Sustainable Development Goals, Cities, and Inclusive Prosperity

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Course background and purpose

The world continues to urbanize. In the 100 years starting 1913, the proportion of the world’s population that lives in cities grew 5-fold from 10% to 50%, and estimates suggest that 75% of the world’s population will live in cities in 2050.

Though history reveals that urbanization has always been an accelerator of growth and development, it also poses profound challenges for corporates, communities, cities, and countries. A recent McKinsey report succinctly notes: “Cities are essential to global economic growth and productivity. They are where most of the world’s population live, work, and play, and they are important to everyone else, too. They are the world’s economic engine, consuming the majority of global power and resources, while generating 80 percent of GDP and 70 percent of greenhouse-gas emissions. Making cities great is the critical infrastructure challenge of this century.”

At the same time, the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.” (see https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300)

The purpose of the 2020 Spring GNW course are to help students across the Global Network:

- Critique the challenges and opportunities of the implementation of the UN SGGs in securing inclusive prosperity
- Evaluate how local and regional context shapes the challenges and opportunities facing global cities, and how cities can be a leverage point for other SDGs
- Develop and defend a point of view regarding the value of transdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder for cities to shape resilience and inclusive prosperity

Course team

Faculty

Murali Chandrashekaran, Sauder School of Business, UBC

TA and support

TA - TBC
Alina Yukhymets
Course schedule and assignments*

**DAY 1 – 09 MARCH 2020 - SESSIONS TBC**

**VENUE**  
Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre, Jack Poole Hall - North  
UBC 6163 University Boulevard, Vancouver, BC

08:15-09:00  
Breakfast

09:00-09:15  
Welcome to Sauder & UBC  
Professor Robert Helsley, Dean, Sauder School of Business (TBC)

09:15-10:30  
SDGs and Urban resilience  
Murali Chandrashekaran, Sauder School of Business

10:30-11:00  
Break

11:00-12:30  
Biodiversity, Ecosystems & Sustainability @ UBC  
John Madden, Director of Sustainability Engineering, UBC

12:30-13:30  
Lunch (provided)

13:30-17:30  
Vancouver City Tour

17:30-19:30  
GNAM Welcome Reception,

**VENUE –** Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre
DAY 2 – 10 MARCH 2020 – SESSIONS TBC

VENUE Room DL 125, UBC, Sauder School of Business, 2053 Main Mall  

08:30-09:00 Coffee
09:00-11:00 Case 1 – Kanaka Bar Indian Band: Towards Self-Sufficiency, Vibrancy, and Sustainability
11:00-11:30 Coffee break
11:30-13:00 Water
Les Lavkulich, Faculty of Land & Food Systems, UBC
13:00-14:00 Lunch (on your own)
Recommended places to eat: The Nest, Harvest, The Point, Mercante, Blue Chip Cookies, Mahony & Sons
14:00-15:30 Human Migration and Social Cohesion
Chris Friessen, Director, Immigrant Services of British Columbia
15:30-15:45 Coffee break
15:45-17:00 Energy Access in India
Hisham Zeriffi, Faculty of Forestry, UBC
19:00-21:00 Social Event (Optional, TBC)
DAY 3 – 11 MARCH 2020 SESSIONS TBC

VENUE Room DL 125 – UBC Sauder School of Business, 2053 Main Mall

08:30-09:00 Coffee

09:00-10:30 Community Benefits Agreement
    Steve Johnston, City of Vancouver

10:30-11:00 Break

11:00-12:30 Case 2 – Coca-Cola's 'eKOCool' Solar Cooler: Innovation to Empower Women Retailers in Rural India

12:30-13:20 Lunch (provided)

13:20-15:00 Site Visits: Bioenergy Research & Demonstration Facility (BRDF) & Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability (CIRS)

15:00-16:00 Partnerships for Accelerated Impact—Murali Chandrashekaran

16:00-17:00 Case 3 – Meta Abo Brewery: Creating a Sustainable Value Chain in Ethiopia
DAY 4 – 12 MARCH 2020  SESSIONS TBC

**VENUE**  
**Room DL 125** – UBC *Sauder School of Business, 2053 Main Mall*

08:30-09:00  Coffee

09:00-10:30  Nature-Based Solutions and Planetary Health  
Tahia Devisccher, School of Forestry, UBC

10:30-11:00  Break

11:00-12:00  Hackathon Briefing

12:00-16:30  Group Work – RHL Breakout Rooms  
Lunch (on your own)  
**Recommended places to eat**: The Nest, Harvest, The Point, Mercante, Blue Chip Cookies, Mahony & Sons

16:30-21:00  Group Work in Teams (RHL Breakout Rooms 122A-K provided)

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DAY 5 – 13 MARCH 2020  SESSIONS TBC

**VENUE** – **Room HA 132** – UBC *Sauder School of Business, 2053 Main Mall*

08:30-10:00  Group Work in Teams (Breakout Rooms 122A-K provided)  
Coffee and light breakfast available in front of Room HA133

10:00-11:30  Final Presentations

11:30-11:40  Break

11:40-13:00  Final Presentations

13:00-13:15  Debrief and Wrap-Up

13:15-14:30  Farewell Lunch

14:30-16:30  Museum of Anthropology Tour (Optional)

19:00-evening  **Social Mixer with UBC MBA Students** (Optional, TBC)