



PECS II: FIRST CALL FOR SESSIONS IS NOW OPEN

We are proud to announce that preparations for the second Programme on Ecosystem Change and Society conference “**PECS II – PLACE-BASED TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FOR GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY**” to be held in Oaxaca, 7-10 November 2017, are well under way, and that we are now ready to receive proposals for:

- Symposia,
- Workshops,
- Innovative and immersive sessions,
- Videos and documentaries,
- Courses and workshops following to the conference.

The four general themes that this conference will address are:

1. Context-specific pathways for working towards sustainability,
2. Challenges and opportunities for informing global sustainability through place-based research,
3. Social-ecological dynamics of ecosystem services: Synergies, trade-offs and links to human wellbeing,
4. Cross-scale connections and feedbacks that impact the structure and dynamics of social-ecological systems.

Please note that a maximum of one first author submission to the first call (Symposia, Workshops, Innovative and immersive sessions, Videos and documentaries) and one first author submission to the second call (talks in symposiums, oral sessions, speed talk sessions and posters) will be allowed to foster the exchange among peers.

KEY DATES

A FIRST CALL IS NOW OPEN FOR SYMPOSIA, WORKSHOPS, INNOVATIVE AND IMMERSIVE SESSIONS, VIDEOS AND DOCUMENTARIES, AND COURSES (DURING AND AFTER TO THE CONFERENCE)

All proposals must be submitted through the conference portal www.pecsii.org

Opening of system for applications: December 10, 2016.

Closing date of the first call: January 30, 2017.

Publication of results of the first call: February 15, 2017.

A SECOND CALL FOR SUMMARIES OF ACCEPTED SYMPOSIA AND WORKSHOPS, AND ORAL SESSIONS OR POSTERS

All summaries should be submitted through the conference portal www.pecsii.org

Opening date of the second call: February 1, 2017.

Closing date of the second call: March 30, 2017.

Publication of results of the second call: April 30, 2017.





CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES (7-10 NOVEMBER 2017)

A. TOPIC-CONTRIBUTED SESSIONS

Symposia

Symposia lasting a maximum of 1.5 hours will be organized during the three days of the conference. Symposia can have up to 6 oral presentations that should be linked by a common topic or interest related to central themes of the conference. Organizers should strive to allow time for debate once presentations have concluded. Symposium presenters should be highly qualified experts in their field, and can represent the academic, public, civil, and non-governmental sectors.

Organizers should submit a proposal (maximum of 400 words) with the following information:

- ✓ names and contact information of the organizers,
- ✓ title and objectives of the symposium,
- ✓ conceptual background and justification of the symposium,
- ✓ contribution to the general themes of the conference,
- ✓ session participants (including names, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, and the potential title of each presentation),
- ✓ specification as to whether the symposium will be "open" for others participating in the conference or if it is "closed" with a fixed list of speakers.

Proposal selection will be based on technical merit and concordance with and importance for the themes of the conference in improving understanding and management of ecosystem services and socio-ecological systems.

If proposals are approved, the symposium coordinators will be responsible for ensuring that the summaries of each of the presentations are submitted within the deadlines indicated in the second call and speaker attendance.

Workshops

Workshops lasting 1.5 hours will be held during the three days of the conference.

Organizers are free to adapt a format for their workshop that they deem appropriate for achieving the pre-established goals of the workshop.

A description and justification (in a maximum of 400 words) for the workshop should be submitted that includes the following:

- ✓ names and contact details of the organizers,
- ✓ title and objectives of the workshop,
- ✓ contribution that the workshop will make to the general themes of the conference,
- ✓ description of the specific questions or topics that will be discussed in the workshop,





- ✓ proposed workshop dynamic and interaction with attendees, including the help of facilitators,
- ✓ desired profile of participants.

Proposal selection will be based on technical merit and concordance with and importance for the themes of the conference in improving understanding and management of ecosystem services and socio-ecological systems.

If the proposals are approved, workshop coordinators will be responsible for ensuring the participation of participants and facilitators, and must provide any materials required for the successful implementation of proposed activities.

B. INNOVATIVE AND IMMERSIVE SESSIONS

Spaces will also be available for creative and innovative sessions during the conference lasting 1.5 or 2 hours per session. Innovative sessions are non-traditional conference sessions such as panels, roundtable discussions (including policy-makers, academics, non-governmental organizations, etc.), deep conversations, fishbowl dialogues, photo and music exhibitions, and short workshops. Below are three example formats, but other formats are welcome. Please be creative and do not feel limited by these examples!

Deep conversations

Deep Conversations provide an opportunity to do an in-depth exploration of a certain topic, identified as particularly important for the conference. A set of 3-8 speakers (depending on the selected time slot) will quickly pitch the main ideas of their respective work. The session leader will then encourage a more in-depth conversation among the participants and the audience.

Fishbowl dialogues

A fishbowl dialogue is a form of focalized conversation. Chairs are arranged in an inner circle to form the fishbowl (chairs equal to the number of speakers plus one). The remaining chairs are arranged in concentric circles outside the fishbowl. The organizer and invited speakers take seats inside the fishbowl and the audience outside. One chair in the fishbowl is left empty. Any member of the audience can, at any time, occupy the empty chair and join the conversation for a comment or question, then he/she leaves the chair free to allow someone else to enter and participate.

Social-ecological board games sessions

The conference invites developers and experienced users of social-ecological role playing games (e.g. agent-based simulations, board games) to organize sessions in which their games can be presented within a two-hour special session. The focus of this session will be to engage the audience and prove to them the usefulness of these tools and methods for addressing complex and interconnected social-ecological processes that involve multiple actors and confront significant sustainability challenges. Such challenges might range from the social appropriation of a single resource (i.e. water) to the governance of a territory.





During the session each presenter will undertake one or more gaming units for a maximum of eight persons.

Special sessions

Special sessions with any format beyond those described above can be proposed that are aimed at particular participants at the conference and that foster new collaborative networks or focus on specific outputs.

Each innovative and immersive session should be organized and managed by its own coordinator or committee, who will also be responsible for working with the attendees during the conference.

Organizers should submit a proposal (maximum of 400 words) with the following information:

- ✓ name and contact details of the organizers,
- ✓ title and objectives of the session,
- ✓ points to be addressed or the goals to be fulfilled in the session,
- ✓ description of how the session addresses the general themes of the conference and promotes cultural diversity,
- ✓ proposed dynamic, space and material requirements (the latter will be provided by the organizers),
- ✓ desired profile of participants.

C. VIDEOS AND DOCUMENTARIES

The conference will provide spaces to screen short videos and documentaries in the historic centre of Oaxaca City during the first and second afternoons of the conference. Videos and documentaries should focus on social-ecological dynamics, and highlight either challenges or opportunities faced by stakeholders. These can include projects carried out by academic institutions, governmental and non-governmental organizations, and civil society that are relevant to any of four conference themes.

During the screening sessions (maximum 30 minutes), the conveners will be invited to briefly introduce the work and then open a space for questions and comments, and a discussion with the public about the themes addressed in their work. Specific conditions to be met by video and documentary submissions include:

- That they are non-commercial, nor self-promotional recordings of any kind,
- That the director (or some other participants of the film) are present at the conference,
- That they have subtitles in or are spoken in English.

Video and documentary session proposals should have the following structure (max 400 words):

- ✓ Title, director, duration, and objective of the video or documentary,





- ✓ Short synopsis that explains the specific questions or issues to be dealt with in the video or documentary,
- ✓ Online screener or trailer if possible. If the film is selected, session organizers are expected to provide a high-resolution video file of the final version.

Organizers should submit a proposal (maximum of 400 words) with the following information:

- ✓ names and contact details of the organizers,
- ✓ title and purpose of the video or documentary,
- ✓ topics that the video or documentary addresses,
- ✓ ways in which the video or documentary addresses the general themes or cross-cutting lines of the event, as well as cultural diversity,
- ✓ duration (maximum 30 minutes),
- ✓ company that made the recording, and the directors of the film,
- ✓ internet link or video file.

If proposals are accepted, they will be placed on the registration page so that conference participants can select which video or documentary session they wish to attend.

ACTIVITIES AFTER THE CONFERENCE (11-13 NOVEMBER 2017)

POST-CONFERENCE COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

The second Programme on Ecosystem Change and Society science conference “PECS II – PLACE-BASED TRANSDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH FOR GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY” requests proposals for courses, meetings, and workshops to be held during the three days immediately following the conference, including topics and/or participants directly linked to the conference.

Organizers should submit a proposal (maximum of 500 words) with the following information:

- ✓ names and contact details of the organizer of the course, meeting, or workshop,
- ✓ a brief (1 page) résumé of the main organizer (separate page in PDF),
- ✓ names and institutions of instructors or facilitators,
- ✓ title and purpose of the course, meeting, or workshop,
- ✓ justification or background and / or conceptual framework of the course, meeting or workshop,
- ✓ financing mechanisms for participants (organizers, instructors, and participants), such as registration fees or scholarships,
- ✓ duration and schedule of activities (hours and days),
- ✓ space and materials required (to be provided by the organizer),





✓ the number of attendees and their desired professional profile.

These events can be held at the main conference hotel, which is the Hotel “Misión de Los Angeles”, in Oaxaca City, Mexico. However, for the use of this space events will be charged a fee as follows:

- for events less than 4 hours, a mandatory payment for a "coffee break and snacks service" of US\$ 8 dollars per person is required,
- for events lasting between 5 and 8 hours, a mandatory payment for "coffee break and snacks and lunch food service" of US\$ 20 dollars per person is required.

This expense must be covered by the organizers during the registration period.

Proposals will be evaluated based on: 1) how courses, meetings, or workshops are aligned with the general themes of the conference, 2) the strength of the justification provided for each event, and 3) the proven experience of the organizers or trainers, and the expected successes and impacts of the event.

In special cases, alternative venues in different academic and cultural institutions in the Centre of Oaxaca City may be considered.

POST-CONFERENCE FIELD TRIPS

During the three days immediately following the conference, field trips will be offered to visit emblematic cases of sustainable management of socio-ecological systems in the state of Oaxaca. In addition, information on ecotourism, archaeological tourism, cooking, handicrafts and mezcal routes will be provided. These activities will have an additional cost, which can be covered during the registration period.

The list of field trips is currently under construction.

