

Application deadline: 6 July 2026

Workshop invitation and partial-sponsorship opportunities

Behavioural Insights for Better Waste Management - Project Mid-Term Workshop Programme

Osaka, Japan | 14–16 September 2026

The Global Environment Centre Foundation (GEC) warmly invites individuals and organisations interested in participating in the Mid-Term Workshop Programme of its project, [Behavioural Insights for Better Waste Management](#). Implemented in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme International Environmental Technology Centre (UNEP-IETC) and funded by Lloyd's Register Foundation, the project aims to deepen understanding of the behavioural, social and contextual drivers that shape waste-related practices. The workshop is being organised by GEC Foundation in collaboration with Osaka City and Osaka Metropolitan University, and represents an opportunity to review progress, discuss emerging findings, exchange experiences, and strengthen collaboration among policymakers, researchers, practitioners, and other stakeholders working on waste management and behaviour change.

[Link to workshop draft concept Note](#)

We particularly encourage applications from individuals and organisations that can contribute to the programme through:

- presentations of ongoing or completed work or research related to the topic;
- case studies, pilot initiatives or community experiences;
- proposed interventions or contributions to thematic discussions; and/or
- proposals to lead or co-lead a session on a relevant topic.

The primary audience sought for the event includes (in order of priority):

1. Policymakers
2. Researchers
3. Waste workers and community-led initiatives focused on waste management and recycling
4. Social behaviour practitioners
5. NGOs and not-for-profit organisations
6. Think-tanks
7. International cooperation organisations

Here's the notes for your application.

Support for Participation

Sponsorship vouchers will be available to support selected participants with part of their costs associated with attending the event. This will be limited to around 10 sponsored slots, with different amounts depending on the region participants are coming from, as specified below:

- **USD 700** for participants from **Latin America and the Caribbean**
- **USD 550** for participants from **Africa**
- **USD 300** for participants from **Asia, OECD member countries and other regions**

Note: This payment is subject to income tax.

Countries with which a tax treaty has been concluded → The tax rate varies depending on the terms of the bilateral tax treaty.

Countries with which no tax treaty has been concluded → **A fixed tax rate of 20.42%** will be deducted from the payment.

Selection criteria

Applications will be assessed against:

- relevance to the workshop themes;
- potential contribution to the programme;
- diversity of perspectives and stakeholder representation, with special consideration of applicants from minority and underrepresented groups, including women, informal waste workers and persons with disabilities;
- geographic balance with priority given to applicants from low- and middle-income countries;
- alignment with the priority groups listed above; and
- overall fit with the objectives of the workshop.

Only one application will be accepted per individual or entity.

Important conditions for sponsored participants

The sponsorship is intended as **partial financial support** only, and participants selected for voucher support will be **fully responsible** for:

- arranging their own travel;
- booking and covering their own accommodation;
- handling all travel, logistical and operational preparation related to their participation, including travel to and from Osaka, Japan and arrangements during the event, as well as insurances, visas and any required travel documentation, where applicable.

The vouchers (the equivalent amount) will be paid in cash in Japanese yen **during the event**.

*NOTE: Applicants who are **not selected for sponsorship** are still welcome to participate in the event **at their own cost**, subject to space and programme considerations.*

Indicative thematic focus

The workshop will focus on behavioural insights and waste management, including themes such as:

- behavioural drivers influencing waste disposal practices;
- policies embedding behaviour change instruments, especially in environmental and waste management spheres;
- behavioural science applied to environmental policies and waste management regulations;
- gender and social dimensions of behaviour change in waste disposal and recycling; and
- innovative practices and emerging research on behavioural science and waste management.

Applications

Applicants are required to provide information about their organisation, area of work, proposed contribution to the programme, and whether they wish to be considered for voucher support, through the application form available at [this link](#)

Deadline

Deadline for the application: 6 JULY 2026

Notification of results

Selected applicants will be informed by email within two weeks of the application deadline.

Language

The primary language of the workshop will be **English**. Japanese-English interpretation will be provided for specific sessions and during site visits, as required.

What to submit

Interested applicants are invited to submit:

1. **A short expression of interest** explaining:
 - who you are / your organisation,
 - your area of work,
 - why you would like to participate, and
 - how your participation would contribute to the workshop. (maximum 200 words)
2. **A proposal for a contribution to the programme**, which may include:
 - a presentation,
 - a case study or showcase,
 - an intervention in a thematic discussion, and/or

- a proposal to lead or co-lead a session on a specific topic.
3. **If requesting voucher support**, please also indicate:
- your country of residence,
 - whether you are applying for sponsorship,
 - which stakeholder category best describes you,
 - whether you belong to any priority group(s), if you wish to disclose this,
 - and an estimate of your anticipated participation costs.

Important Conditions

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted by GEC Foundation via the email address provided in their application. Applicants who are not selected will not receive individual notification, and no feedback will be provided.

Depending on the volume and nature of applications received, GEC reserves the right to conduct a short online interview with shortlisted candidates prior to finalizing sponsored participant selection. Where required, interviews will be conducted in English and scheduled within the notification period.

Once a participant has been confirmed as a sponsored participant, cancellation of participation is strongly discouraged. If a confirmed participant must withdraw, they are required to notify GEC as soon as possible.

Sponsorship vouchers will not be disbursed to participants who do not attend the event. GEC reserves the right to reallocate the sponsorship slot to an alternate applicant in the event of cancellation.

Personal information submitted through the application form will be used solely for the purposes of participant selection and event organization, and will be handled in accordance with GEC Foundation's data protection policy.

GEC reserves the right to modify the program, dates, or format of the event in response to circumstances beyond its control. In such cases, confirmed participants will be notified as promptly as possible.

Contact

The workshop is being co-organised by **GEC, with collaboration with UNEP-IETC, Osaka City and Osaka Metropolitan University (tbc).**

Contact:

osakasep@gec.jp

Workshop Secretariat

Global Environment Centre (GEC)

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