

Global Development Conference on

Biodiversity

and

Sustainable Development



OCTOBER 31 – NOVEMBER 1, 2023 | QUITO, ECUADOR

CALL FOR PAPERS

In 2023, the **Global Development Conference** will focus on **Biodiversity and Sustainable Development**. The **Global Development Network (GDN)**, **Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ)** and **Future Earth** are collaborating to host this conference in **Quito, Ecuador on October 31 and November 1, 2023**. The event will be held in hybrid format (online and offline) to allow for broader participation while aiming still for a large contingent to attend in person. The conference will be bilingual - **English** and **Spanish**, with a majority of participants from developing countries.

The Global Development Conference will feature substantive and inclusive discussions at the highest level of expertise, grounded in empirical evidence and focused on the interrelated topics of **mainstreaming biodiversity, financing nature and biodiversity**, and **technology and innovation** that intersect with **biodiversity and ecosystem preservation**. The conference is known for its ability to bring together global perspectives on critical issues, which have so far been largely restricted to developed nations. Through such discussions, the aim is to enhance cooperation and knowledge-sharing among all stakeholders, while also providing a glimpse into the latest advancements and techniques at the intersection of biodiversity and development.

The Organizing Committee of the Global Development Conference 2023 is **inviting submissions of innovative papers** that explore the diverse connections between biodiversity and development. The world is facing unprecedented degradation of nature and biodiversity, which poses a threat to health, food, water, natural resources, economic development and the climate. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) raised the

alarm that humanity is facing the highest extinction rate in history, with 1 million animal and plant species currently threatened with extinction. More than half of the world's GDP is moderately or highly dependent on nature, and degrading ecosystems could trigger a downward spiral of US\$2.7 trillion in global GDP by 2030.

Biodiversity and development are two interrelated themes that transcend disciplinary and sectoral boundaries. Additionally, the debate will center on the application of biodiversity policies, and we **welcome perspectives from researchers** in a variety of fields, including **ecology, biology, economics, and social sciences**. The discussion of this topic should be further expanded beyond the current scope, and an organization such as GDN and its conference partners are ideally positioned to facilitate this wider discourse. Additionally, capacity building is imperative in this field, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) which are most vulnerable to the adverse effects of biodiversity degradation.

Conference sub-themes

The conference proposes to address the following thematic streams:

1. Alternative, nature-based solutions for sustainability challenges (including perspectives from indigenous people)
2. From ecosystem valuation (methodological approaches) and political commitments to implementation of the new GBF
3. Mainstreaming biodiversity and scaling up mainstreaming
4. Biodiversity loss, poverty and global inequality - links and trade-offs
5. Financing nature and biodiversity - domestic, international, private sector
6. Biodiversity governance - local and international
7. Technology and Innovation - links to biodiversity and ecosystem preservation
8. Interdisciplinary research and capacity building - including diverse knowledge systems

Detailed descriptions of broader thematic issues including a concept note and more information on the conference can be found [here](#).

Guidelines and Selection

The paper selection process will be conducted in two stages. Firstly, based on an extended abstract, and subsequently on the full paper.

Interested individuals should submit their **paper abstract** (between **300-800 words**) via the link provided on the [GDN conference page](#), no later than **May 31, 2023** at **11:59 pm CET**.

All individual and co-authors are required to submit a **brief biographical note**, with a maximum of **150 words**.

The abstract should specify:

- What motivates the proposed paper
- Describe how the paper adds new knowledge to the area of study. Describe the proposed methodology, data, etc.
- Discuss how the paper's conclusions and contributions are related to one or more of the conference themes and how they will impact policy and sustainable development action.

Those selected on the basis of the abstract review, will be informed by **June 15, 2023**, and be invited to submit their paper (approximately **5000-8000 words**, including references) by **July 15, 2023**.

Please ensure that you follow the submission guidelines. Each paper should only be submitted once, even if there are multiple co-authors. All papers should be proofread.

The Organizing and Scientific Committees will evaluate all papers in terms of their originality, analytical rigor, policy relevance, and clarity. Authors of accepted papers will be notified by **September 5, 2023**. A final draft of the paper will be required by **October 10, 2023**. Selected papers will be presented in the parallel sessions of the conference.

For authors of selected papers, the conference will cover travel and accommodation expenses. Further information on the conference program will be posted on the [GDN website](#) in the coming months. For any queries or concerns, the conference secretariat can be contacted via email at conference@gdn.int.

GDN encourages women researchers to apply!