



Geneva Engage: E-participation for International Geneva

DiploFoundation and the Geneva Internet Platform, in co-operation with the Republic and State of Geneva and the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and Other International Organizations in Geneva, will organise the **Geneva Engage** conference on 7-8 December 2015, with the aim to address e-participation as a way to contribute to more effective and innovative policy processes in International Geneva.

Context

The availability of the Internet in conference rooms introduces the possibility of more inclusive and open international negotiations. It also offers locally organised events the potential to have a wider outreach and a greater impact. E-participants enrich discussions physically taking place in the conference room, and at the same time, the event enjoys global exposure and, more importantly, fosters greater inclusion in global policy processes.

Objectives

- To raise awareness, motivate, and provide resources to Geneva-based actors to engage with those who cannot physically attend events in Geneva, in particular those from developing countries.
- To start a concrete discussion and an exchange of ideas among the participants, and to catalyse the development of future proposals and initiatives in this area.

Themes

- How can you ensure equal and active participation where it is realistically possible?
- How can you widen the active and equally participating group?
- What are the technical and moderation techniques for the full immersion of e-participants?

Audience

The conference aims to attract participants representing international organisations in Geneva, the Canton, Geneva-based International NGOs and other Geneva-based actors who are internationally oriented and wish to promote wider participation by stakeholders outside Geneva.

Implementation

The two-day event will showcase e-participation in practice. It will take place on **7-8 December 2015** in Geneva. The event will be preceded by a survey mapping the state of e-participation of Geneva-based organisations. The results of the survey will be shared during the conference. A conference report will be published after the event, summarising the challenges and opportunities for International Geneva's future outreach.

Geneva Engage call for Local Hubs: bringing the world to Geneva online

Geneva Engage will emphasize connecting the world, and we need you to help do that.

Local (external) hubs will bring the dynamic energy of local ideas and innovations into the Geneva Engage conference. Building upon the experience and collaboration of our external hubs for the Geneva Internet Conference, where local hubs all over the world were highlighted for their insight and contributions, we are again counting on engagement from you and/or your institution to take an active part in shaping the conference by stimulating discussions at national and sub-national levels and reporting back to conference organisers, to provide input and take active part in the meeting. If you are interested in joining us as a national/sub-national coordinator, please contact us at arvink@diplomacy.edu. Guidance and WebEx training will be provided. A certificate acknowledging engagement and a letter of appreciation will be offered to collaborators.



Further information

Conference page <http://www.giplatform.org/events/genevaengage>

DiploFoundation e-participation resources <http://www.diplomacy.edu/e-participation>

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