SCHOOL FOR
ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

SUSTAINABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT (SUSDEV) MASTER OF SCIENCE

BECAUSE SUSTAINABILITY AND DEVELOPMENT POSE UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES FOR PEOPLE AND THE PLANET, THE WORLD NEEDS PROFESSIONALS WITH THE INSIGHTS AND TRAINING TO TACKLE THESE CHALLENGES.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), adopted by the United Nations in 2015, seek to address the greatest challenges humanity faces: poverty, inequality, hunger, climate change, pandemics and diseases, and ecosystem and biodiversity losses.

The SusDev specialization at SEAS aims to meet the substantial and growing need for trained professionals and researchers to address sustainability and development problems at multiple scales. Students will understand, assess, and apply the SDGs as conceived by the UN and adopted widely, but also go beyond that framework, both theoretically and methodologically. Instruction through the new specialization will emphasize collaboration across multiple disciplines, from the social and ecological sciences to engineering, public health, policy, education, and business.

WHY SUSDEV?

Become uniquely prepared to meet the rapidly growing need for trained professionals and researchers across the spectrum of sustainability and development sectors at local, national, and global scales. The SusDev specialization will help you:

- Develop expertise in conceptual, theoretical, and methodological issues associated with sustainability and development
- Understand the real-world practices that have helped improve the core areas of well-being and have supported major sustainability transitions through new institutions, policies, and behaviors
- Learn the methods and skills necessary to implement new visions and practices for greater sustainability and well-being

FACULTY

- Arun Agrawal
- Bilal Butt
- Ivan Eastin
- Pamela Jagger
- Meha Jain
- Maria Carmen Lemos

GAME CHANGERS

ALEXANDRA CLAYTON (MS/MPP '18)
SENIOR ASSOCIATE, CONSERVING MARINE LIFE
THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS
WASHINGTON, DC

"The world's biggest challenges will be exacerbated by climate change, and COVID-19 exemplifies the links between biodiversity loss and public health. The skills needed to work across these issues will become necessary for a career in the environmental fields. I wish SusDev would have existed when I was at SEAS!"

FEMI SAWYERR (MS '15)
CONSULTANT, ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS
SAN FRANCISCO, CA

"The SusDev specialization skills are valuable even for professionals looking into careers that are not specifically focused on sustainable development. These are cross-sectoral skills that everyone working or seeking to work in the nexus of sustainability, energy, and natural resources should have."

MASTER'S PROJECTS

Part of the culminating experience of your program is a master's project or master's thesis, where you will work with an external client to solve real-world problems. Recent projects include:

The Spatial Distribution of Benfits Resulting from REDD+ and FSC Implementation in Southeastern Tanzania
(Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania)
Client: International Forestry Resources and Institutions
Advisor: Arun Agrawal

Renewing Ranobe for Tomorrow: An Integrated Approach to Sustainable Development in Madagascar
(Ranobe, Toliara, Madagascar)
Client: Ho Avy & New Latitude
Advisor: Joseph Trumpey, Rebecca Hardin

Cheruvu: Sustainable Agriculture in India
(Cheruvu, India)
Client: Cheruvu
Advisor: Arun Agrawal

COURSE SAMPLING

- International Environmental Policy
- Conservation and Development
- Sustainability, Development, and Program Evaluation
- Diverse Farming Systems: Theory & Practice

APPLY NOW!
SEAS.UMICH.EDU/APPLY

CONTACT

SEAS ADMISSIONS COACHES:
seas-admissions@umich.edu
(734) 764-6453
Learn more: seas.umich.edu

CAREERS

In-house career coaches will provide personal guidance while you are a student and continued support after you graduate.

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SEAS SUSTAINABILITY THEMES

Students specializing in Sustainability and Development have the option to focus their studies and deepen their knowledge in one or more sustainability theme.

- CITIES+MOBILITY +BUILT ENVIRONMENT
- CLIMATE + ENERGY
- CONSERVATION + RESTORATION
- FOOD SYSTEMS
- WATER
- CROSS-CUTTING EXPERTISE