

## ECO-DESIGN YOUR STAND AND ITS DECORATION

An ephemeral decor is often part and parcel of an event... But since sustainable development is in essence contradictory to the short term, here are a few ideas to reconcile them: eco-designing your stand decor and furniture, thus reducing the environmental impact of its manufacture, but also its use and disposal at the end of its life.

### 1. CHOICE OF STAND AND DECORATION

- Opt for rental: there are certainly local service providers who offer equipment for hire and there is a wide selection of natural and renewable or recyclable synthetic materials.
- Favour a sober style and colours which generally go out of fashion less quickly (if your brand guidelines permit!).

#### *Design:*

- If you wish to reuse it for several events, it can from the outset be designed to last: be repainted, modified, stored and assembled/dismantled easily... and it should be modular (adapt to different surface areas).
- Design items that fit into one another to reduce the volume to be transported (this costs less and is less risky).
- Make your items using less materials and reducing the distances that parts are required to be transported.
- Choose solid, reusable and repairable fittings to extend their lifespan.
- Contact the organisers to find out the environmental recommendations they have made (waste sorting, for example) so as to design your stand in accordance with these solutions.

#### *Materials:*

- Select materials with care (local or nearby sourcing, collection and recycling at life end, construction waste).
- Consider using materials bearing labels PEFC or FSC, renewable or recycled, while paying particular attention to safety) for example, cardboard furniture must be made fireproof).
- Avoid using harmful adhesives, paints and solvents (explosive, corrosive, inflammable or toxic). There now exist paints with environmental approval labels.
- Choose panels which make limited use of hazardous products for their processing and gluing: formaldehyde free, OSB (Oriented Strand Board).
- Favour solid floor coverings in colours which do not show up dirt, in modular tile format.
- Aim to use more sustainable and solid carpets that are easy to clean, and which can exist in recycled format (made from old tyres for example) so as to be able to reuse them. Some suppliers offer recycled carpets with the same colour range but which are slightly more expensive (+15%). The carpet should then be collected locally with a recycling skip and the guarantee of waste recovery.

#### *Recycling:*

- Reuse, reduce and recycle packaging and protective materials.
- Try to recycle any disposable décor (donation, recovery by schools, charities or selective sorting).
- Before the show, identify the parts of your stand that will be waste and the parts that can be recovered. Even if dismantling is a rush job and there are many safety requirements, make sure you clarify this point in advance.

## 2. LIGHTING AND SOUND

Using halogen spotlights that consume a lot of energy is often seen, mistakenly, as the essential way of lighting stands well.

- Choose low consumption electrical fittings, LEDs.
- Install a circuit breaker for each stand to ensure that electricity is switched off when the show is closed to the public.

## 3. PLANT DECOR

Plants contribute to the artistic appeal of the event. They also, and above all, contribute to the well-being of participants by making the stand more welcoming. But their origin, if they are exotic plants, and their cultivation, particularly for cut flowers, can generate high environmental impact (pesticides, fertilisers, carbon dioxide emissions from greenhouse heating, cold rooms, etc.).

- Choose plants and flowers that were grown in France, and rent them locally.
- In the stand design stage and when choosing plant species, check which ones will withstand exhibition conditions (draughts, etc) and make plans to water them.
- Take care of what happens to them after the event.

## 4. ECO-FRIENDLY STANDS: AREC SHARES ITS BEST PRACTICES WITH YOU!



*A professional stand and an eco-friendly approach are not mutually exclusive!*

The Regional Energy and Climate Agency (AREC) of Occitania has chosen a stand incorporating energy and ecological responsibility criteria consistent with its missions:

- Mobilisation of stakeholders
- Identification of specific suppliers
- Design of hospitality venues
- Selection of appropriate equipment
- Organisation of conscious catering
- Responsible communications
- Awareness raising of audiences to the approach
- Recovery and storage to reuse as many items as possible
- Cleaning and waste recovery.

Work took place in advance to design an eco-friendly stand that can be used over several years, and modular so as to adapt to different surface areas, while also guaranteeing a good-looking and professional stand.

AREC Occitanie shares its best practices:

<https://www.arec-occitanie.fr/un-stand-ecoresponsable-pour-larec.html>



## 5. ELECTRIC & ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT

Display and sound appliances and IT equipment should follow the same consumption saving rules as any other electrical appliance. The more they operate, the more energy they consume, and the more they wear.

- Choose equipment that consumes the least energy.
- Limit their use as far as possible, do not forget that behind virtual technology, there are machines that consume a lot of resources in production and which generate harmful waste.

## 6. POWER / FLUIDS

### *Eco-friendly reflexes*

To help us in this process, we ask you to ensure that during the set-up, operation and dismantling periods, you turn off the lights and machines in operation (except fridges and freezers) when you close your stand.

## 7. WASTE

### *Single use plastics*

- Plastic straws, steak spikes, stirrers, balloon stems and confetti, are banned by law since 2021 and that, in accordance with the regulations in force, single-use tableware must be recyclable or compostable when it cannot be avoided.  
To find out more: [https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/20018\\_InterdictionPlastique.pdf](https://www.ecologie.gouv.fr/sites/default/files/20018_InterdictionPlastique.pdf)
- In the same logic of waste reduction, we invite you to limit the use of goodies and paper supports in promoting your image.
- Finally, water fountains will be set up in the reception areas and points of passage of the Exhibition Centre. We invite you to bring your own drinking vessels.

### *Ashtrays*

Because one cigarette butt takes up to 12 years to degrade or pollutes 500 litres of water, we have set up a cigarette butt collection system with ashtrays installed throughout the Exhibition Centre. These butts are collected and recycled by a specialised company.

**We are counting on you to deposit your cigarette butts in the EcoMégot ashtrays.**

### *Waste management and disposal*

- Any exhibitor renting a bare stand area or their stand fitter/sub-contractor is responsible for the condition of the rented area and for restoring it to its original state; they are required to return the rented area free of any waste (stand components, packaging, carpeting, magazines, .....).
- During dismantling, all stands, decorations, equipment, merchandise and waste must be removed before Friday, 15 December 2023 at 12:00. Once these deadlines have expired, the organiser may take, at the exhibitor's expense and risk, any measures it deems necessary for the removal of goods and equipment or waste that have not been removed.
- The organiser reserves the right to evacuate (and destroy) elements of decorations and structures of any nature whatsoever and without being held responsible.
- The evacuation and treatment of waste left voluntarily by exhibitors or their subcontractors will be invoiced to the exhibitor at €250 per m3 excluding VAT.

### Waste sorting

- Waste sorting will be deployed throughout Forum EnerGaïa and must be applied by all exhibitors and visitors.
- To do so, outdoor and indoor collection points will be set up. These collection points will be identifiable and visible thanks to precise signage. Colour codes will allow sorting to be carried out correctly.
- The company in charge of cleaning Forum EnerGaïa will provide the necessary means to collect the sorted waste.
- Identifiable ambassadors will be on hand to help you with your sorting activities and answer your questions.

### Sorting points

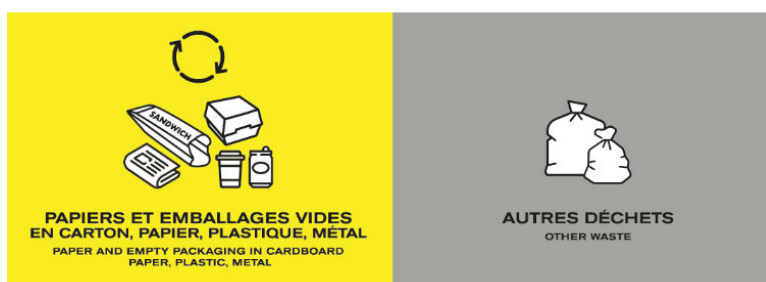
#### During stand assemble

For exhibitors (exterior and interior disposal), external collection points, located against the halls, will allow you to dispose of your waste in the following ways:



This system will be supplemented by containers labelled by type of waste in the halls during assembly and dismantling.

#### During the event Inside the halls (general public collection):



#### During the event outside the halls (Exhibitor sorting points):



Sorting in the restaurant and catering zones (specific for caterers):



And used oil is collected in specific drums provided to all caterers.