



Call for Proposals to Host IAF Global Conference 2020

WHO ARE WE?

The International Association of Facilitators (IAF) is a participatory organization with members in more than 65 countries. As a professional association, we set internationally accepted industry standards, provide accreditation, support a community of practice, advocate and educate on the power of facilitation and embrace the diversity of facilitators.

Every year the IAF hosts a range of national and regional conference to provide a gathering place for facilitators to learn, engage and grow as a profession.

The prime objective of IAF conferences at any level is to provide IAF members, other interested individuals and related organizations with state of the art information, case studies, research and exhibits to assist in the advancement of facilitation as a profession, benefit the practice of facilitators as well as create and enhance the relationships between our members and professionals who use facilitation in their practice.

WHO CAN HOST?

Any team of 3-5 IAF members who share the values and goals of our, along with a commitment to arrange an important international event to advance our profession, may apply to host our global conference. These name people and their team will need to have the strategic means (mostly human resources and available locations) to organize a 3-4 day conference for an average of 350-500 participants.

Officially recognized Chapters or Special Interest Groups are specially encouraged to host.

WHAT DO WE DO?

The IAF at a will provide an experienced conference committee from our board that will support the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and the Global Content Team in charge of the academic part of the event. We also have developed a Conference Manual to assist with the most common questions and practical issues and to help harmonize our different events. For the conference itself, the IAF typically provides seed funds that are recovered at the end of the event.

SOME CONSIDERATIONS

The conference is a non-profit event. As such, the money that derives from the conference registration revenue is re-invested to offer to our participants the best opportunities and experiences for research and professional advancement. Because of this, we encourage conference hosts to mobilize local resources to support the conference costs and enrich the conference experiences of our members. Examples of local resources include university provisions for discounted on-campus housing, local government and charitable organization grants to support conference programming, discounts at local restaurants, sponsorship of social events for conference attendees, etc.

The IAF Global Conference takes place over 3-4 days, for the 2020 Conference we are aiming to do it between September and October 2020, possibly even during International Facilitation Week. Our preference is for a 3-day conference; however, if you have a compelling reason for adding a day (or a portion of a day), the conference committee is open to the possibility of extending the meeting into a fourth day.

Candidates willing to host our 2020 IAF Global Conference are kindly asked to submit a proposal submission (information below). The Steering Committee will carefully review each proposal.

The official language of the event is English, however conference tracks in the local language are encouraged to provide diversity and expansion of our profession. Simultaneous translation in other languages for specific sessions (keynotes, specific workshops, etc.) is encouraged.

Before and during the event the following activities are expected to happen: Facilitation Impact Awards Ceremony, CPF Assessment, IAF Annual General Meeting (including online connectivity) and the Annual IAF Board Meeting.

DEADLINE

For 2020 conference: December 29, 2018 Send all proposals to: office@iaf-world.org



CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING PROPOSALS

The IAF Conference Steering Committee will use the following criteria in evaluating proposals:

Conference organizers – Local Team

- Have they been active and contributing members of the IAF community?
- Do they have all the important roles covered? And enough people involved to make it manageable?
- What experience do they have with conference organizing?
- How many volunteers the local team has to provide support to the event?
- How strong does the support of local institutions appear to be?

Location

- Is the proposed location desirable and accessible for IAF members?
- How convenient and affordable is travel for both domestic and overseas participants?
- Does it bring the conference to a new location?
- Is the place likely to attract new participants to the conference?

Facilities (information not indispensable but recommended)

- Is inexpensive housing available for graduate students and others with limited budgets?
- Are there sites or opportunities for special conference events (banquets, social events) that have special appeal?
- Is the proposed hosting site and meeting facilities suited to host up to 20-25 simultaneous workshop sessions in an appropriate environment for facilitated sessions?

Dates

- Are the recommended dates within the acceptable range for the conference?
- Have the organizers checked for potential conflicts with other competing conferences?
- If the dates are outside the range, is the organizers argument for those dates compelling?

Finances

- Do the organizers have a tentative plan for pursuing local resources to support expenses and enrich the conference experience?