



Hochschule für Angewandte
Wissenschaften Hamburg
Hamburg University of Applied Sciences



WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

IMPLEMENTING THE 2030 UNITED NATIONS AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Manchester, United Kingdom, 5th-7th April 2017





BACKGROUND

The United Nations Summit, held on 25 to 27 September 2015 in New York, adopted the post-2015 development agenda and a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are outlined in the document "**Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**". This Agenda, according to the UN, is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity, which seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. It contains 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets, which demonstrate both a vision and an ambition. It seeks to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what these did not achieve. The document "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" also clearly show the need for an integrated handling of the three main dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental.

There is a world consensus in relation to the fact that Sustainability Science -i.e. a branch of science concerned with an integrated view of the three main dimensions of sustainable development, can provide an important contribution in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Even though in the past the potential of Sustainability Science has been largely overlooked – some say underestimated – it is clear that it can provide a key contribution to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and, more specifically, the realisation of the vision set at the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

It is based on the perceived need to explore and present concrete case studies which illustrate how Sustainability Science and Research can help to achieve the many goals listed in the document "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", that the "**World Symposium on Sustainability Science and Research: Implementing the 2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development**" is being brought to life.

The Symposium is being jointly organised by Manchester Metropolitan University (UK) , the Hamburg University University of Applied Sciences (Germany), and the Inter-University Sustainable Development Research Programme (IUSDRP), in cooperation with various UN bodies, government offices and authorities, universities, enterprises, NGOs and grassroots organisations from across the world.

Sustainability researchers from across the world are warmly invite to attend and present their work at the Symposium: their active inputs will help to reiterate the potential of Sustainability Science and Research, showing **how it may contribute to the realization of the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**.



AIMS

Consistent with the goals of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** and the many requirements to be fulfilled so as to allow its implementation, the aims of the "**World Symposium on Sustainability Science and Research: Implementing the 2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development**" are as follows:

- I. to provide a platform to discuss the contribution of Sustainability Science and Research towards the implementation of the SDGs;
- II. to mobilise the relevant actors (i.e. government offices and authorities, universities, enterprises, NGOs and grassroots organisations) working with sustainable development, to gather and deliberate how Sustainability Science and Research can help to achieve the SDGs;
- III. to offer an opportunity for those working with Sustainability Science and Research, and with its various ramifications, to meet their peers from across the world, and to display and present their works;
- IV. to foster the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of projects, from successful initiatives and good practice.

Last but not least, a further aim of the event will be to document and disseminate the wealth of experiences on Sustainability Science and Research available today. To this purpose, the multi-volume publication "**Handbook of Sustainability Science and Research**" will be published, with all accepted papers. This landmark publication will be part of the **award-winning** "World Sustainability Series", published by Springer, one of the world's top five scientific publishers. The "**Handbook of Sustainability Science and Research**" will be fully peer-reviewed and will thus officially count as high calibre publication output for promotion and tenure purposes.

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

Delegates attending the "**World Symposium on Sustainability Science and Research: Implementing the 2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development**" will come from a cross-sectoral range of areas. They are:

- I. representatives of government organisations, government offices and local authorities;
- II. researchers working at universities, colleges and research centres;
- III. teaching staff;
- IV. representatives from enterprises;
- V. representatives from NGOs and grassroots organisations



- VI. project officers and consultants;
- VII. other people interested in the field.

It is believed that this wide range of participants will help to outline the need for integrated approaches towards sustainable development, and hence contribute to the implementation of the SDGs.

STRUCTURE OF THE EVENT

The "**World Symposium on Sustainability Science and Research: Implementing the 2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development**" will be organised in two main strands:

Strand 1: the poster displays

Participating organisations will be able to put-up poster displays describing their works and projects, and to distribute the relevant information to the participants. The poster displays will be the backbone of the event and will allow close, one-to-one contacts between the participants and the exhibitors.

Strand 2: the presentations

A set of presentations, divided into five sections will be organised, dealing with issues of strategic value in reviewing the state of the art of Sustainability Science and Research today, across its various areas, and in outlining the ways forward. These are:

- Session 1:** Political, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development
- Session 2:** Environmental and technological dimensions of sustainable development
- Session 3:** Holistic approaches to sustainable development
- Session 4:** Stakeholders' engagement in sustainable development
- Session 5:** Education for sustainable development

Across the event, participants will have the opportunity to enlarge their networks and become familiar with excellent examples of how principles of sustainability are being put into practice.



TIMETABLE

The "**World Symposium on Sustainability Science and Research: Implementing the 2030 United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development**" will be held from 5th to 7th April 2017.

The schedule is as follows:

WEDNESDAY, 5th April 2017

13:00-15:00: arrival, registration and set-up of displays (sandwiches will be served)

15:00-17:30- Key Note Speeches

18:00-20:00- Welcome cocktail

THURSDAY, 6th APRIL 2017

All day: Exhibition and visit to displays

Morning: Session 1

Afternoon: Session 2

Evening: Reception at Manchester City Hall

FRIDAY, 7th APRIL 2017

All day: Exhibition and visit to displays

Morning: Session 3

Afternoon: Session 4 | Round-table with key experts | Presentation of the best papers award & Conclusions

In order to ensure an efficient use of the time, delegates are kindly asked to organise their travel in a way that allows them to arrive in the course of Wednesday the 5th April 2017, and travel back on or after the 7th April 2017 so that they do not miss the final session and hand over of the best papers Awards.

DEADLINES

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 30th August

Deadline for submission of full papers: 20th November 2016

Deadline for the submission of the revised papers: 20th December 2016

Deadline for registrations: 30th January 2017



Since the conference book will be launched **soon after the Symposium**, the deadlines need to be followed.

FEES AND CHARGES

An early-bird conference fee of £ 290 / € 390 will be charged to delegates who register until 30th December 2016. From 1st January 2017 the full fee (i.e. £ 350 / € 476) will apply. The fees include **the lunches and coffee breaks on 5th-7th April 2017**. Authors will also get **a PDF file** of their respective accepted papers, and **free on-line access to the “Handbook of Sustainability Science and Research”** to which they have contributed. Registrations fees may be refunded in case of cancellations (with a 50% charge) until 20th February 2017. After this deadline no refunds are possible.

Organisations or individuals not able to pay this fee should contact the Secretariat so that it may be waived in special cases. Interested people and organisations are encouraged to register by completing the application form provided. **This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs** of any kind. They are however happy to issue letters of invitation to support delegates to request funding for their participation.

ACCOMMODATION IN MANCHESTER

Marketing Manchester has put together a portal for delegate accommodation for the Symposium, with details on hotels with very reasonable prices. The details can be seen here:
<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/WSSSR2017>

REGISTRATION AND CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Registrations are now open and are possible until the 30th January 2017. Regrettably, registrations after the deadline will not be possible. Since the space for displays and the time for presentations is limited, **delegates are advised to register as soon as possible**. The organisers will notify any interested delegate or organisation in case there are any limitations with time for presentations or space for displays. Registered delegates will then receive further details on the payment of the fees and updated information on the preparations for the event. The decision as to which papers will be accepted for presentation will be taken by the Chairperson, following consultation with the organising committee. Participants registering to the event will do so under the condition that they will cover their own travel, accommodation and incidental costs (e.g. visa fees) related to their trip to the United Kingdom. **This is a self-funded event and the organisers are unable to pay any travel or accommodation costs of any kind**. Letters of invitation to enter the United Kingdom can be only be sent to *bona fide*, registered delegates, who have paid their fees and need a document to show their employers.



ORGANISERS

- Manchester Metropolitan University
- Hamburg University of Applied Sciences Research and Transfer Centre “Applications of Life Sciences”
- RCE Hamburg and Region
- Inter-University Sustainable Development Research Programme (IUSDRP)

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- Regional Centres of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development Hamburg and Region and London
- UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, Man and Biosphere Programme (UNESCO-MAB)
- UN Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Baltic University Programme

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Chairperson

- Prof. Walter Leal (BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DL, DLitt) Manchester Metropolitan University and Hamburg University of Applied Sciences

Members

- Prof. Jasim U Ahmad, University of Jahangirnagar, Bangladesh
- Dr. Abul Quasem Al-Amin, University of Malaya, Malaysia
- Maria de Fátima Pereira Alves, Open University, Portugal
- Dr. Nelson Amaro, Galileo University, Guatemala
- Prof. Ulisses Azeiteiro, University of Coimbra, Portugal
- Prof. Alexander Bassen, University of Hamburg, Germany
- Prof. Sandra Caeiro, Universidade Aberta, Portugal
- Prof. Adriano Ciani, University of Perugia, Italy
- Prof. Bernd Delakowitz, University of Applied Sciences Zittau-Görlitz, Germany

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- Mr. Jos Eussen, RCE Rheine-Meuse, Netherlands
- Dr. Alexander Feher, University of Nitra, Slovakia
- Prof. Baltasar D´Andrade Guerra, UNISUL, Brazil
- Prof. Don Huisingh, University of Tennessee, USA
- Professor Sadiq Hussain, Ibri College of Applied Sciences, Sultanate of Oman
- Prof. Ralf Isenmann, Munich University of Applied Sciences, Germany
- Prof. Simon Kemp, University of Southampton, UK
- Prof. Maris Klavins, University of Latvia, Latvia
- Prof. Linas Kliucininkas, Kaunas University of Technology, Lithuania
- Prof. Kerstin Kuchta, Hamburg University of Technology, Germany
- Dr. Paula Lindroos, Baltic University Programme, Sweden
- Prof. Rodrigo Lozano, Utrecht University, Netherlands
- Prof. Benjamin Nölting, Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development, Germany
- Prof. Othieno Ogugu, University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Prof. Violeta Orlovic Lovren, University of Belgrade, Serbia
- Dr. Evangelos Manolas, Democritus University of Thrace, Greece
- Dr. Karel Mulder, TU Delft, Netherlands
- Prof. Maria Novo, National University on Distance Education, Spain
- Prof. Paul Pace, University of Malta, Malta
- Prof. Joost Platje, Wroklaw School of Banking, Poland
- Prof. Diana-Mihaela Pociovalisteanu, Constantin Brancusi University, Romania
- Dr. Arun Prasad, Pondyicherry University, India
- Prof. Osvaldo Quelhas, Fluminense Federal University, Brazil
- Prof. Lars Ryden, Baltic University Programme, Sweden
- Prof. Mikhail Shilin, Russian State Hydrometeorological University, St. Petersburg, Russia
- Prof. Belay Simane, University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Prof. Luis Velazquez, University of Sonora, Mexico
- Dr. Menas Wute, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
- Prof. Sergei Zenchenko, Minsk Branch Plekhanov Russian University of Economics, Belarus
- Dr. Michaela Zint, University of Michigan, USA

The scientific committee is well balanced, both in respect of the participation of members of all geographical regions, and in respect of gender.



SCIENTIFIC AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY

- Prof. Phil Wheeler, Dean of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, Chair
- Dr Elizabeth Price, Head of the School of Science and the Environment, Vice-Chair
- Dr. John Hindley, Head of Environmental Strategy
- Prof. Paul Hooper, School of Research, Enterprise and Innovation
- Dr. Olga Kuznetsova, Management Department, Business School
- Dr. Haruna Musa, Hollings
- Professor Alberto Paucar-Caceres, Research Co-ordinator, Business School
- Prof. Callum Thomas, School of Science and the Environment
- Dr. Konstantinos Tzoulas, School of Science and the Environment
- Prof. Cathy Urquhart, Business School
- Ms Elisabeth Walley, Senior Lecturer in Sustainable Business

ABOUT THE LOCATION: MANCHESTER, UNITED KINGDOM

Manchester is the second largest city in the United Kingdom and is easily reachable by means of its international airport, and excellent rail and bus connection to different parts of the country. Details on the City, a list of hotels and other details on travel and leisure (in English) can be seen at:
<http://www.visitmanchester.com/>

The city administration is especially committed to a sustainable growth, and is keen to promote social and environmental measures which lead to an improvement in living conditions and quality of life. The City of Manchester is fully supportive of the Symposium, to be opened by the Mayor or his representative.



CONTACT POINT FOR SCIENTIFIC AND STRATEGIC COOPERATION, AND FOR GUIDANCE ON THE PUBLICATION

All questions related to scientific inputs, publication and strategic partnerships should be sent to:

Professor Walter Leal

(BSc, PhD, DSc, DPhil, DEd, DLitt, FSB, FRGS, FLS)
Professor of Environment and Technology
School of Science and the Environment
Manchester Metropolitan University
Chester Street
Manchester, M1 5GD
United Kingdom
E-mail: w.leal@mmu.ac.uk

CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATOR AND CONTACT POINT FOR FURTHER DETAILS

All questions related to abstracts and registrations should be sent to:

Dr. Mihaela Sima

Institute of Geography
Romanian Academy
E-mail: simamik@yahoo.com

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

An abstract should be up to 200 words, it should describe the rationale and aims of the paper, and some of its results. General descriptions of broad contexts should be avoided. The full contact details about the author(s) need to be provided. Abstracts should be written in the third person and not in the first or second one (e.g. I, me, or my paper). Please see a sample abstract below. Authors whose abstracts have been accepted, will receive further details about how to submit their full papers, and further logistical information.



SAMPLE ABSTRACT

The Role of Sustainability Science in Addressing the Challenges Posed in the Implementation of the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals

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Abstract

The agreement achieved by the nations of the world during the meeting of the UN General Assembly held on 25-27 September 2015, complemented by their commitment to implement the sustainable development goals listed in the Declaration "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", is a turning point in history, since it sets a basis upon which the process towards a shift onto a more sustainable and resilient path can be resumed, with clear political support.

However, such a shift is not without challenges. Apart from the necessary and continuous financial and political support for the next 15 years, so as to realise the ambitions of "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", there is a pressing need for scientific support to current and future efforts, which can be offered by Sustainability Science.

This paper provides an analysis of the many challenges that implementing the SDGs pose, and the contributions which Sustainability Science, as an integrated tool, can provide in supporting national and international efforts in this direction. The paper also describes the progress seen since the Millennium Development Goals were set, and outlines the many pitfalls it suffered, and which need to be avoided, so as to allow sustainable development in its various dimensions to be achieved in the post-2015 and pre-2030 process.



WORLD SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE AND RESEARCH –
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REGISTRATION FORM

1. Surname: _____ 2. First name _____
3. Title (Prof., Dr. Mr, Ms, etc): _____
4. Institution: _____
5. Address: _____
6. Telephone (please include national and local code): _____
7. E-mail: _____
8. You intend to participate by means of: () Presentation () Display () both
9. Title of presentation: _____
10. Session chosen (please tick): _____

Session 1: Socio-Economics aspects of sustainable development and research ()

Session 2: Environmental aspects of sustainable development and research ()

Session 3: Holistic approaches to Sustainability Science and research ()

Session 4: Stakeholders' engagement in Sustainability Science and research ()

Session 5: Education for sustainable development ()

11. Title of display: _____

12. Do you need a visa to enter the UK? () Yes* () No

(*) If you need a visa, please contact us supplying us with the following details: place and date of birth, passport number, home address, address of your employers.

13. Do you have any dietary requirements? (please specify) () Yes () No

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