



## 2025 IAP Triennial Conference and General Assembly Bridging Science, Policy and Society in an Era of Transformation Cairo, Egypt: 8-11 December 2025

The **2025 Triennial Conference and General Assembly** of the **InterAcademy Partnership (IAP)** will take place from 8-11 December 2025 in Cairo, Egypt, hosted by the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT). Online participation will also be possible.

The programme will start with **side events** hosted throughout the morning and afternoon of **8 December**, before the official conference opening in the late afternoon. The main conference sessions will run from **9–10 December**, followed by the **IAP General Assembly on 11 December**.

Monday 8 December	Tuesday 9 December	Wednesday 10 December	Thursday 11 December
Side events  <i>Late afternoon:</i> Official Opening, IAP Triennial Conference	IAP Triennial Conference		IAP General Assembly

### I. The IAP Triennial Conference (9-10 Dec)

Since its founding, the IAP has worked with its member academies and networks to harness the expertise of the world’s leading scientific minds to advance sound policies, improve public health, promote excellence in science education, and achieve other critical development goals. Themed **‘Bridging Science, Policy and Society in an Era of Transformation**, the IAP Triennial Conference provides a platform for academies, regional networks, like-minded organizations, and the global science policy community to engage in high-level discussions on pressing global challenges at the intersection of science, policy, and society and advance collaborative solutions.

As societies grapple with rapid advancements in technology, environmental crises, political polarization, health crises, and shifts in global governance, the role of science in informing policies, shaping resilient societies, and fostering international collaboration has never been more critical. This conference provides an opportunity to critically examine how science can bridge divides, rebuild trust, guide responsible innovation, and contribute to sustainable and

equitable development. The Conference will feature keynote speeches, panel discussions and interactive sessions.

The Programme Organizing Committee comprising IAP and ASRT representatives will develop an agenda that addresses various topics within this overarching theme. In addition to dedicated sessions focused on major IAP projects, additional sessions will be selected from proposals submitted by senior and young academics, regional networks, and like-minded organizations that contribute to these critical discussions.

### **Sub-themes**

The conference will focus on topics that include, but are not limited to, issues related to the following sub-themes:

- **Trust and Resilience in Science Systems:** What strategies are being implemented – or can be devised – to bridge political divides, combat misinformation, and rebuild public trust in science as a tool for societal progress?
- **The Shifting Social Role of Academia:** How are the expertise and financial sustainability of universities and academia being challenged and re-invented? What might the future role of universities and academies in society look like? How might we get there?
- **Innovation for Sustainable Development:** How can breakthrough innovations (including through open innovation) catalyse sustainable economic development by addressing such critical challenges as energy transitions and food security, while creating opportunities for sustainable prosperity? How could academies help nurture (open) innovation-based economies?
- **Technological Advances and Ethical Challenges:** How can we ensure the equitable and ethical governance and accessibility of current and emerging technologies?
- **Climate Mitigation, Resilience and Sustainability:** What science-driven and nature-based solutions can be promoted to tackle climate and environmental crises?
- **Science Advice:** How can we ensure the autonomy and effectiveness of academies as trusted advisors to decision-makers and the public? How can such advice be transdisciplinary, integrating the sciences, humanities and social sciences? How can academies promote and support transdisciplinary research?
- **Science Diplomacy:** How can science be leveraged as a bridge to foster collaboration and equitable partnerships across borders to address shared global challenges?

## II. Side events (8 Dec)

On Monday 8 December, space will be made available to IAP member academies, regional networks and observer organisations to host their own side events – which may be closed (invited participants only) or open to participants arriving early for the IAP Triennial Conference. The selection of side events will also be based on a proposal submission process.

## III. The IAP General Assembly (11 Dec)

The IAP General Assembly (GA) is open exclusively to representatives of IAP member academies and invited observer organisations. It provides a platform for IAP members to review progress and shape the future direction of IAP's projects and programmes, to meet the newly elected leadership, and to welcome new members.

Programme Organising Committee

- Masresha Fetene, IAP
- Diane Negra, IAP
- Norbert Hounkonnou, IAP/NASAC
- Rana Hosny Refaey, ASRT
- Mona Elnaa, ASRT
- Reham Sabry, ASRT
- Passant Youssef, ASRT

*Supported by:*

All staff of both IAP Trieste and IAP Washington DC Secretariat offices.

## CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS 2025 IAP Triennial Conference

We invite senior and young academies, regional networks and like-minded organizations to submit conference session proposals aligned with the theme of ***Bridging Science, Policy and Society in an Era of Transformation***. Proposals may include, but are not limited to, the sub-themes of the conference. Proposals may also be submitted for side events on any theme.

### General Submission Guidelines

1. **Conference sessions** are expected to last about 90 minutes. The design of the session is up to the proposer. They could, for example, take the form of panel discussions that feature 3-5 experts addressing a specific topic aligned with the conference theme, followed by moderated audience Q&A engagement.

2. **Side events** are events hosted by IAP member academies, regional networks and observer organisations. These may include, for instance: Training or workshops designed to provide skills, knowledge, or professional development to academies or regional networks; Regional Networks meeting and/or staff meeting; or events that present or launch new reports, studies, or initiatives related to the Academies' work.
  - *To allow time for the official opening of the conference, side events should conclude by mid-afternoon, unless they are non-interactive events such as standing exhibitions or displays. Proposals for side events should include an estimate of the time required and whether they will be open (Note: Unless otherwise arranged, most Conference participants will only be arriving on this day) or closed (invited participants only – in which case the proposer is responsible for convening the participants and an estimate of the number of participants should be provided in the proposal).*
3. Proposals that involve collaboration among multiple academies, including partnerships with regional networks, young academies, like-minded organizations, and other relevant stakeholders, are particularly encouraged.
4. **Deadline:** Proposals must be submitted by **Friday, 30 May 2025**. Applicants will be notified of the review outcome—acceptance, rejection, or conditional acceptance by 31 July 2025.
5. **Submission Form:** Proposals should be submitted online using this [submission form](#). To help in your preparation, the required information includes session abstract/description (max 250 words); speaker details; session format (e.g. panel, side event); contact information; organization/institution; sub-theme selection.
6. Session contributions are required to have an organiser/single contact point who is responsible for confirming speakers, session logistics, and reporting outcomes to the IAP Conference Organisers.
7. Due to limited space/conference rooms, not all submitted proposals can be accepted. In the case of similar proposals being submitted, IAP Conference Organisers may ask those organisers to collaborate and co-create a combined session.
8. **Funding:** Travel expenses for session speakers should be covered by the entity proposing the session or through any other arrangement made within the panel. IAP Member Academies and Young Affiliates from Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMIC) may receive partial support from IAP to finance the travel of panelists for their proposed sessions. We encourage you to read the full [participation guidelines and funding policy](#) for the conference.
9. For questions regarding your proposal please contact IAP Secretariat through [secretariat@iappartnership.org](mailto:secretariat@iappartnership.org) and bring to the attention of Moses Ogutu ([mogutu@nas.edu](mailto:mogutu@nas.edu)).