

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Events



Stakeholder Engagement 2010 - an On Line Conference presented by PublicDecisions <http://www.publicdecisions.com> and Learning Times <http://www.learningtimes.com/> , March 2 – 4, 2010. The theme is Including the Excluded: Social/Environmental Justice, Accessibility, and Social Inclusion in Engagement. The event will be three days of presentations, networking, virtual tours, and more.

Effectively engaging diverse people or groups can be challenging. What works for the majority of stakeholders may not work well for some individuals or groups. This is especially true for those who have historically been excluded (e.g., groups subject to racial or ethnic discrimination), individuals with physical or mental disabilities, and persons who are socially excluded for a variety of reasons (such as illegal aliens or the homeless). Because of history, social norms, or other factors, we may need different or distinct ways of approaching and practicing engagement with such individuals or groups.

Conference sessions will feature "lessons learned" from around the globe about the engagement of:

- Historically excluded or underserved groups (Social or Environmental Justice)
- Individuals with physical or mental disabilities (accessibility)
- Persons who are socially excluded by geography, personal habits and appearance, class structure, income, education or religion (Social Inclusion)

All conference sessions, field trips, and networking events will take place via webcast/webinar, Skype, or in virtual worlds. Conference tracks include:

- Community Engagement for community planning, transportation, and the "built" environment.
- Health Engagement for health prevention, promotion, assessment, and community health partnerships.
- Environmental Engagement for preservation and protection of the natural environment.
- Civic Engagement for building the skills and abilities of individuals, groups, and communities to take action on problems, needs, or concerns.



Registration for this conference will open in late 2009.

2009 Parliament of the World's Religions Coming up in Australia

First held in Chicago in 1893, the Parliament of the World's Religions brings together the world's religious and spiritual communities, their leaders and their followers to a gathering where peace, diversity and sustainability are discussed and explored in the context of interreligious understanding and cooperation.

As the world's largest interreligious gathering, the Parliament will

- Convene religious and civil leaders and people of faith, spirit and goodwill from at least or more than 80 countries
- Foster interreligious, civil and cross-cultural dialogue on important local, national, and global issues
- Invite over 10,000 participants to work together for a just, peaceful, and harmonious society
- Have global appeal, covering social concerns including understanding and respecting diversity, peace and Indigenous reconciliation
- Engage worldwide religious, spiritual, secular, environmental, business and educational leaders to seek commitment and practical solutions through dialogue.
- Promote and encourage social cohesion within societies locally and across the world.

Since 1993, a Parliament of the World's Religions has convened every five years in a major international city (Chicago 1993, Cape Town 1999, Barcelona 2004). The 2009 gathering will be held December 3-9, 2009 in Melbourne, Australia. There will be over 500 events including keynote addresses, seminars, conferences, dialogues, performances, concerts and exhibitions. The 2009 Parliament will bring together more than 8,000 people from across the world, including renowned spiritual, religious and political leaders

Parliament participants will work with others and within their own traditions to respond to:

- indigenous reconciliation
- global poverty and global warming
- environmental care and degradation
- education of the young and the challenges of social disengagement
- voluntary and forced migration
- artistic expression and spirituality and
- the value of sports

For more information, visit: <http://www.parliamentofreligions.org/index.cfm?n=8>

Upcoming U.S. Institute Training Sessions ~ Fall 2009/Winter 2010

Interest-Based Negotiation of Environmental Issues, Washington, D.C., November 4-5, 2009

Interest-based negotiation provides the foundation for all training at the U.S. Institute. This highly interactive workshop helps new and experienced resource managers engaged in environmental decision making become more effective in environmental conflict negotiation, prevention, and management. Lessons learned in this training also transfer to many facets of life.

Advanced Multi-Party Negotiation of Environmental Disputes, Washington, D.C., January 20-22, 2010

This highly interactive workshop develops confidence and skill in negotiating in the complex context of multiple parties by building a practical set of skills and tools that agency staff can use to work more effectively in interagency settings, with stakeholders, and the public at large. Environmental, public lands and natural resources issues involve multiple interests and parties, as well as complex issues. This workshop helps new and experienced resource managers engaged in environmental decision making become more effective in environmental conflict negotiation, prevention, and management.

For additional information and to register for these or other U.S. Institute courses, see the Training tab at www.ecr.gov.

EPA's Environmental Information Symposium

The 2010 event will be held May 10-14, at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It will showcase the latest tools and trends in information technology, information management, data, and information security, which are critical in ensuring that we meet the challenges of the new Administration's Open Government initiative. Participants will have the opportunity to network and learn more about EPA's information management and technology strategic direction and the challenges we face in meeting today's information needs.

The Office of Environmental Information will be holding the annual **IT Operations and Security Conference** as well as the annual **EPA Quality Management Conference** in conjunction with the Symposium. In addition to meeting the challenge of helping to reduce our carbon footprint by consolidating meetings, this also provides an exciting opportunity to have greater collaboration across a wider spectrum of our partners who may not normally attend the Symposium.

Please mark your calendar and look for more information on logistics and registration in the coming weeks. If you have any questions or would like to learn more in the interim, please contact Janice Jablonski at 202-564-9922 (jablonski.janice@epa.gov). For more information about key Office of Environmental Information services, please visit www.epa.gov/oei.

2010 Conference on Environmental Justice, Air and Green Jobs: Evolution and Innovation

The *Office of Air Quality Planning & Standards (OAQPS)*, the *National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Worker Education and Training Program*

(WETP), and Dillard University's Deep South Center for Environmental Justice (DSCEJ) are hosting the 2010 Conference, January 25-27, 2010 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Abstracts will be accepted October 14, 2009 through November 13, 2009. Only poster presentations will be accepted. Abstracts should address to the 4 conference tracks of: Goods Movement, Ambient Air/Climate Change, Hazardous Waste Cleanup Job Training, and Sustainability/Green Jobs. More information on the descriptions of the conference tracks can be found on the [conference website](http://www.cleanairinfo.com/ejconference/). [
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