MPI EVENT SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

At Meeting Professionals International, we recognize that our event management activities and operations can have both positive and negative environmental, social and economic impacts, and we, as an organization, want to minimize our negative impacts in all three of these areas to satisfy both legal and other requirements, in addition to our own ethical standards. To this end, we regularly audit our compliance with current legislation, measure our progress and make improvements where possible.

Our Purpose

MPI's purpose is to provide our members, chapters and the global meeting and event community with innovative and relevant education, networking opportunities and business exchanges, and to act as a prominent voice for the promotion and growth of the industry.

Our Values

MPI’s approach to all business practices, including meetings and events, is guided by our commitment to showing leadership, stewardship, integrity, inclusivity, transparency and continuous improvement. These principles are embodied in our Core Values and support the culture and environment that MPI aspires to be to enable our commitment to sustainable success:

- FOCUSED ON PEOPLE—Our teammates are the heart of our organization and our partnerships and relationships with member volunteers are the keys to our success; therefore we view people as our most valuable asset. We are responsible for ourselves, and to each other to enrich our communities and sustain our environments and we will strive to develop strong individuals and united teams.
- CARRIED OUT WITH ENTHUSIASM AND PASSION—We have unrelenting passion for our members, our industry and our teammates’ success, carried out with personal accountability for our choices and performance.
- EMPOWERED BY TRUST AND INTEGRITY—Diversity of thought is considered essential in our community and “intelligent failures” are viewed as a source of growth and development. We are honest and ethical with our team members and the MPI community and we will cultivate discipline and respect in an environment where it is safe to express opinions and take risks.
- DEDICATED TO COLLABORATION—For the betterment of our community and chapters, we commit to share what we do and collaborate without bias or boundaries.
- COMMITTED TO PRINCIPLED PROFIT—We re-invest in our mission to serve the needs of our members and our industry. We practice sound business with diligence to remain economically viable.

We uphold these principles and values in all our event operations and processes, and strive to improve and develop upon them in order to leave a lasting, positive legacy.

Scope of Sustainability Implementation

We continue our sustainability journey with the implementation of ISO 20121, the event sustainability management systems standard. An important step in this process is identifying the scope. In 2014-2015, that scope will consist of MPI-branded events organized by our global headquarters—specifically the World Education Congress (WEC), the Chapter Business Summit (CBS), IMEX America Smart Monday Powered by MPI and the European Meetings & Events Conference (EMEC). Within our management system, we will begin working with the APEX/ASTM Environmentally Sustainable Meetings Standards and using the GRI Event Organizers Sector Supplement as our reporting framework.
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Our Objectives
In 2014-2015, MPI will continue to focus on three objectives related to event sustainability:

- COMMUNICATION—We commit to being transparent about our activities and sharing the story of our progress with stakeholders (including members, partners, event participants, our staff and the wider meeting industry).
- MEASUREMENT—We commit to measuring our sustainability efforts to create a baseline in which we will identify opportunities for improvement.
- EDUCATION—We commit to providing stakeholders (including members, partners, event participants, and our staff) with industry-leading research, professional development, case studies and tools to support their sustainability efforts.

We commit to re-engaging our stakeholders to identify the sustainability issues that we should address within our ISO 20121 management system. These issues may include the following:

- ENVIRONMENTAL—How we use and conserve our resources, what materials we choose and how we manage event waste, water and energy usage, air quality and our carbon footprint.
- SOCIAL—How we address labor standards, health and safety, local community, cultural issues, accessibility, equity, heritage and religious sensitivities, while ensuring ongoing stakeholder satisfaction.
- ECONOMIC—How we manage our budgets to ensure fiscal responsibility and strong economic performance, as well as return on investment or experience, benefits to the local economy and direct/indirect economic impact to our stakeholders.

We commit to demonstrating leadership and constantly improving our ways of working, to communicating this policy to all of our stakeholders and supply chains, and to listening to and recording any feedback from our stakeholders.

We invite anyone who wishes to provide feedback in relation to our sustainability policy, objectives and issues, to complete a short online survey. Alternatively, you can contact our sustainability champion, Andrew Walker, Manager of Events, at awalker@mpiweb.org.

This policy is available to all interested parties and will be reviewed annually.