United Nations University

Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability



UNU-IAS Intensive Core (IC) Course for Professional Stakeholders



Description and aims

The financial sector has been identified as being instrumental in advancing the net-zero carbon energy transition, as acknowledged by the Paris Climate Agreement. To reach the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, global annual investment requirements have been estimated to be at least US\$100 billion. In light of the central role of the finance and investment sectors in fostering sustainable development ans well as managing climate-related and environmental risks, this course will employ a mix of talks, lectures, and MBA-style applied case method teaching to familiarise graduate-level students and professionals in a practical manner with the challenges and the opportunities that arise through ESG (environmental, social, and governance) factor integration.

Learning outcomes

Participants will be able to:

- Gain practical knowledge through exposure to concrete real-world business scenarios that address the big ESG management challenges confronting organizations
- Develop problem-solving skills by being put in the role of the decision-maker and explore how present decisions will influence future financial and non-financial performance metrics and KPIs
- Integrate key ESG factors into portfolio management and investment decision-making processes
- Using ESG management and investing as climate impact and risk management tools

Speakers (Subject to change)

- Mr. Stephen FITZGERALD AO, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, Affirmative Investment Management Partners Inc.
- Prof. Kensuke FUKUSHI, Academic Programme Officer, UNU-IAS
- Mr. Shigeyuki GOTO, Advisor, Center for Risk Management Strategy, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu LLC
- Mr. Robert de GUIGNÉ, Head of ESG Solutions, Lombard Odier Group
- Prof. Masafumi HIKIMA, Member of Board, Sophia University
- Mr. Satoshi IKEDA, Chief Sustainable Finance Officer, Financial Services Agency Japan
- Mr. Ken ISONO, CEO, Shizen Energy Digital Network Inc.
- Dr. Anastasia MILOVIDOVA, Manager (Climate Finance & Sustainability), PwC Japan
- Dr. Carolina MINIO-PALUELLO, Global Head of Product, Solutions and Quant at Schroders
- Mr. Yoichi MORI, Technical Director, Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants
- Ms. Rumiko OBATA, 5th Generation Owner, Obata Sake Brewery Co., Ltd
- Prof. Taikan OKI, Senior Vice Rector, UNU
- Mr. Mamoru OTSUBO, Senior Manager, Risk Advisory, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu LLC
- Dr. Alexander PUI, Head of Nat Cat and Sustainability (APAC), Swiss Re Insurance
- Ms. Helene Von REIS, CEO/CSO IKEA Japan & Member of Board, UNU-IAS
- Dr. Akio TAKEMOTO, Programme Head, UNU-IAS
- Prof. Shinobu Yume YAMAGUCHI, Director, UNU-IAS