

# Sustainability at WHAHC 2025

WHAHC 2025 is a keen advocate for nature's perseverance, and we're delighted to announce that this year's congress venue, the [Austria Center Vienna \(ACV\)](#), stands as a beacon of sustainability on the global stage. With a steadfast commitment to placing sustainability at the core of every event they host, ACV exemplifies excellence in eco-conscious practices.

[The Sustainable Development](#) Goals (SDGs, also called the Global Goals) are 17 goals with 169 targets that all UN Member States have agreed to work toward achieving by 2030. They set out a plan for a world without poverty, hunger, and disease.

In line with our venue the ACV, we at WHAHC 2025 want to contribute to the achievement of these objectives in our value chain. We support and work toward the following SDGs:

## **GOAL 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all**

Supporting accessible, high-quality education for our community is our top priority. Throughout the organization of WHAHC 2025, we strive to constantly improve the scientific program, introduce more accessible Congress alternatives and support onsite attendance, eliminate gender disparities in education, and ensure long-term education for our attendees.

To support this goal, we will:

- Extend invitations to numerous internationally renowned experts to present special keynote lectures.
- Include workshops and panel discussions for early career professionals.
- Provide on-demand sessions by making recorded sessions available after the congress dates.

- Organize interactive meet-the-expert sessions with audience participation (like voting) and relevant presentations.
- Arrange opportunities for networking and knowledge exchange through various platforms, such as social media, online communities, and post-event resource sharing.
- Organize a hybrid version of the congress with a more accessible virtual alternative, ensuring that everyone can participate at lower rates, regardless of their location around the world.

## **GOAL 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**

WHAHC 2025 is an inclusive space for people of all ages, genders, and abilities. We aim for and monitor gender equality and nondiscrimination among our delegates, presenters, and committee members.

To support this goal, we will:

- Promote the Congress in a gender-inclusive way using a language that is welcoming to all.
- Make the meeting a welcoming, inclusive space for people of all ages, genders, and abilities.
- Choose a diverse speaker lineup representing a variety of genders, ethnicities, and backgrounds.
- Promote more women in committee positions related to the event.
- Create a program that features diverse topics and speakers from various backgrounds and experiences.
- Make sure the Congress and exhibition are accessible for attendees with disabilities.
- Make sure that there are various food options for attendees with different dietary restrictions.

## **Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**

- Austria Center Vienna implements energy-efficient technologies, including high-efficiency heat recovery and LED lighting.

## **Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**

This year:

- Our Congress venue focuses on waste prevention, regional sourcing for catering, and eco-friendly practices.
- We limit printed promotional materials in favor of digital alternatives.
- We encourage all of our exhibitors to participate in the initiative by reducing single-use giveaways at their booths.
- We will collect and recycle attendees' badges and lanyards at the end of the Congress.

## **Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**

This year:

- Our venue, ACV, reduces environmental footprints through green meeting certifications and promotes sustainable travel.
- We encourage train travel as an alternative to flying.
- We promote the Congress sustainability objectives, educate, and raise awareness on the website, app, and social media.
- We avoid single-use plastics.
- We offer a carbon offsetting program and calculate the carbon footprint.
- We inform attendees of what is being done to make sure that the Congress is more sustainable.

- We work with local suppliers and caterers. Serve locally sourced, seasonal, and sustainably grown food

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals website (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment>).

The content of this publication has not been approved by the United Nations and does not reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials or Member States.

## **BE PART OF THE CHANGE AND JOIN THE CARBON EMISSIONS OFFSETTING PROGRAM!**

As a participant at WHAHC 2025, you have the choice to be part of climate change by offsetting the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions generated during your trip. By supporting a Clean CO<sub>2</sub> project, you will also contribute to improving the social environment in the operating area.

### **How to carbon offset:**

1. Access the easy-to-use platform <https://kenes-group.thrustcarbon.shop/>
2. Enter your plans, including travel method and distance, meetings and accommodation
3. Calculate your carbon emissions and receive offsetting suggestions
4. Choose a carbon offsetting project and make a contribution – *All projects are verified by one of Gold Standard, Verified Carbon Standard, Woodland Carbon Code or American Carbon Registry*
5. Receive your Thrust Carbon confirmation, certifying your carbon-neutral status

[OFFSET YOUR CO<sub>2</sub> EMISSIONS](#)