

SDG^{nexus} Network

Ph.D. Degree Completion Grant

The SDG^{nexus} Network, based at the Center for International Development and Environmental Research (Zentrum für internationale Entwicklungs- und Umweltforschung, ZEU), awards

one Ph.D. Degree Completion Grant in the field of Sustainable Development Goal Interactions

The scholarship aims to support eligible candidates in the advanced phase of their doctoral studies who need to defer the completion of their research due to family-related circumstances such as pregnancy, maternity or parental leave, childcare, or other family responsibilities. While the scholarship is open to all qualified individuals, priority will be given to applicants who can substantiate the postponement caused by these specific situations.

About the SDG^{nexus} Network

The SDG^{nexus} Network, consisting of partners from Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, provides a common research framework related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations and aims to analyze synergies and trade-offs among individual SDGs (SDG nexus analysis). The SDG^{nexus} Network intends to prepare the next generation of scientists by implementing a variety of teaching programs and training activities, with particular attention to the needs of junior researchers. The SDG^{nexus} Network investigates interrelations among single SDGs within the following five focal research areas: Food systems, Water, Urban & rural areas, Natural resources, and SDG monitoring. Please find further information on the research areas at <https://t1p.de/q7mw>

For further information on the Zentrum für internationale Entwicklungs- und Umweltforschung (ZEU) or the SDG^{nexus} Network see <https://www.uni-giessen.de/zeu> or <http://www.sdg-nexus.net>.

The SDG^{nexus} Network is supported by the DAAD with funds from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

What we offer

- A full-time scholarship (up to EUR 1,200/month plus compensation for health insurance costs with a maximum of EUR 145/month – depending on the country of residence) for up to one year, which allows you to write your doctoral dissertation.
- A fully equipped working place at the Center for International Development and Environmental Research based at the Justus Liebig University Giessen (optional).
- A research network with partners from Latin America and Central Asia that grant you a close collaboration with ongoing research projects.
- Access to an advanced training program that allows you to strengthen your professional as well as research skills.
- Comprehensive guidance and supervision.

Applications Requirements

- Doctoral candidates who are in the final phase of their doctoral thesis are eligible to apply for the grant.
- The applicant must be accepted as doctoral candidate at one of the core partners of the SDG^{nexus} Network or at the Justus Liebig University Giessen.
- You should have a Master's or an equivalent degree in a topic related to SDGs with exceptionally good results. Your last academic degree should not have been acquired more than six years ago at the point of application; your Ph.D. project should have started not more than three years ago prior to application.
- You have advanced communication skills in spoken and written English and excellent scientific writing skills.
- You have a citizenship of an ODA recipient country.
- At the potential start of the grant, you should not have been residing in Germany or any other country which is not on the [DAC list](#) for more than 15 months. This will not be applicable if you entered the Federal Republic within the framework of a degree course, a doctorate or other academic work and, due to this, have already resided in Germany for longer.
- You are familiar with the SDG framework and with the methods, indicators, metrics for monitoring progress and solving trade-offs between them.
- Your research proposal must relate to one of the research areas and must be linked to one or several regions of the SDG^{nexus} Network defined above.

Application process

Please submit your application until **August 31, 2023**, using our platform: <https://t1p.de/quycr>

Documents supporting the applications must be submitted as a **single PDF file**. Only complete applications, with documents in the order listed below, will be accepted:

- Cover letter stating your motivation to apply for the grant.
- If applicable: Statement of the family reasons that led to a delay in the completion of the doctoral studies.
- Curriculum Vitae
- Overview of your Ph.D. project (about 1500 words, including a plan/timeline for completion and a statement how the work contributes to one or several of the SDG^{nexus} Network research areas and regions)
- Copy of an acceptance letter as a PhD candidate
- Academic Certificates
- One recent letter of recommendation from your supervisors confirming your expected date of completion of your thesis and a statement that no financial support is available.
- List of publications

The SDG^{nexus} Network is seeking a larger percentage of women in academia; therefore, qualified female applicants are especially encouraged to apply. Please be aware that we will only contact successful applicants.