

Environmental Peacebuilding Association

2025 Annual Report

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Acronyms

ELI	Environmental Law Institute
EnPAx®	Environmental Peacebuilding Association®
FIG	Forest Interest Group
GIG	Gender Interest Group
IGs	Interest Groups
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme

Leadership Note

January 6, 2026

Dear friends and colleagues,

There are many ways to describe 2025 for the environmental peacebuilding community. Brutal. Painful. Scary. Demoralizing. It was all that, and more.

2025 saw the rise of nationalism and populism in numerous countries, many of them global and regional powers. It saw the erosion of rule of law at the international, national, and local levels. Environment, development, and humanitarian budgets were slashed at the same time wars and their environmental impacts continued in Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, and elsewhere. Staff at organizations from civil society organizations to national agencies to UN bodies were let go in large numbers. Some organizations closed, and others are struggling to survive. International cooperation faltered.

With slashed budgets and staff, many organizations started refocusing on their core mandates. Environmental peacebuilding was particularly hard hit by this shift. Fundamentally, environmental peacebuilding bridges across missions and mandates to synergetically advance environmental, peace, and development objectives.

Amid this chaos, the environmental peacebuilding community came together. We provided moral support to one another. We found ways to continue to collaborate, to develop visions of the world we want to see, and to work toward that. More than 200 of us completed the manuscript for a glossary of terms for environmental peacebuilding and sent it to the publishers. We are planning the Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding (in Ottawa in June 2026), and there is strong interest from around the world (we had more than 5,000 applications for the Conference Fellows Program!).

Unfortunately, the turbulence will continue. We have entered a new era, just as we entered a new era following the end of the Cold War in 1989-90. But while that transition brought in an unprecedented level of international cooperation, we have entered a new era of division and conflict.

Many are, however, thinking strategically about how to continue advancing environmental peacebuilding in this new era. The need for environmental peacebuilding has never been greater. As the rapid growth of *Environment & Security* as well as the broader body of literature highlighted in the *Environmental Peacebuilding Update* highlight, the pace at which we are innovating and learning is inspiring. As a result, we know more about how to design, implement, and evaluate environmental peacebuilding projects than we did five years ago, or even last year.

In this new era, there are many opportunities to continue to use the environment as a driver of peace – at the local level, at the national level, and between countries. Shared interests over water, biodiversity, and disaster prevention will continue to provide opportunities for cooperation, trust building, and peacebuilding. Like-minded countries, organizations, and individuals will continue to advance renewable energy and a just transition in conflict-affected countries. And a growing number of conservation organizations and individuals are becoming conflict-sensitive (many of them taking advantage of the new free online course on Conflict-Sensitive Conservation).

All is not well. We know that. And we hold that truth in one hand, even as we hold the truth of our vision of a peaceful, just, and sustainable world on the other hand.

2026 is likely to be another transitional year as we find our way across the new landscape. We will find that way together. By engaging. By sharing. By listening. But we will find it together. We will do so at the *Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding*. We will do it through the *Path to Ottawa*, leading up to the Fourth Conference. We will do it through the Environmental Peacebuilding Association and its Interest Groups (if you are not yet a member, we encourage you to join!). And we will continue to do it. Together.

Carl Bruch
Executive Director, *Environmental Peacebuilding Association*

Erika Weinthal
President, *Environmental Peacebuilding Association*

Here are a few milestones from 2025:

- In 2025, the **Environmental Peacebuilding Association**® (EnPAx®) continued its growth and maturation. Launched in 2018, by the end of 2025 the Association includes 408 individual members from 79 countries on 6 continents, and 27 institutional members. The membership composition is 85% professional and 15% student. At the end of 2025, the Association had thirteen **Interest Groups** (on Africa; Data and Technologies; Climate Change, Disasters, and Resilience; Education; Forests; Gender; Law; Middle East and North Africa (MENA); Monitoring & Evaluation; Transitional Justice; Urban; Water; and Young Professionals), and they were undertaking a wide range of activities.
- The **Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform** (www.environmentalpeacebuilding.org/), the leading global platform on issues related to natural resources, conflict, and peacebuilding, continues to grow. This year, we added 250 Library items, 45 Announcements, 68 Events, 181 Jobs, 773 International News articles, and 263 Blogs & Opinion pieces. At the end of 2025, we have 7,800 Library items and more than 10,000 International News articles. In 2025, the Association continued to maintain and expand its dedicated microsites, including subsites

on Palestine and Israel, Ukraine, monitoring and evaluation, gender, and data and technologies, among others.

- The **Environmental Peacebuilding Community of Practice** added over 100 members this year. The Community is now almost 4,400 people strong, with members from more than 150 countries.
- This year we celebrated twelve years of publishing the *Environmental Peacebuilding Update*, our biweekly e-newsletter highlighting recent developments relating to natural resources, conflict, and peace, with links to new publications, international news, upcoming conferences and events, and job openings. When we consult members of the Environmental Peacebuilding Community of Practice and of EnPAx, they consistently highlight the value of the Update and the website. We are deeply indebted to our editor, Joel Young, and the large team of volunteers who collect, code, and post materials, and then create the Update every two weeks. Under the leadership of Maddy Loll—with guidance from Silja Halle, Maryruth Belsey Priebe, and Natalia Jimenez Galindo—we have also continued our monthly Newsletter on Gender, Natural Resources, Climate, and Peace.
- The Association held 17 events, including webinars, consultations, and skills-building events.
- 2025 was the third year that **EnPAx** and **SAGE Publishing** published the journal *Environment and Security*. *Environment and Security* has become the leading global outlet for peer-reviewed research and debates on issues at the intersection of environmental and security. *Environment and Security* is a quarterly journal that seeks to publish innovative research on the intersections between environmental and security issues, and to inspire debates by decision makers and practitioners. All research published in the journal will engage with and advance existing academic debates on the topic, either through presenting novel empirical findings, through theoretical elaboration, or through insights from practitioners.

Status of the Association

The Environmental Peacebuilding Association was incorporated in Washington, D.C., and formally launched April 2018. It is certified as a non-profit professional organization (in the parlance of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, a 501(c)6)).

Board of Directors

The Environmental Peacebuilding Association® (also known as EnPAx™) is guided by a Board comprising leading practitioners and researchers working at the intersection of environment, conflict, and peace. Each Board member is active in Association activities, with a dedicated portfolio of responsibilities. Board members serve three-year terms, which are staggered to ensure stability.

The Board of Directors in 2025 included:



Erika Weinthal
President



Lauren Risi
Vice-President



Larry Swatuk
Vice-President



Päivi Lujala
Treasurer



Ken Conca
Director



Alec Crawford
Director



Janet Edmond
Director



Silja Halle
Director



Tobias Ide
Director



Shanna N. McCain
Director



Juliane Schillinger
Director
(Young Professionals)



Paula Gutierrez Martinez
Director (Latin America & Caribbean)



Sarah Njeri
Director (Africa)



Asim Zi
Director (Asia & Pacific)



Carl Bruch
Executive Director (ex officio)

Elections were held in November 2025 and the results announced in December 2025. The newly elected Board members are (taking office January 1, 2026): Tracy Hart, Ali Ibrahim, and McKenzie Johnson. Larry Swatuck was re-elected Vice President and Juliane Schillinger was re-elected as the Young Professionals Director.

Membership

Since the founding in 2018, the Environmental Peacebuilding Association (EnPAx) has continued to mature, By the end of 2025, Association includes 408 individual members from 79 countries on 6 continents, and 27 institutional members. The membership composition is 85% professional and 15% student. By the end of 2025, the Association had thirteen **Interest Groups** (on Africa; Data and Technologies; Climate Change, Disasters, and Resilience; Education; Forests; Gender; Law; Middle East and North Africa (MENA); Monitoring & Evaluation; Transitional Justice; Urban; Water; and Young Professionals), and they undertook a wide range of activities. More than 80 new members joined in 2025 as well as two new institutions, the Stimson Center and Academy for Conflict Transformation.

Secretariat

The Environmental Law Institute (ELI) serves as the host for the Association's Secretariat. The Secretariat maintains the Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform and the Environmental Peacebuilding Community of Practice; produces the *Environmental Peacebuilding Update* and (with the Gender Interest Group) the *Newsletter on Gender, Natural Resources, Climate, and Peace*; supports the biennial conference, symposia, webinars, and other events convened by EnPAx; supports the EnPAx Interest Groups; and supports various research efforts.

Secretariat staff includes:

- Carl Bruch, Executive Director
- Joel Young, Environmental Peacebuilding Coordinator
- Mara Pusic, Environmental Peacebuilding Coordinator and Membership Administrator
- Buket Altınçelep, Environmental Peacebuilding Coordinator

- Madeleine Loll, Gender Administrator
- Carrie Hanks, Conference Administrator
- Karishma Goswami, Path to Ottawa Coordinator and Conference Secretariat

- Maria Camilla Cadonici, Intern
- Erin Czelusniak, Intern
- Tristana Giunta, Visiting Attorney
- Amelie L'Henaff, Intern
- Elizabeth Hessami, Visiting Scholar
- Thomas Kerber, Intern
- Atieh Khatibi, Visiting Researcher
- Abby Loughlin, Intern
- Kathleen McLean, Intern
- Maansi Mirsa, Intern
- Avery Thau, Intern
- Cecilia Thomsak, Intern
- Milen Yishak, Visiting Researcher

Financial Summary

Following is the income statement and balance sheet for the Association through December 31, 2025.

Income Statement

	Jan - Dec 25	Jan - Dec 24	Change
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
43400 · Direct Public Support			
43450 · Individ, Business Contributions	0.00	300.00	-300.00
Total 43400 · Direct Public Support	0.00	300.00	-300.00
47200 · Member Income - Dues			
47230 · Professional Membership	20,594.86	12,583.50	8,011.36
47235 · Student/Retired Dues	2,489.89	1,779.25	710.64
47240 · Institutional Member	6,865.00	8,826.75	-1,961.75
47200 · Member Income - Dues - Other	810.00	1,290.00	-480.00
Total 47200 · Member Income - Dues	30,759.75	24,479.50	6,280.25
48000 · Conference Income			
48100 · Conf Registration - Member	0.00	60,897.59	-60,897.59
48200 · Conf Reg - non member	0.00	72,083.97	-72,083.97
48300 · Conference Sponsor	0.00	14,000.00	-14,000.00
48000 · Conference Income - Other	0.00	78.03	-78.03
Total 48000 · Conference Income	0.00	147,059.59	-147,059.59
Total Income	30,759.75	171,839.09	-141,079.34
Gross Profit	30,759.75	171,839.09	-141,079.34
Expense			
60900 · Business Expenses			
60920 · Business Registration Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 60900 · Business Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
62100 · Contract Services			
62110 · Administrative Services	20,314.65	37,219.01	-16,904.36
62120 · Program Services	7.07	35,470.25	-35,463.18
62150 · Web Contract	5,381.32	4,800.00	581.32
62100 · Contract Services - Other	446.33	0.00	446.33
Total 62100 · Contract Services	26,149.37	77,935.59	-51,786.22
65000 · Operations			
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Reference	8,000.00	1,580.00	6,420.00
65030 · Printing and Copying	0.00	3,703.84	-3,703.84

65040 · Supplies	0.00	894.66	-894.66
65060 · PayPal/Bank Fees	1,614.01	6,177.13	-4,563.12
Total 65000 · Operations	9,614.01	12,355.63	-2,741.62
68300 · Travel and Meetings			
68310 · Conference, Convention, Meeting	1,200.00	61,616.22	-60,416.22
68320 · Travel	0.00	11,935.05	-11,935.05
68300 · Travel and Meetings - Other	0.00	375.00	-375.00
Total 68300 · Travel and Meetings	1,200.00	73,926.27	-72,726.27
Total Expense	36,963.38	164,217.49	-127,254.11
Net Ordinary Income	-6,203.63	7,621.60	-13,825.23
Net Income	**-6,203.63**	**7,621.60**	**-13,825.23**

Balance Sheet

	Dec 31, 25	Dec 31, 24	$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
10000 · Eagle Bank	27,230.40	45,869.18	-18,638.78	-40.64%
10010 · Eagle Receiving Account	43,557.43	6,217.43	37,340.00	600.57%
10200 · PayPal	2,594.16	1,980.07	614.09	31.01%
10300 · Square	13,973.40	1,951.24	12,022.16	616.13%
Total Checking/Savings	87,355.39	56,017.92	31,337.47	55.94%
Other Current Assets				
12500 · Transwise	41.63	41.63	0.00	0.0%
Total Other Current Assets	41.63	41.63	0.00	0.0%
Total Current Assets	87,397.02	56,059.55	31,337.47	55.9%
Other Assets				
13000 · Prepaid Expense	12,233.90	0.00	12,233.90	100.0%
Total Other Assets	12,233.90	0.00	12,233.90	100.0%
TOTAL ASSETS	**99,630.92**	**56,059.55**	**43,571.37**	**77.72%**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
20000 · Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total Accounts Payable	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Other Current Liabilities				
27000 · Deferred Revenue-Conference	49,775.00	0.00	49,775.00	100.0%
Total Other Current Liabilities	49,775.00	0.00	49,775.00	100.0%
Total Current Liabilities	49,775.00	0.00	49,775.00	100.0%
Total Liabilities	49,775.00	0.00	49,775.00	100.0%
Equity				
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	56,059.55	47,991.62	8,067.93	16.81%
Net Income	-6,203.63	8,067.93	-14,271.56	-176.89%
Total Equity	49,855.92	56,059.55	-6,203.63	-11.07%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**99,630.92**	**56,059.55**	**43,571.37**	**77.72%**

Supporting Institutions

The Environmental Peacebuilding Association® (also known as EnPAx®) benefits greatly from a range of institutions for their support in developing and maintaining the Association. EnPAx® is grateful to the following institutions for their in-kind and financial support:



Jubitz Family FOUNDATION

Martin Dickinson Charitable Fund

Nelson S. Talbott Foundation



SIDLEY

Activities of the Association

Throughout 2025, the Association developed new activities and expanded existing activities designed to foster knowledge development and exchange; build capacity and awareness; and strengthen relationships between scholars, practitioners, and decisionmakers working on issues related to environment, conflict, and peace. Noting that many activities advance more than one objective of the Association, these activities include:

- **fostering knowledge development and exchange**
  - Expanding and maintaining the Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform
  - Expanding and maintaining an affiliated Knowledge Platform on Gender, Natural Resources, and Peace (in collaboration with the UN Joint Programme on Women, Natural Resources and Peace)

    - Maintaining micro-sites to address specific aspects of environmental peacebuilding
- **building capacity and awareness**
    - Supporting the development of an online course on conflict-sensitive conservation for the IUCN Academy, in a self-paced format, in collaboration with PeaceNexus Foundation and conservation partners
    - Delivering the Road to Ottawa and planning the Fourth Environmental Peacebuilding Conference in June 2026
- **strengthening relationships between scholars, practitioners, and decisionmakers**
    - Fostering exchange through Interest Groups
    - Developing profiles of members
    - Conducting outreach on social media

Illustrative activities in 2025 are summarized below.

Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform

The Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform (www.environmentalpeacebuilding.org/), the leading global platform on issues related to natural resources, conflict, and peacebuilding, continues to grow. In 2025, we added 250 Library items, 45 Announcements, 68 Events, 181 Jobs, 773 International News articles, and 263 Blogs & Opinion pieces. At the end of 2025, we have 7,800 Library items and more than 10,000 International News articles. In 2025, the Association continued to maintain and expand its dedicated microsites, including subsites on Palestine and Israel, Ukraine, monitoring and evaluation, gender, and data and technologies, among others.

Environmental Peacebuilding Update

In 2025, EnPAx celebrated twelve years of publishing the *Environmental Peacebuilding Update*, our biweekly e-newsletter highlighting recent developments relating to natural resources, conflict, and peace, with links to new publications, international news, upcoming conferences and events, and job openings. At the end of 2025, EnPAx marked the publication of the 313th issue. In consultation with members of the Environmental Peacebuilding Community of Practice and of EnPAx, the comments consistently highlight the value of the Update and the website. We are deeply indebted to our editor, Joel Young, and the large team of volunteers who collect, code, and post materials, and then create the Update every two weeks.

Under the leadership of Maddy Loll—with guidance from Maryruth Belsey Priebe, Natalia Jimenez Galindo, Carl Bruch, and Silja Halle—we have also continued to produce our monthly *Newsletter on Gender, Natural Resources, Climate, and Peace.*

Editor's Note, *Environmental Peacebuilding Update*

As 2025 comes to a close, we hope you have enjoyed all of the selections offered through our Knowledge Platform. EnPAx is a small, volunteer-run, global organization with a dedicated team of contributors bringing to you the latest environmental peacebuilding initiatives, publications, news, job opportunities, events, and opinions from the field. Each of the pieces we publish to our website are carefully compiled, curated, and coded to ensure that the most relevant, interesting, and noteworthy developments in environmental peacebuilding are accessible to our community. We are grateful to receive submissions to the Knowledge Platform from both EnPAx Members and members of the broader Environmental Peacebuilding Community of Practice and are delighted to meet and discover emerging voices for environmental peacebuilding.

Favorites of 2025: Editor's Picks

2025 was a busy year for environmental peacebuilding which means there was a lot to read! 250 publications, videos, and other items were added to the online Library. Here are some of our favorites from the year:

- **Climate Change Adaptation in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings: Conflict and Peace Considerations in Project Design**
  Jonas Bergman *(Environment and Security)*
- **Twelve Research Agendas for Advancing the Peace-Sustainability Nexus**
  Dahlia Simangan, Joshua Fisher, Tobias Ide, Vally Koubi, Ayyoob Sharifi, Katherine Alfredo, John Lee Candelaria, Simon Dalby, Cullen Hendrix, Ali Kharrazi, Úrsula Oswald-Spring, and Joyashree Roy *(Peace and Sustainability)*
- **Hidden Depths — Introduction: Water Conflict and Cooperation [Video]**
  Doug Weir, Iryna Babanina, and Peter Gleick *(Center for Strategic and International Studies)*
- **The US Withdrawal from the Paris Agreement—Implications for Global Climate Governance and Security**
  Ashok Swain, Carl Bruch, Tobias Ide, Päivi Lujala, Richard A. Matthew, Erika Weinthal, and Tom Deligiannis *(Environment & Security)*
- **15 Key Takeaways from a Decade of Climate Security Reporting**
  Peter Schwartzstein *(Environmental Change and Security Program, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars)*
- **The Role of Land and Natural Resources in Negotiating Peace Agreements**
  Saleem H. Ali, Nancy E. Boyer, Gabriela Mundaca, Lynette de Silva, Shaghayegh Jabalameli, and Jahan Taganova *(Negotiation Journal)*

- **Understanding Conflict through Satellite Imagery**
  David Mansfield *(Lawfare Institute)*
- **The Many Voices of Environmental Cooperation: A Relational Analysis of 30 Years of Environmental Peacebuilding over Shared Waters in Israel, Jordan, and Palestine**
  Laura E. R. Peters, Ken Conca, Aaron T. Wolf, Ari Lippi, and Jamon Van Den Hoek *(Environment and Security)*
- **Anchored in Action: Operationalizing NATO's Climate Security Plan in the Arctic Maritime Domain**
  Pauline Baudu and Fabio Lissi *(Arctic Institute)*
- **The Role of the International Environmental Cooperation in Achieving Sustainable Peacebuilding in International Relations: A Comprehensive and Critical Analysis**
  Mohamad Albakjaji, Soumaya Alkhammasi, and Yusra Alshanqityi *(Journal of Posthumanism)*
- **The Nature of Peace: Post-Conflict Peacebuilding and Its Implications for Environment and Livelihoods**
  Fariborz Zelli and Torsten Krause *(Ecology & Society)*
- **Defueling Conflict: Notes from the Field**
  Elise Doumergue, Shaadee Ahmadnia, Tracy Hart, Phoebe Spencer, Sally Judson, and Amanda Woomer *(World Bank)*

Of more than 1,000 news and opinion articles posted on the Knowledge Platform in 2025, here is a selection of some of our favorite stories:

- **Conservation Meets Diplomacy: 'Ecological Peace Corridors' Proposed for Conflict Zones**
  University of Bologna
- **Ukraine/Russia: More Than 7,000 Russian Environmental Crimes Recorded in Ukraine Since Full-Scale Invasion**
  UATV
- **Global Biodiversity at a Crossroads: The Need for Data in Conservation and Peacebuilding**
  VisionRI
- **CEOBS' Citizen Science Water Quality Hackathon for Ukraine**
  Conflict and Environment Observatory
- **Harnessing the Benefits of Water Cooperation in an Increasingly Complex World**
  Susanne Schmeier, Melissa McCracken, and Aaron Wolf
- **A New Political and Funding Reality for Environmental Peacebuilding**
  Conflict and Environment Observatory
- **Give Peace a Chance? Why Sustainability Requires More Than Stability**
  Richard Marcantonio
- **Hallucinating Climate Security: A Cautionary Tale about Generative AI**
  Tobias Ide

- **Transboundary Water Security in a Warming World: Conflict Risks, Cooperation Pathways, and Policy Imperatives**
  Ashok Swain
- **Sunk Debris from World Wars Provides Home for Wildlife**
  Robert Egan, *Nature Publishing Group*
- **Water Wars: Violence over Water Resources Reaches Record Levels**
  Peter Gleick, *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*

EnPAx sincerely thanks all our Members, volunteers, contributors, and supporters for helping us have another positive and productive year of building the Association and Community of Practice. As Editor of the Update, I humbly thank all our dedicated readers for tuning in to this newsletter every other week.

Joel Young, Editor

The **Environmental Peacebuilding Community of Practice** added over 100 members this year. The Community is now almost 4,400 people strong, with members from more than 150 countries

Environment and Security Journal

2025 was the third year that **EnPAx** and **SAGE Publishing** published the journal Environment and Security. *Environment and Security* has become the leading global outlet for peer-reviewed research and debates on issues at the intersection of environmental and security. Environment and Security is a quarterly journal that seeks to publish innovative research on the intersections between environmental and security issues, and to inspire debates by decision makers and practitioners. All research published in the journal will engage with and advance existing academic debates on the topic, either through presenting novel empirical findings, through theoretical elaboration, or through insights from practitioners.

The website is https://journals.sagepub.com/home/eas and the landing page for the Journal on EnPAx website is: *https://www.environmentalpeacebuilding.org/association/environment-and-security/*

The chart below shows the monthly downloads of articles from *Environment and Security* over the past three years:

	2023	2024	2025
January	0	2,217	2,368
February	451	2,575	2,639
March	339	2,245	4,921
April	225	1,962	5,400
May	675	2,141	4,297
June	598	1,595	3,423
July	1,353	1,530	4,132
August	1,209	1,931	4,361
September	939	2,203	4,681
October	2,211	2,832	5,347
November	2,076	3,106	5,218
December	1,768	2,091	4,778
TOTAL	**11,844**	**26,428**	**51,565**

2025 Al-Moumin Award

The Environmental Peacebuilding Association awarded the 2025 Al-Moumin Award for Thought Leadership in Environmental Peacebuilding to Nada Majdalani, Yana Abu Taleb, Gidon Bromberg, and Tareq Abu Hamed. The award honored their work in addressing complex environmental challenges through trust-building, dialogue, cooperation, and joint action among communities in Palestine, Jordan, and Israel.

The Al-Moumin Award and Lecture are named after Dr. Mishkat Al-Moumin, Iraq's first Minister of Environment, a human rights and environmental lawyer, and an advocate for women's rights. The award recognizes leading thinkers who are shaping the field of environmental peacebuilding.

The Environmental Peacebuilding Association is delighted to recognize the groundbreaking contributions that the four honorees have made to the field of environmental peacebuilding through their organizations, EcoPeace Middle East (Nada Majdalani, Palestine Co-Director; Yana Abu Taleb, Jordan Co-Director; and Gidon Bromberg, Israel Co-Director) and the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies (Dr Tareq Abu Hamed, Executive Director).

For decades, the honorees have made remarkable contributions to environmental peacebuilding through their visionary leadership and groundbreaking initiatives. They have

demonstrated exceptional commitment to fostering regional cooperation on issues critical to the region in the face of environmental and political challenges, including water security, renewable energy production, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience.

At EcoPeace, Nada, Yana, and Gidon's efforts have advanced environmental diplomacy; built bridges between communities in Palestine, Israel, and Jordan; and achieved sustainable cross-border solutions that ensure a better future for the inhabitants of all three countries. This work, including the Good Water Neighbors program, the Green Blue Deal, Project Prosperity, and their advocacy for improved water and energy security across the region, are complemented by on-the-ground projects that bring these principles into practical local action. All are often rightly cited as prototypical examples of environmental peacebuilding.

EcoPeace's continued operation during the Hamas-Israel war as the only Palestinian-Israeli-Jordanian organization in any field was thanks to the tireless efforts of the directors who ensured that EcoPeace's staff, participants, and constituents stayed focused on the overriding need to maintain cross-border environmental cooperation and a vision for a shared future. Throughout the war, EcoPeace has secured funding and mobilized resources to address urgent water and sanitation needs, with the three directors demonstrating their commitment to environmental resilience, cross-border cooperation, and humanitarian aid, ensuring that human life, health, and environmental wellbeing are seen as interlocked priorities in this region.

Similarly, Tareq has spent a lifetime working to build trust and foster cooperation between neighbors, using science to build relationships across the Middle East, particularly between Israelis, Palestinians, and Jordanians to ensure that they can work together to address mutual environmental concerns. He established Arava Institute's Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation upon joining the Institute in 2008. He is a member of President Isaac Herzog's Forum on Climate Change, and as part of this role, Tareq co-chairs the Regional Cooperation and Security Task Force, which promotes regional and international collaboration on climate change. He has also led the Transboundary Renewable Energy Working Group, bringing together experts from Israel, the West Bank, Gaza, and Jordan to work on socially impactful renewable technology projects.
While Tareq has been a leader in the Arava Institute's growth over the past 17 years, he left briefly to join Israel's Ministry of Science, becoming the deputy chief scientist, becoming the highest-ranking Palestinian working in the Israeli government, before being named acting Chief Scientist of Israel's Ministry of Science, Technology and Space in 2015 and 2016.

Events and Webinars

The Association held many virtual webinars, consultations, and skills-building events. By the end of the year, EnPAx had held 17 events. Please see Annex 1 for the complete list. Illustrative descriptions of some of the featured events in 2025 are below.

Path to Ottawa and the Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding

The Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding is scheduled to be held from June 16-19, 2026, hosted by the University of Ottawa, on the campus in Ottawa, Canada. The Organizing Committee built on the success of the previous three Conferences to foster exchange and learning on a wide range of issues, approaches, geographies, disciplines, and perspectives on environmental peacebuilding in a dynamic, practical, and inclusive space.

The Fourth Conference will feature five themes, which were determined by the Conference Organizing Committee through a consultative process with the Scientific Committee: Extractivism, Emerging Technologies, and the Energy Transition; Environmental Change, Displacement, and Mobility; Law, Power, and Decolonization; Reimagining Environmental Peacebuilding; Conservation, Conflict, and Cooperation. There is a sixth theme for presentations not directly connected to a selected theme but relevant to the multidisciplinary field.

The Organizing Committee discussions featured events surrounding the conference, including site visits and trainings prior to the Conference start, a virtual day, and a gala. There will be a fully virtual conference day to enable those not able to attend the Conference in person to participate. The Organizing Committee plans to host a gala one evening during the Conference.

Organizing Committee
The Conference Organizing Committee includes Carl Bruch, Annika Erickson-Pearson, Zuzia Danielski, Becca Farnum, Chris Huggins, Päivi Lujala, Richard Matthew, Munini Mutuku, Samuel Nyanchoga, Francis Onditi, Lauren Risi, and Erika Weinthal.

The Organizing Committee was supported by the Conference Secretariat, which includes Lina Aburas Awadalia, Daphne Duruoha, Karishma Goswami, Clementine Grillo, Carrie Hanks, Natalija Jimenez Galindo, Mara Pusic, and Harriet Alice Taberner.

Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee for the Conference includes Yana Abu Taleb, Maryruth Belsey Priebe, Veldon Coburn, Silvia Danielak, Octavio Goio, Tracy Hart, Elizabeth Hume, Alexander Izquierdo, Jesse Matas, Shadrack Kithiia, Sarah Njeri, Jojo Nem Singh, Diego Osorio, Andreas Oberprantacher, Kalani Reyes, Peter Schwartzstein, Kady Seguin, Larry Swatuk, Juha Uitto, and Asim Zia.

The Path to Ottawa

The Path to Ottawa is a consultative series of events and initiatives in the lead-up to the Fourth Conference. Information sessions about the Path to Ottawa were held on June 2, 2025, to provide a detailed explanation of the series, review the proposal process, and explore opportunities for discussion. Events occurred between June 2025 and December 2025, and sessions will continue until March 2026. The Path to Ottawa also involves a series of flagship initiatives, which were developed by EnPAx and partners. This series is designed to engage diverse communities on environmental peacebuilding issues relevant to their communities and contexts, all while building momentum for the Conference in Ottawa in June 2026. These events may be in-person, virtual, or hybrid.

The series is led by Annika Erickson-Pearson and Karishma Goswami.

Between September 5th and December 5th, the following Path to Ottawa events took place:

September 9, 2025 | From PeaceCon to Ottawa: Connecting for Environment, Climate, and Peace, *Alliance for Peacebuilding* (In-person//Washington, DC)
September 10, 2025 | Report Launch: "From Waste to Resolution: Assessing the Impact of Armed Conflict on the Solid Waste Sector in Yemen," *European Institute of Peace, PAX, adelphi* (Online)
October 1, 2025 | Peace Notes Series: Session 4 Woodwind Symphony: The Musical Peacebuilding of Trees, *EnPAx's Arts Initiative* (Online)
October 7, 2025 | The Future of Transitional Justice Amidst the Realities of Environment and Climate Change Challenges in Conflict and Post Conflict Societies, *EnPAx Transitional Justice Interest Group* (Online)
November 4, 2025 | Peace Notes Series: Session 5 – Resilient Melodies: The Songs of Protest and Collective Action, *EnPAx's Arts Initiative* (Online)
November 26, 2025 | Humanitarian-Led Climate Action in Fragile, Conflict-Affected Contexts, *Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations* (Online)

December 4, 2025 | Environmental PeaceTech: Exploring Innovation in Climate-Conflict Settings, *Austrian Centre for Peace, the Austrian Institute of Technology, and the PeaceTech Alliance* (In-Person)

Symposium on the Water-Energy-Peace Nexus

On Oct 8, 2025, EnPAx and the University of Ottawa hosted a one-day thematic symposium on the Water-Energy-Peace Nexus, at the University of Ottawa and online. Access to basic services is fundamental for addressing humanitarian crises, rebuilding livelihoods, advancing just solutions, and restoring trust in institutions in conflict-affected and post-conflict countries. Providing access to clean water and energy is vital for advancing environmental peacebuilding. Efforts to provide water and energy often take place in isolation from one another despite clear synergies between water and energy, as governments and non-state actors focus on restoring previous systems that were destroyed or impaired. Yet, energy is often needed to power water and sanitation treatment systems and to pump water for irrigation.

The day-long symposium explored a range of solutions, including smaller-scale solutions that could be employed to provide water and energy in conflict-affected regions in a just and sustainable manner. These included the use of renewable sources of energy and decentralized systems of water provision. Global cuts in humanitarian and development assistance will require not only more low-cost and nimble solutions for peacebuilding along with the inclusion of other actors such as the private sector.

The symposium also showcased the winners of the ninth Al-Moumin Award for Thought Leadership in Environmental Peacebuilding: Nada Majdalani, Yana Abu Taleb, Gidon Bromberg, and Tareq Abu Hamed.

Environmental Peacebuilding Glossary

The final Glossary manuscript ("Essential Concepts of Environmental Peacebuilding: An A to Z Guide") was submitted to Routledge in late 2025. It contains 152 term entries and 32 institutional entries. The project has contributions from 223 authors from 57 countries. The book is expected to be published in both hardback and e-book in June 2026. Term translations (not full entries or definitions) were completed in 10 languages. These translations were carried out by volunteer translators, covering the six UN languages, as well as additional language: Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Ukrainian, and Yoruba.

Interest Groups

EnPAx Interest Groups (IGs) continue to serve as platforms for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and innovation across diverse thematic areas. In 2025, several IGs advanced initiatives despite the shifting global context. Their work reflects their commitment to fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and practical action at the intersection of environment, peace, and resilience.

In addition to online events and IGs meetings, they have also prepared sessions for the upcoming Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding in Ottawa, ensuring their presence and insights to inform global debates.

The following overview highlights IG's accomplishments, challenges, and planned contributions.

Disasters, Resilience and Climate Change

Chairs: Kristin Weis
Charles Kelly
Erin McCandless

Members: 42 "active" on mailing list (including chairs)
*Even among "active" members, our IG has been rather quiet from members. This seems to be a correlation with demographics – we have historically had more mid-career and established professionals in our group, which has led to quality discussions but limited quantity participation and low interest in time-consuming regular events. We are continuously reevaluating how we define "success" for our IG, centered on what is most valuable for current members. We are focused on this discussion with our IG members in advance of and during the Ottawa IG meeting.

2025 meetings: 2 group-wide meetings, low attendance.
3 Chair meetings to onboard Erin, plan, brainstorm future of group.

Main 2025 Accomplishments:

- Added a third chair (Erin) with unique expertise to match the new, wider focus (we transitioned from "Disasters & Resilience" to "Disasters, Resilience, & Climate Change.")
- Chair discussions to redefine what success looks like for the interest group: Reassessed past successes and group goals for current/changing contexts.
- Prioritized quality engagement over quantity metrics.
- Prepared for Ottawa and planned sessions.
- Two sessions at the 2025 HNPW, organized as a partnership between the Ukraine Environment Study Group, the International Association for Impact Assessment's Disaster and Conflict Section and the Environmental Peacebuilding Association's Climate Change, Disasters and Resilience Interest Group:
    - The first session, held remotely on 18 March 2025, included presentations on Ukraine, Sudan, Yemen and Mozambique.

- The second, which took place on 28 March 2025 both in person in Geneva and remotely, focused on using the lessons captured in the online session and other experiences to define how to better integrate the environment into crisis responses to improve humanitarian outcomes. Considered policy and practical actions to improve humanitarian outcomes, and different types of conflict and humanitarian operational considerations. Produced a short summary of the conclusions for consideration by the humanitarian community.

Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding planned sessions:

Climate Change, Disasters, Conflict, and Peace
Jun 9, 2026 Panel

Environmental Peacebuilding and Environmental Reviews: Concepts, Approaches and Methods
Jun 16, 2026 Training

Country-Level Conflict and Environmental Peacebuilding: Lessons and Opportunities
Jun 17, 2026 Workshop

Wellbeing, Resilience, and Humanitarian Approaches to Environmental Peacebuilding
Jun 18, 2026 Panel

From Conflict to Climate Resilience: Integrating Environmental Restoration in Peace Processes
Jun 17, 2026 Panel

Education

Chairs: Diego Osorio
Nancy Boyer

Members: 25

2025 meetings: 4

Main 2025 Accomplishments:

- Planning proposed events and panels at the 4th International Conference in Ottawa
- Reviewing the database compiled by Diego Osorio's graduate student, which listed peace studies programs, focused on those in Canada
- Discussing how EnPAx might incorporate this database in the resources it makes available to members
- Discussed holding an event on religion and environmental peacebuilding
- Discussion re: Ukrainian war and environmental impact

Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding planned sessions:

Teaching for Environmental Peacebuilding: Ways of Knowing and Acting

Jun 19, 2026 Roundtable

Building Skills, Building Peace: Best Practices for Capacity Development in Environmental Peacebuilding
Jun 19, 2026 Roundtable

Forest

Chairs: Bernd Unger
Tom Cavanagh

Members: 31

2025 meetings: Monthly meetings

Main 2025 Accomplishments:

- Contributions to the Environmental Peacebuilding Glossary: The group contributed three entries to the Environmental Peacebuilding Glossary (forests, agriculture and natural resources). The entries on agriculture and natural resources were completed in 2025 with the support of a small working group.
- Regular Monthly Meetings: The group has maintained its commitment to monthly online meetings, providing a platform for members to exchange updates, share research, and coordinate ongoing initiatives. Thanks to these meetings, FIG (the Forest Interest Group) is able to reach out to the members of the IG who are still active and encourage them to get involved.
- Preparation for a Path to Ottawa event: In collaboration with the Peace Academy Rhineland-Palatinate at the University of Kaiserslautern-Landau (RPTU) and the German Association for Peace and Conflict Research (AFK), FIG has organised a 'Path to Ottawa' event on the theme "Forest conservation: From conflict to peace – Environmental peacebuilding perspectives from Liberia, Brazil and Cambodia". The event is planned as a webinar. It is scheduled to take place on 5 March 2026.

Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding planned session:

Forests: Finances, Fighting, and Fragility
Jun 19, 2026 Panel

Gender

Chairs: Natalia Jiménez Galindo
Maryruth Belsey Priebe

Members: Approximately 30 members on the GIG mailing list. The GIG newsletter also reaches more than 500 additional subscribers through the gender-nr-peace.org website.

2025 meetings: 20+ meetings

The co-chairs met at least biweekly.

One full group meeting was held on September 4, 2025 ("Engendering the EnPAx 2026 Ottawa Conference") with 25 attendees. Additionally, several stakeholder meetings were held with individual members, collaborators, and potential contributors (e.g., the Alliance for Peacebuilding, the Women in Water Diplomacy Network, the Forest Interest Group, and experts on gender and regeneration). An inter-IG collaboration meeting was also held in September 2025 with co-chairs from the Forest and Education Interest Groups.

Main 2025 Accomplishments:

- Monthly Spotlight Newsletters: Published monthly Spotlight newsletters throughout 2025. The 2025 Spotlights included: "Prioritizing Local Empowerment in Environmental Security" by Maryruth Belsey Priebe (January); "Women and Water Diplomacy" by Natalia Jiménez Galindo (February); "Gender, AI, and Disaster Response: Navigating the Risks of Technological Innovation Amidst Climate Breakdown" by Maryruth Belsey Priebe (March); a guest piece on regeneration and the ethics of care by Abigail Robinson and Emilia Stark (April); "The Environment-Care Nexus: How Environmental Degradation Amplifies Gender Inequalities in Unpaid Work" by Maryruth Belsey Priebe (May); "Voices from Iku Indigenous Women" by Yeimy Alejandra Izquierdo Cujar and Natalia Jiménez Galindo (June); a guest contribution by Emily Sample of the Alliance for Peacebuilding (July); "Women as Actors of Change: Climate, Peace and Security in Latin America and the Caribbean" by Nohelia Palou Zúñiga and Ignacio Madurga-Lopez (August); and "Leaving No One Behind: Why Adaptive Social Protection Must Be Gender-Responsive and Inclusive" by Nohelia Palou and Charlotte Penel (December). Several Spotlights featured guest contributors recruited from within the GIG membership. The co-chairs also initiated a Spanish-language translation effort for the newsletter.
- "Engendering the EnPAx 2026 Ottawa Conference" Group Meeting (September 4, 2025): Organized and hosted a virtual Path to Ottawa group meeting with approximately 25 attendees from around the world. The session featured five expert presentations on gender intersections with each of the conference's five thematic areas. Breakout groups generated ideas for collaborative projects, and attendees were encouraged to submit gender-focused conference proposals. Presenters included Munini Mutuku, Dr. Maha Al-Zu'bi, Larry Swatuk, Rehab Al-Sanabani, and others.
- Member Survey: Designed and launched a member interest survey to assess GIG members' research interests, preferred activities (written case studies, policy briefs, webinars, mentorship), and willingness to contribute. Results informed planning for group activities, newsletter content, and conference session design.
- EnPAx Glossary Contributions: Developed and submitted a gender-related entry for the EnPAx Glossary on Environmental Peacebuilding.
- Cross-IG Collaboration: Initiated cross-Interest Group collaboration meetings with the Forest Interest Group (Bernd Unger, Tom Cavanagh) and the Education Interest Group (Nancy Boyer) to

explore joint activities such as webinars, roundtable discussions, and potential conference sessions on gender and forestry research.

- External Partnerships and Outreach: Conducted outreach meetings with external collaborators and organizations, including Emily Sample of the Alliance for Peacebuilding (environmental, climate, and conflict working group), Elizabeth Koch of the Women in Water Diplomacy Network (exploring joint water-gender events), the European Centre of Excellence for Civilian Crisis Management (ECCP, co-presenting on gender and civilian-military cooperation), and Abigail Robinson and Emilia Stark (on regenerative approaches and the ethics of care). Initiated LinkedIn outreach strategy for the GIG and updated the GIG website description.
- Conference Proposal Development: Developed and submitted conference proposals for the Ottawa 2026 conference, including a Gender in Environmental Peacebuilding workshop (accepted) and agreed to host the Women's Leadership Luncheon. Analyzed gender representation at the 2024 conference (finding only 3.9% gender-focused sessions) to build the case for more intentional gender mainstreaming at the 2026 conference.

Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding planned sessions:

Care in Action: From the Interpersonal to the Political in Environmental Peacebuilding
Jun 16, 2026 Workshop

From Presence to Power: Women Environmental Peacebuilders Connect [Networking Lunch] [sign-up required]
Jun 18, 2026 Roundtable
Interest Group Meeting at the Conference: A dedicated GIG meeting during the conference to welcome new members, review the group's progress, and plan activities for the next two-year cycle.

Law

Chairs: Elizabeth Hessami
Susannah Dibble

Members: 54

2025 meetings: 2

Main 2025 Accomplishments:

- Developed our current interest as investigating the topic of legal pluralism in conflict/post-conflict situations in anticipation of a presentation in Ottawa.

Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding planned sessions:

Law for Environmental Peacebuilding
Jun 18, 2026 Panel

Middle East and North Africa

Chairs: Suleiman Halasah
Peter Schwartzstein

Members: 35

2025 meetings: 2

Main 2025 Accomplishments:

- We've struggled to get our members to engage as much with the group as we would like. As a consequence, even getting a critical mass of members to commit to online events and then getting them off the ground has felt like an accomplishment. The chaotic state of the region may make our group's work that bit more important, but it also means everyone's frantically busy, already bogged down with other events, and, in some instances perhaps, extra wary of engaging with groups which include Israelis.

Urban

Chairs: Silvia Danielak
Hector Morales Munoz

Members: 15

2025 meetings: 2 [IG launched in 2025]

Main 2025 Accomplishments:

- Launched the group and have 15 members!
- Kickstarted a collaboration with the Climate Security Mechanism at the UN and adelphi on urban climate, peace, and security with the goal to a) host a dialogue series and b) write a policy brief. This has led to 5 dialogue events so far.
- 2025 was important for planning and has resulted in several events already since (first quarter of 2026).

Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding planned sessions:

Urban Environmental Peacebuilding: Improving Policy, Practice, and Understanding for Safer and More Resilient Cities
Jun 17, 2026 Panel

Interest Group Meeting at the Conference: Informal get-together (e.g. dinner) with the Urban IG members

Young Professionals

Chairs: Robin Fontaine
Sophia Haber

Members: 46

2025 meetings: 2

Main 2025 Accomplishments:

- Conducting training on contributing to the New Security Beat blog.

Fourth International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding planned sessions:

Youth-Led Roundtable for Action on Biodiversity, Conflict and Peacebuilding
Jun 19, 2026 Roundtable

Annex 1. Complete List of EnPAx Sponsored Events in 2025

Event and Location = 17 events	**Date**
Environmental Peacebuilding: The Year in Review and the Year Ahead Environmental Peacebuilding Association online	January 22, 2025
Discussion on the New and Evolving Paradigm of the Humanitarian-Environmental Sector Environmental Peacebuilding Association and Conflict and Environment Observatory online	March 10, 2025
Humanitarian Response, Conflict and the Environment: Experiences and Lessons (?) EnPAx Interest Group on Climate Change, Disasters, and Resilience online	March 18, 2025
Briefings on Hosting an Event on the Path to Ottawa Environmental Peacebuilding Association and University of Ottawa online	June 2, 2025
“Peace Notes" Series: Maritime Environmental Peacebuilding and the Sounds of our Marine Ecosystems (A Path to Ottawa Event) EnPAx Arts Initiative online	July 2, 2025
“Peace Notes" Series: Session 2 (A Path to Ottawa Event) EnPAx Arts Initiative online	August 5, 2025
"Peace Notes" Series: Whalesong; Warsong: Cetaceans, Conflict, and Cooperation (A Path to Ottawa Event) EnPAx Arts Initiative online	September 1, 2025
Engendering the EnPAx 2026 Ottawa Conference (A Path to Ottawa Event) EnPAx Gender Interest Group Virtual	September 4, 2025

From PeaceCon to Ottawa: Connecting for Environment, Climate, and Peace (A Path to Ottawa Event) Alliance for Peacebuilding Washington, DC	September 9, 2025
Report Launch: "From Waste to Resolution: Assessing the Impact of Armed Conflict on the Solid Waste Sector in Yemen" (A Path to Ottawa Event) European Institute of Peace, PAX, and adelphi online	October 1, 2025
"Peace Notes" Series: Woodwind Symphony: The Musical Peacebuilding of Trees (A Path to Ottawa Event) EnPAx Arts Initiative online	October 1, 2025
The Future of Transitional Justice Amidst the Realities of Environment and Climate Change Challenges in Conflict and Post Conflict Societies (A Path to Ottawa Event) EnPAx Transitional Justice Interest Group online	October 7, 2025
Symposium on the Water-Energy-Peace Nexus Environmental Peacebuilding Association and University of Ottawa University of Ottawa and online	October 8, 2025
"Peace Notes" Series: Resilient Melodies—The Songs of Protest and Collective Action (A Path to Ottawa Event) EnPAx Arts Initiative online	November 4, 2025
Humanitarian-Led Climate Action in Fragile, Conflict-Affected Contexts (A Path to Ottawa Event) Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations online	November 26, 2025
Environmental PeaceTech: Exploring Innovation in Climate-Conflict Settings (A Path to Ottawa Event) Austrian Centre for Peace, Austrian Institute of Technology, and PeaceTech Alliance Vienna, Austria	December 4, 2025

The Environmental Peacebuilding Association (also known as EnPAx) is the premiere global association dedicated to bringing together researchers, practitioners, and decision makers working on issues of environment, conflict, and peace. Founded in 2018, the Association is a multidisciplinary forum with three main aims. First, it seeks to identify promising research avenues and best policy practices, as well as foster exchange of knowledge and data. Second, it builds capacity and awareness among practitioners to advance the field and increase impact. Third, it fosters interactions among scholars, practitioners, decision makers, and others across disciplines, genders, geographical locations, and stages of professional development.

EnPAx™ is governed by a Board of Directors, comprising leaders in the field. The Environmental Law Institute serves as the Secretariat for the Association. Questions about the Association may be addressed to info@environmentalpeacebuilding.org.