



HESI Networking Forum

21 May 2025, 09.00 – 11.00 AM (EST) | Virtual

On 21 May 2025, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM (EST), a virtual HESI Networking Forum will be held, offering a dedicated space for higher education institutions, student organizations, UN entities, and other stakeholders to connect, exchange ideas, and strengthen the HESI community.

The objectives of the Networking Forum include:

- Facilitating dialogue and collaboration among members of the HESI community.
- Providing a platform for HESI members, UN partners, HESI Action Groups, and related initiatives to share updates and promote active engagement.
- Identifying synergies, fostering new partnerships, and exploring common areas of interest.
- Encouraging broader and more inclusive participation in the annual HESI Global Forum by serving as an accessible entry point for both new and returning stakeholders.

Open to HESI Members

The Networking Forum is **open to all members of the HESI community**, with a special emphasis on welcoming new participants and introducing them to HESI's work.

Sign-up at: <https://forms.office.com/e/SEqumP1UsZ>

Not a member yet?

The HESI community brings together UN entities, university networks, student organizations, and higher education institutions committed to advancing sustainable development. Membership is free and open to any higher education institution or interested organization. Consider joining the [HESI Community](#) and becoming part of this global effort.

Exhibition Hall

The Networking Forum will also feature a virtual exhibition space, where members can showcase their work related to higher education and sustainable development. Participants may express their interest in exhibiting through the sign-up form.

More information

<https://sdgs.un.org/HESI/Networking>

Draft programme

Time	Session
5 mins	Opening by HESI Co-Chairs and overview of the Networking Forum
10 mins	Welcome to HESI – Introduction to the world of HESI, including the annual HESI Global Forum
45 mins	Interactive Networking Sessions <i>Participants will be randomly assigned to breakout rooms with 5 participants per room, rotating through three rounds.</i> <i>In each round, participants are invited to briefly introduce themselves and respond to the following prompts:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Where are you based, and what's your role in your institution or organization?</i>• <i>What does sustainable development mean to you personally or professionally?</i>• <i>Have you collaborated with other institutions or organizations on sustainable development issues?</i>
15 mins	Introduction to HESI's UN Partners <i>Presentations by UN partners highlighting their higher education-related work in support of sustainable development, including UN DESA, UNESCO, UN University, UNEP, UN Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME), UN-HABITAT, UNCTAD, UNITAR, the UN Office for Partnerships, and UN Academic Impact.</i> <i>Participants may choose breakout rooms based on interest.</i>
15 mins	Introduction to HESI Action Groups <i>Brief overview (5 mins) followed by breakout group presentations (10 mins) by the HESI Action Groups, including opportunities to learn how to get involved and a short Q&A.</i> <i>Action Groups:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>Futures of Higher Education and Artificial Intelligence</i>2. <i>Student Action Group</i>3. <i>Rankings, ratings, and assessments</i>4. <i>Education for Green Jobs</i>5. <i>SDG Publishers Compact</i> <i>Participants may choose breakout rooms based on interest.</i>
15 mins	Exhibition Hall of Member Contributions <i>A limited number of breakout groups will showcase HESI member-led initiatives, including research on sustainable development, integration of sustainability into curricula, innovation, and example of promising partnerships.</i>

Opportunities to present in this segment will be based on expressions of interest collected through the Networking Forum registration form.

Participants may choose breakout rooms based on interest.

10 mins **Presentation of the HESI Partnership Framework**

Overview of the framework guiding collaboration within HESI, followed by a brief Q&A.

5 mins **Closing & next steps**
