

Join the conference – host a hub – shape the future of conferences with ICOM SUSTAIN

This year, the ICOM SUSTAIN annual conference will be a globally distributed event where speakers and participants will meet in digital and hybrid spaces. The conference itself will be held virtually, in three distinct timezones around the world.

To facilitate the usual in-person conference activities despite the digital format, ICOM SUSTAIN invites conference participants to organize and host a conference hub. A hub is an opportunity to watch, all or some of the conference with a group of people. It can be hosted in any place where you can meet safely and have a good internet connection, be it an office gathering, a meeting at a social venue, a university seminar room, or a space at a local museum.

What can a hub look like?

Ideally, the hub should offer the option to watch the online conference together on a larger screen and spend the breaks together. If a space's technical equipment does not allow for this, participants can also gather with their own devices and headphones to follow the online conference concurrently and have face-to-face discussions before and after the streaming of the conference sessions.

Depending on the hub's location, group activities – such as a tour through an exhibition, a collection or an archive can take place before or after the streaming of the conference. One of the core reasons for organizing hubs is the hope that the local gatherings will enable joint discussions and activities that typically take place at in-person conferences but cannot be held in a digital setting.

I would like to host a hub for the SUSTAIN conference? How do I do it?

If you would like to host a hub, you will need an accessible space, a screen, and a reliable internet connection. We recommend having designated person who can co-ordinate the hub. This might include facilitating discussion, or planning a group activity that you can do before or after the conference. We encourage you to think about who in your area might want to participate in your hub and let them know they can watch the conference together at the hub. This could include your own colleagues, staff from a neighbouring museum or university as well as interested museum or heritage professionals from a nearby town. Finally, notify SUSTAIN about the creation of the hub.

For further information, please contact:

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