VISION FOR EQUITABLE CONFERENCES

The PRME Global Forum has historically been held in New York City with the most recent (and first face to face event since 2017), held within June, 2023. To ensure that future events are more equitable and accessible to global PRME members, it is proposed that each face to face PRME Global Forum is held within a different continent. PRME conferences are forums of decision making, knowledge exchange and personal, professional and career development, influence policy making, foster local networks and support the local economy. Conference equity can be defined as: ‘attainment of an equitable level of attendee active engagement, influence and access to a conference regardless of country of origin, location, available funds or affiliation, (Velin et al, 2021). The following box contains resources to help you plan geographically inclusive in person events.

RESOURCES

- Conference equity in global health: a systematic review of factors impacting LMIC representation at global health conferences
  Velin, Lotta ; Lartigue, Jean-Wilguens ; Johnson, Samantha Ann ; Zorigbaatar, Anudari ; Kamounye, Ulrick Sidney ; Truche, Paul ; Joseph, Michelle Nyah
- The Need for Sustainability, Equity, and International Exchange: Perspectives of Early Career Environmental Psychologists on the Future of Conference

BEST PRACTICE SCHEDULING

- For optimum geographic inclusivity, event and conference scheduling should rotate between continents and time zones.
- An example of this is if an in-person event is planned within the African continent, all delegates attending from African countries have increased accessibility to the event through sustainable travel alongside unavoidable flights while intercontinental delegates can adopt the 'Virtual First' approach. The following box contains resources to assist you with equitable event scheduling.

RESOURCES

- The Need for Sustainability, Equity, and International Exchange: Perspectives of Early Career Environmental Psychologists on the Future of Conference
Geographic Flexibility

This guide will help you consider equity of opportunity for face to face interaction within event planning.

IN PERSON CONFERENCE HOSTING
- Regional chapter events (such as UK & Ireland) can be held in person with delegates prioritising rail travel.
- When planning and hosting an in-person event, wherever possible, delegates are to select sustainable transport methods (See Travel Guidance). The following box contains resources to assist you with equitable in person event hosting.

RESOURCES
See PRME Fundamental 4: Event Sustainability

BARRIERS
Reducing geographical, administrative and accessibility barriers will facilitate delegate equality, diversity and inclusion within in person events and enhance the conference experience for all: Potential barriers for consideration are listed below followed by resources.
- Financial barriers
- Visa restrictions
- Political barriers
- Racism and discrimination
- Time zones

RESOURCES
- Conference demographics and footprint changed by virtual platforms
- Visa Restrictions
- Financial Barriers
- Equity and Inclusivity in Research funding

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT
- When planning and hosting an in person event, wherever possible, delegates are to select rail travel (See Travel Guidance). The following box contains resources to assist you with sustainable transport.

RESOURCES
See PRME Fundamental 3: Travel Methods
PRME Sustainable Travel and Events Guidance
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