



# MASTER IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

12-Month Online Program

## **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD**

The New Normal of the world of the 21st Century is characterised by global pandemic, extreme weather patterns, political populism, social inequality, loss of biodiversity, financial crisis, economic stagnation of middle-income countries, trade wars and geo-strategic competition, food contamination and food insecurity, and worsening urban blight. This New Normal prompted the United Nations in 2015 to announce the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the solution to the problems of this New Normal.

The world is in desperate need of people who understand this New Normal and are able to formulate new strategies to achieve these 17 SDGs in order to ensure collective sustainability in ecological balance, economic dynamism, environmental safety, social harmony, and effective international partnerships in global health, international peace, and climate action. The Master in Sustainable Development Management (MSDM) program at Sunway University is designed to empower individuals and organisations to develop innovative solutions to achieve these 17 SDGs.

The MSDM program has two modes for delivery of instruction:

1. Track 1, started in early 2019, is an 18-month program designed for the working professionals who attend in-person classes during selected weekends; and
2. Track 2, to start in late 2020, is a 12-month fully online program, and its lectures are delivered during weekdays.

This is an informational brochure for Track 2 (fully online) of the MSDM.







## THE MASTER IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT (MSDM)

The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) was set up to bring together global academia to support the SDGs. Its education arm, the SDG Academy, provides online learning materials in partnership with leading global experts on Sustainable Development.

Sunway University in Malaysia is dedicated to promoting policy-oriented research, interdisciplinary education, and international partnerships to help achieve the SDGs. It is the only nonprofit university in Malaysia that is owned by an educational foundation (Jeffrey Cheah Foundation). Sunway University is located on the rim of a rehabilitated tin mine that is now the hub of a smart digital city that is expanding by putting green urbanization into practice e.g. through a network of elevated walkways with solar-paneled roofs, electric buses, a rain-harvesting system and urban farming ventures. Sunway University has established academic collaboration with many leading universities including Harvard University, Cambridge University, Kyoto University, and Oxford University; and it also hosts the new SDSN-Asia Office, working with SDSN-NYC and SDSN-Paris offices to coordinate the global reach of SDSN.

In collaboration with the SDG Academy, this 12-month program will equip students with system-level thinking essential for Sustainable Development (e.g. natural earth systems, socio-political stability, bio-diversity); in-depth technical expertise in two fields selected by the student (e.g. organizational sustainability, green urbanization, economic development); management skills (e.g. effective governance in public and private institutions); and research ability (e.g. geographic information systems). The classes would be held during weekdays at time slots convenient to students located in the geographical area from New Zealand to Turkey.

Every course is co-taught by Sunway faculty members and SDG Academy experts. As the interactive online teaching would be conducted inside a Sunway University classroom, students can also choose to be in Kuala Lumpur to receive in-person teaching (when no public health lockdown is in effect).

There will be four 11-week terms (with 3 to 4 courses per term), with breaks for major religious (e.g. Eid) and cultural (e.g. Spring Festival) holidays. At the end of the third term, there will be an optional week-long MSDM Study Fest held at Sunway University.



## WHO WE'RE LOOKING FOR

Complex problems require integrated multidisciplinary solutions. This program is designed to attract candidates from a diverse range of expertise – from social sciences, public administration, public policies, non-profit and private sector organizations, IT, media, medical sciences and wherever sustainable development is applicable. We are looking for people who aim to make an impact in their organizations and societies, and who wish to advance their careers to the next level.







## WHY ENROLL

### ***Academic rigor that is fully online and affordable***

The program will offer rigorous, comprehensive curricula focusing on the pressing issues of our times (e.g. economic development and growth, hunger and food security, public health, education). The courses are co-taught by Sunway faculty members and global thought leaders from the SDG Academy; and are also structured to involve research and practice, to enable intensive online contact with instructors, and to promote extensive peer learning.

The courses are fully online; and use the power of technology to combine live teaching with self-paced materials. The programs are accessible from anywhere in the world, and give you the flexibility of learning from the safety of your home, without compromising on the quality of your academic experience. If you happen to miss the synchronous lecture sessions, you can watch the video and study at your own pace. In addition, the MSDM program is significantly more affordable than those available before and elsewhere.

### ***A network of global expertise & a global cohort of students at your fingertips***

The collaboration with the SDG Academy and the SDSN gives both Programs access to a carefully curated set of global leaders from the worlds of science, politics, academia, the United Nations, civil society, and business. These experts provide global perspectives, cutting edge knowledge, real life lessons, and a real-time engagement through live webinars as well as pre-recorded lectures.

Learn with peers from around the world, representing a range of different backgrounds, geographies, and perspectives. The online platforms allow you to participate in various forums and chat rooms with study group and exchange notes, enabling a high degree of peer learning that forms a truly global cohort.



## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Candidates should have either one of these qualifications:

- A Bachelor's degree (Level 6, MQF) or its equivalent, with a minimum CGPA of 2.50 out of 4.00, or equivalent from a recognized Institution of Higher Education, as accepted by the University's Senate; or
- A Bachelor's degree (Level 6, MQF) with CGPA below 2.50 out of 4.00 or its equivalent qualifications can be accepted subject to a minimum of 5 years of working experience in a relevant field; or
- Any other equivalent professional qualification recognised by the Malaysian Government.

**Intakes** October, January, April, July

**Please direct enquiries to**

[jsc\\_admissions@sunway.edu.my](mailto:jsc_admissions@sunway.edu.my)

**For more information please visit**

[jeffreysachs.center/graduate-study](http://jeffreysachs.center/graduate-study)

### English language requirements

International candidates should demonstrate English proficiency sufficient to meet the needs of the program:

- IELTS: (5.0)/ CEFR B1
- TOEFL: PBT (410-413) or IBT (34)
- Cambridge English (Advanced) (180)/CEFR B2 or Cambridge English (Proficiency) (180)/CEFR C1
- Pearson Test of English (3)
- Malaysian University English Test (Band 3)

*If a student does not meet this requirement, the HEP offers English proficiency courses to ensure that the student's proficiency is sufficient to meet the needs of the program. This is normally conducted through an English language proficiency assessment.*



# PROGRAM CONTENT

**Students are required to complete 9 core courses, including Research Projects I & II, and 5 elective courses. Refer to Time Table for the schedule of courses.**

## Core courses

- |    |          |                                         |
|----|----------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. | SSM 5033 | Corporate Sustainability Strategies     |
| 2. | SSM 5013 | Earth's Climate System                  |
| 3. | SEC 5013 | Economics of Sustainability Management  |
| 4. | SFI 5013 | Finance and Sustainability              |
| 5. | SEN 5013 | Social Entrepreneurship and Development |
| 6. | SSM 5023 | Sustainable Management and Operations   |
| 7. | SRM 5013 | Research Methods                        |
| 8. | PRJ 5013 | Research Project I                      |
| 9. | PRJ 5023 | Research Project II                     |

## Available Electives

- |    |          |                                          |
|----|----------|------------------------------------------|
| 1. | SSM 5073 | Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems |
| 2. | SSM 5113 | Sustainable Urban Practices              |
| 3. | SSM 5183 | Governance in Sustainable Development    |
| 4. | SSM 5163 | Biodiversity                             |
| 5. | SEC 5023 | Sustainable Economics Development        |
| 6. | SSM 5173 | Smart Tech and IOT                       |

## Research Project

The research must follow the scientific research methodology. Candidates are encouraged to choose research topics that address current and pressing sustainability challenges. It can address topics of relevance to a specific organisation, or focus more generally on a sector, SDG goal, country or location. Supervisors will be designated based on the research topics chosen.



# WHO YOU'LL BE WORKING WITH

## **Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs**

Chairman, Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development  
Director, UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network  
Professor of Economics

Professor Jeffrey Sachs is a world-renowned professor of economics, leader in sustainable development, bestselling author and syndicated columnist, whose monthly newspaper columns appear in more than 100 countries. He served as the Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University from 2002 to 2016 and was appointed University Professor at Columbia University in 2016. Prior to his arrival at Columbia University in July 2002, he spent over twenty years as a professor at Harvard University. He is Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on the Sustainable Development Goals and previously advised UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on both the Sustainable Development Goals and the Millennium Development Goals; and UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the Millennium Development Goals. His work on ending poverty; overcoming macroeconomic instability; promoting economic growth; fighting hunger and disease; and promoting sustainable environmental practices; has taken him to more than 125 countries, collectively constituting more than 90 percent of the world's population. He has advised governments and heads of state for more than thirty years. Professor Sachs received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from Harvard.



## **Professor Woo Wing Thye**

Director, Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development  
President, Jeffrey Cheah Institute on Southeast Asia  
Professor of Economics

Professor Woo Wing Thye heads the Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development at Sunway University. He also holds academic appointments at University of California at Davis, Columbia University, Fudan University, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, and Penang Institute. His current research focuses on macroeconomic management of open economies; and on the growth challenges (e.g. the middle-income trap, and the Sustainable Development Goals) of the East Asian economies, particularly, China, Indonesia and Malaysia. He has led an international team (which included Leszek Balcerowicz, Boris Fedorov, Fan Gang and Jeffrey Sachs) to study the reform experiences of centrally-planned economies; has served as a special advisor to the U.S. Treasury; and headed the project "Asia Competitiveness Report 1999" to analyse the Asian financial crisis. In 2004, the University of California at Davis awarded him its Distinguished Scholarly Public Service Award; in 2006, he was appointed a Chang Jiang Professor by the Ministry of Education of China; and in 2016, he was appointed a National Distinguished Expert under the Thousand Talents Program of China. Professor Woo studied Economics at Swarthmore College, Yale University, and Harvard University.



## **Professor Paul Walsh**

University College Dublin  
Professor of International Development Studies

Patrick Paul Walsh is currently a Full Professor of International Development Studies and member of the Governing Authority in University College Dublin. Patrick Paul Walsh is the Director of the UCD Centre for Sustainable Development Studies, Coordinator of the UCD Ph.D. in Global Human Development which trains academic staff in East African Universities up to a Ph.D. level across several subject areas. He received a Ph.D. in Economics from the London School of Economics. His professional activities include honorary secretary, and editor of the Journal, of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland. He has extensive experience providing external services for the United Nations, Irish Competition Authority, la Fiscalía Nacional Económica in Chile, European Commission and World Bank. Among other journals he has published in the Review of Economics and Statistics, Economic Journal, Journal of Industrial Economics, Energy Economics and Electoral Studies. His current research is on Agricultural Productivity in East Africa, Social Security for all, Socioeconomic impact of HIV/AIDS, Post-Conflict Resolution, Global Food Security and Governance of the U.N. 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.





# Application Process

Acceptance into the program is by application and selection only. The application form may be downloaded from [jeffreysachs.center/graduate-study](http://jeffreysachs.center/graduate-study). When you are ready to apply for admission, you are required to submit the following together with the application form:

- A detailed CV
- A certified copy of each degree-level certificate obtained
- Certified copies of all degree-level transcripts
- IELTS/TOEFL/PTE score report (if applicable)
- Two letters of references (Academic and/or professional)
- Personal statement of your interest in sustainable development and suitability for this program

**Please direct enquiries to**

[jsc\\_admissions@sunway.edu.my](mailto:jsc_admissions@sunway.edu.my)

At your convenience, appointments may be made for face-to-face meeting on campus and online platform (Zoom, MS Teams). Please contact Hendry Ng ([hendryng@sunway.edu.my](mailto:hendryng@sunway.edu.my)).

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### 1. UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

The SDSN has operated under the auspices of the UN Secretary General and leadership of Professor Jeffrey Sachs since 2012 to support the implementation of the SDGs at local, national, and global scales. SDSN currently has a worldwide membership of 1,300 academic and research institutions; see <https://www.unsdsn.org>.

SDSN's National and Regional networks support the localization of SDGs and their implementation, develop long-term transformation pathways for sustainable development, promote education around Agenda 2030, and launch solution initiatives. The SDSN Malaysia Chapter is hosted by the Jeffrey Sachs Center (JSC) on Sustainable Development at Sunway University, Malaysia; and SDSN Asia Headquarters is hosted by Sunway University.

### 2. SDG Academy

The SDG Academy is the online education platform of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), see <https://sdgacademy.org>.

Special approval for fully online delivery has been given by Malaysian Qualification Agency. Reference: MQA.100-2/2/1 Jilid 31 (15) dated 8 July 2020. JPT/BPP(U)(N/345/7/1075/PA9793/04/23

## SUNWAY UNIVERSITY

Sunway University is dedicated to championing sustainability on and around campus, and to nurturing a community of socially and ecologically responsible individuals. The campus is strategically located in Sunway City, Malaysia's first integrated green township to be certified by the Green Building Index.

The Sunway City township was transformed from a tin mining wasteland to a sustainability model for other townships nationally and regionally. It has also been recognised as a Top Smart City Initiative in the Asia Pacific region and an Integrated Smart and Low-Carbon Township by IDC Government Insights in 2017.

The student experience at Sunway University has many benefits including green spaces and environment-friendly infrastructure such as elevated canopy walkways, convenient public transportation and bio-diversified theme parks – all of which are situated in a pollution-free area.

From practical initiatives such as the biannual e-Waste Disposal Campaign and collaborations with NGOs on projects such as the Earth Warriors, to academic pursuits in carbon dioxide waste conversion and optimisation of renewable energy technology, Sunway University is committed to various activities to achieve its sustainability objectives.





## THE JEFFREY SACHS CENTER

The Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development tackles the sustainability agenda through education, training, research and policy advisory. As the Southeast Asian base for the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, the Center is a hub of research and policy practice, delivering world-class programs to train students, practitioners and policy leaders on sustainable initiatives while working in collaboration with industries, agencies, government bodies and universities worldwide.

The Center was established through a contribution by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation – the biggest of its kind towards advancing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The Center operates out of Sunway University under the supervision of Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs, one of the world's leading experts in sustainable development.







**Sunway University** DU 025 (B)

**Owned and governed by the Jeffrey Cheah Foundation** (800946-T)

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