



**TASA** The Australian Sociological Association

### **Sustainability best practices**

All events that are fully or partially funded by TASA, and non-TASA funded events that carry TASA branding, should demonstrate a commitment to sustainability best practices<sup>1</sup>.

Sustainability initiatives should be actively promoted for awareness and cooperation.

This would include the following where feasible:

#### Event format and venue:

- The event is held virtually or in a hybrid format and / or interstate / overseas speakers join the event virtually.
- Planning meetings are held virtually to reduce the need for travel.
- Choose a venue with a commitment to sustainability.
- Choose venue in a location with accessibility by public transport, bicycle and / or by foot.
- Ensure the venue has waste segregation bins.

#### Gifts, handouts, and sponsorships:

- Gifts for speakers and / or staff are eco-friendly (e.g. edible goods or plants; online vouchers; plastic-free items) and selected for their usefulness.
- Waste is reduced (for example: recycling name badges and lanyards; reducing or replacing printed event materials with electronic option).
- If promotional items are required, preference is given to recycled and environmentally friendly options.
- Identify ethical and sustainable sponsorship.

#### Catering:

- Food and drinks are sourced from local suppliers with a commitment to sustainable practices, including using local, seasonal ingredients and / or Fairtrade options.
- Social enterprises are considered for catering.
- More vegetarian and / or plant-based options are included.
- Food wastage is reduced (for example, food is repurposed or composted or arrangements are made with local community groups and social enterprises for pick-up of surplus food (for example, FareShare, OzHarvest)).

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<sup>1</sup> This document was informed by Arinex Sustainable Events: Action Plan; Arinex Environmental Policy; and International Council on Monuments and Sites: Sustainability Guide for GA2023.

- Delegates or attendees are encouraged to bring reusable cups and water bottles.
- Single-use plastics and non-reusable plates, cups, and cutlery are banned. Reusable plates and cutlery are used or alternatively, biodegradable products are used.
- Water stations are made available at the venue for water bottle refills.
- Washing stations are available to clean reusable cups and bottles.
- Single use plastic water bottles are banned.
- Glasses and carafes are provided for speakers and panellists.

#### Travel:

- Delegates or attendees are encouraged to carbon offset their travel to the event.
- Pre-event communication promotes use of public transport by providing directions, maps and timetables for public transport or carpooling options.
- Pre-event communication informs of bicycle routes, bicycle storage options, and change / showering facilities.

#### Accommodation:

- Preference is given to accommodation with proximity to the venue.
- Delegates or attendees are encouraged to book accommodation within walking distance of the event venue.
- Preference is given to accommodation with a sustainability plan and who support social enterprises.