

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER

WELCOME BACK TO GENEVA!

We're so excited to back together again after a long winter break. For those of you who are new to our newsletter, we're happy you've joined us! This is a place where we hope to keep our community updated on what we're currently up to in the EC, our plans for making sustainable progress at the Institute and in Geneva, and the latest environmental news on the local, national, and global levels.

We've got a host of exciting and important upcoming events to kick off the year:

INTERGAYLACTIC COWBOYS

The EC has partnered with QISA to throw our first party of the semester on Friday, March 4th in PCR! This party is a fundraiser for Esra Arikan, a trans woman who has been resisting harassment, rape & anti-trans violence in Turkish prisons for 16 years. Learn more here at the [Esra Arikan Solidarity Network](#).



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' MONTH

The EC, LANI, and HRCP have collaborated with "Memorias Colombia", an organisation working with victims of the conflict in Colombia. To support them and learn more about their realities, indigenous handicrafts will be available for sale at the Institute, made by Emberás, Koguis, Zenúes, and other communities. All proceeds will be sent back to support them.



SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

Save the date for Sustainability Week, held jointly by UNIGE and IHEID from March 21-25. We'll be featuring a career fair, panel discussions on Green Growth, Corporate Activism, and COP26, as well as workshops on gardening, sustainable protein, and zero-waste living. More information to come!



TEAM UPDATES

A big thanks to all who joined our general meeting this week! If you weren't able to make it, here's a link to [view the meeting minutes](#).

EVENTS

We need volunteers to help out at our Intergalactic Cowboys party! [Click here to sign up](#). For Indigenous Peoples' month, in addition to the Indigenous Handicraft Sale, we're collaborating on an online event: a chat with an Indigenous leader from Southwestern Colombia. We'll be holding monthly coffee chats and field trips for EC members. Stay tuned for more information! **Who to contact to get involved: José Daniel Reyes Silva**

SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

Sustainability Week Geneva is coming soon! We are finalizing the program and the event will be launched on Monday. We are in the process of confirming speakers for various panels and completing logistics planning. We plan to collaborate with TEDx to highlight their sustainability-focused presentations on the day following Sustainability Week. **Who to contact to get involved: Yannic Bucher**

SCOOP

We need volunteers to help out with reviving SCOOP! This is an initiative where we partner with small local farmers and producers to deliver seasonal products to IHEID students at wholesale prices to ensure access to nutritious, affordable, and healthy food. We plan to sell these products once per week at MDP, beginning next week! **Who to contact to get involved: Jeanne Cordy**

TARGET INITIATIVE

The Target Initiative is currently collecting data from MDP and the residences on energy use, transport, and recycling for its report on sustainability, which the Institute will publish by the end of July. We are currently exploring a way for new students at the Institute to take a mandatory recycling workshop to learn best practices, similar to the consent workshop put on in the fall. **Who to contact to get involved: Jeanne Cordy**

RECYCLING

Grand Morillon is on board to improve its recycling practices, but lack of funding is currently an issue. They have agreed to add all missing bins in each communal kitchen and when nearby construction is complete, they will install permanent recycling bins near the residence entrances. We will be distributing flyers on recycling guidelines in Geneva. **Who to contact to get involved: Heli Shah**

SAVE THE FOOD

Pierre, working with our class representatives, was successful in getting the Institute to agree to provide a 6 CHF student meal! The next step is meeting with the Canton to attempt to receive additional financial support to further reduce this price for students. Save the food continues with leftovers from the cafeteria being distributed in PCR on Fridays! **Who to contact to get involved: Pierre Canet**

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

LOCAL

News: **Geneva's Ambitious and Essential Climate Strategy**, to become a low-carbon city while improving the quality of life of its inhabitants.

News: **The City is innovating by drastically reducing the pruning of its trees to create more shade.**

The latest article from IHEID's Center for International Environmental Studies: **Fieldwork in Argentina as part of the "Accounting for Nature" Project**, an interview with CIES Postdoctoral Researcher Diego Silva.

Sign up to receive updates from the Geneva Environment Network by **clicking here**.

NATIONAL

News: **City beehives destroying wild bee populations in Switzerland** - a study found that an increase in domestically raised honeybees is putting increasing pressure on wild pollinators.

News: **Swiss researchers develop edible alternative to plastic packaging.**

Event: **Reimagining Conservation: Integrating Human rights in the Development and Implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework** - February 28, Online, organized by the UN Environment Assembly.

GLOBAL

Event: **World Wildlife Day** - March 3, established on the anniversary of the signing of CITES, celebrates the Earth's plants and animals.

News: **UN human rights experts urge treaty to address 'plastic tide'.**

News: **War in Ukraine Could Create Permanent Nuclear and Chemical Environmental Disasters.**

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

Our next general meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 16th.

Wishing you a happy, enjoyable, and sustainable start to the Spring semester!

May the forest be with you.

