

As trade policymakers gather in Geneva in December 2021 for the WTO's Twelfth Ministerial Conference (MC12), join us for discussions on how to ensure trade policies contribute to sustainable development! Stay on top of developments in the negotiations and bring your ideas and concerns to key stakeholders at IISD's **TRADE + SUSTAINABILITY HUB**.

From December 1-3, 2021, we will be providing a virtual space for your panel sessions, as well as bringing civil society, government, business, and international organizations together physically in Geneva to discuss trade and sustainable development linkages on the sidelines of MC12. The event aims to discuss and help develop policy solutions oriented toward advancing a more sustainable trade regime.

Overarching Issues

Inequality and Social Inclusion + COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts

Event Themes

The natural environment



Fisheries and oceans / Climate change
Deforestation / Biodiversity / Plastic
pollution / Circular economy ...

Society



Trade and health
Food security
Gender equality ...

Economic development



Industrial policy
Digital economy
Investment ...

Sustainable development governance



WTO reform / Dispute settlement
Interaction of trade with
other regimes ...



How will the virtual HUB work?

Virtual plenaries and parallel sessions

Due to uncertainties around the COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure broad participation, all plenaries and parallel panel sessions will be held online with stakeholders from around the world, including those in Geneva. Plenary and parallel sessions will be led by partner organisations and will be featured on a virtual platform throughout the three days. All sessions will be developed in coordination with the core organizers and will feature dynamic panellists with substantive knowledge or expertise in relevant policy areas. An emphasis will be placed on optimising engagement for a virtual audience. Partners will be responsible for developing the session agenda, as well as speaker and participant outreach.

Physical HUB space

For those travelling to Geneva or for whom Geneva is their home, the **TRADE + SUSTAINABILITY HUB** will provide a physical space for people to network and engage with their peers in-person (COVID-19 restrictions permitting). We will be broadcasting virtual panel sessions on monitors live, followed by discussions over coffee, lunch, or drinks. Virtual event participation booths will be offered to panelists joining the virtual sessions and who would like to join physical discussions onsite following the panel session. Partners will also have the option of reserving conference room facilities to host closed-door strategy discussions with a limited number of in-person participants.

Please note that for physical attendance a COVID pass, or a similar document will be required.

How to join the HUB

Panel organizers: If you would like to organize a session relating to one of the four conference themes, please submit your [proposal form](#) by Friday, October 1, 2021. Organisers are asked to ensure that their discussions also feature the two critical overarching issues, noted above.

For regular updates on the Hub, please visit: <https://www.iisd.org/events/trade-and-sustainability-hub>

If you have any questions about hosting a session at the **TRADE + SUSTAINABILITY HUB**, please contact Rashmi Jose at rjose@iisd.org.

