

**GLOBAL SYNERGIES
CLIMATE RESILIENCE
STRATEGIES FOR A
SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW**



CONFERENCE CONCEPT NOTE

The Global Development Conference is the Global Development Network's (GDN) flagship event, held in a **different region and on a different theme each year**. It hosts high-level, inclusive, evidence-based debates on current development challenges and priorities, with **most participants from low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)**, which is its trademark. This event provides promising and established researchers with an opportunity to disseminate their work, share their ideas, and **foment Global North-South interactions between academics and policymakers aiming to foster a global network**. Moreover, it offers new, Southern perspectives on sustainable development issues mostly debated in high-income countries and reinforces cooperation and development effectiveness.

This event has been reframed to go beyond the traditional conference model and make it **centred on capacity-building and networking activities in informal settings aligned with regional priorities directly connected to the thematic focus of each edition**.

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2024

The 2024 Global Development Conference is being structured in an innovative way to transcend traditional plenary formats, prioritizing an immersive capacity-building experience while delving into climate change challenges across diverse contexts. The **Global Synergies: Climate Resilience Strategies for a Sustainable Tomorrow** is envisioned to set the stage for an international convergence of academics, practitioners, and policymakers mainly from the Global South but not exclusively so that there is a debate that considers issues at a global scale.

The **2024 Global Development Conference** will take place in **Fiji on 26-28 November 2024**. It is organized in partnership with the [University of the South Pacific](#) and the [Government of Fiji](#).



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WHY FIJI AND CLIMATE RESILIENCE STRATEGIES FOR A SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW?

The theme of 'Global Synergies: Climate Resilience Strategies for a Sustainable Tomorrow' was crafted taking into consideration the regional significance of Fiji as an island nation extremely vulnerable to the threat of climate change, and the nation's national priorities and regional initiatives focused on this.

Fiji plays a strong and dynamic role in the collective pursuit of climate resilience, interconnected with similar struggles faced by the wider Global South. The conference aims to highlight this through a strong collaboration between the Global Development Network and the Government of Fiji, a leader and particularly affected country in the region.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

The conference theme aligns with [Fiji's commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals](#), particularly Goal 13 on Climate Action. By fostering global synergies, the event aims to contribute to the broader agenda of achieving sustainable development, recognising the interconnectedness of environmental, social, and economic goals.

COMMON REGIONAL CHALLENGES

Recognising commonalities in climate-related challenges across the Pacific region, Fiji is a strong representative of the region. The nation advocates for regional collaboration in addressing issues like sea-level rise, extreme weather events, and ecological threats, aligning with regional efforts such as the [Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change](#) (2006-2015) and the [Pacific Climate Change Migration and Human Security \(PCCMHS\) Programme](#) currently entering its Phase II.

FIJI'S REGIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Fiji has made considerable contributions to regional initiatives such as the [Pacific Islands Development Forum](#) (PIDF) and the [Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat](#) (PIFS), showcasing its active role in fostering regional partnerships. Conference participants will be encouraged to draw inspiration from Fiji's dedication and experiences.

REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE HUB

The conference will be a knowledge exchange hub at the regional level, highlighting initiatives such as the [Pacific Regional Environment Programme](#) (SPREP) and enabling a robust exchange of ideas and best practices to fortify regional climate resilience.



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GLOBAL SOUTH SOLIDARITY

Fiji is highly capable of strengthening the nexus for Global South solidarity by recognising shared climate challenges faced by countries in this region. It draws parallels with initiatives such as the [Association of Southeast Asian Nations](#) (ASEAN) and the [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation](#) (SAARC), that emphasises the strength of collaborative efforts within the Global South.

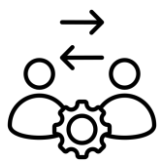
REGIONAL POLICY LANDSCAPE

Fiji's [Climate Change Act](#) and other regional policies provide a contextual backdrop for understanding the regulatory landscape. The theme of the conference calls for harmonizing regional efforts with government-led initiatives, ensuring a cohesive and impactful approach to climate resilience.

By focusing on regional collaboration to address the challenges of the Global South, the conference aims to create a space where participants can collectively explore solutions that transcend borders. Fiji's role as a co-host serves as a focal point for regional discussions, fostering collaboration that extends beyond the conference's geographical boundaries.

ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE

CAPACITY EMPOWERMENT BOOTCAMP



- Engaging workshops designed to cultivate practical skills and facilitate the exchange of actionable knowledge.
- Sessions covering cutting-edge climate modelling, innovative adaptation strategies, and community-centric sustainable development.

RESEARCH EXPLORATION FRONTIER



- Navigate ongoing projects, share research findings, and explore collaborative opportunities, focusing on climate impacts, mitigation pathways, and sustainable development in LMICs.

INTERNATIONAL SYMBIOSIS DIALOGUES



- Thought-provoking panel discussions featuring luminaries from diverse regions, fostering a rich tapestry of perspectives on global climate challenges and innovative solutions.



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- An interactive platform for participants to engage in dialogues, fostering mutual learning and cooperative endeavours.

SPOTLIGHT ON REGIONAL RESILIENCE



- Tailored sessions uncovering regional climate challenges, showcasing local success stories, and presenting innovative adaptations.
- Opportunities for international collaboration beyond geographic boundaries.

NETWORK EXPANSION



- Skilfully curated networking sessions fostering collaborations among participants, ensuring lasting relationships that extend beyond geographical constraints.
- Casual gatherings promoting cultural exchange and intercontinental relationship-building.

YOUTH VANGUARD



- Dedicated spaces for youth-led initiatives and community-driven perspectives on climate change.
- Engaging activities inspiring the emerging generation of climate leaders from various corners of the globe.

VIRTUAL EXPLORATIONS



- Acknowledging Global circumstances, the Conference seamlessly integrates virtual participation options, ensuring an inclusive platform for diverse voices.

CONFERENCE AMBITIONS

GLOBAL SYNERGY

Forged partnerships between Global South and North, creating a collaborative force for impactful climate research and action.

SKILL AMPLIFICATION

Equipped participants with advanced skills and actionable knowledge, empowering them to navigate complex climate challenges globally.



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REGIONAL WISDOM ELEVATION

Unearthed and elevated climate-resilient strategies, tailored to the unique environmental and societal nuances of diverse regions.

YOUTH RENAISSANCE

Active involvement and empowerment of youth in climate initiatives, infusing fresh perspectives and inventive solutions globally.

NETWORKING CONSTELLATION

A lasting network of professionals, researchers, and practitioners committed to ongoing collaboration in the pursuit of global climate resilience.

ADVISORY BOARD, ORGANIZING COMMITTEE AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

An Advisory Board is being established to provide strategic guidance, validate the conference agenda, and ensure the alignment of the event with its overarching theme. This group will play a critical role in shaping the content and direction of the conference, ensuring it addresses key issues relevant to the key audience of the Conference including the discussions but also the capacity building activities.

The Organizing Committee is composed of representatives of the conference partners who will play a key role in spearheading the event.

Partners Organizations, like the Fondation pour les Études et Recherches sur le Développement International (FERDI) with which GDN is closely working within the [Pôle Clermontois de Développement International \(PCDI\)](#), will be involved in the capacity building component of the GDC with the provision of trainers and access to eLearning platform to virtual participants.

KEY AUDIENCES

Our conference pioneers an innovative blend of knowledge exchange and intensive capacity-building, fostering a collaborative atmosphere with a diverse group of profiles and backgrounds:

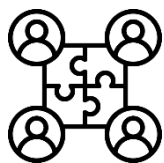


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Most of the participants will be from LMICs and the academic and policy communities in the host country and region actively participate in the conference and are over-represented in comparison to other regions. High-level dignitaries along with top academics and opinion leaders from the host country and region contribute and shape the debate together with their counterparts from around the world.

This unique approach ensures a dynamic experience for all participants, collectively:



Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration

Facilitating engagement and knowledge co-creation in interactive forums and workshops, breaking down silos between different professional backgrounds.



Actionable Insights for Policymakers: Active participation in dialogues and capacity-building sessions, bridging the gap between research findings and effective policy implementation.



Contextual Solutions with International Organizations: Direct engagement with local experts allows tailoring of global initiatives to regional needs, fostering a more nuanced and impactful approach.



Incorporating Grassroots Perspectives: Civil society actively contributes through youth-led initiatives, community-driven discussions, and networking events, ensuring diverse perspectives are integral to the conversation.



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Practical Implementation for Development Practitioners: Targeted capacity-building workshops provide practical tools and methodologies for effective implementation in diverse contexts.



Collaborative Opportunities for the Private Sector: Engaging in solution-oriented discussions and exploring sustainable business practices, fostering collaboration for impactful climate initiatives.

Why attend the
GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2024?

It presents the unique opportunity to:

Participate in a high-level, inclusive, evidence-based debate on climate resilience and sustainability

Disseminate your ideas and work to a global audience

Interact with world-renowned academics, policymakers and subject matter experts

Network and collaborate

Present or learn about new Southern perspectives on sustainable development

Strengthen your capacity and professional visibility

The three-day conference will feature:

Dynamic plenary sessions and keynotes by leaders in the field

Parallel sessions in a range of formats to encourage broad participation

Rapid fire presentation sessions of the latest research on climate change solutions in developing countries

Capacity-building and networking activities

Expo with booths for the conference hosts, session organisers and sponsors

Photo exhibition or a creative competition on the subject

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

The [Global Development Network \(GDN\)](#) is a public international organization that supports high quality, policy-oriented, social science research in LMICs, to promote better lives. Through its global platform, GDN connects social science researchers with policymakers and development stakeholders across the world. Over the years,



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GDN has acquired expertise and a global pool of partners and committed resource persons involved in the management of research and research capacity-building activities that link economic analysis to environmental protection. This includes a pioneering program on natural capital accounting in LMICs; multidisciplinary research cutting across economics and other social and natural sciences, including the ongoing Biodiversity and Development Awards program; as well as outreach activities.

UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

The [University of the South Pacific \(USP\)](#) is the premier institution of higher learning for the Pacific, uniquely placed in a region of extraordinary physical, social, and economic diversity and challenges to serve the region's need for high-quality tertiary education, research, and policy. After five decades, USP is a source of immense pride for the region which has nurtured its development from simply being an autonomous university in the region to its current status as a world-class tertiary provide, research institution, and development organization designed to meet the needs and address the priorities of its Member Countries in an affordable, future-oriented manner that values and celebrates Pacific history, cultures and the natural environment.

GOVERNMENT OF FIJI

The primary role of the [Deputy Prime Minister's Office](#) and the Ministry of Finance, Fiji is to support the government in the efficient and effective management of the national economy consistent with the sustainable achievement of the government's vision for the nation. To achieve this, the ministry ensures that prudent fiscal policies and practices are in place to strengthen financial and macroeconomic stability. The ministry aims to continue its efforts to spearhead the financial management reform that will help the government improve the delivery of public goods and services, thereby contributing to economic growth and improving the living standards of the people of Fiji.



**CONFERENCE
SPONSORSHIP**

PACKAGES



**PLATINUM
SPONSOR
US \$50,000**

- Advisory Board Recommendation
- Parallel session/ workshop/ side event in the program
- Official Partner
- Social media mention
- Virtual booth and physical Booth at the conference
- App highlight
- Acknowledgment at key moments of the conference
- Branded Plenary Session

**GOLD
SPONSOR
US \$20,000**

- Parallel session/ workshop/ side event in the program
- Official Partner
- Social media mention
- Virtual booth and physical Booth at the conference
- App highlight
- Acknowledgment at key moments of the conference

**SILVER
SPONSOR
US\$10,000**

- Parallel session/ workshop/ side event in the program
- Official Partner
- Social media mention
- Virtual booth

**WORKSHOP
PARALELL
SESSION
US\$5,000**

- Parallel session/ workshop/ side event in the program



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ACTIVITIES



**TRAVEL
SPONSORS
VARIABLE**

- Official Partner
- Social media mention

**PHOTO
CONTEST
US \$7,500**

- Official Partner
- Social media mention
- Virtual booth and physical booth at the conference

**ESSAY
CONTEST
US 7,500**

- Official Partner
- Social media mention
- Virtual booth and physical booth at the conference