



## Tentative Program of Young Researchers' School 2018

### 1. Theme: Sustainable Urban Development for the World's Megacities

### 2. Tentative dates: 4 -11 March 2018

### 3. General description:

The aim of the 2018 ProSPER.Net YRS is to offer postgraduate students in the network an opportunity to engage with issues related to sustainable development in the context of planning and policy making in megacities, while developing research and communication skills, and to further encourage future professionals to work within the field of sustainable development.

### 4. Venue: Shonan International Village, Kanagawa, Japan

### 5. Participants: PhD students of ProSPER.Net member universities (limited number of places available for Master students)

### 6. Tentative programme:

Date	Activity
4 <sup>th</sup> March (Sun)	Arrival to Shonan International Village, Kanagawa, Japan
5 <sup>th</sup> March (Mon)	Registration
	Opening Ceremony, Welcome remarks
	Participants Introduction
	Keynote presentation on SDGs and Cities
	Lecture 1: 2030 Agenda and the SDGs – Research Implications
	Lecture 2: Research Proposal Development
	Lecture 3: Climate Change Mitigation and Impact on Cities
	Welcome reception
6 <sup>th</sup> March (Tue)	Lecture 4: Urban Transportation Systems

	Lecture 5: Urban Water Security
	3 minute thesis introduction
	Lecture 6: Research Communication
	Lecture 7: Waste Management – Water and Solid Waste
	Field trip orientation
7 <sup>th</sup> March (Wed)	Field trip to Yokohama: Visit to Smart City Model Area, Waste Water Treatment Facility, Green Building etc. (TBC)
8 <sup>th</sup> March (Thu)	Lecture 8: Built Environment and Urban Planning
	Lecture 9: Urban Biodiversity and Ecosystems
	Lecture 10: Disaster Risk Reduction in Urban Areas
	Group Work on Research Proposal Development
9 <sup>th</sup> March (Fri)	Individual Work on 3-Minute Thesis Presentation
	Group Work on Research Proposal Development
10 <sup>th</sup> March (Sat)	3-Minute Thesis Presentations (Final)
*Open to observers	Presentation of Project Proposals
	Summary of Lectures by Participants
	Assessment and Wrap Up
	Closing and Distribution of Certificates
	Farewell Reception
11 <sup>th</sup> March (Sun)	Departure

## 7. Program structure

- There are two sessions in each morning and afternoon period, start from 9 am and end at 5 pm. A 15-minute break will take place between each activity, except for the field trip day.
- Lecture slots are scheduled for 90 minutes in total including presentation, questions and general discussions
- Group works and discussions are designed between lectures to provide opportunities for interaction among participants and resource persons
- Opportunities for research skills development through activities like 3-minutes thesis competition.
- A core team of resource persons will participate in the entire program, to coordinate activities, facilitate group work sessions and take responsibility of any decisions during the delivery of the researchers' school.
- Meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) will be served during the programme.



## 2018 ProSPER.Net Young Researchers' School

### 'Sustainable Urban Development for the World's Megacities'

4 to 11 March, 2017

#### Application

**Applications:** Applications are open for postgraduate students from ProSPER.Net member universities to participate in an interdisciplinary intensive Young Researchers' School on 'Sustainable Urban Development for the World's Megacities'.

**Resource Persons:** Sustainability experts from United Nations University - Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability and ProSPER.Net member universities will coordinate lectures, group work, and other activities.

**Aims:** Participants in the Young Researchers' School will:

- Develop advanced knowledge and skills in sustainability research and practice, with a special focus on urban development;
- Develop in-depth research design and planning skills;
- Enhance transferable skills on communication, presentation and group work;
- Become part of a network of sustainability researchers in the Asia-Pacific region.

**Study Theme:** The emerging phenomena are set to significantly impact how we use and allocate resources and how infrastructures are designed and built to facilitate flow and access. Human populations are increasingly shifting from rural to urban lifestyles – meaning that cities, especially megacities, must maintain access to supplies of resources for growing urban populations. It must be recognized that a changing climate is affecting the natural resource cycles upon which human society is critically dependent on, with dire consequences for human populations. The Young Researchers' School will provide the participants with the opportunity to explore different dimensions of sustainability issues related to the current situation in the context of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) focusing on issues pertinent to megacities such as climate change mitigation and impacts, transportation systems, water security, waste management, built environment, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity & ecosystems, among others, specifically how policies and projects may provide integrative solutions to tackle sustainable development challenges. Field trips related to specific projects by different stakeholders in a city will focus on how research can be applied to promote sustainable practices. Along with a series of lectures by resource persons, participants will be introduced to sustainability challenges related to urban development and management faced by local communities and the innovative approaches that can be used to address these. Based on these lessons, students will develop individual solutions and find ways to promote sustainable solutions.

While the programme will focus on urban development, students interested in any topic related to sustainable development are encouraged to apply, and will receive mentoring on the development of their own thesis proposal.

**Tasks** will include:

- Small group work on research proposal development, integrating lecture and fieldtrip topics into proposal that addresses sustainable development challenge in the region
- Individual presentation development, using three minute thesis presentation to help students with their own thesis development
- Active participation in all lectures, group work, and field trips, engaging with resource persons and fellow students
- Research communication activities

The Young Researchers' School will engage students in the joint investigation of sustainability issues and also help them develop the important research skills needed for interdisciplinary problem-based research. Workshops at the Young Researchers' School will focus on research skills and strategies for effective research design and planning, including student research plan presentations.



**Selection Criteria:** Participants will be selected on the basis of written application according to the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled in a PhD programme in a ProSPER.Net member university.
- Chosen a research topic for their PhD thesis work
- High level of understanding of written and spoken English language.
- An advanced understanding of sustainability and its relevance to their own research.
- Demonstrated ability to work in a team environment and contribute to community service activities.
- Limited seats are offered to Master students in ProSPER.Net member universities

**Scholarships:** A limited number of scholarships are available. The scholarships cover all costs of the Young Researchers' School tuition, a round-trip economy class ticket to Tokyo, visa processing fee (if applicable) and most meals. Travel insurance is mandatory and is the participant's responsibility to insure with participant's own cost.

