



ESCRS

VIENNA 2023

41ST CONGRESS OF THE ESCRS | 8-12 SEPTEMBER 2023



Sustainable Exhibiting Guide

Prepared in collaboration with GDS-Movement

ESCRS Sustainability Vision and Commitment



“ESCRS and I are passionate about increasing the sustainability of our shared and individual activities. We and our partners are committed to organising a socially, environmentally, and economically inclusive congress for you.

Our "Mission Zero" vision is to develop events with zero waste to landfills and zero net carbon emissions that are a role model for social and environmental responsibility.

In 2022, we hosted an on-site sustainability programme, sent just 3.4% of waste to landfill, recycled 64% of waste, donated remaining food to a local Milan food security charity, reduced carbon emissions significantly, and offset 76% of the unavoidable ones with certified NGO projects active in Africa, especially for delegate travel. We also initiated a new partnership with ASCRS and AAO to start eyesustain.org, is a global coalition of eye societies and ophthalmologists collaborating to make ophthalmic care and surgery more sustainable.

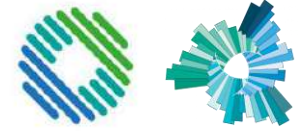
In 2023, We are working together with interested parties to support our event participant's wellness, the local and global communities we visit and support, to protect and replenish affected ecosystems, and inspire more regenerative actions all round.

We invite you to join us in this journey because we can achieve exponentially more positive impact together.

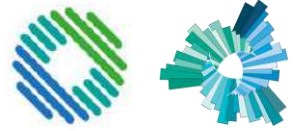


Oliver Findl, ESCRS President

ESCRS Congress Strategy



The ESCRS Congress Key Goals



Inspire Action

- Strengthen the promotions of the eyesustain.org initiative through partnerships with ASCRS and APACRS
- Recruit at least 5 new organisations into the Sustainability Partnership Programme
- Integrate YOFS to the sustainability activities of ESCRS
- Extend the overall congress programme with new sustainability track sessions

Zero Emissions

- +25% of delegates to arrive by climate friendly transport
- +50% of food served is vegetarian or vegan
- 70% of food locally sourced (less than 160km)
- 100% of unavoidable carbon emissions to be offset

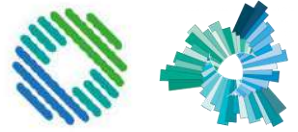
Zero Waste

- Eliminate 90% of single use plastic, polystyrene and PVC
- Decrease waste sent to landfill to less than 15%
- Increase recycling to +50%
- +70% of all signage and branding to be made from more sustainable materials

Socially Responsible

- Increase balance of female speakers to 40%
- Integrate at least 1 community/charity partnerships
- Integrate wellness activities throughout the Congress

Take part and become a sustainability champion!



Take sustainability into consideration when planning your presence at the ESCRS Congress



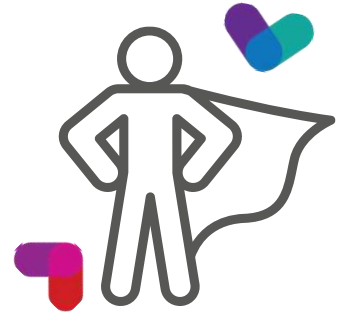
Showcase your practices by applying for [ESCRS Sustainable Exhibitor Award 2023](#)

Deadline:
15 July, 2023



Walk an extra mile in your sustainability journey!

Subscribe to [Sustainable Exhibitors Service Package](#) as part of Sustainability Partnership services



Appoint a sustainability champion of your stand responsible of implementation of these actions

At the Booth

Consider the materials you use for your booth – applies to build stand and shell-scheme



Choose sustainable materials – NO polystyrene, PVC or vinyl.
Limit or remove all single-use plastics and packaging



Limit paper communication such as brochures. Replace it with digital materials.



Share this guide with your stand constructor and address your sustainability goals



Offer sustainable and responsibly sourced give aways/gifts



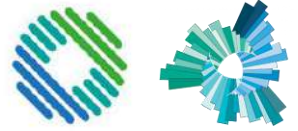
If you use wood materials of your stand, made sure to source it sustainably (PEFC or FSC Certified)



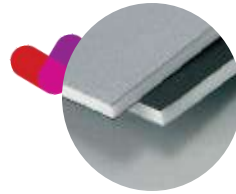
Check where is the nearest Waste Management Station and make sure to use it throughout the Congress

Materials ABC

The reality is not all materials are the same



Rigid PVC (Komatex, Sintra)



Foamboard
(Ultra Board, Gator Board, Foamcore)



Vinyl



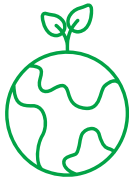
Fiberboard (HDF/MDF)



Bio Foam Board



Stretch Panel (ultra flex or PET)



Eco board (Cardboard)

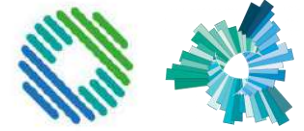


Honeycomb (Cardboard)



Falconboard

At the Congress



Visit the Sustainability Wall at the Registration Area to learn more about the ESCRS Sustainability Initiatives



We have number of water stations on the show floor. Bring your own reusable bottle or pick one at the registration. Use it throughout the Congress and beyond.



Follow instructions on the Waste management stations and help us to achieve 'Mission Zero'



Choose from delicious vegan or vegetarian food menu we have created for you!

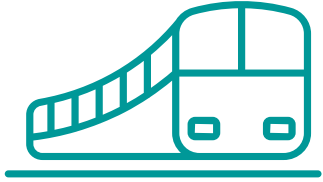
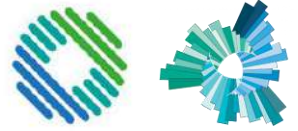


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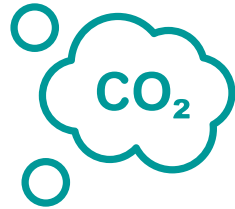
Take a well-deserved break by having a quick massage and the Wellness Area or taking a break outside

While planning your stay in Vienna



Choose more sustainable travel options!

Travel to Vienna by train or a shared car ride, where possible



Support ESCRS Carbon Offset initiative when registering to attend the Congress



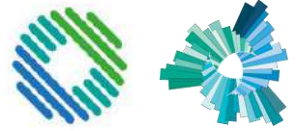
To get to and from the airport or elsewhere in Vienna, take advantage of some great local public transport.

Find more information on schedules and fares [HERE](#)



Keep your daily steps! Check the map and see if walking is a better option than taxi or public transportation

Be recognized for your practises!



Enter your application for the Sustainable Exhibitor Award at ESCRS Congress 2023

The ESCRS Congress **Sustainable Exhibitor Award** recognises an exceptional exhibitor or exhibitors, who have truly embraced environmentally responsible behavior and sustainable work practices both and outside the Congress.

Your application will be evaluated by a panel comprising 3 experienced events, and sustainability leaders.

Entry Criteria:

- Entry is open to all large and medium ESCRS Congress 2023 exhibitors
- All questions must be answered for the entry to be considered
- The deadline to submit your application **15 July, 2023**

[APPLY HERE](#)



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Thank you for taking the time to exhibit sustainably

Remember: if all exhibitors make just one small change, together we can make a big difference!