



2019 GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

# Knowledge for Sustainable Development: the Research-Policy Nexus

Bonn, Germany | 23-25 October 2019

## ■ Background

The Global Development Network (GDN) is hosting its 19th global development conference to facilitate the research-policy interface in pursuit of the SDGs. The conference will also mark GDN's 20th anniversary since its launch at the World Bank's Knowledge for Development conference in 1999 on Bridging Research and Policy. GDN has kept pace with changes in the development research landscape through its activities, and its conferences in Bonn, Tokyo, Rio de Janeiro, New Delhi, Dakar, St Petersburg, Beijing, Brisbane, Kuwait, Prague, Bogota, Budapest, Manila, Accra, Casablanca and Lima.

## ■ Objectives

The global conference in Bonn will ask how to strengthen the capacity of the current system of development research to meet new development challenges and facilitate sustainability. It will showcase high level, truly inclusive evidence-based debates on current development challenges and priorities. It will share knowledge for development by highlighting innovative, high-quality, original and topical research on development, and provide



developing countries with a voice in shaping global policy debates on sustainable development.

## ■ **Target**

The conference will target 400 participants, drawn from a diverse group of researchers, policymakers, representatives of international organizations, civil society, development practitioners and the private sector. Being held in Bonn, the conference is expected to be attended by high-level German and other European dignitaries.

## ■ **Partners**

GDN is partnering with the German Development Institute (DIE), the German Institute for Development Evaluation (DEval) and the United Nations University - Institute for Environment and Human Security, under the auspices of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). GDN invites other organizations working on sustainable development to propose and support sessions, prizes, displays, travel and other elements that go into making a conference a marvelous learning and networking opportunity.



## ■ Themes

The conference will focus on four interrelated themes

- From research to sustainable development action: interdisciplinary research, knowledge sharing, evidence brokering
- The global and shared challenges of sustainable development: migration, climate change, health etc.
- Next frontier challenges: Big Data, AI, digital transformation
- Greater local ownership and sustainability: implications for research policies and funding

## ■ Program

The conference will last two and a half days, during which the themes will be discussed in 90 minute plenaries. A further 15-20 parallel sessions will discuss the subthemes in depth. Other features will include special keynotes, awards, essay competitions, posters and side events.

Photo: 390 participants attended the Lima Conference in 2016, over 90% of whom came from developing countries.



## ■ How to participate

Speakers, papers and sessions will be selected by a high-level scientific committee through an open call. If you are interested in mobilizing research and knowledge for public policy around sustainable development, keep an eye out on [www.gdn.int/conference2019](http://www.gdn.int/conference2019) to secure your participation.

## ■ Contact

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**DEval**

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INSTITUTE FOR  
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EVALUATION

d.i.e

Deutsches Institut für  
Entwicklungspolitik



German Development  
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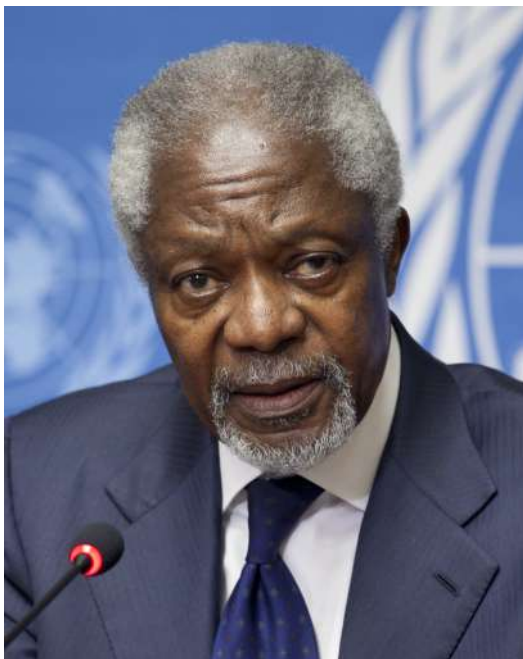
**GDN**   
Global  
Development  
Network



UNITED NATIONS  
UNIVERSITY

**UNU-EHS**

Institute for Environment  
and Human Security



“You have understood how vital it is that knowledge should be more fairly distributed around the world... Your network can help overcome the knowledge gap. And so provide those imprisoned in poverty with the key to gates of their prison.”

**Kofi Annan**

Former Secretary-General, United Nations at the first GDN conference in Bonn in 1999 on Bridging Research and Policy.