United Nations | The United Nations Office at Geneva

Institutional donations



The United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) is a center of international diplomacy and multilateral dialogue. Donations support the modernization of its facilities and the continuation of its vital work. By contributing, donors strengthen UNOG's capacity to promote cooperation and effective multilateralism now and in the future.

Interested in supporting a project?

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SOLAR PANEL EXTENSION

↔ SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Background – Electricity for the Palais des Nations is sourced from external vendors at market rates and generated via photovoltaic systems. The Palais des Nations already features 3'683m² of solar panels which cover around 5% of the current electricity use.

Scope – The objective is to install additional solar panels on various buildings across the Palais des Nations to 1) reduce dependence on market prices, thereby improving budget efficiency, and 2) increase sustainability by producing energy from UN-owned solar panels.

Impact

- The extension would lead to a potential electricity production of 753000 kWh/year.
- While additionally covering 5% of electricity needs, CHF 200000/year could potentially be avoided.



Sustainability & Environment

Estimated Cost

CHF 50000 - CHF 1185000

Location

Buildings AB, AC, B, C, S1, S2, CCO, H

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

GLAZING EFFICIENCY

↔ SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Background – Extensive glass surfaces at the Palais des Nations have a potentially high impact on the energy performance of the building. Ageing windows compromise insulation and increase energy demand. During earlier renovations in 2014, UNOG successfully replaced 1,070 windows, yet 620—equalling 2,241 square metres of glazing—remain in need of restoration and renewal.

Scope – Upgrading the glazing across the Palais des Nations would help boost energy efficiency and sustainability, thereby optimizing budget utilization. The installations can be flexibly divided into several sub-projects.

Impact

- Its energy savings (electricity and gas) would result in a cost avoidance of approx. CHF 600'000/year.
- CO_2 emissions of approx. 600 tons/year could potentially be evaded through the renewed efficiency.



Sustainability & Environment

Estimated Cost

CHF 25000 - CHF 14000000

Location

Galerie des Pas Perdus, Buildings A, AB, AC, B, C, D, S1, S2

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

LIGHTING AND SENSOR EFFICIENCY

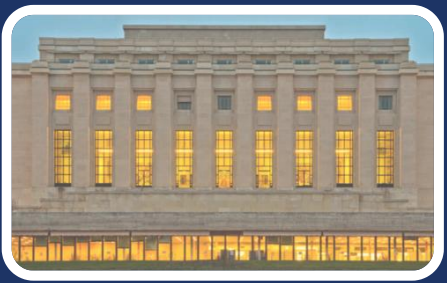
↔ SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Background – To ensure modern standards of functionality and sustainability, the Palais des Nations has progressively upgraded its building systems. Upgrading lighting through efficient fixtures and smart controls, in line with host-country standards, could have a significant additional positive impact on energy use.

Scope – The objective is to further upgrade the lighting systems and build-in sensors to 1) reduce electricity consumption 2) increase sustainability by lowering its carbon footprint and 3) replace lighting systems that will soon be discontinued. The selection of lighting is guided by the specific standards of the host country.

Impact

- By making lighting at the Palais more efficient, 500000 kWh/year in electricity could be saved.
- With savings of 4% of the total electricity consumption, costs of CHF 150000/year could be avoided.



Sustainability & Environment

Estimated Cost

CHF 90000 - CHF 3722000

Location

Galerie des pas perdus, Buildings A, AB, AC, B, C, D, S1, S2, Campus

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

PETALS FOR PEACE

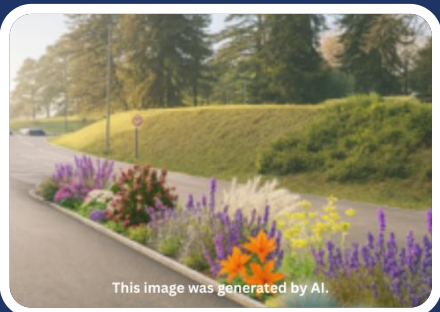
↔ SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Background – As visitors enter through Pregny Gate, their first impression of UNOG is shaped by what they see. The Petals for Peace project would bring new life to the outside space on the way to the conference rooms of the E-Building, using diverse flowers to reflect the diversity of people who come together - each one unique, yet united in a shared pursuit of peace and dialogue.

Scope – Revitalize an outdoor area on the premises of the Palais des Nations by creating a welcoming landscape that respects nature and reflects cultural diversity. Refreshing the area with colorful flowers, the visitors' experience is enhanced.

Impact

- Flowers enhance biodiversity, helping to purify the air by absorbing carbon dioxide.
- Exposure to flowers and green spaces has been shown to offer important mental health benefits



Sustainability & Environment

Estimated Cost

CHF 7500

Location

Premises of the Palais des Nations

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

SHADE SAILS

↔ SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Background – The terraces around the Palais des Nations, in particular at the H-Building, hold great potential as collaborative outdoor workspaces or as peaceful havens to take a break, recharge, or have a chat with colleagues. In the summer, they are exposed to intense sun and heat. With the installation of shade sails, the unused terraces could be turned into welcoming, shaded retreat areas that support wellbeing and provide space for informal exchanges.

Scope – Install weather-resistant, eco-friendly shade sails to create a comfortable, functional space for delegates and staff, without altering the building infrastructure.

Impact

- Creates a usable, restorative outdoor space for delegates and staff.
- Improves wellbeing, connection, and informal exchange.



Sustainability & Environment

Estimated Cost

CHF 30000 - CHF 40000

Location

Terraces at the Palais des Nations

Interested in supporting this project?
Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

UPGRADE ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING

↔ SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Background – The Palais has 32 electric vehicle (EV) charging points which do not allow UNOG to charge users for the electricity consumed. After a period of making charging available to users of the Palais for free, most had to be closed in 2023 as the model was not financially sustainable. Only some of them still operate for UN vehicles.

Scope – The EV charging infrastructure would be upgraded to allow staff, delegates and visitors to conveniently recharge their electric vehicles and pay for their personal electricity consumption.

Impact

- Support sustainable commuting and reduce local greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions.
- Support key strategic objectives of the host country & host city (10% of vehicles to be electric, 50% to 60 % reduction in air and greenhouse gas pollution by 2030).



Sustainability & Environment

Estimated Cost

CHF 50000 - CHF 480000

Location

Different Parkings around the Palais des Nations

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

CONFERENCE ROOMS

↔ ARTS & HERITAGE

Background – UN Geneva is committed to providing an environment that supports multilateral dialogue and cooperation. Among its key priorities is the modernization of conference facilities. These enhancements aim to provide an ideal environment for effective diplomatic exchange and international collaboration.

Scope – Aiming to modernize and enhance selected conference rooms at the Palais des Nations, the project includes the replacement of outdated conferencing technology with advanced, reliable systems, acoustic improvements as well as accessibility upgrades. The room and scope of the project can be determined in coordination with UNOG.

Impact

- Room upgrades improve acoustics and technical equipment for delegates, interpreters, and staff.
- Murals and woodwork preserve architectural and art heritage while gaining 21st-century functionality.



Arts & Heritage

Estimated Cost

Costs vary by room and are determined in coordination with donor contributions.

Location

Palais des Nations

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

SECURITY DOG KENNEL FACILITY

↔ SECURITY

Background – The current security dog (K9) kennel facility is based on an outdated construction and design that no longer meets the operational and welfare standards required for working dogs. Its current usage is limited by structural deterioration, inadequate space and high maintenance costs.

Scope – Constructing a modern, regulation-compliant kennel facility will support the evolving needs of working dogs and staff. The facility will include proper housing, training areas, efficient ventilation, and durable materials.

Impact

- With the facility fully meeting standards, animal welfare and operational safety will be promoted.
- Operational readiness and daily efficiency will be enhanced while reducing maintenance costs.



Security

Estimated Cost

CHF 350000 - CHF 388000

Location

West of the Chemin de Fer Gate

Interested in supporting this project?
Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

DELEGATE'S RESTAURANT

↔ ARTS & HERITAGE

Background – Created in 1937, the Delegate's Restaurant is one of the hidden gems of the Palais des Nations. Located at the 8th floor of its main building, the restaurant offers a spectacular view over Lake Geneva. The restaurant is often utilized for high-level events.

Scope – The project plans to transform the restaurant into a contemporary and functional venue while preserving the heritage. Last renovated in 1972 and 1998-1999, it now aims to refresh the 240 seats, terrace, and two salons.

Impact

- Renewing and rethinking the restaurant's architecture will create a modern and functional dining space.
- Elevate dining, hospitality, and cultural exchange at the Palais des Nations.



Arts & Heritage

Estimated Cost

Costs vary and are determined in coordination with the donor's vision and contribution.

Location

Palais des Nations, Building A

Interested in supporting this project?
Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

WRITTEN TOUR ACCESS FOR ALL

↔ ACCESSIBILITY

Background – Traditional guided tours at the Palais des Nations rely heavily on spoken explanations, limiting accessibility for visitors with hearing impairments. Providing written tour content supports more inclusive access to the UN's history, exhibitions, and spaces.

Scope – A QR code system will be installed at key locations throughout the Palais, giving visitors direct access to written descriptions on their mobile devices. The system will enable self-guided tours for those who prefer or require written content and complement in-person tours by offering an alternative – written tour access for all!

Impact

- Accessibility for hearing-impaired visitors will be increased through tailored resources.
- While providing written tour content, independent exploration of UN spaces will be facilitated.



Accessibility

Estimated Cost

CHF 30000 - CHF 60000

Location

Visitors' Center, multiple locations of interest across the Palais des Nations

Interested in supporting this project?
Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

ACCESSIBILITY INFO HUB

↔ ACCESSIBILITY

Background – Accessibility-related resources are not centralized, making it harder for individuals with disabilities to navigate the Palais des Nations independently. A dedicated, visible information point would ensure that essential accessibility support is easy to find, understand, and use.

Scope – A small, interactive, self-service booth at the Palais des Nations will serve as a centralized hub for accessibility information. It will provide up-to-date details, maps, key contact points, and digital links to support resources for persons with disabilities attending conferences and events, all without requiring full-time staffing.

Impact

- Information for persons with disabilities will be improved.
- To ensure the full engagement of all attendees, the hub will facilitate inclusive participation in conferences and events.



Accessibility

Estimated Cost

CHF 13000 - CHF 25000

Location

Pregny Gate, Visitors' Center, Concordia Bar

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

INCLUSIVE TOURS

↔ ACCESSIBILITY

Background – The Palais des Nations welcomes thousands of visitors each year. There is scope to making the popular guided tours more accessible to individuals with visual impairments. By designing inclusive, multi-sensory experiences that provide meaningful access to UN spaces and information, UNOG could enrich the experiences of visiting the premises for all visitors.

Scope – Inclusive tours will enhance accessibility for visually impaired visitors through touch-based navigation features, audio descriptions of key landmarks, and Braille guides. These improvements will strengthen equal access to UN spaces and enrich the overall visitor experience through professional, high-quality inclusive design.

Impact

- Strengthening equal access to UN spaces for visitors with visual impairments, reinforcing UNOG's commitment to inclusivity.
- By expanding accessible tour options, the initiative will ensure that all visitors can fully engage with the UNOG's spaces.



Accessibility

Estimated Cost

CHF 12000 - CHF 21000

Location

Palais des Nations, Visitors' Center, guided tours

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

SUPPORT FUND FOR DISABILITY INCLUSION EVENTS

↔ ACCESSIBILITY

Background – At UNOG, accessibility is not just a requirement, but a reflection of the UN's core values of dignity, equality, and inclusion. Events like World Braille Day and the International Day of Persons with Disabilities help raise awareness, challenge stigma, and celebrate diverse voices, which need to remain impactful, inclusive, and accessible to all.

Scope – By establishing a dedicated support fund, the project will strengthen disability inclusion at UNOG, covering costs for guest speakers, workshops, accessible venues, equipment, and materials in accessible formats. Its goal is to ensure that every event is fully inclusive, engaging, and reflects the UN's commitment to diversity, equity, and participation for all.

Impact

- Greater participation of persons with disabilities by removing barriers will be fostered.
- The fund will raise awareness among UN staff and visitors, stressing the implementation of inclusive practices across the organization.



Accessibility

Estimated Cost

Costs vary by event (CHF 500 – CHF 5000) and are determined with the donor's vision and contribution.

Location

Palais des Nations

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

SIGN LANGUAGE COURSES

↔ ACCESSIBILITY

Background – Building on the success of existing language programs, UNOG seeks to further advance its commitment to multilingualism, accessibility and inclusion by introducing sign language training. Current offerings focus on spoken and written languages, leaving an important gap in support for deaf and hard-of-hearing persons.

Scope – A series of sign language courses will be offered to staff, delegates, and external participants to acquire practical skills to communicate effectively with the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. Courses may include International Sign, LSF (French Sign Language), BSL (British Sign Language), and others depending on demand and feasibility.

Impact

- Implementing courses will advance existential UN values of diversity, respect, and equal participation.
- The project strengthens communication with and among persons with hearing impairment, fostering greater inclusion.



Accessibility

Estimated Cost

CHF 5000 - CHF 10000

Location

Palais des Nations, on-site classrooms and online/hybrid sessions

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

WHEELCHAIRS FOR EMERGENCY USE

↔ ACCESSIBILITY

Background – The Security and Safety Service plays a crucial role in maintaining a secure environment and is equipped to respond to emergencies, medical incidents, and unexpected situations. Currently, the Service maintains a small stock of wheelchairs intended for emergency or short-term use, but many of these units are outdated, limiting their accessibility.

Scope – Replacing outdated emergency-use wheelchairs with modern and accessible models will provide safe and reliable support for persons with reduced mobility during evacuations, medical emergencies, or unforeseen incidents. The access point will be Pregny Gate as a primary access for persons with mobility impairments.

Impact

- New wheelchairs improve emergency response for persons with disabilities by providing safe, accessible, and reliable mobility, supporting the implementation of the UN Disability Inclusion Strategy.
- Wheelchairs could also be used by delegates or staff with temporary mobility impairments, for example following an accident.



Accessibility

Estimated Cost

Costs depend on the model of wheelchairs to be installed (CHF 8000 – CHF 20000).

Location

Palais des Nations, Pregny Gate

Interested in supporting this project?

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

MEDITATION ROOM

↔ ARTS & HERITAGE

Background – Located in the Council Building at the Palais des Nations, the 100 m² space includes a meditation room with capacity for 40 persons, two changing rooms and a storage space. Due to limited funds, water points could not be installed. Growing demand now requires acoustic improvements and window upgrades to enhance thermal comfort and complete the original design.

Scope – The project includes installing water points in both changing rooms, improving the acoustic performance to ensure a quiet space for prayer, meditation and reflection by delegates and replacing the windows to strengthen thermal insulation. These upgrades will finalize the space and ensure a comfortable, functional working environment for delegates.

Impact

- Providing staff and delegates with access to water points will support wellbeing and comfort on site.
- The room and, optionally, a small zen garden enhance acoustic, thermal conditions for a peaceful environment.



Arts & Heritage

Estimated Cost

The project would cost CHF 140,000, with a zen garden of CHF 10,000 as an additional option.

Location

Palais des Nations, C-Building

Interested in supporting this project?
Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

LA PASSERELLE

↔ ARTS & HERITAGE

Background – La Passerelle was originally built in the early 1970s as an enclosed bridge on the third and main conference floor, connecting the buildings of the Palais des Nations. Its current structure is rusted and requires full structural restoration and upgrades, given its central location and heavy daily use by delegates.

Scope – Its restoration would not only ensure safety and durability but also provide an opportunity to adjust its architecture to suitably showcase exhibitions and creative installations.

Impact

- Safety and security of conference participants will be enhanced through renovations.
- Improved thermal efficiency and energy savings by using durable materials and refined lighting.
- Installation of ceiling-mounted magnets for displays and integrated power outlets for screens.



Arts & Heritage

Estimated Cost

CHF 100000 - CHF 200000

Location

Passage between Building A and Building E

Interested in supporting this project?
Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

EQUIPMENT RENEWAL FOR UNOG EVENTS

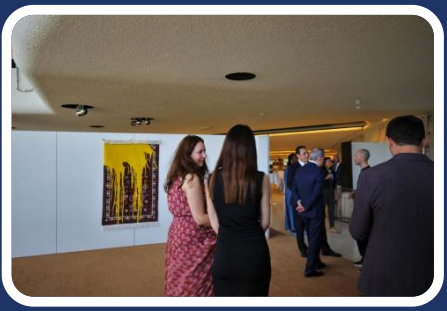
↔ ARTS & HERITAGE

Background – The Events Centre at UN Geneva manages a wide range of cultural events, exhibitions, and meetings at the Palais des Nations. Over time, much of its equipment has deteriorated due to intensive use, affecting safety and presentation quality. The replacement of heavily used materials is essential to ensure functionality, safety, and professional standards for event setup.

Scope – The project includes the replacement of easels, exhibition panels, presentation screens, tables, hooks, stripes, and nylon strings. These upgrades will improve the quality, durability, and flexibility of event installations, supporting diverse formats.

Impact

- The Event Centre can provide professionally-looking furniture and equipment to meet the requirements and expectations of diverse event clients.
- Basic equipment needed for event production meets safety requirements and is visually appealing and professional.



Arts & Heritage

Estimated Cost

CHF 250 - CHF 50000

Location

Premises of the Palais des Nations

Interested in supporting this project?
Contact: donate-ungeneva@un.org

E BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PHOTOS DIGITIZATION

↔ LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Background – The construction of the E Building at the Palais des Nations between 1969 and 1972 was documented by a young architect and photographer. He was asked to periodically photograph the progress of the expansion project. These images offer rare insight into UN heritage and historic architectural development of the Palais.

Scope – The project aims to digitize over 1,100 black-and-white 6×6 negatives showing the construction phases of the E Building. The collection covers key moments of the late-1960s expansion. Digitization will ensure long-term preservation and improved access for research and exhibitions.

Impact

- Preserves unique photos documenting major UN infrastructure
- Enables public access for researchers
- CHF 4000 - CHF 4500 covers professional digitization of 1,200 6x6 negatives



Library & Archives

Estimated Cost

CHF 4000 - CHF 4500

Location

UN Library & Archives Geneva

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

PUBLICATION OF A NEW VOLUME OF THE UN HISTORICAL SERIES

↔ LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Background – Five volumes of this series have already been published to date: UN iLibrary series. The series offers a fresh perspective on the League of Nations and on the early decades of the UN's work. The objective is to enrich literature on international organizations. It also contributes to transnational history and scholarly debate. Past lessons help inform current UN policies and actions.

Scope – The project aims to publish a new volume in the UN Historical Series to further advance the study of UN history. The publication will be made available on the UN iLibrary and distributed to specialized libraries.

Impact

- Makes scholarly work based on the UN Archives Geneva collections accessible
- Enables the publication and dissemination of academic research



Library & Archives

Estimated Cost

CHF 11000 - CHF 15000

Location

UN Library & Archives Geneva

Contact:

Contact: donate.ungeneva@un.org

Interested in supporting a project?

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https://www.ungeneva.org/en/contact-us

United Nations Office at Geneva
Palais des Nations
CH1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland
Tel.: +41 (0)22 917 12 34