

The CTICC has an environmental policy and an environmental action plan which is developed by the environmental committee, Nurture Our World. Here are some frequently asked questions about sustainability at the CTICC:



CTICC

What is the CTICC doing to make their venue a greener option?

The CTICC places an absolute priority on a triple-bottom-line approach to sustainability. The centre's comprehensive environmental policy and action plan, as well as the input of its dedicated Nurture Our World (NOW) committee, provide clear direction in terms of the environmental sustainability of its operations.

In addition to being absolutely committed to managing its own environmental impact, the CTICC makes every effort to encourage and enable its staff, suppliers, clients and visitors to succeed on their own 'green' journeys. To this end, we offer our clients the opportunity to fully green their events and all our conference packages are sustainable.

For the past 3 years, the CTICC has aligned all its sustainability efforts and commitments with Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standards. It was the first convention centre globally to release an externally-assured Integrated Annual Report, for which it won the coveted Global Association of the Exhibition Industry (UFI) Sustainable Development Award in 2013.



Event Planning

How can I green my event at the CTICC?

There are various actions that event organisers or hosts can take to ensure that their events or functions have a reduced impact on the environment and, in fact, embrace and promote environmental sustainability. Booking one of our conference packages ensures that environmental sustainability is incorporated into your event. The CTICC offers a comprehensive checklist designed to guide you through these ways of greening your event. Speak to your event executive for more information.

The "Smart Events Handbook", created by the City of Cape Town, also provides a comprehensive overview of how to host a sustainable event. It is available for download here: goo.gl/CYnpqI

Can I purchase renewable energy for use at my CTICC event?

Green Energy Certificates (GECs), which can be applied to offset energy usage at your CTICC-hosted event, can be purchased from the City of Cape Town. For more information, contact green.electricity@capetown.gov.za, or view the FAQ for buying green energy: goo.gl/PzRv6J

Can the centre assist in measuring waste and energy for my event?

Yes, the CTICC has sophisticated sub-metering and waste recording systems. Reports specific to your event can be extracted from these systems by prior arrangement to your event.



Energy efficiency

Does the CTICC have a clear and effective plan to reduce energy?

The CTICC is committed to a baseline reduction rate of 2% per year, with energy savings being a priority.

Over the last five years, the CTICC has achieved an average annual saving of 12.84% in kWh measurement. In order to do this, the centre has focused on installing a new Building Management System, which is highly effective in terms of energy management. This, combined with energy retrofits, the installation of a new boiler, cleaning of the air-conditioning coils, replacement of all down lighters with LEDs, and the replacement of all T8 fluorescent lights in one of the parking lots with T5s, has resulted in steady electricity consumption savings. Similarly, sub-metering systems have been installed, and are continuing to be rolled out, in order to drive energy savings.

Ongoing staff awareness and the inclusion of energy efficiency practices in standard operating procedures have helped to further reduce overall energy consumption.



Waste Minimisation

How does waste removal and recycling at the CTICC work?

The CTICC is strongly committed to effective waste management and the ongoing reduction of waste to landfill. The centre collects recyclable, non-recyclable and food waste, all of which is separated at source. Organic waste is kept in a probiotic solution on site before it is removed and composted by a CTICC external waste contractor. Once sorted, recycling and landfill waste are removed by another external waste removal contractor.

The CTICC keeps detailed waste management records and all waste and recycling statistics are published annually in our Integrated Annual Report.



Food and Beverage

Where is the produce used in CTICC meals sourced?

In keeping with our commitment to supporting local suppliers and reducing carbon emissions from transport, the CTICC sources its ingredients from suppliers located within a 150km radius of Cape Town, unless our guests specifically request menu items that require produce that cannot be sourced within these parameters.

The centre prides itself on purchasing the freshest organic and seasonal produce wherever possible. One of our community partners, Abalimi Bezekhaya, provides us with top-of-the-range, organic vegetables on a bi-weekly basis. In addition, the CTICC's chefs are mandated to regularly develop menus that are seasonally appropriate in order to ensure local availability.

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Accessibility

How accessible are your venues for disabled delegates?

The CTICC strives to make itself universally accessible to all delegates and patrons, and is equipped with various features to ensure comfort, safety and ease of access for all its clients and guests. Wheelchair ramps and wheelchair-accessible elevators exist throughout the building. In addition, all elevators are equipped with Braille-inclusive buttons and voice prompt facilities. Disabled-friendly toilet facilities are available throughout the centre. All tables and chairs used at CTICC events also adhere to universal access requirements and standards.



Transport

What public transport options are available to get to the CTICC?

The CTICC is centrally located and easily accessible by train, bus, bicycle and the MyCiti public transport shuttles. The centre is an easy 15-minute walk from the Cape Town central train station and also has a MyCiti Bus stop situated right outside the main entrance. This MyCiti stop is serviced by routes 101 (green), 104 (yellow), 106 (dark blue) and 107 (dark pink). For more information on the MyCiti routes, visit <http://www.myciti.org.za/en/home/goo.gl/xHdr55>

For a more novel way of accessing the CTICC, delegates and visitors can make use of a water taxi on the Roggebaai Canal – a waterway that joins the Central Business District with the Cape Town Harbour and stops outside the CTICC entrance.

Are there bicycle facilities at the CTICC?

Secure and lockable bicycle parking is available in three key areas of the CTICC, namely the main parking facility (P3) as well as the parking area off Walter Sisulu Avenue and on Convention Square.



Leaving a legacy

Does the CTICC make it possible for us to give back to local communities?

The CTICC is committed to uplifting and empowering the communities in which it operates. To this end we support four community partners that are contributing to local social upliftment and education. These partners are:

- Abalimi Bezekhaya - supports micro-farmers on the Cape Flats who grow organic produce and helps to create markets for the sale of this produce as a means of generating an income.
- Foundation for Alcohol-Related Research (FARR) – offers training and support to communities in the Western Cape affected by alcohol-related disease and produces research in this area.
- The Haven Night Shelter – offers support and counselling to homeless people in and around the Cape Town city centre.
- The Mitchell's Plain School of Skills - a skills-based school that provides education and skills training to disadvantaged learners.

As part of our social investment commitment, we make it possible, and easy, for our clients and their delegates or guests to contribute to these worthy causes. This can either be done via the CTICC or directly to the relevant cause. Please email our CTICC Sustainability Officer, on NOW@cticc.co.za about your options in this regard.

What can we do with the leftover food from our conference or exhibition?

Health regulations prohibit the CTICC from externally distributing any open food left over from an event. However, this food can be made available to be served to CTICC staff at our internal cafeteria.

Any unused or unopened ingredients can be donated to our community partners (The Haven Night Shelter, Abalimi Bezekhaya, Mitchell's Plain School of Skills and the Foundation for Alcohol-related Research) or other organisations of your choice. Arrangements to this effect can be made with the CTICC's Sustainability Officer, who can be reached at NOW@cticc.co.za.

What can we do with leftover goodie bags and/or exhibition building materials?

The CTICC endeavours to upcycle as much of this type of material as possible. It does this by donating it to relevant community partners and NGOs. If you have leftover building materials, bags, stationery or other useful items after your conference or exhibition, please contact the Sustainability Officer on NOW@cticc.co.za to make the necessary redistribution arrangements.

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Carbon Offsetting

How can I measure and offset the carbon footprint of my event?

The CTICC has an advanced energy usage measurement system that can measure and evaluate the direct energy consumption of the events it hosts. You can speak to your Event Executive about accessing this energy consumption information after your event. At present, we do not offer specific carbon emissions data per event, but we are in the process of investigating possible measures to make this possible. We are able to put you in contact with one of our professional carbon consultants should you wish to have your carbon emissions calculated based on your energy consumption data.

We encourage clients to be cognisant of their carbon emissions and clients are afforded the option to purchase carbon credits, green energy or support an environmental organisation as a way of offsetting the carbon emissions as a direct result of their event or due to any travel required by their delegates or guests.



Water

What is the CTICC's water conservation strategy?

The CTICC recognises its responsibility as a water-consumer in the Western Cape, where water is a scarce resource. We are absolutely committed to responsible water stewardship and have numerous water management strategies and initiatives in place. These include, but are not limited to:

- accurately monitoring our water consumption by means of individual water meters to ensure early identification of management interventions;
- the phasing out of plastic bottled water in all venues and the replacement thereof with re-usable glass bottles filled from our own water filtration plant;
- the planting of water-wise plants and installation of drip-irrigation;
- water-saving sensor taps and dual flush systems in the restrooms; and
- water-saving taps and washing facilities in the kitchens.



Stakeholder Relations

Can I give feedback or pose questions to the CTICC on environmental issues?

Most definitely, we view our clients and visitors as valued partners on our sustainability journey and highly value all feedback and input they offer. The CTICC also has a policy of evaluating our clients' experiences on environmental activities by including relevant questions in our standard client satisfaction surveys conducted by our independent service assessment professionals. Any feedback or suggestions can be made via our website, by emailing NOW@cticc.co.za, or any of our social media platforms:

 @CTICC_Official

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 www.cticc.co.za