

Student assistant for project on “Transformative Urban Coalitions: Catalysing Urban Partnerships to Drive Systemic Transformation Towards Sustainability”

United Nations University (UNU-EHS)

The Transformative Urban Coalitions (TUC) project seeks a highly motivated student assistant with an outstanding record in prior student qualifications as well as strong skills in advanced statistical analysis of survey results to inform action research in Latin America.

Programme information:

Limiting climate change requires rapid and radical transformation of societies, especially in cities which cause 70% of global CO₂ emissions. Together with international consortium partners (the World Resources Institute, the International Institute for Environment and Development, and the German Development Institute), the TUC project develops, tests, and disseminates innovative approaches to trigger shifts in urban development towards zero carbon emissions by 2050. By establishing new actor coalitions and fostering open and participatory governance approaches, the project aims to accelerate transformations towards more sustainable and socially just cities in Latin America. Governance blueprints and lessons from TUC pilot cities will be disseminated through the global networks of UNU and programme partners to enable sustainable urbanization. One goal is to shape public debate both locally and globally, by means of educational activities and interaction with art and film.

The **TUC survey** was carried out between December 2021 and February 2022 with around 120 participants from government, neighborhood associations, NGOs, private sector and academia across five pilot cities in Argentina, Brazil and Mexico. This was the first primary data collection exercise conducted to establish a baseline for different TUC project indicators, including key actors, organizations, and their networks, as well as individual mindsets and capacities. Different analyses of the survey and their results should serve complementary purposes:

- Knowledge generation & learning: Identifying, describing and comparing key actor profiles/personas as well as narratives to help identify entry points for urban sustainability transformation;
- Operational and strategic management: Supporting several project plans and strategies across work packages, most importantly the co-design of decarbonization projects in each pilot city;
- Stakeholder engagement/empowerment: Informing capacity strengthening materials and activities to feed into discussions of the new actor coalitions;
- Accountability: Benchmarking TUC indicators to feed into longitudinal analysis;
- Policy making and influencing: Informing policy-relevant TUC publications and other outreach and dissemination materials to be presented at international fora.

The successful candidate will be entrusted with the following **tasks**:

- Analyze quantitative survey data using advanced statistical methods to uncover the relationships between variables, including the underlying mindsets to help identify entry points for urban sustainability transformation. Expected outputs include tables, graphs, plots, and presentations
- Thoroughly document all methodological steps, analyses and findings in a protocol
- Support subsequent scientific and policy paper publications

- Depending on need, support survey analyses in other projects
- In addition, the selected candidate is requested to support any other duties as may be required in the programme

Requirements:

- Enrolled in a MSc programme
- Good knowledge of survey research, and excellent knowledge of quantitative analysis methods
- Proficiency in at least one of the following statistical software packages: SPSS, Stata, R, Python, Jamovi
- High level of motivation, reliability and flexibility
- You will be working in a multicultural English-speaking team, therefore good written and verbal communication skills in English is required. German, Portuguese, and/or Spanish would be assets
- Interest in using the TUC survey as the basis for a thesis, while linking to project goals, is welcome

Conditions:

- **Starting date:** July 15th, 2022 or as soon as possible
- **Hours:** The contract will cover 10-15 hours of work per week
- **Duration:** The initial contract will cover a period of 6 months
- **Location:** Bonn, Germany. On-site/hybrid is desirable, remote is possible for the right candidate

Please send your short **letter of motivation** (max 1 page) and a **CV** as an electronic file (combined in one PDF) to Manuel Urrutia (urrutia-ii@ehs.unu.edu) until **June 30th, 2022, COB.**