

GREENING GUIDE FOR PARTICIPANTS

Our joint contribution towards making the WCDRR sustainable

The United Nations and the Host Government of Japan are committed to organizing a sustainable 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. To this end, a number of measures are being implemented to minimize environmental impact and maximize social, economic and environmental sustainability of the Conference. Meeting the objectives of a sustainable Conference, however, will require the cooperative action of individual meeting participants. It takes the collective commitment of the conference secretariat and individual participants to advance the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the Conference. Therefore, all participants are advised to follow the guidelines set forth below.

Transportation

Using shuttle buses e-bicycles

The Host Government will make available shuttle buses/vans between the various Conference venues. Sendai City will also provide Electric Bicycles for use by Conference participants between venues.

Participants are encouraged to use shuttle buses and bicycles for attending meetings, side events, exhibits and other activities. Information on the routes and timetables of the shuttle buses and location of the e-bicycles is available in the Conference Handbook <http://tinyurl.com/handbook-wcdr>.

Accommodation

Reducing water and electricity consumption

Participants and guests are urged to respect the environmental, cultural, social and historical values of the local community.

Among other specific actions, we recommend that participants:

- Reduce water consumption, including by re-using hotel room towels/linens, where possible.
- Save electricity by turning off any air conditioners, lights and TV when leaving the hotel room.

Dining and catering

Using locally grown produce

Participants and guests are encouraged to support local communities and reduce carbon footprint by using local vendors for their catering and dining needs.

Conference facilities

Reducing paper consumption

In addition to making sure that all pre-Conference and in session documentation are available in the Conference website in a timely manner, a Conference Box system will be available to electronic delivery of documents during the Conference. Send us your electronic documents through this form <http://tinyurl.com/wcdrpubs>. Please return filled up form to wcdrr.tablets@gmail.com by 26 February for distribution using the Conference Box system.

Participants are urged to use their tablets and portable devices as the main way to access Conference documentation, to limit demand for print materials and reduce paper consumption. Sendai City has made iPad tablets available for lending for the duration of the WCDRR to a limited number of delegates without their own portable tablet computers. This will be done on a first come first served basis with priority given to delegations from LDCs and SIDS. Send a request to wcdrr.tablets@gmail.com to reserve an iPad.

Conference services will make one hard-copy set of official documents available per delegation. Participants should consider elec-



tronic access before further printing documents. Participants are encouraged to share their statements with the UN secretariat for posting on the Conference website. Delegations are encouraged to bring 10 hard copies of their statements to facilitate the work of interpreters etc.

Participants and partners are strongly urged to limit the amount of print materials to be shipped to the Conference venue and to make arrangements for donating remaining publications, books and other print materials to relevant local institutions.

Reducing resource consumption and waste generation

Participants are urged to reduce resource consumption and minimize waste generation by sharing print copies, using recycled products, and separate wastes to facilitate recycling and reuse.

Participants are urged to minimize the amount of promotional print materials at exhibition stands. They should recycle or reuse promotional materials; and, where a suitable local partner can be identified, donate books and publications to these partners. Participants should; if possible, use biodegradable materials for any necessary exhibit material.

Climate neutrality

Climate-neutrality and carbon offsetting

Participants are urged to identify and minimize GHG emissions relating to their travel and participation in the meeting activities. In this regard, we recommend to:

- Use public transportation for travelling to airports, hotels and the meeting venues.
- Use as much as possible re-usable and recycled products.
- Offset GHG emissions by buying a voluntary offset. Please use this guide for personal offsetting as an example of what you can do <http://tinyurl.com/offset-wcdr>

Green Mark

Climate-neutrality and carbon offsetting

Participants who voluntarily participate in any of the programmes above are encouraged to collect a "Greening the Blue" sticker, which they can attach to their Conference badge to promote and advocate the Green Conference message. Please contact wcdrr.tablets@gmail.com to get the green mark sticker.

