

Future Earth Young Scientists Networking Conference on Integrated Science

Call for Applications

Future Sustainability – the Role of Science in the Sustainable Development Goals

2015 is the year when sustainability is at the forefront of international attention – with a series of major new initiatives on disasters, climate change, and sustainable development goals. Each one of these signal transformative changes in policy, action, and research. Knowledge, evidence, and science will play central roles in each of these arenas.

What new knowledge is needed? What is the role of research and researchers in these processes? How should knowledge be produced to inform, support, and guide them?

There is now a broad appreciation that the production of socially-robust knowledge requires new forms of engagement between science, the community that undertakes it, and society. Science itself is being transformed by new expectations from arenas, like the SDGs, for new ways of connecting and communicating what we know to what we do.

The SDGs are set to begin in 2016 with a timeline to 2030, and achieving the targets laid out requires the best available evidence-base from both the natural and social sciences. The research community is charged with making key global sustainability targets measurable, quantifiable, and evidence-based.

Integrated targets for sustainability require integrated science that cuts across disciplinary boundaries to bring together the various dimensions of sustainability. How science and the changing role of the scientist fits into global targets and goals on sustainability is an important issue.

The [International Social Science Council](#) (ISSC) and the [International Council for Science](#) (ICSU) are planning to assemble a group of early career researchers with diverse backgrounds and research perspectives to reflect on **Future Sustainability and the role of Science** and debate relevant issues as part of a series of conferences on Integrated Science that are funded by the [German Research Foundation](#) (DFG).

The aim is to bring together creative multidimensional, interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary perspectives to address the complex topic. Early Career Scientists will reflect on the changing role of science and the role of science in transforming to a more sustainable world – questioning key assumptions, theories and models underlying the current research.

They are expected to devise the next generation of research programmes and projects, looking for solutions that help the transformations to reach global sustainability, and help science work for the benefit of society.

Early career scientists are invited to submit applications for participation in a Networking Conference on Integrated Science.

The Future Earth Young Scientists Networking Conference on Integrated Science discussing the theme of **Future Sustainability and the role of Science** will take place at [Villa Vigoni](#), the German-Italian Centre for Cultural and Scientific Exchange at Lake Como in Italy, from **24-30 May, 2015**.

The [International Council for Science](#) (ICSU), the [German Research Foundation](#) (DFG), and the [International Social Science Council](#) (ISSC) are inviting applications for participation by early career scientists.

Closing date for applications: December 22, 2014.

The Networking Conference is open to post-doctoral researchers interested in integrated science and the collaboration between the social and the natural sciences. The conference will bring together senior and leading scientists and researchers with a diversity of perspectives to identify top priority questions for future research on the topic.

The meeting is designed to become the starting point for new international integrated science research **spearheaded by Future Earth**. They will provide not only a chance to fully realise the overview of the state of the art in the topic/field, but also to interact and network with leading thinkers – forging new collaborations, and fostering new compelling integrated science.

Travel expenses (economy trip) as well as cost for the stay at Villa Vigoni will be covered for successful applicants for the duration of the conference.

Please note that the seminar will be held in English only. Candidates should indicate if this would be a problem for them.

Selection criteria

1. General eligibility of Candidates

- Post-doctoral researchers with no more than **10 years work experience following their PhD**; or individuals with equivalent qualifications (preferably under the age of 40)
- Interest in international, trans-disciplinary, intercultural research cooperation

2. Application requirements

- a) A full (no more than 1 page) CV to include:
 - Education
 - Current position
 - Other relevant experiences or academic awards
 - Candidate's current research topic(s)
- b) List of up to 5 of the candidates publications, which he/she values highest of which the best paper should be included as a reprint
- c) A brief outline (half page max) of how the candidate's work is relevant to the seminar topic
- d) A half page (max) outlining why she/he should be participating in the meeting
- e) A half page (max) abstract for candidate's proposed poster

Please submit all applications **by email in a single pdf file** to:

netconf@worldsocialscience.org

- name the file with your last name
- stating "Application NetConf 2015" in the email subject line