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# ROSCon 2019

## 2019 Sustainability Report

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# Overview

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## **ORGANIZATION MISSION**

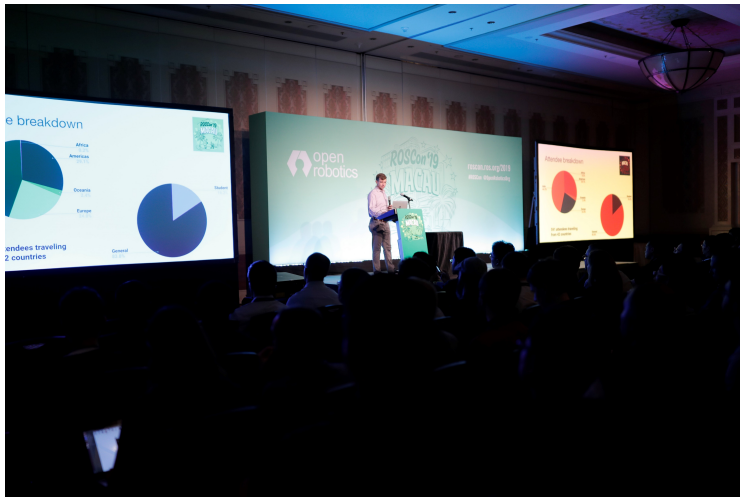
At Open Robotics, we work with industry, academia, and government to create and support open software and hardware for use in robotics, from research and education to product development.

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## **CONFERENCE DESCRIPTION**

ROSCon 2019 is a chance for ROS developers of all levels, beginner to expert, to spend an extraordinary two days learning from and networking with the ROS community. Get tips and tricks from experts and meet and share ideas with fellow developers.

# Vitals



## ATTENDEE PROFILE

Anyone interested in ROS should attend. This conference represents a wide and diverse group. The ROSCon conference pays special attention to underrepresented groups such as women and minorities.

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Date</b>           | Oct. 30 – Nov.1, 2019   |
| <b>Location</b>       | Macau, China  |
| <b>Venue</b>          | Conrad Cotai  |
| <b># Attendees</b>    | 593 attendees   |
| <b># Sponsors</b>     | 51 sponsors   |
| <b>Event Features</b> | 2 keynote sessions, 2 breakout tracks, 4 preconference training sessions, 1 networking reception, 1 diversity scholarship reception |



# Sustainability Achievements

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There are many areas that contribute to an event's overall sustainability, ranging from venue, accommodations, and food & beverage, to signage, collateral, and even marketing & communications. Greening an event involves a concerted effort across vendors and supply chains to help transform an industry. We are proud of our team's work to advance the following sustainability initiatives.



## RECYCLING

The property offered recycling options for attendees, back of house, and even one for battery recycling.



## WATER STATIONS

The conference eliminated the use of water bottles at the conference events, encouraging attendees to bring their own and offering water stations.



## DIGITAL SIGNAGE

ROSCon used digital signage as wayfinding signs and referred attendees to the conference website for more information.



## SUMMARY

The Conrad Cotai and The Parisian Macau are part of the Sands Hospitality Group. The Sands have a complete sustainability policy called SandsECO360. Their approach focuses on six key themes: energy, transportation, water, waste, food, and procurement. They have reduced their GHG emissions enough to compensate for 100% of the annual footprint of the Parisian Macau, our host hotel.

In 2018, The Parisian Macau was the first integrated resort in Macau to receive LEED for Building Design and Construction Certification. They also won the Macau Green Hotel Gold award. Overall, they have a 5.8% reduction in energy, 3.3% reduction in water usage per square foot, and a 2.7% increase in the waste diversion rate.



- MeetGreen sent **sustainable practice surveys to core event suppliers:** Venue, Accommodations, Catering, and Decorator.
- MeetGreen requested venue to **recycle glass, paper, plastic, and cardboard.**
- Recommend that meals include **sustainable food options:** local, seasonal, organic, fairly-traded, sustainably harvested, or ethically produced.

- Eliminated plastic badge holders and printed badges on cardstock that was recyclable.
- Directed attendees to conference website instead of using a printed program, suggested a conference app for the next conference.
- Marketing materials and sponsorship information was delivered electronically.
- Left over food was given to staff members first prior to being recycled.
- Condiments were served in bulk containers and refilled as needed.
- MeetGreen took a back of the house tour to see how policies were being implemented.

# From Local to Global

Key achievements are mapped to relevant SDGs (using MeetGreen's Guidelines) WCF Example Below

| CONFERENCE SUSTAINABILITY ACTIONS   | UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS               |
|---|--|
| Donation of leftover food.  | SDG 2: Zero hunger                             |
| Condiments and beverages served in bulk.  | SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production |
| The Parisian Macau was certified as LEED Silver                                   | SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy             |
| China and linens for meals, no disposables.                                       | SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production |
| Utilizing electronic signage in the meeting venue.                                | SDG 12: Responsible consumption and production |
| Venue was accessible from hotel via walking. Several hotels surrounding the area. | SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities     |
| No bottled water served at event.   | SDG 12. Responsible consumption and production |
| Reduce printed material.  | SDG 12. Responsible consumption and production |
| Incorporation of local / sustainable food on the menu.                            | SDG 3: Good Health & Well Being                |

# Event Scoring

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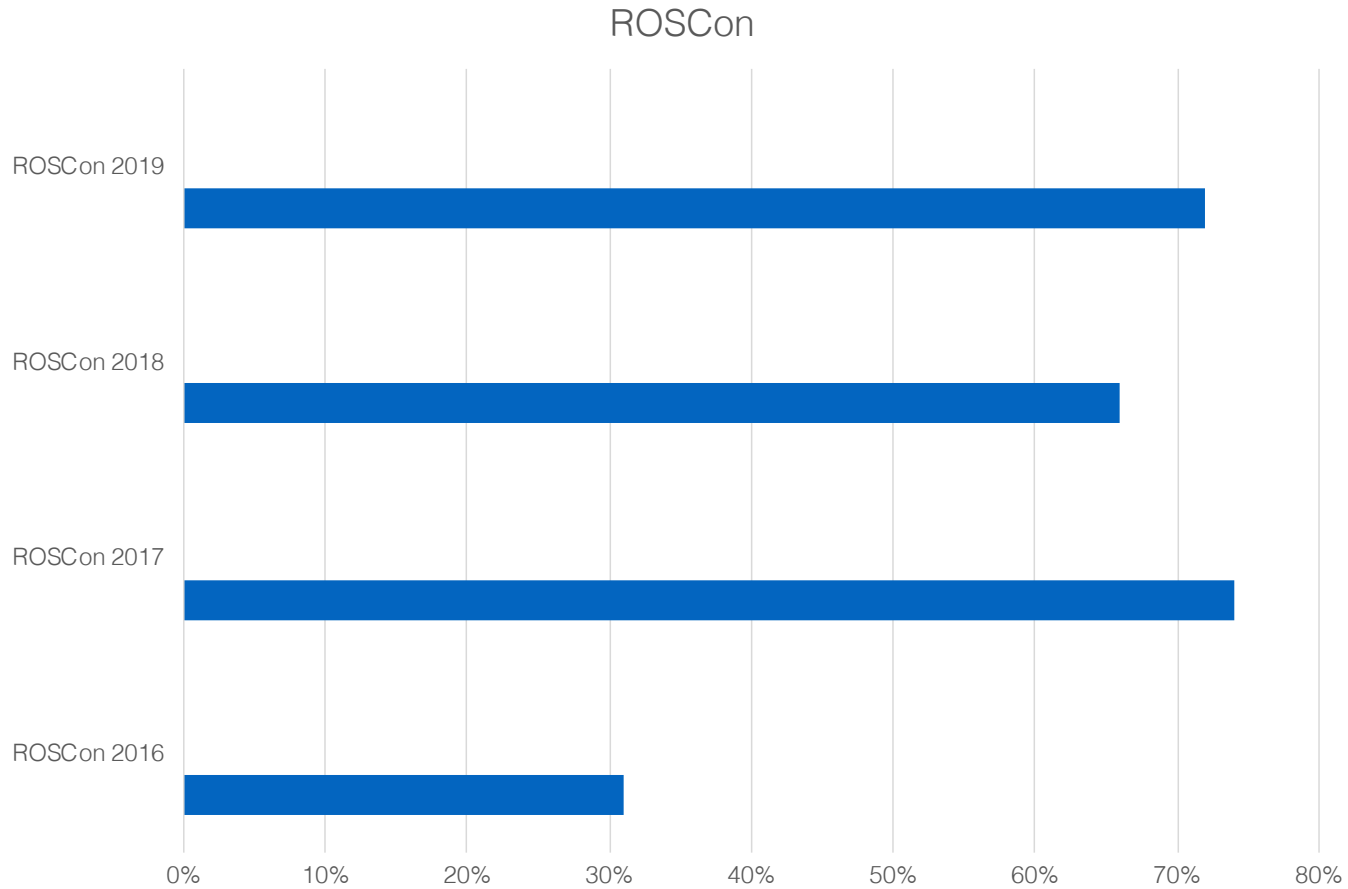
ROSCon's score was 72%

Compared to an average  
Calculator score of 42%

The **MeetGreen® Calculator 2.0** is a comprehensive tool available for benchmarking the sustainable elements of events. Using the Calculator allows ROSCon to capture valuable information throughout the event planning process in order to make it easy to see where successes lay and where improvements can be made.

Those events that score highly are run by organizers who not only request sustainable practices, but also ensure that these requests are implemented through systemic processes, that procedures are tracked and that a high level of performance is achieved. A Visionary leads within their own industry, prioritizes measurement and works to move the sustainability dial. Researches and develops new initiatives to improve environmental performance and uses the organization's buying power to drive change with venues and vendors.





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**CHART TITLE**

This report shows the **total calculator score for the ROSCon Conference** over a history of years.



# Sustainability Opportunities

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Event sustainability is inherently a long-term process. As such, it is an opportunity to innovate, and evolve at a pace that is congruent with your organization's resources and road map. The following pages offer a combination of practical next steps as well as some ambitious targets to help frame future event sustainability planning.



# CREATE

## **LANYARDS**

Although the lanyards were basic and can be used for future events, consider purchasing a product that is sustainably produced such as recycled water bottles or bamboo

## **INCREASE SUSTAINABILITY**

Communicate with sponsors and exhibitors to ensure samples and promotional items utilize minimum packaging. Advance the greening initiatives for exhibitors.

## **INCORPORATE ONE PLANT-BASED OR VEGETARIAN MEAL**

1,138 liters of water per person would be saved. That is 4 bathtubs full of water.

## **COMMIT TO ATTENDEE ENGAGEMENT**

Communicate your efforts to attendees. Add a green tagline at the bottom of any eblasts.

**AT THE OUTSET OF THE CONFERENCE,  
IDENTIFY 3 GOALS AND DESIRED  
OUTCOMES THAT RELATE TO  
SUSTAINABILITY.**

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# Congratulations

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**on a successful event using  
the earth's resources wisely!**

# *Special Thanks*

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Open Source Robotics Team  
Conrad Cotai  
The Parisian Macau  
BizNet  
Promo Gifts HK

**JANUARY 2020 | PREPARED BY MEETGREEN**

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