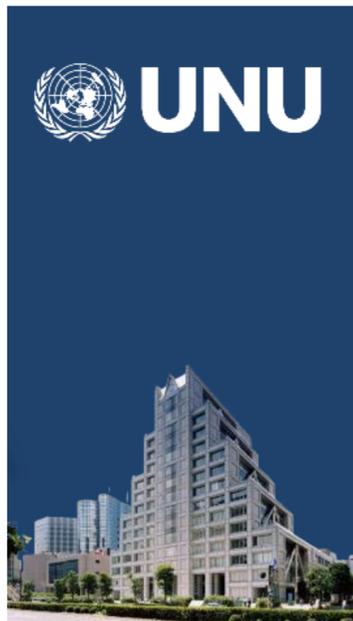


# Funded PhD on sustainable management of environmental resources



# UNU-FLORES: A Quick Introduction



A university dedicated to being “truly international” and focused on the Charter’s goals of peace and progress.

13 Institutes located in 12 countries

A think tank for the UN System and Member States



United Nations University Institute for Integrated Management of Material Fluxes and of Resources (UNU-FLORES)

Located in Dresden, Germany

Focus on sustainability science and policy-relevant research



# Session Agenda

01

## About Us

Get to know  
UNU-FLORES

02

## KARE

Knowledge  
Academy for the  
Resource Nexus

03

## NEXtra

Opportunities to  
conduct doctoral  
studies under  
joint supervision

04

## Experience from current PhDs

Research topic,  
Life in Dresden  
and UNU-  
FLORES

05

## FAQ

And answers to  
your burning  
questions

# Presenters



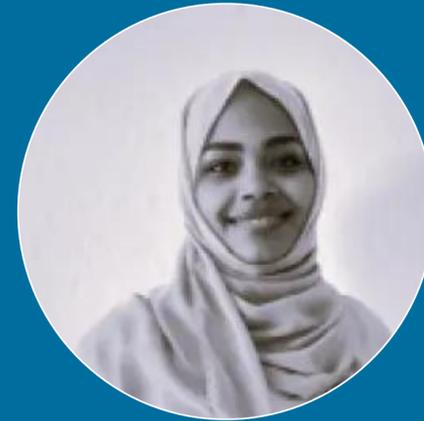
**Prof. Serena  
Coetzee**

*Head of Education*



**Dinara  
Dikhanbayeva**

*Educational Programme  
Associate*



**Rayyan  
Sulieman**

*Doctoral Researcher*



**Luisa Ferolla  
Prates**

*Doctoral Researcher*

# A Resource Nexus Approach



## Advancing the Resource Nexus for...



Resilient Food, Forest and Ecosystems



Transformed Landscapes



Sustainable Buildings and Construction



Responsible Electronics



Circular Textiles

... to address the **triple planetary crisis** of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and  
... to enable and empower people to sustainably **transform policies, businesses and societies** by respecting political, economic, societal, technological, environmental and legal contexts.

# Knowledge Academy for the Resource Nexus (KARE)

Learn



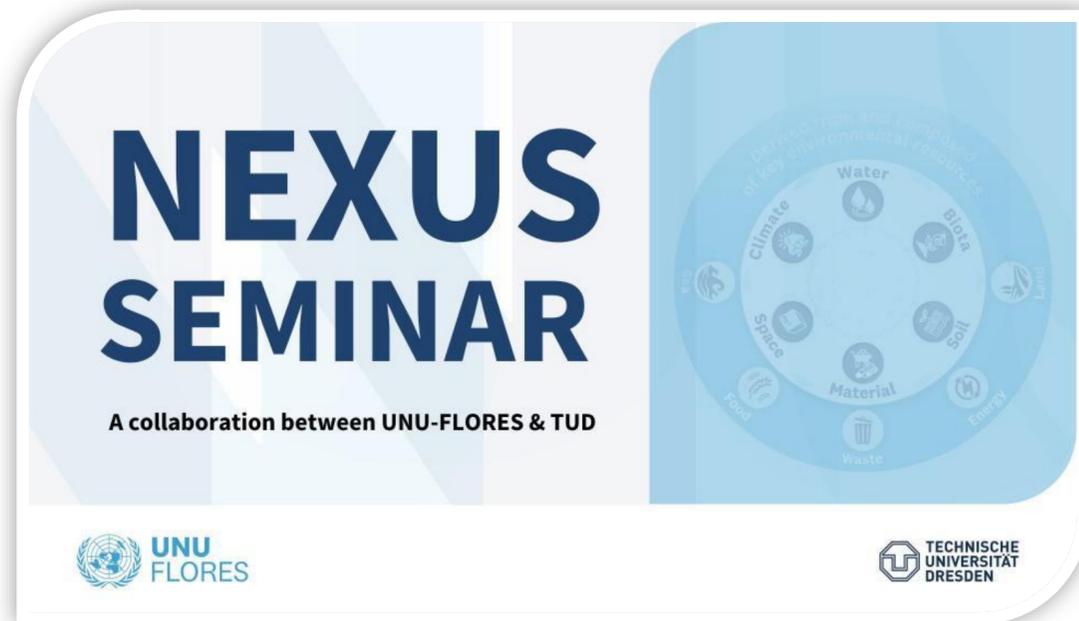
Engage



Apply



# Find out about the Resource Nexus



**NEXUS SEMINAR**  
A collaboration between UNU-FLORES & TUD

UNU FLORES

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DRESDEN

The diagram shows a central circle with the text "Deriving from the combination of key environmental resources" at the top. Surrounding this are icons and labels for: Climate, Water, Biota, Land, Energy, Waste, Material, Soil, and Space.



SEMINAR NO. 87

SEMINAR NO. 86

SEMINAR NO. 89

**NEXUS SEMINAR**  
A collaboration between UNU-FLORES & TUD

**NEXUS SEMINAR**  
A collaboration between UNU-FLORES & TUD

**NEXUS SEMINAR**  
A collaboration between UNU-FLORES & TUD

17 WS Observing and modelling climate-land-energy-water interactions in cold climate

**Prof. Bjørn Kløve**  
Professor at the University of Oulu in Finland

19th January 2026 | 14:50 CET | Online



UNU FLORES

Dresden University of Technology

# Find out about the Resource Nexus



**Free e-learning course**

**A Resource Nexus Approach  
in the Textile Sector**

    **atingi**

To enroll: [https://online.atingi.org/enrol/index.php?id=5340&lang=fr\\_wp](https://online.atingi.org/enrol/index.php?id=5340&lang=fr_wp)

# UNU-FLORES Doctoral Programme



Current doctoral researchers



Completed doctoral researchers



Current doctoral researchers from the Global South



Current female doctoral researchers

## Unique features

- Resource Nexus approach
- Policy-science-practice interface
- Exposure to the UN system
- Hands-on training in advocacy and communication



## Donors:



## Partners:



# The NEXtra EPOS project

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Doctoral researcher positions at UNU-FLORES

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Resource **NEX**us for Sustainability  
transformations

---

Funded through the DAAD EPOS programme



# What is DAAD EPOS?

## DAAD EPOS is

Development-Related Postgraduate Courses programme by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD EPOS)



### Target Audience

Master's students; early career professionals from Global South



### Funding Period

40/42 months

## What is covered?

Research trip funding

Health insurance

Annual airfare tickets

# Who can apply to NEXtra?

From eligible developing countries ([DAAD EPOS list](#) active for 2026-2027)

Relevant Master's degree no older than 6 years old

Min. grade for MA 2.5/5.0 [German system](#) or 3.0/4.0

English language proficiency (TOEFL/IELTS)

Min. 2 years of work experience

At the time of the application deadline, applicants must not have stayed in Germany for longer than fifteen (15) months

# Timeline



## Connect to UNU-FLORES:

[unu.edu/flores](https://unu.edu/flores)   [@unuflores](https://www.linkedin.com/company/unuflores)   [@unuflores](https://www.instagram.com/unuflores)   [@unuflores](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

KARE <https://unu.edu/flores/knowledge-academy-resource-nexus-kare>

# Application Checklist

EPOS Checklist [epos\\_checklist.pdf](#)

[EPOS application form](#)

[Europass CV Template](#)

Motivation Letter

Copies of University Academic Degree Certificates and Transcripts

Copy of Secondary School Certificate

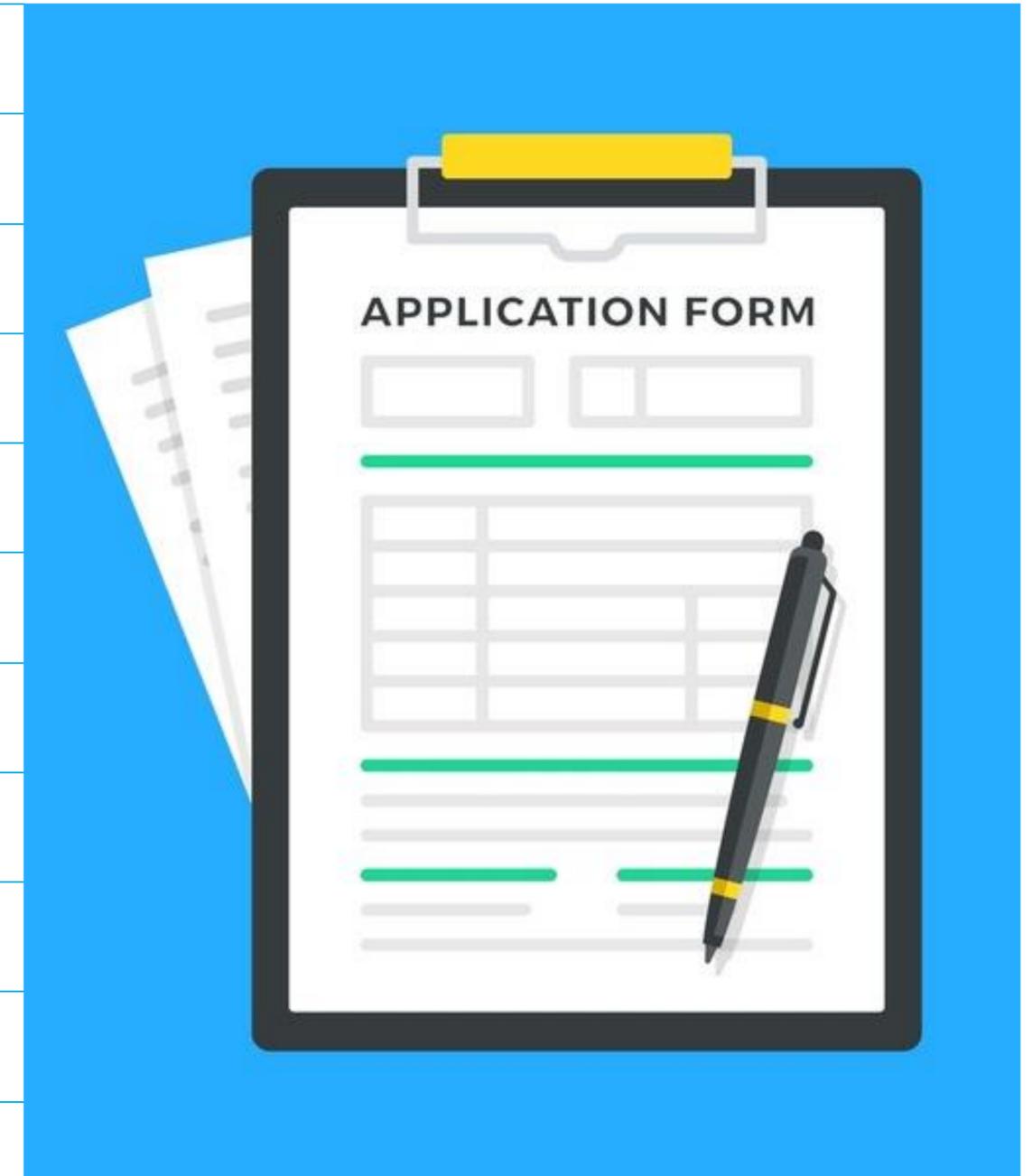
Work Certificates

Two Letters of Recommendation (employer + academic supervisor)

Proof of Language Skills (English and/or German)

Copy of the Full Master's Thesis

Additional Documents (optional)



# Application Checklist

## Elements of your research proposal

*(max 13,000 characters including spaces, plus references)*

- Background and Motivation (*context, origin of the problem/gap, awareness of related work, importance/significance of addressing problem / gap;*
- Review of State-of-the-Art Scientific Knowledge;
- Problem Statement, Research Aim, and Objectives;
- Research Approach and Methods;
- Work Plan;
- References.

*Use of AI – should be declared and will be verified.*

## Last points to consider

Check eligibility criteria

Authentic motivation matters

Align your experience with the programme

Clarity over complexity

Structure matters more than you think

Check completeness of application

Check formatting and structure instruction

Proofread everything

Respect the reviewers' time

# What makes an application strong?

- ✓ Understand the programme's purpose and align your narrative
- ✓ Start early and manage time strategically
- ✓ Tailor your application to NEXtra programme
- ✓ Highlight relevant professional experience
- ✓ Craft a compelling research proposal
- ✓ Write a purposeful motivation letter (not generic)
- ✓ Prepare strong, aligned references
- ✓ Demonstrate fulfilment of eligibility requirements clearly
- ✓ Structure your application for ease of review

# Empowering scientists, practitioners, policy and decision makers with Resource Nexus thinking

<https://unu.edu/flores/>, click on 'Learning'