

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024



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In 2021 PIANC AU-NZ committed to aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs). Through a membership engagement process in 2021/2022 led by Board Member Jackie Spiteri, eight of the 17 UN SDGs were identified as being directly relevant to PIANC AU-NZ



These are SDG4 – Quality Education, SDG 5 – Gender Equality, SDG9 – Industry Innovation and Infrastructure, SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities, SDG 13 – Climate Change, SDG 14 – Life Below Water, SDG 15 – Life on Land, and SDG 17 – Partnerships for the Goals.

PIANC AU-NZ SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

With these prioritised SDGs in mind, our PIANC AU-NZ Sustainability Strategy focused on four key themes:

- Resilience (SDGs 9 & 13),
- Education (SDG4),
- Inclusion & Diversity (SDGs 5 & 10),
- SDG Communications (SDG 17).

In August 2024 newly elected Board Members Catherine Blaine and David Dack took on the shared role of Sustainability Leads for PIANC AU-NZ.

OUR PIANC ANZ SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY FOCUSES ON FOUR KEY THEMES:



Resilience



Education



Inclusion & Diversity



Governance & Communication

RESILIENCE

For resilience we committed to building capacity within our network through the development of technical events and papers focused on key sustainability issues. We have also committed to managing our own operations to minimise our environmental footprint.

Specific areas of progress include:

- Coasts and Ports 2022 and APAC 2024 and associated pre-conference events were made carbon neutral through offsets purchased from Greenfleet for every attendee.
- A variety of sustainability initiatives were incorporated into major events including minimising use of paper, eliminating single-use items and minimising food waste.
- In 2024 every regional chapter hosted events focussing on sustainability topics
- Papers and presentations for major events have reflected link and alignment with relevant SDGs.
- Allowance has been made in the annual budget to purchase carbon offset for Board flights.

EDUCATION

PIANC AU-NZ continued to provide the PIANC AU-NZ Mentoring Program. During 2024 we had 18 mentors and mentees (9 pairs) participate in the program.

We are committed to engaging with our universities to support our future generations, equipping them with the knowledge and the networks to be successful.

- A university outreach program has been developed.
- Chapter events have been extended to university students on several occasions, and
- In April 2024 our Victorian branch joined forces with Engineers Australia in hosting an information evening on 'Coastal, Ocean and Port Engineering - A Career Path for Undergraduate Engineering Students.'

- Our free student member category (full time students under 30) offers reduced fees for conferences and events but without access to working group reports. Having a stronger student cohort augurs well for future participation in PIANC, and has increased the profile of PIANC and the profession in the tertiary sector.

INCLUSION & DIVERSITY

Since the strategy was launched in 2022 the PIANC AU-NZ Board has increased its representation of women from 12.5% in 2022 to 17.5% in 2024.



From 2022 to 2024 our regional chapter chairs remained at 28% female while the numbers of female Young Professional regional chapter representatives increased from 0% in 2022 to 11% in 2024.

Changes in membership software systems prevented us from identifying membership gender, age and cultural background profiles for 2024, but this is expected to be improved in 2025

In 2024 we featured inspiring women speakers in two out of three of our YP leadership breakfasts and hosted a Women in Ports lunch at WA in June. The aim for 2025 is for every chapter to celebrate Women in Maritime Day on or around 18 May.

Other specific areas of progress include:

- Acknowledgement of Country is being delivered at Chapter events and major conferences have featured Aboriginal Elders and Welcome to Country.

COMMUNICATIONS

For our communications in 2024 we continued to provide and promote events that considered sustainability and diversity. In 2025 we will update our website to include a dedicated section for sustainability and the SDGs, along with a Board review of the overall strategy and KPIs.