

CONVENING PARTNER ORGANISATIONS EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST NOW OPEN

Expressions of interest are welcome from organisations who wish to participate in the 15th International *Riversymposium* as convening partners.

By participating as a convening partner, you can:

- work in close consultation on program planning;
- assist with marketing the sessions and the *Riversymposium*; and
- engage a wide range of stakeholders in discussions and debate around a specific issue of their choice.

Convening partner (CP) sessions at the *Riversymposium* enable convening organisations to coordinate and develop the content, format and speakers.

CP session times can vary from 1.5 – 2 hours to half or full day workshops, allowing for significant interaction and exploration of an issue or topic and will run in parallel with other concurrent sessions or workshops.

THEME

In line with the thematic focus of the 15th International *Riversymposium*, **Rivers in a rapidly urbanising world**, we especially welcome proposals on issues that relate to urbanisation with respect to river management and restoration.

In addition, *Riversymposium* welcomes proposals that explore aspects of river management as aligned with our 6 key themes:

- **A river runs through it:** designing river cities
- **River health:** healthy rivers, healthy economies, healthy people
- **River ecology:** beneath the surface
- **River knowledge:** tools and techniques for action
- **River pressures:** pathways to sustainability
- **River partnerships:** integrating people, governance and policy

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following must be included when submitting your session proposal:

- Presenting speakers: name, organization and contact
- Session format preference: duration and style (eg. workshop, discussion)
- Session title to appear in the program
- Session abstract: 200 word description of session
- Marketing blurb: 100 word snapshot of session

SELECTION CRITERIA

The *Riversymposium* Committee will determine the program based on a review of the proposals submitted by all convening partners. When evaluating the proposals, the following criteria will be used:

1. New thinking, findings or approaches: the extent to which the event focuses on relevant topics of debate and generate new ideas and solutions;
2. Cross sectorial diversity: how the event promotes diversity of interests and organisational types in the program, including stakeholder groups, research institutes, government agencies, non-government organisations, donors, business, and others;
3. Outputs and impact: how the outputs of the event improve the understanding, policy and practice of water management and sustainable development around the world; and
4. Format: the extent to which the event facilitates multi-stakeholder dialogue and encourages open discussion involving stakeholders with potentially conflicting views.

Please Note: In order to ensure a diverse and dynamic program for the conference in terms of topics, geographic regions, convening partners and formats, *Riversymposium* may suggest a merger between similar or complementary session proposals.

REGISTRATION

Riversymposium is unable to provide funding for delegates to participate and it is expected all speakers are registered for the conference. Speakers are offered the reduced registration rate, on par with the Earlybird rate offered.

KEY DATES

Convening partner session submission close:	Friday 16 March 2012
Notification of acceptance:	Friday 27 April 2012

If you are interested in assisting with the delivery of a world class event, please complete the abstract template form and return to Ozacom+ Conference Services by **Friday 16 March 2012**.

Ozacom+ Conference Services

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