



Now open for registration and abstract submission

## Third Circular

28 January 2025



DNC Website



Registration  
Abstract submission

## 1. DNC 2025

In April 2025, the global Resource Nexus community will come together in Dresden, Germany, to discuss the future of resource management. With a focus on integrated (“nexus”) approaches, DNC 2025 brings together experts from research, education/capacity building, policy/governance, and the community of practice.

[DNC 2025](#) marks the 10th anniversary of the [Dresden Nexus Conference](#). This makes it the perfect time not only to look at lessons learned in the past but also at the role that nexus approaches can, will, or should play in driving sustainable development in the future and how they relate to UN strategies such as the post-2030 agenda and the [Pact for the Future](#).



DNC 2025 will form a part of the 50th-anniversary celebrations of [United Nations University](#), with UNU Rector and UN Under-Secretary-General [Prof. Tshilidzi Marwala](#) among our guests of honor.

For the city of [Dresden](#), 2025 also marks the commemoration of 80 years of peace following World War II, 35 years as the capital of [Saxony](#) in a re-unified Germany, and 15 years of

[DRESDEN-concept](#), a research alliance of 40 prominent institutions in the Dresden region. All this makes 2025 the right moment to have the World as our guests!

### PRISMA Award

One highlight of this year’s Dresden Nexus Conference is the award ceremony for the PRISMA - Sustainability Assessment and Policy Award (link here to announcement on FLORES website). This award recognizes exceptional publications in sustainability assessment and policy, with a particular focus on Resource Nexus.

The award includes a €2,000 grant, a certificate of excellence, and the opportunity to present at the award ceremony during the conference on 8 April 2025, either in person or virtually. Applications are invited via the [PRISMA Award website](#) by 14 March 2025.



PRISMA Award

## 2. Conference Scope and Topics



DNC Website

The conference will, on the one hand, look back to highlight significant developments, accomplishments, and best-practice experiences of the recent past, particularly since environmental Nexus approaches have been popularized through conferences like the 2011 Bonn Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus conference or the DNC series of conferences. A global, inter-, and transdisciplinary perspective will be taken on this, showcasing how Nexus has contributed to advancing sustainability and discussing the hindrances to implementing Nexus approaches in research and practice. **Looking forward**, the conference encourages the exchange between scientists,

policymakers, the community of practice, and the young generation about ways to advance the Resource Nexus and related approaches, both conceptually and in their implementation. Furthermore, DNC 2025 aims to develop strategies for overcoming barriers to Nexus approaches and initiate Nexus guidelines and an ISO standard for the Resource Nexus.

### 3. Registration

We invite you to register via the [electronic registration and submission system CONVERIA](#).

**Early Bird Registration:** until 28 February 2025  
**Regular Registration:** until 30 March 2025

At the request of several interested participants, we are currently assessing the options for **virtual participation** (for a fee). Personal attendance is highly encouraged, as there will be limitations for online participants to interact in some sessions/events. Registration for virtual participation will be launched around mid-February.



Conference fees	General Participant	Discount: participants from Global South and students	Members of GlobalABC	Discount: GlobalABC members from Global South
Early Bird Price (registration by 28 February 2025)	300 €	150 €	200 €	100 €
Regular Price (1 March to 30 March 2025)	375 €	200 €	250 €	125 €

*The conference fee covers coffee breaks and lunches on 8 to 10 April 2025, admission to the signature event, “From Conflicts to Cooperation: The Resource Nexus as a Pathway to Peace”, at the Church of Our Lady on 8 April 2025, and a reception on 9 April 2025.*

On **7 and 8 April 2025**, the [General Assembly of the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction](#) (GlobalABC) under UNEP will take place at the same venue. Please note that:

- Participants of the GlobalABC General Assembly may register for DNC 2025 at a discounted rate.
- DNC 2025 participants interested in connecting to the Global Alliance for Building and Construction, please get in touch with [dnc2025@unu.edu](mailto:dnc2025@unu.edu).

## 4. Call for abstracts; list of themes and sessions

We invite you to submit abstracts for posters and presentations via the [electronic registration and submission system CONVERIA](#). Abstracts can have a length of up to 350 words, including a maximum of 3 key references. Please see details in section 4 / Tentative list of sessions.

**Abstract Submission Deadline:** 20 February 2025

### Submission of abstracts

When submitting abstracts through [CONVERIA](#), please select the theme that best reflects your abstract (under “Paper Topic” in the electronic submission system). If you wish to submit to a **specific session**, please mention the session number and title in your abstract.

Sessions with the symbol “⊗” after the session name do not accept submissions for presentations except for invited speakers or panelists, but posters can be accepted for all session topics.



**Abstract submission**

*The conference will cover all of the above themes, but sessions may be slightly altered or combined depending on the content and number of abstract submissions.*

### Theme A: Advancing the Resource Nexus

- **Session A1:** Integrated Earth System Science Data for Integrated Management of Resources
- **Session A2:** A robust definition of the Nexus – Learning from Resource Nexus and Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem Nexus applications. **[Panel discussion] Note: abstracts to this session shall propose “a definition of the nexus (WEFE nexus/Resource Nexus)”.**
- **Session A3⊗:** Hands-on demonstration of the NEXOGENESIS Nexus Policy Assessment Tool (NEPAT) **[Workshop]**
- **Session A4⊗:** The Next 100 Questions for the Water-Energy-Food Nexus Research and Policy **[Workshop]**
- **Session A5:** Navigating the Nexus: Climate Change, Migration, and Health for a Resilient Future **[Workshop]**
- **Session A6:** Broadening the dimensions of the WEF nexus: a focus on planetary health

### Theme B: Communicating and Engaging for the Nexus

- **Session B1⊗:** Telling the Resource Nexus story with maps **[Workshop]**
- **Session B2:** Stakeholder Engagement in Post-Mining Land Restoration and Land Use **[Presentations & Workshop]**
- **Session B3:** Nexus Thinking in Action: How Citizen Science Shapes Sustainability
- **Session B4:** Advancing a Curriculum of the Resource Nexus
- **Session B5⊗:** Launch: Knowledge Academy of the Resource Nexus **[Special event]**

- **Session B6**⊗: Navigating Uncertainty: Catalyzing the implementation of Nexus approaches in research and practice through inclusive dialogue and collaboration [Dialogue/Workshop]
- **Session B7**⊗: Resource Nexus Policy Dialogue [Dialogue]

### Theme C: The Water-Energy-Food Nexus

- **Session C1**: Water–energy–food nexus approaches in the context of groundwater management in Central Asia
- **Session C2**: Open Source and Access for equal and sustainable Energy-Food-Water nexus
- **Session C3**: African Lens on Water-Energy-Food Nexus: Tackling Urban Complexities
- **Session C4**: Round Table Discussion on Grassroots Development Initiatives and Challenges on Energy, Water, and Food Security: A Multi-Sectoral Approach Cases Of The Philippines
- **Session C5**⊗: Using a Theory of Change to foster impact of WEF+ Nexus projects: practical insights [Workshop]
- **Session C6**: Water-energy-food nexus and systems modelling to secure a sustainable and maximizing resource self-sufficiency at the local scale
- **Session C7**⊗: WEF Nexus for Climate Action in Global South [Dialogue]
- **Session C8**: Leveraging Innovative WEF Nexus technologies and approaches for Climate Action
- **Session C9**: Building Nexus Resilience: Addressing Migration and Conflicts in Water-Energy-Food Systems [Panel Discussion]
- **Session C10**⊗: Best practices in WEF+ Nexus: Showcasing impactful projects [Panel Discussion and Workshop]

### Theme D: Operationalizing and Financing Nexus Approaches

- **Session D1**: Operationalizing evidence-based Water-Energy-Food Nexus Solutions projects [Panel Discussion]
- **Session D2**: Sustainable Futures after Mining: Leveraging the Resource Nexus for Transition
- **Session D3**: Unlocking Synergies in the Niger Basin: The Nexus Approach to Sustainable Investment Planning
- **Session D4**: Organizational and Institutional Change in Business to support transformations to Nexus thinking
- **Session D5**: Exploring trajectories in the water-energy-food-ecosystems nexus to support policy and decision-making
- **Session D6**: Sustainability inside out – challenges and best practice

### Theme E: Resource Nexus, Environmental Risk, and Global Crises

- **[AID] Session E1**: Leveraging New Technologies and the Nexus Approach for Landslides and Land Subsidence Risk Mitigation: Challenges, Opportunities, and Integrated Solutions

- **Session E2:** Nexus Between Environmental Risks and Resources for Sustainable Urban Transformation
- **Session E3:** A Systems Approach for Disaster Risk Reduction: Exploring the Nexus of Energy, Food, and Human Mobility
- **Session E4**⊗: United Nations' Green Peacekeeping: Energy Revolution amidst Safeguarding Global Peace and Security [**Panel discussion**]

### Theme F: Nexus Perspectives on Climate and Water Resilience

- [**AID**] **Session F1:** Nexus Approach for Coastal Climate Resilience Building Against Sea Level Rise
- [**AID**] **Session F2**⊗: Global drought Policy Issues- Where are we heading to? [**Panel discussion**]
- [**AID**] **Session F3:** Environmental Resource Nexus Approaches for Sustainable Water and Ecosystem Management
- [**AID**] **Session F4:** Water & Energy Resources in MENA Area Under Rising Climatic and Geopolitical Uncertainties
- **Session F5:** Arctic and subarctic rivers under climate change
- **Session F6:** Managing Water at the Core of the Resource Nexus
- **Session F7:** Water sensitive cities in Colombia: Adaptation of public spaces to climate change with NBS
- **Session F8:** Monitoring Framework for the Quantification of Nexus-Smart Water Governance [**Workshop**]
- **Session F9:** Governing the Groundwater Nexus: Knowledge, Motivation and Agency
- **Session F10:** UNU Dialogue on 'Circularity in the Water Sector' and 'Cross-sectoral Nexus Learning' to steer Agenda 2030 (in particular SDG 6)

### Theme G: Nexus Perspectives on Agri-Food Systems

- **Session G1:** Agroecological Futures: Insights from nexus assessments and approaches
- **Session G2:** Fertilizers at the center of a nexus perspective: food, energy, climate, environment and security

### Theme H: Nexus Perspectives on Biodiversity

- [**AID**] **Session H1:** Biological invasions in an era of global environmental change
- **Session H2:** Living in Harmony with Nature: Engaging with Stakeholders for Corporate Biodiversity Stewardship

#### Special Session Track – Sustainability Nexus AID

Several of the above-mentioned sessions, marked by [**AID**] ahead of the session name, are organized by the [Sustainability Nexus Analytics, Informatics and Data \(AID\)](#) programme of United Nations University.

**Special Request for Panelists and Workshop Co-Facilitators**

Panelists and workshop co-facilitators who have been invited by the organizers of specific sessions are requested to provide a short profile describing their expertise instead of an abstract. Please upload this document in the “Abstract” tab of the submission system. Title: your name; Subtitle: “Panelist in session XY” (where XY denotes the session number).

**5. Draft programme**

**8 April 2025:** Opening of DNC 2025

Expected programme highlights: Opening and keynote session; PRISMA Sustainability Award; Signing of MoUs; Signature Event at Church of Our Lady: *From Conflicts to Cooperation: The Resource Nexus as a Pathway to Peace* (high-level panel discussion).

**9 April 2025:** Second DNC 2025 conference day

Expected programme highlights: 5 slots with approx. 20 sessions covering different facets of the Nexus. Information event on research collaboration with Saxony and the European Union. Meet the scientific committee. Conference reception

**10 April 2025:** Third DNC 2025 conference day

Expected programme highlights: Second keynote session. World Café for facilitating exchange across sessions. Conclusions and Outlook. Opportunity to visit the special exhibition “Air. One for All” at the German Hygiene Museum or to participate in the special event “Let’s Talk about Air” organized by the German Hygiene Museum.

**11 April 2025:** DNC 2025 Side Events (optional). This includes technical workshops and the possibility of a guided tour of Dresden’s old town. A list of workshops will be shared on the website in early February 2025.

Time/Date	8 Apr 2025				
	Großer Saal (590 pers)	Kleiner Saal (100 pers)	Hörsaal (110 pers)	Seminarraum (80 pers)	Frauenkirche
Room	Nexus	Water	Energy	Soil	Church of our Lady
08:45	8:45 - 9:45 Keynote Session 1				
09:45	Coffee Break				
10:00	Session A1	Session A2	Session A3	Session A4	
11:30	Lunch				
13:00	Session B1	Session B2	Session B3	Session B4	
14:30	PRISMA Sustainability Award	Signing of MoUs	Launch Event: Global ABC Reports		
15:30	Session C1	Session C2	Session C3	Session C4	
17:00	Coffee Break				
17:15	Poster session				Young scientists policy briefing (invited guests only)
19:00	Conference participants are invited to join the Signature at Church of our Lady, co-organized with Dresden International Forum				19:00 Signature Event - From Conflicts to Cooperation: The Resource Nexus as a Pathway to Peace
20:00					

DNC 2025: The Future of Resources – Resources for the Future  
**Third Circular | Call for registration and abstract submissions**

Time/Date	9 Apr 2025				
	Großer Saal (590 pers)	Kleiner Saal (100 pers)	Hörsaal (110 pers)	Seminarraum (80 pers)	Wandelhalle
Room	Nexus	Water	Energy	Soil	Space
08:15	Session D1 Global ABC and DNC Exchange and World Café	Session D2	Session D3	Session D4	Exhibition (e.g., Saxon ministries, international networks, EU collaboration, businesses)
09:45	Coffee Break				
10:00	Session E1	Session E2	Session E3	Session E4	
11:30	Lunch				
13:00	Session F1	Session F2	Session F3	Session F4	
14:30	EU Research Collaboration: Information by ZEUSS and REA	Presentation "Digital Twins" by GEOSN	Signing of MoUs		
15:30	Session G1	Session G2	Session G3	Session G4	
17:00	Coffee Break				
17:15	Session H1	Session H2	Session H3	Session H4	
19:00	Conference Reception				
20:00					

Time/Date	10 Apr 2025						
	Großer Saal (590 pers)	Kleiner Saal (100 pers)	Hörsaal (110 pers)	Seminarraum (80 pers)			
Room	Nexus	Water	Energy	Soil			
08:45	8:45 - 9:45 Keynote Session 2						
09:45	Coffee Break						
10:00	Session I1	Session I2	Session I3	Session I4			
11:30	Lunch						
13:00	Session J1	Session J2	Session J3	Session J4			
14:30	World Café, with coffee and light snacks						
15:30	15:30 - 16:00 Conclusions and Outlook						
17:00	Possibility to visit the DHMD Special Exhibition "Air. One for All."						
17:15					18:00 - 21:00 Reden wir über Luft [Event outside DNC, offered by DHMD]		
19:00							
20:00							

**Legend:**

Regular session slots
Keynote and special session slots
Coffee breaks, lunch, reception
Special formats
Events outside DNC



## 6. Travel Information

### Conference Venue

Dresden is well connected by air and rail to major hubs in Germany and Europe. A wide range of accommodation is available in the city, and special hotel rates can be found below:

The conference will take place at the German Museum of Hygiene and the Church of Our Lady, both centrally located and easily accessible by public transport.

### Invitation and visa support letters

If you require a preliminary confirmation (e.g., for applying for a travel grant or approval) prior to the abstract selection and/or conference registration processes, please reach out to us via [dnc2025@unu.edu](mailto:dnc2025@unu.edu) at any time. Registration certificates can also be downloaded from the electronic registration portal.

### Accommodation

*Dresden offers a wide range of accommodation, from youth hostels to premium hotels. Contingents have been pre-reserved for the following hotels.*

#### 4\*

Dorint Hotel, Grunaer Str. 14, 01069 Dresden. [Website](#), [Email](#). Booking code: DNC 2025. Standard room/single occupancy: 100 €/night, including breakfast. Applies to: Bookings up to 24 February 2025 (unless sold out before).

NH Collection Altmarkt, An der Kreuzkirche 2, 01067 Dresden, [Website](#), [Email](#). Booking code: DNC 2025. Standard room/single occupancy: 143 €/night, including breakfast. Applies to: Bookings until 24 March 2025 (unless sold out before).

#### 3\*

Ibis Zentrum, Prager Str. 5, 01069 Dresden. [Website](#), [Email](#). Booking code: DNC 2025. Standard room/single occupancy: 71 €/night, including breakfast, double room 91€/night, including breakfast. Applies to: Bookings until 13 March 2025 (unless sold out before).

Premier Inn Dresden City, Ferdinandstr. 14, 01069 Dresden. [Website](#), [Email](#). Booking code: DNC 2025. Standard room/single occupancy: 71 €/night, breakfast 16,90 € (optional). Applies to: Bookings until 21 February 2025 (unless sold out before).

*It is recommended to check the rates on booking websites as they may be more favorable depending on the time of booking.*

## 7. Scientific Committee

The scientific committee consists of a local organizing committee and an international expert panel. Note that this list is preliminary.

### Coordinator of the scientific committee:

Prof. Dr. Daniel Karthe, UNU-FLORES, Dresden, Germany

### Local experts

Prof. Dr. Floor Brouwer, Adjunct Professor, UNU-FLORES, Dresden, Germany

Prof. Dr. Edeltraud Günther, Director, UNU-FLORES, Dresden, Germany

Prof. Dr. Jochen Schanze, Head of Knowledge Integration Hub, Leibniz Institute for Ecological Urban and Regional Development (IOER) and Chair of Environmental Development and Risk Management, TU Dresden, Germany

Prof. Dr. Dominik Steiger, Academic Director, Centre for International Studies, TU Dresden, Germany

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Marc Wolfram, Director, Leibniz Institute for Ecological Urban and Regional Development (IOER) and Chair of Spatial Development and Transformation, TU Dresden, Germany

### International expert panel

H.E. Dr. Seleshi Bekele, Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Washington, D.C., United States of America

Prof. Dr. Mohsin Hafeez, Director of Water, Food and Ecosystems, International Water Management Institute, Lahore, Pakistan

Prof. Dr. Chrysi Laspidou, Vice-Rector of Innovation, University of Thessaly, Greece

Prof. Dr. Kaveh Madani, Director, United Nations University – Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH), Richmond Hill, ON, Canada

Prof. Dr. Tafadzwanashe Mabhaudi, Professor of Climate Change, Food Systems and Health at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK; Lead, Water – Energy – Food Environment Nexus, United Nations University – Institute for Water, Environment and Health (UNU-INWEH), Richmond Hill, ON, Canada; and Honorary Research Fellow, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

Prof. Dr. Rabi Mohtar, Lead Scientist, WEF Nexus Research Group, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, USA

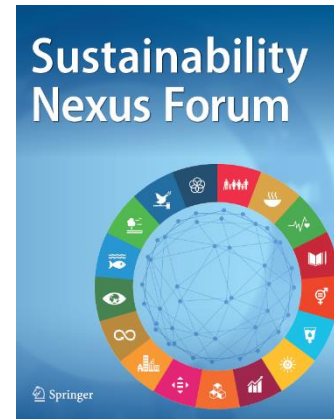
Prof. Dr. Golam Rasul, Director, Department of Economics, International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT), Dhaka, Bangladesh

Dr. Claudia Ringler, Director, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research - International Food Policy Research Institute (CGIAR-IFPRI), Washington, DC, USA

## 8. Partner Journal and Publishing Opportunities

**Sustainability Nexus Forum** (Springer Nature) will be the principal partner journal of DNC2025. Presenters, panelists and participants of the conference are invited to contribute to SNF in the following ways:

- Submission of articles to the journal, including submissions to the active [thematic collections](#);
- Guest editing thematic collections that complement the currently active thematic collections; for enquiries, please email the journal’s managing editor at [snf@unu.edu](mailto:snf@unu.edu).



If you are interested in organizing / offering thematic collections in other relevant scientific journals or books, please email the DNC Organizing Team at [dnc2025@unu.edu](mailto:dnc2025@unu.edu).

