



同濟大學
TONGJI UNIVERSITY



GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES PARTNERSHIP ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY (GUPES) OFFICIAL LAUNCH

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5-6 June 2012
Tongji University, Shanghai, China



CONGRATULATION:

The Official Lunch of Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability Was Held Successfully at Tongji University!

Prof. Wu Jiang as the Chair of the GUPES Official Steering Committee, as well as IESD as a University wide platform on sustainability issues!

PREAMBLE



GUPES was the result of a consultative forum organized by UNEP and its partners to increase successful engagement with universities. It builds on the successes of the Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in African Universities (MESA), the nascent Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in the Caribbean Universities (MESCA) and the Asia - Pacific Regional University Consortium (RUC) .

GUPES serves to increase the mainstreaming of environment and sustainability practices and curricula into universities around the world. It is also geared towards encouraging further interaction between UNEP and universities, around the three pillars of education, training and applied research. This is done in accordance to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, and in partnership with UNESCO, UNU and other organizations.

GUPES is a global platform for universities to engage on environmental and sustainability concerns in order to enhance the quality and relevance of university education. GUPES was initiated following a consultative universities forum in Nairobi, on November 19, 2010 to deliberate on ways of escalating UNEP's successful engagement with universities. It builds upon the success of regional universities forum, Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in African Universities (MESA). GUPES aims to promote the integration of environment and sustainability concerns into teaching, research, community engagement, the management of universities, greening of university infrastructure and operations, as well as to enhance student engagement and participation in sustainability activities both within and beyond universities.

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E-mail: env.edu@unep.org

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RIO+20 AND HIGHER EDUCATION

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Rio+20, provide a historic opportunity to define pathways to a safer, more equitable, cleaner, greener and more prosperous world. As Rio+20, a side on the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI), a joint effort of numerous UN agencies, is being organized. GUPES will complement the Rio+20 HESI by strengthening the environmental pillar of sustainable development in relation to higher education.

HEI SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE FOR RIO+20 DECLARATION

With the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the international community committed to making every effort to ensure sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations. The aim of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development, or Rio+20, is to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, and address new and emerging challenges.

Since Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) educate and train decision makers, they play a key role in building more sustainable societies and creating new paradigms. As educational institutions, they have the mission to promote development through both research and teaching, disseminating new knowledge and insight to their students and building their capabilities. Given the objectives of Rio+20, HEIs have a special responsibility to provide leadership on education for sustainable development.

Education for sustainable development aims at enabling everyone to acquire the values, competencies, skills and knowledge necessary to contribute to building a more sustainable society. This implies revising teaching content to respond to global and local challenges. It should also promote teaching methods that enable students to acquire skills such as interdisciplinary thinking, integrated planning, understanding complexity, cooperating with others in decision-making processes, and participating in local, national and global processes towards sustainable development.

DAY 1

HIGH LEVEL OPENING CEREMONY



International Student Conference - Perspectives

2011 Student Presentations
Awarding of 2012 Klaus Toepfer Environmental Scholarships



GUPES High Level Presidential Panel: The Role of Universities in Sustainability



SUMMARY OF THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH:

DAY 1 – Tuesday, 5 June, 2012 (129 Assembly Hall, Tongji University Siping Campus)

Section I:

High Level Opening Ceremony: Facilitated by Wu Jiang–Vice President of Tongji University and Dean of IESD

The Opening Ceremony was Held alongside the 2012 World Environment Day (WED) celebrations, the International Students Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, the Asia Pacific Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development.

Welcome Statements: Given by

Wang Guangtao, Chair, Env. Protection Committee, National People's Congress of China,

Zhou Zuyi, Chancellor, Tongji University,

Elizabeth Mrema, Deputy Director, Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (EDPI), UNEP

Keynote speeches: Given by

Bindu N. Lohani, Vice President, Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank

Meng Wei, Director, China Academy of Environmental Science

Pei Gang, President, Tongji University

Video Messages: from

Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director and UN Undersecretary General

Elizabeth Thompson, UNCSD Rio+20 Executive Coordinator, (video message)

Launch of Green Economy Report (Chinese version): Announced by Wang Jiang and Elizabeth Mrema

Section II:

GUPES High Level Presidential Panel: Facilitated by Mahesh Pradhan, Chief, Environmental Education and Training Unit, UNEP

The GUPES High Level Presidential Panel focused on The Role of Universities in Sustainability and The Road to/from Rio+20, eight VIP participants were invited, they are:

HE Rolph Payet, Minister of Environment and Energy, Pro Chancellor, University of Seychelles (by Video message)

George A.O. Magoha, Vice Chancellor, University of Nairobi

Helia Lotz-Sisitka, Rhodes and Murray Chair Professor of Environmental Education, Rhodes University

Agusti Perez-Foguet, the Vice-rector of Sustainability and Social Responsibility from UPE-Barcelona Tech

Chiara Mio, Vice President for Sustainability, University of Venice

Nay Htun, Research Professor, Stony Brook University, and former UN Assistant Secretary General, UNDP and UNEP

Pei Gang, President, Tongji University

Section III:

International Student Conference – Perspectives: Facilitated by Student Representatives Fanny and Alex

2011 Student Presentations

Awarding of 2012 Klaus Toepfer Environmental Scholarships

Section IV: WELCOME RECEPTION, Hosted by Tongji University and UNEP, 1st floor Zonghe Building, Tongji University

Section V: World Symposium on Sustainable Development at Universities – Skype connection with Rio de Janeiro, IESD 903 Seminar Room

DAY 2 – Wednesday, 6 June, 2012 (Sino-Finnish Centre, Tongji University)

Section I: GUPES Work in Progress

a) Higher Education Guidelines for Curriculum Review and Reorientation towards SD, by Heila Lotz-Sisitka –Rhodes University, South Africa

b) Source Books on Green Economy and Ecosystems Management, by Mark Curtis – McGill University, Canada (video message)

c) Greening University Toolkit, by Deo Prasad - University of New South Wales, „Australia

Section II: Signing of MoUs- Association of African Universities and Cologne University of Applied Sciences, with Elizabeth Mrema, Deputy Director, EDPI,UNEP; Olugbemiro Jegede, Secretary General, AAU; Sylvia Heuchemer, Vice President, University of Cologne

Section III: Regional Presentations

Asia-Pacific:

Bonifacio T. Doma, Jr., Vice President, Academic Office, Mapua Institute of Technology, Philippines

Masanori Kobayashi, Graduate School of Environment and Information Sciences, Yokohama National University, Japan

Ainisa Akmatova, Vice Rector, International Affairs, Osh State University, Kyrgyzstan

Wu Jiang , Vice President, Tongji University

Europe:

John Holmberg, Vice President, Chalmers University of Technology and UNESCO Chair on ESD (Video message)

Rolf Baur, Director, CIPSEM, Dresden International University

Latin America and the Caribbean:

Mario Sanchez, Andres Bello University, Chile

Marceline Collin-Figueroa, Senior Lecturer, University of West Indies, Jamaica

North America:

Yajie Song, School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yale University

Peter Blaze Corcoran, Director of the Centre for Environmental and Sustainability Education, Florida Gulf Coast University

Section IV: GUPES Strategy and Implementation Plan:

a) Education, Training and Networking

b) HESI Rio+20

Section V: GUPES Modalities

a) Regional and Sub-regional focal points for GUPES

b) GUPES Steering Committee Members

Section VI: Buffet Dinner (GUPES Steering Committee Meeting)



**2012 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY
GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES PARTNERSHIP ON ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY (GUPES)
ASIA-PACIFIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME (APLP)**

Held in Tongji University, Shanghai, China, June 2012

The GUPES launch was held alongside the 2012 World Environment Day (WED) celebrations, as well as the International Students Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development and the Asia Pacific Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development. The launch is planned as a lead-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), Rio+20, where a joint UN initiative—Higher Education Sustainability Initiative will be launched.

**2012 International Student Conference on Environment and Sustainability,
Global University Partnership on Environment and Sustainability,
Asia-Pacific Leadership Programme**



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GUPES WORK IN PROGRESS



REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS SIGNING OF MOUS



• **Total number of participants: 77**

Africa: 13, Asia: 38, Europe:8, Latin America:4, North America:5, International:6, UNEP:3

AFRICA			
	Name/Title	Institution	Country
1	Dr. ZegeyeMuluye, Vice President for Business and Development	Addis Ababa University	Ethiopia
2	Dr. JeiluOumer, Academic Vice President		
3	Prof. NegussieRetta, Director, College of Natural Sciences		
4	Dr. Ing. GetahunMekuria, Deputy Scientific Director, Addis Ababa Institute of Technology (AAIT)		
5	Prof. Olugbemiro Jegede, Secretary-General	Association of African Universities	Ghana
6	Prof. George A.O. Magoha, Vice-Chancellor	University of Nairobi	Kenya
7	Prof. David Mungai, Coordinator, Education for Sustainable Development in Africa (ESDA)		
8	Mr. Nickson Otieno, President, Executive Board	World Student Community for SD	
9	Dr. Rolph Payet, Minister of Environment and Energy, Pro-Chancellor	University of Seychelles	Seychelles
10	Prof. Heila Lotz-Sisitka, Rhodes and Murray Chair Professor of Environmental Education	Rhodes University	South Africa
11	Ms. Amanda Hlengwa		
12	Dr. Jewette Masinja	University of Zambia (UNZA)	Zambia
13	Ms. Christiana Uzoukwu, Administrative Officer	National Open University	Nigeria



ASIA			
	Name/Title	Institution	Country
1	Prof. Muttucumaru Sivakumar	Wollongong University	Australia
2	Prof. Deo Prasad	University of New South Wales	
3	Prof. Jinsong Zhao, Director	Tsinghua University	China
4	Prof. Xiao Zhu, Law School	Renmin University	China
5	Prof. Hao Fanghua, Vice-President	Beijing Normal University (BNU)	China
6	Dr. Huang Yu		
7	Prof. Qing Tian, Ph.D./Associate Professor		
8	Prof. Huang Ronghuai, Vice-Dean, Education Faculty		
9	Prof. Long Ruijun, Director	Lanzhou University	China
10	Guo Zhiyong, Assistant Procurator,	Hefei University of Technology	China
11	Prof. Li Wan		
12	Yan Feng, Director		
13	Yan Junwei, Executive Vice-Director,		China
14	Prof. Ziwen Liu,	South China University of Technology	China
15	Prof. Longcun Jin,		China
16	Prof. Peng Liu, Director,	China Architecture Design and Research Institute	China
17	Zhan Songlin, Engineer,		
18	Prof. Pei Gang, President	Tongji University	China
19	Prof. Wu Jiang, Vice President and Dean of IESD		
20	Prof Li Fengting Tongji University China		
21	Prof. Tan Hongwei, Director/Sec-General,	CGUN, Tongji University	China
22	Dr. Chen Shuqin, Secretary		
23	Ms. Yanyun (Annie) Yang, Convenor, International Students Conference on Environment and Sustainability	Tongji University	China
24	Dr. Ping, FANG Associate Professor		
25	Prof. Masanori Kobayashi, Associate Professor Graduate School of Environment and Information Sciences	Yokohama National University (YNU)	Japan
26	Prof. Ainisa Akmatova Vice-Rector, International Affairs	Osh State University	Kyrgyzstan
27	Prof. Abdylidaev Kurmanbek, Rector	Issykkul State University	Kyrgyzstan
28	D. Eng., Ganzorig Chimed, Vice-President for Research and Innovation	National University of Mongolia	Mongolia
29	Dr. Byambakhuu Ishgaldan, Executive Director		

ASIA			
	Name/Title	Institution	Country
30	Dr. (Mrs) Nyo Nyo, Professor, Department of Geography	University of Distance Education	Myanmar
31	Dr. Bonifacio T. Doma, Jr. - Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs Office	Mapua Institute of Technology	Philippines
32	Prof. Said Irandoust President	Asian Institute of Technology	Thailand
33	Ambassador Curtis S. Chin, Senior Fellow and inaugural Executive-in-Residence		
34	Prof. S. Kumar		
35	*Dr. Ali Al-Bemani, Vice-Chancellor	Sultan Qaboos University (SQU)	Oman
36	Prof. Zhou Xianyan President	Central South University of Forestry and Technology	China
37	Prof. Yang Zhiqing Dean		
38	Prof. Zhou Xunfang		

EUROPE			
	Name/Title	Institution	Country
1	Dr. Ing. Katharina Gugerell	University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences(BOKU)	Austria
2	Dr. Ing. Rolf Baur, Head / Course Director CIPSEM - Centre for International postgraduate studies of environmental management UNEP/UNESCO/BMU Course Programme	Dresden University	Germany
3	Prof. Sylvia Heuchemer, Vice Principal for Teaching and Studies	Cologne University of Applied Sciences	Germany
4	Prof. Dr. Harald Sander, Director	GLOBUS Institute	Germany
5	Prof. Pierluigi Bozzi (PhD), Research Centre of Development Studies SPES	University of Rome	Italy
6	Prof. Chiara Mio, Vice-President of Sustainability	University of Venice	Italy
7	Ms. Marie Neeser	NIRAS/SIDA	Sweden
8	Dr. Stefan Bengtsson, Dept. of Education	Uppsala University	Sweden

LATIN AMERICA			
	Name/Title	Institution	Country
1	Prof. Mario Sanchez, Director	Universidad Andres Bello	Chile
2	Mr. Orlando Saenz, Coordinator	ARIUSA Network	Colombia
3	Mr. Claude Suzanon	Parc Amazonien University	French Guyana
4	Dr. Marceline Collins-Figueroa, Senior Lecturer	University of West Indies	Jamaica

NORTH AMERICA			
	Name/Title	Institution	Country
1	Dr. Mark Curtis Senior Associate, McGill-UNEP Collaborating Centre on Environmental Assessment	McGill University	Canada
2	Prof. Peter Blaze Corcoran, Professor of Environmental Studies and Environmental Education Director of the Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education College of Arts & Sciences	Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU)	USA
3	Prof. Nay Htu	State University of New York (SUNY)	USA
4	Prof. Yajie Song, Ph.D. Research Scholar & Principal Investigator School of Forestry & Environmental Studies	Yale-GIESD	USA
5	Prof. Wennie Wei Shu, Associate Dean	University of New Mexico	USA

INTERNATIONAL			
	Name/Title	Institution	Country
1	*Dr. Hilligje Van't Land, Directrice	International Association of Universities (IAU)	France
2	*Mr. Min Bista	UNESCO	China
3	Prof. Mario Tabucanon	United Nations University (UNU)	Japan
4	Dr. Bindu N. Lohani, Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development	Asian Development Bank (ADB)	Philippines
5	*Cristina Escrigas, Executive Director	Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI) Technical University of Catalonia (UPC)	Spain
6	*Prof. Dr. Klaus Topfer, Founder & Executive Director	Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS)	Germany

UNEP			
	Name/Title	Institution	Country
1	*Dr. Achim Steiner, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Executive Director	UNEP	Kenya
2	Elizabeth Mrema, Deputy Director	UNEP-DEPI Gigiri, Kenya	Kenya
3	Mahesh Pradhan, Chief, Environmental Education and Training Unit	UNEP-DEPI Gigiri, Kenya	Kenya





BACKGROUND

1. UNEP in its role as a global leader in science-based environmental policy has constantly sought to improve its interactions with universities. UNEP successfully engaged with African universities in integrating environment and sustainability concerns into teaching, research, community engagement as well as in university management since the year 2004 through its flagship programme within the Decade: Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in African Universities (MESA).

2. MESA's success in Africa has influenced its replication in the Caribbean sub-region, under the project: Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in the Caribbean Universities (MESCA).

3. The key focus of the proposed GUPES is to enhance the quality and policy relevance of university education globally in the context of sustainable development. GUPES hopes to achieve this by promoting integration of environment and sustainability concerns into teaching, research, community engagement and management "greening" of universities and other tertiary institutions as well as enhancing student engagement/participation in sustainability activities within and beyond the universities. UNEP also seeks to partner with GUPES to guide knowledge generation in its thematic areas and other environmental and sustainability issues, risks and challenges.

4. It is in order to strengthen this interaction with universities, and influence policy at the national, regional and global levels that UNEP and its partners conceptualised a global programme for mainstreaming environment and sustainability concerns into universities globally and organized a consultative meeting on 18-19 November 2010 on the establishment of a Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability (GUPES). The consultative meeting was a critical occasion to renew higher education's commitment to promoting sustainable development within the broader context of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UNDESD, 2005-2014).

5. The goal of the UNDESD, in which UNEP is a key partner in defining and promoting the environmental perspective of ESD and in coordinating environmental lobbying, is to integrate the principles, values, and practices of sustainable development into all aspects of education and learning. This educational effort will encourage changes in behaviour that will create a more sustainable future in terms of environmental integrity, economic viability, and a just society for present and future generations. Achieving the goal of the UNDESD through the GUPES initiative requires close collaboration and participation of a wide range of stakeholders in Environmental Education (EE), Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Sustainable Development (SD) realms.

6. The deliberations of the consultative forum were guided by the following major objectives:

a. To identify priority global areas in environment and sustainability policy and research interest in universities,

b. To define the agenda for GUPES in universities and other institutions of higher learning,
c. To identify potential stakeholders and partners to take the lead in launching GUPES in the UNEP regions,
d. To set up operational modalities for GUPES to align with UNEP's work with universities and partners.

7. The consultative meeting brought together university professors and educationalists from a wide range of disciplines and fields related to environment and sustainable development (see Annex II for the list of participants). Some good practices from universities and workplaces were also exhibited during the GUPES meeting.

8. Apart from MESA and the nascent MESCA (Mainstreaming of Environment and Sustainability in Caribbean Universities Partnership), the GUPES initiative will be building on and partnering with other successful education and sustainable development endeavours in which UNEP is involved. They include the UNEP-Tongji Institute of Environment for Sustainable Development (IESD) jointly established by UNEP and Tongji University of China in 2002 incorporating universities under the Asia-Pacific Regional University consortium for the purpose of strengthening scientific research and providing educational programmes in environment and sustainable development. Other environmental education and training initiatives at UNEP include the following:

UNEP/UNESCO/BMU International Post Graduate Training Programme on Environmental Management for Developing an Emerging Countries (Dresden Course) at TU Dresden in Germany, the Helsinki University of Technology-UN-HABITAT-UNEP annual course on Sustainable Communities, the UNEP/Watson International Scholars of Environment Programme, the University of Eastern Finland (formerly University of Joensuu) annual course on International Environmental Law-Making and Diplomacy, and Sida/ Ramboll Natura International Training Programme on ESD in Higher Education.

9. The resulting outcomes and recommendations from the meeting are expected to guide:

a. A global university network that will promote North-South and South-South modalities that integrate UNEP's priority thematic areas systematically into university policies, teaching, research, management practices, community engagement and students activities;

b. Knowledge networks to inform and support key stakeholders in the reform of policies and the implementation of programmes on green economy;

c. Linkage of multi-disciplinary scientific networks with policy-makers and development practitioners to integrate environment into development processes.



ABOUT GUPES

GUPES

GUPES is a global platform for universities to engage on environmental and sustainability concerns in order to enhance the quality and relevance of university education.

GUPES was initiated following a consultative universities forum in Nairobi, on November 19, 2010 to deliberate on ways of escalating UNEP's successful engagement with uni-versities. It builds upon the success of regional universities forum, Mainstreaming Environment and Sustainability in African Universities (MESA).

GUPES aims to promote the integra-tion of environment and sustainability concerns into teaching, research, com-munity engagement, the management of universities, greening of university infrastructure and operations, as well as to enhance student engagement and participation in sustainability activities both within and beyond universities.

GUPES OBJECTIVES

- To provide a strategic platform for the mainstreaming of environment and sustainability concerns into universities;
- To build, through university education systems, leader-ship needed for responding to sustainable development challenges;
- To revitalize higher education system and enable it to address current sustainable development challenges with emphasis on UNEP's six thematic priorities;
- To contribute to the knowledge generation within UNEP's six priority thematic areas and other contempo-rary environmental and sustainability issues, risks and challenges;
- To optimize development opportunities provided by ecosystem services in a sustainable manner in line with the principles of "Green Economy" and in the context of sustainable development.

GUPES ASSOCIATED EVENTS

- Asia Pacific Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development
- International Students Conference on Environmental and Sustainability
- International Training Programme on Higher Education for Education for Sustainable Development

RIO+20 AND HIGHER EDUCATION

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro,. Rio+20, provide a historic opportunity to define pathways to a safer, more equitable, cleaner, greener and more prosperous world. As Rio+20, a side on the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative (HESI), a joint effort of numerous UN agencies, is being organized. GUPES will complement the Rio+20 HESI by strengthening the environmental pillar of sustainable development in relation to higher education.

GUPES EVENTS 2010

UNEP Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya, 18-19 November 2010



GUPES EVENTS 2011

Universidad Andrés Bello
Santiago, Chile, 5-6 September 2011

