



Call for Proposals:

2024 GLOBAL CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LAND CONSERVATION NETWORK (ILCN) *Relationships for a Resilient World*

October 16-18, 2024 | Quebec, Canada

All Proposals Due: January 15, 2024

Join private, NGO, Indigenous and local community land conservationists from around the world at the International Land Conservation Network's (ILCN) 2024 Global Congress! The ILCN is seeking proposals for presentations and workshops. Please read on to learn more about the Congress and how you can share your important work with this global community of practice.

The ILCN was born from a need to build global capacity for effective and equitable private and civic land conservation. Formally launched at a pair of organizational meetings held in Cambridge, Massachusetts and Providence, Rhode Island in September 2014, the ILCN connects land conservation experts and practitioners representing initiatives and non-governmental organizations large and small, sharing ideas, strategies and innovation to advance the more rapid and effective use of private and civic land conservation tools and strategies. Central to the network is a belief that building capacity and empowering voluntary private and civic land conservation will strengthen the global land conservation movement and lead to more durable and effective resource protection. More information on the ILCN can be found at www.landconservationnetwork.org. Proceedings from the 2015, 2018, and 2021 Congresses are available [here](#).

The 2024 Global Congress of the ILCN will build upon the momentum, conversations, collaborations, and relationships that have emerged over the past several years and will focus on the role of the private and civic land conservation community in achieving the ambitions set out in the 2022 Global Biodiversity Framework at the UN Biodiversity Conference in Montreal, Canada. The event will be co-hosted by the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC), Canada's leading land conservation organization and a long-time partner of the ILCN. Together, the ILCN and NCC will convene participants and speakers across six continents in Quebec, Canada. For more information, see the Congress website here: landconservationnetwork.org/2024-global-congress.

The Congress will explore a range of topics focused on how attendees may take specific actions in their home countries or regions to advance private and civic land conservation and contribute to the target, supported by about 190 countries, to conserve 30% of the planet's lands and waters by 2030. Speakers and attendees will include practitioners and partners of private and civic land conservation from the private, non-profit/non-governmental, Indigenous, academic and public sectors around the world.

Through a series of plenary discussions, focused workshops across five thematic areas, and facilitated dialogues, Congress participants will share their work and consider the challenges and opportunities ahead for private land conservation.

Congress Theme: Relationships for a Resilient World

The ILCN seeks to contribute to a "whole of society" effort, building the capacity and coherence of civic (NGO and non-profit) and private sector conservation organizations to complement and work collaboratively with Indigenous, public, academic, industry and other essential sectors engaged in land conservation around the world.

Relationships are the basis upon which the success of this effort depends. As the land conservation community of practice grapples with the need to work differently - across sectors, jurisdictions, boundaries, and cultures - to secure the equitable and effective stewardship of land at scales that will make a difference for communities and achieve the 30x30 target, it is more important than ever for practitioners to share and reflect on how present and future policy and practice can help foster meaningful and ethical exchange, connection, and collaboration to achieve shared goals.

To this end, the 2024 Global Congress program will have an overarching theme of **“Relationships for a Resilient World.”** Workshop proposals are encouraged to highlight how areas of primary importance - from securing sustainable financing for conservation to achieving long-term stewardship of conserved areas - depend upon acting collaboratively, relating ethically, and healing relationships to work through partnership.

Workshop Format

Workshops are diverse topics presented by experienced colleagues and experts. Workshops will run concurrently within several areas of focus (more information below). Each workshop is 90 minutes in length and is composed of a panel discussion, including a series of comments or presentations by multiple speakers, followed by a facilitated dialogue in which participants work collaboratively to advance their collective understanding of a particular topic. Workshop presenters typically present their ideas for no more than 60 minutes, leaving at least 30 minutes or more for questions, answers and discussion.

Areas of Focus

Workshops at the 2024 Congress will follow five tracks, in line with the ILCN’s five key focus areas. Please note, the descriptions below are for guidance only and are not meant to limit great ideas or suggestions for workshops.

- **Conservation Finance**

This area may include topics such as: where and how to finance land transactions, including philanthropy/grants, public funds, tax incentives, bargain sales, limited development, Indigenous-led conservation finance, and innovative and/or new sources of funding; public-private partnerships to support conservation; carbon and biodiversity financing; nature credits; mitigation or compensation funds; ecotourism; opportunities and challenges in developing long-term sustainable finance

mechanisms, and more.

- **Law and Policy**

This area may include topics such as: national or regional laws and policies enabling private land conservation in countries with a range of legal systems; financial incentives that support land conservation; exploration and discussion of tools and instruments such as permanent or term easements or covenants, conservation leases or agreements; innovations in conservation law and policy to respect Indigenous rights and traditional laws; policy frameworks for the inclusion of private and civic land conservation in national protected area frameworks; identifying and designating Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures, and more.

- **Organization and Governance**

This area may include topics such as: building sustainable organizations; communicating effectively; engaging volunteers; developing strong governance mechanisms; creating and adopting national standards and practices for land conservation; the value of networks in advancing private land conservation on a regional or national level; the role of privately protected areas in the global land conservation dialogue; Indigenous governance systems; implementing two-eyed seeing; building capacity for collaboration and partnership; data collection, management, and reporting; and more.

- **Land Stewardship and Management**

This area may include topics such as: monitoring of properties for effectiveness; conservation techniques to enhance water quality and quantity; restoration efforts; biodiversity conservation; financing projects for long-term management; working landscapes and land conservation; measuring success; community-based conservation; conservation for both natural landscapes and cultural heritage; supporting Indigenous-led conservation; developing nature-based solutions; using remote-sensing and state of the art conservation technology for monitoring and reporting; and more.

- **Large Landscape Conservation**

This area may include topics such as: regional conservation partnerships and landscape collaboratives; large-scale conservation science and planning; Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas; transboundary conservation initiatives; multi-ownership and multi-jurisdictional approaches to land stewardship; re-wilding; and more.

Thematic Focus: Relationship-Building, Collaboration and Partnership

Across the five tracks described above, we invite proposals that highlight and share the outcomes of organizations, communities, and initiatives working more collaboratively; building, reimagining, or healing relationships with stakeholders or partners; or leveraging resources and learning through partnership. How is your organization working differently, across boundaries, to achieve your goals? What practical steps or specific strategies were key to a successful collaboration or a better working relationship? What cases, stories, lessons and experiences about how you are transforming your approaches in ways that are necessary to work ethically can you share? How are you re-thinking or

shifting private land conservation policy and practice in one of the thematic areas above in light of these experiences?

Call for Workshop Proposals

The ILCN Congress Planning Committee invites proposals for workshops and presentations that share lessons learned, good practice and innovation in any aspect of private land conservation including start-up, implementation, management, and assessment.

Applicants may propose one of two things:

1. Presentation

This proposal will include information for a single presentation (~15 minutes) focused on a particular topic and/or case study. If selected, the Congress Planning Committee will combine your presentation with other presentations to create a cohesive workshop under the appropriate area of focus.

2. Workshop

This proposal will include information for a workshop (~60 minutes) of two to four presentations that make up a coherent session or panel discussion. Each presentation may be its own story or case study but must fit into one overall topic that falls within one of the areas of focus.

All proposals must include an abstract, a value proposition on why the presentation or workshop would be of interest to participants, and an explanation of how the presentation or workshop is relevant to the Congress theme. Proposals can be submitted in writing or in audio/video format.

Please complete the proposal form electronically here:

https://ilip.formstack.com/forms/2024_ilcn_global_congress_call_for_proposals

The Planning Committee reserves the right to solicit proposals for topics that may not yet be represented in the applicant pool.

Selection Criteria

The Planning Committee is particularly interested in workshops that are interactive, generative, or stimulating to debate and dialogue around current and future trends in the field.

The Planning Committee will review and select proposals using the following set of criteria:

- Relevance to the Congress theme (Relationships for a Resilient World)
- Transferability of models (can the case be translated into other contexts)
- Representation of Indigenous perspectives
- Clarity of proposal description and value to participants
- Appropriate length/amount of material to time allotment
- Level of audience interaction
- Overall balance of program topics

- Broad geographic representation

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: JANUARY 15, 2024

PROGRAM DECISIONS WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY LATE MARCH

For additional information on the 2024 Global Congress, or on the proposal process, please contact Robin Austin at raustin@lincolninst.edu

Thank you very much, and we look forward to receiving your proposals!