Purpose of the Internship Programme

The South Centre regularly offers the opportunity for young professionals, especially from developing countries, to undertake an internship in Sustainable Development and Climate Change (SDCC) at its headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland).

The Internship Programme in Sustainable Development and Climate Change is designed to:

- Give young professionals the opportunity to assist Sustainable Development and Climate Change experts in undertaking research and analysis on one of the following international policy areas: financing for development; macroeconomic and global finance policy; global environmental governance, including on sustainable development, climate change and environmental management; global social issues such as migration, human rights and gender.
- Give them the opportunity to contribute to the capacity building of developing country negotiators and policy-makers in formulating southern perspectives and policies on Sustainable Development and Climate Change issues.
- Allow them to gain experience and to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the way international policy affects the development objectives of countries in the South.
- Help them develop their critical and analytical capacity.
- Allow them to gain exposure of the various perspectives that exist on development issues in any work areas of the South Centre.
- Provide the South Centre’s Sustainable Development and Climate Change experts with the assistance of highly specialized and qualified students.

Eligibility criteria and expected skills

Applicants must:

1. Be fluent in English (both spoken and written). Knowledge of French or Spanish would be an asset.
2. Have completed or be completing an advanced degree from a university or from an institution of equivalent status. Due to the multidisciplinary nature of the research carried out, students from different educational backgrounds are eligible (Economics, International Political Economy, International Relations, International Law, International Development).
3. Have a demonstrated interest in development issues.
4. Have proficient computer skills.
5. Be able to work independently and as part of a team.
6. Be able to work in a multicultural environment.

Applicants for an internship should ideally be nationals of a developing country (defined as members of the Group of 77 and China). Alternatively, applicants should be able to demonstrate a capacity to identify and understand the interest and concerns proper to developing countries in any specific issues.

Duration, time commitment, location and remuneration

Internships are of a minimum duration of three months and are full-time (40 hours a week). The internship period may be extended upon mutual agreement. Interns applying for summer internships will be required to spend not less than 10 weeks on a full-time basis.

Internships take place in the South Centre’s headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland).

Sustainable Development and Climate Change (SDCC) internships are not remunerated, unless otherwise
specified. Except otherwise indicated to the intern in writing, travel expenses, including visa fees, to and from Geneva, will be the responsibility of the intern. In addition, interns shall also be responsible for their own insurance for illness and accidents.
Responsibilities

Specific intern responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Provide assistance in research and data collection.
- Draft papers and briefing notes under the supervision of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change experts.
- Identify the specific interest and concerns of developing countries in any of the topics being analyzed.
- Provide assistance in the organization of events.
- Attend, monitor and follow-up meetings on Sustainable Development and Climate Change at the South Centre, the UNOG, the UNCTAD, the WTO, the UNEP, the ILO and other institutions.
- Perform administrative tasks such as updating calendar of meetings, drafting letters, filing, etc.

Selection Process

Start and end dates are flexible. Applications may be submitted on an on-going basis with an indication of the fields of interest and periods of availability.

Qualified candidates may submit a complete curriculum vitae in English and the Internship Application Form, duly filled in English, via e-mail to south(at)southcentre.int. The subject line must be “Application for Sustainable Development and Climate Change Internship”.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for an interview. If the applicant is not in Geneva or cannot come to Geneva, a telephone interview may be arranged.

For more information on the South Centre, please visit the South Centre website at www.southcentre.int