

ACTIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE **WORLD** FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE



MESSINA 2018

Sustainability@ISDRS2018



**THE 24th INTERNATIONAL
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH
SOCIETY CONFERENCE**

MESSINA · ITALY JUNE 13/15 2018

ISDRS 2018 Sustainability Strategy

International meetings, events and conferences are very important business practices that promote efficient and fruitful exchange, debate and sharing of knowledge, ideas and solutions as well as the creation and strengthening of networks. Due to their significant and noticeable benefits, several events have been organized to bring together hundreds of participants from every part of the world for a certain number of days.

However, these events can cause significant negative environmental impacts through energy and water consumption, waste generation and pollution of air and water. The organization of the event and the travel of the participants can contribute to climate change by creating greenhouse gas emissions. Moreover, positive impacts in economic and social terms are not always taken for granted.

In this context, the *Organizing Committee of the ISDRS 2018 Conference* believes that a conference on sustainability should incorporate sustainability considerations in all phases of planning and managing the event. Pursuing this general aim, the *Organizing Committee of the ISDRS 2018 Conference* has developed a sustainability strategy called *Sustainability@ISDRS2018* which incorporates several organizational programs with the objective to provide the most sustainable event possible. Incorporating sustainability considerations into the event planning and management will minimize the potential negative environmental impacts and maximize the positive ones, including creating a positive image for the event and social benefits for the local community.

The main goals of the ISDRS 2018 Sustainability Strategy are:

- 1- to identify the sustainability priorities that the *Organizing Committee of the ISDRS 2018 Conference* can directly manage in order to plan and implement simple yet effective sustainability practices;
- 2- to guide and engage stakeholders, such as participants, staff and contracted services to follow these sustainability practices;
- 3- to continue creating know-how on sustainability management for future ISDRS conferences.

The development process of the ISDRS 2018 Sustainability Strategy can be divided in five stages:

- 1- creating and communicating the ISDRS 2018 Sustainability Policy;
- 2- identifying the areas of impact that are the sustainability priorities to focus on;
- 3- developing sustainability objectives for these focus areas;
- 4- transforming objectives into actions by defining sustainability practices and arrangements;
- 5- measuring the actions against objectives in order to evaluate the efforts to make the event as sustainable as possible.

ISDRS 2018 Sustainability Policy

The *Organizing Committee of the 24th Annual Conference of the International Sustainable Development Research Society*, **ISDRS 2018** is committed to adopting and promoting sustainable practices in event planning and management as much as possible, in order to reduce the negative environmental impacts and improve the positive economic and social impacts of the conference through the implementation of this sustainability policy.

A conference of this size always affects the environment due to the number of people participating in the conference. However, given the resources and possibilities available to the organizers, actions to reduce the negative impact on the environment and be socially responsible in a way that can be directly managed by the organizers will be promoted. This also means encouraging partners to act in a sustainable way.

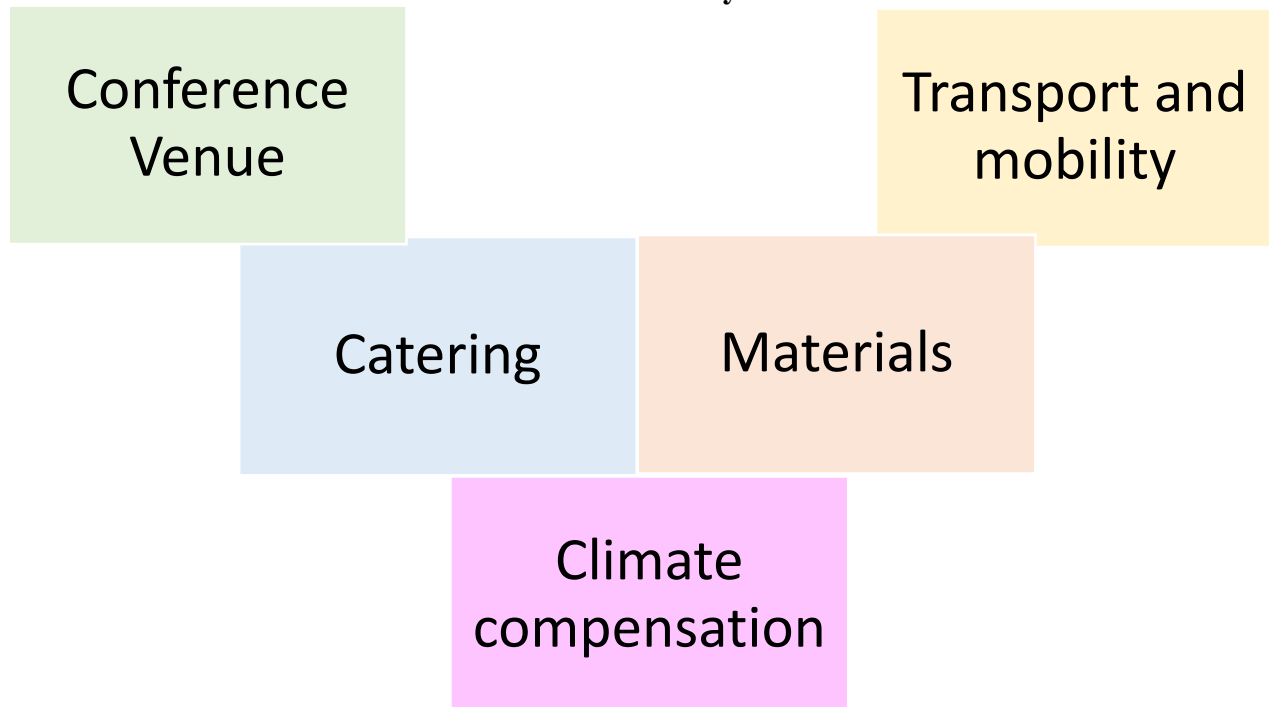
Sustainability@ISDRS2018 is based on the following fundamental sustainability priorities:

- reduce the impact connected to the conference venue: location, buildings & equipment;
- reduce the impact connected to transport activities directly controlled by the organizers;
- reduce the impact connected to catering activities directly controlled by the organizers;
- reduce the impact connected to materials use and consumption directly controlled by the organizers;
- estimate the climate compensation needed for the Conference activities.

By setting up a sustainability policy, we also aim to leave a lasting positive legacy for future ISDRS conferences through the development of know-how for effective implementation of sustainability principles and practices.

This sustainability policy, and the connected strategy, will be disclosed and communicated throughout all the Conference media before, during and after the event and also takes gender, religious and cultural diversity into consideration.

ISDRS 2018 Sustainability Priorities



Area of impact		Conference Venue: location, buildings, equipment.	Actions	Measurements	Our arrangements		
	Easy access to the Conference Venue	Choose a conference venue located at a walking distance from the main public transportation facilities				- Distance from the conference location to the central train and bus station	The University of Messina has four different campuses located in various areas of the city. The central Campus of the University of Messina has been chosen as the conference location in order to have easy access to public transport. Furthermore, it is located at a walking distance from the central bus and train station (1 km – 13 minutes walking), as well as from most of the accommodation locations suggested by the organizers.
	Use of available infrastructures for the location of the Conference Venue	Utilize existing buildings, rooms and equipment				- Number of existing buildings, rooms and equipment used at the conference	The Scientific part of the Conference Venue will make use exclusively of buildings, rooms and infrastructures of the University of Messina. Concerning the equipment, all ICT tools belong to the University of Messina and the Department of Economics, with the only exception of 14 laptops; indeed, the sponsor Explorer Informatica has offered the use of these additional computers to be used in the parallel sessions, avoiding the purchase of new equipment.
	Promote energy-saving practices at the Conference Venue	Share information about how to save energy consumption during the conference	- Number of information flyers distributed in rooms	Organizers ensure that all electrical and electronic equipment has energy saving properties turned on. Furthermore, participants are requested to turn off room lights and ventilation/cooling as well as ICT equipment when not in use, implementing energy-saving features. The related information is present in each room of the conference venue. Delegates are encouraged to assist with this energy saving policy also when they are at their hotel accommodation by only changing linen and towels on request and remembering to switch off their lights and air conditioning when they are not in their hotel rooms.			
Areas of impact		Transport	Actions	Measurements	Our arrangements		
	Improve walking mobility	Encourage delegates to book their hotels and other accommodations at a walking distance from the conference venue				- Number of proposed central accommodations with respect to the total of accommodations proposed - Number of rooms in central accommodations with respect to the total proposed rooms.	The possibility of booking hotel accommodation is offered in the Conference registration platform. A wide set of accommodations offered are at a walking distance from the conference venue and can be booked using the Conference registration platform. Of the 12 proposed hotels/residences/B&Bs, 10 are central and at a walking distance from the conference venue (in terms of rooms, central options make up more than 62% of the proposed rooms). Organizers also encouraged delegates who choose to book their own accommodations to search for accommodations within walking distance from the conference.
		Provide route information and guides to the delegates to facilitate their walking activities				- Number of city maps distributed	Organizers ensure that all delegates have easy access to city maps through the mobile application used in this conference (ExOrdo Mobile App). Route information is also available on the conference website www.isdrconference.org > Event information > Moving in Messina Paper city maps will be also available at the conference desk. Organizers encourage delegates to use the available digital maps in order to limit paper consumption.
		Limit impact of transport activities during the conference				When transport is necessary, encourage participants to use group transportation options or other forms of public transportation; share information on public transport	- Number of information brochures on public transport distributed
			Limit transport activities for participation in social dinners	- Number of social dinners at a walking distance with respect to the total of planned dinners.	Organizers have planned three different social events (the welcome event, the gala dinner and the closure event). The welcome event and the closure event are located in the same scientific conference venue (the Courtyard of the University of Messina - Central Campus) so transportation is not necessary. The Gala dinner is located in the city of Messina at about 11 km from the conference venue. In this case organizers have planned free group transfers, giving preference to buses with a capacity depending on needs and with the lowest fuel consumption. Information about this transfer (place and time of departure) will be given during the conference through the mobile application (ExOrdo Mobile App).		
		Limit transport activities for participation in sustainability tours	- Number of sustainability tours organized within the Province area of Messina with respect to the total of tours planned	Organizers have planned 5 different sustainability tours; 4 of these are located in the Province area of Messina, one is partly located in the Province area of Catania (TOUR 3 - Etna Natural Park: exploring one of the most active volcanoes on Earth). All the proposed tours offer the delegates the opportunity to visit the most important natural and cultural destinations near Messina with sustainable activities included to preserve the sites. Detailed information is available on the conference website www.isdrconference.org > Conference > Sustainability Tours Organizers have planned group transfers, giving preference (when possible) to buses with a capacity depending on the needs and with the lowest fuel consumption. These tours will be confirmed only if the minimum number of participants is reached; this number has been set considering the economic sustainability of each single tour.			

Areas of impact	Catering	Reduce the impact connected to catering activities	Actions	Promote the use of food with less environmental impact	Measurements	- percentage of local seasonal food with respect to the total food offered during the conference - percentage of local vegetables respect meat and fish offered during the conference	Our arrangements	In determining the catering menus, most food will be vegetarian (from regional production) with options of local meat or local fish/seafood. When economically sustainable, organic local food will be selected. Organizers and the caterer have planned the menus together in order to ensure the highest percentage of local seasonal food while balancing quality, environmental and economic issues, and ensuring adequate availability and diversity of food and guaranteeing that various menu options are offered for every part of the meals (e.g. fish, meat, vegan/vegetarian, gluten free, etc.). Organizers have requested information on the specific nutritional needs of participants at registration, in terms of food allergies and food preferences. Local mineral water and locally-produced wines have been chosen. The contracted caterer GranMirci is fully involved in this policy and has organized all the food-related activities of the conference with the only exception being the sustainability tours.
				Encourage the use of reusable and/or compostable materials		- percentage of reusable materials - percentage of compostable materials		Organizers will make sure that, during the coffee and tea breaks as well as lunches and cocktails, caterer GranMirci uses only compostable dishes, cups and cutlery. Organizers will make sure that, during the gala dinner, caterer GranMirci uses dishes and containers made of ceramic and glass, metal cutlery, glass cups and/ or other reusable glasses.
				Limit food waste by making close estimates about the number of delegates who are coming, and then order a specific number of meals that will meet that estimate.		- difference between estimated number and effective number of delegates participating in the various daily meals		Organizers will communicate the number of participants in the daily meals as accurately as possible in time to avoid food waste.
Areas of impact	Materials	Promote better use and selection of congress bags and gifts	Actions	Reduce the number of gifts given to participants to a minimum and select gifts that have a sustainable thought (emphasis in social job creation, local production and/or environmental value).	Measurements	- number of materials with a “sustainable” value with respect to the total material distributed	Our arrangements	Organizers ensure the sustainability value of the convention materials by making the following choices: - conference bags are produced from recycled fabric by female inmates incarcerated in a Southern Italian prison who are learning new job skills and receive a regular salary. Unwanted delegate bags can be left at the conference desk for redistribution to those in need such as less-fortunate schoolchildren; - key note speaker gifts are typical traditional local products; - delegate gifts are 100% organic farming Sicilian products; - all registered participants receive a pencil containing seeds to be planted; - all registered participants receive a bottle of local mineral water (Km 0) and are invited to refill the bottle using the water dispensers available throughout the conference venue. These bottles and the water dispensers are offered by the sponsor Uno Vending
		Promote the reduction of paper use and consumption		Reduce the consumption of paper by limiting the use of printed conference materials		- number of electronic materials with respect to the total materials distributed		Organizers have limited the use of printed material through the following practices (mostly standardized in ISDRS conferences): - abstract and full paper submission is all managed in electronic form only; - abstract and full paper proceeding books are sent in electronic form only; - attendance certification and registration receipt are sent in electronic form only. The Organizing Committee strongly encourages delegates to use the electronic dissemination of information (such as publications and information related to side events and exhibits, other meetings or future conferences). All relevant information during the conference is made available through the Conference Mobile App (ExOrdo Mobile App).
				When it is paper use is unavoidable, promote the use of recycled paper or FSC certified paper.		- number of materials printed on FSC certified paper with respect to the total printed material distributed		Organizers have ensured that the conference program and conference badges are printed on recycled and FSC certified paper. Both have been printed using vegetable colors, on both sides and keeping the font size to a legible minimum. The typographer who printed the ISDRS 2018 Conference material is certified ISO 14001 and FSC (http://www.tipografiasamperi.it) Water dispensers and coffee dispensers will be provided with paper recyclable bio-cups and compostable sticks offered by the sponsor Uno Vending . Furthermore, organizers encourage authors to print posters with more sustainable materials: recycled paper or FSC certified paper and vegetable colors. More information is available on the conference website www.isdrsconference.org > Call and submissions > Oral and poster presentations .
		Promote the separation of materials subject to reuse or that are recyclable		Share information about how to collect waste materials.		- number of waste separation bins - number of reusable materials collected at the conference desk and donated		Participants are asked to actively participate in the waste management initiative and support waste avoidance and waste separation as much as possible. Waste separation bins are present in the conference area. All unwanted delegate material can be left for redistribution at the conference desk; after the conference, organizers will redistribute to potentially interested less-fortunate people or to reuse/recycle.

		Promote the reduction of packaging waste		Propose solutions to delegates that allow packaging waste reduction.		- number of water dispensers		Organizers will ensure that water dispensers will be available throughout the conference venue to be used to fill water bottles that will be distributed to all registered participants free of charge at the Information Desks. Water dispensers and coffee dispensers will be provided with paper recyclable bio-cups and compostable sticks offered by the sponsor Uno Vending .
		Promote the reduction of waste connected to poster session		Encourage participants to take their posters at the end of the event		- number of posters not left at the conference with respect to the total number of posters.		Organizers invite authors to take their poster with them at the end of event. Left posters will be collected in the paper disposal bin.
		Promote a sustainable choice of decor and flowers		Give preference to reusable materials to prepare and hang the posters		- number of reusable materials with respect to the total materials distributed		Only reusable materials are to be used to hang the posters. Organizers invite authors print their posters on recycled paper, using vegetable colors.
				Choose local flowers or decorative items produced locally and/or use reusable decorations		- number of locally produced flowers or living plants with respect to the total decoration used		Organizers have planned that all flower arrangements in conference venues are living plants.
Area of impact	Climate compensation	Assess the Carbon Footprint of the event	Actions	Compensate for the CO ² emissions associated with the activities directly controlled by the organizers as much as possible	Measurements	- ex ante Carbon footprint of the event - estimation of CO ² emissions compensated - ex post Carbon footprint of the event	Our arrangements	The amount of GHG emissions generated in connection with the conference will be reduced to the smallest extent possible. Even if certain emissions are unavoidable (such as those associated with delegates' travel, which is responsible for the major part of the overall footprint). Organizers will offset a part of these CO ² emissions by: - distributing a pencil containing seeds to be planted to all registered participants (free of charge in their conference bag) - the two sponsors ArredoVerde and G.Milazzo Vini will donate trees to be planted at one of the Campuses of the University of Messina.

ORGANISING COMMITTEE



Roberta Salomone

Conference Chair

Full professor of "Quality and Environmental Management" and "Industrial Ecology" (Commodity Science) and Deputy Director of the Department of Economics - University of Messina (Italy) from 25/01/2016. PhD on "Technology and Economics of Processes and of Products for Environmental Safeguard" University of Catania (Italy). She has been expert for the European Commission (DG Research & Innovation). She is Member of the Board of the Italian LCA Network and member of the Board of Professor of the PhD in "Economics, Management and Statistics" - Universities of Messina and Catania. She participated to various research groups, also as national coordinator and she is, actually, author of more than 130 publications on national and international scientific journals, books and proceedings. Her main areas of specialization are: Quality Management and Environmental Management; Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) and other environmental assessment tools; Industrial Ecology and Industrial Symbiosis; Integrated approaches of environmental management and assessment tools.



Andrea Raggi

Conference Co-Chair

Full professor of Industrial Ecology and related issues at the Department of Economic Studies, University "G. d'Annunzio", Pescara, Italy. For almost 3 decades, he has carried out academic research and teaching. His research perspective includes environmental management systems, life cycle sustainability assessment, industrial ecology. His research is mainly of an interdisciplinary nature, also involving engagement with stakeholders (mainly industry); he has participated in various research projects involving multi- and inter-disciplinary collaborations, both at a national and international level.



Giovanni Mondello

PhD student in Quality, Innovation and Sustainability at the University of Roma Tre (Rome). He completed his studies in Environmental and Natural Science at the University of Messina and afterwards he earned his MSc degree in Ecotoxicology and Environmental Sustainability at the University of Siena. His main research is focused on the improvement of the Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment framework and its application in the context of food waste management, by combining Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Life Cycle Costing (LCC) and Social LCA (SLCA). He is also working on proposing innovative solutions for food waste treatment as well as on the application of the LCA tool in the agrifood sector.



Giuseppe Ioppolo

Associate Professor in Commodity Science - (Environmental Management) at the University of Messina and previously Assistant Professor in the same University. He has held Visiting Professor positions in Tokyo University (Japan), Tsinghua University (China), USBC (USA) and visiting Researcher at Leiden University (Netherlands). He is co-editor in chief of the journal "Sustainability" (Section on "Economic, Business and Management Aspects of Sustainability"), and member of the Editorial Board of the journal of "Sustainable Development". His main research topics are: sustainability, environmental governance, urban metabolism and environmental resource management tools, implemented in different productive and territorial contexts. Author of about 80 publications in proceedings of National and International Conferences and National and International refereed journals, he is involved, as P.I., currently, in a scientific project on "A novel approach to Urban Metabolism: integration of economic, environmental and social issues for the design of sustainable urban systems".



Giuseppe Saija

Full Professor of Quality and Environmental Management at Department of Economics - University of Messina; his main research topics are quality and environmental management system, integrated management systems (quality, environment, safety, ethics, etc.), environmental assessment tools, and food quality. He is Coordinator Presidium of Quality at the University of Messina and ANVUR evaluator expert.



Francesco Pira

Professor in Sociology of Culture and Communication at the 'University of Messina. Since 2016 he is Coordinator of the Master: Manager of Public Communication. He is President of the Commission of pre-graduate test of the degree course in Communication Science, Public Communication and Journalistic Techniques. Member of the Commission AQ (quality of teaching) of the Department of Ancient and Modern Civilizations. Along the years in his researches he has explored different aspects of Sociology of Communication with special focus on Political and Public communication dynamics and technics, Social communication. In 1997 he began to study the interactions between childhood, teenagers and new technologies and the evolution of their communication dynamics connected with the development of new media and technological platforms. Now his main research area is focused on social media dynamics and the connected new social relationship models. He is author of more than 75 publications in the fields of Public, Political, Social communication, Digital and Social Media.



Augusto D'Amico

Full Professor of Business Economics and Management (SECS-P/08) at University of Messina where he teaches Fundamentals of Management and Marketing & Corporate Communication. Dean of Department of Economics at University of Messina. Member of the PhD Board in Marketing and Enterprise Management at University of Milan-Bicocca since 2007. Member of Accademia Italiana di Economia Aziendale (Italian Academic Society for Management Studies). Member Editorial Advisory Board of International Journal of Economic Practices and Theories (IJEPT) ISSN: 2247 - 7225. Referee: Sinergie, Mercati & Competitività, Micro & Macro Marketing. His research interests are focused on many topics relating to customer value creation, enhancement of the typical products value, demarketing and emerging communication technologies. He is author and co-author of many books and papers published in Italy and abroad. He is author of several scientific publications both in national journals (Sinergie, Micro & Macro Marketing, Mercati & Competitività, ecc.) and international journals (British Food Journal, Revue Francaise du Marketing, ecc.) and books. He has been coordinator of a number of research projects supported by University of Messina and member of several research projects, supported by CNR and MIUR.

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