



Annual Report

2020

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President's Note

Dear Members,

2020 saw many practical, conceptual, and institutional developments in environmental peacebuilding. We are pleased to share with you some accomplishments and highlights from the year.

2020 was both a momentous and challenging year. COVID-19 transformed how we undertake environmental peacebuilding. Black Lives Matter compelled us to address historic and structural injustices. The International Law Commission continued its work on international law protecting the environment in relation to armed conflict, and the UN Security Council continued its engagement on the linkages between environment and security. Scholarship and news coverage was robust. The Environmental Peacebuilding Association grew, expanding its membership and activities to consolidate the field of environmental peacebuilding.

Here are a few milestones from 2020:

- In 2020, the Environmental Peacebuilding Association continued to mature. Launched in 2018, by the end of 2020 the Association included more than 360 individual members from 65 countries on 6 continents, and 19 institutional members. The membership composition is 80% professional and 20% student. By the end of 2020, the Association had established ten Interest Groups (on Africa, Big Data, Disasters & Resilience, Education, Forests, Gender, Law, Monitoring & Evaluation, Water, and Young Professionals), and they were undertaking a wide range of activities. The Association also undertook a consultative process to strengthen diversity within its governance and activities, leading to the election of Regional Directors.
- The Environmental Peacebuilding Community of Practice added 317 members this year. The Community is now almost 4,100 people strong, with members from more than 150 countries.
- Adapting to the pandemic, the Association held many virtual webinars, consultations, and skills-building events. By the end of the year, we had held 30 events. In the process, the Association adopted a number of measures to facilitate dialogue and networking. We held a growing number of events with simultaneous interpretation (using Zoom), and we held our first online networking event using the Remo platform. These events helped people stay connected, expanded the voices in the room, and strengthened the environmental peacebuilding community in a time of adversity.
- In preparation for the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding (to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, in February 2022), the Association and our Geneva-based partners launched the Road to Geneva. The Road to Geneva is an inclusive and consultative process to elevate and diversify voices in environmental peacebuilding, and to learn from regional insights leading up to the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding. The Road to Geneva includes two prongs. First, it features an international program of events on environmental peacebuilding, planned and hosted by partners around the world, bringing in diverse perspectives and reflecting local priorities. Second, it comprises a series of practical, flagship initiatives that advance the field of environmental peacebuilding.

Ultimately, 2020 was most defined by COVID-19. It sickened millions, taking family and friends in the process. It rapidly and dramatically changed how we worked, socialized, and engaged with the world. Isolation and stress grew. But with these stresses came innovations. We found new ways to connect through Zoom, GoToMeeting, Remo, Teams, Skype, and other platforms. It was not the same as being in person, but through virtual platforms we fostered and deepened our connections. We learned. We shared. We planned for the future. We worked for that future. Most of all, we persevered. And grew together.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Secretariat of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association, we hope you all stay safe and stay connected as we navigate our way through this crisis.

Sincerely,
Carl Bruch
President

Status of the Association

The Environmental Peacebuilding Association was incorporated in Washington, D.C., and formally launched April 2018. It is certified as a non-profit professional organization (in the parlance of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, a 501(c)6).

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors in 2020 included 12 people:



Carl Bruch
President

Erika Weinthal
Vice President

Richard Matthew
Vice President

Päivi Lujala
Treasurer

Philippe Le Billon
Director

Geoff Dabelko
Director



Anne Hammill
Director

David Jensen
Director

Britta Sjöstedt
Director

Tobias Ide
Director

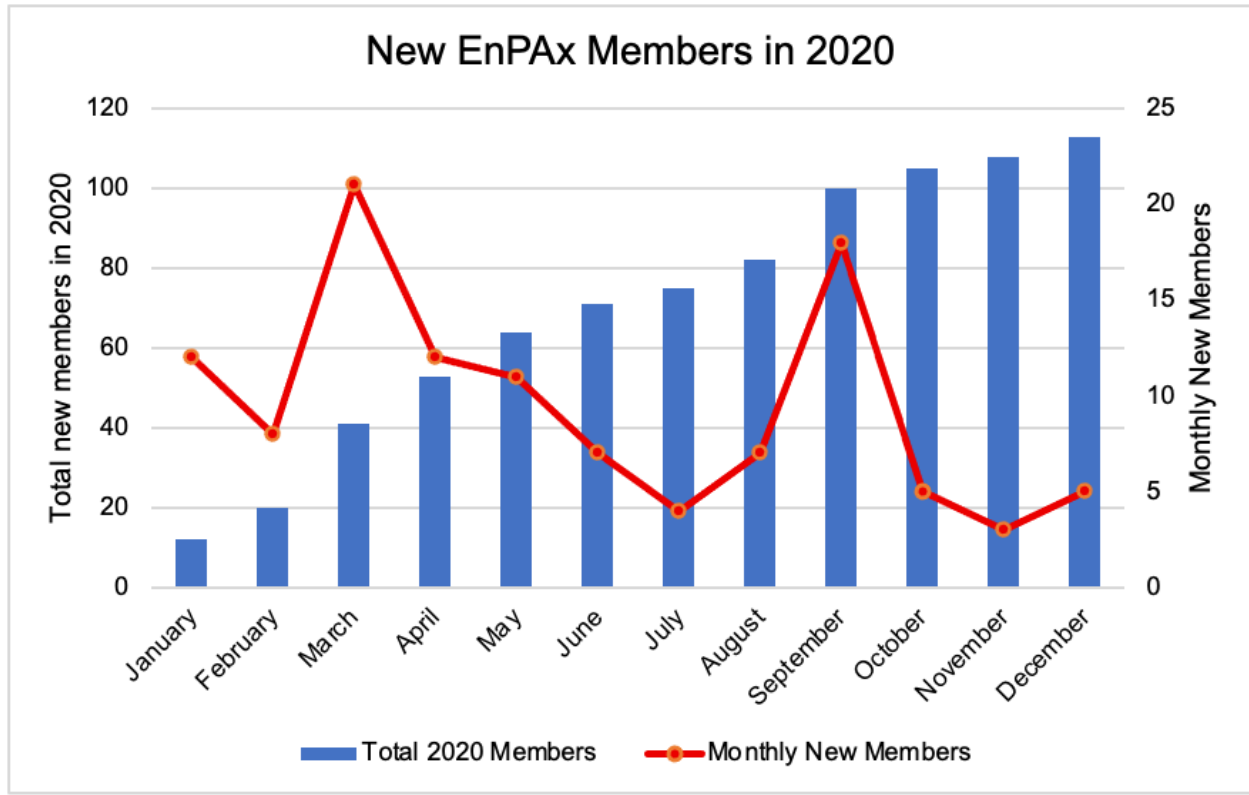
Silja Halle
Director

Kelly Bridges
Director (Young Professionals)

In 2020, the Board met four times. During these meetings, the Board received updates on Association membership statistics, finances, Interest Group activities, plans, and other initiatives.

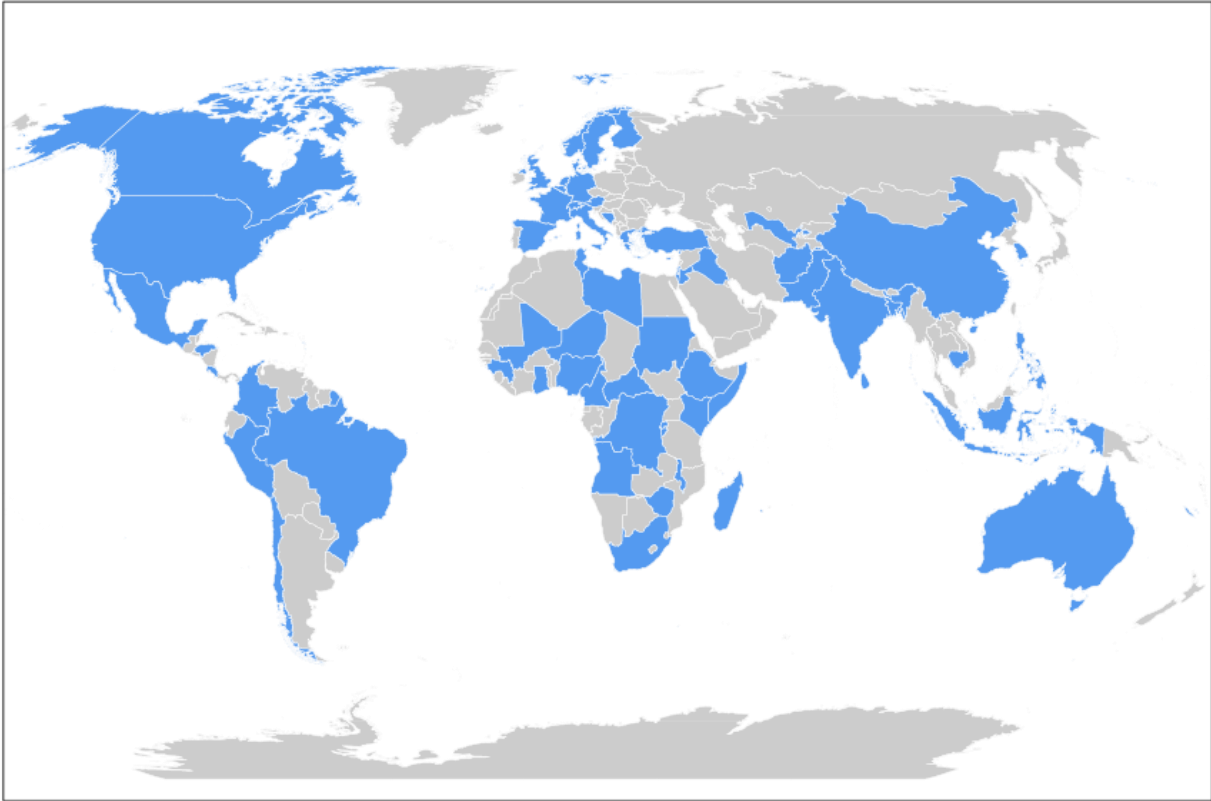
Membership

As of December 23, 2020, the Association has 371 individual members and 20 institutional members. In 2020, the Association has grown by 113 members and 4 institutional members (see figure below).



Of the 371 Association members, 37% members have 3-year memberships. For institutional members, 45% are signed up under 3-year memberships. EnPax members are also economically diverse. 23% have an annual income of less than \$20,000, 9% are between \$20,000 and \$40,000, 10% are between \$40,000 and \$75,000, and 14% are over \$75,000. An additional 20% of members are students.

The Association is also geographically diverse, with members from 65 countries on 6 continents. The countries represented include a range of economic development and a variety of experiences with conflict (see map below).



In 2021, we expect the membership will continue to grow. The Association has introduced a member sponsorship option for 2021. While the Association currently has 4 sponsored members, this new program will allow donors to easily opt to sponsor members who cannot afford to pay for membership. With these exciting events and opportunities ahead, we anticipate an exciting 2021 for Association members.

Secretariat

The Environmental Law Institute (ELI) serves as the host for the Association's Secretariat. The selection recognized the substantial contributions that ELI had made in establishing and building the Association. ELI's record of partnering with practitioners and researchers to establish and maintain the Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform, the Environmental Peacebuilding Community of Practice, convene the Al-Moumin Award and Distinguished Lecture in Environmental Peacebuilding, and coordinate a global research project on post-conflict peacebuilding and natural resource management, among other efforts, also make it well-suited to host the Secretariat.

In 2020, two ELI Research Associates, Sierra Killian and Shehla Chowdhury, were invaluable in standing up the Association. In addition, 41 amazing volunteers (interns, law clerks, visiting researchers, visiting

attorneys, and visiting scholars) supported the Association activities, including: Elsa Barron, Andrew Blunt, Rosabella Bojin, Amber Bosse, Alex Boyce, Rollin Bresson, Elen Bueno, Alex Caplan (MOOC Administrator), Jasmine Chen, Charlotte Collins, Miriam Dangasuk, Adrienne Derstine, Jordan Dieni (Interest Group Administrator), Claire Doyle, Scott Drinkall, Kevin Eggert, Flavia Eichmann, Matthew Gallagher, Giovanni Galli, Giovanni Gio, Emma Gillies, Nina Hamilton (Interest Group Administrator), Bay Hanson (Membership Administrator), Desirée De Haven, Liz Hessami, Ellen Johnson, Avak Kahramanian, Andrew Light, Chiara Maero, Christopher Marchesano, Marie Mavrikios, Charly McConaghy, Julia Monsarrat (Membership Administrator), Alex Paige,, Lucy Rosen, Anna Rossi, Rachel Stern, Rachel Stromsta (Coordinator), Sammy Wong, Joel Young (Coordinator), and Junjun Zhou. Most of the activities highlighted in this report would not have been possible without their substantial commitment of time and energy. Our two coordinators in particular warrant special mention: Joel Young (the long-time editor of the *Environmental Peacebuilding Update*, who has also provided essential support to the Board’s operations) and Rachel Stromsta (who has co-coordinated the volunteers for most of 2020, and provided core support to the Association).

Financial Summary

Following is the income statement and balance sheet for the Association through December 31, 2020. Most of the Association revenue comes from membership dues, which totaled \$19,348. In 2020, there were also donations from the Nelson S. Talbott Foundation, from Board members, from a few Association members, and substantial in-kind contributions from ELI and from the firm of Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. Monetary donations totaled \$2,910.

In 2021, revenues are expected to increase from membership fees and from donations. The Association is seeking grants to support Association activities. Members interested in helping to build the financial security of the Association are encouraged to contact the Secretariat.

Balance Sheet

	Dec 31, 20	Dec 31, 19	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				

10000 · Bank	986.64	46,415.33	(45,428.69)	-98%
10010 · Receiving Account	369.25	6,931.25	(6,562.00)	-95%
12000 · PayPal	2,820.17	654.66	2,165.51	331%
Total Checking/Savings	<u>4,176.06</u>	<u>54,001.24</u>	<u>(49,825.18)</u>	<u>-92%</u>
Other Current Assets				
12500 · Transwise	41.63	0.00	41.63	100%
Total Other Current Assets	<u>41.63</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>41.63</u>	<u>100%</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>4,217.69</u>	<u>54,001.24</u>	<u>(49,783.55)</u>	<u>-92%</u>
Other Assets				
13000 · Prepaid Expense	162.25	2,903.18	(2,740.93)	-94%
Total Other Assets	<u>162.25</u>	<u>2,903.18</u>	<u>(2,740.93)</u>	<u>-94%</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>4,379.94</u>	<u>56,904.42</u>	<u>(52,524.48)</u>	<u>-92%</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
20000 · Accounts Payable	350.88	66,647.68	(66,296.80)	-99%
Total Accounts Payable	<u>350.88</u>	<u>66,647.68</u>	<u>(66,296.80)</u>	<u>-99%</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>350.88</u>	<u>66,647.68</u>	<u>(66,296.80)</u>	<u>-99%</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>350.88</u>	<u>66,647.68</u>	<u>(66,296.80)</u>	<u>-99%</u>

Equity				
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	(9,743.26)	6,108.58	(15,851.84)	-260%
Net Income	13,772.32	(15,851.84)	29,624.16	187%
Total Equity	4,029.06	(9,743.26)	13,772.32	141%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	4,379.94	56,904.42	(52,524.48)	-92%

Income Statement

	<u>Jan - Dec 20</u>	<u>Jan - Dec 19</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Income				
43440 · Gifts in Kind - Goods	2,250.00	0.00	2,250.00	100%
43450 · Individ, Business Contributions	659.88	1,658.67	(998.79)	-60%
43400 · Direct Public Support - Other	0.00	50.00	(50.00)	-100%
46430 · Miscellaneous Revenue	25.00	68.80	(43.80)	-64%
47230 · Professional Membership	11,285.03	15,549.14	(4,264.11)	-27%
47235 · Student/Retired Dues	1,875.63	2,559.40	(683.77)	-27%
47240 · Institutional Member	6,061.88	4,452.50	1,609.38	36%
47200 · Member Income - Dues - Other	125.00	2,227.71	(2,102.71)	-94%
48000 · Conference Income	0.00	70,251.88	(70,251.88)	-100%
Total Income	22,282.42	96,818.10	(74,535.68)	-77%
Expense				
60920 · Business Registration Fees	412.25	1,425.55	(1,013.30)	-71%
62110 · Administrative Services	4,041.44	24,123.13	(20,081.69)	-83%

62120 · Program Services	841.54	0.00	841.54	100%
62140 · Legal Fees	0.00	80.00	(80.00)	-100%
62150 · Web Contract	2,400.00	3,650.00	(1,250.00)	-34%
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Reference	56.84	0.00	56.84	100%
65020 · Postage, Mailing Service	16.49	21.60	(5.11)	-24%
65040 · Supplies	0.00	49.00	(49.00)	-100%
65050 · Telephone, Telecommunications	34.03	0.00	34.03	100%
65060 · PayPal/Bank Fees	580.28	3,103.66	(2,523.38)	-81%
65070 · Donated Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0%
68310 · Conference, Convention, Meeting	127.23	80,217.00	(80,089.77)	-100%
Total Expense	8,510.10	112,669.94	(104,159.84)	-92%
Net Income (Loss)	13,772.32	(15,851.84)	29,624.16	187%

Activities of the Association

Throughout 2020, the Association developed new activities and expanded existing activities designed to foster knowledge development and exchange; build capacity and awareness; and strengthen relationships between scholars, practitioners, and decisionmakers working on issues related to environment, conflict, and peace. Noting that many activities advance more than one objective of the Association, these activities include:

- **fostering knowledge development and exchange**
 - Expanding and maintaining the Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform
 - Expanding and maintaining an affiliated Knowledge Platform on Gender, Natural Resources, and Peace (in collaboration with the UN Joint Programme on Women, Natural Resources and Peace)
 - Starting to develop micro-sites to address specific aspects of environmental peacebuilding, including those related to COVID-19, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and frontier technologies
- **building capacity and awareness**

- Delivering a massive open online course (MOOC) on Environmental Security and Sustaining Peace in a self-paced format
- Starting planning for the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding (in Geneva, Switzerland) and the Road to Geneva
- Convening other webinars and other events, including the AI Moumin Award and Distinguished Lecture (mostly remote due to COVID-19)
- **strengthening relationships between scholars, practitioners, and decisionmakers**
 - Creating new Interest Groups
 - Launching a Membership Directory
 - Developing profiles of members
 - Conducting outreach on social media

These activities are summarized below.

Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform

The Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform (www.environmentalpeacebuilding.org) is the leading website where people can find books, articles, media, events, jobs, and news about environment, conflict, and peace.

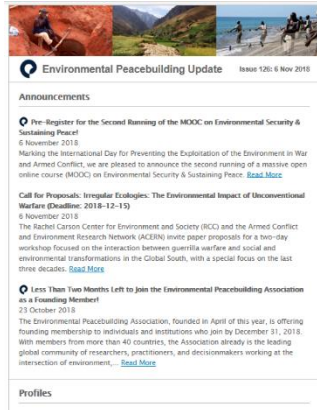
In 2020, the Platform added 647 publications to the Library, covering a wide range of topics and geographical locations. In addition, the Platform added 43 announcements, 149 events, 272 job opportunities, 550 news articles, and 352 blogs and opinion pieces. Many of these publications and other items were identified, coded with metadata, and posted by Secretariat staff, with a growing number shared by Association members.



As the Association grew, new webpages were added to the Knowledge Platform to support the Association, the Membership, and the Conference.

Environmental Peacebuilding Update

Every two weeks, the Association Secretariat compiled, edited, and produced the *Environmental Peacebuilding Update*. The *Update* includes a sampling of the key publications, news items, upcoming



events, job openings, EnPAX Member profiles, and other items posted on the Knowledge Platform in the previous two weeks.

The *Update* is circulated free of charge to more than 4,000 members of the Environmental Peacebuilding Community of Practice.

In 2020, the Association produced issues 157 – 182 of the *Environmental Peacebuilding Update*.

Gender Website

The Gender, Natural Resources, Climate, and Peace platform was launched online in February 2019. This platform is co-produced by the Environmental Peacebuilding Association and the Joint Programme on Women, Natural Resources, and Peace of the UN Environment, UN Women, the UN Development Programme (UNDP), and the UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO).

Based on the model of the Environmental Peacebuilding platform, it gathers academic pieces, international news, blogs and opinion, available jobs and upcoming events from a great variety of sources and geographic locations. Since the beginning, 495 library items, [number] international news, and [number] blogs and opinions that focus on the intersection of gender and elements relevant to environmental peacebuilding.

A community of practice was also launched, counting 335 members at the moment. Since March 2019, they have received a monthly newsletter with a sampling of the latest publications added to the platform and opportunities in the field.

An Interest Group on gender was initiated within the Environmental Peacebuilding Association. The Gender Interest Group seeks to strengthen understanding of the gender dimensions of environmental peacebuilding, to advance research and learning on this topic, and to foster an inclusive and collaborative network that bridges existing communities of practice.

In June 2020, a report on Gender, Climate, and Security was published by the United Nations Environment Programme, UN Women, UN Development Programme, and UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO). The report illustrated the gender dimensions of climate-related security risks through case studies in Ecuador, Colombia, El Salvador, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Chad, Egypt, Sudan, Pakistan, Philippines, Cambodia, and Indonesia.

Environmental Peacebuilding Website

A number of changes were made to the Environmental Peacebuilding website in 2020. Some sections were reorganized for more streamlined navigation; technical personnel began updating the advanced search function; and work began to make the membership directory searchable and to update the Interest Group websites.

Furthermore, work began to develop a number of additional microsites housed within the Environmental Peacebuilding platform. These topics of these microsites include the nexus of environmental peacebuilding and COVID-19; Data and Technologies; and Monitoring and Evaluation.

Massive Online Course (MOOC) on Environmental Security and Sustaining Peace

Course Overview:

The MOOC on Environmental Security and Sustaining Peace (ESSP) introduces participants to the field of environmental peacebuilding by addressing the multiple roles that natural resources and the environment can play throughout the conflict lifecycle. It brings together natural resource practitioners, peace and security specialists, sustainable development professionals, academics, and advanced students over the course of 8 weeks to engage in a global exchange of knowledge, insights, and experience. Drawing on case studies from over 60 post-conflict countries where extractives and land resources played a role in the onset or escalation of violence, this course will provide participants with a conceptual and operational framework to understand the positive peacebuilding potential of natural resources across the conflict lifecycle while mitigating potential risks. While this iteration of the course is self-paced, the course will still be structured around a weekly schedule, so students have the option of structuring their workflow around weekly activities. The curriculum for each week includes lecture videos, optional videos, discussion groups, interactive mapping exercises on the UN's MapX platform, and a quiz.

On September 23, 2019, the third iteration of the MOOC was launched on the edX platform, hosted by the SDGAcademy. For the first time, the MOOC is being offered in a self-paced format, meaning that all course materials will be made available on the first day of the course and will continue to remain available for 9 months. Developed in response to student feedback from previous iterations, the self-paced nature of the MOOC allows participants more flexibility when designing their schedules and more time to work through course materials. The self-paced MOOC ended on June 22, 2020. Below are some of the final enrollment figures and demographics for the self-paced iteration of the course:

- Total enrollment: 4,184
- Current enrollment: 3,959
- 286 learners enrolled on the verified certificate track
- 154 countries represented, with the U.S., the U.K., and India representing the top three locations
- Gender breakdown
 - o 1,095 female

- o 968 male
- o 17 other
- o 1,872 not reported
- 42.5% of learners have an advanced university degree
- Course engagement peaked during the last week of the course, with 8.6% of learners active during this time

During the self-paced MOOC, office hours were held live with core faculty and guest speakers. Students were able to post questions for office hours beforehand in a dedicated discussion board, and could also post questions live to the speakers. Four office hours were held, with all sessions facilitated by Carl Bruch. Speakers included David Jensen, Richard Matthew, Tony Andrews, Bernarda Elizalde, Erika Weinthal, and Silja Halle.



The course engaged practitioners working for NGOs and the private sector, academics, and students in the fields of environmental resources, peace and security, and development. Based on

post-course feedback, the majority of students were impressed by the course content and faculty, and found the course helpful for their professional and academic growth.

The course is delivered primarily by a core team of five faculty that have been working on issues of environmental peacebuilding and environmental security for two decades: Carl Bruch (Director of International Programs at the Environmental Law Institute and President of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association), Erika Weinthal (Lee Hill Snowden Professor of Environmental Policy at Duke University and Vice President of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association), Marc Levy (Deputy Director of CIESIN at the Earth Institute at Columbia University), David Jensen (Head of the Environmental Peacebuilding Programme at UN Environment and Director of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association), and Richard Matthew (Director at the Blum Center for Poverty Alleviation

and Sustainable Development at University of California, Irvine and Vice President of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association).

The course also has many guest speakers from different countries and backgrounds, including Bernarda Elizalde (Co-founder of the Center for Responsible Mineral Development (RMD) Inc. and a member of the Executive Committee of the Canadian



CSR Center for Excellence), Rebeca Arias Flores (Resident Coordinator and United Nations Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme in Guatemala), Silja Halle (Coordinator of Women, Natural Resources and Peace at UN Environment), and Ken Conca (Professor of International Affairs at American University).

The Association and its partners are currently considering whether to run the MOOC again, and are exploring the possibility of developing mini-MOOCs to supplement the foundational MOOC.

To see the MOOC trailer and for more information, please see

<https://www.edx.org/course/environmental-security-and-sustaining-peace-0>.

Second International Conference and the Road to Geneva

During this year, preparation began for the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding, planned to be held in Geneva in February, 2022. In advance of the Conference, the Environmental Peacebuilding Association launched the Road to Geneva.

The Road to Geneva is a consultative series of events and initiatives. The process is steered by the Road to Geneva Organizing Committee, which currently includes the following members:

- Carl Bruch, President of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association
- Erika Weinthal, Professor at Duke University
- Achim Wennmann, Executive Coordinator at the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform
- Päivi Lujala, Professor at the University of Oulu

The Road to Geneva officially launched in July 2020 with the creation of a webpage on the Environmental Peacebuilding Knowledge Platform and the release of a Call for Applications. Since then, EnPAX held 10 events organized by and with partners across the globe, including the Food and Agriculture Organization, the Conflict and Environmental Observatory, and the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. These events have covered a range of topics in environmental

peacebuilding, from climate-related water conflicts to victim assistance for those affected by the toxic remnants of war. The events were all held online, and the majority were recorded, with the recordings available through our Road to Geneva “Associated Events” page.

Several events have been held in languages other than English, including one webinar in French on land governance in the Sahel and three webinars (partially or entirely) in Spanish under the Road to Geneva's Colombia Arc, a series of dialogues on environmental peacebuilding in Colombia. The Colombia Arc webinars have featured simultaneous translation—recordings are available in both Spanish and English.

In parallel with the regional and national events, the Association and partner organizations have also been working to develop a series of flagship initiatives to showcase at the Second Conference. Each initiative offers a unique contribution to the Road to Geneva and to environmental peacebuilding more broadly.

- **Creative Accounts:** Artistic Takes on the Connection between Nature and Peace: The Organizing Committee for the Road to Geneva has begun planning a creative component to accompany the Road to Geneva and the Second Conference. We will launch a call for submissions in January 2021 to solicit a wide array of creative submissions, including theater or musical performances, films, and photographs.
- **M&E Toolkit on Environmental Peacebuilding:** The Environmental Law Institute, in partnership with the EnPAX M&E Interest Group Chairs, secured funding through the U.S. Institute of Peace to develop a review paper and toolkit for how to undertake monitoring and evaluation for environmental peacebuilding. The aim will be to launch the toolkit at the Second Conference.
- **Young Rapporteurs Programme:** The Young Rapporteurs Programme was officially launched in October as a means to both capture key insights from Road to Geneva events and offer learning opportunities in environmental peacebuilding to university students, recent graduates, and young people interested in the environment and conflict. Under this initiative, young rapporteurs attend Road to Geneva sessions related to their interests, take part in group debrief discussions about events, and participate in professional development training. More than 100 young rapporteurs have joined the program, representing some 40 countries.
- **White Paper on the Future of Environmental Peacebuilding:** The Geneva Peacebuilding Platform (GPP), in collaboration with the PeaceNexus Foundation, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the Environmental Peacebuilding Association (EnPax), is guiding a collective process with participants from the Geneva Dialogue on Environment, Climate, Conflict, and Peace (ECCP) to develop a White Paper on Environmental Peacebuilding. The White Paper will advance a forward-looking practical agenda based on the patterns of consent and disagreements on key ECCP questions. It is meant to support collaboration and strengthen cross-cutting relationships between stakeholders, bridging diverse perspectives on the environment, climate, conservation, conflict, security, and peace.

Events and Webinars

In addition to the MOOC, the Association held or co-sponsored 32 events in 2020. Due to the restrictions of COVID-19, only the first four events were offered as hybrid, in-person and online seminars. The purely virtual events took a range of forms, from webinars and topic-specific consultations. To increase the potential reach and linguistic base, the Association began making use of simultaneous interpretation in some events, while others were held in French or Spanish. Finally, a themed virtual networking event was made possible through the use of Remo, a platform that provides the opportunity for small-scale and more personal virtual interaction while also allowing for large numbers to come together in plenary.

There were ten events as part of the Road to Geneva. Involvement in these events took various forms, from providing panelists for a session of the EcoPeace Middle East to the organization of a joint webinar between the Association's Forest Interest Group and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Seizing such opportunities for collaboration increases the visibility of both the Association and of the upcoming Second Conference while also expanding and incorporating a broader range of voices in the Association's activities.

In addition to the Road to Geneva, the year's events also included three other series or topic arcs. There were two webinars comprising the third and fourth webinars in an ongoing series of discussions on environment, conflict, and peace in Afghanistan. There were four events as part of a skills-building series, largely sponsored by the Young Professionals Interest Group. Finally, there were three events as part of a Colombia arc. A complete list of events can be found at the end of this report.

More webinars and events are planned for 2021.

Interest Groups

To strengthen relationships between scholars, practitioners, decisionmakers, and students—and to help foster knowledge development and exchange and build capacity and awareness—the Environmental Peacebuilding Association has developed a number of Interest Groups.

EnPAX Interest Groups are spaces for collaborative work, networking, mentoring, and sharing knowledge and expertise. Although specific activities vary depending on the Interest Group, activities include organizing panels, webinars, and other events; preparing technical papers and other publications; selecting and maintaining a group of experts that can be contacted for information by individuals and groups outside the Association; and organizing sessions at the First International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding in October 2019. Interest Groups are encouraged to focus on assessing what we know about particular issues within that topic, taking stock of the evidence base, and developing an agenda for further research and action.

Ten Interest Groups have been launched or are under development:

Africa

The objective of the Africa Interest Group, which was launched in 2020, is to provide a platform for collaboration on areas of common interest relating to environment, conflict, peace, and security in Africa. It also aims to undertake activities at the African regional, sub-regional, national, and local levels. The Chair of the Interest Group is Munini Mutuku.

Big Data and Frontier Technologies

The Big Data and Frontier Technologies Interest Group seeks to collect and share information on how to use big data and frontier technologies for environmental peacebuilding. With the UN Environment Programme, it is in the process of producing a flagship report on frontier technologies for environmental peacebuilding. The Chair of the Interest Group is Ben Dills.

Disasters and Resilience

The objective of this group is to engage a community of peers working and interested in the field of Disasters and Resilience as related to Environmental Peacebuilding. The Group aims to encourage member involvement through sharing work, expertise, and supporting professional development and knowledge sharing.

In 2020 the Group held multiple member meetings; a webinar on COVID-19 and Environmental Peacebuilding; held discussions on the potential for other COVID-19 related events; and initiated planning for a series of workshops in 2021 on COVID-19 and field research. The Chairs of the Interest Group are Charles Kelly and Kristen Weis.

Education

The objective of the Education Interest Group, which was launched in 2020, is to provide resources for educators, practitioners, and students to advance their knowledge and the knowledge-based practice in Environmental Peacebuilding. In 2020 the Group held several internal Group meetings to plan activities and engage members. The Group was also involved with the EcoPeace Middle East 2020 Annual Conference, with one of the Group members providing a keynote speech.

In 2021, the Interest Group plans to continue to work on developing a toolkit index for environmental peacebuilding educators. The Group also plans to collaborate with other EnPAx Interest Groups on

events and to explore options for participating in the Second International Conference. The Chairs of the Interest Group are Nancy Boyer and Romane Boyer.

Forest

In order to pursue its objective of raising awareness of the environment and climate security risks as related to forests, the Forest Interest Group aims to develop and maintain external relationships with other organizations and institutions concerned with the field; hold events and network with potential partners and other Interest Groups; and to support and engage with members through various media to support, track, and report developments, opportunities, and trends.

The Group's 2020 activities included monthly virtual meetings for members; co-hosted a webinar with FAO on human rights-based approaches to forest monitoring and management in Myanmar and Indonesia; and began work on a number of other side projects related to the World Forest Congress (currently postponed) and the potential for collaboration with the Global Green Growth Initiative. The Chairs of the Interest Group are Bernd Ungar, Nora Moraga-Lewy, and Ousseyni Kalilou.

Gender

The Gender Interest Group, which was re-launched under new leadership in late 2020, seeks to strengthen understanding of the gender dimensions of environmental peacebuilding; to advance research and learning on this topic; and to foster an inclusive and collaborative network that bridges existing communities of practice. The GIG follows the developments in international and national policies related to gender, security and environment, including climate action; it will also seek to identify and document approaches that respond effectively to the challenges and opportunities presented by this nexus, including planning, monitoring and learning practices and systems. Additionally, the GIG will strive to coordinate advocacy and outreach on these topics.

After the relaunch, the Gender Interest Group held an initial meeting with new and old members and began collaborating to identify particular member interests and to coordinate on developing new projects in 2021. Among such potential projects are paper proposals for various journals; hosting events to showcase member activities; and delivering skills-based seminars related to gender and conflict. The Chairs of the Interest Group are Silja Halle and Dr. Marisa Ensor.

Law

The Law Interest Group seeks to enhance understanding of legal elements and implications of environmental peacebuilding, and to advance research and learning on this topic. This Interest Group explores ways of protecting the environment before, during, and after armed conflicts. In addition, the Group explores emerging approaches to international law on environmental peacebuilding, for example

how international law related to gender, climate change, environmental security, indigenous peoples, investment, trade etc., can shape environmental peacebuilding. Finally, the Group follows closely the work that is developing on this topic in different fora, including the International Law Commission, the International Law Association and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

In 2020, the group organized or co-sponsored a number of events, such as a webinar in which Professor Randall Abate presented his new book “Climate Change and the Voiceless” and a webinar around the launch of a report on principles for assisting victims of toxic remnants of war. Furthermore, the Group began work on updating the Knowledge Platform for the creation of a separate Law website within the Environmental Peacebuilding website.

In 2021, the Interest Group plans to continue developing the new Law page; organize a webinar around the launch of a new edited volume on International Law and Environmental Peacebuilding; and planning an event exploring the recently updated ICRC guidelines on protection of the natural environment in armed conflict. The Chairs of the Interest Group are Dr. Britta Sjostedt and Dr. Stavros Pantazopoulos.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Monitoring and Evaluation Interest Group seeks to engage members in discussion and progressive debate on monitoring and evaluation practice within the field of environmental peacebuilding. The objective is for members to contribute to the development of good practice, an evidence base, and shared learning.

In 2020, the Group began work on a project launched with the United States Institute of Peace to develop a monitoring and evaluation toolkit for environmental peacebuilding. This launch involved a series of consultation webinars. In 2021, the Group plans to continue work on this project and will consult with Group members on organizing one or more sessions for the Second International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding. The Chairs of the Interest Group are Dr. Juha Uitto and Dr. Amanda Woomer.

Water

The Interest Group on Water seeks to enhance the multidisciplinary knowledge, research, and practice on the use of water as an incentive for peace. Areas of interest include the protection of water infrastructure, migration, and rivers’ rights. Members will discuss and examine the different scales of cooperation on shared water resources ranging from the global and regional to basin and local levels. The strengths and weaknesses of different models for water management and protection will be considered with a view toward preventing and resolving water disputes, and to helping countries manage water to recover after conflict.

In 2020, the Interest Group held or co-sponsored events such as one on water, sanitation, and COVID-19 and co-hosted a networking session with the Young Professionals Interest Group. Furthermore, the Group produced monthly newsletters highlighting relevant news, events, and member activities. To plan for 2021 activities, the Group will be circulating a survey to members to identify what topics and activities would have the most support. The Chairs for the Interest Group are Dr. Mara Tignino, Dr. Shanna McClain, and Liliana Pimentel.

Young Professionals

The Young Professionals Interest Group provides a peer-led platform aiming to support young professionals entering or currently working in the field of environmental peacebuilding. Through connecting an active and diverse network of peers with broad academic and career interests in environmental peacebuilding, this group will create access to opportunities ranging from mentorship, knowledge sharing, networking, and engagement at the Second Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding, while facilitating learning exchange through webinars and discussion forums tailored to the groups' diverse interests.

In 2020, the group held or co-hosted a number of events, including a series of skills-building and career advice webinars as well as providing panelists for the EcoPeace Annual Conference and PeaceCon 2020. In 2021, the Group plans to focus on developing and executing a mentorship program leading up to the Second International Conference in 2022. They will also continue to host quarterly meetings and co-sponsor ongoing activities that highlight our focal points and group objectives, and plan to seek collaboration with other Interest Groups. The Chairs for the Interest Group are Amanda King and Clara Summers.

Membership Profiles

To help introduce members who are doing interesting work, the Association has been profiling individual members. These profiles have spanned geographic regions, types of resources, and disciplinary approaches.

To date, profiles of members have highlighted researchers, practitioners, and decisionmakers working in fields. They work on topics from cooperation over water and other renewable resources to forestry management and environmental defenders in indigenous communities to resolution over resources as a way to promote peace in diverse places such as Sudan, Colombia, the Philippines, the Lake Chad Basin, and Israel and Palestine.

In 2020 the Association produced 10 profiles highlighting Ashok Swain, Achim Wennmann, Juha Uitto, Alec Crawford, Elaine (Lan Yin) Hsiao, Miguel Alberto Londoño Gómez, Alma Mirvic, Amanda Woomer, Asim Zia, and Sherin Das. The profiles were included in the *Environmental Peacebuilding Update* and have been archived at <https://environmentalpeacebuilding.org/news/profiles/>.

Social Media

In 2020, the Association implemented a couple new strategies around the use of Facebook. The use of Twitter continued unchangeably, while the platform Instagram was not used at all during the course of 2020. The LinkedIn group was used steadily by members, mostly for sharing job opportunities and events. To increase activity, links to social media outlets were included in the weekly Volunteer Meeting. For practical purposes, the use of Facebook was centralized by appointing one responsible person for drafting all outlets. Analytics for each platform are outlined below.

- Facebook (@environmentalpeacebuilding):
 - Followers increased from 1185 (01/01/2020) to 1695 (22/12/2020)
 - Post reach went up significantly after posting more often (every 2 weeks) and adding more information to each individual post
 - The average organic post reach is around 250 unique views, with some posts going up to 1500
 - The use of Facebook events was implemented for all (co)hosted events, with a special focus on Road to Geneva events. Responses varied from 56 to 190 participants per event



- Twitter (@EnvPeacebuild):
 - Followers increased by 224 to a total of 2227
 - The average number of monthly tweets is around 25
 - Total yearly Tweet impressions of 128.000

- LinkedIn (Environmental Peacebuilding)
 - Group members increased to 1481
 - Page is used weekly by members to advocate jobs, events, and calls for papers

Annex 1. Complete List of EnPAX Sponsored Events in 2020

Event	Date
1. Environmental Peacebuilding – The Year in Review and the Year Ahead	16 Jan.
2. Youth-Led Environmental Peacebuilding: Lessons from the Field (Young Professionals Interest Group)	18 Feb.
3. Career Advice with Tobias Ide (Young Professionals Interest Group)	3 March
4. Climate Change, Peace and Conflict (Disasters and Resilience Interest Group)	3 March
5. Getting Published: How to Tell Your Story in the Media (Young Professionals Interest Group)	24 April
6. IMPACT’s Innovative Approach to Monitoring and Evaluation (with IMPACT International)	20 April
7. Water, Sanitation, COVID-19, and Cooperation in the Middle East (Water Interest Group)	30 April
8. Virtual Consultation to Gauge Interest in a Private Sector Interest Group	12 May

9. Eviction Response During and After COVID-19 (with Land Portal; Landesa, the Global Protection Cluster HLP AOR, GIZ, LANDac, New America, and the U.K. Department for International Development)	27 May
10. Migration, Displacement, and De-urbanization in the Context of COVID-19 (with Land Portal; Landesa, the Global Protection Cluster HLP AOR, GIZ, LANDac, New America, and the U.K. Department for International Development)	28 May
11. Protecting the Environment is Protecting Civilians (with PAX, Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit; Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN; Permanent Mission of Vietnam to the UN)	29 May
12. Land Rights Implications of COVID-19 (with Land Portal; Landesa; the Global Protection Cluster GLP AOR; GIZ; LANDac; New America, and the U.K. Department for International Development)	3-24 June
13. Webinar on “The Afghan Emerald Trade: Challenges and Opportunities” (Third in an Occasional Series of Discussions on Environment, Conflict, and Peace in Afghanistan)	10 June
14. Webinar with Prof. Randall Abate Presenting His Book “Climate Change and the Voiceless” (Law Interest Group with the Faculty of Law, Lund University;)	15 June
15. The Impacts of COVID-19 on the Natural Resources Economy of Afghanistan and the Peace Process (Fourth in an Occasional Series of Discussions on Environment, Conflict, and Peace in Afghanistan)	23 June
16. Road to Geneva: Informational Meeting	29 July
17. Building a Career in Environmental Peacebuilding (Young Professionals Interest Group)	31 July
18. COVID-19 and Environmental Peacebuilding in Colombia (a Road to Geneva Event)	27 Aug.
19. WWWeek: Reducing the Risks of Climate-Related Water Conflicts (R2G)	28 Aug.
20. Disasters, Gender, Peace & Conflict (with the Faculty of Science at the University of Melbourne)	21 Sept.

21. Confronting Conflict Pollution: Principles for Assisting Victims of Toxic Remnants of War Launch (R2G; with Harvard Law School's International Human Rights Clinic; Conflict and Environment Observatory; Law Interest Group)	30 Sept.
22. Rule of Law & the Limits of the Rights of Nature in Post-Conflict Colombia (R2G; with the Duke University Center for International and Global Studies; the Global Green Growth Institute; the Environmental Law Institute; Duke Kunshan University's International Masters of Environmental Policy)	1 Oct.
23. Environmental Defenders and Rights in Colombia (R2G, Colombia Arc; with the Duke University Center for International and Global Studies; Global Green Growth Institute; and Environmental Law Institute)	29 Oct.
24. Webinar on Publishing Academic Articles on Environmental Peacebuilding (Young Professionals Interest Group)	30 Oct.
25. Environmental Peacebuilding at Geneva Peace Week 2020 (with Geneva Peacebuilding Platform)	6 Nov.
26. Water and Peace Social Hour (Young Professionals and Water Interest Groups of the Environmental Peacebuilding Association)	25 Nov.
27. EcoPeace Middle East Annual Environmental Peacebuilding Conference (R2G)	30 Nov.- 3 Dec.
28. Consultation on Developing a Typology of Environmental Peacebuilding (with the Environmental Law Institute)	1 Dec.
29. La Gouvernance de la Terre au Sahel (with Initiatives of Change Switzerland and Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, in partnership with the Geneva Center for Security Policy; Initiatives for Land, Lives, and Peace; and the Global EverGreening Alliance)	2 Dec.
30. Forward Together: Taking Stock of the Environmental Peacebuilding Landscape (with the Geneva Peacebuilding Platform)	7 Dec.
31. Consultation on Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkits on Environmental Peacebuilding (with the Environmental Law Institute and the United Nations Environment Program)	8 Dec.

32. Human Rights-Based and Conflict Sensitive Approaches in Forestry – Cases from Myanmar and Indonesia (with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Forest Interest Group)	10 Dec.
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The Environmental Peacebuilding Association (also known as EnPAx) is the premiere global association dedicated to bringing together researchers, practitioners, and decision makers working on issues of environment, conflict, and peace. Founded in 2018, the Association is a multidisciplinary forum with three main aims. First, it seeks to identify promising research avenues and best policy practices, as well as foster exchange of knowledge and data. Second, it builds capacity and awareness among practitioners to advance the field and increase impact. Third, it fosters interactions among scholars, practitioners, decision makers, and others across disciplines, genders, geographical locations, and stages of professional development.

EnPAx™ is governed by a Board of Directors, comprising leaders in the field. The Environmental Law Institute serves as the Secretariat for the Association. Questions about the Association may be addressed to info@environmentalpeacebuilding.org.