

# GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES PARTNERSHIP ON ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

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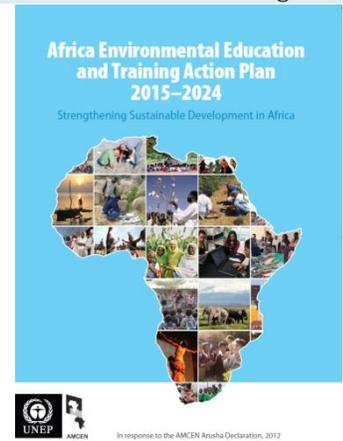
- ***The Relevance of Green University Networks in promoting a Sustainable Future***, 14 November 2016, Marrakesh, Morocco. Held on the UNFCCC Education Thematic Day, universities from across Morocco presented examples of their contributions to sustainability including switching to solar energy, solar heating for campus swimming pools, and expanding curricula on sustainable development. UN Environment recognized the role of [Mohammed VI Foundation for Environmental Protection](#) in building sustainable, in-country capacity to address the challenges of climate change mitigation and adaptation in Morocco. The event moderated by Jacqueline McGlade, Director of the Science Division, culminated in the launch of the Morocco Green Universities Network in line with the UNEA2/3 Resolution on environmental education, the Global Action plan on Education for Sustainable Development – of which UN Environment is a Partner, Sustainable Development Goal Target 4.7 on education for sustainable development, and Article 6 of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and Articles 11 and 12 of the Paris Climate Agreement on climate change education.
- ***Marking the Paris Climate Change Agreement***, 14 November 2016, Nairobi, Kenya. United Nations Environment, in partnership with the University of Nairobi, marked the entry into force of the [Paris Climate Change Agreement](#). The student-led celebration attended by about 700) students and faculty revitalized the role of universities as living labs, centres of excellence in research and innovation to address sustainability challenges; advocated for low carbon campus development; and called for the accelerated transition to clean energy sources, all in line Kenya's national goals in addressing climate change. More info: <http://web.unep.org/training/news/unep-university-nairobi-mark-paris-climate-change-agreement>
- ***Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability (GUPES) Strategic Meeting***, 28 – 29 November 2016, Nairobi, Kenya. Organized as a follow up to the GUPES Steering Committee Meeting, which took place at MIT, in Boston on 13 September 2016, the GUPES Strategic Planning Meeting reviewed and discussed the GUPES Priority Areas for 2017 and beyond, based on the GUPES survey and analysis carried out prior to the meeting. In addition to this, other colleagues from UN Environment were invited to join the meeting and present work relevant to GUPES. The finalised report will be disseminated to the GUPES community and focuses on elevating the role of universities as key drivers of societal change.
- ***Completion of the Ecosystem Approach and Systems Thinking MOOC***. Following the successful launch of the Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on 12 September 2016, the MOOC was officially closed on 1 December 2016. It built capacity on current and emerging issues such as fisheries' collapse, climate change, biodiversity loss, infectious diseases, and inequitable access to resources will be among the greatest challenges of our time. The MOOC was developed in line with the Sustainable Development Goal 4, Target 4.7: *education for sustainable development*; and second United Nations Environment Assembly Resolution 3: *Investment in human capacity for sustainable development through environmental education and training*. Disseminated through the GUPES, UN Environment's flagship programme on environmental education, the MOOC recorded over 3,117 participants from 148 countries. More info: [www.environmentacademy.org/courses/](http://www.environmentacademy.org/courses/)



- **Website** UN Environment Education and Training has launched a new dynamic interactive website. Please feel free to share you upcoming events for increased dissemination and collaboration. More info: <http://web.unep.org/training/>

## New Publication

- **Africa Environmental Education and Training Action Plan (AEETAP) 2015-2024: Strengthening Sustainable Development in Africa.** Inadequate and uncoordinated environmental awareness in many African countries has adversely contributed to environmental degradation within the continent. To address this challenge, the UN Environment, in collaboration with other stakeholders, is promoting capacity development for future professionals on environmental education. The AEETAP 2015–2024, as called for by the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), is one of UN Environment’s modes of facilitating and promoting environmental awareness, education and training. The Action Plan advocates for ecosystem resource management; communication and dissemination of environmental material in all forms of education; spatial planning and urban design through green campus designs; sustainable tourism and efficient transport; and water and sanitation, among other green practices. The main objective of the AEETAP is to enhance community environmental education and training within the continent, through various formal education, training, lifelong learning and capacity building programmes and projects, encouraging participation of both males and females equally. These programmes and projects are envisaged to fundamentally improve the environmental, societal and economic state of Africa for the benefit of Africa’s people, and are closely aligned to the five AMCEN flagship programmes. Download: <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/14063/Africa%20Environmental%20Education%20and%20Training%20Action%20Plan%202015%20-%202024.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>



## Opportunities

- **Internship Position**  
UN Environment is pleased to circulate Internship Programme opportunities at the Ecosystems Division, to be based in Nairobi, Kenya. The Ecosystems Division works with international and national partners, providing technical assistance and advisory services for the implementation of environmental policy, and strengthening the environmental management capacity of developing countries and countries with economies in transition. Interested graduate and PhD. students **MUST** apply to the Job offer No. 66354 in Inspira in order to be considered for the Internship opportunity in Nairobi. More info: <https://careers.un.org/lbw/jobdetail.aspx?id=66354>. Deadline: **18 February 2017**.
- **Apply Now for the 2017 UNU-IAS Master's and Doctoral Degree Programmes**  
The United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) is accepting applications for September 2017 admission to its Master of Science in Sustainability programme and its PhD in Sustainability Science programme. The application deadlines are **28 February 2017** for the master's degree programme, and **28 April 2017** for the doctoral degree programme. Some scholarships are available for the applicants from developing countries. Please visit the UNU-IAS website <http://ias.unu.edu/en/admissions/degrees> for further details.
- **Fully Funded Training Opportunity at Resilient Cities 2017: The EPIC EPIC-N Model as an Effective Vehicle for the Provision of Knowledge and Enhancing Local Government Capacity, May 3, 2017 (Full-Day Training) + May 4-6, 2017 (Resilient Cities Forum), Bonn, Germany.**  
In May 2017, the Resilient Cities 2017 Forum will host a unique opportunity for collaborating pairs of individuals representing municipal governments and nearby universities, to receive training on the EPIC-N model. We are seeking expressions of interest from qualified pairs of individuals who are interested in this fully-funded opportunity. Interested parties should send an email with names, affiliations, and contact information for both individuals, along with a short 1-2 paragraph explanation of why you are interested in taking this training. Pairs need not have collaborated previously. The training will be conducted in English. Please submit expressions of interest, complete contact information and title to **Dr. Anthony Socci** at: [socci.anthony@epa.gov](mailto:socci.anthony@epa.gov), by **January 25, 2017**. More info: <http://www.epicn.org/training/>

- **MIT CoLab**

How can vulnerable communities build climate resilience and best prepare for climate-related threats? What are early warning systems and tools that can help? Submit your proposals to the "[Anticipating Climate Hazards](#)" contest on MIT's Climate CoLab, run in collaboration with the UN Secretary-General's Climate Resilience Initiative: Anticipate, Absorb, Reshape (A2R). Win a chance to present your work before the A2R Leadership Group-- some of the world's leading experts on climate change adaptation. See the contest and submit your proposal by Feb. 10 here: <http://climatecolab.org/contests/2017/A2R-Anticipating-Climate-Hazards>

## Upcoming Events

- 6 – 8 March 2017: Review Forum for the UNESCO Global Action Programme (GAP) on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), Ottawa, Canada

## Stories of Change

- Citizen science helps ecosystem renewal in Kenya - [www.unep.org/stories/ecosystems/Citizen-science-helps-ecosystem-renewal-in-Kenya.asp](http://www.unep.org/stories/ecosystems/Citizen-science-helps-ecosystem-renewal-in-Kenya.asp)
- Do you have stories on environmental education initiatives and impacts in your community? Please share for consideration and a chance to have them highlighted in our future bulletins and website via [env.edu@unep.org](mailto:env.edu@unep.org).

## Useful UN Environment Reports, References and New Publications

- UN Environment Education and Training: <http://web.unep.org/training/>
- Upcoming events and opportunities: <http://web.unep.org/training/events/upcoming-events>
- UN Environment Publications: [www.unep.org/publications/](http://www.unep.org/publications/)

*Thank you for taking your time to read the GUPES e-newsletter. If you wish to contribute to the quarterly GUPES bulletin or have news, upcoming events, or publications, you would like to share, please use this [GUPES Articles Submission Form](#). You can email it to the GUPES Centre: [env.edu@unep.org](mailto:env.edu@unep.org). Submissions must be made by the 15th of every month. In addition, we encourage you to continue using the GUPES portal to exchange ideas, share expertise and resources and deliberate emerging sustainability issues towards EE implementation at a global level.*

**For more information and/or to submit articles/information, please contact:**

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