

Sustainability at WSC 2023

Embracing sustainability

At WSC 2023 we believe in taking tangible actions to safeguard the future for all. With sustainability at the forefront, we strongly believe that each of us has a responsibility to protect our society, both on a local and global scale. Our commitment to the environment extends to every aspect of the event, encompassing not only the organizing team and committees but also our partners and delegates whom we warmly welcome.

Our focus on sustainability aims to foster a greener future, promoting the well-being of all participants at WSC 2023 while benefiting our planet.

The [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs, also known as the Global Goals) are 17 goals with 169 targets that all UN Member States have agreed to work towards achieving by the year 2030. They set out a vision towards a more sustainable future and aim at tackling issues such as poverty, hunger and equality.

Offset your CO2 footprint

Participating in WSC 2023 presents you with the chance to actively combat climate change by offsetting the CO2 emissions produced during your journey.

Driven by the Thrust Carbon CO2 initiative, our user-friendly platform empowers you to neutralize your personalized carbon footprint arising from activities such as travel, meetings, and accommodations. Furthermore, you have the flexibility to specify how your carbon offset efforts will contribute to improving social and environmental conditions. As an extra

advantage, you will receive an official certification from Thrust Carbon, affirming your carbon-neutral status and recognizing your resolute dedication to reducing emissions.

[Offset Your CO2 Emissions Here](#)

Being part of WSC 2023 – How can you contribute?

As individuals and as a community, it is our collective responsibility to actively participate in preserving the natural ecological balance and conserving our planet's resources. As part of the WSC 2023 congress, we encourage you to take the following steps:

- Utilize the mobile app to access program details instead of printing them. The app will be accessible several weeks prior to the congress.
- Embrace sustainable modes of transportation when traveling to and within Toronto, promoting environmentally friendly options.
- Minimize waste generation by practicing proper waste separation and disposal methods.
- Opt for reusable mugs and bottles, reducing single-use plastic waste.

Sustainable development goals for WSC 2023

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At WSC 2023 want to do our part to promote the achievement of

these goals in our own value chain. The SDGs that we support and work towards are:

Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

At WSC 2023, we strongly believe that well-being is not only a desirable outcome but also an integral core value that forms the foundation of our conference. As experts in the field of stroke, we hold a moral obligation to prioritize the well-being of our patients, colleagues, and society at large. By prioritizing well-being, we showcase our unwavering commitment to ethical principles that shape our work and uphold the highest level of care.

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

High-profile education is an integral aspect of WSO's core values, dedicated to advancing stroke care worldwide. The World Stroke Congress attracts a diverse range of attendees, allowing us to advocate for the importance of health and strive for the highest standards of clinical practice and ethical behavior in stroke care. Our primary emphasis is on consistently improving the scientific program, fostering inclusivity, promoting active on-site participation, and ensuring long-term educational opportunities for all our attendees.

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

The Gender and Diversity Policy of the World Stroke Conference

is dedicated to fostering an all-embracing atmosphere that nurtures talent within the field of stroke medicine on a global scale. Our objective is to enhance the representation of women as invited speakers and convenors and promote diversity throughout the conference program.

We are committed to actively seeking out promising individuals in stroke medicine and providing them with the support they need to flourish, allowing them to shine as rising stars in the field. Additionally, we strive to create more visibility and networking opportunities for all participants, ensuring that everyone feels included and empowered. To support these efforts, the conference has established specific measures outlined in the gender and diversity policy. These measures include:

- Designing the conference program to promote the inclusion of Gender and Diversity principles, ensuring that diverse perspectives and voices are represented throughout the event.
- Offering complimentary registration fees for individuals who accompany conference participants primarily to assist with caregiving duties. This helps remove barriers for individuals with caregiving responsibilities, allowing them to participate fully in the conference.
- Allocating dedicated spaces for lactation and child care at the conference. This ensures that attendees who are nursing mothers have a comfortable and private area to attend to their needs.
- Granting travel grants for low and middle-income countries to encourage attendance by early career investigators. By providing financial support, the conference aims to increase representation from underrepresented regions and facilitate the participation of researchers who may otherwise face financial constraints

- We are proud to note that the WSC 2023 is committed to promoting gender diversity in its speaker lineup – we aim to provide a balanced representation of expertise and perspectives by giving women a prominent voice in stroke-related discussions.
- The scientific program of the WSC 2023 will also incorporate sessions dedicated to gender disparities. These sessions provide a platform to explore the factors that contribute to these disparities and identify effective interventions. By shedding light on this issue, we aim to raise awareness and encourage collaborative efforts to bridge the gender gap in the field of stroke.

Access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

The MTCC holds the distinction of being the inaugural facility in Toronto to embrace Enwave Energy's Deep Lake Water Cooling system. The system harnesses the cold water from Lake Ontario to efficiently cool the South Building, resulting in substantial reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and electrical consumption.

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable

With its sustainable practices and ongoing efforts, Toronto is an excellent choice for hosting an event that emphasizes and advances sustainability:

- The city has implemented various initiatives to promote sustainability, such as the [Toronto Green Standard](#), which sets guidelines for energy efficiency and green building practices.

- The city boasts a multitude of green spaces adorned with distinctive designs and art installations, all crafted from recycled materials. In an effort to promote sustainability, artists are provided with grants to execute their work in an environmentally conscious manner.
- The city has implemented recycling programs, organic waste diversion initiatives, and a goal to divert 70% of its waste from landfills by 2026.

Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

- We encourage all our exhibitors to join us in this initiative and reduce single-use giveaways at their stands.
- Course attendance certificates, such as the one for Continuous Medical Education, will be sent electronically.
- Selective waste collection throughout the building (paper, combustible waste, glass and tins).
- As part of the commitment to waste management and environmental responsibility, MTTC takes proactive measures to divert 90% of the waste generated within the facility away from landfills.
- MTTC collaborates with Voyage control to reduce traffic and ensure efficient and sustainable delivery of event materials, minimizing carbon monoxide emissions in the area.
- MTTC proudly maintains a rooftop apiary on the South building, where operate six beehives operate. Each hive serves as a habitat for approximately 50,000 bees, playing a crucial role in supporting the preservation of vital pollinators within Toronto.

More about sustainability in Toronto:

**Sustainability at Metro Toronto
Convention Centre:**