

EAPRIL 2026

25-27 NOVEMBER
CORK, IRELAND

SUSTAINABILITY

Carbon Footprint Reduction 2026

EAPRIL 2026 is jointly organised by:



How to Reduce and Offset Your Carbon Footprint as an EAPRIL Delegate

We encourage all delegates to contribute to a more sustainable conference experience by considering the following actions before, during, and after the event.

Transportation

- Avoid flying whenever a feasible alternative exists, such as travelling by train, bus, ferry, or coach.
- If air travel is unavoidable, consider making a voluntary carbon offset contribution to compensate for the emissions generated by your flight.
- Use public transport rather than taxis where possible.
- Carpool or travel in groups with colleagues attending the conference.
- Walk or cycle during your stay whenever practical.

Accommodation and Buildings

- Choose accommodation within walking distance of the conference venue where possible.
- Reduce energy consumption by turning off lights, heating, air conditioning, and electronic devices when leaving your accommodation.
- Reuse towels and bed linen during your stay to reduce water and energy use.

Food and Consumption

- Avoid over-ordering food and only take what you intend to consume.
- Prioritise plant-based meal options, which generally have a lower environmental impact than meat-based alternatives.
- Minimise food waste throughout the conference.
- Bring a reusable water bottle, coffee cup, or other reusable items where possible.

Materials and Manufactured Products

- Avoid printing conference materials and use digital versions instead.
- Download conference programmes, abstracts, and presentations to your device rather than requesting printed copies.
- Reduce unnecessary purchases and favour reusable products.

Waste Management

- Produce as little waste as possible.
- Reuse materials whenever feasible.
- Separate and recycle waste according to local guidelines.
- Dispose of waste responsibly in designated bins.



Supporting Environmental Action

- Consider contributing to certified carbon offset programmes if your travel generates significant emissions.
- Support local or international environmental initiatives, such as reforestation, biodiversity restoration, or renewable energy projects.
- Encourage sustainable travel and event practices within your own institution.

How EAPRIL 2026 Aims to Reduce Its Organisational Carbon Footprint

EAPRIL is committed to reducing the environmental impact of its annual conference and continuously improving the sustainability of its events. The following measures are being implemented for EAPRIL 2026 in Cork.

Location

- The conference is hosted in Cork, a city recognised among the world's leading sustainable destinations through the Global Destination Sustainability (GDS) Index. The destination was selected in part because of its commitment to sustainability and responsible tourism practices. [More information](#).
- We work closely with local areas, including universities and tourism agencies, to promote delegate engagement within the locality of our venues, promoting revenue generation for local businesses.
- The conference is organised outside of the capital city and during the off-season, supporting more sustainable tourism and regional development.

Transportation

- The conference venue is located in an area with strong public transport connections.
- Delegates are encouraged to use public transport, walk, cycle, or share rides whenever possible.
- Group transport options will be promoted for school visits and other off-site activities.
- The EAPRIL Board and Office contributes to carbon offset programmes and planting trees projects to offset our carbon emissions (including the shipping of associated materials).

Accommodation and Buildings

- The conference venue prioritises sustainable practices and infrastructure, including energy-efficient technologies where available, such as LED lighting, natural ventilation, maximised use of daylight, and renewable energy solutions.



- Preference is given to venues and accommodation providers with recognised sustainability certifications and environmental policies.
- Delegates are encouraged to select accommodation with demonstrated sustainability credentials.

Catering

- Working with ethical and sustainable 'green' providers for our food and other supplies – using producers who are local to the conference venues wherever possible.
- Menus prioritise plant-forward options and incorporate locally sourced, seasonal ingredients where possible.
- Food quantities are planned carefully to minimise waste while ensuring adequate catering for all participants.
- Caterers are encouraged to use sustainable packaging and environmentally responsible waste management practices.
- Where feasible, surplus food is donated to local organisations.
- Organic waste is composted whenever local facilities and regulations allow.

Minimising Waste

- Single-use plastics are avoided wherever possible and replaced with reusable or recyclable alternatives.
- Clearly marked waste separation and recycling stations are provided throughout the conference venue.
- Digital solutions are prioritised to reduce paper consumption, including electronic programmes, schedules, and conference materials.
- Printed brochures, flyers, and conference goodie bags are minimised or eliminated whenever possible. Our lanyards and badge holders are reused.

Continuous Improvement

- EAPRIL organises EAPRIL Members meeting during the conference to discuss the topic of sustainability and plan further actions. Sustainability in Education is also a track in the conference programme. The EAPRIL Cloud (special interest group) Education for Sustainability aims to be a platform for teachers, teacher-educators, school leaders, project leaders and practitioner-researchers who are interested in education and learning in the field of sustainable development.
- EAPRIL recognises that sustainable event management is an ongoing process and remains committed to identifying additional opportunities to reduce the environmental impact of future conferences.

