

2017



INTERNATIONAL
CIVIL SOCIETY WEEK

OUR PLANET. OUR STRUGGLES. OUR FUTURE.



4-8 DECEMBER, SUVA, FIJI

Today we live in a world where there are multiple existential threats to our planet and our rights. However, there is also a growing feeling of solidarity among those committed to human rights and social justice, and a greater recognition than ever before that we must come together, organise and take action to build a more equal, just, sustainable and liveable world for everyone. In this context, CIVICUS and the Pacific Islands Association of NGOs (PIANGO) have partnered to organise International Civil Society Week 2017 in Suva, Fiji, around the theme “**Our Planet. Our Struggles. Our Future**”.

International Civil Society Week (ICSW) is a key global gathering for civil society and other stakeholders to engage constructively in finding common solutions to global challenges. ICSW utilises a partnered approach, in which multiple organisations pool their resources to convene a diverse international group of leaders in civil society issues.

Holding ICSW in Suva, Fiji, highlights the effects of climate change on small islands and provides an ideal forum for civil society to meet and discuss climate and social justice within the framework of Agenda 2030 and the Leave No-one Behind commitment central to its delivery. It affords delegates a unique opportunity to better understand the context of those on the frontlines of climate change, while also bridging local and regional efforts to key intergovernmental and multilateral engagements on climate change, including the UN Oceans Conference in New York and the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 23) in Bonn (both co-hosted by Fiji). ICSW 2017 will be held at the University of the South Pacific, a leader on innovation for sustainable development of the Pacific Island Countries.

Given the environmental considerations of holding an international event in Suva, Fiji, organisers will make a contribution towards carbon-offsetting for each delegate in attendance. Additionally, organisers will apply a wide-range of planet friendly conferencing approaches . from locally sourcing food and materials, to going paperless. Finally, more than 10 events branded as ICSW/local will take place under the banner of ICSW in diverse regions around the world in the months leading up to ICSW 2017 to broaden global representation and strengthen the voices of civil society from under-represented regions.

THEMATIC TRACKS

All ICSW events will align to the theme “**Our Planet. Our Struggles. Our Future**” and contribute to one or more of the following programme tracks:

- **Our Planet:** Our planet and its bio-diversity are under threat, and it is often excluded people that face the most severe and unjust consequences. Events in this track will explore how innovation and good practice are vital to realising environmental sustainability, the Paris Climate Agreement and Agenda 2030.
- **Our Struggles:** A global crisis of democracy and a clampdown on people’s rights are affecting the progress of our social justice struggles. Events in this track will explore trends in civic space and political participation.
- **Our Future:** Civil society is organising and responding to the crises facing us in powerful new ways to create the future we want. Events in this track will consider how we can support the next generation leaders and build solidarity across diverse movements, mobilisations and initiatives.

PROGRAMME

ICSW-related events will commence in September with the initiation of ICSW/local events, and conclude with the global gathering in Suva, Fiji, taking place over a five-day period in December. Below is an overview of the ICSW 2017 programme.

September – November 2017:	(10) ICSW/local events in diverse regions
4 December 2017:	Youth Assembly Experiential Activities Welcoming Ceremony
5 December 2017:	Morning Session, (6) concurrent events Afternoon Session, (6) concurrent events Civil Society Festival
6 December 2017:	Morning Session, (6) concurrent events Afternoon Session, (6) concurrent events Civil Society Festival
7 December 2017:	CIVICUS World Assembly Closing Reception
8 December 2017:	Closed Side Events

For more information on International Civil Society Week 2017, please visit www.civicus.org/icsw or write to us at icsw@civicus.org.