



ProSPER.Net

Q&A

1. What is ProSPER.Net?

ProSPER.Net (**P**romotion of **S**ustainability in **P**ostgraduate **E**ducation and **R**esearch **N**etwork) is a network of committed higher education institutions that pursue curriculum reform to integrate the sustainability agenda into postgraduate courses, curricula and programs as well as research in the area of sustainable development (1.1 and 1.2 of ProSPER.Net Charter).

2. Who is eligible to become a Member?

Higher education institutions located in Asia and the Pacific region, with strong education and research programmes as well as experience in postgraduate education and research in Sustainable Development (SD) and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) related fields (2.1 and 2.2 of ProSPER.Net Charter and 1.1 of ProSPER.Net By-Laws).

3. What are the qualifications to become a Member?

The prospective member must be a higher education institution, located in Asia and the Pacific region, with strong education and research programmes as well as experience in postgraduate education and research in Sustainable Development (SD) and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)-related fields (2.1 and 2.2 of ProSPER.Net Charter and 1.1 of ProSPER.Net By-Laws).

4. Is location in the Asia-Pacific region a necessity for membership?

Higher education institutions located outside the Asia-Pacific region may become affiliate ProSPER.Net members, provided they have strong education and research programmes as well as experience in postgraduate education and research in SD and ESD-related fields, and submit their applications in the same manner as a prospective member (2.3 of ProSPER.Net Charter and 1.7 of ProSPER.Net By-Laws).

5. Is there an application form?

There is an application form with instructions regarding the information and documents to be sent to the ProSPER.Net Secretariat. The form can be downloaded from www.ias.unu.edu/efsd/prospernet.

6. Is there a membership fee?

In principle, there is no membership fee. However, final decision lies in the hands of the ProSPER.Net General Assembly (6.1. of ProSPER.Net By-Laws).

7. How is ProSPER.Net organised?

ProSPER.Net comprises a General Assembly, a Board and a Secretariat. The General Assembly consists of representatives of all member institutions, nominated by their respective heads as such. The General Assembly elects member institutions to be represented in the Board, responsible for the governance and management functions of the network. UNU-IAS serves as ProSPER.Net Secretariat (Article 4 of the Charter and Chapters 2, 3 and 4 of the By-Laws).

8. What activities are being carried out?

Currently, three joint activities are being carried out, and two others are being planned. The three ongoing projects are related to implementation of the sustainable development agenda in faculty training, public policy and business schools. The projects that are being developed are summer schools and reorientation of engineering schools curricula. More information is available on the ProSPER.Net website: www.ias.unu.edu/efsd/prospernet.

9. How can ProSPER.Net help our institution develop education for sustainable development?

As a network of higher education institutions committed towards implementing sustainable development in postgraduate courses, programmes and curricula, mainly by sharing experiences and designing and developing joint activities, all member institutions have the opportunity to benefit from participating and learning from best practices, and by being part of an innovative process of linking academics, practitioners and stakeholders dealing with sustainable development issues.

10. What is the process for submitting applications?

Application forms, which can be downloaded from the ProSPER.Net website, should be submitted to the Secretariat together with a letter of intention and a formal dossier justifying the institution's strength and expertise in the areas of sustainable development and education for sustainable development at the postgraduate level (1.2 of ProSPER.Net By-Laws). The application should reach General Assembly members at least two weeks prior to the General Assembly meeting where the application will be considered and a decision taken (1.3 and 1.4 of ProSPER.Net By-Laws).

11. Is it possible for a member to withdraw from the network?

It is possible for a member to withdraw from the network following notification provided in writing six months ahead of the withdrawal (7.4 of ProSPER.Net Charter).

For more information

Aurea Christine Tanaka

Programme Associate

EfSD Programme, UNU-IAS

tanaka@ias.unu.edu