

For UN staff only:

- UN Country Programming in the Context of the 2030 Agenda
- Building Partnerships for Sustainable Development
- Communicating as One on Sustainable Development
- Integrated Service Delivery for Sustainable Development
- Monitoring and Evaluation for Sustainable Development
- Measurements for Effective Results-Based Management

Learning Facilities

Haus Carstanjen has witnessed historic processes in the pursuit of development, such as the administration of the German Marshall Plan. Located in the midst of an English garden, right on the banks of the river Rhine, the castle constitutes a perfect hub for learning and training on sustainable development. It is an ideal venue for leadership seminars, small retreats, and other learning events. Our facilities provide flexible and technologically advanced learning environments that are safe, healthy, comfortable, aesthetically pleasing, and accessible.



Sustainable Development Conference Room



Lounge

Partnerships



Marshall Room



Studio

Since its inception, the UNSSC Knowledge Centre for Sustainable Development has concluded Memoranda of Understanding and partnerships with, among others, the following institutions: the Collaborating Centre on Sustainable Consumption and Production (CSCP), the Consensus Building Institute (CBI), Data-Pop Alliance, the Simpleshow Foundation, and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Association.



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The United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) is the primary provider of inter-agency training and learning for staff of the United Nations system. Its overall objective is to promote and support UN inter-agency collaboration, increase the operational effectiveness of the UN system as a whole and provide UN staff with the required skills and competencies to face today's global challenges.

UNSSC conducts a variety of learning and training activities, in Turin and Bonn, UN Headquarters as well as at the regional and country levels. All such activities effectively respond to the cross-agency, far-reaching reform agenda of the United Nations.



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