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ISBN 978-92-808-9003-7  

All photographs in this report were contributed by UNU staff, unless otherwise indicated. Cover photo: UN Photo/Tobin Jones
Council Chair’s Message

On behalf of the Council, I’m pleased to welcome Dr. David M. Malone as the sixth Rector of the United Nations University. We congratulate him on the achievements made by UNU during his first year in office.

In today’s interconnected world, no country is unaffected by the dilemmas that plague other regions or nations, no matter how geographically distant they may be. It was with great prescience that the UN General Assembly mandated that UNU should “devote its work to research into the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare”, because these global problems intrude on our individual lives.

With its hybrid identity as a UN organization and a research/teaching institution, UNU is uniquely able to harness the collective talents of individuals and institutions throughout the world, as well as to bridge the gap between academic and policymaking communities.

It is often said that “information wants to be free”, but relevant, high-quality information is expensive to produce. In many parts of the world, where financial resources are limited, it is increasingly difficult to justify “research for the sake of research”; funders, and the public, demand that research yield tangible, usable results. Rector Malone’s initiative to refocus UNU’s research efforts to align with major issues on the agenda of the UN system is particularly germane. By making the outcomes of its research more readily accessible, understandable and relevant to policymakers, UNU will be able to contribute more substantively to the international decision-making and policymaking processes.

Another crucial aspect of UNU’s work has been, and continues to be, capacity development — not only helping to strengthen academic institutions in developing and transitional countries, but also helping individuals, groups and organizations to enhance their capacity for self-sustained learning and innovation. It is worth noting that, in 2013, 76 percent of UNU’s more than 3,200 training course participants were developing country nationals, as were 37 percent of its almost 200 postgraduate degree programme students. Furthermore, 72 percent of UNU’s research projects were conducted primarily in developing countries.

UNU’s capacity development efforts not only benefit developing country students and researchers, but also serve to deepen international understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity.

This annual report provides a snapshot of UNU’S major initiatives and accomplishments in 2013. I hope that you will find it of interest.

Mohammed H.A. Hassan
Council Chair
Rector’s Message

Each year presents novel and expansive challenges for the United Nations and its Member States. An overview of the complex problems facing the UN system can be ascertained through a cursory examination of the work of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

The UN General Assembly, as the main deliberative, policymaking and representative body, dealt with a range of multifaceted issues at its 67th and 68th sessions in 2013 including, amongst many others, sustainable development, maintenance of international peace and security, African development, promotion of human rights, drug control, crime prevention and the combating of international terrorism. Meanwhile, the UN Security Council passed over forty resolutions in 2013 covering terrorism, nuclear non-proliferation, the control of small arms and light weapons, peacekeeping operations and humanitarian concerns.

The ability to develop effective solutions to these and other challenges relies on timely, policy-relevant research inputs. The United Nations University was established for just this purpose — as the think tank for the UN system.

In this annual report, we elaborate the ways in which our knowledge-generation and research activities are influenced by the needs of deliberative bodies such as the General Assembly and the Security Council, by major international scientific collaborations, by our sister UN agencies and by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon himself.

We also provide numerous examples of the ways in which UNU research outcomes are stimulating debate and guiding policy responses on the global issues of today. Across UNU, at the various institutes and programmes, we undertake research of excellent quality. We do this in part through major collaborations with other UN agencies. We work hard to feed our research into various international negotiations. Our experts participate in many UN scientific processes, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

This is a foundation upon which we can continue to build. In order to do this, we instituted a number of institutional innovations in 2013 designed to ensure that the University’s research becomes better known and more actively used across the entire UN system, the most significant of these being the establishment of the Centre for Policy Research.

This new unit, housed at UNU Headquarters in Tokyo, will generate analysis and policy advice of its own and work to effectively translate research outcomes into policy inputs to the UN system. We also reconfigured the UNU Office at the United Nation in New York as a platform to disseminate UNU’s policy-relevant research. Further, on the recommendation of our Council, we enhanced the governance of the University through reforms to the UNU Council itself.

Through these institutional changes, UNU is on the path of continuous improvement in terms of the quality of what we do and how we do it, and on increasing our relevance and visibility in this increasingly complex, fast-paced and rapidly changing world.

David M. Malone
Rector
2013: A Year of Revitalization

With the arrival of its sixth Rector, David M. Malone, on 1 March 2013, the United Nations University (UNU) embarked on a series of reforms designed to strengthen the University’s role as a strategic intellectual resource for the United Nations system.

Rector Malone announced three priorities intended to clarify the research focus and strategic direction of the University. The goal is to make the University more responsive to the needs of the United Nations, and to further enhance UNU’s tangible impact on policy and inter-governmental deliberations.

Integrate research, engagement and communications efforts — As the think tank for the UN system, the implementation of high-quality, evidence-based research is central to the work of the University. In order to influence global policy discussions, the output from this research needs to be translated into accessible knowledge and delivered to policymakers.

To better achieve this objective, a new Centre for Policy Research (UNU-CPR) has been set up at UNU Headquarters in Tokyo. UNU-CPR’s primary role is to build strong relationships with the decision makers participating in the pressing and urgent debates within the United Nations system, particularly in the areas of peace, international security and global development. UNU-CPR will feed the outcomes from UNU’s research into these debates through an effective understanding of the policy cycles and formulation process, while at the same time identifying new research opportunities and needs.

Enhance organizational effectiveness — Another key priority is to strengthen the overall organizational effectiveness and management of the global UNU system. Among the actions contributing to this ambition in 2013 were the following:
- The Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme (UNU-GEST), established at the University of Iceland in 2009, became the fourth member of the UNU Iceland-based programmes in May.
- In consultation with the Government of Spain, UNU took steps to reorient the academic programme of its Barcelona-based institute. The unit was relaunched in September as the UNU Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility (UNU-GCM);
- It was decided to merge the two UNU institutes based in Japan, to create the UNU Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability. This merger will be completed in mid-2014, with the new institute located at UNU Headquarters in Tokyo.
- At its 60th session in November, the UNU Council approved the establishment of an operating unit of UNU-FLORES in Maputo, Mozambique. It is expected that this operating unit will launch in 2014.
- Reflecting the availability of lower cost, more effective publishing options to disseminate the outcomes of UNU’s research, and in line with the shift towards open access to research publications, operations of the Tokyo-based UNU Press were brought to a close at the end of 2013.
- Discussions at the 59th Session of the UNU Council in April led to a recommendation that the UNU Council hereafter convene twice per year (rather than annually, as it has done since 1994). It was further proposed that the number of appointed Council members be reduced from 24 to 12; this proposal, which required an amendment to the UNU Charter, was approved by the UN General Assembly (A/RES/68/236) on 20 December 2013.

Recruit high-calibre researchers and communicators — The effectiveness of a think tank is dependent upon the quality and expertise of its research staff. In today’s competitive employment market, UNU needs to attract high-calibre experts who can bring in new ideas and research funds, implement projects effectively, and engage with policymakers at all levels. In this context, several individuals joined UNU in senior leadership roles in 2013:
- Prof. Anthony G. Capon as Director of UNU-IIGH (1 August);
- Prof. Lúðvík S. Georgsson as Programme Director of UNU-GTP (1 August);
- James Cockayne as Head of Office of the UNU Office at the United Nations in New York (1 September); and
- Ambassador Daniel Rondeau as Representative of the UNU at UNESCO, Paris (on 2 September).
### About UNU

The United Nations University shall be an international community of scholars, engaged in research, postgraduate training and dissemination of knowledge in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. — UNU Charter, I.1

The United Nations University (UNU) is a global think tank and research/teaching organization, founded in 1975 as an autonomous organ of the United Nations General Assembly. Headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, UNU operates as a global network of research and teaching institutes and programmes, with a presence today in more than a dozen countries worldwide.

The mission of UNU is to contribute — through collaborative research and postgraduate education, dissemination of knowledge and advisory services — to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare that are the concern of the United Nations, its Peoples and Member States. In its role as a think tank, UNU provides knowledge-based policy advice to the United Nations system and to UN Member States.

For more information, visit [unu.edu/about/unu](http://unu.edu/about/unu).

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### Human & Financial Resources

The personnel of the University shall consist of: (a) Academic personnel; (b) Administrative personnel; (c) Trainees — UNU Charter, VIII.2

Capital costs and recurrent costs of the University shall be met from voluntary contributions for the University, or from the income derived therefrom — UNU Charter, IX.1

**UNU 2013 personnel:** 720 persons (95 professionals, 45 general services staff, and 580 contractors) from 89 countries.

**UNU 2013 budget:** US$ 71.4 million.

UNU income for 2013 was divided roughly equally between three sources: the UNU Endowment Fund and cumulative surplus (36 percent); specific programme contributions (34 percent) and operating contributions (30 percent) from host governments of the University’s institutes as well as from agencies, international organizations, foundations and other sources.

UNU receives no funds from the regular United Nations budget.
The University shall consist of: (a) A Council which shall serve as the governing board of the University; (b) A Rector, who shall be responsible to the Council for the direction, administration, programming and coordination of the University — UNU Charter, III.1

UNU Council

As the governing board of the University, the UNU Council, inter alia, formulates the principles and policies of UNU and advises on/approves the UNU work programme and biennial budget. Members of the Council are appointed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Director-General of UNESCO to serve six-year terms in an individual capacity (rather than as representatives of their countries). The UNU Rector, UN Secretary-General, UNESCO Director-General and UNITAR Executive Director serve as ex officio Council members.

In 2013, the UNU Council held its 59th session (postponed from December 2012 because of the timing of the change in Rectorship) on 22–24 April at UNU Headquarters in Tokyo and its 60th session on 21–22 November at UN Headquarters in New York.

For more, see unu.edu/about/unu-council.

UNU Rector

The Rector, based at UNU Headquarters in Tokyo, is the chief academic and administrative officer of UNU. The current (sixth) Rector of UNU is David M. Malone (Canada), who holds the rank of Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Prior to joining UNU, Rector Malone was President of Canada’s International Development Research Centre. He previously served as Canada’s High Commissioner to India and non-resident Ambassador to Bhutan and Nepal, as President of the New York-based International Peace Academy (now International Peace Institute), and in various roles within Canada’s Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade.

Three Vice-Rectors assist Rector Malone: Senior Vice-Rector Kazuhiko Takeuchi (Japan), Vice-Rector Govindan Parayil (India), and Vice-Rector in Europe Jakob Rhyner (Switzerland).

For leadership profiles, see unu.edu/about/unu/leadership.
# Contributions Received by UNU

## Contributions Received by UNU

1 January – 31 December 2013

### GOVERNMENTS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Zambia</td>
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**Subtotal**: 37,232,070

### OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

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<td>Arab Gulf Programme for Development Organization</td>
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<td>Deutsches Zentrum für Luft-und Raumfahrt e.V. (DLR)</td>
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<td>ECODOM-Italian Household Appliances Recovery and Recycling Consortium</td>
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<td>University of Tokyo</td>
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**Subtotal**: 8,936,837

**Total**: 46,168,907

In addition to these direct contributions, UNU benefited from indirect contributions not paid directly to the University. In 2013, these included US$4.96 million from the Government of Iceland to support the activities of UNU-FTP, UNU-GEST, UNU-GTP and UNU-LRT, and US$1.47 million from the Flemish Government (Belgium) to support the activities of UNU-CRIS.
Global UNU System
As a worldwide system of research and training centres and programmes, the University will have its location at the site of each centre or programme. — UNU Charter, X.1

UNU Centre
The Rector is the chief academic and administrative officer of UNU, with responsibility for the direction, organization, administration and programmes of the University, in accordance with the general policies and criteria formulated by the UNU Council. He is supported by the Office of the Rector and by the administrative and services units of UNU Centre — which comprise UNU Headquarters in Tokyo, a Vice-Rectorate office in Bonn (UNU-ViE), an administrative adjunct office in Kuala Lumpur, and liaison/policy support offices at the United Nations in New York and at UNESCO in Paris.

For more, see unu.edu/about/unu-system/centre.

Research and Training Units
The academic work of UNU is carried out by a global network of research and training institutes (centres) and programmes.

INSTITUTES

The UNU Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS; Bruges, Belgium) focuses on the processes and consequences of intra- and inter-regional integration and cooperation.

The UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS; Bonn, Germany) addresses risks and vulnerabilities that are the consequence of complex (acute or latent) environmental hazards.

The UNU Institute for Integrated Management of Material Fluxes and of Resources (UNU-FLORES; Dresden, Germany) advances a nexus approach to the sustainable use and integrated management of environmental resources (water, soil and waste), and focuses particularly on pressing challenges in developing and transitional countries.

The UNU Institute on Globalization, Culture, and Mobility (UNU-GCM; Barcelona, Spain) seeks to achieve a better understanding of cultural mobility and diversity in the context of globalization, and the linkages to good governance, cultural diversity, democracy and human rights.

The UNU Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS*; Yokohama, Japan) seeks to advance knowledge and promote learning for policymaking to meet the challenges of achieving environmentally sustainable development.

The UNU International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia) contributes to the development and strengthening of health services policy frameworks and management actions, particularly for people in developing countries, and to promotive and preventive approaches to human health.

The UNU International Institute for Software Technology (UNU-IIST; Macao, China) focuses on the development and application of information and communication technology to address challenges related to sustainable development.
THE WORK OF UNU    |    POLICY IMPACT    |    RESEARCH    |    CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT    |    POSTGRADUATE STUDY    |    EVENTS

The UNU Institute for Natural Resources in Africa (UNU-INRA; Accra, Ghana) contributes to ensuring the sustainable development of Africa’s natural resources, maintaining the quality of the natural environment, mitigating the effects of climate change, and realizing a better quality of life.

The UNU Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH; Hamilton, Ontario, Canada) contributes to efforts to resolve pressing regional and global water challenges, particularly as they relate to improving human well-being, facilitating adaptation to climate change, and fostering gender equity.

The UNU Institute for Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP*; Tokyo, Japan) addresses some of the most pressing issues on the UN agenda — global change, peace and human rights, and development — through an innovative, cross-thematic approach to sustainability.

The UNU Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT; Maastricht, Netherlands) explores the social, political and economic factors that drive technological innovation, with a particular focus on creation, diffusion and access to knowledge, and on governance in domestic and global organizations.

The UNU World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER; Helsinki, Finland) provides independent analysis on the key challenges facing decision makers in developing countries and their development partners, and builds the capacity of research economists to provide policy-relevant advice.

PROGRAMMES

The UNU Programme for Biotechnology in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNU-BIOL-AC; Caracas, Venezuela) promotes the use of biotechnology for sustainable development.

The UNU Iceland-based Programmes comprise four independent training and capacity building programmes: the UNU Geothermal Training Programme (UNU-GTP), UNU Fisheries Training Programme (UNU-FTP), UNU Land Restoration Training Programme (UNU-LRT) and UNU Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme (UNU-GEST).

For more, see unu.edu/about/unu-system.

UNU ASSOCIATED INSTITUTIONS

In many of its activities, the University is assisted by a network of designated UNU Associated Institutions — typically organizations that are implementing large, multi-year joint programmes with UNU. Currently, 13 institutions are designated by the UNU Council as UNU Associated Institutions.

For more, see unu.edu/about/unu-system/associated.

* In 2013, the process was begun to merge the University’s two Japan-based institutes, UNU-IAS and UNU-ISP, to form a new UNU Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (which will continue to use the acronym UNU-IAS). The merger process will be completed in 2014.
UNU System Map

INSTITUTES & PROGRAMMES
- UNU-CRIS, Bruges, Belgium
- UNU-EHS, Bonn, Germany
- UNU-FLORES, Dresden, Germany
- UNU-GCM, Barcelona, Spain
- UNU-IAS, Yokohama, Japan
- UNU-IIGH, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- UNU-IST, Macao, China
- UNU-INRA, Accra, Ghana
- UNU-INWEH, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
- UNU-ISP, Tokyo, Japan
- UNU-MERIT, Maastricht, Netherlands
- UNU-WIDER, Helsinki, Finland
- UNU-BIOLAC, Caracas, Venezuela
- UNU-FTP, Reykjavik, Iceland
- UNU-GEST, Reykjavik, Iceland
- UNU-GTP, Reykjavik, Iceland
- UNU-LRT, Reykjavik, Iceland

ASSOCIATED INSTITUTIONS
- Asian Institute of Technology; Bangkok, Thailand
- Center for Development Research, University of Bonn; Bonn, Germany
- Department of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Ghana; Legon, Ghana
- Gansu Natural Energy Research Institute; Gansu, China
- Global Fire Monitoring Center, Max Planck Institute for Chemistry; Freiburg, Germany
- Griffith University, Queensland, Australia
- Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology; Gwangju, Republic of Korea
- Institute for Nutritional Sciences, Shanghai Institute for Biological Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences; Shanghai, China
- International Institute for Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation; Enschede, Netherlands
- National Energy Authority of the Republic of Iceland; Reykjavik, Iceland
- National Food Research Institute; Ibaraki, Japan
- National Institute of Public Health, Center for Nutrition and Health Research; Cuernavaca, Mexico
- Scottish Association for Marine Science; Oban, Scotland, UK

ADMINISTRATIVE & ACADEMIC SERVICES UNITS
- UNU Centre – Tokyo, Japan
- UNU Centre – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- UNU Vice-Rectorate in Europe, Bonn, Germany
- UNU Office in New York, New York, NY, USA
- UNU Office at UNESCO, Paris, France
UNU Timeline

1969  Then UN Secretary-General U Thant proposes “the establishment of a United Nations university, truly international and devoted to the Charter objectives of peace and progress”

1972  UN General Assembly approves establishment of the United Nations University (resolution 2951 (XXXVII))

1973  UN General Assembly adopts UNU Charter (resolution 3081 (XXXVIII))

1974–1980  1st Rector: Dr. James M. Hester (USA)

1975  UNU formally launches academic operations in Tokyo, Japan

1978  UNU Geothermal Training Programme established (UNU-GTP, Iceland)

1980–1987  2nd Rector: Dr. Soedjatmoko (Indonesia)

1985  UNU World Institute for Development Economics Research established (UNU-WIDER, Finland)

1987-1997  3rd Rector: Prof. Heitor Gurgulino de Souza (Brazil)

1988  UNU Programme for Biotechnology in Latin America and the Caribbean established (UNU-BIOLAC, Venezuela)

1990  UNU Institute for New Technologies established (UNU-INTECH, Netherlands); UNU Institute for Natural Resources in Africa established (UNU-INRA, Ghana)

1992  UNU International Institute for Software Technology established (UNU-IIST, Macao, China)

1995  UNU International Leadership Institute established (UNU-ILI, Jordan); operation suspended in 2009)

1996  UNU Institute of Advanced Studies established (UNU-IAS, Japan); UNU Institute for Water, Environment and Health established (UNU-INWEH, Canada)

1997–2007  4th Rector: Prof. Dr. Hans J. A. van Ginkel (Netherlands)

1998  UNU Fisheries Training Programme established (UNU-FTP, Iceland)

2001  UNU Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies established (UNU-CRIS, Belgium)

2003  UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security established (UNU-EHS, Germany)

2006  UNU-INTECH integrated with Maastricht Economic Research Institute on Innovation and Technology to create UNU Maastricht Economic and Social Research and Training Institute on Innovation and Technology (UNU-MERIT, Netherlands)

2007  UNU International Institute for Global Health established (UNU-IIGH, Malaysia); UNU Vice-Rectorate in Europe established (Germany)

2007–2013  5th Rector: Dr. Konrad Osterwalder (Switzerland)

2009  UNU Centre Peace and Governance Programme and Environment and Sustainable Development Programme merged to create UNU Institute for Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP, Japan)

2010  UNU Land Restoration Programme established (UNU-LRT, Iceland)

2012  UNU Institute for Integrated Management of Material Fluxes and of Resources established (UNU-FLORES, Germany); UNU Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility established (UNU-GCM, Spain)

2013  UNU Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme established (UNU-GEST, Iceland)

2013–  6th (current) Rector: Dr. David M. Malone (Canada)
The Work of UNU

The University shall devote its work to research into the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare that are the concern of the United Nations and its agencies — UNU Charter, I.2

As the global think tank for the United Nations, UNU undertakes issue-focused research, teaching and capacity development, and provides advisory services to the UN system and for UN Member States. To effectively fulfil this role, UNU maintains close cooperative relationships with other United Nations system entities (agencies, programmes, commissions, funds and convention secretariats) as well as with leading universities and research institutions all over the world, thereby serving as a bridge between the United Nations and the international academic community.

In carrying out the mandate of its Charter, UNU seeks to:

• Influence policymaking at national, regional and international levels, and within the United Nations system;
• Contribute to UN assessments and to the work of other UN system entities and civil society organizations;
• Raise awareness about pressing global issues, and contribute to the rethinking/revisiting of existing policies and theories;
• Assist developing countries to enhance their institutional and individual capacities for research and teaching, and support developing country academic communities; and
• Provide specialized postgraduate-level training, develop relevant curriculums, and further the advancement of interdisciplinary, science-based knowledge.

With intellectual independence guaranteed by its Charter, UNU is able to offer unbiased, fresh perspectives on current and emerging global challenges. In undertaking its work, UNU employs an interdisciplinary, problem-solving approach that integrates the quantitative rigour of the natural and physical sciences with the qualitative insights of the social sciences and humanities.
Policy Impact

Its dual identity as both a UN organization and a high-level research/teaching institution enables UNU to contribute directly to the advancement of knowledge relevant to the role and work of the United Nations, as well as to the application of that knowledge in formulating sound principles, policies, strategies and programmes for action.

Within the following thematic areas of concern to the United Nations, in particular, UNU was able to make significant contributions in 2013.

MDGs and the Post-2015 Development Agenda

Throughout 2013, the UN system continued its concerted push to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the target date of 2015. Looking beyond the MDGs, UNU made a number of substantive contributions to helping shape the Post-2015 Development Agenda process.

UNU-INWEH, in partnership with the Stockholm Environment Institute, prepared an evidence-based analysis of how water can be addressed in a post-2015 development agenda. The analysis made it clear that water should be treated not as a “sector” but as a cross-linked issue with an essential role in social and economic development and environmental integrity. After stakeholder consultations and a broad peer review, the report was launched in New York in November.

The UNU-WIDER ReCom (Research and Communication on Foreign Aid) project contributed to the Post-2015 Development Agenda debate, for example, by showing that development assistance does indeed contribute to economic growth. This project, implemented in partnership with DANIDA and SIDA, communicated “what aid has done, and what aid can do better in the future”. Targeting policymakers and aid officials, ReCom involved more than 300 contributing social scientists from almost 60 countries. As of year-end, the project had produced 220 working papers, a book and five journal special issues, and organized seven results meetings and more than 70 seminars.

At the Budapest Water Summit, convened in October by the Government of Hungary in cooperation with UNESCO and the World Water Council, UNU-FLORES contributed to development of the Budapest Water Summit Statement, which calls for a dedicated Sustainable Development Goal on water for the post-2015 development agenda, and promoted the development of a nexus approach in science and practice when dealing with issues of water, energy and food. In November, UNU-FLORES and TU Dresden held an international kick-off workshop on Advancing a Nexus Approach to the Sustainable Management of Water, Soil and Waste.

Climate Change

Climate change continues to be a major priority for the UN system and for Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon. In 2013, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) launched two reports as part of the Fifth Assessment: one on the physical science of climate change issued in September, and a synthesis report issued in October. UNU researchers (from UNU-EHS, UNU-ISP and UNU-WIDER) participated as lead authors, contributing authors and expert reviewers.
in the development and write-up of the IPCC’s Fifth Assessment Report. Besides engagement with the full report, UNU researchers have been involved in co-authoring the Summary for Policymakers and the Technical Summary, both of which will be of prime importance for guiding future policymaking related to climate change adaptation and vulnerability reduction.

At the UN Climate Change Conference (COP19) held in Poland on 11–22 November, the negotiations focused on issues relating to implementation of the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, management of the new Green Climate Fund, and the need for climate financing. During COP19, UNU-EHS organized several side events and workshops and two press briefings related to adaptation, mitigation, and loss and damage. UNU-EHS experts particularly supported the discussions on loss and damage and adaptation by providing relevant input in the form of publications, organization of workshops/side events, and bilateral meetings as well as background briefings for and interviews with key international media — all of which focused on two topics: (i) scientific evidence of the limits to adaptation, and how communities experience loss and damage that goes beyond their current adaptation capacities; and (ii) insurance and comprehensive risk management.

Food and Agriculture

At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in June 2012, the UN Secretary-General launched the Zero Hunger Challenge to encourage all partners to turn the vision of ending hunger into a reality. In 2013, food security and agriculture continued to be high on the global agenda, and the fight against hunger and undernutrition remained a UN priority.

In September, UNU-INWEH and its partners published a report on the Economics of Land Degradation, which showed that sustainable land management practices could raise world crop supplies by an estimated 2.3 billion tonnes, worth $1.4 trillion. The report sought to increase political and public awareness of the costs and
benefits of decisions impacting land and land-based ecosystems by establishing a global standard for analysis of the economics of land management. Three case studies were funded by the initiative, while more than 120 existing studies were put into a database and mapped.

That report, issued at the 11th Session of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD COP11) held in Windhoek, Namibia (16–27 September), stated that annual global losses of arable land amount to between 8 and 10 million hectares per year. The aim of the study is to reverse this trend by providing the scientific community, governments and the private sector with an array of economic tools (payments for ecosystem services, subsidies, taxes, voluntary payments for environmental conservation, and access to micro-finance and credit).

UNU-INWEH also participated in a capacity building workshop in Rwanda, organized by the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD, as well as a number of joint events with the UNCCD business forum during COP11 and a World Business Council for Sustainable Development workshop on argibusiness solutions in November.

The UNU-WIDER project The Political Economy of Food Price Policy examined 17 low- and middle-income countries that were highly affected by the 2007–2009 food crisis. The project published 20 research briefs and 20 working papers based on case study research. The aim was to inform international organizations and donors about which types of policy interventions can mitigate price volatility, and whether they are feasible given a country's political economy context, as well as help national policymakers understand the trade-offs of certain policy interventions and generate knowledge about the agricultural policymaking process in developing countries.

Disability

It is estimated that some 1 billion people worldwide live with disabilities, and that many are excluded from equitable access to resources such as education, employment, healthcare, and social and legal support systems. On 23 September, the UN General Assembly organized a High-Level Meeting on Disability and Development (HLMDD) with the overarching theme "The way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond".

An expert group meeting on this theme, organized by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and UNU-IIGH in Kuala Lumpur from 29 April–1 May, provided inputs to the HLMDD. UNU-IIGH also contributed background papers to the Secretary-General’s report for HLMDD. In commemoration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities (3 December), UNU-IIGH participated in a panel discussion at UN Headquarters in New York on “Mental Well-being, Disability and Development”. Participants included UN DESA, the World Bank, the Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN, the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the UN, the Permanent Mission of El Salvador to the UN, as well as global experts on mental well-being and disability.

Migration

UNU-GCM participated in the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development held at the UN General Assembly on 3–4 October. This event provided a unique opportunity to take stock of the progress made in global discussions about migration policies worldwide, and to outline issues that still
need academic research as well as policy developments at national, regional and global levels. UNU provided input to the preparations for this High-level Dialogue through policy reports and expert contributions to the official materials, including on environmentally induced migration (UNU-EHS).

UNU-GCM, the first UNU institute with a specific focus on migration, has already developed a body of research and relations with UN agencies, academic institutions and civil society organizations. In June, UNU formed its Migration Network, coordinated by UNU-GCM, to lead a new approach for UNU in the area of migration. The network, which facilitates new forms of partnerships among more than 50 researchers working across UNU’s institutes focusing on health, regional integration, culture, the environment and governance, will have its own website in 2014.

**Focus on Africa**

African development was high on the UN agenda in 2013. During Africa Week (21–25 October) the UN General Assembly held a special debate on Africa focusing on the progress towards attainment of the Millennium Development Goals on gender, aid, trade, HIV/AIDS, and maternal health; sustainable development and climate change mitigation in Africa; peacekeeping, peacebuilding and human rights.

UNU currently has more than 50 projects in Africa covering many of these themes. For more information, see vie.unu.edu/article/priority-africa.

One example of the UNU’s work on Africa, carried out by UNU-ISP and UNU-INRA in partnership with eight leading African universities, is a project on Education for Sustainable Development in Africa. This initiative has developed a postgraduate programme aimed at shaping a new generation of professionals to face the challenges of sustainable development in the region. The project, seed-funded by the Government of Japan, includes partner universities and UNU as the principal executing institutions, with support from UNESCO, UNEP and UN-Habitat, the African Development Bank, SIDA and selected Japanese and Northern European universities. The project has elaborated three master’s-level education programmes: Sustainable Urban Development, Sustainable Integrated Rural Development in Africa, and Mining and Mineral Resources. These programmes are now being implemented at the partner universities.

**Women, Gender and Equality**

The UN Secretary-General has identified the topic of Women, Gender and Equality as a major UN priority. The theme of the 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women and of International Women’s Day 2013 was elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls. Moreover, the focus of the September 2013 General Assembly Special Event towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals was progress on achieving gender equality (MDG 3).
In May, the Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme (launched in 2009 as a joint project between the University of Iceland and the Iceland Ministry for Foreign Affairs) officially became part of UNU. This programme facilitates capacity development among professionals and organizations to strengthen their capabilities in the field of gender equality. The main component of UNU-GEST is a 20-week annual training programme organized in Iceland.

A key theme of the UNU-WIDER ReCom – Research and Communication on Foreign Aid project was aid and gender equality. The outcomes of this work were presented to policymakers and practitioners in the ReCom results meeting on “Aid for Gender Equality”, in December in Copenhagen.

International Year of Water Cooperation

The UN General Assembly declared 2013 the UN International Year of Water Cooperation, with the goal of raising awareness both of the potential for increased cooperation and of the challenges facing water management in light of increasing demand for water access, allocation and services.

The theme of World Water Day 2013, observed on 22 March, was “water cooperation”. UNU-INWEH, UN-Water and a network of partners released an analytical brief on Water Security and the Global Water Agenda at the UN Secretariat in New York. This brief provided a basis for discussions during the Third Session of the UN General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in May.

UNU-INWEH and its partners subsequently launched the full report — “The Global Water Crisis: Addressing an Urgent Security Issue” — in September. This report addresses the role that water must play in achieving global security through increased political and environmental stability and explores the legal dimensions surrounding the declaration by the United Nations of water and sanitation as a human right.

Partnerships within the UN System

In 2013, UNU maintained active partnerships with more than 50 United Nations organizations. These included:

- UNICEF, to produce policy-relevant research on the investment case for social protection, specifically for poor and vulnerable households in developing countries;
- UN DESA, the Secretariat of the UN Convention on the Rights of Peoples with Disabilities, the World Bank, and WHO on mental well-being, disability and development;
- UNFCCC, UNCCD, UNHCR, IOM, UNISDR, OCHA, WMO, IASC, UNFPA, UN DESA and the World Bank, to promote cooperation between researchers and policymakers on issues related to climate change, environmental degradation and migration; and
- UNEP, UNIDO, UNCTAD, UNDP, WHO and UNICRI in efforts to promote and strengthen the role of traditional knowledge in policy development in the areas of climate change and biological resources management.
Research

UNU undertakes cross-cultural, interdisciplinary science-based research and targeted foresight and policy studies, and transforms the output into expert input and policy guidance on a range of international and United Nations processes. In 2013, UNU implemented 188 research projects, of which 135 (71 percent) were focused primarily on developing countries. A selection of these research projects is presented here.

Migration Issues

The project Migration, Media and Intercultural Dialogue, launched by UNU-GCM in March, explores (i) the extent to which the media bridges cultural differences in contexts of migration and facilitates intercultural dialogue, (ii) the ways in which media can mobilize societies and cultures, and (iii) the role of media in triggering migration as well as in connecting migrants to their homelands. Project outputs in 2013 included 10 policy reports that address existing policies and debates within the UN system on intercultural dialogue, and a short documentary on music and migration. A major conference was held in Barcelona in November.

The Statelessness and Transcontinental Migration programme, launched by UNU-GCM in September, focuses on a range of issues related to the well-being and recognition of people who traverse continents without citizenship. It analyses a range of contexts where dignity and human rights are compromised through the absence of legal and political recognition, and seeks to articulate and address urgent needs with regard to stateless migrants who have entered Europe.

The project on Circular Migration, a joint effort of UNU-CRIS and the Center for Migration Research at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, investigates the implications of circular migration (the back-and-forth movement of people between countries and regions) for sending and receiving countries as well as for migrants and their families. The main outcome will be the book Circular Migration: International Trends, Impacts and Challenges (to be published in 2014).

The UNESCO-UNU Chair on Regional Integration, Migration and Free Movement of People, established in 2010, is based at UNU-CRIS in Bruges in collaboration with the University of Pretoria (South Africa). The aim is “to promote an integrated system of research, training, information and documentation” in the named fields.

UNU-EHS has investigated Environmentally Induced Migration in a series of globally distributed case studies that serve as a basis for the discussion in the UNFCCC negotiations as well as for development of a legal framework for the protection of these migrants.

Climate Change

The Development under Climate Change project implemented by UNU-WIDER identifies sustainable solutions for developing countries to address intersecting global problems such as climate change and poverty. A significant output was the development, in collaboration with MIT, of an analytical framework that integrates comprehensive biophysical and economic analyses. UNU-WIDER also collaborated with the African Economic Research Consortium to build university-level teaching
capacity, to support key ministries within five African countries, and to facilitate research by promising African scholars. In addition, UNU-WIDER developed an energy-economic model together with the National Treasury in South Africa; it is used by the Treasury to evaluate national policy and development strategy. The project, whose outputs are aimed at researchers, policymakers and analysts, wrapped up its activities at the end of 2013; research outputs include more than 30 working papers and three journal special issues.

The Munich Climate Insurance Initiative, hosted by UNU-EHS, was initiated by Munich Re in 2005 as a forum for insurance-related expertise applied to climate change issues. The objectives are: (i) to develop insurance-related solutions to help manage the impacts of climate change, (ii) to conduct and support pilot projects, (iii) to promote insurance approaches in cooperation with other public and private organizations and initiatives, and (iv) to identify and promote loss reduction measures for climate-related events. Activities in 2013 included working with UNFCCC climate negotiators on the role of insurance in addressing loss and damage, and adaptation to climate change, and facilitation of a stakeholder dialogue in the context of the Hyogo Framework during the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (ISDR) Global Platform on Risk Reduction.

The Climate Risk Adaptation and Insurance in the Caribbean Initiative designs and implements products that combine risk reduction and insurance, targeting weather extremes such as hurricanes and droughts, for low-income groups (such as smallholder farmers and day labourers) in the Caribbean. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and managed by the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII), hosted at UNU-EHS. Designed insurance products were launched in Saint Lucia (May) and Jamaica (October).

The Water-related Information System for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong Delta (WISDOM) is an initiative comprising 18 research institutions based in Germany and Vietnam, coordinated by the German Aerospace Centre (DLR) and the Southern Institute of Water Resources Research (SIWRR, Vietnam). The main objective is to bridge gaps in the water-related information flow among research institutions working in different disciplines, and between these information-generating agencies and decision-making authorities. UNU-EHS participated by (i) undertaking vulnerability assessments to floods and saltwater intrusion, and (ii) monitoring and assessing water quality (both in the context of human security) and coordinating the initiative’s PhD programme. A report is scheduled for April 2014.

West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) is a large-scale research-focused programme initiated to develop effective climate change adaptation and mitigation measures. Its three principle components are a competence centre (to contribute to the development of local research capacity, and to serve as a service centre for the partner countries), a core research programme and a graduate research programme. UNU-EHS is undertaking fieldwork on “Risk Assessment and Analysis” and supporting the development of an MSc programme on Climate Change and Human Security (based at the Université de Lomé, Togo).
The UNU-INRA project on Mainstreaming Energy, Climate Change and Green Economy Instruments in Financial Institutions in Africa targets decision makers and policymakers from private financial institutions and development finance institutions (e.g., microfinance and community development finance organizations) in Africa, as well as policymakers from relevant ministries. A scoping study was completed and a book is in preparation.

In the face of climate change, the transition towards low-carbon society is a difficult challenge for developing countries. The UNU-MERIT project on Innovation in Low-Carbon Economy examines the diffusion of renewable energy technology in a group of fast-growing countries (Brazil, China, India, Russia and South Africa) with the aim to understand the particular characteristics in each country and to address possible policy solutions to enhance low-carbon development.

The focus of the World Risk Report is the threat from (or exposure to) key natural hazards and the rise in sea level caused by climate change, as well as social vulnerability in the form of the susceptibility of local populations and their capacity to cope and adapt. The report comprises the World Risk Index (developed by UNU-EHS), a priority topic and case studies. The report’s third edition was published (in German) in 2013 by UNU-EHS in cooperation with the Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft (Alliance Development Works) and the University of Bonn. Work is underway on a digital version in English.

The University Network for Climate and Ecosystems Change Adaptation Research (UN-CECAR) is a framework for collaborative research, education and capacity development. The network’s coordinating committee consists of representatives from more than 20 leading Asian universities; UNU-ISP acts as the secretariat and coordinator for UN-CECAR. The 7th UN-CECAR International Conference and Workshop, “Leadership for Sustainability”, held in China in June, was jointly organized by UNU-ISP, the Chinese Academy of Forestry and Tsinghua University. A postgraduate course, developed as an outcome of that conference, was launched in October.

Health

The Arsenic in Developing Countries project, a joint effort by UNU-IIGH, the United Nations University/Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and Hong Kong Baptist University, focuses on the magnitude of arsenic exposure from groundwater and local food consumption, and the health impacts and burden in terms of health care cost due to arsenicosis in Cambodia. Several journal articles were published in 2013.

The lack of communication between clinical staff and non-clinical staff at hospitals is a problem because of the different understanding/approaches of these two groups. Casemix is a patient classification system that seeks to improve both efficiency and quality of care by dividing patients into predefined groups based on their clinical similarity and the amount of resources needed to treat them. The UNU-IIGH casemix system, which is used as a provider payment method to enhance the efficiency of services provided under social insurance programmes, has been introduced in 19 countries, benefitting some 300 million people worldwide.

The Development of Health Management Information Systems programme implemented by UNU-IIGH aims to enhance the strategic utilization of online learning to improve healthcare education and knowledge transfer, especially in developing countries and in pursuit of the MDGs. The benefits include a reduction in costs associated with employee travel and in time spent away from patients. An
e-learning portal has been running since June 2010; almost 250 health professionals, mainly from developing countries, have participated in the project.

An estimated one in four people will experience a mental health condition in their lifetime, and economic loss due to problems related to mental well-being is vast. Additionally, those with mental or intellectual disabilities often face discrimination, and in disaster settings, protection of mentally and intellectually disabled persons is often neglected. UNU-IIGH, through the programme on Control of Non-Communicable Diseases and Mental Health, is actively disseminating knowledge about mental health within the academic community. UNU-IIGH also has been working with the (Japan) National Center of Neurology and Psychiatry to conduct training workshops for healthcare providers responding to the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Tsunami, and to assist in developing national guidelines of mental health in disaster settings.

Water

The project on Water Governance and Water Tenure is a joint initiative of the UNU-hosted United Nations Water Decade Programme on Capacity Development (UNW-DPC) and FAO. The objective is to improve the governance and tenure of water to address water scarcity at national and basin level (including transboundary waters) by mapping major existing water governance and tenure arrangements in several countries.

In terms of public health impacts, 10 percent of the global burden of disease is related to water, sanitation and hygiene, while poor sanitation costs an estimated US$260 billion per year in economic losses. The UNU-INWEH initiative From Waste to Wealth: Sustainable Wastewater Management in Uganda, funded by Grand Challenges Canada, seeks to develop a national wastewater management framework for the Republic of Uganda by integrating community, provider and private sector perspectives and roles. The project has built capacity in the Ministry of Water and Environment to undertake biomethane potential analyses, developed scenarios for urban, rural, informal and institutional settings, and undertaken an assessment of local biogas initiatives in Uganda.

As much as 60 percent of the global population may suffer from water scarcity by 2025, even as the deterioration of water quality intensifies in resource-poor countries in dry areas. Farmers in water-scarce countries are increasingly irrigating with water of marginal quality, such as wastewater, putting the local environment and human health at risk. UNU-INWEH is addressing this issue via Marginal-quality Water Use and Health in Dry Areas, a joint programme with the International Water Institute and the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas. Research and capacity development activities include a UN-Water Capacity Development Project on Safe Re-use of Wastewater in Agriculture, by an alliance of UN-Water members and partners, coordinated by UNW-DPC; a Global Study on Wastewater Generation, Treatment, and Use; and participation in the Global Wastewater Initiative and the WHO Task Force on Guidelines for Wastewater Use.

Regional Approaches

The Global Re-ordering: Evolution through European Networks (GR:EEN) project studies the present and future role of the EU in an emerging multipolar world, within the context of the twentieth century’s resilient actors, the rising powers of the twenty-first century, non-state actors and new transnational regulatory networks. It is
funded by the EU under the 7th Framework Programme, and involves a team of 16 partners, including UNU-CRIS.

The UNU-CRIS project **Learning from the European Parliament: Democracy-building in the Regional Context** contributes to the development and strengthening of transnational democratic parliamentary assemblies. It takes stock of the role played by such assemblies in promoting democracy regionally or internationally, with the European Parliament serving as the main reference point. A report launch event was held in October in Brussels, by UNU-CRIS in collaboration with International IDEA.

The book series on **Regionalism**, launched by UNU-CRIS and Springer, offers a platform for innovative work on (supra-national) regionalism from a global and interdisciplinary perspective. It includes policy-oriented “World Reports on Regional Integration”, published in collaboration with other UN agencies, as well as contributions from academics and policymakers worldwide, and prominently features the outcome of UNU-CRIS research. One edited volume of the series (*Regionalizing Oman: Political, Economic and Social Dynamics*) was published in 2013.

In 2003, responding to the resolution on the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD: 2005–2014) adopted by the UN General Assembly, UNU-IAS launched the Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) initiative with strong support from the Ministry of the Environment of Japan. A flagship project of this initiative is a global multi-stakeholder network of **Regional Centres of Expertise on ESD** (RCEs) — networks of existing formal, non-formal and informal education organizations mobilized to deliver ESD to local and regional communities. There are now 127 RCEs worldwide. ESD information, experiences and knowledge are shared through global annual conferences, a communication portal and a monthly RCE Bulletin. Baseline data from RCE 2011–2012 annual reports and self-assessment data are being analysed to determine the impact of RCEs in addressing local sustainable development challenges.

**Human Security**

The project **Enhancing Human Security through Developing Local Capacity for Holistic Community-Based Conflict Prevention in Northern Ghana** was a joint effort by UNU-INRA, UNDP, UNICEF, WFP, FAO and UNIDO, the Government of Ghana and key stakeholders in conflict-sensitive areas. Within this project, funded by the Government of Japan through the UN Trust Fund for Human Security, UNU-INRA led in mainstreaming and advocating the human security concept through facilitation of research, production of knowledge products, local-level dialogues, knowledge dissemination and capacity development. Research concluded in 2013 with a community progress review. A Human Security Conference, held in May in Accra, marked the official completion of the programme and provided a platform for sharing its outcomes.
The Fukushima Global Communication Programme, developed by UNU-ISP with financial support by the Government of Japan, is focused on disseminating in a constructive manner Japan’s experience in coping with the triple disasters in Fukushima and lessons learned from these devastating experiences. Launched in July, the programme consists of three main parts: (i) creating networks and fostering collaboration between Japanese and international experts, (ii) compiling information and undertaking research, and (iii) communicating information and sharing findings with the international community.

The Politics of the Death Penalty in Countries in Transition project, a collaboration between UNU-ISP and Middlesex University (London), focused on the death penalty in post-conflict situations and in states attempting to move from authoritarian rule to democracy. The aim was to elaborate the difficult, sometimes intractable, issues underlying the politics of the death penalty in countries in transition by examining a range of case studies. The project culminated in a multi-author book and a policy brief.

Development

The Innovation in Agriculture/Natural Resource-based Activities project at UNU-MERIT examines both the positive and negative aspects of innovation in agriculture/natural resource-based activities. Outputs in 2013 included book chapters, conference papers and a working paper.

Each year since 2007, UNU-MERIT has organized (in collaboration with local partners and other sponsors) an international conference on Micro Evidence on Innovation in Developing Economies (MEIDE). The aim is to bring together researchers from around the world to discuss the importance of innovation for economic growth and development, as well as other aspects of development such as studies on science, education, trade, migration or policy evaluation. The 7th MEIDE Conference was held in Santiago, Chile, in November.

The co-benefits approach aims to achieve multiple positive development outcomes with climate policies. The goal of the UNU-IAS project Urban Development with the Co-benefits Approach, implemented in collaboration with research partners in Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and Japan, seeks to promote urban co-benefits more effectively, and develop evaluation tools to assess the potential to produce co-benefits across various urban sectors. Outputs include a special issue of the Journal of Cleaner Production on “Climate Co-Benefits in
Urban Asia”, as well as methodologies and tools (in the transportation, waste and energy sectors) that can be used to assist planning by policymakers involved in climate or urban issues.

The Growth and Poverty Project, coordinated by UNU-WIDER, seeks to address the challenge of reconciling Africa’s development trends by providing evidence to the ongoing debate about African growth and poverty and on the effectiveness of foreign aid and domestic policies. Outcomes have included a poverty measurement toolkit, 16 country case studies and organization of a major development conference on “Inclusive Growth in Africa: Measurement, Causes, and Consequences” in September in Helsinki.

Learning to Compete (L2C): Accelerating Industrial Development in Africa, a collaborative research project between UNU-WIDER, the African Development Bank and the Brookings Institution, sought to answer two seemingly simple but puzzling questions: Why is there so little industry in Africa? And what, if anything, can public policy do about it? Outcomes of the project, which conducted research in 11 countries in Africa and Asia, included 39 working papers and organization of a major development conference, in June in Helsinki, on “L2C – Learning to Compete: Industrial Development and Policy in Africa”. A follow-up project is being developed.

The Inclusive Wealth Index, developed by the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change (hosted by UNU-ViE), is a new way of measuring a nation’s wealth, taking into account human capital (education, skills, earning potential, life expectancy and population), natural capital (fossil fuels, minerals, forest resources and land) and produced capital (roads, railroad tracks, buildings, vehicles, machinery, etc.). As such, it is meant to be more comprehensive than other indicators such as Gross Domestic Product or the Human Development Index. Work is underway on the Inclusive Wealth Report 2014, which will focus primarily on human capital and health and cover approximately 150 countries.

The SCYCLE (Sustainable Cycles) Operating Unit of UNU-ISP, as the international coordinator for a project led by the Ethiopian Government and UNIDO, seeks to develop an e-waste management strategy for Ethiopia, upgrade activities in an existing electronics refurbishment and demanufacturing facility, and follow a regional approach for cooperation among East African countries. The project kick-off meeting was in April.

The UNU-IAS programme Science and Technology for Sustainable Societies aims to guide technological development and innovation to create a greener, cleaner and creative economy, both in rural and urban areas. The STSS programme has moved forward in addressing some of the pressing issues in governance and bio-security in East Africa through the Wildlife Enforcement Monitoring System (WEMS) initiative, which has brought together four African countries (Kenya, Republic of the Congo, Tanzania and Uganda) to a common information-sharing platform to address illegal wildlife crime. This was achieved through a joint partnership with the Lusaka Agreement Task Force (Nairobi), ITC-University of Twente in the Netherlands and Harvard University. The long-term objective of WEMS is to foster science-based decisions on national and international wildlife policies.

Other STSS outputs include the book Nuclear Power, Economic Development Discourse and the Environment (Routledge), a conceptual framework for governance toward low-carbon societies presented at the Earth Systems Governance
Tokyo conference, and the draft of a study on governance toward low-carbon societies in India, presented at the Governance Architecture towards Low-Carbon Society workshop.

UNU-ISP completed a three-year research project (CECAR-Asia) analysing the strengths and weaknesses of traditional and modern agricultural systems in terms of efficiency, productivity and resilience. The project was supported by the Ministry of the Environment, Japan, and showed that the resilience of modern irrigation systems can be enhanced by building “mosaics” of traditional and modern systems encompassing infrastructure as well as management institutions.

Cross-cutting Initiatives

In the context of a diverse world — where values and rules related to the environment, culture, ethics and economy vary — the UNU-IAS Biodiplomacy Initiative seeks a basis for dialogue that celebrates diversity and places life at the centre of human development. The initiative continues to provide technical inputs to various objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and participated on teams that developed information documents at the request of the Secretariat focusing on development dimensions of biodiversity. It also contributed substantially to the development of guidelines related to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing, and to ongoing discussions related to marine and ocean governance. The initiative organized biodiversity-related capacity development programmes (including a blended-learning course offered jointly with UNCTAD for policymakers and practitioners in the South Asian region), and provided inputs to regional and national workshops on biodiversity management.

The UNU-IAS Traditional Knowledge Initiative (TKI) promotes and strengthens research on traditional knowledge and its incorporation into UN policy processes through joint projects. Key programme areas include the links between traditional knowledge and climate change/natural resources/biological resources. The TKI team provides ongoing support to several IPCC processes.

Achievements in 2013 included publication of a special issue of the journal Climatic Change; preparation of a report on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) and indigenous peoples, for distribution at the 12th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
(May, New York); co-organizing the Informal Meeting for the Implementation of Articles 19 and 20 of the Nagoya Protocol (March, Tokyo), held in conjunction with the Government of Japan and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity; and hosting a planning and consultation workshop on “Savanna Fire Management and Sustainable Livelihoods in Developing Countries” (May, Darwin). TKI also created education materials for stakeholders (funders, UN agencies, local communities) to access research on climate change adaptation and mitigation and Access & Benefit Sharing, including a tool kit on traditional knowledge and climate science, as well as policy briefs and factsheets.

The International Satoyama Initiative (ISI) of UNU-IAS aims to achieve societies in harmony with nature through the maintenance and restoration of human-influenced landscapes with a mosaic of different types of land use. In 2013, ISI contributed to a variety of research projects, including efforts toward the sustainable restoration of areas affected by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan, and an international project to produce a set of indicators of resilience in socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes. ISI serves as the Secretariat for the International Partnership for the Satoyama Initiative, and in this role organized or took part in a number of workshops and global conferences.
## Capacity Development

Through its capacity development initiatives, UNU seeks to enhance the education and research capacities of developing and transitional countries, and to provide advanced training opportunities for young scholars.

UNU organized 158 (144 short-term and 14 long-term) training courses in 2013, of which 70 were held in developing countries. More than 3,200 persons participated in these courses, of whom 85 percent were developing country nationals and 47 percent were women. A selection of the UNU’s non-degree educational programmes and courses is presented in the table below. These postgraduate-level study opportunities confer either a certificate or diploma.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| January | UNU-GEST implemented its annual 20-week (January–May) postgraduate diploma course in Iceland, in cooperation with the University of Iceland, focusing on the structures and mechanisms necessary to promote gender equality and advance women’s empowerment.  
UNU-EHS organized a PhD block course on “Vulnerability and Disaster Risk Reduction” (27 January to 9 February) in South Africa, conducted jointly with the University of the Free State.  
UNU-IIGH organized the “Global Environmental Change and Human Health: Extreme Events and Urbanization in the Asia Pacific Region Young Scientist Training Workshop” (17–18 January). |
| February | As part of UN-CECAR, UNU-ISP organized the Renewable Energy Course (February–March) in Tokyo, Japan, in cooperation with the University of Tokyo and 20 partner universities in Asia.  
UNU-GEST completed a pilot short course in Uganda on “Gender and Climate Change”.  
UNU-GCM organized an “Interdisciplinary Workshop on Migration Issues in Catalonia” in Barcelona.  
UNU-BIOLAC co-organized the public training “Selection Criteria of Zooplankton for Aquaculture Biotechnology” from 5–22 February at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México in partnership with the Facultad de Estudios Superiores-Iztacala.  
UNU-ISP co-organized the “International Seminar on Sustainability in Action: Adapting to Global Change Using Ecosystem Services” from 13–18 February in San Jose, Costa Rica, in partnership with the University of Tokyo and the University of International Cooperation, Costa Rica.  
UNU-ISP organized a research workshop on “Urban Governance for Total Sanitation: Looking to Transformative Approaches” (14–15 February) in Nairobi.  
UNU-GTP hosted a short course on “Conceptual Modelling of Geothermal Systems in El Salvador” (24 February–2 March) in partnership with La Geo. |
| March | WHO and UNW-DPC organized a workshop on “Safe Use of Wastewater in Agriculture” in cooperation with FAO, UNEP, UNU-INWEH, ICID and IWMI (5–7 March) in Bali, Indonesia.  
UNU-EHS organized a course on “From Vulnerability to Resilience in Disaster Risk Management” (11–22 March) in Bonn, in collaboration with the University of Bonn.  
UNU-IAS organized a workshop on “Public Participation in Environmental Matters in East Asia: Multifaceted Perspectives” (18 March) in Yokohama. |
### April

- **UNU-LRT** implemented its annual six-month (April–September) postgraduate training programme for professionals from developing countries faced with severe land degradation challenges. The programme is organized in cooperation with the Agricultural University of Iceland and the Soil Conservation Service of Iceland. Ten Fellows (from Africa and Central Asia) graduated from the programme in September.

- **UNU-GTP** offered an annual six-month (April–October) training course in which trainees work side-by-side with professionals of Orkustofnun, Iceland GeoSurvey, the University of Iceland and Reykjavik University on geothermal research, exploration and development.

- **UNU-FTP** course on “Leadership in Fisheries” was held in Saint Lucia on 8–12 April in partnership with the CRFM, University of Belize and the University of Akureyri (Iceland). There were 18 participants from 14 countries.

### May

- **UNU-FTP** course on “Brood Stock Management” was held in Vietnam from 27 May to 1 June in partnership with the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) and Holar University College (Iceland).

- **UNU-BIOLAC** co-organized the “IX Course of the Latin American School of Human and Medical Genetics” from 5–11 May 2013 in Porto Alegre, Brazil in partnership with the Roberto Giugliani Institute.

### June


- **UNU-IIGH**, in cooperation with AECOM, organized a short course on “Health Risk and Impact Assessment for Environmental Applications” (18–19 June) in Kuala Lumpur.

- **UNU-EHS** organized a training module in Lomé, Togo (10–21 June), in the framework of the WASCAL project. Ten students from the project were trained on humanitarian coordination and emergency preparedness and response procedures.

- **UNU-WIDER** organized a workshop for journalists on “How to Make News Out of Foreign Aid” at the 8th World Conference of Science Journalists (24 June) in Helsinki.

- **UNU-MERIT**, in partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank, co-organized the course, “Design and Evaluation of Innovation Policy in Developing Countries” (DEIP), in Barbados (24–28 June).

- **UNU-GTP** “Short Course on Deep Geothermal Exploration 2013” was held in Kigali, Rwanda (25–29 June). The course was organized at the request of the Icelandic International Development Agency for the Energy, Water and Sanitation Authority of Rwanda with support from experts of Iceland GeoSurvey.

- **UNU-FTP** course on Fisheries Policies and Planning was held in Kenya from 17 to 28 June.

### July

- In cooperation with six partners, **UNU-CRIS** organized a bilingual (English–Spanish) Doctoral School on “Latin American, European and Comparative Regionalism” in Ecuador from 8–12 July.

- **UNU-MERIT** organized a summer course on “Impact Assessment of Education Policies: An International Perspective” (8–19 July) in Maastricht.

- **UNU-FLORES** organized a special session on “Societal Concerns and Capacity Development” at the 8th Symposium of European Freshwater Sciences (2 July) in Muenster.

- **UNW-DPC** organized the 1st Regional Workshop for the UN-Water Initiative “Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policies” with support from FAO, WMO and UNCCD (July 9–11).

- **UNU-BIOLAC** organized the training “Expression systems for protein production: from vector design to first scaling up” at the Universidad de la República, Uruguay, from 22–31 July, in partnership with La Dirección de Innovación, Ciencia y Tecnología para el Desarrollo (MEC DICYT).
August

As part of the Education for Sustainable Development programme, UNU-IAS co-organized a two-day “Capacity Development Workshop for Eastern African RCEs” in Kenya.

As part of the UNU-INRA project GIS Training for Improved Natural Resource Management in Africa, a GIS curriculum was developed and tested in a demonstration course in August, in collaboration with UNU-ISP and the University of Ghana.

UNU-FTP course on “Stock Assessment” was held in Namibia from 26 August to 6 September.

UNU-BIOLAC organized the training “Tools and challenges for large-scale production of cleaning planting material in key crops for food security: bananas, roots and tubers” from 6–10 August in partnership with Consejo Nacional para Investigaciones Científicas y Tecnologicas (CONICIT-CR).

UNU-BIOLAC organized the training course “Molecular Epidemiology and Applications in Foodborne, Nosocomial and Vector-borne Infectious Diseases of Global Significance” from 13–16 August at the Universidad Federal de Paraiba, Brazil, in partnership with the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology.

September

UNU-INWEH held its annual Asian “Mangrove Biodiversity Training Course” (September–October) in India.

UNU-IAS co-organized the 2013 ProSPER.Net Young Researchers’ School in Thailand on the theme “Partnerships in Water and Biodiversity for Sustainable Development”.

The UNU-EHS Gibika (Livelihood in Bangla) Project held the 1st Resilience Academy in Bangladesh, where participants explored questions related to risk assessment, climate hot spots, adaptive capacity and resilience, and climate stressors.

UNU-BIOLAC organized the training course “Bioinformatics Applied to Plant and Microbial Biology” from 9–13 September in Costa Rica in partnership with CONICIT-CR.

UNU-WIDER and Helsinki Center of Economic Research (HECER) offered a joint course in “Development Economics” for master’s-level students in Helsinki from 10 September – 17 October.

UNU-BIOLAC organized the training “Latin American School of Microbiology Microbial Genomics and Bioinformatics” from 16–28 September in Montevideo, Uruguay, in partnership with the Instituto Clemente Estable.

UNU-BIOLAC organized the workshop “XXVIII Congress of the Argentine Society for Research in Neuroscience and Satellite Workshop on Neuroethology and Memory” from 30 September – 4 October in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in partnership with Sociedad Argentina de Investigación en Neurociencias (SAN) and Fundación Instituto Leloir.

UNU-MERIT, in partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank, co-organized a “Design and Evaluation of Innovation Policy in Developing Countries” (DEIP) course in Bolivia (30 September – 4 October).

UNU-GTP “Short Course for Decision Makers from Burundi, DRC and Rwanda on Geothermal Development 2013” was held in Naivasha, Kenya, 25–28 September in cooperation with Kenya Electricity Generating Company and Geothermal Development Company.

UNU-ISP in partnership with Keio University, the Asian Institute of Technology, the National University of Samoa and the University of the Ryukyu offered a course on “Climate, Energy and Food Security” from 27 September 2013 – 24 January 2014.

The annual UNU-FTP six-month (September–May) fisheries training programme is organized in cooperation with the Marine Research Institute, the University of Iceland, the University of Akureyi, MATÍS, and Holar University College. Twenty-two Fellows graduated in March, and another 22 started in September.
October

As part of UN-CECAR, UNU-ISP organized postgraduate courses on “Leadership for Sustainability” (October) and “Building Resilience to Climate Change” (October–November) in Tokyo, Japan.

UNU-BIOLAC organized the “International Workshop on Molecular Epidemiology of Parasites and Dengue” in Guayaquil, Ecuador, from 2–5 October in collaboration with Instituto Nacional de Investigación en Salud Pública.

UNU-BIOLAC organized the training courses “Assembly and Assembly Validation of NGS Reads”, “Gene Expression Analysis: From Microarrays to Real Time PCR” and “Viral Vaccines: Design and Development” from 19–25 October in Rosario, Argentina, in collaboration with MEC DICYT.

UNU-MERIT organized a course in Kuala Lumpur (28–29 October) on “Innovation Policy for the Higher Education Sector”.

UNU-IIGH organized a 5-day short course on “Open Source Hospital Information Systems Development Course”, sponsored by the Malaysian Government through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTPC) from 21–25 October, based in Kuala Lumpur.

November

A UNU-GTP “Short Course on Exploration for Geothermal Resources” was held at Lake Naivasha in Kenya (31 October to 23 November). The course was hosted by the Geothermal Development Company, Kenya, and Kenya Electricity and Generating Company, Ltd. (KenGen).

UNU-GTP “Short Course on Geothermal Development for Decision Makers from Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia 2013” was held in Naivasha, Kenya, 26–30 November in partnership with the Geothermal Development Company, Icelandic International Development Agency, Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen), Nordic Development Fund, and the United Nations Environment Programme.

December

UNU-INWEH organized a pilot “Mangrove Biodiversity Training Course” in Kenya.

UNU-FLORES organized the first regional Nexus Observatory Workshop in New Delhi, India, on “Life-cycle cost assessment of infrastructure projects” in cooperation with TERI University.

UNW-DPC and WMO organized the 2nd Regional Workshop for the UN-Water Initiative “Capacity Development to Support National Drought Management Policies” for Latin America and the Caribbean in Fortaleza, Brazil, with support from FAO, UNCCD and CBD (December 4–6).

Workshop Participants

8,180

48% from developing countries

Training Course Participants

3,202

86% from developing countries

43%

female participants in workshops and training courses
Postgraduate Study

The University shall grant and confer master’s degrees and doctorates, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions — UNU Charter, I.8

Today’s complex global challenges can be effectively addressed only from an interdisciplinary perspective. This requires a new type of higher education — one that focuses on understanding problems and developing/evaluating solutions. With its systems-oriented approach and global presence, UNU is uniquely positioned to help students assimilate knowledge from across diverse academic disciplines, contexts and cultures.

In 2013, UNU offered four Master of Science (MSc) programmes and one PhD degree programme. Of the 178 students enrolled in the UNU postgraduate degree programmes, 124 (70 percent) were from developing countries and 104 (58 percent) were female.

MSc in Sustainability, Development and Peace
Launched in September 2010 by UNU-ISP (Japan); 28 students currently enrolled.

MSc in Environmental Governance with Specialization in Biodiversity
Launched in September 2011 by UNU-IAS (Japan); 21 students currently enrolled.

PhD in Sustainability Science
Launched in September 2012 by UNU-ISP (Japan); 5 students currently enrolled.

MSc in Public Policy and Human Development
Launched in October 2013 by UNU-MERIT and its School of Governance (Netherlands) in collaboration with UNU-CRIS (Regional Integration and Multi-level Governance specialization); 96 students currently enrolled (double degree programme).

MSc in the Geography of Environmental Risks and Human Security
Launched in October 2013 by UNU-EHS (Germany) and the University of Bonn (joint degree programme); 28 students currently enrolled.

UNU collaborates with other universities to support developing country students enrolled in master’s and doctoral degree programmes. Examples include support by UNU-IIGH for students enrolled in Master of Public Health programmes at the University of Medical Sciences and Technology (Sudan) and the B.P. Koirala Institute of Health Sciences (Nepal) and in a Master of Public Health in Health Economics and Hospital Management programme at the University of Science and Technology (Yemen; in cooperation with the National University of Malaysia), as well as support by UNU-GTP and UNU-FTP for students enrolled in relevant MSc and PhD degree programmes at the University of Iceland.

For more information about postgraduate study, see unu.edu/admissions.
Events

In 2013, UNU organized 349 public and private events (conferences, seminars, symposiums, lectures and workshops). These events not only provide a venue for sharing knowledge, but also enable valuable networking opportunities for researchers and practitioners as well as help to put a personal face on UNU activities for the general public.

UNU Conversation Series

This event series, in which UNU Rector Malone discusses topical issues with prominent experts, was launched at UNU Headquarters in 2013:

• “Walk the Talk: Ending Hunger by 2025” with Dr. Shenggen Fan (Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute), May
• “The End of Diplomacy” with Jorge Heine (Balsillie School of International Affairs, Canada) and Sadaaki Numata (former Japanese Ambassador), May
• “Do International Organizations Really Advance the ‘Rule of Law’” with Prof. José Enrique Alvarez (New York University School of Law), September
• “From Sarajevo to Benghazi: The Use of Force in Defence of Human Rights in the Post-Cold War Era” with Prof. Mats Berdal (King’s College London), November

Public Seminars

Managing Coasts in a Changing World Seminar Series: UNU-INWEH organized two seminars in this series (in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada) in 2013:

• “Preparing Coastal Communities of Atlantic Canada: Challenges of Preserving Natural and Sociocultural Elements”, February
• “Marine Toxins, Seafood Safety & Ecosystem Health: Sato Umi in Action”, March

Prof. Mats Berdal at the fourth UNU Conversation Series event in Tokyo.
“Outer Space Activities and the United Nations” (UNU-IAS), April, Yokohama


UNU Shibuya Seminar Series: UNU and the Shibuya City Office co-organized four seminars of this annual series, in July in Tokyo. Each seminar focused on an aspect of African development.

“Violence against Women: Support for the Victims and Lessons Learnt from Japan” (UNU-IIGH), October, Kuala Lumpur

“The Globalization of Public Health: Policy Linkages and Governance Challenges” (UNU-IIGH), October, Kuala Lumpur

“The Challenge of Establishing Health Impact Assessment for the Improvement of Global Health” (UNU-IIGH), November, Kuala Lumpur

“Biodiversity and Community Health: Strengthening Linkages” (UNU-IIGH, UNU-IAS), November, Kuala Lumpur

“Transforming National Commitments on GHG Emissions Reduction Based on Equity and Justice” (UNU-IAS), November, Yokohama

“Evaluating the Quality of Contemporary Global Governance: Theory, Analysis, Practice” (UNU-IAS), December, Yokohama

“Evolving Global Environmental Governance” (UNU-IAS), December, Yokohama

Public Conferences/Symposiums

“Global Environmental Change and Human Health: Extreme Events and Urbanization in the Asia Pacific Region” (UNU-IIGH), January, Kuala Lumpur

ReCom Results Meetings: Within the scope of its ReCom – Research and Communications on Foreign Aid project, UNU-WIDER organized five public events targeting policymakers and practitioners:

• “Aid and Social Sectors”, March, Stockholm
• “Aid and Our Changing Environment”, June, Stockholm
• “Challenges in Fragility and Governance”, October, Copenhagen
• “Fragility and Aid: What Works?”, October, New York
• “Aid for Gender Equality”, December, Copenhagen

“The Quest for Human Security: Knowledge and Experiences from Ghana and across the Globe” (UNU-INRA), May, Accra

“Co-operation, Integration and Alliances: Regional and Global Perspectives, Challenges and Solutions” (co-organized by UNU-CRIS), June, Bruges

L2C - Learning to Compete: Industrial Development and Policy in Africa” (UNU-WIDER ), June, Helsinki

“Ramsar Kushiro Conference + 20: Future of Wetlands and the Role of the Ramsar Convention” (co-organized by UNU-ISP), July, Tokyo
“Inclusive Growth in Africa. Measurement, Causes, and Consequences” (UNU-WIDER), September, Helsinki

“Inclusive Growth in Africa. Measurement, Causes, and Consequences” (UNU-WIDER), September, Helsinki

“Sustainability Science: Promoting Integration and Cooperation” (co-organized by UNU, the University of Tokyo and UNESCO), September, Paris

“Sustainability Science: Promoting Integration and Cooperation” (co-organized by UNU, the University of Tokyo and UNESCO), September, Paris

“Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction” (co-organized by UNU-ISP), November, Tokyo

“Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction” (co-organized by UNU-ISP), November, Tokyo

“Beyond Rio +20: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities” (UNU-INRA), November, Accra

“Beyond Rio +20: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities” (UNU-INRA), November, Accra

“Advancing a Nexus Approach to the Sustainable Management of Water, Soil and Waste” (UNU-FLORES), November, Dresden

“Advancing a Nexus Approach to the Sustainable Management of Water, Soil and Waste” (UNU-FLORES), November, Dresden

“Urban Development with Climate Co-Benefits” (co-organized by UNU-IAS), December, New Delhi

“Urban Development with Climate Co-Benefits” (co-organized by UNU-IAS), December, New Delhi

Public Lectures

21st U Thant Distinguished Lecture: “Mexico in the World: An Actor with Global Responsibility”, by Enrique Peña Nieto, President of Mexico, April, Tokyo

Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Laureates Lecture: by Dr. Peter Piot (Belgium) and Dr. Alex Godwin Coutinho (Uganda), June, Tokyo

UNU-WIDER Annual Lecture: “Egalitarian Principles – The Foundation for Sustainable Peace”, by Martti Ahtisaari, former President of Finland and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, September, Helsinki

UNU-MERIT 5th Charles Cooper Memorial Lecture: “Dynamic Capability – The Concept and How It Helps Us Understand Economic Change”, by Prof. Sidney Winter (University of Pennsylvania), November, Maastricht

Enrique Peña Nieto, President of Mexico
Another Drop Public Lecture Series: UNU-INWEH organized five lectures in this series in 2013:

- “Addressing Water Quantity and Quality Concerns in the Peace-Athabasca Delta, Northern Alberta, From Perspectives Of The Past”, January
- “Wallace’s Dream Ponds: The Malili Lakes of Sulawesi Islan”, September
- “The Aftermath of Natural Disasters: Realities And Myths”, October
- “The Right to WaSH; The Right to Health”, November

“Risk & Uncertainty” Seminar Series (UNU-EHS & University of Bonn)

Fifth Tokyo International Conference on African Development

TICAD is convened every five years as a platform to facilitate high-level policy dialogue between Asian and African nations. At TICAD V (June, in Yokohama; convened by the Government of Japan, UN Development Programme, UN Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, African Union, World Bank), UNU organized the following side events:

- “Health System Reform in Kenya” (UNU-IIGH)
- “Building Inclusive and Resilient Societies in Africa through Education for Sustainable Development” (UNU-IAS)
- “Traditional Agricultural Systems and Food Security” (UNU-ISP)
- “The Role of Universities in Africa’s Sustainable Development” (UNU-ISP)
Communications & Dissemination

The University shall disseminate the knowledge gained in its activities to the United Nations and its agencies, to scholars and to the public, in order to increase dynamic interaction in the worldwide community of learning and research. — UNU, Charter, I.4

UNU disseminates information about its research and activities through both print and electronic media.

Books

In 2013, the institutes and programmes of the global UNU system published 33 books, including:

- Capacity Building and Innovation for Development (UNU-MERIT; Palgrave Macmillan)
- Citizens vs. Markets: How Civil Society is Rethinking the Economy in a Time of Crises (UNU-CRIS; Routledge)
- Democratic Trajectories in Africa: Unravelling the Impact of Foreign Aid (UNU-WIDER; Oxford University Press)
- Development Success: Historical Accounts from More Advanced Countries (UNU-WIDER; Oxford University Press)
- North American Integration: An Institutional Void in Migration, Security and Development (UNU-CRIS; Routledge)
- Pathways to Industrialization in the Twenty-First Century: New Challenges and Emerging Paradigms (UNU-MERIT/UNU-WIDER; Oxford University Press)
- The Politics of the Death Penalty in Countries in Transition (UNU-ISP; Routledge)
- Regionalism (UNU-CRIS; Sage, 4 volumes)
- Regionalizing Oman: Political, Economic and Social Dynamics (UNU-CRIS; Springer)
- The Role of Ecosystems in Disaster Risk Reduction (UNU-EHS; UNU Press)
- Measuring Vulnerability to Natural Disasters - Towards Disaster Resilient Societies (UNU-EHS; UNU Press)
- Sustainable Development in Amazonia (UNU-ISP; Routledge)
- Handbook of Innovation Indicators and Measurement (UNU-MERIT, Edward Elgar Publishing)

Policy Briefs

In 2013, UNU published 44 policy briefs, including:

- “Achieving Development Success: Strategies and Lessons from the Developing World” (UNU-WIDER)
- “Business and the Barrel of a Gun: Understanding Entrepreneurship and Violent Conflict in Developing Countries” (UNU-WIDER)
- “Changing Climate, Moving People: Framing Migration, Displacement and Planned Relocation” (UNU-EHS)
• “Democratic Trajectories in Africa: Unravelling the Impact of Foreign Aid” (UNU-WIDER)
• “The Engagement of the Syrian Diaspora in Germany in Peacebuilding” (UNU-MERIT)
• “Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes (SEPLs)” (UNU-IAS)
• “‘Intercultural Dialogue’ as It Developed in the Security Council of the United Nations (2000-2012)” (UNU-GCM)
• “Intercultural Dialogue or Intercultural Soliloquies?” (UNU-GCM)
• “Is the Discussion of ‘Statelessness’ in the UN Security Council a Question of Human Security or International Security?” (UNU-GCM)
• “Multi-actor Approaches to Total Sanitation in Africa” (UNU-ISP)
• “Towards Zero Waste in Industrial Networks: Policy Recommendations from the ZeroWIN Project” (UNU-ISP)
• “Urban Development with Climate Co-Benefits: Aligning Climate, Environmental and Other Development Goals in Cities” (UNU-IAS)
• “Women in the Informal Economy: Experiments in Governance from Emerging Countries” (UNU-MERIT)

Discussion Papers & Working Papers

In 2013, UNU (primarily UNU-WIDER and UNU-MERIT) published 256 working and discussion papers. In November 2013, UNU launched a new working paper series featuring pre-publication drafts from UNU-affiliated authors, including academic journal articles, research reports, book chapters, and policy briefs.

UNU-MERIT: merit.unu.edu/publications/working-papers
UNU-WIDER: wider.unu.edu/publications/working-papers

Online UNU publications

• WIDERAngle (a monthly UNU-WIDER newsletter)
• Electronic newsletter of UNU-CRIS
• Sustainability Science journal (published by Springer on behalf of UNU and the Integrated Research System for Sustainability Science)
• UNU Peace and Progress (a new graduate student journal; first issue published in September)

Media Coverage

In 2013, there were close to 5,000 stories mentioning the United Nations University published in more than 2,500 online media sources.
• By country, UNU was mentioned most frequently by media sources based in the USA (25%), Japan (19%) and China (14%).
• By region, UNU was covered most frequently in Asia (35%), North America (31%) and Europe (20%).
• By language, UNU was covered most often in English (45%), Japanese (19%), Chinese (14%) and Spanish (12%).

The most successful media campaign in 2013 related to the December publication of the World e-Waste Map by the UNU-coordinated Solving the e-Waste
Problem (StEP) Initiative. The story was picked up by over 1,100 media sources in 23 languages across 75 countries.

For a list of 2013 UNU media coverage see: unu.edu/media-relations

Videos

The UNU YouTube channel contains more than 500 videos (including a selection in Japanese, Spanish and Russian). These have received over 5 million views since the channel was launched in 2008. In 2013, the total number of views was 997,000 (with an estimated 3.5 million minutes watched).

Videos produced by UNU in 2013 included:
- “Living in Fukushima: Stories of Decontamination and Reconstruction” (with the Ministry of Environment of Japan)
- “Geothermal El Salvador”
- Conversation Series interviews (with Mats Berdal, Claude Heller Roussant, Shenggen Fan, Jorge Heine and Sadaaki Numata)
- U Thant Lecture by President Peña Nieto of Mexico.

The YouTube Channels for UNU-MERIT and UNU-WIDER also continued to grow in 2013, with some 42,760 and 25,370 views, respectively.

Social Media

UNU’s social media presence grew significantly in 2013. At year-end, the University’s main Twitter account had approximately 16,000 followers while its main Facebook page had more than 7,000 “likes”. Many of the UNU institutes also have an active presence on Twitter and/or Facebook.
Websites

The websites of the global UNU system received more than 3 million visits in 2013 (a 26 percent increase over 2012); of these visits, about half were to the main unu.edu website. The top five countries for the visitors to the University websites were Japan, United States, India, United Kingdom and Germany.

An October 2013 survey of readers of the UNU website revealed that nearly 20 percent were policymakers while another 46 percent were from academia, research and education. Some 84 percent of survey participants have a bachelor's degree or above (14 percent have a doctorate); 62 percent are age 39 or younger.

A number of institutes re-designed their websites in 2013, including UNU-FLORES, UNU-IIGH, UNU-INWEH and UNU-MERIT.

UNU's award-winning Our World online magazine was completely redesigned and relaunched in October, and now covers all major themes of concern to the United Nations. The magazine, which now contains approximately 800 articles (in both English and Japanese), had 444,000 visits in 2013.

End of Report