

Guidelines for the organization of the World Congress on Energy Geostructures

Guideline n. II - Conference

1. Purpose and status of the WCEG

The World Congress on Energy Geostructures (WCEG) is the official international scientific meeting of the International Society for Energy Geostructures (ISEG).

The WCEG supports the Society's objectives as defined in the Statutes, including:

- Promotion of international collaboration in energy geostructures.
- Dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge.
- Strengthening of multidisciplinary networks.
- Promotion of high professional and scientific standards.

The WCEG shall be conducted in accordance with the ISEG Statutes and any applicable By-laws. In case of conflict, the Statutes prevail.

The official language of the WCEG shall be English.

2. Frequency and duration

WCEG shall normally be organized annually.

The typical duration is 1–3 days.

3. Call for hosting proposals

3.1 Continuous Call for hosting proposals

The call for proposals to host WCEG shall remain permanently open.

Institutions or groups wishing to host the WCEG in year n must submit their proposal no later than one month before the WCEG held in year $n-2$.

Proposals received after this deadline shall be considered for subsequent editions.

On behalf of the Executive Board the Secretary General shall confirm receipt of the proposal and communicate the evaluation timeline to the applicants.

3.2 Eligibility

Proposals may be submitted by:

- Individual Members of ISEG in good standing

- Academic institutions, research organizations, or professional bodies represented by an Individual Member
- Groups of members forming a consortium

At least one member of the proposed Local Organising Committee (LOC) must be an Individual Member of ISEG.

3.3 Required contents of the proposal

The hosting proposal may include:

- Host Institution(s)
 - Name, location, and institutional commitment
- Conference Chair and Leadership Team
 - Proposed Conference Chair
 - Proposed LOC
 - Preliminary Scientific Committee structure
- Proposed Dates and Venue
 - Venue description and capacity
 - Accessibility and transport links
- Scientific Vision and Theme
 - Proposed main theme
 - Key topic areas
 - Alignment with ISEG mission
- Preliminary Budget
 - Estimated income (registration fees, sponsorship, grants)
 - Estimated expenses
 - Registration fee structure
 - Risk assessment
 - Sponsorship and Industry Engagement Plan
 - Student and Early Career Support Plan
- Sustainability and Inclusivity Measures

4. Evaluation and award procedure

4.1 Eligibility for Evaluation

Only proposals submitted in accordance with Section 3.1 shall be eligible for selection of the WCEG to be held in year $n+2$.

4.2 Evaluation Process

The Executive Board shall evaluate all eligible proposals prior to and/or during the WCEG of year n .

Evaluation shall be based on:

- Scientific vision and alignment with the ISEG mission
- Organizational capacity and experience of the proposed team

- Financial feasibility and risk assessment
- Geographic balance and international representation
- Accessibility and inclusiveness
- Long-term benefit to the Society

The Board may request clarifications or short presentations from bidding teams. When appropriate, candidate hosts may be invited to briefly present their proposal during the WCEG of year n .

4.3 Geographic Rotation

In order to promote the international character of the Society and ensure broad global participation, the Executive Board shall give due consideration to geographic rotation of the WCEG location across different world regions.

While geographic balance shall not constitute a binding rule, it shall be regarded as a strategic objective in the selection process, provided that proposals meet the required scientific, organizational, and financial standards.

4.4 Decision

The host of the WCEG for year $n+2$ shall be selected by the Executive Board during the WCEG held in year n .

The decision shall be made through anonymous voting and shall require a simple majority of votes cast. In the event of a tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

The decision of the Executive Board shall be final.

The selected host institution shall receive formal written confirmation following the WCEG.

5. Governance and responsibilities

5.1 Role of the Executive Board

The ISEG Executive Board shall:

- Provide oversight and strategic guidance
- Approve the final budget
- Approve registration fee levels
- Approve major contractual commitments
- Monitor financial and organizational progress

5.2 Conference Chair

The Conference Chair:

- Has overall responsibility for delivery of the Congress
- Acts as primary liaison with the Executive Board
- Ensures compliance with ISEG Statutes and Guidelines

5.3 Local Organising Committee (LOC)

The LOC is responsible for:

- Venue and logistics
- Registration management
- Sponsorship management
- Local promotion
- On-site operations
- Day-to-day organization
- Financial administration

5.4 Scientific Committee

The Scientific Committee:

- Defines technical program structure
- Manages peer review process
- Selects invited speakers
- Ensures quality, diversity, and international representation

6. Technical program

The Technical Programme of the WCEG shall reflect the scientific mission of the International Society for Energy Geostructures and promote excellence, innovation, and international collaboration in the field.

Invited speakers and contributed papers shall be selected based on technical merit, diversity, and international representation. All contributed papers shall undergo peer review.

The technical programme may include:

- Invited Lectures
- Oral paper presentations
- Poster sessions
- Panel discussions

Optional associated events may include:

- Short courses
- Workshops
- Industry forums and exhibitions
- Student activities
- Technical site visits

7. Publication and proceedings

Proceedings may be published as:

- Printed and/or electronic conference proceedings

- Special issue in a peer-reviewed journal
- Indexed digital repository

Copyright and publication agreements shall be clearly defined.

English is the official language for submissions and presentations.

8. Financial management and registration policy

8.1 Non-profit principle

The conference shall operate on a non-profit basis.

Any financial surplus shall be:

- Transferred to ISEG, or
- Allocated as agreed in advance with the Executive Board

8.2 Registration fees

Registration fees shall:

- Be reasonable, affordable and aligned with comparable scientific conferences
- Include reduced fees for:
 - Students
 - Early-career researchers
 - Participants from low- and middle-income countries

Early-bird registration should be offered.

8.3 ISEG contribution

A contribution of 10% of total registration income shall be transferred to ISEG, unless otherwise agreed by the Executive Board.

8.4 Budget approval and monitoring

A detailed budget must be approved by the Executive Board at least 9 months before the conference.

Periodic financial updates shall be provided.

8.5 Financial risk

ISEG shall not assume financial liability unless explicitly approved in writing by the Executive Board.

Seed funding, if provided by ISEG, shall be treated as a recoverable advance unless otherwise decided.

9. Sponsorship and industry engagement

The LOC may secure sponsorships consistent with ISEG's mission.

Sponsorship agreements shall:

- Preserve scientific independence
- Be transparent
- Avoid conflicts of interest

10. Student and early career engagement

Where funding permits, the conference shall include:

- Travel grants
- Best paper/poster awards
- Mentoring or networking events
- Dedicated student sessions

11. Communication and branding

The conference shall use official ISEG branding.

Major announcements shall be coordinated with the ISEG Executive Board.

The ISEG logo shall appear on all official materials.

12. Ethical standards

The conference shall adhere to principles of:

- Scientific integrity
- Non-discrimination
- Inclusion and diversity
- Professional conduct

13. Extraordinary circumstances

In the event of natural disasters, political instability, public health emergencies or other force majeure events, the Executive Board shall determine appropriate actions, including: postponement, relocation, conversion to hybrid or online format, cancellation.

Financial risk mitigation measures shall be implemented.

14. Final Report

Within three months after the WCEG, the Conference Chair shall submit a Final Report to the Executive Board including:

- Attendance statistics
- Geographic and gender distribution
- Financial statement
- Sponsorship summary
- Summary of scientific program
- Recommendations for future conferences

Approved on 30/4/2026