



**CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR OFFICIAL SIDE EVENTS
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES TO THE ESCAZU AGREEMENT**

With the aim of providing spaces to share knowledge, build capacities, establish networks and exchange experiences in matters related to the Escazú Agreement, the Secretariat offers the possibility of requesting official side events within the framework of the Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP3) to be held April 22 to 24, 2024 at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile.

All side events organized within the framework of the Third Conference of the Parties to the Escazú Agreement will be **virtual**.

The call for proposals for side events will be open from February 16 to March 8, 2024. Each organizer may request only one event.

To request an event, please use the Word form (.Doc) that **will be published on February 16, 2024** in <https://acuerdodeescazu.cepal.org/cop3/en/sideevents> and submit it completed by email to secretaria.escazu@cepal.org no later than March 8, 2024.

1) FORMAT AND SCHEDULE:

These events will be held **virtually**, with a maximum duration of one and a half hours each. Depending on the number of requests received, up to two side events will be allowed per time slot. Events can be conducted in either Spanish or English. Organizers are responsible for providing simultaneous interpretation if necessary.

Official side events will be held online at the following times **Santiago, Chile time:**

Monday April 22, 2024	Tuesday April 23, 2024	Wednesday April 24, 2024	Thursday April 25, 2024	Friday April 26, 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 to 9:30 am • 9:30 to 11:00 am • 11:00 to 12:30 pm • 12:30 to 2:00 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 to 9:30 am • 1:00 to 2:30 pm • 5:30 to 7:00 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 to 9:30 am • 12:30 to 2:00 pm • 4:30 to 6:00 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 to 9:30 am • 1:00 to 2:30 pm • 4:00 to 5:30 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 to 9:30 am • 11:00 to 12:30 pm



2) SIDE EVENT TOPICS

Considering the topics to be addressed at COP3, on this occasion side events must be directly related to one of the following Escazú Agreement topics (**each organizer must choose one topic**):

1. Human rights defenders in environmental matters:
 - a. Experiences and good practices in generating a safe and enabling environment, recognition, and promotion of environmental defense.
 - b. Experiences and good practices on protection mechanisms.
 - c. Analysis of regulatory frameworks related to environmental human rights defenders.
 - d. Analysis of jurisprudence related to human rights defenders in environmental matters.
2. Access to environmental justice:
 - a. Experiences and good practices in eliminating barriers to access to justice.
 - b. Experiences and good practices to support vulnerable individuals and groups, gender, intercultural and intergenerational perspectives.
 - c. Experiences and good practices in generating and strengthening environmental institutions for access to justice (administrative, judicial bodies and other independent state institutions).
 - d. Analysis of regulatory frameworks for access to environmental justice.
 - e. Analysis of jurisprudence on access to environmental justice, including guaranteeing access to environmental information, public participation in environmental decision-making processes or adverse effects on the environment or violations of environmental regulation.

3) REQUIREMENTS

- Each side event must involve several organizations, partners, or stakeholders.
- Each event must be related to one of the topics included in section 2 of this call.
- An organization may **ONLY** organize one event.
- An organization may **ONLY** be a panelist in one event.
- Interactive formats that encourage dialogue and exchange between participants, practical and action-oriented must be used.
- Diversity and inclusion in design and structure must be encouraged, favoring multi-stakeholder participation with gender balance, intergenerational, intercultural and geographic representation.
- Side events should promote inclusive and respectful environments for all participants.



4) ORGANIZER RESPONSIBILITIES

Event organizers will be responsible for:

■ **Event organization and promotion:**

- Planning and executing the overall organization of the side event.
- Actively promoting the event to ensure significant participation.

■ **Virtual platform and live streaming:**

- Ensuring an efficient virtual platform for holding the event.
- Managing live streaming to facilitate remote participation.

■ **Inviting panelists and speakers:**

- Selecting and arranging for panelists and speakers to participate and ensuring their presence at the side event.

■ **Participant registration:**

- Coordinating the registration process, including receiving and confirming registrations and sending reminders one week, one day and one hour before the event.

■ **Simultaneous interpretation:**

- Hiring simultaneous interpretation services if necessary.

■ **Related expenses:**

- Covering expenses associated with organizing and holding the event.

■ **Time management and objective fulfillment:**

- Ensuring efficient use of allotted time and fulfillment of established objectives.

■ **Summary for dissemination:**

- Preparing a one-page summary of the discussions and conclusions of the event for posting on the conference website.



5) SIDE EVENT SELECTION

The Secretariat will prioritize the selection of events based on the following criteria:

- 1) Thematic alignment: The extent to which the content of the side event is aligned with the selected topics for COP3 is evaluated.
- 2) Participation: The participation of different actors, partners and institutions is reviewed.
- 3) Relevance and innovation: Priority will be given to novel topics and innovative approaches within the defined themes.
- 4) Diversity and inclusion: It is valued that the event promotes the participation of diverse groups and sectors to encourage equitable representation, gender, cultural diversity and sensitivity perspectives, effectively integrating these aspects into the theme, organization and development of the event.

5) REQUEST TO ORGANIZE A SIDE EVENT

- To request an event, please use the Word form (.Doc) that **will be published on February 16, 2024** in <https://acuerdodeescazu.cepal.org/cop3/en/sideevents> and submit it completed by email to secretaria.escazu@cepal.org no later than March 8, 2024.
- The deadline to request an online side event is **March 8, 2024**.
- The Secretariat urges parties and all interested persons to complete and submit the request form as soon as possible.
- If more online side event requests are received than slots available, applicants may be asked to co-organize joint sessions.
- The Secretariat will inform of selected side events on March 25, 2024.
- Information on selected side events will be included in the official agenda and COP3 website.

6) CONTACT

For any questions related to the online side events, please contact the Secretariat of the Escazú Agreement: secretaria.escazu@cepal.org