

What is SUS.DIV

SUS.DIV is a five-year network of excellence that focuses on the relationship between cultural diversity and sustainable development. Its main objective is to integrate European research across disciplines and countries in order to provide society and policy makers with the instruments for managing cultural diversity as a key element for sustainable development.

The network is co-ordinated by the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM) under the scientific leadership of Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (K.U.Leuven). It is composed of 35 Institutes from all around Europe and beyond.

Our research

If we want to achieve sustainability in the current era of globalisation, it is essential to align a fair allocation of scarce resources with recognition of the identity of certain groups. Only then can two one-sided visions be avoided: economism and culturalism. This new discourse should at once give expression to the political-economic and socio-cultural sides of social issues and focus on both redistribution and recognition, on development and multi-culturality and on justice and respect.

This link has already been stressed in the United Nations Human Development Report from 2005: "At the time when the notion of a global 'clash of cultures' is resonating so powerfully - and worryingly - around the world, finding answers to old questions of how best to manage and mitigate conflict over language, religion, culture and ethnicity has taken on renewed importance.

If the world is to reach the Millennium Development Goals and ultimately eradicate poverty, it must first successfully confront the challenge of how to build inclusive, culturally diverse societies".

The objective of SUS.DIV is to increase our understanding of this relationship between sustainability and diversity. We look at diversity as a possible source of development and welfare, and assume that differences can interact in a positive manner (through cultural dialogue).

Given this focus, our research is built around two main topics:

- What is the impact of cultural diversity?
- How can cultural diversity be enhanced, preserved, protected, utilized?

Throughout the network, these two central questions are studied in three arenas, corresponding to three levels of analysis:

- Teams and organisations (private organisations, governmental institutions, and non-profit organisations)
- Cities (or streets/neighbourhoods in cities)
- Nations (and beyond)

Our research groups

SUS.DIV research is organised in a set of inter-disciplinary Research Tasks:

- "Cultural diversity: Mapping dynamic processes"
- "Cultural diversity as an asset for human welfare and development"
- "Cultural distance, organisation and governance in a global context"
- "Diversity and the creative capacity of cities and regions"
- "Diversity and the creative capacity of organisations and teams"
- "Cultural dialogue through governance: diversity in the political arena"
- "Cultural dialogue through art: diversity in the cultural arena"
- "Cultural dialogue through (im)possible spaces: diversity in the social arena"
- "Diversity and ethnic entrepreneurship: Dialogue through exchanges in the economic arena"

Funding opportunities

Training & exchanges

SUS.DIV provides an opportunity for researchers involved in similar research activities to spend a period of training in another institution. There are no restrictions as to the duration of the exchange. The only restriction is that either the scholar or the institution is a SUS.DIV partner. The training exchange programme aims:

- To contribute to the development of the researchers' competencies and to improve their research career
- To promote cross-institutional and cross-disciplinary mobility and to enhance networking within and outside the network

Applications for participation in the training exchange programme can be sent at any time.

See cover for contact details.

Organisation of events

SUS.DIV sponsors the organisation of workshops and/or seminars that involve at least 3 SUS.DIV partners and another Network of Excellence or EU funded project, (non-SUS.DIV) academic scholars or policy makers.

The average funding amounts to € 5,000 per joint event. SUS.DIV sponsorship must be acknowledged in the programme of the event and in the publications originating from it.

See cover for contact details.

Partners

- 1 Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, Italy
- 2 University College London, UK
- 3 Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium
- 4 Istituto Psicoanalitico per le Ricerche Sociali, Italy
- 5 Università Politecnica delle Marche, Italy
- 6 CERES, Greece
- 7 The Hague University, the Netherlands
- 8 IDEA Strategische Economische Consulting, Belgium
- 9 Centro Studi Luca d'Agliano, Italy
- 10 Institute of Economics at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria
- 11 University of Nottingham, UK
- 12 Tilburg University, the Netherlands
- 13 University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- 14 Reseau d'Administrateurs culturel Européens, Belgium
- 15 Umea University, Sweden
- 16 Stockholm University, Sweden
- 17 Centre Interdisciplinaire de Recherche Comparative en Sciences Sociales, France
- 18 Matej Bel University, Slovakia
- 19 Istanbul Technical University, Turkey
- 20 National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
- 21 Free University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands
- 22 INLECOM Systems LTD, UK
- 23 Bahcesehir University, Turkey
- 24 Centre for Economic Policy Research, UK
- 25 Universidad del Pais Vasco, Spain
- 26 University of Ulster, UK
- 27 University of Miskolc, Hungary
- 28 Hamburg Institute of International Economics, Germany
- 29 Institute of Ethnology of Academy of Sciences, Czech Rep.
- 30 Centre For Development Alternatives, India
- 31 Centro de Investigación y Promoción del Campesinado, Bolivia
- 32 Community Initiatives, US
- 33 College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, US
- 34 Central Institute of Indian Languages, India
- 35 University of South Australia, Australia

Contacts

Co-ordination team

For scientific matters
Prof. Maddy Janssens, K.U. Leuven
Maddy.Janssens@econ.kuleuven.be

For administration & management
Valeria Papponetti, FEEM
valeria.papponetti@feem.it

For information about training & exchanges

Dimitris Zevgolis
ceres@k-netgroup.com

For information about joint workshops

Sandra Bitusikova
alexandra.bitusikova@umb.sk

Communication team

Dafne Reymen
dafne.reymen@ideaconsult.be
Rob de Lobel
rob.delobel@ideaconsult.be

Web site

www.susdiv.org



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