

Geneva Dialogue on Environment, Climate, Conflict, and Peace: Meeting 33

12 July, Zoom

Participants: 16 participants

Geneva Dialogue is an informal group of professionals, practitioners, researchers, policy-makers, largely though not exclusively Geneva-based working on environment, climate, conflict, and peace.

- GPP is here to build community and collaboration
- <https://www.gppplatform.ch/content/environment-climate-conflict-and-peacebuilding>

Introductions

Meeting participants were invited to introduce themselves, offer an idea of a topic they hold expertise in, and offer an idea of a topic they would like to learn more about.

- Wilson Center
 - DC-based think tank, working on development, environment, climate, and security
 - Expertise in bringing stakeholders together to host conversations and dialogues
 - Would like to learn more about critical minerals and just transitions, opportunities, and risks
- Somali Greenpeace Association
 - Climate and environmental issues in Somalia - connecting and cocreating climate solutions in Somalia, as well as environmental peacebuilding
 - Expertise in raising awareness in climate change issues, systems change
- Protection Approaches
 - Identity-based violence prevention organization, preventing mass violence and atrocities, looking at how climate change exacerbates these issues
 - Expertise on atrocity prevention, thinking about community engagement mechanisms
 - Would like to learn more about minerals, and how climate action can fuel risks of violent conflict
 - Project on metals: <https://nemsingh.com/research-projects/grip-arm/>
- SIPRI
 - Working within the climate change and risk program, looking at what the implications of climate change are for human security
 - Personal expertise specifically on UN peacekeeping missions, as well as food security & conflict
 - Would like to learn about how climate change adaptation can contribute to peacebuilding, and what institutions outside of the UN are doing on the topic
- University of Delaware Peace and Justice Studies Program
 - Introduced recently to the Environmental Peacebuilding Association, so will have a specialization in environmental peacebuilding, but also has a climate change hub
 - Have received some grants recently on critical minerals
 - Would like to learn more about models of how peace has been achieved

- Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue
 - Peace mediation and dialogue organization, operates environmental peacemaking projects using climate change as an entry point for dialogue
 - Have many examples of how it can be used, where it's been successful
 - Launching an internal training course this year
 - Would like to learn about links between conservation, peace, mediation, nature-based solutions
- Tecnológico de Monterrey, International Relations Department
 - University trying to build new research groups incl. on Agenda 2030
 - Personal expertise in climate change, biodiversity loss, infrastructure project, human security
- Education Interest Group in the Environmental Peacebuilding Association
 - Trying to build out a map of the educational programs or offers (trainings, workshops, courses) that focus on environmental peacebuilding
 - To support young professionals or folks new to the field
 - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdlUBEYyV1iWNI20wMVjyCu2Zp3lbaFoREQwA6unb4NUBLvvg/viewform>
- PeaceNexus Foundation
 - Trying to connect the practice of conservation/environment organizations to conflict/peace issues - operationalization
 - Recently closed a call for proposals for environmental orgs who want to integrate peace and conflict sensitivity
 - Had 59 strong and high-quality applications - really showing that the demand is there
 - <https://peacenexus.org/call-for-proposals>
 - Would like to explore how they can get other donors on board to support this kind of work
- World Bank
 - Working on natural resource management, and the interlinkages of environment, conflict, climate change, and fragility
 - World Bank is a development institution working more and more in insecure environments, including those not under government control
 - Have many case studies, for better or for worse, in Eastern Congo, Ukraine, Somalia, etc.
 - Working to try and inform those in the bank about how to work on environment in fragile and conflict settings better
 - Would like to learn more about how we might measure what conflict prevention is - we can say we are trying to do this work, but it's difficult to quantify that
- Universalialia
 - Consultancy firm working on environment, security, and transformation practice
 - Expertise in monitoring, evaluation, and learning - there is a lot of theory, but not a lot of evidence - they are trying to close that gap
 - Forthcoming toolkit on this
- Center for Climate and Security
 - Looking at climate security, bridging the gap between the higher level discourse and projects actually happening on the ground

- Would like to learn more about the applied examples of what environmental peacebuilding can look like in a positive way, in order to tell the good stories that drive innovation and community-led work
- USIP
 - Personally working on projects in the MENA region, exploring how we monitor and evaluate environmental peacebuilding in a hands-on way, a lot of local-level reconciliation
 - Would like to learn more about how this agenda actually moves into practice throughout the multilayers - local to regional, regional to national, national to international - policy coherence in a way that maintains flexibility, ownership
- Alp Analytica
 - Project-based consultancy that contributes to discourse and moves action forward on the climate security agenda - research, MEL, organizational change, etc.
 - Authored the White Paper on the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding
 - Coordinating the environmental track of GPW22
 - Would like to learn more on how to drive ethical, effective, and practical action
- International Alert
 - Working on nexus on climate, natural resource management, and peace for 15 years
 - Working on supporting climate planning that is conflict-sensitive
 - Storytelling, case studies, etc.

Updates

- Geneva Peace Week applications are now closed and decisions should be coming out soon
- A summary document of our work at S+50 should be coming out soon
- The group then had a conversation about ECCP moving forward and what value it can focus on adding to actors in the ecosystem
 - Feedback from participants:
 - The ECCP email updates are helpful
 - Monthly meetings are a helpful way to make face-to-face connections and learn about new projects that I had not encountered before
 - Would like to see more thematic or topical briefings on different subtopics
 - The overall group is very helpful to get a grip on the current discussion, what people are writing, working on, etc.
 - The directory is helpful
 - Collaborating on projects like blogs or the White Paper allowed for better trust-building and a depth of relationship, which can lead to collaboration and innovation
 - Diversity of actor types is great: Education, research, policy, advocacy, development, government, etc.