

CONFERENCE SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

35th Annual EAIE
Conference and Exhibition

09-12 September 2025, Gothenburg, Sweden





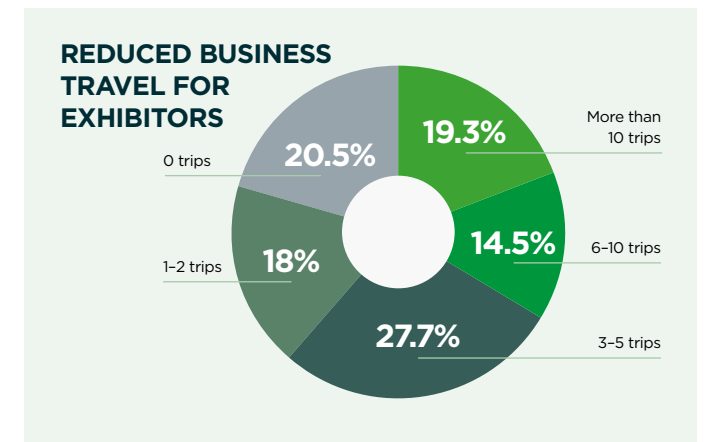
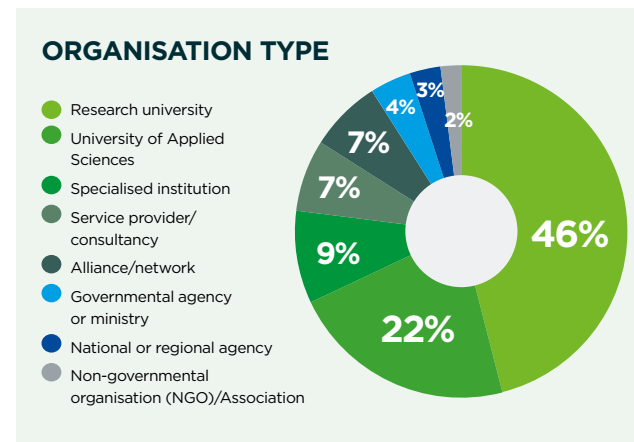
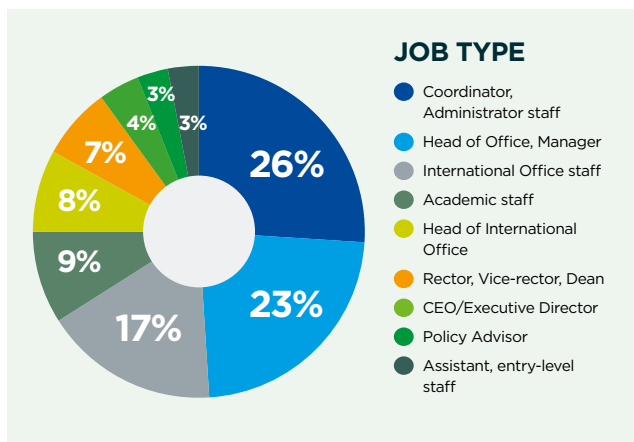
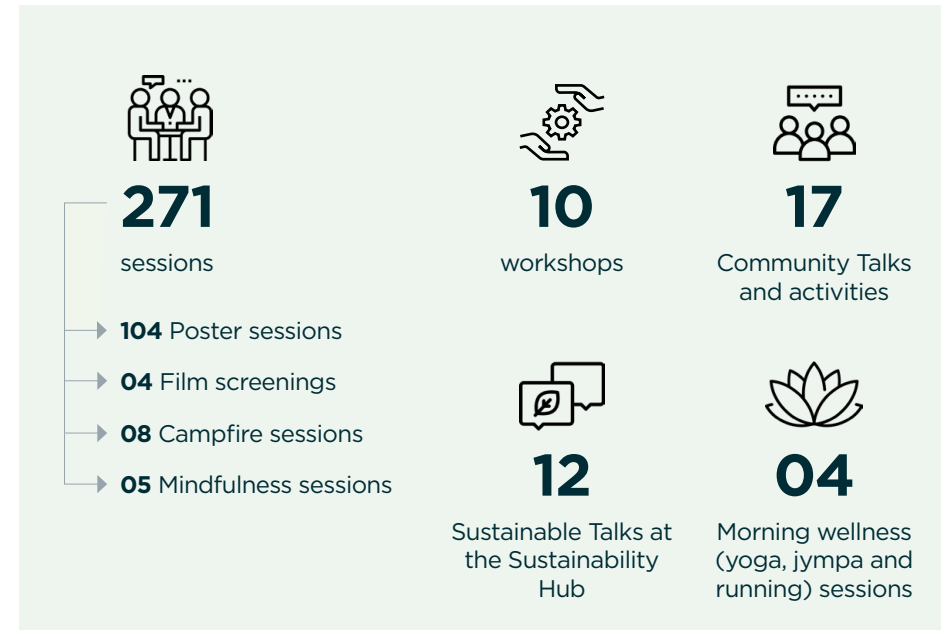
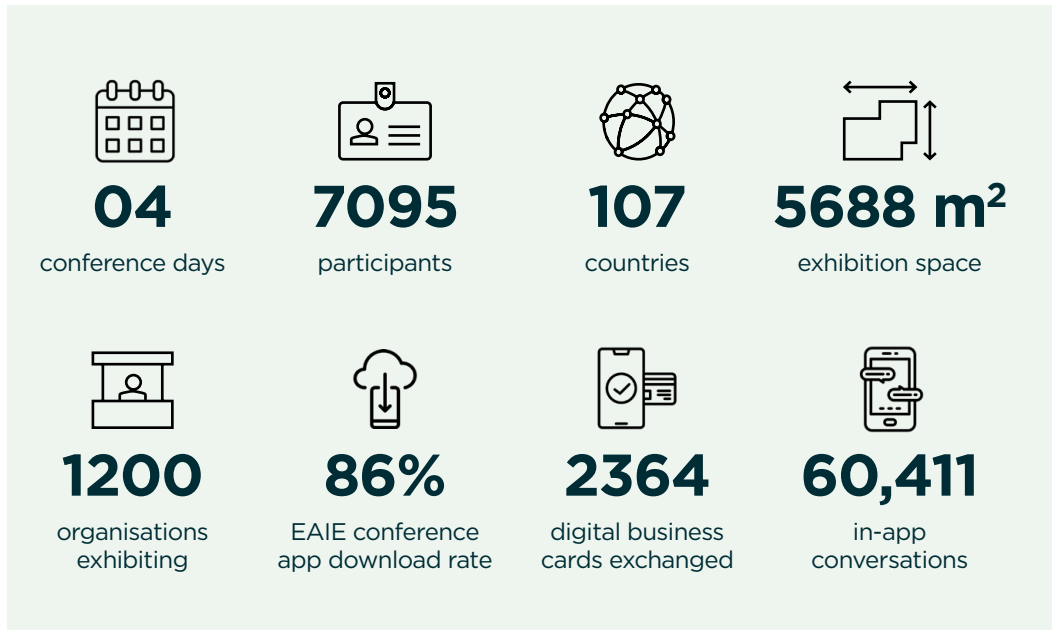
Our commitment to a sustainable conference

Our overarching sustainability objective is to achieve a net zero EAIE Conference and Exhibition. To fulfil this goal, we are committed to leading by example in the sector and taking concrete steps to **reduce our carbon footprint, inspiring responsible actions, and providing a comprehensive community event** that helps reduce the need for additional business travel.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

03	EAIE Conference in numbers
04	Sustainable actions timeline
05	Our objectives and SDGs
06	How we reach our goals
07	Key impact overview
08	Our goals achieved
10	Our journey in pictures
11	Communicating our goals
12	Looking ahead to 2026
13	Our sustainable partners

The EAIE Conference & Exhibition in numbers



Over 10 years of sustained action



2015

EAIE INITIATIVES

- Fair trade tote bag from Township
- Planting trees to offset carbon emissions
- Aligned with the SDGs and created a goal for the conference

EAIE INITIATIVES

- Biodegradable coffee cup
- Lanyards made out of recyclable PET

2017



2019

MESSUKESKUS, HELSINKI

- Water refill stations
- CANIE collaboration
- ISO qualification partnership with venue
- Free public transportation cards
- EAIE green goals statement published
- We launched the #EAIEgreengoals campaign to raise awareness about our actions and encourage our community to participate.

FIRA, BARCELONA

- Fully vegetarian catering
- Request for proposals for future conference destinations aligned with EAIE green goals

2022



2023

AHOY, ROTTERDAM

- Upcycling banner materials
- No disposable materials for catering
- Waste management guidelines
- Sustainable exhibitor pledges
- First CO2 footprint report
- Sustainability Corner showcasing our actions
- Travel with CANIE collaboration
- Reduce and Reusable carpet

MEETT, TOULOUSE

- Participant pledge
- Sustainable stand guidelines
- Conference tote bags are optional
- Attendee travel calculator
- Workshops about sustainability

2024



2025

SVENSKA MASSAN, GOTHENBURG

- Signed Net Zero Carbon Events Pledge
- Incorporated sustainability in organisational strategy
- Started waste mapping
- Interactive talks from green partners at the Sustainability Hub
- Future venues project to align on green goals



Our sustainability goals & UN SDGs we support



1. Reducing our carbon footprint and openly sharing our progress

As signatories of the net zero carbon pledge for the events industry, we commit to becoming a net zero conference



2. Encouraging climate action by inspiring and involving all partners and participants

We promote concrete action and behaviour change through engaging with event initiatives.

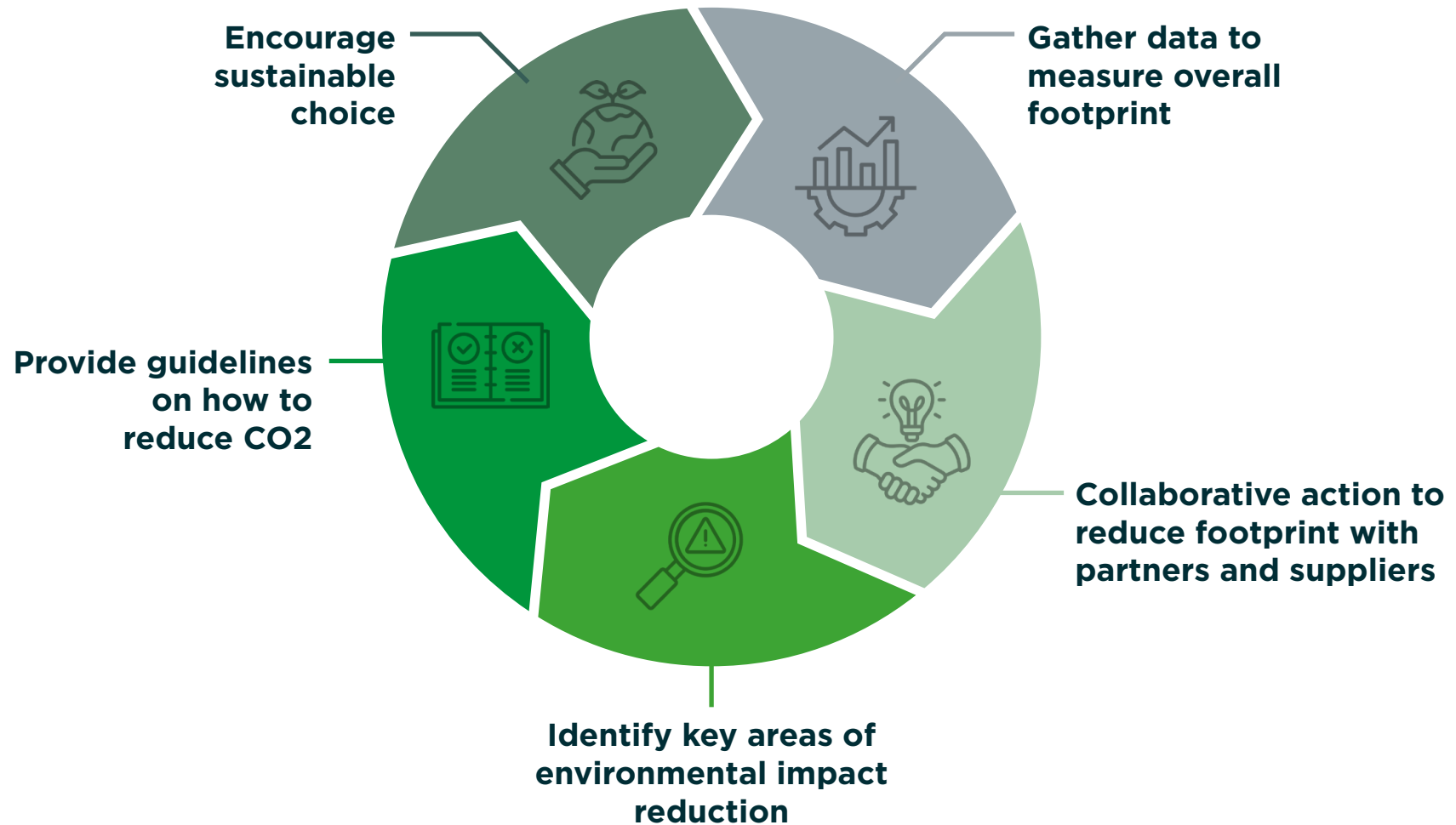


3. Participating in the circular economy and reducing waste

We aim to bring zero waste to landfills and encourage responsible consumption practices through a circular economy mindset.



How we aim to achieve our goals



Key impacts of EAIE Gothenburg 2025

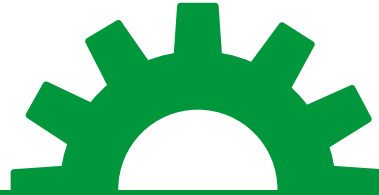


Carbon footprint reduction

Total carbon footprint:
8093t CO2

Total footprint per participant:
36kg CO2, excluding travel (including travel: **1420kg CO2**)

97% of the total is from participant travel and accommodation



Engagement and awareness

25% response rate of participant carbon travel calculator

Signage suppliers changed their offer to **recyclable materials** based on our advice



Waste management & circularity

171 sqm signage banners made into **3000 pencil cases**

2000kg of paper and **5kg** of ink saved by reducing conference notebook size

161 signage items with generic branding are **reused every year**

Total amount of waste produced:
725,2 m3

Key impacts of EAIE Gothenburg 2025 (cont.)

THEME	GOALS	ACTION TAKEN
1. Carbon footprint reduction and transparency	a. Aligning with the Paris Agreement, the EAIE Conference and Exhibition aims to achieve 50% CO2 reduction by 2030 and a 90% reduction by 2050 (these measurements exclude participant travel emissions; see point 1d. for travel emissions goal).	Became signatories of the NetZeroCarbon Events pledge Reduced total carbon footprint by 9.1% (2024: 285tCO ₂ ; 2025: 259tCO ₂)
	b. Create a baseline carbon footprint, establish a rolling average and account for the varying sustainability levels of the host cities; in addition, work with host cities to adopt sustainable practices and collaborate to make the event more sustainable.	Average footprint from Rotterdam and Toulouse: 245 tCO ₂ . A 3-year average (2024–2026) will be used as the baseline due to destination and supplier variations. Developed host city project and best practices that will be shared also in events industry such as tap water stickers in all bathrooms and organisign a knowledge sharing event between EAIE venues to work on roadmap.
	c. Publish annual sustainability reports on the carbon footprint of the event highlighting progress, setbacks and challenges as well as the influence of the event's geographic location and its impact.	First report published for 2025 EAIE Conference and Exhibition in Gothenburg.
	d. Partner with CANIE to inspire industry change and drive sector-wide carbon reduction focusing on participant travel emissions through their Travel with CANIE initiative.	Travel calculator used 1692 times in 2025 (2024: 83); 380 train trips resulting in 50 tCO ₂ saved.
		Working with CANIE since 2022 and sponsoring CANIE financially since 2024.
		CO2 offset via Trees for All (1500 tCO ₂) and LifeTerra (200 tCO ₂ removal credits); participants received a tree voucher in Europe.
		Tree planting day on 06 March 2026 for trees from 2025 conference parts in Netherlands
	2. Call to action and engagement on climate responsibility	Align with changemakers such as partners and suppliers to make changes to existing materials and practices.
Activate our audience and participants, and inspire sustainable actions before, during and beyond the conference.		CANIE hosted breakfast at Sustainability Hub for 50 participants. 63 participants signed the Sustainable Participant Pledge. 21 exhibitors signed the Exhibitor Pledge (12 in 2024).
Track the response rates to the carbon calculation tools we offer.		100% of standbuilders and suppliers filled in our carbon calculator
Encourage suppliers to track and report their scope 2 and 3 emissions as part of their sustainability practices		We will share each exhibitors' carbon footprint per stand
Foster engagement with sustainable event initiatives and measure the participation level.		Around 150 participants attended the sessions at the Sustainability Hub and around 300 picked up their travel green pin

Key impacts of EAIE Gothenburg 2025 (cont.)

THEME	GOALS	ACTION TAKEN
3. Circular economy and resource conservation	Achieve a 50% event waste reduction by 2030 and a 90% reduction by 2050, aligning with the Paris Agreement.	Produced 567 kg CO2 of waste compared to 364 kgCO2 as of last year
		We took 171 sqm of banner materials home and produced 3000 pencil cases which will be used for future editions stand give away
		No exhibition hall aisle carpet reduced amount of waste
	Actively participate and contribute to circular economy by bringing zero-waste to landfills.	The graphics of 10 exhibition stands could be stored and will be resused in 2026
		Donation box format updated and supported a local charity with the donations
		Reduced the conference notebook to a booklet which saved 2000kg of paper and 5kg of ink
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In carpeted spaces, a total of 5126 sqm of Rewind carpet was used that can be 100% recycled and used for new carpet • No carpet on most main exhibition aisles and Sustainability Hub which saved around 1023 sqm and lowered emissions by 0.246t CO2 • In the venue, we used 3663 sqm of reusable carpet tiles
Minimise the use of single-use materials, promote reusable alternatives and implement recycling policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibitor sustainability guidelines explain which materials to use and avoid • Exhibitor brochures waste measured separately to show impact- no success full data received • 161 generic branded signage pieces are reused all year-round at EAIE events 	
Improve food and beverage offerings by reducing environmental impact, prioritising sustainable packaging and minimising food waste	Served plant based food from local farm with no single-packaged condiments. Provided extra paper bags for take away. Worked with local food recycling programme. Tableware was porcelain and glass . Biodegradable paper cups at water stations were provided.	
Reducing energy consumption and finding ways to improve year-on-year.	First measurements were done in 2025.	
Additional social impact	Strategic countries attendance and supported exhibitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We gave away about 120 sqm of free stand space, for a value of about €64,300 • We gave a 25% discount to 11 exhibitors from low to low-middle income economies

■ Established
 ■ Developing
 ■ Emerging

GOAL 1

Reducing carbon footprint



Vegetarian and locally sourced catering

GOAL 2

Inspire and engage



Promote green travel in partnership with CANIE

GOAL 3

Reduce waste and promote circularity



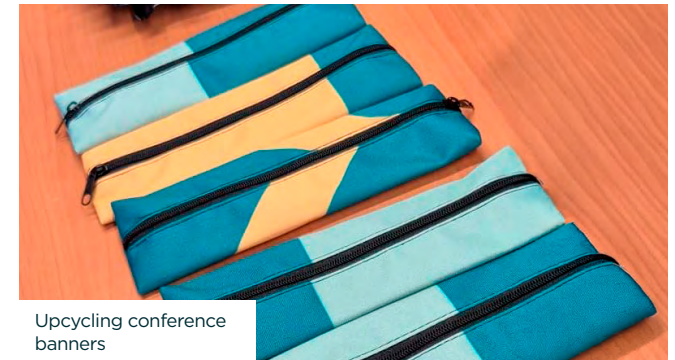
Provide recycling bins around the venue



Reusable & biodegradable water cups



Networking while trash picking activity



Upcycling conference banners



Tree planting with Life Terra



Sustainable Talks at the Sustainability Hub



No carpet on exhibition aisles

Communicating our goals

Sustainable Talks at the Sustainability Hub



Blog post on net zero pledge

Blog 01 Aug 2025 by EAIE

Committed to a greener future: We've signed the Net Zero Carbon Events Pledge



At the EAIE, our dedication to advancing international education is closely tied to our deep-rooted commitment to sustainability. Along with our community, we have embarked on a multi-year journey to reduce our environmental impact, especially when it comes to our [Annual EAIE Conference and Exhibition](#). By encouraging conscious choices and creating a meaningful, centralised conference that limits the need for additional travel, we aim to lead by example. This year marks a pivotal step in this journey: our pledge to become a net-zero event by 2050. This milestone reflects both our long-term vision and our commitment to transparency as we begin to share our progress toward a more sustainable future.



How will you make a positive impact at #EAIE2025?



Dear William,

As you make your way to the 35th Annual EAIE Conference and Exhibition in Gothenburg, don't forget the many green initiatives waiting for you! Use the carbon calculator to track your impact, explore unmissable sessions with CANIE, and check out what the EAIE is doing to make steps toward a greener future. Join in and help make this year's conference our most sustainable yet!



Measure your impact

Help us to reach our goal to achieve a net zero EAIE Conference and Exhibition by 2050. Real change starts with concrete actions. Take the Sustainable Participant Pledge and be a role model to the community.

FILL IN THE CARBON CALCULATOR

Visit the EAIE Sustainability Hub



Highlighting sustainability actions to participants

EAIE: European Association for International Education
39,479 followers
7mo · 🌐

🌿 Scenic stopovers, train café catch-ups and a lighter carbon footprint – what's not to love? For **CJ, Matt, Paulina** and **Beth**, the route to last year's conference was full of unexpected highlights!

👉 Ready to **#TravelWithCANIE** to Gothenburg next month? Join the Travel Green group on the Community Platform to meet fellow travellers, share tips and coordinate your journey together: <https://lnkd.in/eHn4vDFc>

CANIE: Climate Action Network for International Educators #EAIEGreenGoals

Green travel stories · 5 pages

🌿🌿🌿🌿🌿

JOIN THE GREEN TRAVEL MOVEMENT TO GOTHENBURG!

See how **CJ, Matt, Paulina** and **Beth** made the journey last year »

EAIE European Association for International Education

CANIE CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK

Matt

👍❤️👍 45

3 comments · 1 repost

Green travel campaign with CANIE

Looking ahead to EAIE Glasgow 2026

01

Provide reusable exhibition stand graphics for up to 50 exhibitors



02

Improving processes such as the carbon travel calculator response rate



03

Introduce festival cups system to reduce waste



04

Establish new partnerships with Interrail and Eurostar



THANK YOU

We'd like to thank our valued, long-standing partners who helped to make our sustainability impact possible:



2025 sustainability sponsor

