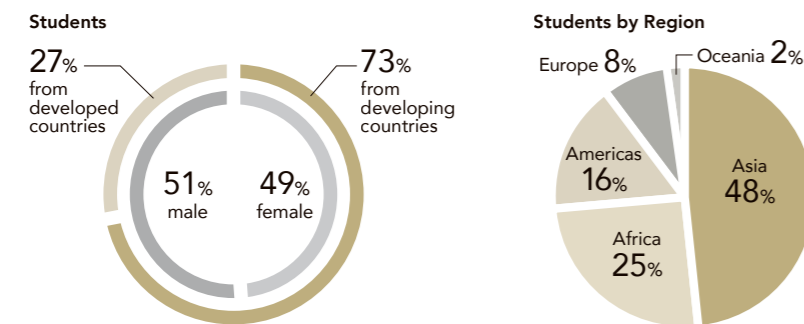


An International & Interactive Learning Environment

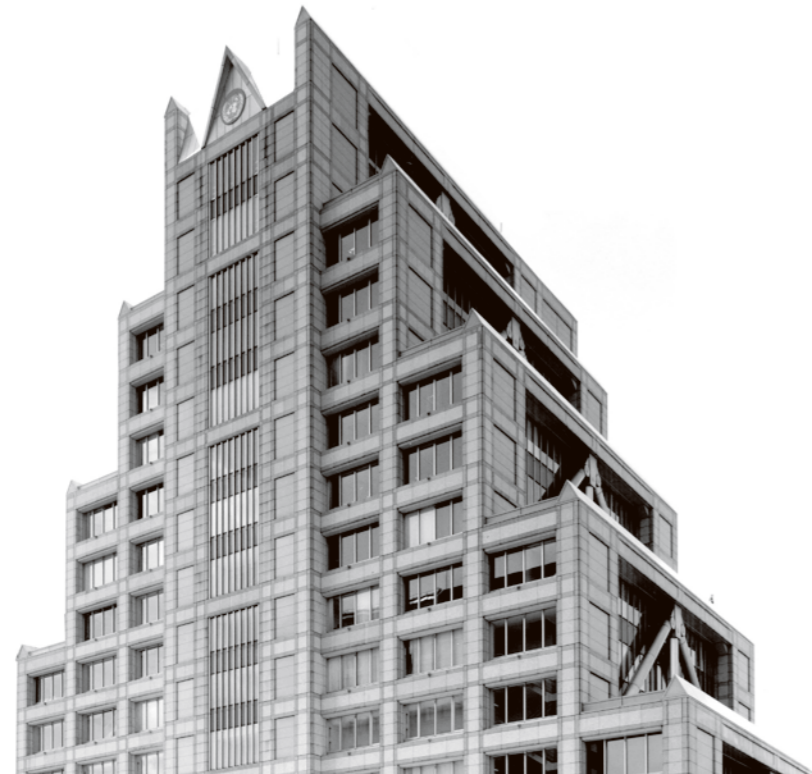
UNU-IAS is conveniently located in central Tokyo, at the heart of the city's international community. Studying in Tokyo provides ready access to a wide variety of enriching educational opportunities and cultural experiences.

Students and faculty members are culturally diverse and from a variety of academic backgrounds. The teaching faculty includes UNU-IAS researchers and guest lecturers from other leading universities, UN agencies, and international organizations. Class sizes are sufficiently small to allow interactive and personalized teaching, fostering active student discussion. Students design and carry out research in close consultation with their individual supervisors. All courses are conducted in English.

MSc and PhD Students, 2010–2022



UNU Headquarters in Tokyo



Admissions

The application period begins at the end of each calendar year, for enrolment in September of the following year.

Admission Policy

The UNU-IAS Postgraduate Programmes in Sustainability / Sustainability Science seeks students with the following qualities:

1. Students who possess a firm academic interest in the pressing global issues on the UN agenda, in particular those of sustainability, and a strong desire to contribute to the solving of problems concerning global environment and society through a transdisciplinary approach;
2. Students who have adequate research skills and clear questions related to global issues as well as a strong desire to engage in research in [UNU-IAS thematic areas](https://ias.unu.edu/en/about-unu-ias/thematic-areas) (ias.unu.edu/en/about-unu-ias/thematic-areas), with the potential and motivation to succeed in our programmes;
3. Students who have the intention to proactively apply academic research findings to policymaking and aim to pursue careers in international fields in public service or private organisations, including United Nations, multinational corporations, and non-governmental organisations as well as research academic institutions.

Please visit the [UNU-IAS website](https://ias.unu.edu/en/admissions/degrees) (ias.unu.edu/en/admissions/degrees) for more information.

Fees

Tuition fees: USD 10,000 per year

Scholarships: A limited number of scholarships are available for outstanding applicants from developing countries who can demonstrate a need for financial assistance.

Postgraduate Degree Programmes office assists students from the time of their enrolment through graduation, acknowledging that students may experience difficulties adjusting to a new country and culture.

Accreditation

UNU-IAS is accredited by the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education of Japan.



United Nations University
Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability
5-53-70 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925 Japan

ias.unu.edu

Published in 2022



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

United Nations University
Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability

Postgraduate Degree Programmes



Overview of Programmes

The United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) postgraduate degree programmes aim to produce international professionals with a broad overview of sustainability science, with specific expertise in one of the institute's thematic areas. The programmes take an interdisciplinary approach to providing the analytical and technical skills needed to advance creative solutions to issues of sustainability.

Master of Science in Sustainability

2 years, starting from September

The master's degree programme cultivates a holistic perspective to consider how the development needs of societies can be met without affecting the underlying sustainability of the Earth system, through a curriculum that integrates the natural sciences, social sciences, and the humanities.

Doctor of Philosophy in Sustainability Science

3 years, starting from September

The doctoral programme fosters a deeper understanding of sustainability science through analysis of current issues related to global change, with perspectives from both the natural and social sciences.

A Focus on Sustainability Studies

Courses offered for both the MSc and PhD programmes correspond to the four UNU-IAS thematic areas, under the overarching theme of sustainability:

- Governance for Sustainable Development
- Biodiversity and Society
- Water & Resource Management
- Innovation & Education

RECENT GRADUATES

Thilini, Sri Lanka
MSc Student



1st Year

- **Intensive core courses**
 - UN System and Sustainable Development
 - Global Change and Planetary Boundaries
- **Regular courses**
 - Environmental Statistics and Research Methods
 - Remote Sensing, GIS and Analysis

2nd Year

- **Field research** in Vietnam
Water quality data collection
- **Thesis** "Effect of climate change and urban development on water quality in Hanoi"

After Graduation

Internship at a sustainable-business consulting firm

Yaw, Ghana
PhD Student



1st Year

- **Intensive core courses**
 - Natural Capital Biodiversity
 - Global Change and Resilience
- **Regular courses**
 - Sustainable Bioproduction and Ecosystems Management
 - Graduate Research Seminar

2nd Year

- **Field research** in Ghana
Survey of local communities
- **Dissertation (initial draft)**
"Ecosystem services and management in northern Ghana"

3rd Year

- **Additional field research** in Ghana
- **Completion of doctoral dissertation**

After Graduation
Research fellowship at the University of Tokyo and University of Ghana

Collaborative Research & Practical Experience

UNU-IAS has a global network of researchers and experts, providing students with unique opportunities for collaborative research. As teaching and research activities are closely linked, students engage in the institute's research projects, gaining practical experience. Courses prepare them by teaching the applied skills necessary for fieldwork, and most likely for their future careers.

Through their contributions to UNU-IAS projects, students develop expertise in data collection and analysis. In particular, their research in the field with local governments and international organizations serves as an invaluable first-hand learning experience as well as the research method utilizing the information and communication technology.



A Global University within the UN System

Students have opportunities to interact with leading researchers, policymakers, diplomats, and practitioners, and to participate in the many high-level international events held at UNU's Tokyo headquarters.

UNU Library

The library functions to support the research programmes, teaching and other activities of UNU-IAS. The collection contains over 27,000 books and a range of electronic resources including eBooks, eJournals, and UN related materials.

Partner Universities

Exchange agreements allow the transfer of credits from partner universities and provide students with opportunities to tap into a broader academic network. UNU-IAS continues to develop its programmes in collaboration with leading universities in Japan (The University of Tokyo, International Christian University, and Sophia University). Students have opportunities to take courses related to issues of sustainability from those well known universities. Additionally, UNU-IAS runs a double master's degree programme with the Department of Urban Engineering in the Graduate School of Engineering at the University of Tokyo and has a joint diploma programme with the University of Tokyo Graduate School of Frontier Sciences and Sophia University.

