

INVITATION

With global population exceeding seven billion people in 2011 and more than 50% living in cities and towns, urbanization is not just a about demography. It is closely connected to other current and future global challenges as infrastructure, energy, environment and social equality and participation.

In March 2014 Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung | Shanghai, a political foundation of Germany, will hold a

KAS Model United Nations Conference (MUN)
„The World goes to Town –
Sustainable Urbanization as a Key to a Post-2015 Development Agenda?

Are you interested? This is what you need to know:

What? Model United Nations Conference
Where? Xiamen, Fujian Province, PR China
When? 21 –23 March 2014

Have you already heard about MUN Conferences?

Model United Nations Conferences give young people the chance to role-play as diplomats, representing a country/institution in a simulated session of a committee of the United Nations. MUN Conferences aim to educate participants about topics in international relations and the United Nations agenda.

How can I participate?

KAS Shanghai invites Chinese and International students based in China to apply for becoming delegate of one of the participating countries/institutions. All travel and accommodation costs will be covered by KAS.

How to apply?

Attached you find an introduction into the topic and the application form. Please return your application to the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung before 24.01.2014 to **shanghai@kas.de**.

If you have any questions about the conference or the application process, please feel free to contact us anytime (Email: shanghai@kas.de, Phone: +86 21 6249 1772).

Warm regards



Dr. Peter Hefele
Director

Model United Nations Conference Xiamen

Introduction into the Topic:

„The World goes to Town – Sustainable Urbanization as a Key to a Post- 2015 Development Agenda?

- Commission:** Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals
- Topic:** “The World goes to Town – Sustainable Urbanization as a Key to a Post-2015 Development Agenda?”
- Participants:** 11 countries and 4 international organizations, each represented by two delegates
- Brazil
 - Columbia
 - Germany
 - India
 - Indonesia
 - Nigeria
 - PR China
 - South Africa
 - Tunisia
 - Turkey
 - USA

 - International Labor Organization (ILO)
 - Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
 - World Business Council of Sustainable Development (WBCSD)
 - United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

Introduction to the Committee

In early 2013, the United Nations General Assembly decided to establish an *Open Working Group* (OWG) to prepare a report including a proposal for sustainable development goals for the 69th session of the General Assembly in September 2014. The OWG consists of 30 member states from various regions and different levels of development. It also includes participants from relevant stakeholders in civil society, the scientific community and the United Nations system.

Background

In the final document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 (RIO+20) entitled “The Future We Want”, the UN member states expressed their willingness to formulate a new set of sustainable development goals (SDG). These goals shall become an important part of a new post-2015 UN development agenda. As stated in the RIO+20 document, SDGs shall be “action-oriented, concise, limited in number, aspirational and global, applicable to all countries taking different national realities and capacities into account”.

The Open Working Group’s objective is extensive in nature and tackles many topics such as poverty eradication, food, agriculture, employment, infrastructure and energy policy. KAS 2014 Model United Nations will focus on one of the most important topics – **sustainable urbanization**.

With global population exceeding seven billion people in 2011 and more than 50% living in cities and towns, urbanisation is not just a about demography. It is closely connected to other current and future global challenges as:

- Urban **infrastructure**: Emerging cities in developing countries will outnumber most western cities in scale as their urban population will increase from 1.9 billion (2000) to 3.9 billion people in 2030. New solutions have to be found for increasing demands for urban transportation systems, coherent rural-urban planning, social cohesion etc.
- **Energy** demand in urban landscape will continue to increase as 180.000 people globally floating into cities per day. This requires new ways to create, secure and enhance energy supply structure, reduce overdependence on fossil energy sources, etc.
- The **environment** is more heavily strained in densely populated metropolitan areas. Air pollution, garbage and waste water – cities are main sources of climate changing emissions and ecological degradation; but are also highly exposed to the consequences of global warming.
- **Social equality and participation** in urban areas also need to be addressed. Creating fair living conditions, observing labour rights, maintaining public order and having access to social and educational services are prerequisites to a sustainable process of further urbanisation.

What is the purpose of this conference?

The Open Working Group on Sustainable Development has decided to launch a session on Sustainable Urbanization. 11 country delegations and stakeholders of four major non-state groups have been invited to analyse key challenges and suggest strategies for sustainable urbanization.

The ultimate target of the meeting is to formulate a ‘Sustainable Urbanisation Goal’ to be integrated in the forthcoming SDG proposal for the 69th session of the UN General Assembly in September 2014.

During the conference, the following questions need to be answered:

- 1.) What political, economic, ecological and social targets have to be set to enable sustainable growth of urban areas?
- 2.) How to create social inclusive cities while overcoming the widening gap between rich and poor?
- 3.) How to create a global network of cities considering the fact that cities are main drivers of globalisation?

KAS-MUN Conference 2014
APPLICATION FORM

„The World goes to Town – Sustainable Urbanization as a Key
to a Post-2015 Development Agenda?”

Surname:	Name:
Nationality:	English Proficiency:
Current Address:	
University:	
Email:	Mobile:

1. Did you participate in a Model United Nations Conference before? If yes, where and when?
2. Which country/institution would you like to represent most (see attached introduction)?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
3. Please explain your personal interest in “Sustainable Urbanisation”.

Please return your application to the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung before 24.1.2014 by using the following mail-address: **shanghai@kas.de**. Please **attach your CV** and a recent photo, too. We deal all personal information strictly confidentially and will not be passed to any third party without prior consent.