



SUMY NATIONAL AGRARIAN UNIVERSITY, UKRAINE
EBERSWALDE UNIVERSITY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, GERMANY
UKRAINIAN NATIONAL FORESTRY UNIVERSITY, UKRAINE
GERMAN – UKRAINIAN UNIVERSITY NETWORK ConnectED
UNIVERSITY OF MANNHEIM, GERMANY
TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES WILDAU, GERMANY
SPECTRA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE EU, COMENIUS UNIVERSITY, SLOVAKIA
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING, UKRAINE
CHERKASY STATE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY, UKRAINE

INFORMATION LETTER

International Scientific Conference

**CONNECT_ED: STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS
FOR GLOBAL ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT**

June 2-5, 2026



Sumy - 2026

Dear colleagues,

The Organising Committee is pleased to invite you to participate in the International Scientific Conference “CONNECT_ED: Strategic Partnerships for Global Academic Engagement”, to be hosted by the Department of Ecology and Botany at Sumy National Agrarian University and held in a hybrid format from 2 to 5 June 2026.

Researchers and academic staff of higher education institutions and research organizations, representatives of public authorities and business, practitioners, as well as PhD and doctoral students whose research interests relate to sustainable development, international academic cooperation, natural resource management and environmental studies are invited to participate in the conference.

A digital conference proceedings volume will be published upon completion of the conference.

The conference is organized within the framework of the international project “ConnectED: German–Ukrainian University Network for Empowering Higher Education in Environmental Protection and Nature Conservation,” implemented under the DUHN programme of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD).

Conference Sections

1. Universities as Change Agents: Rethinking the Third Mission

- From local engagement to global impact: redefining the university’s societal role
- Community partnerships and co-creation for sustainable regional development
- Building bridges in fragmented worlds
- Universities as catalysts of innovation, inclusion, and resilience

2. Academic Diplomacy and Global Partnerships

- Universities as actors of soft power in times of geopolitical uncertainty
- Building trust and reciprocity in international cooperation
- The evolution of transnational academic networks: from mobility to shared missions
- Empowering academic leaders for collaborative impact

3. University Networks and Alliances: Future Pathways for Cooperation

- What makes networks resilient? Lessons from European and global models
- Governance, leadership, and shared value creation in university alliances
- Measuring the impact of networks: beyond projects and deliverables

4. Internationalisation and Capacity Building as Pathways to Resilience and Sustainable Transformation

- Internationalisation as a framework for safeguarding academic continuity and human capital
- Empowering universities to become equal partners in shaping global higher education
- Rethinking capacity building as a reciprocal learning process

5. The Role of Academic Networks in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

- Biodiversity and ecosystem processes
- Nature conservation and ecosystem restoration in terms of SDGs
- Ecologically sustainable management and resource conservation
- Innovative research methods of environmental science
- Social dimension of environmental protection

6. Project-Based Transformation, Green and Digital Innovation, and Post-War Recovery in Higher Education

- Project management curricula for green and digital transformation
- Universities as hubs for rebuilding war-affected regions
- Capacity building for project management in green, digital, and reconstruction initiatives

Conference languages: Ukrainian, English.



Registration and Submission Guidelines

To participate in the conference, please submit a completed application form along with the text of your contribution. If a paper has multiple authors, only one registration form should be submitted, listing all co-authors in the order in which they appear in the manuscript.

Steps to register for the conference

1. Fill out the registration form on Google Forms at the following link:

<https://forms.gle/yP7ZRQxhLGvtRt3p7>

2. Fill in all required fields of the Google Form.

3. Attach your file. Upload your publication materials in .doc or .docx format using the “Attach a file” field. The file should be named after the surname of the first author (e.g., *Skliar.docx*).

4. Make sure the document meets the formatting requirements. The maximum file size is 10 MB.

5. Check the correctness of the entered data.

6. Submit the form by clicking the “Send” button.

Participation in the conference is free of charge.

Submission deadline: 10 May 2026.

Formatting Requirements

Materials will be published in the authors’ edition with minimal technical editing. Authors are responsible for ensuring academic integrity.

General requirements:

- File format: MS Word 97 – 2010
- Paper size: A4
- Length of materials: 1 – 3 full pages
- Font: Times New Roman
- Title, authors, main text: 14 pt, single spacing
- Affiliation, references, tables, figure captions: 12 pt, single spacing
- Margins: 2 cm on all sides
- Paragraph indent: 1.25 cm

A sample publications format can be viewed at the following link

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MK5HtyfNzCaO8zep7CEJj0BkWTbTFeCI/edit?usp=sharing&oid=115769428936246036818&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Submission of registrations and materials: until 10 May 2026

Submission e-mail: kaf.ecology@snaeu.edu.ua

