

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS



37th Annual Conference of the
International Association for Impact Assessment

4-7 APRIL 2017
LE CENTRE SHERATON MONTRÉAL HÔTEL
MONTRÉAL, CANADA



Montréal skyline from the Parc Jean-Drapeau. With permission from © Tourisme Montréal.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL EFFORTS IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

CONFERENCE THEME

Climate change represents a key challenge to the sustainability of global ecosystems and human prosperity in the 21st century. The impacts of climate change are predominantly adverse, exacerbating environmental and social/economic issues and challenges linked to the degradation of ecosystems; loss and change in biodiversity; desertification; air, water, and land pollution and more.

Climate change goes beyond project impacts, as it affects many diverse global issues: from water, food, and energy security to impacts on human rights and vulnerable peoples. Global climate change raises important questions of international and intergenerational justice.

IA science and practice are strongly challenged by climate change. IA will contribute to ensuring that future development outcomes are not jeopardized by present-day decisions, and to identifying resilient adaptation measures to reduce and manage the adverse effects of climate change.

IA calls for better use and integration of strategic environmental assessment (SEA) in decision making; paying more attention to risk assessment; and reviewing the way we predict, design, and mitigate for long-term cumulative impacts and how we deal with new uncertainties in our analyses. In addition, it is anticipated that the IA community will put more emphasis on the effects of climate change on projects themselves.

Using our skills to adapt or mitigate the adverse effects of climate change is one of the greatest challenges we face as professionals and citizens. You are invited to join IAIA in Montréal to share information, best practices, success stories, innovations, and lessons learned with delegates from all over the world.

SPECIAL FORUM ON NORDIC/ARCTIC ISSUES

Climate change is occurring faster and with more severity in the circumpolar regions than in the rest of the world: these regions are warming at a rate almost twice the global average. A Nordic/Arctic forum will involve the countries and experts directly concerned, to exchange ideas on policies, adaptation approaches, potential collaborations, and interventions.

SESSION PROPOSAL DEADLINE: 30 JUNE 2016

PROGRAM AND TECHNICAL VISITS

In addition to conference sessions, workshops, and training courses, you will be able to choose technical visits, sightseeing tours, networking opportunities, and more. Potential technical visits around the region include:

- **Robert-Bourassa Generating Facility**, the world's largest underground generating station
- **Lufa Farms**, an agricultural and technology company specializing in new agricultural technologies in urban areas
- **Saint-Michel Environmental Complex**, a multifunctional park located on the site of a former limestone quarry

Conference topics will include:

- Integration of climate change in EIA, SEA, environmental and social management plans, and regional and project planning
- Revised IA baselines integrating climate change data, uncertainties, and impacts
- Adaptation and resilience from developed and developing countries
- Climate finance and risk management
- Major infrastructures adaptation measures and risk assessment
- Capacity building transfer and communication about climate change to decision makers and different stakeholders
- Climate change impact on policies, legislation, regulations, and "climate justice"
- Climate change compensation and reduction/carbon capture and storage, market, and pricing
- IAIA's role in "climate smart(er)" impact assessment and the future
- Climate change, extreme events, and impact assessment

General discussions will also address general IA topics and the work of IAIA special-interest Sections:

- Agriculture, forestry and fisheries
- Mining and other large industries
- Transportation infrastructure
- Biodiversity and ecology
- Corporate stewardship and risk management
- Cultural heritage
- Disaster and conflict
- Energy: Oil, gas, renewable fuels, power generation, and transmission
- Governance and regulations
- Health impact assessment (HIA)
- Impact assessment law and policies
- Indigenous Peoples
- Gender relations and environmental impact assessment
- Public participation
- Socioeconomic impact assessment
- Strategic environmental assessment (SEA)
- Large-scale territorial developments and assessment
- Cumulative effects assessment (CEA)
- Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)
- Capacity building in EIA
- Social impact assessment (SIA)

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

PROCEDURE

Conference submissions take place in three phases.

- 1. Session proposals.** Session proposals are invited from May through 30 June 2016. Accepted sessions are listed on the web site in July.
- 2. Paper and poster abstract submissions.** From 1 August-31 October, papers and posters are invited on the topics and sessions listed online. Accepted papers and posters with the primary author registered by 13 January 2017 are listed in the final program.
- 3. Papers for online proceedings.** Through 13 February 2017, paper and poster presenters are invited to prepare 5-page papers to be included in a paper review process for online proceedings. To be published online, the paper or poster abstract must have been accepted by the program committee, and the presenting author must be registered with fees paid by 13 January. Instructions for paper preparation and submission are provided to authors upon both submission and acceptance of a paper or poster abstract.

HOW TO SEND A SESSION PROPOSAL OR A PAPER/POSTER ABSTRACT

Follow the instructions at www.iaia.org > IAIA17 > Submissions. All submissions should be in English.

LANGUAGE

English is the primary language used at IAIA conferences. Some sessions or other activities may be held in French or have French/English simultaneous translation; however, unless otherwise noted in the preliminary or final program, sessions will be held in English.

ACCEPTANCE AND REGISTRATION

Session chairs and paper or poster authors will receive an immediate confirmation of successful online submission. If you do not receive an immediate confirmation of submission, do not assume it has been submitted. Please try again or contact webmaster@iaia.org for assistance.

The Program Committee will notify session chairs of acceptance status for sessions by 25 July.

Session chairs will notify authors of papers or posters of acceptance status by 18 November.

All session chairs and presenting authors or speakers listed in the final program are required to submit a registration form, with full conference fees paid, by 13 January 2017. Please submit a session proposal or abstract only if you will have funding to cover your travel and registration. Individuals not able to comply with the registration requirement will not be included in the program and proceedings.

REMEMBER: Early registration will also save you money! IAIA does not have funds available to pay registration and travel expenses for program participants.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings in conjunction with the conference must be listed in the preliminary program and on the registration form. Please contact IAIA HQ (info@iaia.org) for a proposal form. Forms must be received by 15 August 2016.

ABOUT IAIA

IAIA is the **International Association for Impact Assessment**, organized in 1980 to bring together researchers, practitioners, and users of various types of impact assessment from all parts of the world. IAIA involves people from many disciplines and professions. Our members include corporate planners and managers, public interest advocates, government planners and administrators, private consultants and policy analysts, university and college teachers and their students. IAIA has members from over 120 nations.

For 35+ years, IAIA has been holding annual conference events all over the world to promote best practices in impact assessment.



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IMPORTANT DATES: MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY!

PHASE 1

SESSION PROPOSALS

- **30 June 2016**
Deadline for session proposals
- **25 July 2016**
Session chairs notified of acceptance status

PHASE 2

PAPER & POSTER ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

- **1 August 2016**
Paper and poster abstract submission opens
- **30 September 2016**
Preliminary program information will be posted as it becomes available. Information will be complete by 30 September.
- **31 October 2016**
Deadline for submission of paper and poster abstracts
- **18 November 2016**
Authors notified of paper or poster acceptance status

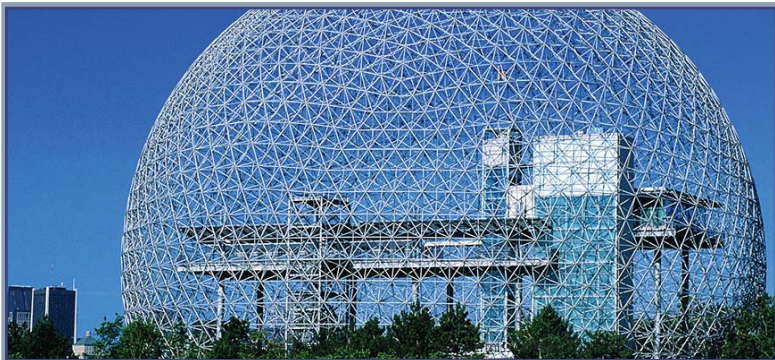
REGISTRATION DEADLINE

- **13 January 2017**
Registration and payment deadline for presenters and all individuals to be listed in the final program and proceedings

PHASE 3

PROCEEDINGS

- **13 February 2017**
Deadline for draft papers
- **8 March 2017**
Paper reviews completed
- **26 May 2017**
Deadline for revised papers
- **9 June 2017**
Papers posted online



ABOUT MONTRÉAL

Considered the cultural capital of Canada, Montréal is the largest city in Québec. Its primarily French-speaking population of 1.6 million people create one of the most diverse cities in North America.

Located at the confluence of the Saint Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers, Montréal enjoys warm, pleasant summers and snowy winters.

With a wealth of beautiful architecture, a sound economy, and a distinct cultural flavor, Montréal is home to many famous festivals, a lively downtown, and neighborhoods with their own unique ambiance and history. New-world energy and excitement meets old-world glamour and grace in Montréal: a horse-drawn carriage ride around the cobblestone streets and grand buildings of Vieux-Montréal will give you a taste of Old European flavor; but an eclectic mix of sports, entertainment, and irresistible cuisine will transport you back to the present in an instant.

ABOUT YOUR HOST

The **Association québécoise pour l'Évaluation d'Impacts (AQÉI)** is honored to host the 2017 IAIA conference in Montréal. AQÉI is comprised of 275 members from different sectors (private, government, non-profit organization, university), many of them working around the world in impact assessment. AQÉI's objectives are to gather all individuals, professional or non-professional, generally interested in impact assessment in view of:

- Exchanging information on experiences and problems encountered
- Raising the professional standards of impacts assessment
- Broadening and improving the use of impact assessment
- Establishing links, cooperation, and exchanges with Canadian and international associations that share similar objectives

See <https://www.aqei.qc.ca/> for more information.

