

## 2025 AUA Postgraduate Academic Forum on Planetary Health Early Career Researchers (AUA-PHECRs)

### CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

#### Introduction

Welcome to the 2025 AUA Postgraduate Academic Forum on Planetary Health Early Career Researchers (AUA-PHECRs) organised by Institute for Advanced Studies, Universiti Malaya. The conference will be held **hybrid** from **23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025**.

The theme of the forum is on planetary health focusing on research and innovation, policy and practice, and future-proofing ECRs through a series of keynote talk sessions, group discussions, oral and poster presentations, and workshops in a 4-day event. There will also be social and networking events to help ECRs expand their networking and collaboration circle and establish connections. Selected outstanding academic papers will be published in peer-reviewed academic journals as an outcome of the meeting.

#### Call for Papers

We invite submissions of ECRs from diverse academic backgrounds and research areas to submit abstracts for oral presentations on topics related to planetary health based on any topic relevant to the list of themes provided below.

Presentations will consist of a 20-minute talk followed by 10 minutes for questions and discussion. Submissions should present either complete research, or research in progress where at least some substantial results have been achieved.

#### Submission Guidelines:

- Submission must be from outstanding doctoral students from an AUA member university who have research work relevant to the theme or focus.
- Student should submit their curriculum vitae and research abstract UM via email to Dr. Fong Chng Saun, Co-chair AUA-PHECRs (fongcs92@um.edu.my).
- Abstracts should be no more than 300 words in length.
- Submissions must include a title, author(s) name(s), affiliation(s), and contact information.
- Abstracts should clearly state the research objectives, methods, results, and implications.
- Deadline for student submission: **15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

## **Key Themes**

The conference topics include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

### **1. Environmental Sustainability:**

- Sustainable land use and resource management
- Conservation biology and biodiversity protection
- Ecosystem restoration and resilience

### **2. Public Health and Planetary Health:**

- Climate change impacts on human health
- Infectious diseases and zoonotic disease transmission
- Access to clean water and sanitation

### **3. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation:**

- Mitigation strategies and policies for greenhouse gas emissions
- Adaptation measures for vulnerable communities and ecosystems
- Renewable energy and sustainable transportation solutions

### **4. Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems:**

- Agroecology and regenerative farming practices
- Food security and nutrition in a changing climate
- Sustainable food production and consumption patterns

### **5. Urbanization and Sustainable Cities:**

- Urban planning for resilience and sustainability
- Green infrastructure and urban biodiversity conservation
- Sustainable transportation and waste management in cities

### **6. Policy and Governance for Planetary Health:**

- Policy frameworks for sustainable development
- International cooperation and agreements on environmental issues
- Governance mechanisms for addressing planetary health challenges

### **7. Technology and Innovation for Planetary Health:**

- Remote sensing and GIS applications for environmental monitoring
- Emerging technologies for climate change mitigation and adaptation
- Digital platforms for citizen science and environmental education

### **8. Social Equity and Environmental Justice:**

- Intersectionality of environmental issues with social and economic factors
- Indigenous knowledge and community-based approaches to sustainability
- Environmental justice movements and advocacy for marginalized communities

#### **9. Education and Capacity Building:**

- Curriculum development for planetary health education
- Capacity building initiatives for ECRs in planetary health research
- Engaging youth and students in environmental activism and advocacy

#### **Publication Opportunities**

Nominated students will be required to submit their full paper after the confirmation of participation in the AUA-PHECRs. Selected outstanding academic papers will be published in peer-reviewed academic journals. All submissions must be in English. Manuscript submissions should follow the prescribed forum paper template which will be provided.

#### **Important Dates**

- Student Submission Deadline: **15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**
- Notification of Acceptance: **20<sup>th</sup> January 2025**
- Forum Dates: **23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

#### **Academic Forum Registration Fees**

Postgraduate students from universities under the AUA: **Free**

Join us at this exciting academic forum to explore the forefront of planetary health focusing on research and innovation, policy and practice, and future-proofing ECRs.

We look forward to receiving your submission and welcoming you to AUA-PHECRs 2025. All necessary documents such as the student's curriculum vitae, research abstract, and recommendation letter should be submitted to UM via email to Dr. Fong Chng Saun, Co-chair AUA-PHECRs ([fongcs92@um.edu.my](mailto:fongcs92@um.edu.my)).

For more information and updates, please contact the Conference Chair: Professor Dr Abrizah Abdullah ([abrizah@um.edu.my](mailto:abrizah@um.edu.my)) or Co-Chair, Dr Fong Chng Saun ([fongcs92@um.edu.my](mailto:fongcs92@um.edu.my)).

## **Appendix 1 Programme Schedule (Tentative)**

### **2025 AUA Postgraduate Academic Forum on Planetary Health Early Career Researchers Programme outline (23 - 27 February 2025)**

#### **Day 1 (23rd February 2025)**

##### **Whole day:**

Arrival and check-in

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#### **Day 2 (24th February 2025)**

##### **9:00am - 9:15am**

Welcoming Remarks by the Chair of AUA-PHECRs

##### **9:15am - 10:15am**

Keynote Address on the Concept of Planetary Health and Its Relevance to Global Health, Sustainability, and Future Habitat

##### **10:15am - 10:30am**

Tea Break

##### **10:30am - 11:30am**

Plenary Speech 1

##### **11:30am - 12:30pm**

Plenary Speech 2

##### **12:30pm - 2:00pm**

Lunch

##### **2:00pm - 3:30pm**

Workshop 1: Introducing Hands-on Activities for Planetary Health Solutions

##### **3:30pm - 4:30pm**

Oral Presentations Session 1

##### **4:30pm - 5:00pm**

Networking Session

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**Day 3 (25th February 2025)**

**9:00am - 10:30am**

Forum Discussion 1: Policy and Practice Implications of Planetary Health, Including the Role of Governments, NGOs, and the Private Sector

**10:30am - 11:00am**

Tea Break

**11:00am - 12:30pm**

Roundtable Discussions: Practical Steps for Advancing Planetary Health Research and Practice

**12:30pm - 2:00pm**

Lunch

**2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Oral Presentations Session 2

**4:00pm - 5:00pm**

Poster Exhibition Sessions

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**Day 4 (26th February 2025)**

**9:00am - 10:30am**

Professional Development Session 1: Career Pathways in Planetary Health, Scholarly Communication, Outreach, and Engagement

**10:30am - 11:00am**

Tea Break

**11:00am - 12:00pm**

Presentation of Forum Outcomes and Recommendations

**12:00pm - 12:15pm**

Closing Remarks and Reflection on the Forum Outcomes and Next Steps

**12:15pm - 12:30pm**

Planetary Health Pledge

**12:30pm - 2:00pm**

Lunch

**2:00pm - 5:00pm**

Social Events and Cultural Activities

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**Day 5 (27th February 2025)**

**Whole day:**

Check-out and Departure

# **Guidelines for Publishing Extended Abstracts for the 2025 AUA Postgraduate Academic Forum on Planetary Health Early Career Researchers**

## **1. Introduction**

The 2025 AUA Postgraduate Academic Forum on Planetary Health Early Career Researchers (AUA-PHECRs) invites postgraduate students to submit extended abstracts on various themes related to planetary health. This document outlines the guidelines for preparing and submitting extended abstracts for publication.

## **2. Themes for Submission**

Submissions should relate to the key themes of the forum, which include but are not limited to:

- Environmental Sustainability
- Public Health and Planetary Health
- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
- Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems
- Urbanization and Sustainable Cities
- Policy and Governance for Planetary Health
- Technology and Innovation for Planetary Health
- Social Equity and Environmental Justice
- Education and Capacity Building

## **3. Extended Abstract Components**

Extended abstracts should include the following sections:

- 1. Title**
  - Should be concise, informative, and reflective of the research content.
- 2. Authors and Affiliations**
  - Full names, institutional affiliations, and contact information of all authors.
- 3. Introduction**
  - Brief background and context of the study.
  - Clear statement of the research problem or question.
  - Objective or hypothesis of the research.
- 4. Methods**
  - Overview of the research design and methodology.
  - Description of data collection and analysis methods.
- 5. Results**
  - Summary of key findings and data.
  - Use figures and tables as necessary (limited to one or two for the extended abstract).
- 6. Discussion**
  - Interpretation of the results.
  - Implications of the findings for the field of planetary health.

## 7. Conclusion

- Summary of main points and significance of the research.
- Future research directions or recommendations.

## 8. Keywords

- 4-6 keywords relevant to the research.

## 9. References

- Key references supporting the research (limited to 5-10 references).

## 4. Formatting Guidelines

- **Length:** 1-2 pages (500-1000 words), excluding references.
- **Font:** Times New Roman, 12-point.
- **Spacing:** Single-spaced.
- **Margins:** 1-inch (2.54 cm) margins on all sides.
- **Figures and Tables:** Embedded within the text, with appropriate captions.

## 5. Submission Process

1. **Submission Deadline:** Jan 15, 2025
  - Extended abstracts should be submitted via email to Dr. Fong Chng Saun ([fongcs92@um.edu.my](mailto:fongcs92@um.edu.my)).
2. **Notification of Acceptance:** Jan 20, 2025
  - Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their abstracts for presentation at the forum.
3. **Full Paper Submission:** Apr 30, 2025
  - Selected extended abstracts will be invited to submit full papers for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

## 6. Review Process

- All extended abstracts will undergo a peer-review process by the conference program committee.
- Feedback will be provided to authors for necessary revisions before final acceptance.

## 7. Presentation at the Forum

- **Oral Presentations:** 20-minute presentation followed by 10 minutes for Q&A.

## 8. Post-Forum Publication Opportunities

- Selected outstanding extended abstracts will be developed into full papers for submission to indexed journals.
- Authors will receive mentorship and support for manuscript preparation and submission.



## **Important Dates**

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** Jan 15, 2025
- **Notification of Acceptance:** Jan 20, 2025
- **Forum Dates:** Feb 23-27, 2025
- **Full Paper Submission Deadline:** Apr 30, 2025