



GEPP

Global Environmental Policy Programme



A Platform for Environmental, Social and Economic Debate and Training

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



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The world is following a new environmental trajectory and an increasing number of stakeholders are alarmed by the prospect of complex unprecedented ecological, socioeconomic, political and demographic challenges.

Inherent in the new generation of global challenges are a set of complex linkages, which are poorly understood, and for which our international institutions are ill-equipped.

To address the complexity of the global environmental challenges, which is essential to ensure the global transition to sustainability, the University of Geneva in partnership with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) has developed a transdisciplinary programme that is aimed to improve policy and decision making through the following activities:

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

GEPP Objectives

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

Its primary aim is to give exposure to cutting edge developments in environmental science research and to involve leading figures in the international community whose expertise and perspectives have been critical in shaping the global environmental agenda.

Each component of GEPP addresses the complex interlinkages in the global environmental agenda and highlights the political dynamics, strategic and process challenges of international environmental governance.



Transdisciplinary and Multi-Sectoral Approach

The structure of the programme endows it with a unique capability to pursue a novel systemic approach that facilitates dialogue and interaction by engaging public and private actors in the discussion of:

- **Complex environmental challenges including the consequences of large scale development projects in the energy, agriculture, transport and infrastructure sectors.**
- **International organisations, programmes, multilateral processes in relation to global environmental policy** (e.g. the UN General Assembly 2nd Committee, UN Environment Programme, the environment treaty regimes, the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, the UN Research Institute for Social Development, and relevant global conferences or rounds of negotiation on climate and the environment).
- **Analytical and methodological innovations for assessing and measuring the environmental impacts** of large development projects (i.e. sustainability impact assessment, back casting, scenario-building).

approach



International Conferences

The international conferences address emerging issues on the global environmental change agenda. They provide an important opportunity for the participants to learn directly from the most prominent scientists and world class experts on global change.

Previous Conferences

- 2010 ■ ***People on the Move: Impacts of Climate Change on Human Well-being***
Prof. Michael Oppenheimer, IPCC & Princeton University
Dr. Koko Warner, United Nations University, Bonn
- 2012 ■ ***Rio+20: Challenges, Opportunities and Responses***
Dr. Daniel Ziegerer, Head of Global Affairs at the Federal
Environment Office of Switzerland, Bern
Dr. Sarah Cook, United Nations Research Institute for Social
Development, Geneva
- 2013 ■ ***Beyond the Limits: Implementing a Resilient Future***
Ian Johnson, Secretary General of the Club of Rome,
Winterthur
Dr. Per Olsson, Head of the Initiative on Innovation and
Transformation in Socio-Ecological Systems, Stockholm
Resilience Centre



Policy Dialogues

Each year, GEPP organises a series of Policy Dialogues addressing important topics in the field of environmental policy and governance relevant to international, national and regional processes.

The Policy Dialogues provide a platform for globally renowned thinkers, practitioners and scientists to interact with the Geneva public and private actors in small selected gatherings. The Policy Dialogues are organised around two guest speakers with complementary views on a global environmental topic.

Previous Policy Dialogues

- 2011 ■ *Opportunities for Breaking the Global Environmental Governance Deadlock? Lessons to be Learned from Other International Regimes*
- *Does Greening the Economy Make Sense?*
- *Environmental Ethics and Social Justice*

- 2012 ■ *Millennium Development Goals: Measuring Progress towards Social Justice*
- *Challenges for Improving Implementation: Looking Ahead after Rio*

- 2013 ■ *Moving Forward: Challenges for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at International and National Levels*

components



Executive Summer School (ESS) and Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) on Global Environmental Policy

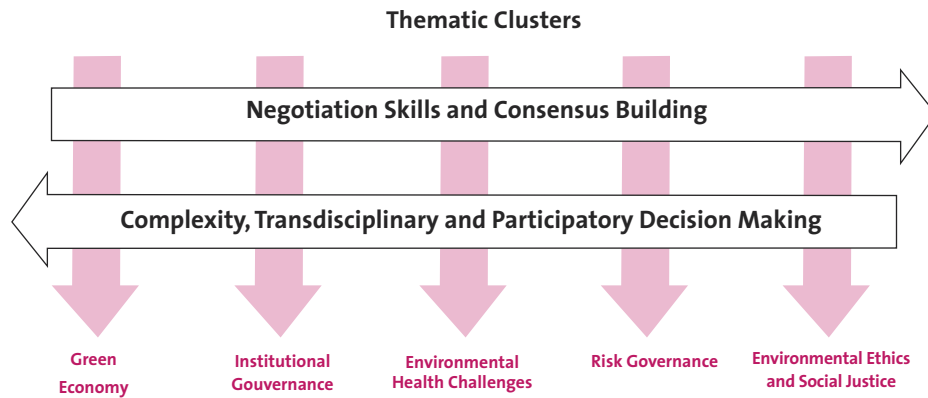
In the unique context of the International Geneva setting, the Executive Summer School on Global Environmental Policy provides a special opportunity for participants to enlarge their competencies in order to address complex environmental issues.

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.

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.



components



Thematic Modules of ESS and CAS

Negotiation Skills and Consensus Building

Informing and improving participants' knowledge of bilateral and multilateral negotiation processes.

Green Economy

Addressing and engaging the participants in a constructive and critical review of the various approaches to greening global and national economies.

Institutional Governance

Introducing participants to the underlying principles of global governance, as well as the complex challenges and innovations in environmental policy implementation and governance of international institutions.

Environmental Health Challenges

Analyzing the major health challenges related to global change.

Risk Governance

Providing a broad perspective of tools and mechanisms for institutions to deal with uncertainty and risk in a constantly changing world.

Environmental Ethics and Social Justice

Reviewing and analyzing important core environmental values and ethical principles and their implications for global environmental policy.

Complexity, Transdisciplinary and Participatory Decision Making

Proposing and providing an understanding of intersectoral approaches to transdisciplinary contributions and participatory decision making.

GEPP Global Environmental Policy Programme

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