



Green Track Stops | Guidelines for applications

What is On the Green Track?

On the Green Track is the European Union campaign on biodiversity and nature for young people, organised in collaboration with the Global Biodiversity Youth Network (GYBN) that will be implemented in spring 2022, ahead of the second phase of the UN Biodiversity Conference CBD COP15. The campaign is part of the EU communication strategy in the run-up to COP15 and will be among flagship initiatives of the European Year of Youth, and as such, it is being built on a youth-by youth approach from the beginning to end.

Through a dedicated website, engaging events, social media and in collaboration with youth organisations across the EU, the initiative will take us on a journey towards improvement, growth, evolution, engagement and action in protecting our natural world.

What are Green Track Stops?

The **Green Track Stops** are events and activities organized by youth for youth across the EU. They will be selected through a call for events, open between 15 October 2021 and 10 December 2021 including. The call for events is an invitation to young citizens, artists, scientists and youth organisations in the EU to become part of the journey and contribute to the debate in a meaningful way.

The call for events aims to:

- Ensure variety of topics related to the environment with focus on biodiversity and nature protection;
- Target young people in all EU regions and in as many EU languages as possible;
- Allow for any format – online, on-site or hybrid conferences, meetings, exhibitions, webinars, workshops, hackathons, artistic performances, etc.

Where and when should the event take place?

The events can be held across the 27 EU Member States between March and May 2022, in the run-up to the UN Biodiversity COP15 Conference.

Who is eligible to apply and organize an event?

A Green Track Stop:

- Can be organised by individuals between the ages of 18-30 or youth organisations, networks and communities across the EU 27 Member States;

- Needs to take place between March and May 2022;
- Covers one of the following themes:
 - Nature/biodiversity
 - Circular economy
 - Zero pollution
 - Lifestyle
 - General
 - Other
- Can have a format of a conference, meeting, workshop, webinar, training session, hackathon, performance or any other format or activity;
- Can take place online, offline or as a hybrid event;
- Is held in the EU, in any EU language;
- Has free admission;
- Aims to attract and engage young citizens.

Within two weeks after the event implementation, the organisers commit to contribute to the campaign final outcomes by preparing a short report with the key insights and results from the event, as well as providing photos and/or other relevant materials.

What are the possible topics for an event?

The event could be organised around one of the following topics:

- **Nature/biodiversity:**
 - Biodiversity and Climate crises, Pollinators, Agro-ecology, Close to nature forestry, Planting additional 3 billion trees, Nature restoration , Soil protection and restoration, Urban biodiversity– urban/city farms – soil desealing, Marine biodiversity, Rivers/Lakes/Coastal/Wetland restoration, Species protection, Ecological corridors/Connectivity / Solving Habitat Fragmentation, Natura 2000, Protected Areas and other area-based conservation measures
- **Circular economy:**
 - Sustainable production, Sustainable consumption, Sustainable fashion and slow fashion, Waste
- **Zero pollution:**
 - Air quality/air pollution, Noise pollution, Water quality/water and marine pollution, Soil pollution
- **Lifestyle:**
 - Sustainable tourism, Sustainable mobility, Sustainable infrastructure development, Renewable energy, Sustainable food, local, slow and seasonal cooking, Recycling and composting, Repairing, Sustainable finance – Is my wallet green enough?
- **General:**
 - Youth leadership for nature, System change for biodiversity, Environmental democracy: information, public participation, access to justice, Transformative education
- **Other**

What are the benefits for your event?

If your event is selected to become one of the Green Track Stops, your event will benefit from the following:

- Visibility of your event on the European Commission campaign website and on the social media channels of the Directorate–General for the Environment of the European Commission and other platforms;
- An opportunity to co-brand your event with the campaign visual identity;
- Editable toolkit with templates and materials for event communication and promotion, as well as guidelines for event organization;
- Facilitation in accessing digital tools for organising online events;
- The opportunity to attend an info session for event organisers selected following the call for events.

How to apply with your event?

You can apply by [filling in the Green Track Stops application form here](#) from 15 October 2021 until 10 December 2021 including. You will need to provide the following event information:

- Event information: title, topic, intended format, timing indication, concept, brief description, draft agenda, proposed speakers, expected outcomes, etc.
- Organiser(s) information: name(s), description, link to website, links to social media profiles (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn), etc.
- Organiser(s) contact details: website (if available), registration page (if applicable), email, phone number.
- Additional materials and/or supplementary information (not mandatory)

Not all of the information above is mandatory, but the more complete your application is, the better the chance of your event being selected as one of the campaign’s virtual stops.

By submitting an application, you agree with the use of your data for the purposes of this call for events by accepting the Privacy Policy, and if selected, accept the outlined agreement for partner events.

[Apply now here.](#)

What are the selection criteria and procedure?

The selection criteria are the following:

- Compliance with eligibility criteria, quality and completion of application form
- Diversity of events in terms of geographical location, topical balance, as well as formats and sizes of events
- Relevance and the potential to mobilise young audiences in the debate ahead of the COP15

The selection procedure will take place once the call for events is closed, and will consist of following steps:

- Eligibility check: ensuring that the submitted events fulfil as a minimum the eligibility criteria listed above
- Pre-selection: performed by an expert panel consisting of representative of Global Biodiversity Youth Network (GYBN), main campaign partners, and GOPA Com., a communication agency based in Brussels and in charge of managing this campaign.
- Final selection: performed by an expert panel consisting of representatives of the European Commission.

What is the timeline for the Call for Events?

The call for events is open from 15 October 2021 to 10 December 2021 included. The European Commission reserves the right to extend or shorten this period with two days' notice to be published in this guidelines on the [campaign website](#). The results of the call will be announced by mid- January 2022 on [the website](#). The organisers of the selected events will then also be contacted directly via e-mail, and will be invited to the info session for the organisers.

For more information, please visit [the website](#) or reach out via email: thegreentrack@gopacom.eu

Frequently asked questions

1. Are there any restrictions in taking part?

Your event must reflect the themes as listed above, and must be held during the dates mentioned above, i.e. between March and May 2022. If there is no apparent link with the themes mentioned, the application will not be considered as eligible.

2. Are there any subsidies available to events' organisers?

No. However, the European Commission will provide assistance by promoting events on their website and on social media and by providing partner events with the official On the Green Track campaign branding, and will provide a communication toolkit.

3. When the results of this call will be announced?

The list of selected Green Track Stop events will be published before mid-January 2022.

4. Are Green Track Stops the only events to be organised during the Green Track campaign implementation in spring 2022?

No. The call for the Green Track Stops has been launched to offer young citizens and youth networks and organisations an opportunity to organise a campaign partner event. However, the campaign will also host various additional events to be organised by the European Commission and its partners.