

## GLOBAL CALL TO UNIVERSITIES:

### COURSE MANUALS

#### For the Global Syllabus Repository on Urban and Territorial Planning for Climate Change

- This global call is sent to UNI Members and UN-Habitat networks on 25 FEBRUARY 2019
- An Applications Form is available on-line at: <http://uni.unhabitat.org/course-manual-submission/>
- Application DEADLINE: 30 APRIL 2019

#### CONTENTS

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| I. Background.....                | 2 |
| II. Objectives.....               | 2 |
| III. Requirements .....           | 3 |
| IV. Process and Application ..... | 4 |

## I. BACKGROUND

The world is going through unprecedented climate change that is resulting in considerable stress to our societies and to the environment. From shifting weather patterns that threaten food production to rising sea levels that increase the risk of catastrophic flooding, the impacts of climate change are global in scope and unprecedented in scale. Human settlements emit between 37 and 49 % of the world's total greenhouse gases and are home to concentrated populations that are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Rapid urbanization is transforming places, populations, economies, and the built environment at an exceptional speed and scale. About 55 % of total urban land in 2030 is expected to be developed in the first three decades of the 21st century, largely occurring in areas of increasing vulnerability to extreme climate events. In addressing this rapid transformation, infrastructure development and urban form are playing fundamental roles as key drivers of GHG emissions.

In that context of urgency, the community of urban planners increasingly acknowledge their critical role and responsibility in tackling the future of cities. They realize the urgent need to take sustainable pathways towards addressing climate change in their practice. They increasingly incorporate climate change in their planning practices through comprehensive integrated approaches that reduce emissions, adapt and prepare human settlements for climate change.

There is a critical need to build the capacity of planners and ensure that all graduate-level urban/regional planning curriculum prepare future professionals to plan for effective climate action. However, with the significant growth of institutions of higher education worldwide focusing on sustainable urban issues, the monitoring of academic materials and findings among these institutions is increasingly complicated, having as consequences the lack of coordination, collaboration and sharing of syllabus between academics and researchers.

Hence, UN-Habitat and UNI, its global partnership with universities, discussed during WUF9 in Kuala Lumpur the need for developing a structured central repository of materials to allow Habitat UNI partners to easily share, search and access educational and research products. This way, if multiple academics from different universities and regions are teaching the same course, they can share their curricula to enrich the content, to have different perspectives and points of view on the same topic, and to collaborate with academics from other academic institutions and research centres.

Having a course manual repository as part of the UNI Habitat initiative is meant to create better synergies between partners, and opportunities to expand the network and enhance its visibility. The same proposal was expressed by the newly launched Planners for Climate Action Network (P4CA), confirming the need for such tool, with the ambition to launch it during the next UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP24) which will be held in Katowice on 3-14 December 2018.

## II. OBJECTIVES

Through this call, the UNI partners and the community of Planners for Climate Action will establish and populate a Repository of Syllabi on Urban and Territorial Planning for Climate Change. The repository will support capacity building of planners and help ensure that all graduate-level urban/regional planning curricula prepare future professionals to plan for effective climate action. The repository will strengthen the engagement of Universities towards education of future planners and professionals on climate change. It will also help future planners and professionals to direct their efforts towards climate action through an elaborated offer of curricula globally. As a one stop hub of course manuals, the repository will help identify available curricula and address the geographical and thematic gaps.

This global call to Universities constitutes a pilot phase developed for the Climate Change Hub, in partnership with the P4CA. After this pilot, the repository will be open to the other thematic hubs (Informal Urbanism, Urban

Regeneration, Safer Cities, Urban Accessibilities, Urban Governance, Gender and Urban Form) of UNI. Subsequent calls will be held on a regular basis in order to populate the repository and increase the offer of curricula.

### III. REQUIREMENTS

Submissions should be based on the following principles:

- Proposed course manuals should focus on urban and territorial planning.
- Proposed course manuals should address the climate change dimension of urban and territorial planning, taking into account the increasing vulnerability of human settlements to climate events, acknowledging that urban form and territorial and infrastructure development are playing a fundamental role as key drivers of GHG emissions.
- The content of course manuals should be based both on theory and planning practice in order to have transformative impact on future professionals.

#### Submissions are open to UNI Partners

- While UNI membership is a requirement for applying to the UNI based Repository, universities that are not part of UNI may request UNI members to submit curricula on their behalf.
- UN-Habitat would like to encourage all interested universities to become UNI Members in order to help the network grow and support knowledge sharing globally. By becoming members of UNI, universities will gain from further exchanges and networking opportunities in global and regional events organized by UN-Habitat.
- Each UNI applicant needs to provide the name and contact details of a Focal Point in their university that will become the point of contact and reference for the submitted course manual.
- Each UNI applicant needs to provide their logo and a picture to illustrate their course manual that will be used by UN-Habitat for communication purpose.
- Course manual should be produced or updated within the last 5 years.
- Course manual submissions may be accompanied by reading lists, assignments/exams, study guides and any other relevant supporting documents that can enrich the course.

All metadata for submissions are in English language.

- While the metadata (e.g. course name and course description) are required to be in English, we encourage submissions of course manuals in other languages in order to reach students from all regions and coming from different language backgrounds.
- Submissions can also be made in one other language. However, key information will have to be provided in English for all applications.

## IV. PROCESS AND APPLICATION

After submitting their application on-line within the given deadline, applicants will receive an automated message acknowledging the receipt of their application. After that, designated moderators coordinated by UNI and the P4CA initiative will review applications. After acceptance of submissions, all UNI applicants will be informed and the course manuals will be shared online. The approved course manuals will be announced in the UN-Habitat website and its social media channels.

While course manuals are reviewed by designated moderators, the materials provided by Universities and uploaded on the UNI UN-Habitat website are the sole responsibility of the University. UN-Habitat will add a disclaimer to that effect. Please note that universities that have their course manuals on the UNI website cannot claim any endorsement by UN-Habitat and may not use the UN-Habitat name or logo at any point for the purpose of publicity or promotion.

The following information needs to be submitted by the UNI applicants in English. Main course information may be translated if the course manual is available in another language.

1. Course name
2. Name of academic (owner of the material)
3. Email of the academic (non-public entry)
4. Thematic Hub (multiple choice, see table of categories below)
5. Main course information (250 words)
  - Description
  - Keywords (5 max)
  - Modality of instruction (synchronous, asynchronous, face to face, web/video conference)
  - Nature of classroom interaction
6. Geographical Scale (scale at which the work is focusing)
  - Neighbourhood
  - City
  - Metropolitan
  - Sub-national Regional
  - National
  - Multi-national Regional
  - Global
7. Region Examined
  - UN World Regions
8. Language
  - Arabic
  - Chinese
  - English
  - French
  - German
  - Indonesian
  - Japanese
  - Portuguese
  - Russian
  - Spanish
  - Turkish
  - Other (specify).
9. Year of publication (5 years max)
10. Level of instruction
  - Undergraduate
  - Post-graduate
  - In-service training/continuing education
  - Semester/quarter length courses/modules
  - Short courses/modules (1 day to 1 month)
11. Themes and sub-themes included in the course manual
  - Select a maximum of three themes addressed in the course manual

- Select a maximum of three sub-themes in the selected themes

### **Contact Information**

Applications and queries can be directed to [unhabitat-uni@un.org](mailto:unhabitat-uni@un.org)