

MERGA Climate Change and Sustainability Responsiveness Policy

General Principle

MERGA is a climate conscious organisation, with a commitment to sustainability. Actions that will minimise atmospheric carbon emissions and other negative environmental impacts are preferred in all aspects of MERGA's work.

Specific Principles

Publications: MERGA strongly encourages all members to use electronic versions of MERGA publications only. By default, only electronic versions of MERGA publications will be available for members. MERGA members will be required to opt-in to receive paper copies of MERGA journals.

Organisers of MERGA conferences and other activities should actively minimise and report on the environmental impact of their event in a number of ways.

- MERGA strongly encourages purchase of carbon offset or equivalent for all air travel associated with MERGA business and activities at an executive and member level (e.g., conferences, executive meetings, representation to government and professional bodies, professional development activities).
- Supplying conference-type items to participants (e.g., programme, advertising material, bags and lanyards).
- Only electronic versions of the conference proceedings will be made available.
- Minimise the amount of plastic used.
- Encourage use of public transport during attendance rather than taxis or hire cars.
- Wherever possible, organisers of MERGA executive meetings, conferences, and other activities are to work with partner organisations (e.g., AAMT, NZARE) to schedule events so that attendees can capitalise on transportation.

Responsibility to Report: Environmental initiatives and strategies employed in each executive portfolio will be reported at the Annual General Meeting as a standard part of each executive member's report.

This policy/procedure will be reviewed according to the MERGA policy and procedure reviewing schedule.