

GEPP

Global Environmental Policy Programme



Executive Summer School

Global Environmental Policy

30th August – 11th September 2015

Geneva



ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING ALLIANCE



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE



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Advance your career

In the unique context of the International Geneva setting, the Executive Summer School on Global Environmental Policy provides a special opportunity for participants to enlarge their competencies in order to address complex environmental issues.

Today countries around the world aspire to have high-skill, high-value professionals that are part of knowledge societies and economies at global, regional and local levels. A unique feature of applied knowledge is that there are no limits to its growth, or its application to deal with challenges facing human societies in the 21st century. The Executive Summer School (ESS) on Global Environmental Policy explicitly links knowledge to policy definition and professional practice.

Objective

The main objective of the Executive Summer School is to provide professionals with a broad training programme in order to bridge the common gap between scientific knowledge and professional expertise related to core environmental themes.

The modules provide an intensive immersion in the latest political and scientific issues on the global environmental agenda. They link the scientific knowledge and practical negotiation techniques relevant to the development and implementation of both legal and voluntary international agreements.

Beyond enlarging each participant's knowledge base, the ESS is designed to enhance concrete decision-making, problem-solving and negotiation skills.



Audience

The Executive Summer School aims to bring together 30 selected participants with diverse origins and professional backgrounds. Participants include decision-makers from private and public sectors and non-governmental organisations, as well as academics and researchers. The diversity of profiles is aimed to create a dynamic community of expertise and foster cross-fertilisation.

Young professionals involved in environmental issues are strongly encouraged to apply as the programme will open new perspectives and advance their career.

Themes

- Sustainable development: challenges, opportunities and initiatives.
- Principles of a green economy.
- Ethical dimensions of environmental and social policies.
- Global health challenges.
- Interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary contributions.
- Environmental diplomacy and institutional governance.
- Risk analysis.

Competencies

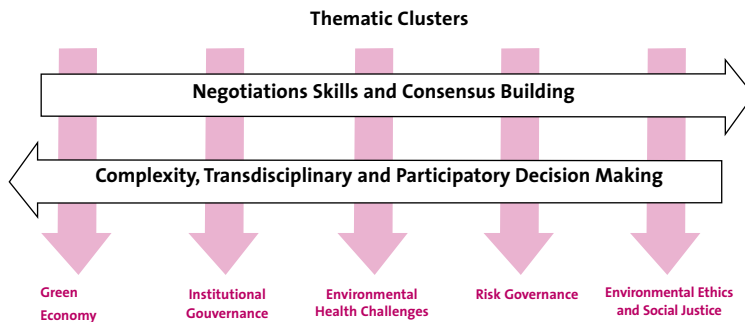
- An ability to negotiate in bilateral and multilateral contexts and a capacity to engage in participatory decision-making processes.
- Deepening the understanding of the challenges for organisations and human beings.
- Applying interdisciplinary and systemic analyses of global environmental changes and their consequences in local, national and international contexts.
- Identifying conflicting positions and possible solutions in complex situations.
- Implementing intersectoral initiatives.



Learning Methods

- Lectures, debates and debriefings
- Interactive seminars
- Case study analysis
- Negotiation techniques
- Simulation gaming techniques

Structures and Thematics





Thematic modules

Negotiation Skills and Consensus Building

This module enhances the comprehension and knowledge of negotiation dynamics in bilateral and multilateral contexts. After reviewing the fundamental elements of negotiation, it will examine how different processes shape different outcomes, and how the human and intercultural dimensions may influence negotiation dynamics. The prerequisites for successful negotiation will be reviewed, and power asymmetries at the negotiating table will be analysed. Participants will learn to distinguish different phases of a negotiation process and engage in an exercise concerning consensus building among different stakeholders.

Green Economy

Developing an understanding of the functioning of a market economy and its failure to achieve sustainable development goals is the aim of this module. It discusses why and how a shift to a greener economy could help enable the promotion of sustainable development. The module analyses and compares instruments promoting a shift to a green economy, such as environmental regulations, ecological tax reforms and tradable permits. Concepts and approaches will be illustrated by case studies and best practices.

Institutional Governance

This module provides participants with an understanding of the development and evolution of global environmental governance. It analyses the role and performance of international environmental regimes, organizations as well as new mechanisms of non-state environmental certification and public-private partnerships. It will also examine the pertinence of interdisciplinary intergovernmental and intersectoral contributions as well as participatory processes for dealing effectively with complex environmental problems at international, regional and local levels.



Environmental Health Challenges

Using multi-scale analysis of practical cases, this module studies the environmental challenges that impact on human health. It integrates socio-economic inequalities and disparities that impact directly on individual and community health as well as the health system performance. It deals with the capacities required to cope with environmental challenges, and also the gaps that reinforce social injustice.

Risk Governance

Issues related to the management of situations characterized by risk and uncertainty are at the core of this module. Such situations are challenging for human societies and generate important policy issues. Distinct groups of stakeholders (experts, the civil society, governments and industry representatives) involved in the identification, definition and prevention of risks often disagree on measures and decisions to be taken. Risk governance aims at dealing with complex and global risks by applying a comprehensive framework, including social and cultural dimensions.

Environmental Ethics and Social Justice

Transdisciplinary approaches for the understanding of contextual and global values, as well as conflicts of interest in a multicultural world are the themes addressed by this module. It analyses ethical drivers for a stronger symbiosis with the environment, focused on the relation between sustainable economic development, social progress and peace. It also develops ethical criteria for dialogue and negotiation, as well as reflections about compromises.



Complexity, Transdisciplinary and Participatory Decision Making

This module provides participants with an understanding of the pertinence of interdisciplinary and intersectoral contributions as well as participatory processes that apply transdisciplinary approaches for dealing effectively with complex environmental subjects at local, regional and global levels. The module will define and illustrate key concepts, principles and methods, and then illustrate how they have been applied in case studies that exemplify the best practices in both so-called developed and developing countries.

Practical Information

Admission criteria

- A Master or Bachelor Degree recognised by the University of Geneva, or a relevant professional experience in the field.
- Fluency in written and spoken English is essential.

The number of participants is limited to 30. Candidates will be informed of their admission by email before the 31st May 2015.

Course location

The Executive Summer School takes place in the centre of international Geneva, one of the top global centres for multilateral diplomacy and the headquarters of many international governmental and non-governmental organizations. The course is hosted by the University of Geneva and the International Environment House.

Tuition fee

- CHF 6'800- (accommodation and meals not included).
- Participants are responsible for the organisation and payment of their visa, travel and accommodation.
- A limited number of scholarships may be available to meet the costs of half of the tuition fee.

Application before 30th April 2015

- Registration form to be downloaded:
www.unige.ch/gepp/registration

Information

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GEPP

Global Environmental Policy Programme

To address the complexity of global environmental issues, the University of Geneva and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) have developed a transdisciplinary programme that is aimed to improve policy and decision making through the following activities:

- **International Conferences**
- **Global Environmental Policy Dialogues**
- **Executive Summer School (ESS)**
- **Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS)**

The GEPP is a unique learning initiative that bridges the often-disconnected worlds of internationally-renowned scientific research and multilateral governance processes.



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Information

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