

23rd Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences 2023

Introduction

Conferences can be used strategically to leverage impacts that have the potential to catalyse innovation and contribute to solutions for key social issues in their field. Business Events Sydney (BESydney) in conjunction with the University of Technology Sydney, Business School surveyed delegates attending the 23rd Triennial Meeting of the International Association of Forensic Sciences 2023, to qualify and quantify some of these impacts for delegates, industry and community.

Overall, scientific advancement and industry innovation were regarded to be the most important impacts. Scientific advancement was a strength of the conference and was achieved through global networking and the sharing of cutting-edge research and technologies, and industry innovation was reported by respondents who took new knowledge and new products back to their workplaces, benefitting communities around the world with improved practice.

387
survey responses

48% practitioners
44% academics
8% other

16% Sydneysiders
5% regional NSW
30% interstate
49% international

BEYOND TOURISM IMPACTS

98%

agreed that IFAS 2023 enabled/contributed to scientific advancement (new knowledge / ideas / technology / collaboration)

93%

agreed that IAFS 2023 enabled/contributed to industry innovation (new knowledge / ideas / technology / practice)

91%

agreed that IAFS 2023 enabled/contributed to attraction of global talent to Sydney

77%

agreed that IAFS 2023 enabled/contributed to improved social policy

66%

agreed that IAFS 2023 enabled/contributed to trade and investment

64%

agreed that IAFS 2023 enabled/contributed to support of vulnerable communities

Percentage of respondents rating 3 or more out of 5

What IAFS delegates had to say...

"IAFS 2023 showcased the best that NSW and Australia has to offer! It literally brought the world's top forensic scientists together and made it easy for all to network with "the world". From this our own efforts can leapfrog ahead!"

About scientific advancement

"International conferences are always a place where brilliant minds gather together and exchange ideas for scientific growth of the community. Such events allow budding researchers to expand their horizons of thoughts through interactions with pioneer scientists and federal officers."

"The scientific program was immense, covering a range of topics from forensic biology to document examination and forensic pathology, reaching out to professionals not usually interested in a forensic conference. New knowledge and ideas were shared, and international research collaborations initiated."

About industry innovation

"Member delegates being exposed to a range of potential innovations that they could seek to adopt in their work. The level of engagement and cross-pollination that occurred at this conference event was very high."

"The combination of innovators in industry as well as experts in fields from academia and operational roles together in a light and social atmosphere increases awareness in operational challenges and drives problem solving and engineering from an industry perspective."

About attracting global talent to Sydney

"Scientists that have never been to Sydney could be more attracted to working in NSW because of their trip there."

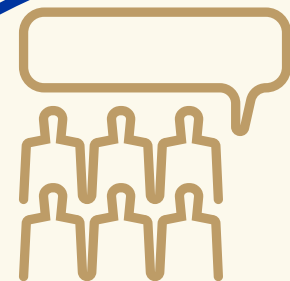
"The calibre of talks and the representation was at a very high level. Equally, emerging scientists were there including students who could examine opportunities to further their studies in Australia as a result of their inclusion in the conference."

About trade and investment opportunities

"I personally was able to help a number of exhibitors connect to people and organizations in the USA who would use their services."

About support of vulnerable communities

"A key focus of the conference was how forensic science is being progressed in developing countries. There was also a focus on domestic violence and violence against women in developing countries. The theme of the conference was "where to from here" so there were many presentations about future developments in the field."

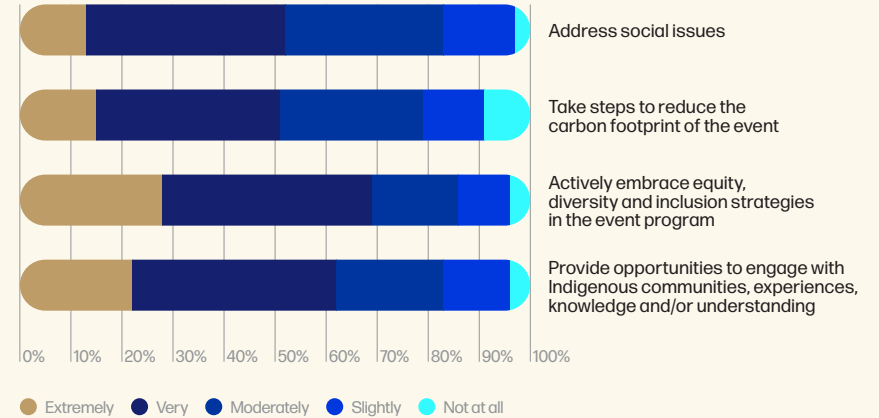


What IAFS 2023 delegates think...

"It is important for business events to set a high moral standard in the practices they undertake in hosting and running the locations, transport and core functions of their events, both social or otherwise. For national and international conferences especially, showing our Australian cultural values at their best models a better world to participants and the knock-on effect to their spheres of influence."

About the importance of Social and Environmental Sustainability

Over **80%** of delegates said it is **moderately to extremely important** to them that business events engage in social and environmental sustainability activities, with over 50% saying it is **very to extremely important** to them:



TOURISM IMPACTS



Top 3 flight booking leadtimes

- 18% 6+ months
- 38% 3-6 months
- 26% 1-3 months



Top 3 types of accommodation used

- 48% 4-5 star
- 13% 3 star
- 7% Serviced apartment



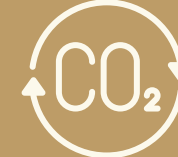
Top 3 booking channels used

- 24% Booking engine
- 16% Hotel website
- 12% Conference website



Did you duty free shop at Sydney Airport?

- 41% Yes
- 59% No



Did you buy carbon offsets for your flight?

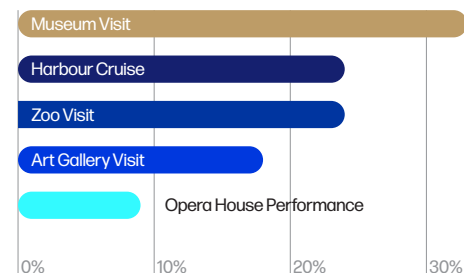
- 19% Yes
- 81% No



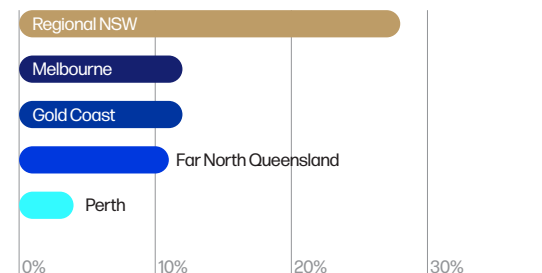
Happy with the Australian visa application process?

- 90% Rated 4 or 5 out of 5

Percentage of delegates visiting top 5 tourist attractions



Percentage of international delegates visiting top 5 areas outside Sydney



83%

think they will visit Sydney again in the future

80%

would highly recommend Sydney as both a conference and tourist destination (based on scores of 8+ out of 10)