

The Security & Sustainability Guide: An Overview

Brief Description: A guide to 600+ international organizations (or organizations of international relevance) that are concerned with some or all aspects of “security” (including conflict, peace, disarmament, and human security) and/or “sustainability” (including climate, environment, sustainable development, low-carbon economies, green growth, and “new human-centered paradigms”).

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Purposes:

- 1) *To Discover* the burgeoning world of non-profit and governmental organizations, mostly international, concerned with security and/or sustainability. Some 700 of these organizations have been identified as of October 2014—far more than we expected! We hope to highlight at least 600 of the more important organizations, but it may be appropriate to extend to 700 or 800—perhaps even 1000! We still do not have a confident estimate of how many organizations and programs deserve notice under appropriate current definitions of security and sustainability. Both of these sectors are expanding, broadening, and increasingly overlapping.
- 2) *To Broaden* the understanding of S&S organizations to include not only well-known NGOs (IUCN, WWF, Greenpeace) and governance organizations (UN, OCED, World Bank), but to indicate the promising work of organizations both large and small, establishment and non-establishment, scientific and activist, generalist and specialist, profit and non-profit, and favoring top-down and bottom-up action. Security is the enabler; sustainability is the goal.
- 3) *To Learn* what these organizations are doing by visiting their websites and collecting information on purposes, vision, programs, key publications, number of staff and/or members, chief officers, date of founding, and place of central offices. This information is preliminary, subject to further refinement and expansion if and when the S&S Guide receives adequate support. *No individual or organization has yet to put this illuminating information together in an accessible format.*
- 4) *To Help* these organizations and individuals to connect to various centers of expertise, emerging S&S ideas, agendas, and strategies, and to shape alliances, consortia, and networks among them.
- 5) *To Explore* the seeming paradox that, despite many if not all of these security and sustainability organizations being engaged in important preventive, restorative, and transformative activities, there is considerable inefficiency due to the huge number of fragmented efforts.
- 6) *To Encourage* some organizations primarily concerned with “security” to broaden their horizon so as to encompass “sustainability” concerns (food security, energy security, climate change vulnerability and adaptation, etc.) and to encourage some organizations primarily concerned with “sustainability” to see their concerns as national and global security issues, and to note that many “flailing states” lack basic security, without which there can be no progress to sustainability. We do not expect all S&S organizations to network together, but there is a trend to some overlap, which we hope to promote. And we have already identified many alliances, consortia, and networks.

Current Status: A “Second Interim Draft” of 94 pages has been prepared as of September, 2014. It includes a Major Categories Index (see below), a provisional list of Notable Organizations, an Organization Title Index to 670 organizations, provisional write-ups for 240 of these organizations, and a detailed 21-page Subject Index. A “Third Interim Draft” will be available in the next few months, after which a search for funding will begin. The S&S Guide has already identified some two dozen “green” foundations and funds (see Subject Index). We will select several of the most promising to approach.

Future Development of the S&S Guide: A more-or-less completed First Draft of the S&S Guide will be available for the April 2015 WAAS meeting in Baku, providing a rough-gauge “map” to the evolving landscape of S&S organizations and major projects such as Future Earth.

To move beyond the First Draft stage, the Guide requires several full-time associates who will put the S&S project on a sustainable footing, and contact the organizations identified for updated information on recent projects and projects that are underway. This contact with listed organizations will, in turn, publicize the Guide. The two principals are only able to work part-time on the Guide, a “non-profit start-up” supported to date by investing personal funds. Ongoing foundation or “angel” support will be needed so that the Guide can be fully developed and freely distributed.

A “completed” Guide will have indexes by location of the organizations (notably in Northern Europe, the UK, and North America), and by date of founding so that trends might be identified. It will have a narrative that ties together the intentions and activities of many organizations, with provisional identification of the most noteworthy efforts. This will serve as the base for several spin-off articles in a variety of publications, describing the many facets of the major sustainability transition that is now underway—a long and difficult journey that in many respects has only just begun—against strengthening headwinds. Arguably, the broad trend toward promoting sustainable human development constitutes a new “futures” movement emphasizing prescriptions, displacing the old “futures movement” begun in the 1960s and 1970s that had greater emphasis on probable futures. But this broad megatrend may not be successful at all if some security concerns are not dealt with—most notably in late 2014 global health security against the Ebola virus.

The S&S Guide will circulate a monthly e-Newsletter to keep interested persons informed of new organizations and developments. A printed version of the Guide may be desirable and feasible.

Tie-In with the WAAS-initiated New Paradigms Coalition: The S&S Guide should be helpful to advancing the New Paradigm in three ways: 1) suggesting the current thinking of a wide variety of organizations, much of which could fall under the “new paradigm” heading; 2) informing development of the new paradigm, by integrating ideas from leading-edge organizations; 3) pointing to the variety of coalitions, consortia, and networks that are being formed (see Subject Index for a preliminary listing of 23 such groupings), as a way to inform design and development of the New Paradigms Coalition and avoid reinvention of wheels for progress toward sustainable human development.

The following major categories (with five or more listings) are in the extensive 21-page Subject Index to the 94-page September 2014 “Second Interim Draft” of the S&S Guide. The number of organizations listed to date is in parenthesis. These numbers will expand as more information is posted. Even in this imperfect state, the categories and organizations listed under them provide a quick overview of what the S&S Guide is about. NOTE: Some organizations are listed under two or more categories.

Africa (6)	Human Rights (9)
Agriculture (8)	Human Security (5)
Alliances/Consortia/Networks (23) *	Indigenous Peoples (6)
Arctic Transforming (12)	Japanese Groups (6)
Biodiversity (10)	Nuclear Disarmament (21)
Business and Sustainability (13)	Oceans Transforming (13)
Children (5)	Peace (31)
Cities (13)	Physicians’ Groups (5)
Climate and Security (5) **	Population (7)
Climate Change (36)	Resource Efficiency and Protection (11)
Conservation (9)	Risk (5)
Cyber-Security (5)	Scientist’s Groups (8)
Ecological Economics (8)	Security Studies in General (29)
Energy Transforming (28)	Special Purpose Organizations (7) ###
Finance (8) ***	Sustainability in General (39)
Food (11)	UN Agencies and Programs (19)
Forests (8)	Universities for Sustainability (10)
Former Leaders’ Groups (7) #	Water (14)
Foundations and Funds (21)	World Futures / Humanity / Global Affairs (35)
Governance (14)	Youth for Sustainability (5)
Green Growth/Economy/Jobs (11) ##	

* Future Earth, Green Economy Coalition, Network of Global Agenda Councils, Science and Technology Alliance for Global Sustainability, etc.

** Center for Climate and Security, German Advisory Council on Global Change, Institute for Environmental Security, International Institute for Strategic Studies, etc.

*** Belmont Forum, Climate Bonds Initiative, Financial Transparency Coalition, Green Climate Fund, etc.

Climate Reality Project (Al Gore), Club de Madrid (various ex-leaders), Future World Foundation (Kofi Annan), Green Cross International (Mikhail Gorbachev), etc.

Blue Economy.org, Global Green Growth Institute, International Labor Office, OECD, etc.

DESERTEC Fdn., Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, Sust. Accounting Standards Board, etc.