GLAF18

2018 Great Lakes Adaptation Forum
September 24-26
University of Michigan | Ann Arbor, MI
http://glisa.umich.edu/GLAF18

Forum Overview

Building off of the success of the 2014 and 2016 fora, the 2018 Great Lakes Adaptation Forum (GLAF) will bring together practitioners and scholars from across the Great Lakes region for three days of sharing strategies and approaches to climate adaptation in an engaged learning program. The Forum will support interactive sessions and be an opportunity for exchange between hundreds of researchers and professionals working on climate change adaptation at the local, state, and regional levels in the U.S. and Canada. The 2018 GLAF will focus on equity in climate adaptation and accelerating action.

Hosts, Advisory Board, and Program Committee

The 2018 GLAF is co-hosted by the Great Lakes Integrated Sciences and Assessments (GLISA) and the American Society of Adaptation Professionals (ASAP). The Forum hosts are working with an Advisory Board for guidance on overall Forum direction and approach, and a Program Committee to develop the Forum agenda. Information on sponsorship opportunities is available here.

Submission Guidelines

The 2018 GLAF Program Committee is accepting proposals for engaging sessions addressing the Forum's focus on equity in climate adaptation and accelerating action. Proposed sessions must be submitted to one of the four session track themes, listed below. Sessions should be designed to achieve a specific learning goal - information, skills, or strategies attendees can apply in their work with explicit explanation of how the session's content is transferable and lessons learned. Successful proposals will articulate how adaptation can be effectively implemented and equitably shared.

For GLAF 2018, session track themes have been designed with input from an Advisory Board to break down silos between sectors. This approach aims to create ample opportunity for practitioners to share best practice, lessons learned and work jointly to produce solutions to the climate challenges facing our region.

Session Track Themes	
Beyond Borders	This track will focus on transboundary adaptation planning and action. It will highlight cooperation among the United States, Canada, and Indigenous Peoples; strategies for addressing multi-jurisdictional issues; establishing and

	advancing regional governance; innovative partnerships; and bridging local action to a larger scale.
Funding & Finance	This track will highlight mechanisms for funding and financing adaptation action. It will address new funding and finance tools, and highlight creative uses of traditional tools. Sessions may cover topics such as emerging bond markets, pay-for-success financing, the role of insurance in advancing or constraining action, pay-for-service programs, how to find and approach funders and investors, crafting cost-effective solutions, and measuring the cost of inaction.
Leadership at all Levels	This track will focus on stories that celebrate and inspire leadership at all levels of society - from students and youth to business leaders and elected officials. It will highlight the work of individuals and communities serving as champions for adaptation action, and lift up examples of leadership that has resulted in building power for underrepresented populations or engaging new and diverse stakeholder groups.
Technology & Innovation	This track will showcase cutting-edge, transformative technologies and processes that are accelerating adaptation action. It will discuss how these technologies and processes can be improved, scaled, replicated, and transferred to communities that need them most.

We will be arranging sessions in a progression that fosters continuity in the learning experience for Forum participants, and in some cases soliciting sessions that are well suited to a particular slot in the agenda. In particular, we will identify one session for each track that will serve as the introduction, setting the context for the sessions to come. We will also identify a concluding session for each track that can serve as an inspiring note on which to end. If you would like your session to be considered for the introduction or conclusion slot in a particular track, please indicate that by checking the appropriate box on the session submission form.

Applications are being accepted for all session types and tracks, and applicants will have the opportunity to indicate the intended type. Sessions can take several forms, including, but not limited to:
- Panel presentations: short individual presentations focused around a central theme, followed by a moderated discussion.
- Training: teach participants how to use or apply a particular tool or resource
- Workshops: interactive activities that explore a particular concept or skill (*workshops requiring more than a single session can apply for two concurrent sessions in the 'Session agenda' portion of the form).*
- Working groups: small gatherings to exchange ideas or plan collaboration around a topic.

- Individual presentations: single presentation on a publication or project to be grouped with other individual presentations to form a panel. (*Sessions will be strongest if individual presentations share a theme. Applicants are encouraged to connect with colleagues to develop and submit a panel presentation session instead. Feel free to reach out to* [Forum organizers](#) *for help with this.*)

Sessions are tentatively 90 minutes each, although this may shift slightly shorter or longer pending the final agenda. Each session can select an unlimited number of relevant sectors to be highlighted in the program, including but not limited to: architecture/engineering/construction, agriculture, business, cities, defense, education, energy, emergency response, extreme events, government (local), government (state), government (federal), Indigenous Peoples, infrastructure, natural resources, policy, public health, rural communities, tourism, transportation, water.

Evaluation Criteria

All proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by members of the Program Committee. We encourage innovative proposals that incorporate equity and action and will benefit a wide adaptation practitioner audience across sectors. Proposals will be evaluated by the following criteria:

1. *Clarity and relevance:* the proposed session is about adaptation to climate change, and connects to one or both conference themes (equity or accelerating action).
2. *Impacts and learning objectives:* the proposal outlines clear learning objectives for attendees to apply the topic & lessons learned in their work, and is relevant across sectors.
3. *Agenda & feasibility:* the proposed agenda is feasible in the time allotted and includes ample time for questions, discussion, and inclusive participation.

Applicants will have the opportunity to request permission to edit their submission after review, before the agenda is finalized. This flexibility is intended to encourage session proposal submissions even if the session agenda or presenter list is not finalized. However, applicants should be as detailed as possible in their submissions.

Deadline
All proposals must be submitted by 11:59pm EST on Friday June 29, 2018. Please [contact Forum organizers](#) with questions.

How to Submit
All session proposals must be completed using the Submittable web-based platform. Applicants will need to click the 'Click here to Submit' button, below, to create a free account with an email address and password.

Applicants may save draft versions of their submissions ahead of the deadline. If you have used Submittable before as an applicant and/or a reviewer, you can use the same login information and may see other forms you have submitted and/or reviewed in the past.

These guidelines can be downloaded here.