The Road to Geneva

A Series of Events Building Toward the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding

Call for Applications

In order to prepare for the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding, which will be held in February 2022 in Geneva, the Environmental Peacebuilding Association (EnPAX) and Conference partners have launched a consultative series of events and initiatives —the Road to Geneva. This process will feature a number of regional, national, and thematic events to be held from August 2020 to June 2021. The events will engage people from around the world on environmental peacebuilding issues relevant to their communities.

Applications are now open to institutions interested in hosting or otherwise convening an event as part of the Road to Geneva. Please see below for information on event criteria, application guidelines, and timelines.

Event Criteria

Recognizing that different contexts have diverse priorities and interests in environmental peacebuilding, there is substantial flexibility in the focus, scale, and modalities for events that are part of the Road to Geneva.

Event Objectives

Host institutions should demonstrate that their event will contribute to the Road to Geneva through one or more of the following channels:

- Examine issues of importance to the region, country, or theme
- Identify promising approaches, experiences, and insights that might be of interest to others
- Identify potential speakers who can elevate and diversify the Conference
**Event Format**

The *Road to Geneva* process provides substantial flexibility regarding the length, medium, and structure of events.

*Note: Proposals that integrate into existing events or conferences will be considered. For example, an event could be one day dedicated to environmental peacebuilding within a larger, multi-day conference.*

**Examples of Length**
- Option 1: Multi-day event (flexible format, minimum 2 days at 4 hours each)
- Option 2: One-day event (at least 5 hours of programming)
- Option 3: A series of related short sessions (flexible format, could be 60-120 minutes each; should total at least 5 hours of programming)
- Option 4: A single event, panel, webinar, etc. (note: Can be folded into the larger *Road to Geneva* international webinar series)

**Medium**
- Option 1: Online only
- Option 2: In-person only
- Option 3: Hybrid

It is expected that many events will either be online only or hybrid, particularly in 2020.

**Structure**

Events can have a wide range of structures. These may include but are not limited to participative panel discussions, practical workshops, networking events, film screenings, World Café-type discussions, Q&As, dinners, etc. **We are particularly interested in arrangements that empower a range of voices.**

**Thematic Direction**

Successful proposals can follow several options to guide the focus of proposed events. Proposals may include a combination of these options:

- **Targeted themes:**
  - The host institution articulates and proposes themes related to established regional, national, or thematic dynamics and priorities.
  - The event draws from following themes identified as prominent topics in environmental peacebuilding by the Committee and Geneva-based partners:
    - Public health (including COVID-19 and WASH)
    - Climate change
    - Environmental justice and human rights-based approaches
    - Sustainable Development Goals
    - Building the evidence base for environmental peacebuilding

- **Open program:** A consultative process is used to identify new trends and ideas in environmental peacebuilding.
Note: Preference will be given to proposals that include **multi-partner collaborations**, particularly including those who partner with local or community-based organizations.

**EnPAX and Host Institution Responsibilities**

EnPAX and Conference partners seek to empower and engage diverse institutions in the *Road to Geneva*. As such, EnPAX will focus on supporting the host institutions.

Outlined below are the main responsibilities EnPAX expects host institutions to take on, as well as the responsibilities EnPAX agrees to commit to.

**EnPAX:**
- Host an [informational session](#) for prospective organizers on July 29 2020 at 10 AM ET/ 4 PM CET. Registration for the session can be completed [here](#).
- Provide a common platform/website for the events. The Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform ([www.environmentalpeacebuilding.org](http://www.environmentalpeacebuilding.org)) will announce and highlight the agendas, presentations, papers, and reports from the events. [Host institutions may use a separate platform for their events, with the understanding that the relevant materials will also be posted on the Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform.]
- Provide feedback on proposed themes, agendas, and other matters related to the events.
- Support outreach for the events, in coordination with the host institutions.
- Provide a guiding template for evaluation questionnaires to be distributed at events.
- Provide a common template for reporting to capture key takeaways from the events.
- Integrate results from the events into the development of the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding.

**Host Institutions:**
- Conceptualize the event. Accepted applicants are expected to attend 1-2 phone calls with EnPAX to ensure alignment with the *Road to Geneva*.
- Develop the agenda.
- Organize/coordinate all aspects of the event, including travel assistance or visa support for speakers, and any interpretation costs. EnPAX is unable to provide any financial assistance.
- Communicate about and promote the event.
- Submit program information to EnPAX no later than 2 weeks before the event for greater dissemination.
- Collect brief evaluation questionnaires for the event for monitoring and evaluation purposes.
- Submit a brief report of the event, utilizing the template provided by EnPAX.
• Although not required, organizers are encouraged to hire or otherwise engage note-takers for events to ensure that there is a full record of the conversations held on the *Road to Geneva*.

Note: Applicants are reminded that the Environmental Peacebuilding Association is not a political platform and **events are not allowed to serve the exclusive promotion of a specific organization**.

**Timeline**

**July - September 2020:**
The application to host an event is now open. Institutions are encouraged to formulate event ideas and apply by September 1, 2020, although proposals will continue to be reviewed on a rolling basis after this date. Proposals should be submitted via an online form here: [Road to Geneva: Application to Host an Event](#). EnPax and the Conference Organizing Committee will host an online informational session to explain (1) our vision for the *Road to Geneva*, and (2) how interested institutions can get involved, as well as answering any questions. The meeting will be held on July 29 2020 at 10 AM ET/ 4 PM CET. Registration for the session can be completed [here](#).

The Organizing Committee of the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding will review and process applications on a rolling basis. Applicants will receive notification of selection from the Conference Organizing Committee within 3 weeks of submission. Accepted applicants would be expected to attend 1-2 phone calls with EnPax for thematic and logistical alignment.

**August 2020 - June 2021:**
Events will be expected to occur between August 2020 and June 2021. Summary reports of events will be submitted by host institutions to the Conference Organizing Committee. Starting in March 2021, the Conference Organizing Committee will discuss takeaways from the events and will draw on the event series to shape the agenda for the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding.

**For further information, please contact** [conference@environmentalpeacebuilding.org](mailto:conference@environmentalpeacebuilding.org).