Call for posters

WIDER Development Conference

Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development

26-27 June 2020, Helsinki, Finland

There is a lot of ground to cover in the years leading up to 2030 to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set in 2015. While progress on some implementation targets is moving rapidly, significant challenges remain: official development assistance is declining despite the onset of humanitarian crises, domestic resource mobilization lacks the scale necessary to achieve the SDGs, and private investment flows are not always compatible with sustainable development needs. Moreover, there continues to be a significant digital divide and trade tensions continue to grow. The world is more interconnected than ever, and only global approaches and partnerships will make moving ahead possible.

In this conference, UNU-WIDER aims to take stock of global progress towards achieving SDG 17 – ‘Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development’: share knowledge on success stories and good practices, identify main challenges, and suggest ways forward. To this end, we aspire to bring together organizations and individuals from around the world to discuss the evidence and solutions to five big issues surrounding SDG 17:

- **Finance**: How to foster domestic resource mobilization (including domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection), official development assistance, and long-term debt sustainability? What is the role of the private sector in financing the large investment needs behind Agenda 2030?
- **Trade**: How to promote a rules-based and equitable multilateral trading system, collectively reduce trade tensions, and support developing countries to increase and diversify their exports?
- **Technology**: How to bridge the digital divide? How can technology benefit the world’s poorest and contribute to Agenda 2030?
- **Macroeconomic stability**: How to improve domestic capacity for managing currency and price fluctuations, debt burdens and inflation, and reduce the vulnerability to external shocks? What are the measures needed to improve the working of the international monetary system and enhance macroeconomic policy co-operation?
- **Data for development**: How to collect high-quality, timely and reliable data and how to measure progress on sustainable development?

The conference seeks contributions that improve our understanding of these issues and provide evidence on the policies, partnerships and co-ordinated actions that support sustainable development in countries of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. With that objective, the conference will bring together some 250+ participants from academic, government, and development communities from across the world, and provide a forum to discuss innovative, theoretical, and empirical research and its policy take-aways. The conference will consist of plenary sessions with keynote speakers, organised parallel sessions, a policy event, and two poster sessions.
Selection criteria

Applicants must be early-career researchers from universities and research institutes or PhD candidates who are about to complete the dissertation. Applications from suitably qualified female researchers and early-career developing country researchers from universities and research institutes based in the Global South are particularly encouraged.

Submission procedure

Interested applicants wishing to present original research at one of the poster sessions at the conference on the topics discussed above should complete the online application form.

Each submission will require:

1. An up-to-date CV
2. An abstract not exceeding 300 words in plain text which should summarize the research question, the main methods and data, and key findings of the study and the larger policy implications of the research
3. A full-length paper OR an extended abstract
   - the first page of the paper or extended abstract should include all author names and affiliations and the above-mentioned 300-word abstract
   - in PDF format
   - written in English
   - full-length papers should be 6,000-10,000 words long, whereas the extended abstracts should be 1,500-1,800 words long

Any queries on the call for posters should be sent to posters@wider.unu.edu.

Important dates

15 January 2020 Paper/extended abstract submission deadline 23:59 UTC+2
Mid-February 2020 Target date for acceptance/rejection notification
31 May 2020 Final posters due
26-27 June 2020 Conference

Conference package and travel support

Accepted developing country participants, based in the Global South are eligible for travel support. Such support can be provided for one author per selected submission using the most economical travel route in accordance with UN travel guidelines. If required, UNU-WIDER can also provide visa support.

UNU-WIDER will provide hotel accommodation and most meals during the conference.

There is no conference fee.

Conference language

The conference proceedings will be in English; no simultaneous translation will be available.