



Announcements



**America in 2020: Mobilizing for a Decade of
Sustainable Development**

The Institute for a Sustainable Earth and Business for a Better World Center at George Mason University hosted [SDSN USA](#) for a two-day meeting on sustainable development. The event was led by SDSN USA co-chairs Jeffrey Sachs, Dan Esty, and Gordon McCord. Participants addressed sustainable development initiatives at the local, state, and regional levels in the United States. Specifically, the meeting highlighted ongoing initiatives on environmental sustainability, hunger, and health. Furthermore, participants discussed the strategies, indices, and dashboards needed to support universities engage with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Meeting participants agreed to support the US [Deep Decarbonization Pathways Project](#). The project aims to: (i) reduce greenhouse gas emissions; (ii) develop indicators, indices, and dashboards for regional level analysis, and (iii) support SDGs mapping for universities. In addition, working groups were established to address curriculum development, university assessment (dashboards and mapping), hunger, and clean water.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Upcoming Mason Events

Urban Issues Lecture Series

George Mason University is organizing a lecture series on urban topics to create an active community of connected experts. These talks aim to facilitate knowledge exchange and networking around urban topics and challenges, with participants from academia, industry and local governments.

The first lecture will be delivered by [Dr. Ellen Hamilton](#), Lead Urban Specialist at the World Bank and an active Mason Data Lab advisory board member. She will speak about her

experiences and insights surrounding urban challenges around the globe, and proposed and implemented solutions.

- **Date:** January 29, 2020
- **Time:** 3pm - 4:30pm
- **Location:** Exploratory Hall 3301, Mason Fairfax Campus



Congratulations!

Funding Announcements, Awards, and Accomplishments



Improving the Investigation, Clearance Rates, and Victim Restoration of Robberies: A Randomized Controlled Experiment

Primary Investigator (PI): Cynthia Lum, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Co-PI: Christopher Koper, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Co-PI: Xiaoyun Wu, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: US Department of Justice, \$95,337

CINA P7: Effective Strategies for Intelligence Gathering from Victims of Sex Trafficking

PI: Allison Redlich, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: US Department of Homeland Security, \$70,886

ECHO Consortium on Perinatal Programming of Neurodevelopment

PI: Rosemary Higgins, College of Health and Human Services

Co-PI: Germaine Buck Louis, College of Health and Human Services

Funding source: Mount Sinai School of Medicine and National Institutes of Health (NIH), \$1,457,607

Inclusive Practice in Early Childhood (2019-2020)

PI: Linda Mason, College of Education and Human Development

Funding source: Virginia Department of Education and US Department of Education, \$60,000

Virginia Is for Leaders: Development of Experts in Evidence-based Literacy Practices for Students with Disabilities

PI: Sheri Berkeley, College of Education and Human Development

Co-PI: Linda Mason, College of Education and Human Development

Co-PI: Margaret Weiss, College of Education and Human Development

Funding source: University Of Virginia and US Department of Education, \$249,080

ROSES-2018: Remote sensing and agro-geoinformatics based products and services for supporting agricultural and food-security decision making in Hindu-Kush-Himalayan region

PI: Liping Di, College of Science

Co-PI: Liying Guo, College of Science

Co-PI: Eugene Yu, College of Science

Funding source: NASA-Goddard Space Flight Center, \$226,993

Georgian-South Ossetian Research and Analysis on Confidence Building

PI: Susan Allen, School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution

Funding source: United Nations Development Programm, \$88,739

Perform Detailed Modeling Analysis of Various EPRV Architectures

PI: Peter Plavchan, College of Science

Funding source: Jet Propulsion Laboratory and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), \$14,383

Examining the Role of Experiential Learning in Evolving Students' Social Justice and Human Rights Awareness

PI: Aoi Yamanaka, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: NASPA Foundation, \$1,000

GripTape: Investigating the Value of Personalized Learning Journeys in Positive Youth Development

PI: Todd Kashdan, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: Silicon Valley Community Foundation, \$1,500,000

Wood County RNR

PI: Amy Murphy, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Funding source: Wood County Mental Health Services, \$19,259

Funding Opportunities

Marine Debris Prevention Program

The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Marine Debris Program (MDP) leads national efforts to address marine debris. The mission of the NOAA MDP is to investigate and prevent the adverse impacts of marine debris. This mission is achieved through research, prevention, and reduction activities that aim to conserve and protect our nation's marine environment, and coastal economy, as well as ensure navigation safety.

- Funding source: NOAA/Department of Commerce
- Amount: \$150,000
- Deadline: February 7, 2020
- Submission: [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)
- Contact: [Tom Barry](#)

Environmental Convergence Opportunities in Chemical, Bioengineering, Environmental, and Transport Systems (ECO-CBET)

The [\(ECO-CBET\)](#) solicitation will support activities that confront vexing environmental engineering and sustainability problems by uncovering and incorporating fundamental knowledge to design new processes, materials, and devices from a systems-level perspective. Projects should be compelling and reflect sustained, coordinated efforts from interdisciplinary research teams.

A key objective of the solicitation is to encourage conversations and robust collaborations amongst the chemical process, transport phenomena, bioengineering, and environmental and sustainability research communities such that unanticipated solutions may arise.

- Funding source: National Science Foundation
- Amount: \$8,500,000
- Deadline: February 12, 2020
- Submission: grants.gov
- Contact: [Christina Payne](#)

Global Sustainability Scholars Program

The [GSS Fellows Program](#) is offering a 10-week paid professional training experience with a Sustainability Organization for young professionals and/or graduate students from under-represented groups. This program aims to bridge young professionals to career or graduate school.

GSS Fellows are embedded within an international sustainability research project for 10 weeks during the summer months. Fellows are paid a stipend of \$8000 for their full participation in the program. To apply follow this link: <https://www.gsscholar.org/apply>

- Funding source: University of Colorado Boulder
- Amount: \$8,000
- Deadline: February 28, 2020
- Submission: <https://www.gsscholar.org/apply>
- Contact: [Maria Fernanda Enriquez](#)

Dear Colleague Letter: Supporting Transition of Research into Cities Through the U.S. ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations Cities) Smart Cities Partnership

Through a [Dear Colleague Letter \(DCL\)](#), the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) together with the Department of State's Bureau of East Asia and Pacific Affairs wishes to notify the U.S. community of its intention to support the high-impact research-transition funding requests aligned with the U.S.-ASEAN Smart Cities Partnership.

- Funding source: National Science Foundation
- Amount: \$300,000
- Deadline: March 1, 2020
- Submission: grants.gov
- Contact: [David Corman](#)

FY 2020 Solicitation for the Office of Science Financial Assistance Program

The Office of Science of the US Department of Energy is providing funding for research in the following program areas: Advanced Scientific Computing Research, Basic Energy Sciences, Biological and Environmental Research, Fusion Energy Sciences, High Energy Physics, and Nuclear Physics.

- Funding source: Office of Science, Department of Energy
- Amount: Up to \$5,000,000
- Deadline: September 30, 2020
- Submission: grants.gov
- Contact: Kimberlie Laing, 301-903-3026

Environmental Biology

The Division of Environmental Biology (DEB) Core Track supports research and training on evolutionary and ecological processes acting at the level of populations, species, communities, and ecosystems.

Proposals should be submitted to the core clusters (Ecosystem Sciences, Evolutionary Processes, Population and Community Ecology, and Systematics and Biodiversity Sciences). DEB also encourages interdisciplinary proposals that cross conceptual boundaries and integrate over levels of biological organization or across multiple spatial and temporal scales.

- Funding source: National Science Foundation
- Awards: 120 awards each year
- Funding amount: \$100,000,000 for new awards each year pending availability of funds
- Deadline: Proposals accepted anytime
- Submission: grants.gov
- Contact: [Division of Environmental Biology](#)

Environmental Engineering Program

The Environmental Engineering Program supports potentially transformative fundamental research that applies scientific and engineering principles.

Integral to achieving these goals is a fundamental understanding of the transport and biogeochemical reactivity of pollutants in the environment. Research on environmental micro/biology, environmental chemistry, and environmental geophysics may be relevant providing the research has a clear objective of protecting human and ecological health.

- Funding source: National Science Foundation
- Amount: \$10,000,000
- Deadline: Applications accepted at anytime

- Submission: grants.gov
- Contact: [Karl Rockne](#)

Other Upcoming Events



Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity

The Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity is being organized by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) at its Headquarters in Rome, Italy on March 10-12 2020.

The main objective of the Symposium is to address critical knowledge gaps and promote discussion among policy makers, food producers, scientists, practitioners and other stakeholders on solutions to protect soil biodiversity and increase its sustainable use and management by addressing the underlying causes of soil biodiversity loss and enhancing implementation of sustainable practices.

- Date: March 10-12 2020.
- Location: Rome, Italy
- Contact: [Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative](#)



6th International Symposium on Knowledge and Capacity for the Water Sector

The African Development Bank, the IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, the Asian Development Bank, UN Habitat and other development partners are preparing the [6th International Symposium on Knowledge and Capacity for the Water Sector](#), themed: From Capacity Development to Implementation Science.

The Symposium will convene key stakeholders to explore the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed by water professionals and institutions. The meeting will also study how new developments in implementation science can strengthen institutional capacity to enhance water security.

- Date: May 27-29, 2020
- Location: Delft, Netherlands
- Deadline for fill papers: February, 29 2020



[The Institute for a Sustainable Earth \(ISE\)](#) aims to connect members of the Mason community with others across the Mason community—and with other communities, policy-makers, businesses and organizations—so that, together, we can more effectively address the world's pressing sustainability and resilience challenges.

The ISE Newsletter provides up-to-date information on conferences, funding opportunities, and research pertaining to environmental science and sustainability. The biweekly newsletter aims to facilitate information sharing among researchers, practitioners, and relevant local, national, and international organization.

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