



DNC 2025 | The Future of Resources
Resources for the Future

Second Circular

27 December 2024

1. DNC 2025

In April 2025, the global Resource Nexus community will come together in Dresden, Germany, to discuss the future of resources management. With a focus on integrated (“nexus”) approaches, 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 for 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 region. All this makes 2025 the right moment for having the World as our guests!

2. Conference Scope and Topics

The conference will on the one hand **look back** to highlight important 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 the Nexus has contributed to advancing sustainability, but also for discussing the hindrances to the implementation of 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 at developing strategies for overcoming barriers to Nexus approaches, and initiating Nexus guidelines and an ISO standard for the Resource Nexus.

3. Call for Abstracts and Registration

We invite you to submit abstracts for posters and presentations via an electronic submission and registration system that will be linked on the [DNC website](#) from approx. 15 January 2025. In the submission system, please select an appropriate session. Note, however, that for organizational reasons we may need to transfer some abstracts between sessions (ensuring that abstracts fit the respective session).

Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 February 2025

Participation in DNC, regardless of your role, requires registration via the electronic submission and registration system that will be linked on the [DNC website](#) from approx. 15 January 2025 onward

Early Bird Registration: until 28 February 2025

Regular Registration: until 30 March 2025

Note that due to a higher-than expected interest in organizing sessions and side events at DNC 2025, there will be the following time schedule:

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 dinner (optional).

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 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 possibility a guided tour of Dresden’s old town. A list of workshops will be shared on the website in early February 2025.

Conference fees	General Participant	Global South	Student
Early Bird Price (registration till 28 February 2025)	300 €	150 €	150 €
Regular Price (1 March to 30 March 2025)	375 €	200 €	200 €

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

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

- Global ABC Participants may register for DNC 2025 if they wish to participate in DNC events from 8 to 11 April 2025.
- DNC 2025 participants interested in connecting to the Global Alliance for Building and Construction, please contact dnc2025@unu.edu.

4. Travel Information

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 will be shared in the third conference circular and via the website around mid- January.

The conference will take place at the German Museum of Hygiene. The signature event “*From Conflicts to Cooperation: The Resource Nexus as a Pathway to Peace*” ., both of which are centrally located and easily accessible by public transport.

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 at any time, indicating your anticipated form of participation in DNC.

5. 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 Mabhaudhi, Professor of 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

6. Tentative list of sessions

Note that some sessions may be slightly altered or combined depending on the abstract submissions.

Advancing the Resource Nexus

- Integrated Earth System Science Data for Integrated Management of Resources
- A robust definition of the Nexus – Learning from Resource Nexus and Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem Nexus applications
- Hands-on demonstration of the NEXOGENESIS Nexus Policy Assessment Tool (NEPAT)
- The Next 100 Questions for the Water-Energy-Food Nexus Research and Policy
- Navigating the Nexus: Climate Change, Migration, and Health for a Resilient Future
- Broadening the dimensions of the WEF nexus: a focus on planetary health

Communicating and Engaging for the Nexus

- Telling the Resource Nexus story with maps
- Stakeholder Engagement in Post-Mining Land Restoration and Land Use
- Nexus Thinking in Action: How Citizen Science Shapes Sustainability
- Advancing a Curriculum of the Resource Nexus
- Launch: Knowledge Academy of the Resource Nexus
- Navigating Uncertainty: Catalyzing the implementation of Nexus approaches in research and practice through inclusive dialogue and collaboration

The Water-Energy-Food Nexus

- Water–energy–food nexus approaches in the context of groundwater management in Central Asia
- Open Source and Access for equal and sustainable Energy-Food-Water nexus
- African Lens on Water-Energy-Food Nexus: Tackling Urban Complexities
- Round Table Discussion on Grassroots Development Initiatives and Challenges on Energy, Water, and Food Security: A Multi-Sectoral Approach Cases Of The Philippines
- Using a Theory of Change to foster impact of WEF+ Nexus projects: practical insights

- Water-energy-food nexus and systems modelling to secure a sustainable and maximizing resource self-sufficiency at local scale
- WEF Nexus for Climate Action in Global South
- Leveraging Innovative WEF Nexus technologies and approaches for Climate Action
- Building Nexus Resilience: Addressing Migration and Conflicts in Water-Energy-Food Systems
- Best practices in WEF+ Nexus: Showcasing impactful projects

Operationalizing and Financing Nexus Approaches

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

Resource Nexus, Environmental Risk and Global Crises

- Nexus Between Environmental Risks and Resources for Sustainable Urban Transformation
- A Systems Approach for Disaster Risk Reduction: Exploring the Nexus of Energy, Food, and Human Mobility
- United Nations' Green Peacekeeping: Energy Revolution amidst Safeguarding Global Peace and Security

Nexus Perspectives on Climate and Water Resilience

- Arctic rivers and climate change
- Nexus Approach for Coastal Climate Resilience Building Against Sea Level Rise
- Global drought Policy Issues- Where are we heading to?
- Environmental Resource Nexus Approaches for Sustainable Water and Ecosystem Management
- Managing Water at the Core of the Resource Nexus
- Water & Energy Resources in MENA Area Under Rising Climatic and Geopolitical Uncertainties
- Water sensitive cities in Colombia: Adaptation of public spaces to climate change with NBS
- Monitoring Framework for the Quantification of Nexus-Smart Water Governance
- Governing the Groundwater Nexus: Knowledge, Motivation and Agency

- UNU Dialogue on ‘Circularity in the Water Sector’ and ‘Cross-sectoral Nexus Learning’ to steer Agenda 2030 (in particular SDG 6)

Nexus Perspectives on Agri-Food Systems

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

Nexus Perspectives on Biodiversity

- Living in Harmony with Nature: Engaging with Stakeholders for Corporate Biodiversity Stewardship
- Biological invasions in an era of global environmental change