Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz) Master's Course, Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University AY2021 Self-inspection and Annual Report

Overall review of evaluation results

(Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz))

The program aims to develop human resources with an ability to conduct research and practical work using social scientific approaches, and those with a high level of communication skills to collaborate with people with diverse backgrounds based on international cooperation principles in development studies under the theme of Sustainability Studies. Since the establishment in October 2020, faculty members from Hiroshima University and the University of Graz have collaborated to provide research guidance through a common curriculum, offering distinctive educational content of both universities such as public policy to alleviate poverty in developing countries, economic analysis, social science analysis, and sustainable management of companies.

The results of this Self-inspection and Annual Report are as follows; 16 criteria were judged to be "fully applicable," five criteria were judged to be "applicable," and four criteria were judged not subject to evaluation.

In the future, we will steadily implement the approved curriculum, and also continue to identify issues and consider improvement measures based on the needs of students, etc. in cooperation with the University of Graz.

Area 2: Criteria for internal quality assurance

Criterion 2-1: Internal quality assurance is functioning effectively.

Analysis item 2-1-1	Initiatives to systematically and continuously collect and analyze the information
	necessary for self-inspection/evaluation are implemented in the school or the program,
	and verification is conducted on whether such initiatives are functioning effectively.
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima
unit	University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Applicable Slightly applicable
	Not applicable
Evidence	Number of meetings held by the Self-inspection and Evaluation Committee: 7 (20
	members)
[Remarks]	The Self-inspection and Evaluation Committee of the Graduate School conducts
Grounds and reasons for	inspections and evaluation of educational and research activities, etc. The results of the
evaluation	class improvement questionnaire for each term are accumulated as evidence, and faculty
Supplementary explanation of	members' opinions in response to students' evaluation in the class improvement
evidence	questionnaire are fed back.

Distinctive activities and	
efforts	

Analysis item 2-1-2	The opinions of students, alumni and other parties concerned are collected and analyzed
	systematically and continuously, and efforts for utilizing such opinions are made.

evidence	
Distinctive activities and	
efforts	

Analysis item 2-2-2	Related personnel participate in faculty development (FD) workshops held by the
	university, schools, programs, etc., and the content is shared at the program committee,
	etc. for the improvement of education and research.
Self-inspection/evaluatio	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima
n unit	University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Applicable Slightly applicable
	Not applicable
Evidence	FD materials of the Graduate School, etc.
[Remarks]	Faculty members who participated in FD workshops held by the University and
Grounds and reasons for	Graduate School, etc. share the content at the Program Committee for the improvement of
evaluation	education and research.
Supplementary explanation	
of evidence	
Distinctive activities and	
efforts	

Area 3: Criteria for information disclosure

Criterion 3-1: Information on educational and research activities is properly disclosed and thus accountability is fulfilled.

Analysis item 3-1-1	The objectives of the schools, departments, programs, etc., the admission policy, the
	curriculum policy, and the diploma policy are properly publicized and made known to
	people, including faculty members and students.
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima
unit	University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Applicable Slightly applicable
	Not applicable
Evidence	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima
	University - University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
	https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei
	Brochure of the Graduate School
	https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/gshs/kouhoukankou

	Admission information for the Joint Degree Programme Hiroshima - Graz "Joint
	International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development"
	https://www.jointdegree.eu/de/sustainable-development/
	Student Handbook pp. 3-4
[Remarks]	The Admission Policy, Curriculum Policy and Diploma Policy are all published on the
Grounds and reasons for	website and in the brochure of the Graduate School. The Admission Policy is also
evaluation	published in the application guidelines, and the Curriculum Policy and Diploma Policy
Supplementary explanation of	are also published in the Student Handbook to make them widely known.
evidence	
Distinctive activities and	
efforts	

Area 4: Criteria for facilities/equipment and student support

Criterion 4-1: Facilities and equipment suitable for the educational research organization and curriculum have been established and effectively used.

Analysis item 4-1-1	Self-study rooms, group discussion rooms, information equipment rooms, classrooms and
	educational facilities are available outside of class hours, thus an independent learning
	environment is well prepared and effectively used.
Self-inspection/evaluatio	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima
n unit	University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Applicable Slightly applicable
	Not applicable
Evidence	The number of library books purchased, the number of users of the library
[Remarks]	Each laboratory has graduate student rooms and seminar rooms. The library has an
Grounds and reasons for	open-stack reading area and an employment information material area. We also actively
evaluation	provide the library as an open space with wireless LAN access for students who do not
Supplementary explanation	have their own laboratories.
of evidence	In addition, all graduate student rooms are equipped with random keypads for security.
Distinctive activities and	
efforts	

Criterion 4-2: Counseling, advice and support are provided to students in terms of their daily lives, career paths, financial assistance, etc.

Analysis item 4-2-1	Appropriate support is provided to students in terms of course guidance, learning, daily life,
	financial matters, etc.

Self-inspection/eval	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University –
uation unit	University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable
	Not applicable
Evidence	Website of the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (Financial support for
	students whose entrance university is Hiroshima University)
	https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/system/files/157311/Program Information for Entrance HU 20
	<u>210113%20%28002%29.pdf</u>
	Student Handbook p. 22: "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master's Courses and
	Professional Degree Programs"
[Remarks]	Each laboratory has established a communication system between the faculty and the
Grounds and reasons	students. In cooperation with the University of Graz, interviews are held as necessary to share
for evaluation	issues related to educational and research activities and student life. In addition, a scholarship
Supplementary	system unique to the program has been established to provide financial support for students
explanation of evidence	whose entrance university is Hiroshima University.
Distinctive activities	Based on the "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master's Courses and
and efforts	Professional Degree Programs" in the Student Handbook, students and supervisors conduct
	interviews to share issues and progress in educational and research activities.

Area 5: Criteria for admission of students

Criterion 5-1: Students are properly admitted.

Analysis item 5-1-1	The admission process is carried out with an appropriate system in line with the admission
	policy.
Self-inspection/evalua	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University
tion unit	– University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable
	Not applicable
Evidence	Number of meetings held by the Admissions Committee: 12 (16 members)
	Admission Policy of the Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable
	Development (Hiroshima University - University of
	Graz)https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei
[Remarks]	The Admissions Committee determines the implementation plan and methods of the
Grounds and reasons for	admission process and conducts appropriate selection in accordance with the admission
evaluation	policy. The admission policy is clearly stated in the application guidelines and on the website.
Supplementary	In cooperation with the University of Graz, an online management system has been
explanation of evidence	established in consideration of the time difference, convenience of applicants, and crisis
Distinctive activities and	management.
efforts	

Analysis item 5-1-2	Efforts are made to verify whether students are actually admitted in accordance with the
	admission policy, and the results are used to improve the admission process.
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima
unit	University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable
	Not applicable
Evidence	Admission information for the Joint Degree Programme Hiroshima - Graz "Joint
	International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development"
	https://www.jointdegree.eu/de/sustainable-development/
[Remarks]	The admission policy is clearly stated in the application guidelines. A draft of the
Grounds and reasons for	admission criteria is prepared jointly with the University of Graz in accordance with the
evaluation	admission policy, and appropriate decisions are made at the admission decision meeting
Supplementary explanation of	(Board of Representatives). A system has been established to share information with the
evidence	University of Graz and make improvements in case problems should arise in the

Distinctive activities and	admission process.
efforts	

Analysis item 5-2-1	The number of students enrolled does not significantly exceed or fall below the admission		
	quota.		
Self-inspection/evaluatio	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima		
n unit	University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences		
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable		
	Not applicable		
Evidence	Number of students enrolled: 2; percentage of admission quota: 100%		
[Remarks]	A system to manage the admission quota of the entire Graduate School has been		
Grounds and reasons for	established in cooperation with the University of Graz. Thus, in AY2021, two students (one		
evaluation	student whose entrance university is Hiroshima University and one student whose		
Supplementary explanation	entrance university is the University of Graz) were enrolled to fill the admission quota of		
of evidence	two.		
Distinctive activities and			
efforts			

Criterion 5-2: The number of students enrolled is adequate for the admission quota.

Area 6: Criteria for curriculum and learning outcomes

Criterion 6-1: The organization of the curriculum and the content of the class subjects are systematic and of an appropriate level in accordance with the diploma policy and the curriculum policy.

Analysis item 6-1-1	The organization of the curriculum and the content of the class subjects are systematic		
	and of a level appropriate for the degree to be awarded.		
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima		
unit	University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences		
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable		
	Not applicable		
Evidence	Curriculum Policy and Diploma Policy of the Joint International Master's Programme in		
	Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)		
	https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei		
	Student Handbook pp. 6-8: "Courses, Credits, Credits Required for Completion" (Joint		
	International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University		
	and University of Graz))		
[Remarks]	In cooperation with the Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable		

Grounds and reasons for	Development (Hiroshima University - Leipzig University) at the Graduate School of
evaluation	Advanced Science and Engineering, Basic Subjects are offered, allowing students
Supplementary explanation of	majoring in social sciences and those majoring in science and engineering to study in the
evidence	same classroom and to come into contact with different perspectives and ways of
Distinctive activities and	thinking, thereby promoting their understanding of multiple fields beyond their
efforts	conventional framework of expertise. In addition to this, in cooperation with the
	University of Graz, the program offers subjects regarding the knowledge and theories
	necessary to deepen understanding of sustainable development, which are Specialization
	Subjects, Integration Subjects and Master Thesis Classes. The curriculum is
	systematically organized to foster students with an ability to conduct research and
	practical work using social scientific approaches based on international cooperation
	principles in development studies in order to resolve pressing regional and global issues
	related to the SDGs, and also to foster those with excellent collaboration and
	communication skills to be exerted at universities, research institutions, governments,
	international organizations, private businesses, NGOs, etc., so that the students can
	acquire competitive capabilities to secure employment in the international labor market.
	Furthermore, these class subjects are taught by faculty members with high expertise who
	have been screened for educational qualifications at the Graduate School, and thus
	educational content of a level appropriate for the degree to be awarded has been ensured.

Criterion 6.2: Appropriate forms of classes and teaching methods are adopted in accordance with the diploma policy and the curriculum policy.

Analysis item 6-2-1	The curriculum is systematically organized based on the curriculum policy; forms of classes and teaching methods (guidance for research, thesis, etc.) appropriate for the education of the field are prepared; and the methods and content of the classes are clearly shown to the students.		
Self-inspection/evalua	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University		
tion unit	– University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences		
Self-evaluation	Fully Slightly applicable		
	Not applicable		
Evidence	Curriculum Policy of the Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable		
	Development (Hiroshima University - University of Graz)		
	https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei		
	Student Handbook pp. 6-8: "Courses, Credits, Credits Required for Completion" (Joint		
	International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University and		
	University of Graz))		

[Remarks]	The curriculum for the program is organized and implemented based on the following		
Grounds and reasons for	policy so that the students are able to achieve the objectives stated in the Diploma Policy.		
evaluation	- Basic Subjects (36 credits) are offered to allow students to develop a bird's-eye view of		
Supplementary	sustainable development and the fundamental ability to explore sustainable development for		
explanation of evidence	their own intrinsic growth from various perspectives.		
Distinctive activities and	- Specialization Subjects (78.5 credits) are offered to allow students to learn theories		
efforts	regarding development economics and their application to global issues.		
	- Integration Subjects (23.5 credits) are offered to deepen students' understanding of		
	sustainable development through seminar classes by bringing together the various scientific		
	approaches they have studied.		
	- Master Thesis Classes (30 credits) are offered to promote students' independent research		
	and help them acquire research capabilities and practical skills to achieve the SDGs based on		
	international cooperation principles in development studies.		

Criterion 6-3: Appropriate	course quidence	and aupport are r	morridad in age	ndonco nith th	o dinlomo noliar
Ornerion o o Appropriace	course guidance	and support are p	JIOVILLEU III acci	ruance with the	e uipioma poncy.

Analysis item 6-3-1	A system for course guidance and study counseling that can meet the needs of		
	students is in place, and advice and support are provided.		
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima		
unit	University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences		
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable		
	Not applicable		
Evidence	Student Handbook pp22: "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master's		
	Courses and Professional Degree Programs"		
[Remarks]	Course guidance is provided at the orientation for new students. In addition, the		
Grounds and reasons for	timing for each student to establish a class registration plan and a research plan, etc.		
evaluation	is shared by the students and the faculty. Each faculty member provides appropriate		
Supplementary explanation of	support for course guidance and study consultation.		
evidence			
Distinctive activities and efforts			

Analysis item 6-3-2	Efforts are made to cultivate students' skills necessary for social and professional		
	independence.		
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima		
unit	University – University of Graz), Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences		
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable		

	Not very appl Not applicable		
Evidence	Student Handbook pp. 6-8: "Courses, Credits, Credits Required for Completion" (Joint		
	International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima University		
	and University of Graz))		
[Remarks]	In order for students to develop a bird's-eye view of sustainable development and the		
Grounds and reasons for	fundamental ability to explore sustainable development for their own intrinsic growth		
evaluation	from various perspectives, Sustainable Development Subjects (four subjects including		
Supplementary explanation of	"Japanese Experience of Human Development - Culture, Education, and Health") and		
evidence	Career Development and Data Literacy Subjects (seven subjects including "Career		
Distinctive activities and	Management - Theory & Career Development" and "Introduction to MOT") are offered as		
efforts	Common Graduate Subjects. Common Subjects for the Graduate School and Foundation		
	Subjects (four subjects each) are also offered.		
	Credits of Integration Subjects can be approved as necessary credits. This is designed		
	to deepen students' understanding of sustainable development and enhance their		
	practical skills by bringing together the various scientific approaches they have studied.		
	Also, this aims to encourage them to explore their research fields more deeply, develop		
	their career after completion, and enhance their intellectual curiosity, etc.		

Criterion 6-4: Fair grading is carried out rigorously and objectively in accordance with the curriculum policy.

Analysis item 6-4-1	Grading and credit recognition are carried out in light of the educational policy of the		
	field, and are effective in the educational field.		
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima		
unit	University - University of Graz)		
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Slightly applicable		
	Not applicable		
Evidence	Curriculum Policy: https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/senkougakui/kokusairenkei		
	Syllabus <u>https://momiji.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/syllabusHtml_en/index.html</u>		
[Remarks]			
Grounds and reasons for	Courses are arranged in accordance with the Program's curriculum policy. In		
evaluation	addition, syllabuses clearly stating the grading methods, etc. are prepared for all class		
Supplementary explanation of	subjects and are available to students.		
evidence			
Distinctive activities and efforts			

Analys	sis item 6-4-2	Grading criteria are made known to the students.
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Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima									
University - University of Graz)									
Slightly applicable									
Not applicable									
Student Handbook p. 8: "Grade objection filing system"									
An agreement on the credit transfer system has been signed between Hiroshima									
University and the University of Graz, and the rules are clearly stated in the Student									
Handbook. In addition, Hiroshima University's system for filing grade objections is also									
notified via the Student Handbook. If a petition is filed by a student, the University									
responds appropriately and fulfills its accountability.									

Analysis item 6-4-3	It is systematically confirmed that grading and credit recognition for each class subject are									
	carried out rigorously and objectively in accordance with the grading criteria.									
Self-inspection/evaluatio	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima									
n unit	University - University of Graz)									
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Slightly applicable									
	Not applicable									
Evidence	Syllabus <u>https://momiji.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/syllabusHtml_en/index.html</u>									
	Student Handbook p. 8: "Grade objection filing system"									
[Remarks]	The grading methods are clearly stated in the syllabus, and the "Grade objection filing									
Grounds and reasons for	system" has been build to handle appeals from students.									
evaluation	The Support Office accepts consultations on students' grade evaluation and credit									
Supplementary explanation	fulfillment from students and faculty members, checks the status of credits required for									
of evidence	completion, and responds to them as appropriate. Finally, the number of credits earned by									
Distinctive activities and	students who are expected to complete the course is compiled and systematically									
efforts	confirmed at the Board of Representatives to determine the completion of the course.									

Criterion 6-5: Fair decisions on completion are made in accordance with the objectives of the university, etc. and the

diploma policy.

Analysis item 6-5-1	Evaluation criteria for degree theses, etc. related to the recognition of completion have								
	been established and are made known to the students, and completion is recognized								
	under an appropriate screening system.								
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima								

unit	University - University of Graz)								
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable								
	Not applicable								
Evidence	Student Handbook pp. 22-42: "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master								
	Courses and Professional Degree Programs," "Degree Conferral Judgment Criteria and								
	Dissertation Evaluation Criteria [Master's Courses]," "Hiroshima University By-Laws of								
	the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences," "Regulations of the Graduate								
	School of Humanities and Social Sciences Concerning the Conferral of Degrees"								
[Remarks]	In cooperation with the University of Graz, the completion schedule and related								
Grounds and reasons for	matters are made known to the students.								
evaluation									
Supplementary explanation of									
evidence									
Distinctive activities and									
efforts									

Criterion 6-6: Appropriate learning outcomes are obtained in accordance with the objectives of the university, etc. and the diploma policy.

Analysis item 6-6-1	Learning outcomes are recognized based on the status of students' career paths, such as									
	going on to higher education and finding employment.									
Self-inspection/evaluatio	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima									
n unit	University - University of Graz)									
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable									
	Not applicable									
Evidence										

[Remarks]

Grounds and reasons for

evaluation

Supplementary explanation

of evidence

Distinctive activities and

efforts

Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima									
University - University of Graz)									
Slightly applicable									
Not applicable									
Since this program has been in place for less than two years and there are only three									
students, it is not possible to analyze class improvement questionnaires without									
identifying individuals.									

Analysis item 6-6-3	Results of interviews with students in terms of the levels of learning achievement and								
	satisfaction indicate that learning outcomes have been achieved.								
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima								
unit	University - University of Graz)								
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable								
	Not applicable								
Evidence									
[Remarks]	Since this program has just been in place for less than two years and there are only								
Grounds and reasons for	three students, it is not possible to analyze class improvement questionnaires without								
evaluation	identifying individuals.								
Supplementary explanation of									
evidence									
Distinctive activities and									
efforts									

Analysis item 6-6-4	Results of interviews with alumni and individuals involved in their careers indicate that									
	the learning outcomes have been achieved.									
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima									
unit	University - University of Graz)									
Self-evaluation	Slightly applicable									
	Not applicable									
Evidence										

[Remarks]	This item is not subject to evaluation because there are no graduates.
Grounds and reasons for	
evaluation	
Supplementary explanation of	
evidence	
Distinctive activities and	
efforts	

Analysis item 6-6-5	There are systems and evaluation criteria to promote students' growth in research efforts									
	and presentation of research results, and their growth in effectiveness (logical thinking,									
	international perspectives, presentation skills, etc.) is recognized.									
Self-inspection/evaluation	Joint International Master's Programme in Sustainable Development (Hiroshima									
unit	University - University of Graz)									
Self-evaluation	Fully applicable Slightly applicable									
	Not applicable									
Evidence	Student Handbook pp22: "Master's Thesis, etc. Preparation Schedule for Master's									
	Courses and Professional Degree Programs"									
[Remarks]	The phases of the schedule to completion are shown to each student, and there is a									
Grounds and reasons for	functioning system whereby students can check the progress of their research efforts and									
evaluation	results through interviews with their supervisors in each phase.									
Supplementary explanation of										
evidence										
Distinctive activities and efforts										

Area 7: Criteria for the internationality of education

Criterion 7-1: Initiatives to internationalize the campus and develop global human resources are systematically

implemented.

Analysis item 7-1-1	International	students	are	admitted	under	an	appropriate	system	at	schools,
	departments, programs, etc.									

[Remarks]

Grounds and reasons for

evaluation

Supplementary explanation of

evidence

Distinctive activities and

efforts