**Call for Participation**

**“Solid Waste Management and Green Economy”**

IAP is funding a GYA project to conduct a policy report on "Solid Waste Management and Green Economy".

We are calling for experts from the IAP and GYA networks in the fields of solid waste management, environmental science, green economy and sustainable development to participate in this report. Experts from all over the world are encouraged to participate, i.e. from: countries with advanced economies (G8); transition and emerging economy countries (BRICS); as well as developing economies.

Types of expected participation include the submission of case studies from their own countries, sharing of knowledge on relevant policies and ongoing initiatives in their region, analysis of perceptions, practices and business expectations relating waste management to the green economy, and highlighting the role of the industrial sector in the development of green economy.

We also plan an international expert workshop, scheduled roughly for October 2015 in Halle/Germany. Participating academies are kindly asked to cover the travel costs of their members.

**Background:**

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in June 2012 (Rio+20) ranked the ‘green economy’ as a major international concern. It highlighted that current consumption and production methods relating to economic and population growth have led to the overexploitation of natural resources and seriously damaged the balance of the environment and ecosystems. Good environmental governance and the optimal use of scarce resources are even more crucial in a context that is also highly vulnerable to climate change and economic and budgetary constraints.

Discarded waste is often perceived as a liability. However, in a green economy it is considered a resource because of the ability to alter this waste for re-use. The goal of green solid waste management is to manage waste in a manner that meets public health and environmental concerns, while conserving resources through the recycling and reuse of waste materials. Best practices of waste management in industrialized countries have arisen through the development of new concepts and technologies. On the other hand, the generation of solid waste in developing countries has recently been growing due to many reasons, including economic and population growth, and lack of public awareness. Given the sector’s underdeveloped condition and unsustainable practices, there is an urgent need to raise awareness to create the conditions for more sustainable patterns of waste management practices.

**Aims and objectives:**

The GYA/IAP report is intended to motivate and assist governments and businesses in making a transition to a green economy. By relying on inputs from GYA members and other academicians, it will address the waste management sector and articulate enabling public policies, business models, green investment opportunities, innovative approaches as well as highlighting successful case studies. The report is intended to inform and help shape public policy and private sector involvement for a transition to a green economy, thus providing a boost to sustainable development.

Beyond appraising the state of solid waste management, based on the most recent data, the policy-oriented report will also evaluate the progress towards the realization of sustainable waste management targets and will assess current policies. Ultimately, the report will propose alternative policies and remedial action.

We are looking forward to your active participation in this interesting project. Please submit proposals, best practice case studies, in particular in the following areas: Investing in benefits from greening the waste sector, enabling conditions for greening the waste sector such as such as financing, economic incentives, policy and regulatory measures, and institutional arrangements, by **30 April 2015** using the attached form.

For any further enquiries, please feel free to contact the academic leader of the report, Dr. Sherien Elagroudy, E-mail: s.elagroudy@eng.asu.edu.eg, or the Managing Director of the GYA, Dr. Heidi Wedel (wedel@globalyoungacademy.net)

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