Call for expression of interest for hosting the 15th EES Biennial Conference in 2024

The European Evaluation Society (EES) is calling for expressions of interest in hosting the 15th EES Biennial Conference in 2024.

The Biennial EES Conference is a unique event and, together with notably, the American Evaluation Association, the African Evaluation Association and the Canadian Evaluation Society Conferences, is considered to be one of the most important platforms for discussing policy and programme evaluation issues worldwide. The Conference brings together evaluators, academics and policymakers to discuss current issues in evaluation theory, methodology and practice.

The Conference will take place over 5 days (Monday through to Friday) on dates yet to be determined between the beginning of September and the beginning of October 2024. The event comprises a main conference event of 3 days plus 2 days of professional development workshops. The Conference anticipates around 600 delegates. The event is planned as a face to face conference but we aim to explore the possibility of live streaming and recording of some or even all sessions. Previous EES Conferences were held in Copenhagen (2022), Thessaloniki (2018), Maastricht (2016), Dublin (2014), Helsinki (2012) and Prague (2010). The 2022 Copenhagen Conference theme was ‘Evaluation at a Watershed: Actions and Shifting Paradigms for Challenging Times’. Further information about this conference can be found here.

Requirements

For your application to be considered, the expression of interest should contain information on ALL the following six selection criteria:

1. Location – attractiveness, cost and accessibility of the city.

2. Venue – the existence of a suitable convention centre, i.e. which imperatively obeys to the following 8 requirements:

   a. Ability to host up to 800 delegates
   b. Availability of at least 8 rooms for parallel sessions with a capacity for at least 50 delegates and of which at least one is larger with a capacity for over 100 delegates
   c. Availability of at least 5 rooms for up to 30 delegates for parallel sessions
   d. Availability of a plenary hall that can accommodate at least 550 delegates
   e. Availability of IT facilities and infrastructure capable of screening presentations via digital devices to all session rooms plus facilities for live streaming and recording a high proportion of sessions. The potential to service full hybrid options would be an advantage
   f. Proximity to suitable hotels with the potential availability of 600 rooms in different price ranges
   g. Proximity to a railway station with links to the EU-wide rail network and proximity to an international airport with good connections to all major European destinations and beyond
h. **Possibilities for greening the conference – commitment to sustainability**

3. Local support – endorsements of local support to the conference e.g. by regional or national governments.

4. Sponsorship potential – an indication of the potential for public (local, regional, national) and private sponsorship.

5. National evaluation society – the existence of an evaluation group/society in the country/city, or a clear intention to establish one, accompanied by a description of the potential for the EES Conference to further boost this evaluation group/society.

6. Capacity development – potential for the EES Conference to further support the development of quality evaluation practices in the country or region.

EES conferences are co-organised by the EES Board (through a specifically established Conference Committee) in co-operation with a core Professional Congress Organiser (PCO) and with the support of the EES Association Management Company. Representatives from the host country (e.g. members of the national evaluation society) are normally involved e.g. in the development of the programme of the conference, fundraising, local events and communication.

**Selection procedure**

The expressions of interest will be reviewed by the EES Board, or an ad-hoc committee.

Expressions of interest shall be submitted to secretariat@europeanevaluation.org no later than 7th December 2022 at Midnight CET. Expressions of interest sent beyond this date and time will not be considered.

Submissions should cover ALL the above 6 selection criteria. The document should not exceed 3 pages (A4 format), but any attachments that are relevant to the application can be added.

Out of the eligible candidates, a shortlist will be established and further negotiations may follow if more than one candidate is shortlisted.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact secretariat@europeanevaluation.org.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Ling (EES President) and May Pettigrew (EES Vice President)