




## IAU Iquitos Statement on Higher Education for Sustainable Development

Following the IAU 2014 International Conference on *Blending Higher Education and Traditional Knowledge for Sustainable Development*, held in Iquitos, Peru,

1. We, Members of the International Association of Universities (IAU) as well as representatives of the broader higher education community, reaffirm our commitment to pursuing sustainable development within and through our respective institutions and to reassessing higher education and its role in the transition to more sustainable societies.
2. As the *United Nations Decade on Education for Sustainable Development* comes to an end, and the Millennium Development Goals near their scheduled completion, the post-2015 Agenda is being shaped. The higher education community is ready to contribute to the development and implementation of the post-2015 Agenda.
3. It is our shared belief that only with the full engagement of higher education in the post-2015 Agenda will it be possible to create the intellectual, economic, environmental and cultural conditions required for a sustainable future for all.
4. We applaud the commitments and promises made at the world events held in *Stockholm*, 1972, *Rio de Janeiro*, 1992, *Johannesburg*, 2002 and "*Rio + 20*", 2012, to make our world better for all, for present and future generations.
5. In line with the IAU longstanding engagement in the elaboration of the following declarations :
  - **IAU Kyoto Declaration**, 1993
  - **Bonn Declaration**, issued at the UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development to mark the mid-Decade, 2009
  - **Rio + 20 People's Sustainability Treaty on Higher Education**, June 2012;
  - **Commitment to Sustainable Practices of Higher Education Institutions** on the Occasion of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 2012

We renew our commitment to Higher Education for Sustainable Development and we agree to develop new actions and strengthen current initiatives to respond proactively to the resolutions and recommendations adopted in the above-mentioned texts.

6. To build synergies and promote collaboration in the search for effective and innovative approaches to solving today's as well as future sustainable development challenges, **IAU** commits to offering an open, interactive and collaborative forum for discussion and action, to raise awareness and advocate for change. Using the interactive *Portal on Higher Education for Sustainable Development*, *inter alia*, IAU will showcase activities of and within higher education institutions from around the world and offer networking opportunities.
7. These and other efforts, when undertaken collectively, can bring about the needed changes in higher education to best serve the goals of sustainable development. Working together can create greater impact in the following areas, among others:
  - *Whole institution approaches in translating SD into institutional agendas,*
  - *Mainstreaming sustainable development concepts and principles in all fields of study,*
  - *Research on sustainable development issues,*
  - *Community engagement to anchor sustainable development in local tradition, language and culture, and to better blend traditional knowledge in higher education,*

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- *Sustainable leadership development and practices,*
  - *Transdisciplinary approaches in seeking sustainable solutions,*
  - *Campus greening and sustainability,*
  - *Networking for SD to consolidate knowledge, experiences and impact.*

8. Far more resources – human, organizational and financial – must be mobilized to achieve sustainable development locally and globally. Only collective and collaborative efforts will bring about the desired results of advancing knowledge and experiences for successful sustainable development measures and bring about lasting change.
9. IAU expertise, the conclusions of the IAU 2014 International Conference and the input of the wider higher education community led to this Statement. It will be presented at the 2014 *UNESCO World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development*, and to those involved in setting the goals and implementation strategies for the post-2015 Agenda.
10. The IAU Iquitos Statement should be used to advocate for the recognition of the important role higher education can play in the post-2015 Agenda.