

Hosting a WEDC Conference

WEDC has been organizing international conferences on the provision of water, sanitation and other infrastructure services for low- and middle-income countries since 1973. The WEDC International Conference is a prestigious five day event which is usually held regularly at a different venues in Africa, or Asia and generally attracts 400-500 participants from about 50 countries.



The conference is now an established forum for professionals, researchers and policymakers to share knowledge and network. It supports the dissemination and uptake of research results by practitioners, and the identification of future priorities and policy recommendations. It provides host countries the opportunity to present their own work in the water and sanitation sector to an international audience, and to build the capacity of their staff.

Each conference is co-organized by WEDC and a Local Organizing Committee (LOC) which is usually led by a government department

or a professional institution and includes agencies operating in relevant fields. The conference follows a consistent structure with plenary sessions and parallel sessions of formal presentations on different subjects.

Responsibilities, costs and conference fees are allocated between WEDC and the LOC. The LOC responsibilities include the conference venue and other local costs, and it usually raises funds from sponsors and funding agencies to cover these, in addition to the income from local participants' fees.

If you are interested in convening a Local Organizing Committee to host the WEDC International Conference in the future, please speak to a member of the WEDC team or email wedc.conf@lboro.ac.uk with a brief Expression of Interest, including information on:

- potential member institutions of the LOC, at least one of whom should be a national government institution, and any indication of each institution's interest in being involved;
- any innovations and activities in the water and sanitation sector in the country which will be of interest to an international audience;
- available facilities suitable for hosting an international conference;
- good access for international and local delegates; and
- a safe and interesting destination for visitors.

Expressions of Interest may be submitted by a national government institution, a professional association, a non-governmental organization, an international agency, a private company, a network or an individual who is in a position to convene a LOC.

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