



**Celebrates its 20th Anniversary With a National Conference
ADVANCING CLIMATE JUSTICE: TRANSFORMING THE
ECONOMY, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND OUR ENVIRONMENT**

January 29th -30th, 2009

Fordham University School of Law, New York, NY

**CALL FOR PAPERS
(Abstract Submission Deadline Extended)**

WE ACT for Environmental Justice along with cosponsors Fordham Law School Louis Stein Center for Law and Ethics, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the NIEHS Center for Environmental Health in Northern Manhattan, and the New York University Law School's Environmental Law Society announce an international call for abstracts of papers to be presented at our 20th Anniversary Conference: **Advancing Climate Justice: Transforming the Economy, Public Health & Our Environment** on January 29 – 30, 2009 at Fordham Law School's Pope Auditorium in New York City. Abstract submissions are invited for reports and papers to be published in the conference primer. Submissions can include work that is unpublished and original work that has been previously published.

WE ACT for Environmental Justice (WE ACT) is a non-profit, community-based, environmental justice (EJ) organization dedicated to building community power to fight environmental racism and improve environmental health, protection and policy in communities of color. Over the past 20 years, the organization has become a leader in the nationwide movement for environmental justice, influencing the creation of federal, state and local policies affecting the environment and public health.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

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| ▪ October 6, 2008 | Deadline for abstract submissions. |
| ▪ October 20, 2008 | Notification of acceptance of abstracts. |
| ▪ December 20, 2008 | Final submission of papers and reports to be published. |

TOPIC AREAS

Research can be submitted on any of the following broad topics:

- Climate justice and economics
- Climate justice and public health
- Climate justice case studies
- Any combination thereof

To assist with research formation and submission, a more detailed list of potential themes is included below. These themes all fall within one or more of the broad topic areas listed above. Papers, reports, presentations and posters are invited on any of the four (4) listed topic areas and any of the following named themes and topics, or a combination thereof:

1. Climate Change, Public Health and Environmental Justice:
 - Historic land use patterns;
 - Development and future land use opportunity in a climate changing world;
 - Public health in urban, suburban and/or rural EJ communities;
 - Public health response to “natural disasters”;

- Emergency preparedness;
- Disaster preparedness around current climate changes in EJ communities;
- Food shortages as a current and/or future public health crisis;
- Access to health care in EJ communities;
- Public assistance coverage and availability;
- Public health implications of housing needs in a changing climate;
- Disease vulnerability (respiratory diseases, vector-borne diseases, pest-borne diseases, disease migration, disease susceptibility, etc);
- Mental health;
- Public health implications of alternative fuel development;
- International public health impacts;
- Public health case studies: EJ and climate change in New Orleans, Myanmar;
- Preparing communities for a future of climate instability and associated impacts; and
- Education and outreach programs/efforts necessary to address climate instability.

2. Climate Change, the Economy and Environmental Justice:

- Broad economic impacts and opportunities created by climate change;
- Resource shortages;
- Efficiency measures (energy, water, etc);
- Transitioning to a green economy;
- Energy dependency;
- Alternative energy sources;
- Impacts on fixed-income residents;
- Government subsidy initiatives;
- Insurance access and availability;
- Transportation opportunities and impacts;
- International development;
- Environmental preservation;
- Sustainable communities (urban, rural and/or suburban);
- Public policy and the climate change economy;
- Economic impacts and opportunities of carbon reduction strategies (cap and trade, carbon tax, regulation, etc);
- Adaptation responses;
- Enhancement of the EJ community voice through policy; and
- Building connections with other social justice movements to address global crisis of climate change in a collaborative manner.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Abstracts must be written in English.
2. Abstract text should not exceed 250 words and may not include images, charts or tables.
3. Abstracts can be submitted through after September 2, 2008 through an online portal at www.weact.org/conference , email to ogonnaya@weact.org , fax (212-961-1015) or mail to:
 Scientific Advisory Group – Abstract Review Committee
 WE ACT for Environmental Justice
 271 W. 125th Street, Suite 308
 New York, NY 10027
4. Authors are strongly encouraged to use the on-line submission form.
5. All abstracts will receive an electronic receipt upon arrival. If a receipt fails to follow submission, abstracts should be re-submitted.
6. Authors will be notified of acceptance by October 20, 2008 via email.
7. Accepted oral and poster presentations must submit a draft of their paper by November 20, 2008, 12 am EDT. Final presentations to be included in the conference primer are due by December 20, 2008, 12 am EST.
8. Final versions of accepted papers and reports to be included in the conference primer must be submitted by December 20, 2008, 12 am EST.
9. An individual or organization may submit more than one abstract.
10. Abstracts are permitted on research, reports, posters or presentations that have been submitted and/or published elsewhere.
11. Primary consideration will be given to original research.
12. Abstracts must include a cover sheet providing the following information:

- a. The title of the paper, presentation or poster;
- b. The name(s) and title(s) of the submitting author(s);
- c. A short biography of each author;
- d. The name of the sponsoring institution (if any);
- e. Contact information for each author (mailing address, e-mail address, phone number, fax number);
- f. Preferred format of the presentation (oral, poster, etc).

GENERAL RULES FOR PAPER SUBMISSIONS

1. All papers must be written in English.
2. Abstracts and papers will be reviewed by the Scientific Advisory Group.
3. Consideration will be based on content. Papers and presentations will be judged on the following criteria:
 - a. Relevance
 - b. Originality/Innovativeness
 - c. Clarity
 - d. Technical Quality
4. Deadline for final submission of papers to be published in the conference primer is December 20, 2008, 12 am EST.
5. All selected presenters and authors receiving publication in the conference primer must register as conference delegates and pay the registration fee.
6. For paper consideration, participants may submit a hard copy or electronic copy. Authors are encouraged to keep an original version of their submitted manuscripts.
7. The Conference Abstract Committee reserves the right to accept or refuse an abstract, to designate papers either as oral or poster presentation, and to choose a suitable session for the abstract.

PROCEEDINGS

The Conference Abstract Committee reserves the right to publish the abstract in the final conference primer, conference proceedings, or any other medium that is found to be suitable.

For further information, please feel free to contact Ogonnaya Dotson-Newman via phone at 212-961-1000 ext. 315 or email at Ogonnaya@weact.org

WE ACT for Environmental Justice

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WE ACT for Environmental Justice (West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc.) is a non-profit, community-based, environmental justice organization dedicated to building community power to fight environmental racism and improve environmental health, protection and policy in communities of color.

As a result of our ongoing work to educate and mobilize the more than 600,000 residents of Northern Manhattan on environmental justice issues affecting their quality of life, WE ACT has become a leader in the nationwide movement for environmental justice, influencing the creation of federal, state and local policies affecting the environment.