



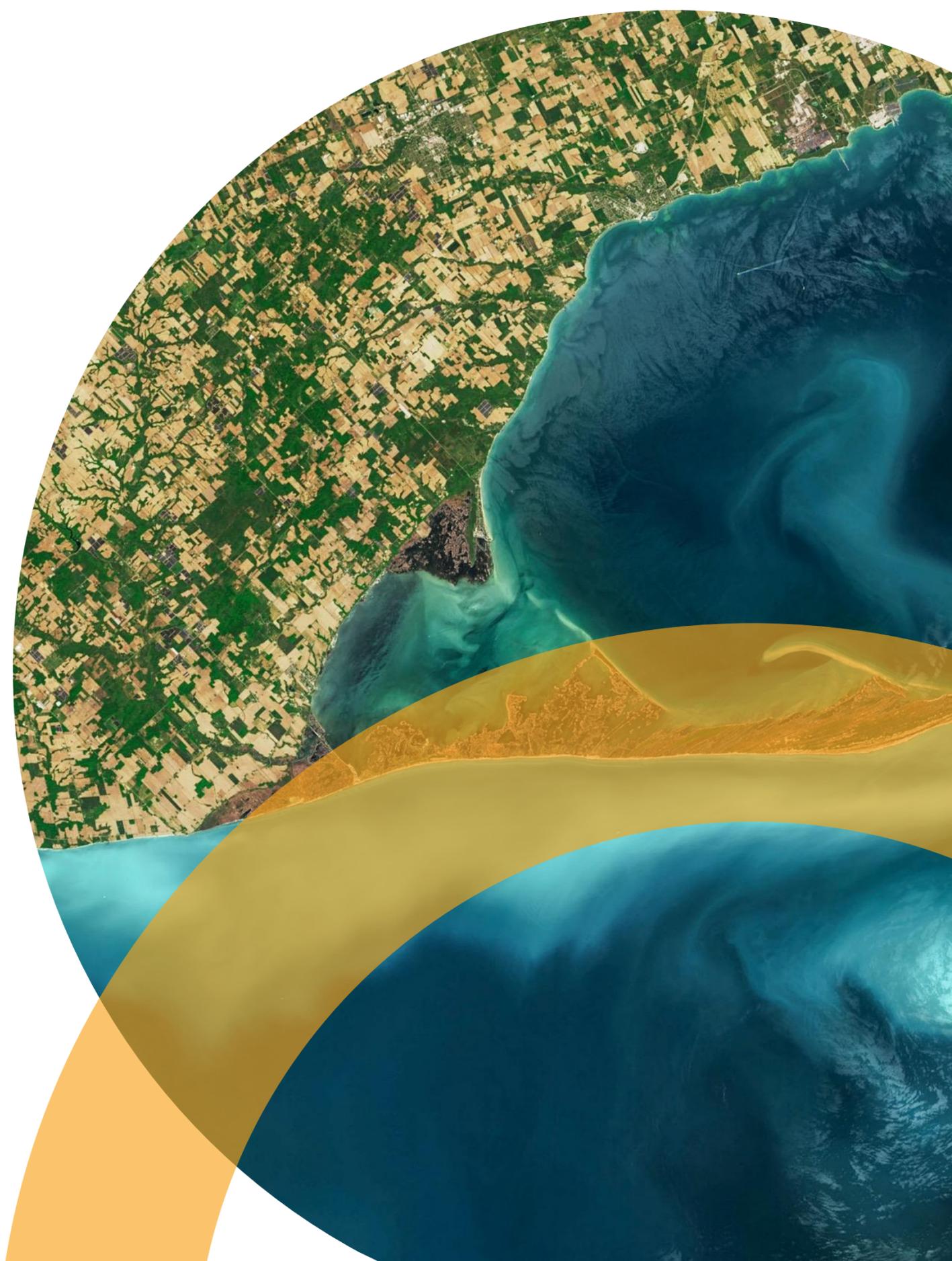
**BUILDING
BRIDGES**

2026
6-8 OCT
GENEVA

Building Bridges 2026

GUIDELINES - CALL FOR ACTION EVENT PROPOSALS

FEBRUARY 2026



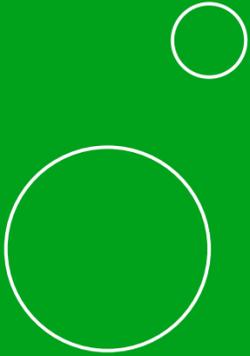


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ABOUT BUILDING BRIDGES



VISION

The goal of Building Bridges is to **accelerate the transition to a global economic model aligned with the needs of a sustainable and just society**, as articulated in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Climate Agreement, and other relevant national and international agreements.

At the core of the initiative is the recognition that **the scale and complexity of the transition requires "building bridges"** between the multiple stakeholders of finance, government, and sustainable development communities.



ABOUT

Building Bridges is a **community-driven initiative** that is focused on accelerating the transition to a **sustainable financial system**.

Leveraging the uniqueness of Switzerland having a **global hub for multilateralism and a world-class financial centre**, Building Bridges engages diverse actors from the finance industry, the United Nations, NGOs, academia, and local, cantonal, and national authorities together in collaboration around a common vision.

Building Bridges is more of a catalyst than an event. It is a platform to come together but it is built on ongoing action. It is a space to launch new initiatives, build partnerships, and have critical conversations that advance solutions in both policy and practice.



Building Bridges 2026

Oct 6–8, CICG, Geneva

Summit, Plenaries, Action Events, Solutions Stage, Networking

Finance is evolving and so are the opportunities to drive real impact. **Building Bridges 2026** will explore innovative solutions and investment opportunities in sustainable finance, taking time to dive into the most pressing challenges and enabling bridge-building between finance and development that enable new pathways for action.

From **high-level Summit and plenary** discussions to hands-on **Action Events, Solutions Stage** showcases, and dynamic Community **Networking**, there's something for everyone.



Building Bridges 2026

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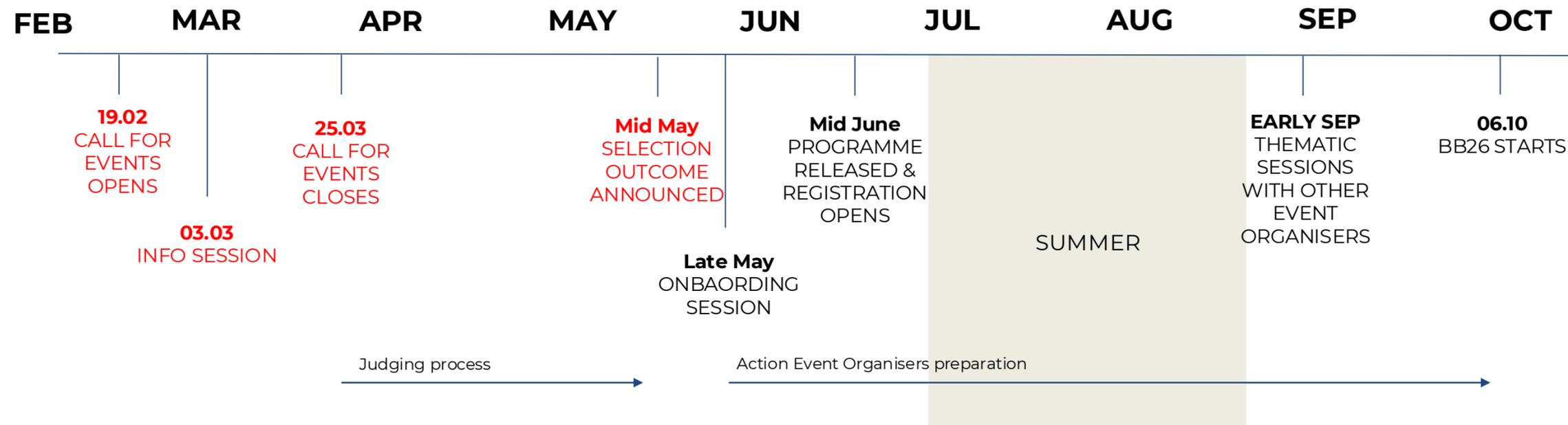
OVERVIEW: 3 full days & Summit open to all

	Tues 6 Oct	Wed 7 Oct	Thurs 8 Oct
Morning	Summit	Plenary	Plenary
Afternoon	Lunch	Action Events	Action Events
	Action Events		Closing Plenary
Evening	Opening Cocktail		Closing Cocktail

HOW TO SUBMIT AN EVENT APPLICATION



TIMELINE



PROCESS

Event organisers have from **February 19 to March 25, 2026**, to submit their event concepts to the Building Bridges Organising Committee.

Should you have any further question after the info session, please **do not wait until the last minute to ask** them, but feel free to reach out anytime.

After the submission deadline, all events will be assessed by a **selection committee**, and a complete programme will be constructed. **By mid-May, anyone who submitted an event will be notified** if their event has been selected for the Building Bridges 2026 programme.

IMPORTANT INFO

Any type of organisation that aims to advance sustainability in finance are welcome to apply (public & private financial institutions, non-profit, governmental, multilateral, academia, corporate, etc.).

Building Bridges is an **internationally-focused event**, and therefore we welcome event applications from organisers based anywhere in the world.

Events are included in the official Building Bridges programme and will be open to anyone who is **registered** to attend Building Bridges. Private rooms are also made available for private meetings, but those are not part of the official programme.

To maximise diversity and to hear as many voices as possible, we'll allow **each organisation to apply only for one event as lead organiser.**



EVALUATION CRITERIA – CONTENT

Innovation and Investment Opportunities in Sustainable Finance

Your event must be about **sustainable finance and/or financing the SDGs**. Our focus is on **accelerating the transformation of the financial sector**, particularly in how private capital is directed toward positive social and environmental impact.

We are **open to any themes around finance and sustainability** (climate, nature, social, innovative finance, emerging markets, impact investing, etc) but across themes, the two areas of focus described below have been identified as **key to drive meaningful and concrete change**.

Showcase solutions & innovations

We want to stress the concept of action. We will give priority to events that showcase innovative, scalable and replicable solutions that concretely support capital flows to be channelled where it is needed for a more sustainable world.

Mobilise capital

Focus on mobilising or directing capital as opposed to exclusively general awareness or advocacy (i.e., we are less interested in generic panels if they're not clearly about capital flows or investability).

Demonstrate Bridge Building

Collaboration is key to address current challenges. We are interested in events that showcase collaboration across the investment value chain, within and most importantly, across sectors.

EVALUATION CRITERIA - FORMAT

In addition to the **quality of the topic**, here are the other criteria your application will be assessed against.

Diversity of partners / stakeholders

We would like to see events planned by more than one organisation, and preferably organisations of different types (e.g., public and private finance or NGOs and corporates). We will also consider stakeholder diversity (e.g., diversity of organizations and speakers involved).

Interactive Format

Formats that enhance interaction and engagement are key to drive change. We'll favour interactive formats that encourage bridge building between participants (e.g., workshops, trainings, discussions, fishbowls), and we'll have lesser slots for panels.

Excluding criteria

If an event is too promotional (particularly commercially), it will automatically be excluded.

WHAT WE OFFER & WHAT WE ASK

WHAT DOES BUILDING BRIDGES PROVIDE to selected events ?

- **Diverse and high-level audience**
- **Basic Event Infrastructure**
 - Water, coffee, snacks
 - Basic IT (mics, screen, etc)
 - Registration system
 - Security and room monitoring
 - Livestream (only where relevant – rooms A/B)
- **Promotion** of Action Events within the Building Bridges programme to attract audience / attendees and **brand visibility**.
- **7 Tickets to Building Bridges (for speakers and organisers)**
- **Session's notes, Attendance list, Photos**

WHAT EVENT ORGANISERS PROVIDE ?

- **Event concept and organization**
 - Developing agenda, session flow, etc.
 - Coordinating and preparing speakers
 - Preparing Material
- **1,000 CHF fee for non-profit orgs & start ups**
- **3,000 CHF fee for for-profit orgs**
- **Promotion** of Building Bridges 2026 to their networks and communities
- **Any extra or additional costs** such as travel for speakers or dedicated photographer

ROOMS & FORMATS



ROOMS & FORMAT

Theater or classroom

Suitable for

- **Panel discussion**
- **Keynote presentation** (e.g., research or case study presentation)
- **Fireside chat** (an interactive discussion involving a moderator and guest)

Room A – 450+ PAX

Room B – 108 PAX



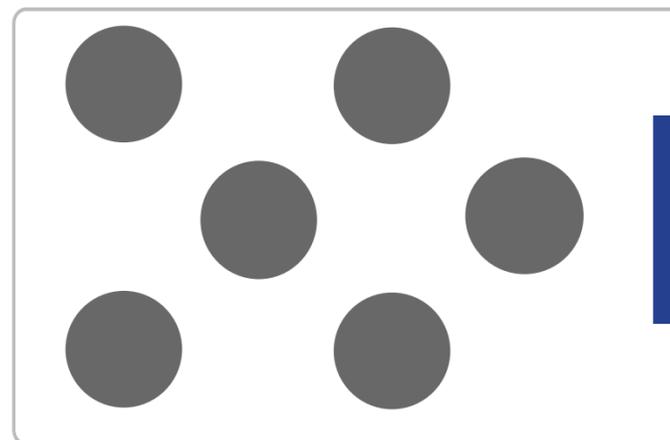
Roundtable Workshop

Suitable for

- **Workshop** (long interactive or educational session designed to create a specific result)
- **World Café** (simple and effective format to host a large group dialogue)
- **Open Space** (process allowing for a very interactive exchange)

Room C – 80 PAX

Room E & F – 64 PAX each

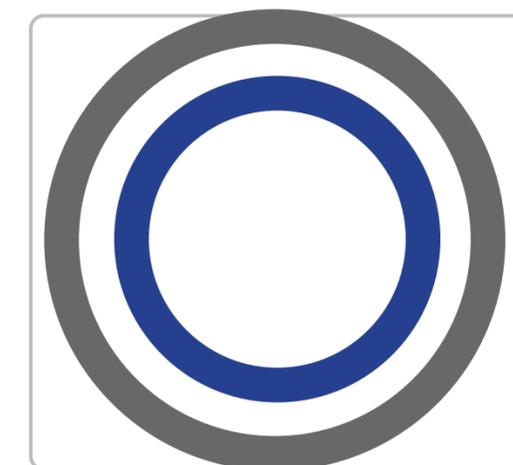


Fishbowl

Suitable for

- **Fishbowl** (a strategy for organizing medium to large discussions in which people in the inner circle have a discussion and people in the outer circle take notes ; roles can change as the discussion evolves)

Room 9 – 50 PAX



TIME SLOTS

The Building Bridges 2026 programme of Action Events begins on Tuesday afternoon, October 6 (after the Summit) and runs until Thursday afternoon, October 8. There will be sessions running throughout the day on Wednesday and Thursday.

The programme will offer two types of slots 60 or 90 minutes. Remember that often, less is more.

	Tues 6 Oct	Wed 7 Oct	Thurs 8 Oct
Morning	Summit	Plenary	Plenary
Afternoon	Lunch	Action Events	Action Events
	Action Events		Closing Plenary
Evening	Opening Cocktail		Closing Cocktail

Mockup for Wednesday 7 Oct

TIME	ROOM A (theater - 650 PAX)	ROOM B (classroom - 108 PAX)	ROOM C (theater - 108 PAX)	ROOM E (workshop - 64 PAX)	ROOM F (workshop - 64 PAX)	ROOM 9 (fishbowl - 50PAX)
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** This is a mockup, the actual programme of Building Bridges 2026 will look very different*

CHECKLIST

We have limited spots in the official programme, so it is important to make sure you are clear and specific about what you plan to do at your event. Note that you do not need to have speakers secured when you submit your event, we are primarily concerned with concept.

- Event topic and framing
- Format and agenda
- Categories and themes
- Partners or collaborators
- Potential speakers
- Key target audience(s)
- Description of solutions-orientation



SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

DEADLINE: March 25, 2026

EVENT SUBMISSION FORM

<https://airtable.com/appU7KwIFQuY3aiCQ/pagwYVayu9HhBjx1X/form>





**BUILDING
BRIDGES**

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GENEVA

Thank you

FEBRUARY 2026

ANY QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT

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