

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MASTER'S FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM 2012/2013

FOR GRADUATE LEVEL STUDY AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK
Master of Science in Sustainability Management

Application Deadline: **May 15, 2012**

Online application and instructions available at

<http://ce.columbia.edu/Sustainability-Management/Apply-Program>

There is no paper application for this program; application must be submitted online.

Introduction

The King Abdullah II Fund for Development in partnership with the Jordanian Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC), the Earth Institute, Columbia University and Columbia University Middle East Research Center's Institute for Sustainable Development Practice, are pleased to announce the Sustainable Development Masters Fellowship Program for students from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The Fellowship Program will provide training in sustainable development in order to give students the ability to implement reform, create policy, and advance goals of sustainability. Upon conclusion of the fellowship, students will return to Jordan to apply the knowledge gained in practical development problems. Fellowships granted in 2012 will cover tuition, travel, and living expenses for the duration of the one-year program.

Applicants must apply and be admitted into the Master of Science in Sustainability Management Program; a joint venture between the Earth Institute at Columbia University and the School of Continuing Education in order to take advantage of the fellowship. However, there is no guarantee that applicants admitted into the Master of Science in Sustainability Management Program will be awarded the Sustainable Development Master's Fellowship. Applicants interested in being considered for this award will need to apply to the Jordan Fellowship Committee.

Eligibility

The Fellowship Program does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, sex, religion, sexual orientation or disability. The fellowship is merit-based and open to those who meet the following criteria:

1. Jordanian national.
2. Hold an undergraduate degree with an excellent academic record.
3. Proficient in spoken and written English at the time of application.

4. Demonstrates professional aptitude, leadership potential, and a strong interest in sustainable development issues.
5. Three to five years of experience in the development field is preferable.
6. **Committed to returning to Jordan after completion of the program to work for at least three years at a designated local non-governmental organization or a Government of Jordan entity of MoPIC's choice.**

Instructions

Please read all instructions and information carefully before completing the application. All forms must be completed in English. Please answer all questions and write "not applicable" if a question does not apply to you. All documents in foreign languages must be translated into English by an official translator and notarized as authentic translations.

Please note that there is no paper-based application for this program. A link to the online application can be found at <http://ce.columbia.edu/Sustainability-Management/Apply-Program>. **Please note that the School of Continuing Education has waived application fees for Sustainable Development Master's Fellowship Program applicants.**

Summary: Sustainable Development Masters Fellowship Program Requirements

In order to be considered for the Sustainable Development Masters Fellowship Program, applicants must complete the following steps no later than May 15, 2012:

1. Submit an online application at <http://ce.columbia.edu/Sustainability-Management/Apply-Program>. **In order to be considered for the fellowship, applicants must waive their rights to examine their letters of recommendation.**
2. The following must be submitted in a sealed packet to the Columbia University Middle East Research Center's offices no later than May 15, 2012.
 - a. A copy of completed online application (*which can be printed directly from the Sustainability Management application website*).
 - b. A copy of the statement of academic purpose, resume, official transcripts, and if applicable, a letter of nomination from employer.
 - *Your packet should preferably be dropped off at CUMERC to Juman Dairanieh between Sunday and Thursday, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.*

Attachments and Required Documents for the MSSM Application

1. **Official Transcripts:** To be sent from all post-secondary schools attended in sealed envelopes by the issuing institution. Many schools take a number of weeks to fulfill transcript requests, so please request transcripts ahead of time. **Copies, opened or unsealed envelopes, unofficial printouts or facsimiles will not be accepted.** Transcripts in foreign languages must be accompanied by an official translation (as well as a guide or key where appropriate or necessary). Applications containing foreign transcripts without translations will not be considered. Applicants may not write or certify their own translation.

2. Resume in English: Educational and professional history.
3. Statement of Academic Purpose: 500 to 750 words addressing the following:
 - a. Your purpose and interest in pursuing a degree in sustainability management and how the degree program fits into your overall professional growth. Focus in particular on the connection between the program and your academic and/or professional experience and future goals.
 - b. Your commitment to pursuing sustainable development work and alleviating poverty in Jordan. Must demonstrate how an advanced degree will help you work towards these objectives.
4. Letters of Recommendation (2): Recommendations may be submitted online through the online application. If submitted online, these must be written on official letterheads. They may also be submitted by mail. If submitted by mail, your recommender must attach his/her letter to the official form (found at http://ce.columbia.edu/files/ce/forms/MS_rec.pdf), seal it in an envelope, sign his/her name across the seal, and mail it to the Sustainability Management Program at the address provided below (**a copy of the recommendations must also be sent to the Sustainable Development Master's Fellowship Program in Jordan**). Recommendations in a language other than English must be accompanied by a certified translation. **Recommendations should be written by a supervisor or professor under whom you have worked or studied. Recommendations from family members or friends are not acceptable.**
5. Official English Proficiency Test Scores: We accept scores from the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), the American Language Program (ALP), and the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Scores must be sent directly to us and are only valid for two years. The school code for TOEFL is **2594**.
 - a. Applicants must have a score of at least **100** on the Internet-based TOEFL (**600** on the paper-based), or at least **7.5** on the IELTS. Applicants who take the ALP must achieve at least **Level 10**.
6. **Applicants are encouraged to submit all supporting application materials in a single packet. Separate submissions will delay the admissions process.**
7. All submitted materials must state the applicant's name and "Master of Science in Sustainability Management."
8. Application materials (i.e. transcripts, recommendations) will be accepted only after you have submitted the online application.
9. Applications are not considered complete until all required materials (including the test scores) have been received. **Only complete applications are reviewed.**

Application materials should be submitted to:

Sustainability Management Program
Office of Admissions
School of Continuing Education
203 Lewisohn Hall
2970 Broadway, Mail Code 4119
New York, NY 10027-6902
USA

Additional Requirements for the Sustainable Development Masters Fellowship Program

1. Applicants must waive their rights to examine their letters of recommendation.
2. Applicants who are employed by MoPIC and other Government of Jordan entities must submit a letter for nomination by their employer or department head.
3. In order to be considered for the Sustainable Development Master's Fellowship Program, the following must be submitted in a sealed packet to the Columbia University Middle East Research Center's offices no later than May 1, 2011.
 - a. A copy of completed of online application (*which can be printed directly from the Sustainability Management application website*).
 - b. A copy of the statement of academic purpose, resume, official transcripts, and if applicable, a letter of nomination from employer.

Application materials should be addressed and submitted to:

Sustainable Development Master's Fellowship Program
Institute for Sustainable Development Practice
Columbia University Middle East Research Center
5 Moh'd Al Sa'd Al-Batayneh Street-King Hussein Park
P. O.Box 144706 Amman 11814- Jordan
Tel: 06 5777955
<http://cumerc.columbia.edu>

Deadline for the submission of all application materials is May 15, 2012.

Disclaimer: Applicants who are accepted to the MSSM program will be notified via email. Please note that a letter of admission to the MSSM program does not necessitate acceptance of the Sustainable Development Master's Fellowship Program.

General Fellowship Program Information

Selection Process

Selection is based broadly on academic and professional merit, professional aptitude, and leadership potential. A basic science background in economics, chemistry and biology is highly recommended due to the nature of the program's coursework. Other factors that influence selection are familiarity and expressed interest in sustainable development and environmental issues and strength of recommendation letters.

Completed applications will be reviewed by the School of Continuing Education as they are received. **Applicants who are accepted to the MSSM program will be notified via email no later than June 2012.**

Applicants accepted to the MSSM program will be interviewed by a Jordan-based committee. Candidates will be contacted for an interview no later than June 15, 2012. Awarded fellows will be officially notified through a formal letter by the end of June, 2012.

Financial Terms

The Fellowship Program will cover the following costs: program-related travel, program orientation, tuition and school fees, expenses for room and board, textbooks, health insurance, visas, and other costs of living (local transport, etc.). Awarded applicants must complete the MSSM program in one year.

Visa Information

As full-time students, students in the Fellowship Program are eligible for the F-1 Student Visa. Once admitted to the degree program, students must contact the Columbia University International Students and Scholars Office (isso@columbia.edu or 1-212-854-3587) for information on visa application. Students are expected to comply with all visa regulations. As fellows are required to return to Jordan at the conclusion of the degree program, requests for visa renewals or extensions will not be considered.

Participant Responsibility

Fellows must attend all orientation activities and meetings required by the degree program. Fellows must undertake full-time study for the duration of the program, and adhere to Columbia University's academic standards and policies. Fellows are not permitted to change their chosen degree program once enrolled in courses. Failure to maintain academic or professional standards may result in dismissal from the Fellowship Program.

Information about the Sustainable Development Masters Fellowship Program can be found at <http://cumerc.columbia.edu>. Information about the Master of Science in Sustainability Management program may be found at <http://ce.columbia.edu/Sustainability-Management>. If you have questions regarding the application to the fellowship program, please contact the Columbia University Middle East Research Center at +962 5777955, or Program Assistant, Juman Dairanieh, at jd2927@columbia.edu.

What is Sustainable Development?

Sustainable development is defined as "meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (Brundtland Commission, 1987). Global pandemics, climate change, natural disasters, poor soil conditions, deforestation — these issues are at the heart of sustainable development.

Sustainable development requires a holistic approach, drawing on the knowledge of many fields, such as agronomy, ecology, hydrology, engineering, public health, economics, politics, sociology, business and management. Sustainable development requires conceptual understanding as well as practical implementation skills, usually derived through decades of research and field practice. Such experience is enhanced through global and regional networks and by working with local teams across many professions and cultures.

The Sustainability Management Program

Program Objectives

Columbia University has developed the new M.S. in Sustainability Management Program to address the need to formally train and educate sustainability practitioners. The program draws upon sophisticated environmental measurement tools, cutting edge environmental science and world class management and policy studies to help students fully understand the systematic and organizational role of sustainability.

The M.S. in Sustainability Management is co-sponsored by The Earth Institute and the School of Continuing Education. It includes new and existing courses at the University, taught by faculty and researchers who are leaders in the fields of earth science, engineering and environmental management. The program utilizes environmental and sustainable development research to provide practical training to a new generation of professionals who will address critical interdisciplinary issues.

The M.S. in Sustainability Management is based upon years of experience in bridging research and practice. In response to increasing global challenges, from limiting carbon emissions to managing water resources, the program melds academic leadership, scientific rigor, and professional practice to form a unique interdisciplinary community dedicated to making lasting advances in global sustainability practice.

The program takes a bold and innovative approach to sustainability that prioritizes the protection of Earth's systems and resources as well as the spread of social and economic

opportunities for all people. To achieve sustainable development, the Earth Institute is conducting and applying interdisciplinary scientific research to address many cross-cutting issues while training a new generation of problem solvers to tackle these issues in all areas of society. Finding solutions to one problem involves tackling other related challenges, and this is the core of sustainability management. This new generation of problem solvers needs to be able to appreciate complex systems of water, environmental services, climate, waste and energy to be able to maximize efficient usage and minimize negative impacts.

Currently, the Earth Institute is affiliated with 30 academic programs at Columbia University, and has developed numerous innovative courses training students to understand and address the pressing and complex issues of environment and sustainability management, and provides seminars and events in the field. Students enrolled in the M.S. in Sustainability Management are an integral part of this engaging and forward-looking community.

Program Coursework

In order to receive the Master's degree in Sustainability Management, students must complete all requirements of the degree with an overall grade point average of 3.0 (B) or better.

The 36-point program includes five required areas of study:

1. Integrative Courses in Sustainability Management

One required introductory course

One capstone course

One elective course

These three courses give students an understanding of the elements of sustainability by teaching them about the complex interactions between natural and social systems which sustainability practitioners must always consider. Students also learn about the different ways in which “sustainability” is understood, both as productivity and as a part of social responsibility or global citizenship.

The introductory course provides an overview of sustainability concepts and practices studying how they are applied in real-world contexts. The capstone course is a client-based workshop that integrates each element of the curriculum into an applied project, giving students hands-on sustainability management experience. Students wishing to

specialize in a particular area have the opportunity to do so with an elective chosen from the University's rich offerings in sustainability management and science.

2. Economics and Quantitative Analysis

Two courses in general and sustainability economics

One course in statistics

The economics requirement reflects the fact that sustainability managers must understand the financial costs and benefits of sustainability practice. After completing this requirement, students have a good understanding of what sustainability means from an economic perspective, both in the traditional and broader socioeconomic sense. The quantitative analysis requirement gives students the necessary tools to utilize data samples when analyzing a larger issue, allowing them to more efficiently determine the best way to proceed on a particular project.

3. The Physical Dimensions of Sustainability Management

Three courses are to be taken out of the following categories although all three courses may not come from only one category:

One or two courses in Earth and Environmental Engineering

One or two courses in Environmental Planning, Design or Architecture

One or two courses in Ecology or Earth and Environmental Sciences

The physical dimensions requirement teaches students about the connections between environmental inputs (i.e. natural resources) and outputs (i.e. energy), and their effects on the natural environment. The emphasis of this requirement is on understanding the environmental impacts from organizational activities. The planning, design or architecture courses give students a foundation in planning, design and spatial issues. This is particularly important, as many sustainability initiatives concern land use, buildings and other physical entities.

4. The Public Policy Environment of Sustainability Management

One course in environmental or sustainability policy or law

Policy shapes how environments are managed and sustainability practitioners must be able to analyze public policy and its effects on what they are able to do. This requirement provides students with an understanding of current policy and strengthens their ability to react to future policy developments as they emerge.

5. General and Financial Management

Two courses in public, private or nonprofit general or financial management

The general management requirement teaches the skills that are essential to shaping the behavior of an organization and thus to carrying out effective sustainability initiatives. Students graduate equipped with the tools to shape organizational culture and employee behavior even as new environmental challenges arise. The financial management requirement gives students a foundation in finance and financial models, and an understanding of how environmental commodities markets regulate polluting industries and provide incentives for encouraging desired behaviors. Students also investigate the credibility of “non-financial metrics” that often accompany sustainability efforts.

Institute for Sustainable Development Practice

The Institute for Sustainable Development Practice (ISDP) was launched by Columbia University, the Jordanian Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, and the Columbia University Middle East Research Center in December 2010 under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah.

The Institute for Sustainable Development Practice, supported by the technical and policy expertise of Professor Jeffrey Sachs and his team at the Earth Institute, serves as an innovative mechanism for mobilizing international expertise and experience, while building national capacities to achieve sustainable development in Jordan and elsewhere in the region.

The Institute aims to tackle sustainable development challenges in Jordan ranging from poverty to climate change through capacity building, strategic research, and policy support. The Institute initially focuses on Jordan’s 32 poverty pockets and will also address crucial development issues of employment, agriculture, nutrition, health, population, education, environment, water resources, microfinance and infrastructure. In drawing on Columbia University and the Earth Institute’s scientific rigor, technological innovation, and academic leadership, the Institute aims to position Jordan as a leader in sustainable development in the Middle East and North Africa region.

The Sustainable Development Masters Fellowship Program is one of the Institute’s numerous programs. For more information, please visit <http://cumerc.columbia.edu>.