

Towards a sustainable conference

We are aware of the impacts of climate change and are endeavouring to make GA2023 a carbon neutral and sustainable event. We have a [Sustainability Guide for GA2023](#) to help make the event socially and environmentally sustainable and an [Aboriginal Procurement Policy](#) to create opportunities for Aboriginal owned businesses and encourage Aboriginal employment through the supply chain of ICOMOS GA2023.

We encourage all sponsors, exhibitors, providers and delegates to read and use these policies.

We urge delegates to use public transport to reduce our carbon footprint. There are cyclist facilities at our main venue, the International Convention Centre (ICC), with storage racks and showers. We aim to minimise conference paper handouts and give-aways - the GA2023 app and website will include conference program and abstracts. We have a plastic-free focus throughout the event including for sponsorship and displays. We ask delegates to bring their own reusable cups. Reusable water bottles will be provided and fresh water will be available at venues.

Our main venue, ICC Sydney, is part of a socially conscious and environmentally responsible precinct awarded a Gold certification in June 2017 by the internationally recognised LEED® green building program and a 6 Star Green Star Communities rating from the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA). The ICC construction reused 100,000 cubic meters of concrete from the site and 96% recycled steel in its Exhibition Halls. Potable water use is aimed to be reduced by 14% compared to Australian standards, and harvested rainwater is reused for irrigation and toilet flushing. The ICC will house Australia's first CBD community funded PV array, generating 545MWhr of power per year. The centralised main plant is estimated to save 20% of greenhouse gas emissions compared to the Building Code of Australia standard. 25 electric vehicle charging stations are provided.

In catering, ICC uses quality seasonal ingredients from local producers, reducing food miles and energy emissions. Solar hot water is supplied to kitchens. Recycling stations around the venue allow for pre-sorting of waste, with off-site recycling and organic waste processing. All un-eaten food is donated to charity partners Mathew Talbot Hostel and OzHarvest to feed those in need, or repurposed as fertiliser and green energy.

We encourage the use of the [Sustainability Guide for GA2023](#) and the [Aboriginal Procurement Policy](#) in the planning of events at all side venues, meetings and tours.

We aim to reduce consumption as much as possible through the General Assembly. Following GA2023, an energy post-audit report will be prepared and unavoidable consumption will be offset.