8th International IVIRMA Congress

Reproductive Medicine and Beyond

Sustainability Plan

IVIRMA Global

IVIRMA Commitment

At IVIRMA we view Sustainability as a means of creating added value for our stakeholders through a commitment with 3 aspects: **Economic, Social and Environmental.** This commitment arises out of business ethics and is embodied in all of the company´s processes. **The IVIRMA Congress is a clear example of it.**

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Background Information

In 2019, the eighth edition of the International IVIRMA Congress will take place, since its inaugural edition in Valencia in 2005, it has been held on a biennial basis in different cities in Spain.

Since its creation, the International IVIRMA Congress has tried to be an event that showcases the initiatives and projects supported by the IVI Foundation through actions linked to Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility. The 2017 edition had, for the first time, a sustainability strategy that helped to create a legacy of sustainability for those attending, the city of Bilbao –where the event was held– and IVIRMA´s own staff.

At the 8th International IVIRMA Congress, which will take place in Palma de Mallorca, social and environment commitment have been crucial elements in its definition and implementation.

The Sustainability Plan of the IVIRMA Congress arises out of the social and environmental commitment as a company and is conveyed to all the stakeholders.
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Objectives of the Sustainability Plan

In addition to having a positive impact on sustainability at its 8th International IVIRMA Congress, this Plan is aimed at **supporting IVIRMA´s commitment to a corporate culture that is committed to and focused on sustainability.** Along with this, other objectives pursued by the sustainability strategy for the 8th International IVIRMA Congress are:

- Encouraging awareness of IVIRMA members around issues of social and environmental issues and encouraging actions that minimize the environmental impact of the activities they carry out.
- Supporting the change towards a culture of sustainability at IVIRMA that is embodied and clear in its most important event, the 8th International IVIRMA Congress, and that thus has an impact on those attending it.
- Raise awareness about the importance of adopting Sustainability policies, conveying this to the medical community and the stakeholders involved.
- Make the 8th International IVIRMA Congress an example of creating value linked to sustainability in the country.

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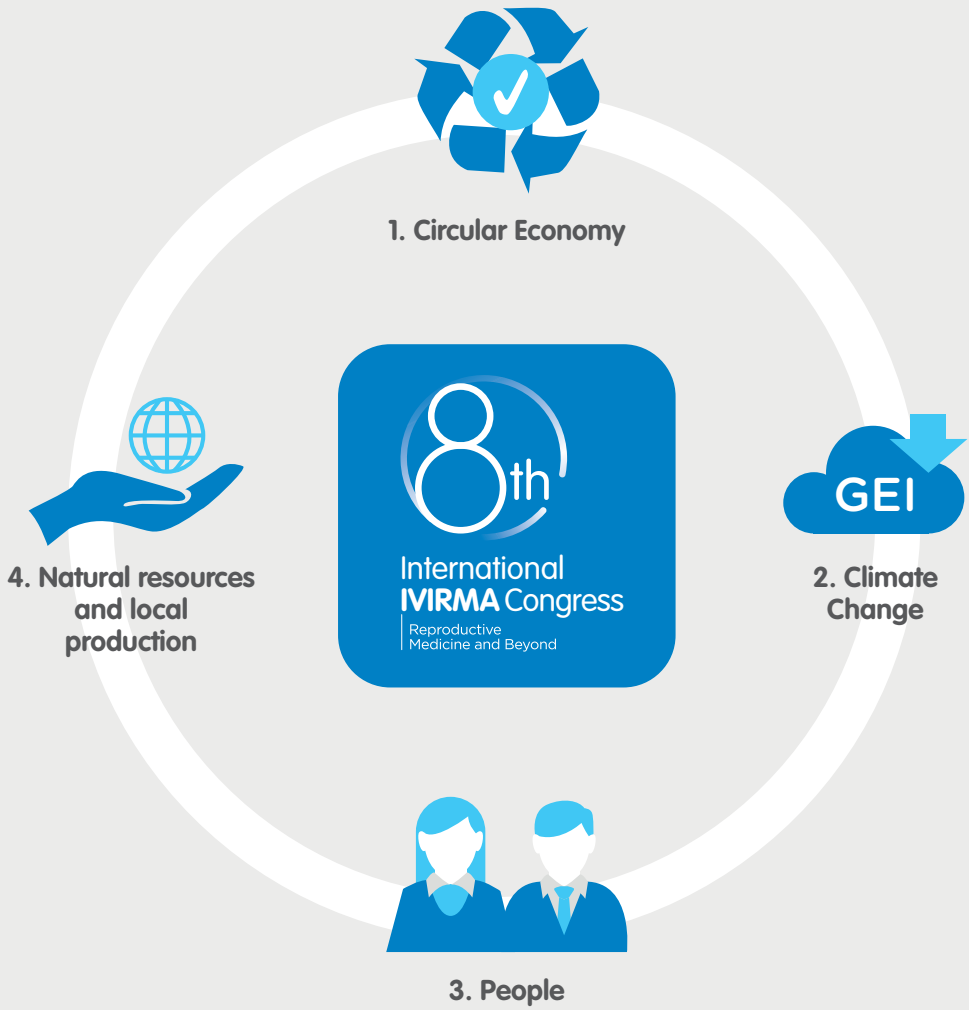
Development of the Sustainability Plan

In the process to create the sustainability strategy for the 8th International IVIRMA Congress, which features the Sustainability Plan as one of its pillars, several reference points have been taken into account which have come from the Stakeholders, which are:

- The attendees: the medical professionals and members of companies and other participating bodies, as well as the scientific community and speakers.
- The suppliers and providers of products and services, from lighting and sound services to catering and even the spaces hosting the 8th International IVIRMA Congress.
- The IVIRMA staff and employees who attend the congress and participate over the prior months in its preparation and development.
- NGOs and other groups that are beneficiaries of the CSR actions of IVIRMA.
- Communication groups and journalists in the health sector.
- Administrations and bodies linked to the celebration of the Congress.

The S**ustainability Plan** contains all the actions aimed at achieving the sustainability strategy and objectives, which are structured around four areas related to the Sustainable Goals of the UN, a worldwide initiative launched by this organization, with the aim of putting an end to poverty, protecting the planet and guaranteeing that everyone enjoys peace and prosperity.

Areas of the Sustainability Plan



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The areas of the Sustainability Plan are:

1.- Circular Economy: 0 Waste Philosophy:

Its objectives are to minimize the consumption of materials and incorporate criteria for recovery, reuse and recycling into the selection of them in order to mitigate the impact over their life cycle and reduce the use of toxic or dangerous materials.

Also, to optimize the amount and type of waste produced, in order to facilitate effective separation of waste and its correct recovery and recycling.

The measures adopted notably include:

- The digitalization of documentation in order to avoid the consumption of paper: by creating a Congress APP.
- The minimization of items in the Welcome Pack and the use of reused and recyclable materials for its production.
- Manual of Good Practices for the stands and recognition of the most sustainable stand in order to involve them in this plan.
- Simplification of staging.
- Effective waste separation to facilitate its management and recycling

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The areas of the Sustainability Plan are:

2.- Climate Change:

Objectives have been established to reduce Greenhouse Gases via efficient use of energy and harnessing renewable sources in the congress location and activities, encouraging non-motorized mobility and the involvement of the attendees in carbon offsetting actions.

It aims to be a Congress with a Neutral Impact on Greenhouse Gases, by optimizing its use of energy, consuming energy from renewable sources and offsetting greenhouse gas emissions.

Some of the actions that will be carried out:

- Energy saving and efficiency measures in the different facilities where the congress is held.
- Encouragement of sustainable and non-motorized mobility.
- Offsetting of the Carbon Footprint generated.

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The areas of the Sustainability Plan are:

3.- People:

From a more social approach, the objectives are focused on incorporating social and sustainability criteria when it comes to selecting the products and services needed to hold the Congress, so that the provider is aligned with this Sustainability Plan. Also, it will be a congress without physical barriers and with full accessibility to all the spaces where it is held.

Other measures adopted are:

- Collaboration agreement with the Adecco Foundation for labor integration at the Congress of people at risk of social exclusion
- The contribution of a Social and Environmental Legacy through the donation of €3,000 to a social project chosen by the attendees.
- Assignment of a stand to an NGO in order for them to carry out work to raise awareness about their social cause during the Congress.

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The areas of the Sustainability Plan are:

4.- The areas of the Sustainability Plan are:

The objectives established notably include the prioritization of local or seasonal produce and the battle against food waste and associated waste.

Other objectives are focused on saving water and using the 8th International IVIRMA Congress to encourage awareness about saving water and encouraging a legacy that contributes to a positive impact by reducing the generation of plastic waste from the consumption of bottled water.

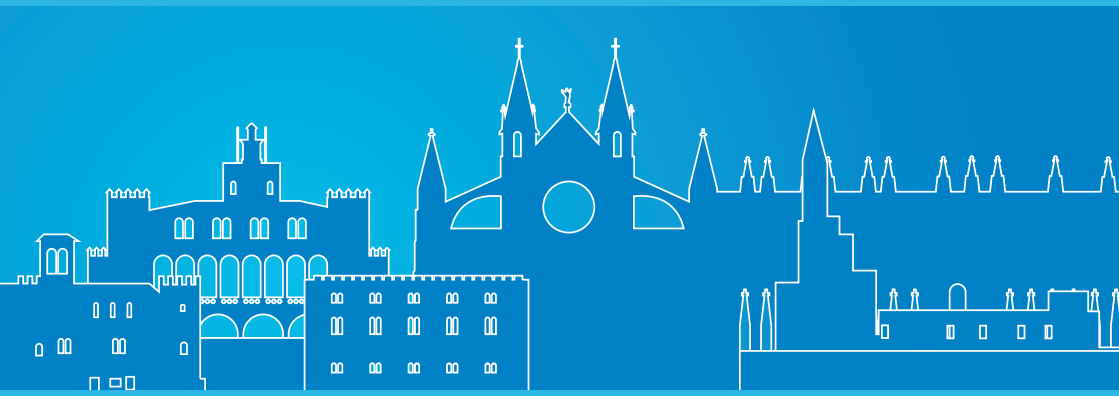
Among the actions supported, we highlight:

- The supply of sustainable cups which contribute to reducing plastics pollution.
- Water dispensers of the social project 3 Glops, through which we are supporting the social and labor integration of people with mental health problems.
- Catering with locally sourced products.
- Fight against food surplus by adjusting needs to the number of attendees

Dissemination and Communication

Both the Sustainability Strategy and the Sustainability Plan of the 8th International IVIRMA Congress cut across different departments of the company, which have worked together for its design and implementation.

The dissemination of the actions will be carried out on different formats and channels with the aim of attaining the participation of the stakeholders, conveying IVIRMA´s sustainability commitment to society and the positive impact it generates, and trying to spread and contribute to a culture of sustainability.



The success of the IVIRMA Congress goes beyond its **scientific legacy** and includes the creation of a **social and environmental** legacy. At IVIRMA Global we want to make a **positive impact** on the planet and society.

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