INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH
Symposium 2015

"One World, One Environment"

2015 Request for Proposals for Student Poster Session

Conference will be held on October 1 - 2, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia. This is a great opportunity for students to showcase their research in front of their peers and other environmental sustainability professionals. Please register for the poster session

https://epa.connectsolutions.com/envyouthsymposium/event/registration.html

POSTER SESSION DATE AND TIMES:

October 1- 2, 2015   8:00 AM- 5:00 PM

Please submit your 250 words or less abstract for your proposal to:

Maycock.marilyn@epa.gov or Baugh.thomasl@epa.gov.

SYMPOSIUM PURPOSE: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, will host its **1st International Environmental Youth Symposium** on October 1 - 2, 2015. This year's theme is "One World, One Environment." The purpose of this event is to:

1) provide opportunities for students, faculty members, administrators and other environmental and sustainability stakeholders, to develop partnerships, network, and collaborate on sustainable environmental practices, and **2)** facilitate further dialogue among campus representatives who are committed to experiencing that environmental sustainable principles are woven into their campus community fabric.

The International Environmental Youth Symposium 2015 is designed to give high school students, college students, post-doctoral students, administrators, and faculty a firsthand look at environmental stewardship, how greenhouse gases are formed, their effect on the environment, and steps that can be taken to mitigate and adapt to climate resilience. Most importantly, the symposium will highlight some of challenges with climate resilience on an international front and what is being done to assist with the mitigation of those impacts.

CATEGORIES FOR POSTER SESSIONS: Presentations should focus on one of the following topics of interest as it relates to *Climate Change: Adaptation, Resiliency, and Mitigation*

Topics of Interest:
1: Technical Environmentalism (Green Apps)
2: Sustainable and Renewable Energy
3: Water Degradation/Coastal Impacts and Watershed Management
4: Urban Systems in the Environment
5: Sustainable Agriculture
6. Mitigation of Health Effects due to Climate Change

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

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EVALUATION FOR POSTER SESSION: Judges will be selected from the government industry and non-profit organizations. The review process is standardized and reviewer's decisions are based on overall quality of the poster: Content, Research Importance, Ingenuity and Innovativeness. Scores will be given to each poster during the evaluation process and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners of the poster contest will be determined based on the highest total score per category.

POSTER PRESENTATION DEFINED: A poster is a visual presentation of your research or clinical project. Use schematic diagrams, graphics, tables and other strategies to direct the visual attention of the viewer, rather than explaining it using text as you would in a journal article. A poster addresses one central question. State the question or hypothesis clearly in the poster and use your presentation to provide a clear and explicit message.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION TIMELINE

Due Date	Activity
~~August 21, 2015~~	Deadline to submit proposals
EXTENDED SEPTEMBER 4, 2015	
September 8, 2015	Confirm receipt of proposals
September 11, 2015	Receive acceptance/rejection notification
October 1, 2015	Display Posters on 2nd Floor by 1:00 p.m.
October 1 - 2, 2015	International Environmental Youth Symposium

Email: All proposals should be submitted by the deadline. Please submit your abstract of 250 words or less to Marilyn Maycock at **maycock.marilyn@epa.gov** and Thomas L. Baugh at **baugh.thomasl@epa.gov.** Please title your email "Proposal for International Environmental Youth Symposium 2015" and specify to which topic of interest you are submitting. Requests for Proposals will only be accepted via email unless prior arrangements have been made with Caroline Robinson, the Conference Coordinator.

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POSTER SPECIFICATIONS: Posters should be able to stand on an easel and be designed to convey information in an easy-to-view format, conducive to walk-through traffic, and should include the following:

- The issue being addressed.
- The rationale approach to resolving the issue.
- Interdisciplinary work done in both conducting the research and applying the results.
- The impact that your research has made or is expected to make on the issue.

Information for the poster should include the following:

A. General Information. On the reverse side of your poster, provide your name, degree (e.g., B.S., M.S. or Ph.D.), school, and city/state of the school.

B. Abstract. Include a brief abstract (for general public reading) describing the focus of the research, why these research questions are of interest, and the research approach (e.g., main research projects or disciplines). The abstract should be 250 words or less. **Words over this limit will be counted against you during scoring.**

C. Research Highlights. Describe the research project. Write a project description appropriate for a lay audience. Emphasize the findings and include colorful graphics. Also, include a concise statement of the impact or importance of the research.

POSTER SIZE: The recommended dimensions for your poster are 40" x 30". It will be helpful to provide a handout of your poster that includes your email information. You are responsible for creating your poster; we will not provide you with the poster materials.

POSTER STYLE: Font size for the top line that includes your Topic of Interest Title. For the body of the poster, use upper/lower case Arial for the header, subheads, and body text.

- Header font size – 36 point
- Subhead font size – 24 point
- Body text – 18 point

FYI: Any charts or graphs prepared in PowerPoint should print in a larger size without being distorted. Bitmap files or low-resolution files will be fuzzy when printed at a larger scale. It is best to use high-resolution files for pictures, charts, graphs, etc.

3.

TITLE		
INTRODUCTION		
		CONCLUSION

LETTERING:

- Word-process all text (including captions). Print on plain white paper with a laser printer or inkjet printer.
- Text should be readable from five feet away. Use a minimum font size of 18 points.
- Lettering for the title should be large (at least 70-point font). Use all capital letters.

VISUALS:

- Present numerical data in the form of graphs, rather than tables (graphs make trends in the data much more evident). If data must be presented in table-form, KEEP IT SIMPLE.
- Visuals should be simple and bold. Leave out or remove any unnecessary details.
- Make sure that any visual can "stand alone" (i.e., graph axes are properly labeled, maps have north arrows and distance scales, symbols are explained, etc.).
- Use color to enhance comprehension, not to decorate the poster. Neatly coloring black-line illustrations with color pencils is entirely acceptable.
- Make sure that the text and the visuals are integrated. Figures should be numbered consecutively according to the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. Each visual should have a brief title (for example: Figure 1- Location of study area).

TEXT:

- Keep the text brief. Blocks of text should not exceed three paragraphs. Use text to (a) introduce the study (what hypothesis was tested or what problem was investigated? why was the study worth doing?), (b) explain visuals and direct viewers' attention to significant data trends and relationships portrayed in the visuals, and (c) state and explain the interpretations that follow from the data. In many cases, conclusions can be summarized in a bullet-point list.

4.

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TEXT (continued):

- Depending upon the stage or nature of your project, the text could also include sections on future research plans or questions for discussion with viewers.
- Cite and reference any sources of information other than your own, just as you would do with a research paper. Ask your professor about the particular citation system that you should use (every discipline uses slightly different styles). The "References Cited" is placed at the end of the poster.

MISCELLANEOUS SUGGESTIONS:

- **SIMPLICITY IS THE KEY.** Keep to the point, and don't try to cover too many things. Present only enough data to support your conclusions. On the other hand, make sure that you present sufficient data to support your conclusions.
- When you begin to make your poster, first create a list of the visuals that you would use if you were describing your project with only the visuals. Write the text after you have created the list of visuals.
- Mat the components of the poster on separate pieces of colored display boards.

This sets off the text and illustrations from the white mounting board. Also, you can easily attach each component to the mounting board with push-pins or thumb-tacks.

- Before the poster session, rehearse a brief summary of your project. Many viewers will be in a hurry and will want a quick "guided tour" of your poster. Don't be afraid to point out uncertainties in your work; this is where you may get useful feedback.

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Conference Coordinator.

Caroline Robinson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
(404) 562-8976
Robinson.Caroline@epa.gov

Italian contact point: Alfredo M. Ronchi +39 393 0629373, email alfredo.ronchi@polimi.it