

Call for Expressions of Interest to host the 24th International Congress of Biometeorology in 2026

The Executive Board of the International Society of Biometeorology (ISB <https://uwm.edu/biometeorology/>) is calling for expressions of interest to host the 24th International Congress of Biometeorology in 2026. Typically the Congress attracts between 150 and 300 delegates.

Proposals should provide:

- Primary contact/host
- Conference overarching theme
- Proposed meeting dates
- Primary members and structure of the local organizing committee
- Primary conference venue, including rationale, advantages, and estimated costs
- Organizational, logistical, and funding support available
- Transportation arrangements and estimated costs
- Field Trips

The Congress program should have sessions that align with the Society's Commissions. This will involve working with the Executive Board, Commissions' Chairs and Co-chairs. As COVID has variously impacted the ability to hold conferences in-person, and the capacity of some delegates to attend, the proposal should outline the contingencies to deal with such situations.

Other considerations:

ISB is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion across its membership and events. The Congress proposal should therefore align with the values outlined in the Society's Diversity and Inclusion Statement (<https://uwm.edu/biometeorology/about/diversity/>).

Costs of attending in person conferences are often prohibitive for researchers, particularly for those from low and middle income countries. Also, some research institutions are introducing policies that limit air travel. Hence, the proposals should enable the participation of some delegates remotely, including for those giving presentations.

The Society expects that the Local Organising Committee will gain sponsorship which along with registrations fees will result in minimal to no cost to the Society.

ISB members receive a reduced registration fee this includes tiered pricing across different countries by income World Bank level. In addition, ISB has a memorandum of understanding with the European Meteorological Society (EMS) where members of EMS pay the same registration fees as ISB members. The Congress should not coincide with meeting dates of EMS.

At some previous Congresses the following has occurred:

- Reduced registration fees for students if they presented and assisted with the running of the Conference.
- Prizes for Best Student Talk and Poster.
- Arrangements for childcare to assist those with caring responsibilities to attend the conference.
- Selected papers for a Special Issue of the International Journal of Biometeorology.
- A joint meeting with another Society.

The call will close on the 10th of April 2023 (Eastern Daylight time). Proposals should be sent to Michael Allen, Secretary, mallen@towson.edu. The proposals will be assessed by the current and incoming Executive Board of the Society. It is expected that the applicants will attend ICB 23 Urban to Global Sustainability in Tempe, Arizona or participate in a video call to present their proposal and to clarify questions that the Executive Board may have.