



STRUCTURE

The workshop sessions will revolve around the major topics mentioned above. For each topic there will be an introductory talk and presentations which shall address key questions defined by partners and/or highlight case studies and best-practices. Main points will then be elaborated in panel discussions.

Participants are encouraged to:

- select one of the themes and address one or two of the key questions in a talk/presentation in one of the sessions;
- provide further input to other sessions and questions if applicable;
- indicate their interest in participating in a panel discussion.

For the detailed work programme, including the goals of and key questions for each session, please visit:

<http://flores.unu.edu/nexus-kickoff-workshop/>

For questions regarding the preparation of inputs for the workshop, please contact Dr Stephan Hülsmann: Huelsmann@unu.edu

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CONVENING ORGANIZATIONS



UNITED NATIONS
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UNU-FLORES

Institute for Integrated Management
 of Material Fluxes and of Resources



**TECHNISCHE
 UNIVERSITÄT
 DRESDEN**

CO-CONVENING ORGANIZATIONS

UN Organizations



UNU Institutes



UNITED NATIONS
 UNIVERSITY
UNU-ISP
 Institute for Sustainability and Peace



UNITED NATIONS
 UNIVERSITY
UNU-INWEH
 Institute for Water,
 Environment and Health



UNITED NATIONS
 UNIVERSITY
UNU-MERIT
 Mannheim Economic and
 Social Research Institute on
 Innovation and Technology



UNITED NATIONS
 UNIVERSITY
UNU-INRA
 Institute for Natural
 Resources in Africa



UNITED NATIONS
 UNIVERSITY
UNU-EHS
 Institute for Environment
 and Human Security

International Organizations



National Organizations



Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung
 Center for Development Research
 University of Bonn



Government Ministries



Member States **India | Mongolia | Republic of Korea | Tanzania | Uganda**

More co-convening organisations will join the workshop

INTERNATIONAL KICK-OFF WORKSHOP

ADVANCING A NEXUS APPROACH TO THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER, SOIL AND WASTE

11-12 NOVEMBER 2013
 DRESDEN, GERMANY



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BACKGROUND

The nexus approach is based on the firm belief that vital environmental resources are strongly interconnected and require a nexus perspective to sustainably manage them. Thus, advancing a nexus approach to the sustainable management of environmental resources requires concerted action and cooperation on a global level and across sectors.

However, there are still considerable knowledge gaps in the nexus approach, requiring well-defined research programmes. Also, the nexus yet has to find its way into the curriculum of respective study programmes; meanwhile, examples of good and improved governance resulting from adopting a nexus perspective are rare. For a sustained follow-up to the nexus initiative, a long-term commitment of leading institutions and thus an institutionalized support is indispensable.

CONCEPT

From the perspective of resources management, a nexus approach needs to be developed and implemented by integrating water resources management as well as soil and land-use management and planning.

Another component to be considered and included in the nexus approach is waste management, especially concerning, for example, organic matter and the recycling of nutrients and concerning the treatment of polluted sites and habitats. Sustainable management strategies also have to be based on consistent and comprehensive systems and flux analysis approaches taking into consideration the impacts of global change.

Besides addressing knowledge gaps and the need for a better scientific understanding on why we need a nexus approach (focusing in particular on water, soil and waste), special attention must be given to the requirements of implementing a nexus approach. The enabling environment, governance issues and the systems and organizational levels (institutional capacity development) as well as education (individual capacity development) must be addressed in this respect.

AIM

The International Kick-off Workshop will serve as a starting point for the organization of a future regular (annual or biannual) Nexus Conference to be held in Dresden. By bringing together experts from national and international academia, government entities, UN agencies and UNU institutes, the workshop will act as a “steering committee” for the envisioned Nexus Conferences.

The workshop will also serve to finalize a **White Book** on the Nexus of Water, Soil and Waste. The issues elaborated in this White Book will serve as a reference for future developments (e.g. defining research and teaching programmes in collaboration with partners) and as a roadmap for research and action. These issues will then also be taken up in the following Nexus Conferences.

ADVANCING A NEXUS APPROACH TO THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES



TOPICS

The workshop will provide an update on current initiatives advancing a nexus approach, focusing on research initiatives exploring the nexus of water, soil and waste. Besides research, issues of capacity development will be considered, including education and training as well as institutional capacity development. Examples and case studies on research projects, best-practices and curriculum requirements will be introduced and discussed.

The specific topics to be addressed during the workshop include:

1. Opportunities for adopting a nexus approach to the management of environmental resources and its relevance to the envisaged sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda;
2. Challenges for the nexus approach in managing water, soil and waste under conditions of global change;
3. Capacity development for research and education programmes addressing the nexus, in particular teaching and training programmes; and
4. Institutional arrangements and governance structures to facilitate the implementation of a nexus approach and its integration in environmental planning and management.

A draft version of the White Book will be available before the conference under <http://flores.unu.edu/nexus-kickoff-workshop>