



22/04/2025

Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development Internship opportunity at the International Association of Universities (IAU)

Host profile

IAU, founded in 1950, is the UNESCO -based world-wide association of universities. It brings together institutions and organizations from some 120 countries for reflection and action on common concerns and collaborates with various international, regional and national bodies active in higher education. Its services are available to organizations, institutions and authorities concerned with higher education, as well as to individual policy and decision makers, specialists, administrators, teachers, researchers- and students.

Please consult the IAU Website (www.iau-aiu.net) for further information on the Association, its activities, programmes, objectives and services.

Main focus for the internship

[“Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development \(HESD\)”](#) is one of the key priority areas of work of the IAU since the early 90s when the [IAU Kyoto Declaration](#) was adopted.

More recently, since the adoption of the *UN Agenda 2030 -Transforming our world* and the associated sustainable development Goals (the 17 SDGs), higher education is mobilised further to contribute significantly to promoting sustainable development.

To support IAU Members’ initiatives and to foster networking and cooperation in support of sustainable development, IAU developed and maintains the [global portal on HESD](#), as well as created the [“IAU Global Cluster on HESD”](#).

Reporting directly to the IAU Programme Officer, and when appropriate the Communications and Media Officer, the successful candidate will be invited to work on a series of projects developed by the IAU and in particular the IAU driven initiatives in the field of *Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development* (HESD) and Communications.

Work assignments will include:

- support in the preparations for the **4th IAU Global Survey on HESD** (to be launched in 2026), in particular revision of the questionnaire, materials for partners, and other
- content creation and technical development of the **IAU Global Portal on HESD** (www.iau-hesd.net) and social media (LinkedIn, portal highlights, short articles)
- support with communication with the **IAU HESD Cluster Network** and partners,
- liaising with higher education institutions from around the world,
- general preparation of HESD projects, including assistance with the preparation of (virtual) events,
- desk-based research and communication related tasks.

Location of the Internship: IAU Secretariat at UNESCO House, 1, rue Miollis, Paris, France

Start month: August or September 2025

Duration: 5 to 6 months; 35h/week –full time (remuneration according to French student internship law: 4,35 €/h)

Profile:

- **Desired educational background:** Social Sciences, Languages, with knowledge and interest in themes related to sustainable development and higher education
- **Enrolled as a student** in the final year of undergrad studies or postgraduate level (MA)
- Previous internship experience in an international team an asset

Required skills:

- Excellent communication and drafting skills
- Ability to work independently on various tasks, and report back to the Programme Officer and/or Communications Officer
- Experience with research and data collection/survey methods desirable
- Good knowledge of Microsoft Word; Excel; previous experience with Content Management Systems (CMS- Drupal); communication tools would be an asset
- Language requirements: excellent level of English, and good knowledge of French or another UN language would be an asset

To apply, please send your **CV and motivation letter** (max. 1 page) in English to Isabel Toman, (i.toman@iau-aiu.net). By **20 May 2025**.