White Paper: Call for Proposals

The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform acts as a neutral convener of the Geneva Dialogue on Environment, Climate, Conflict, and Peace in order to improve the exchange between environmental and peacebuilding communities. In collaboration with the PeaceNexus Foundation, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the Environmental Peacebuilding Association (EnPax), GPP proposes a collective process to develop a White Paper on the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding in order to advance a forward-looking practical agenda.

The White Paper is a policy-oriented document, to be developed through a reflective, consultative, multi-stakeholder process. It aims to deliver a strong, cogent message about the future of the field to the Stockholm+50 forum in June 2022.

The White Paper's goal is to stimulate thinking, policy, and funding for innovative programs and solutions around environmental peacebuilding. It is not an advocacy document, but it does illustrate a number of options available to actors. It is not comprehensive, but it tries to encompass many topics while still maintaining a cogent, focused narrative.

Practically, the White Paper will be composed of contributions from a wide range of actors. The two final products will be a short, 10-page White Paper targeting policymakers, and then a larger compendium with the full range of accepted contributions made to the process. The White Paper itself is written by a single editor under the supervision of the Steering Committee, hired particularly to work on this project. The paper is reviewed and refined through a series of public and open consultations, offering contributors the opportunity to discuss the final version.

For full details on the White Paper, its goals, and the process, please refer to the White Paper concept note.
The Steering Committee of the White Paper on the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding calls for proposals to the project along the following contours:

1. Proposals should address one or more of the following question sets:
   
a. **Priorities for environmental peacebuilding:** What do you see as a top priority for a forward-looking environmental peacebuilding agenda? How should this issue be addressed cross-sectorally? Are there evidence/examples of such collaboration and what are the lessons to be learned?

   b. **Operationalization and evidence:** What does ‘environmental peacebuilding’ mean in your work? What do we as an environmental peacebuilding field need to better understand? What are some promising approaches that could be scaled up? How do we operationalize what we know (i.e., to translate from theory to practice)?

   c. **Cross-Sector Collaboration:** To what extent do you collaborate with other institutions in your work, particularly across sectors and fields (as outlined below)? What fosters successful collaborations?

   d. **The Future of the Field:** What do you think environmental peacebuilding will look like in the future? What role can different types of actors play in this future? (incl. researcher/academics, practitioners, community leaders, youth, private sector, etc.) Are there additional kinds of actors that should be drawn into this work?

   e. **Policy Goals:** Do you have any specific expectations of policy makers for an agenda on environmental peacebuilding? What goals can we set for policy, funding, and behavioral change? How do we get there?

2. Proposals should be developed collaboratively. Each proposal must have at least two submitting partners belonging to different institutions or organizations (i.e., cannot be two members of staff within the same organization) and from different sectors. These could be developed by choosing two types from the below wide categories.

   i. Peacebuilding and peacemaking
   ii. Conflict and security
   iii. Humanitarian and development perspectives
   iv. Environment
   v. Climate action
   vi. Conservation and biodiversity

   vii. **Note:** Other fields such as technology, faith and spirituality, health, law, and many more are welcome to collaborate for proposals.

Contact: Annika Erickson-Pearson, annika@gpplatform.ch
Collaboration should not happen across substantive topics alone. You are strongly encouraged to collaborate with different types of actors or entities as well. For example, practitioners are invited to partner with academics. Partnerships can also stretch across the international to local, as well as from researchers to community-based and/or indigenous groups. **Cross-actor and cross-sector collaborations will receive preferential attention in the selection process.**

For questions on what may appropriately qualify as collaboration or for additional support with generating ideas for collaboration, please contact Annika Erickson-Pearson at annika@gpplatform.ch.

3. Proposals must contain a strong forward-looking element. Historical and background reviews are welcomed as components of proposals, but cannot represent the entire contribution.

4. Proposals may contain examples of best practices from the submitting institutions, but should pursue balance between showcasing their own examples, with examples from other organizations and institutions, and the broader way forward.

5. Proposals must be submitted in 100-150 words, and should include a proposed title for your contribution.

6. Proposals may be submitted in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, or Chinese. Consultations on the language of final publication will follow for accepted proposals.

7. This is an open call for proposals. Any actor or institution may make a submission provided that they meet the above criteria.

**The deadline for proposal submission is 16 April 2021 at 23:59 CET. All proposals must be submitted via this form: [https://forms.gle/ZjM6QBFnMmMk5txdA](https://forms.gle/ZjM6QBFnMmMk5txdA)** You may contact Annika with any additional questions.

**Expectations for Final Contributions:**

Each contribution will be about 750 words, or two pages with a photo or graphic. Exceptions can be made, with some contributions being longer. Contributions should draw on the types of knowledge held by each institution and author, maximizing the diversity of perspectives. Formats can range from the more formal to more creative types, including case studies and storytelling.

**Timeline and Selection**

The *White Paper for the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding* is designed as a global, consultative process managed by a Steering Committee. More information on the process as a whole can be found here.
Proposals will be reviewed by the White Paper Steering Committee for clarity and relevance. Specific criteria include:

- Does the proposal address one or more of the question sets outlined in the call for proposals?
- Is the proposal submitted by a partnership of two or more actors across different sector types as outlined in the call for proposals?
- Is the proposal rooted in concrete and tangible examples or evidence?
- Is the proposal forward looking, offering a vision for where the environmental peacebuilding field and policy agenda should (might) go?

Proposals will be evaluated throughout the month of April. Contributors will be notified of their acceptance by early May, and the deadline for contributions to the White Paper will be 30 June 2021. Public consultations on the White Paper draft will be held throughout the second half of 2021.

The White Paper will be presented at the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding in Geneva in February 2022, as well as the 50th Anniversary of the UN Conference on Environment (Stockholm+50) in June 2022.

**White Paper Steering Committee**

Heloise Heyer, PeaceNexus Foundation
Hesta Groenewald, PeaceNexus Foundation
Carl Bruch, Environmental Peacebuilding Association & Environmental Law Institute
Hannah Moosa, International Union for the Conservation of Nature
Rainer Gude, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform

*Facilitated by Annika Erickson-Pearson, Geneva Peacebuilding Platform*

Contact: Annika Erickson-Pearson, annika@gpplatform.ch