Sustainability & Social Impact Policy

A high-level framework for responsible environmental and social practice

PURPOSE To establish clear, enduring principles that guide IACC's decisions and influence, while allowing initiatives and delivery priorities to evolve in response to member needs, evidence, resources and opportunity.

Document detail	Position
Document	Sustainability and Social Impact Policy
Owner	Chief Executive Officer
Approval authority	IACC Board
Status	Approved by the IACC Global Board, 18 October 2026
Review	Periodically and when material change requires

1. Purpose

IACC exists to connect and strengthen a global community of meeting and conference venues and the professionals who use them. Through this policy, IACC commits to act responsibly, encourage positive environmental and social outcomes and support members in sharing and developing good practice.

This policy supports IACC's Better Tomorrow principles. It provides direction without prescribing a single method of implementation for IACC or its independently operated member organisations.

2. Scope

The policy applies to IACC's governance, staff and volunteer activities, events, communications, partnerships, procurement, education, research and member engagement. IACC will also use its convening role to encourage responsible practice across the wider member community, recognising differing legal, cultural and operational contexts.

3. Guiding principles

Principle	What it means
Leadership through action	Reflect in IACC decisions and activities the responsible practices members are encouraged to consider.
Practical and proportionate progress	Take meaningful action appropriate to IACC's role, resources and glob reach.
Evidence and transparency	Communicate honestly, distinguish aspiration from achievement and avoid unsupported claims.
People and planet together	Recognise that environmental responsibility, wellbeing, community va and ethical conduct are interconnected.
Global direction, local relevance	Apply shared values with respect for local law, culture and operating circumstances.
Continuous improvement	Listen, learn, share knowledge and adapt as needs, evidence and opportunities develop.

4. Our commitments

4.1 Environmental responsibility

- Consider environmental impacts when planning IACC activities and events, including energy, travel, food, materials, water and waste.
- Prioritise practical avoidance and reduction measures before considering action relating to residual impacts.
- Encourage responsible purchasing, efficient use of resources, waste prevention, reuse and recycling where practicable.
- Promote credible sustainability learning and the exchange of useful member practices through IACC programmes and communications.

4.2 People, communities and social value

- Seek opportunities for IACC activities to create positive and locally relevant value for people and communities.
- Encourage responsible employment, safe working conditions, wellbeing and respect throughout IACC's relationships and activities.
- Where appropriate, consider local, small, diverse and purpose-aligned suppliers alongside quality, value and operational requirements.
- Share examples that help members understand and strengthen the social impact of meetings and events.

4.3 Responsible partnerships and procurement

- Consider proportionate environmental, social, ethical, accessibility and data-governance factors alongside quality and value.
- Set clear expectations for significant suppliers and partners where relevant to the nature and scale of the relationship.
- Avoid relationships that materially conflict with IACC's values or create unmanageable integrity, human-rights, environmental or reputational risk.

4.4 Member support, learning and innovation

- Use IACC's global platform to share knowledge, practical guidance, research and examples of responsible practice.
- Explore initiatives and partnerships that may improve member capability or provide useful member benefits, subject to appropriate evaluation and approval.
- Treat named initiatives as opportunities to learn and add value rather than permanent policy commitments unless separately approved by the IACC Board.

ILLUSTRATIVE INITIATIVE IACC may, for example, continue to explore opportunities with SKOOT Eco or other suitable organisations where their tools, expertise or services could support members. Any initiative would be assessed separately for relevance, credibility, value, resources and appropriate governance. This example does not commit IACC to a particular project, partner, timetable or commercial arrangement.

5. Governance and accountability

- The IACC Board oversees this policy and approves material policy changes or strategic commitments.
- The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for promoting proportionate application across IACC's operations and relationships.
- Staff, volunteer leaders and those acting for IACC are expected to uphold the policy and raise significant concerns through appropriate channels.
- Suppliers, partners and event stakeholders may be asked to support relevant commitments in a manner proportionate to their role.

6. Monitoring, communication and review

IACC will monitor its approach proportionately, drawing on available evidence, feedback and learning. Communications will distinguish clearly between established policy, planned activity, exploratory initiatives and completed outcomes. The policy will be reviewed periodically and updated when organisational priorities, member needs, evidence, law or good practice materially change.

The Board may approve separate priorities, projects, measures or implementation plans from time to time. These may evolve, conclude or be replaced without requiring this standing policy to contain operational schedules or fixed project commitments.

7. Concerns and application

Material concerns may be raised confidentially with the Chief Executive Officer, an IACC Board director or another designated senior contact. Good-faith concerns will be considered promptly, sensitively and fairly, without retaliation or victimisation, and in accordance with applicable procedures and local law.

This is a global governance policy. It does not replace applicable law, employment terms, collective arrangements, contractual obligations or more specific codes and procedures.