



Working Group 21  
Physics for Climate Change Action  
and Sustainable Development



THE EARTH-HUMANITY  
COALITION  
Science for Equitable Well-being on a Healthy Planet



IDSSD

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To:

IUPAP Member Liaisons

Chairs and Secretaries of Commissions, Affiliated Commissions, and Working Groups

Members of WG21

1 December 2024

Dear Member Liaison, dear Chair,

**Working Group 21, Physics for Climate Change Action and Sustainable Development, aims to hold a major international conference in 2027. We invite you to submit a proposal to host this conference.**

The aim of the Working Group 21 and of the conference is to provide a forum for the global physics community to engage more closely with climate change action and sustainable development.

We call for expressions of interest, followed by proposals, to host this significant international conference, which should comply with the guidelines attached. It is important that this conference should attract as many physicists from around the world as possible, including from the developing world, so that they can meet, exchange information, data and ideas, and fulfil the task of identifying, promoting, engaging with, and discussing the unique role that physics is and should be playing in the challenges that face our planet now and in the coming decades.

This will be one of IUPAP's major events in the International Decade of Science for Sustainable Development declared by the United Nations. It will also contribute through the Earth-Humanity Coalition <https://earth-humanity.org>.

**The Conference:** Please read the attached conference guidelines and scope carefully. It addresses the aim, funding, and unique nature of this conference. Enquiries can be directed to the contact below.

The call for General Assembly (GA) Proposals: the Executive Committee has called for expressions of interest in hosting both the in-person GA and the ICP, International Conference of Physics, in 2027. The GA/ICP call email is attached. It may be possible to combine these events, offering the climate change and sustainability science conference as the ICP.

### The Process:

1. The call for expressions of interest, and proposals from short-listed applicants, is organised by IUPAP Working Group 21.
2. The IUPAP conference guidelines are referred to in the call.
3. WG21 will communicate closely with the IUPAP President and Executive in cases where the proposal **combines** the climate change and sustainability conference as the ICP with the GA.  
In these cases, please follow the instructions in the **GA/ICP call email AND ALSO** send the Expression of Interest to the contact below, i.e.  
The Chair and Secretary of Working Group 21,  
c/o the IUPAP Secretariat, [secretariat@iupap.org](mailto:secretariat@iupap.org).  
Please state very clearly in a covering letter that you wish to bid for **both**.
4. If you wish to propose for the climate change and sustainability conference **only**, please send the Expression of Interest to the contact below, i.e.  
The Chair and Secretary of Working Group 21,  
c/o the IUPAP Secretariat, [secretariat@iupap.org](mailto:secretariat@iupap.org).  
Please state very clearly in a covering letter that you wish to bid for the climate change and sustainability conference **only**.
5. We may call for an oral presentation from short-listed applicants.
6. In cases where the GA/ICP is involved, the decision process in the GA/ICP call will be followed, with the involvement of WG21.
7. In cases where the GA/ICP is not involved, the successful host will be decided by WG21.

### Important dates:

1. The expression of interest should reach the IUPAP Secretariat by the end of Wednesday, **January 10, 2025**. If you need more time, please email us to that effect as early as possible.
2. Timeline:
  - a. The Working Group will short-list expressions of interest, communicate their decisions, and call for proposals by **January 31, 2025**.
  - b. Full proposals should be submitted by **March 31, 2025**. The Working Group may liaise with the proposers to update information in the proposal after that date.
  - c. A decision will be taken and communicated by **May-June, 2025**.
3. The conference itself should take place between October 2026 and December 2027.
4. Please note that proposed dates should be checked and agreed with WG21 and IUPAP, since a number of other IUPAP conferences and meetings take place during the year.

### The contact:

please direct enquiries, expression of interest, and the final proposal document to

The Chair and Secretary of Working Group 21,  
c/o the IUPAP Secretariat, [secretariat@iupap.org](mailto:secretariat@iupap.org).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Gledhill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "J" being particularly large and stylized.

Prof. Irvy (Igle) Gledhill  
Secretary, WG21

pp. Prof. Nithaya Chetty  
Chair, WG21

**cc**

Silvina Ponce-Dawson, IUPAP President (2025-2028)

Michel Spiro, IUPAP President (2020-2024)

Jens Vigen, IUPAP Secretary-General

Gabriella Marra, IUPAP Secretariat

**Attachments**

1 WG21 Conference 2027 outline v11

2 IUPAP GA and ICP call email

3 WG21 conference scope rough draft v03