

IVCO2020 Conference: Instructions for Presentation Submissions

Thank you for your interest in submitting a presentation for the International Volunteer Cooperation Organisations' conference (IVCO2020). The deadline for all submissions is **14 September 2020**. Presentations will be reviewed on a rolling basis, with notification of the outcome to be issued to all applicants by end of September 2020.

Conference themes:

With climate change the most pressing threat to our planet and species, and with only 3 per cent of current international volunteering attributed to environmental sustainability, IVCO2020 provides the opportunity to raise the awareness, quality and quantity of volunteering for climate action to contribute to SDG13.

This theme presents an opportunity for researchers and practitioners to explore what we mean by volunteering for climate action, to recognise and share good practice from our organisations and agree on ways forward, as organisations and as a sector, to improve the quality and impact of our work.

Sub-themes

As volunteering for development is a people to people development modality, it seeks to share skills and knowledge through mutual respect and trust to build capacity in people, organisations and systems, in order to:

1. Raise *awareness of the impact of climate change in communities*. For example, international volunteer communications specialists working with local farmers in the Pacific on changes to agricultural production.
2. Improve *resilience to the effects of climate change in communities*. For example, such as international volunteer town planners working with provincial governments.
3. Enable *adaptation to the effects of climate change in communities*. For example, international volunteer policy experts assisting national governments.
4. Reduce the *causes of climate change*. For example, international volunteer waste management specialists strengthening local waste management systems.

As well as the above (volunteering for development that addresses climate action with partner organisations *directly*) there is also a case for making the above outcomes a *cross cutting theme* across all assignments with partner organisations.

The conference has a Pacific Islands focus, because while they collectively emit far below 1 per cent of total global greenhouse gases responsible for climate change, the region and its island countries are among the most vulnerable in the world to its negative impacts.

These include temperature variability, storm surges, rising sea levels, changes in rainfall patterns and coral bleaching. These impacts threaten biodiversity and ecosystem services - affecting food and water supply, livelihoods and the wellbeing of coastal communities across the region.

Additionally, very few Pacific Island countries have the independent capacity to effectively address the issue of global mitigation through international negotiations or large scale in-country adaptation measures.

IVCO2020 invites abstract submissions for panel sessions, workshops, and breakout sessions based on the themes listed below.

Please note: Each presentation can only be submitted under one theme/session.

Panel session themes:

- ▶ **Session 4: Advocacy, Policy and Systems: How volunteering can help climate change advocacy initiatives to influence policies and systems**
This session will discuss the role of volunteers in advocacy movements that influence policy and system change. This session will focus on **case studies** that demonstrate how volunteers have supported progress towards **SDG 13.3**:
Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.
- ▶ **Section 5: Awareness, Adaptation and Resilience: How volunteering can raise awareness in partner organisations, helping them adapt and build resilience to the effects of climate change**
This session will discuss the role of volunteers in supporting **adaptation and resilience**, drawing on **case studies** that demonstrate how volunteers have supported progress towards **SDG 13.1**:
Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.
- ▶ **Session 8: Capacity Building: How volunteering can help strengthen capacity in organisations and systems responding to climate change**
This session will discuss how volunteers can best support capacity development needs in organisations and systems responding to climate change across all sectors, including the introduction of a mainstreamed assessment tool.

General Instructions:

All submissions will be reviewed by appropriate experts and assigned to a suitable session.

- ▶ The conference language is English.
- ▶ IVCOs are professional conferences at a strategic level.
- ▶ Delegates come from volunteering involving organisations, academia, government and non-governmental institutions from across the globe.



- ▶ IVCOs are about learning. Delegates are expecting not only to explore good practice, but also gain new ideas, tools and practical skills they can apply in their organisations. Include these learning objectives in the *intended outcome* section of the form.
- ▶ Please read the conditions of submission at the end of this document before submitting.
- ▶ Once you have decided to submit a proposal, please complete the form online at: https://ivco2020.org/en/registration?registration_type=exhibitor.

Format guidelines:

Panel Sessions

A panel session provides a structured format for a group of experts wanting to present on a common topic. Topics addressed in panel sessions will be more comprehensive and theme and topic specific with multiple speakers providing opinions, viewpoints and experiences.

Topics for presentation should be based on the overarching session title and can include global, regional or country level advocacy and policy structures and the development and outcomes of campaigns (or examples of similar projects or programs) pursuing action on climate change in different regions. Panel sessions should engage the conference audience in critical reflection and discussion on key issues, selected from the session titles.

These structured formats will provide delegates with the opportunity to hear from multiple experts on a key issue, leading to an open discussion between presenters and delegates relevant to the topic area.

Please note panel session characteristics below:

- ▶ 60min – 90min duration (20min for each presenter)
- ▶ Three speakers
- ▶ Q&A/Open discussion after all presenters

Other opportunities:

While formal presentation submissions are only being accepted for the panel sessions listed above, there will be other opportunities to moderate sessions and be involved in interactive workshops and discussions throughout the event. The popular *World Café* will be returning at IVCO2020 in a virtual format, where organisations can discuss their work and case studies with fellow attendees.

Tips:

- ▶ Focus on practical takeaways and learnings for delegates;
- ▶ Use creative presentation styles and incorporate video, colour and photos into your PowerPoint;
- ▶ Showcase highly successful, innovative or unique practices, frameworks,



- methodologies, processes or tools;
- ▶ Avoid formal speech or lecture style, long introductions and descriptions, lists of statistics and facts.
- ▶ Focus on sharing your own insights, analysis, lessons learned and recommendations;
- ▶ All speakers contact details, biographies and photos should be ready to submit if successful.

Before completing the form, please read the [Conditions for Submission](#) below:

I understand that:

- ▶ The Author warrants and represents that they are the sole owner or have the rights of all the information and content (“Content”) provided to IVOC2020 (Hereafter: “The Organisers”);
- ▶ The Author confirms that they have checked this abstract before submission and that all information is correct;
- ▶ Submission of the abstract constitutes consent to publication (e.g. conference website, programs, other promotions, etc.) The publication of the abstract does not infringe any third-party rights including, but not limited to, intellectual property rights. The Author grants the Organisers a royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable nonexclusive license to use, reproduce, publish, translate, distribute, and display the Content. The Organisers reserve the right to remove from any publication an abstract which does not comply with the above. The corresponding author is responsible for informing the other authors about the status of the abstract;
- ▶ The submission of an abstract serves as confirmation of the author’s availability to attend the Conference; it is the author’s responsibility to ensure they are available to pre-record a presentation and deliver it by the deadline; deliver the presentation live at the allocated time; or a mixture of both pre-recording the presentation and being available for a live Q&A session, depending on the type of presentation and session for which they have applied;
- ▶ If the author’s proposal is selected, they will send a **photo** (high definition headshot) and **short biography** to be posted on the IVCO2020 website;
- ▶ All information presented at IVCO2020 will be treated as **non-confidential** and open to public access, so presentations should not contain any confidential or sensitive information. No material labelled confidential or proprietary will be presented or open to public access;
- ▶ Instructions on the timings and duration of presentations will be given in the result correspondence which will be issued by end September 2020, if not earlier. If you have not received a result by the end of September 2020, please contact the Organizer. If an abstract cannot be presented at the Conference, the Organizer must be notified in writing in advance to avoid compromise to the professionalism of the event.