

First Announcement

Partnerships Fair during CSD 11

Partnerships for Sustainable Development constitute an important outcome of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

The 11th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 11) is expected to discuss and decide on the follow-up process for these partnerships.

In addition to the official discussions a 'Partnerships Fair' will be organized as a parallel activity during CSD 11.

The Partnerships Fair will run from Tuesday, 29 April through Thursday, 8 May 2003.

Purpose

The Partnerships Fair is meant to provide an opportunity for existing and potential new partners of WSSD Partnerships to come to the CSD for networking, creating synergies between partnerships, looking for more partners and/or funding and learning from each other's experiences.

Partners will also have the opportunity to inform about progress with their partnerships since the Johannesburg Summit and to present their ideas on the follow-up process within CSD.

Modalities

A conference room ('Partnerships Room') will be available for the Partnerships Fair from Tuesday, 29 April, through Thursday, 8 May. The CSD Secretariat plans to set up a schedule with daily events of the Partnerships Fair taking place in this room.

The following types of events are suggested:

- Panel discussions
- Seminars
- Match-making sessions
- Presentations
- Internal meetings of Partnerships

Depending on the interest expressed, one or two of such events might be scheduled per day, while the Partnerships Room would be available for other informal meetings and networking activities of the Partners during the rest of the day.

Possible Themes

The following are some preliminary ideas for themes for Panel discussions, seminars or presentations:

- Requirements for successful partnerships for sustainable development
- Developing countries' experiences with and requirements for successful partnerships
- Building Partnerships with the private sector
- NGOs' experiences with partnerships: successes and challenges
- Partnerships websites: how to facilitate information exchange and match-making
- Requirements of foundations to support partnerships
- Partnerships for SIDS
- Partnerships for Africa

We welcome your ideas for possible themes to be discussed during the Partnerships Fair and your expression of interest in the themes proposed. Please send your reactions to the CSD Secretariat as soon as possible (e-mail: beyondwssd@un.org).

Who can participate in the Partnerships Fair?

- Partners involved in a sustainable development partnership initiative in line with the Bali Guiding Principles and posted to the CSD Secretariat website.
Please note that Partners will have to make sure that they are accredited to the Commission on Sustainable Development (as a Major Group, Government or IGO) to be able to participate in the Partnerships Fair.
- If you would like to launch a new partnership initiative or present a proposal with the aim of identifying partners and/or funding at the Partnerships Fair, please send your proposal to the CSD Secretariat (contact information listed below). If the objectives and targets of your proposal are in compliance with the Bali Guiding Principles, the CSD Secretariat will contact you and make the necessary arrangements to schedule your event in the Partnerships Fair programme.
- The Fair will also be open to all other CSD participants: Governments, UN system organizations, IGOs and accredited Major Groups.

For further information and for Partnerships to confirm their participation in the Partnerships Fair, please send an e-mail to beyondwssd@un.org, or call Ms. Monika Linn, tel. +1 917 367 2089 or Ms. Federica Pietracchi, tel. +1 212 963 8497, at the latest by 4 April 2003.

Please also let us know if you would like to reserve a time slot for a presentation of your partnership or for other meetings related to your partnership.