

Students and would-be students of Water Technology and Architecture spend a whole week addressing the technical and architectural challenges of a city along the river at the “Neckar Now” Summer School. The Summer School closes with a virtual city rally and a poster exhibition at the Römerbad on 7 August.

The recent storm disasters in Germany and elsewhere have shown just how quickly a small stream can turn into a raging torrent. The topic could therefore hardly be more pressing: 26 participants from ten different nations (China, Germany, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Cambodia, Colombia, Peru, Portugal, Russia, Thailand and Turkey) have come together at the Neckar Now Summer School at SRH University Heidelberg to share interdisciplinary ideas on sustainable innovations – with a blend of face-to-face and online activities. The Summer School, funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the Federal Foreign Office, comes to a close on Saturday, 7 August with a virtual city rally from 12:00 to 16:00, followed by a poster exhibition at the Römerbad in Heidelberg at 16:00. The public is welcome to attend both events.

Needless to say, the recent storm disaster in Germany was one of the issues addressed at the Summer School. “I think with this topic in particular, it’s important to join all forces across disciplines. We must act swiftly to develop ideas on how to avoid such disasters in the future,” stated Professor Dr. Ulrike Gayh, Study Programme Director Water Technology. The young scientists at SRH University Heidelberg are likewise embarking on this challenging path.

“We had an exciting week,” reported Daniela Chiquito, a participant from Ecuador. “The programme was rich and varied, including a boat ride on the Neckar, tours of Heidelberg and the Bahnstadt district, and workshops that enabled us to develop our own sustainable ideas.” The virtual rally through the city takes up once again, in a playful way, the topic of life on the river and the participants’ projects. Anyone interested in technology and architecture is invited to admire the results of the workshops during the poster exhibition at the Römerbad. “The participants were incredibly inventive, and together they came up with great ideas on how we can make our future on the river more sustainable,” Ulrike Gayh revealed. Both events will be held in English:

Neckar Now Rally: 7 August 2021, 12:00-16:00 via Teams: <https://kurzelinks.de/NeckarNowRallye>

Outdoor Poster Session “Transformative approaches to a sustainable future – towards resilient cities”: 7 August 2021, 16:00 at the Römerbad (Ernst-Walz-Brücke)

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