

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM MARTA AND NADIA



Hello everyone, we hope you are doing fine! This is our first newsletter of the year: a cool tool we want to start using to keep everyone in the loop on what is going on within the EC and the environmental community outside of it.

We know it is hard to keep up with all the classes, meetings, events and activities once the semester starts, so we thought about creating this newsletter in order to make the EC as accessible and participative for all.

The newsletter will also offer you the opportunity to help where it is needed, to engage in any other subcommittee if something is of interest to you (e.g. a specific event, etc.) and also to learn new things about what is going on in the international environmental community with interesting articles, videos, and papers on the topic!

We hope that this newsletter will help you throughout the semester to stay informed and to engage as much as you like with EC! Enjoy reading the newsletter and please contact the Comms team or one of us if you have any suggestions on how to improve this new tool of ours, stay sustainable always :)

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: SLACK

- 🌱 Please keep in mind that Slack will be our main communication platform moving forward, and we would like to encourage you to follow as many of the channels as possible in order to stay updated!
- 🌱 The primary channel for communication is called 'General' -- you can find this and all other channels on the mobile homepage or desktop app sidebar. Check out our new 'What's Up In Geneva' channel to stay updated on environmental events happening in our city.
- 🌱 If you're curious about the features of Slack and how to get the most out of it, check out a quick tutorial by [clicking here](#).

SNOW DAY IN CHAMONIX

Join us on Sunday, the 27th of February, for a group day trip to Chamonix, France! Just a quick bus ride away, we'll spend the day exploring, eating, drinking, and for any interested, sledding or skiing! If you haven't already, make sure to confirm your presence in [this google form](#). You can also check out [this website](#) to discover all that Chamonix has to offer. This trip is the first in a series of EC member trips planned for the semester - stay tuned for more information!



TEAM UPDATES

EVENTS

We're planning a welcome back party for all students, sponsored by the EC, in collaboration with QISA! This semester, we're introducing monthly 'Coffee Chats', informal chats with an individual on an environmental topic, 'Emergency Breaks' to publicly raise awareness on environmental issues, and events for Indigenous Peoples' Month. **Who to contact to get involved: José Daniel Reyes Silva**

SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

Sustainability Week, jointly organized between IHEID and UNIGE, will take place March 21-25. We're developing programming from briefings on COP26, Green Growth vs. Green Growth, Finance in SDG targets, and Private Climate Actions, as well as a career fair and fun, interactive mini-events like insect tasting and gardening. **Who to contact to get involved: Yannic Bucher**

SCOOP

We're revamping SCOOP, to partner with small farmers and producers to deliver seasonal products to IHEID students, promoting and educating about sustainable and circular models of consumption. These products are sold on campus without profit, to make local, organic, healthy food affordable to students. **Who to contact to get involved: Jeanne Cordy**

TARGET INITIATIVE

The Target Initiative will be conducting a survey within IHEID regarding recycling and transport practices at Maison de la Paix, with questions on plastic consumption, accessibility to recycling bins on campus, and access to sustainable transport, among others. The main TI goal is to write an annual report by June, which will contain outcomes to contribute to a bigger sustainability budget for next year. **Who to contact to get involved: Jeanne Cordy**

RECYCLING

The Geneva Canton is going to fund composting in Grand Morillon! We are working with the student residence manager to increase the recycling bins in common kitchens, as well as working on developing best recycling practices to share and advertise with the student community to improve waste sorting. **Who to contact to get involved: Heli Shah**

SAVE THE FOOD

Save the Food was a huge success last semester and gained a lot of visibility. We're in close contact with the Institute's administrative director, who is coordinating with the cafeteria on the creation of an affordable, 5 franc vegetarian meal. We have plans to raise the issue of banning all single use items in the cafeteria. **Who to contact to get involved: Pierre Canet**

WHAT'S UP WITH THE ENVIRONMENT

LOCAL

Event: **International Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding**, February 1-4, online, Organized jointly by the Environmental Peacebuilding Association and IHEID.

Latest article from IHEID's Center for International Environmental Studies: **Fieldwork in Colombia as part of the "Anthroposouth" Project**, an interview with CIES Research Assistant Lukas Becker.

News: **Geneva Municipality Wins 2022 Wakker Heritage Prize**, for its eco housing development and focus on biodiversity in urban design.

NATIONAL

News: **Environmental Activists Spared Jail after Quarry Squat**, as part of a protest campaign in Nyon to prevent the expansion of a quarry.

Event: **Briefing on the 5th Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly**, February 14, online.

Check out the Swiss Government's page on **Climate Change in Switzerland**, with a discussion of historic observations and projected changes to Swiss climate.

GLOBAL

Event: **World Wetlands Day**, February 2, a commemorative day to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands around the world as global carbon sinks.

News: **Meet the Next Generation of Climate Influencers**

News: **Activists Demand Stop to Japan-Funded Coal Plant In Climate-Vulnerable Bangladesh**

If you're looking for something new to listen to, take a look at this list of **Environmental Podcasts**

Our next newsletter will come out during the first week of school. Keep an eye out to hear more details about our snow day, updates on our initiatives to kick-off the semester, and information on our first general meeting. Until then:

May the forest be with you.

