Asia-Pacific Leadership Programme on Environment for Sustainable Development

22-26 September 2014
Shanghai, China
Ecosystems Management and Sustainable Development

Background:
The UNEP-Tongji Institute of Environment for Sustainable Development (IESD) was jointly established by UNEP and Tongji University in May 2002. The objectives of IESD are:

1. To develop educational programmes to support research, technical and managerial skills and human capacity in developing countries;
2. To contribute to UNEP’s global and regional environmental activities;
3. To disseminate information about best practices and technological developments.

The IESD Brainstorming Meeting was held in Beijing, from September 17-18, 2003 which also resulted in the establishment of the Asia-Pacific Regional University Consortium (RUC) to promote sustainable development education. RUC forms an integral regional component of the Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability (GUPES), which brings together over 400 Universities globally. The Leadership Programme was designed as a collaborative effort of RUC members, in providing capacity building on sustainability for leaders from the Asia-Pacific region.

Since 2004, almost 300 emerging leaders from 45 countries and organizations have benefited from this annual programme, which is hosted by Tongji University.

Objectives:

- To provide participants with an opportunity to broaden knowledge around 3 key dimensions:
  - Human - mind, body, soul;
  - Environmental - air, water, land, biodiversity
  - Sustainable development - social, economic
- To establish a leadership network for sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region

Programme:
The Programme is to be offered by professors from Tongji University, RUC, UNEP officials, as well as well-known scholars and experts. It targets emerging leaders from the Asia Pacific, representing governments, NGOs and the private sector. It is designed over five days, inclusive of a field trip and interactive exercises, complementing the various lectures and discussions.
Participant Support:
Limited financial resources are available for candidates from developing countries, to cover return economy class air fair and accommodation and subsistence costs. A registration fee of US$1,000 is suggested for participants from developed countries, which will cover tuition, course materials, accommodation and meals for the duration of the Leaders Programme.

Day 1: Introduction
An opening ceremony will be held at Tongji University, which will be attended by participants, resource persons and special guests from the Asia-Pacific region. An interactive icebreaker will be organized at the start of the programme. There will be keynote presentations on overall sustainable development scenarios as well as the latest at the start of the programme.

Day 2: Human and Environmental Dimensions
This session will focus on the linkage between human and environment from the perspectives of environmental ethics, human values, communication and leadership skills, eco-systems management, built environment, energy, etc.

Day 3: Economic and Social Dimension
This session will focus on green economy, resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and healthy life patterns, poverty reduction, etc. Related social issues and non-traditional perspectives of environment and sustainable development will be presented.

Day 4: Field Trip
A field trip will be arranged for participants to Chongming Eco-island, which is in close proximity of Shanghai. This eco-island provides an interesting case study of ecosystems management, innovation and sustainable development.

Day 5: Summary and Synthesis
An interactive pyramid exercise will be undertaken to synthesize the learning experience. Participants and organizers will present a summary to integrate relevant conclusions and suggestions. An evaluation of the Leadership will also be undertaken.

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Application Guidelines:
Only complete application materials will be accepted for consideration, which includes the following:
(1) An completed application form, as per the attachment;
(2) Updated Résumé/Curriculum Vitae highlighting education and experience, as well as complete contact information and updated photograph;
(3) One Letter of recommendation from either an academic or professional referee, testifying strengths and experiences relevant to environmental and sustainable development. The complete application material should be submitted by email to iesdleadership@gmail.com by 30 June 2014.
For more information, please visit http://www.aplp-uneptj.com
http://unep-iesd.tongji.edu.cn/