

GEPP Global Environmental Policy Programme

EXECUTIVE SUMMER SCHOOL

Global Environmental Policy

28th August > 7th September 2016

GENEVA



ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING ALLIANCE

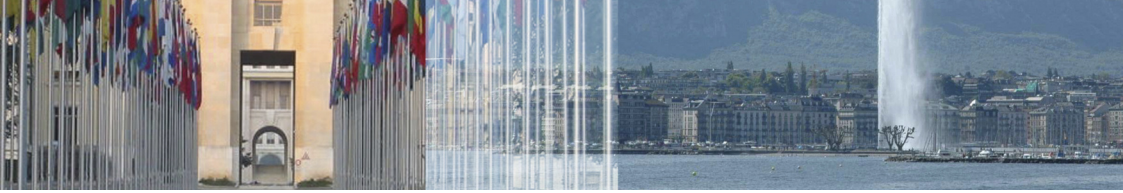


UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE

A nighttime photograph of the Geneva skyline, featuring the Jet d'Eau fountain on the left and the illuminated city buildings across the water. The sky is a deep twilight blue.

An essential asset for your career

The Executive Summer School Global Environmental Policy provides an intensive immersion in the latest political and scientific issues on the global environmental agenda in the unique context of International Geneva.



Today countries around the world are deeply concerned by the rapid evolution of environmental challenges at local, regional and international levels. All actors – be they public, private or not-for-profit organisations, aspire to have high-skill, high-value professionals to deal with political, environmental, social, ethical and economic challenges facing societies.

Objectives

- The Executive Summer School Global Environmental Policy provides professionals with an all-encompassing and intensive training in order to acquire a complex and intersectoral understanding of sustainable development governance and policy.
- The course bridges the common gap between scientific knowledge and professional expertise. A specific attention is given to the transfer of technical knowledge, the development of problem-solving negotiation skills, the acquisition of concrete decision-making abilities and the enhancement of communication skills to reach out to civil society.
- The modules provide multiple case studies tackling the impact and potential of the data revolution and the need to reach out to the larger public.

Audience

The Executive Summer School Global Environmental Policy aims to bring together 25 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 concerned about environmental challenges are strongly encouraged to apply as the programme will open new perspectives and advance their career.



Themes

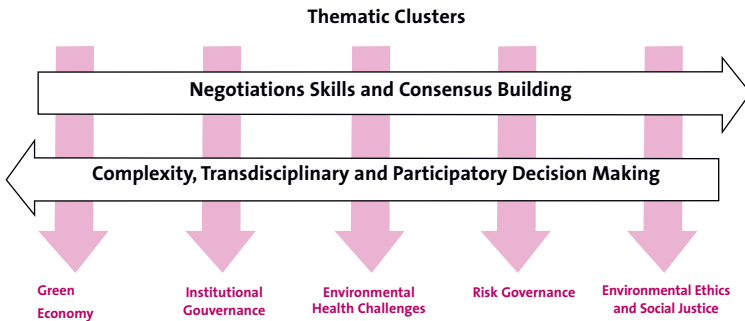
- Environmental diplomacy and institutional governance.
- Principles of a green and circular economy.
- Global health challenges.
- Sustainable development goals (SDGs): challenges and initiatives.
- Ethical dimensions of environmental and social policies.

Targeted Tools and Competencies

- Applying interdisciplinary and systemic analyses of global environmental changes and their consequences in local, national and international contexts.
- Using relevant risk analysis tools.
- Mastering data collection, data analysis and data visualisation tools.
- Deepening the understanding of the challenges for organisations and human beings.
- Identifying conflicting positions and possible solutions in complex situations by dialogue processes.
- Negotiating in bilateral and multilateral contexts and engaging in participatory decision-making processes.
- Implementing intersectoral initiatives.
- Designing impactful communication strategies.



Structure and Thematics



Learning Methods

- Lectures, debates and debriefings.
- Interactive seminars.
- Case study analysis.
- Negotiation techniques.
- Simulation gaming techniques.
- Distance learning tools and methods.



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, including citizen science, 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 25. Candidates will be informed of their admission by email before the 15th June 2016.

Course location

The course is hosted by the University of Geneva and the International Environment House.

It 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.

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 31st May 2016

- Registration form to be downloaded:
www.unige.ch/gepp/registration
- Payment of the registration fee is required before 1st July 2016.

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 current understanding 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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