

## Exhibitions

RX events strengthen communities and support the SDGs, including SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 9 (Industry Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). In addition, RX supports SDG 13 (Climate Action) through our Net Zero Events commitments and by using our event platforms to drive industry engagement in a net zero carbon future. RX is committed to using its event platforms to support and drive the SDG agenda by stimulating conversations and collaboration, and educating and influencing the industries it serves.

RX saw a strong return to face-to-face events in 2023 across all geographies. A number of events set all-time attendance records, highlighting the importance participants place on connecting and doing business in person, allowing them to see many customers and suppliers at one time. Increasing numbers of customers took advantage of new RX digital and data analysis tools to source business solutions and suppliers, capture and qualify more leads, and analyse and improve their event performance.

In 2023, as part of its five-year, \$1m commitment to racial equity, RX continued to support nine global not-for-profit partners who are working to grow racial equity in RX communities. During the year, RX also announced partnerships with Black Young Professionals Network to advance the careers of black professionals in events; and Women in Exhibitions which aims to empower women in the exhibitions industry and help nurture the next generation of female leaders.

At the 2023 MIPTV television market, RX France presented its fourth annual MIP SDG Award which honours media companies for their contribution to delivering the SDGs. The 2023 award was presented to Silverback for their work supporting UN goals directed at climate action and the conservation of life below

water and life on land. RX France is part of the UN SDG Media Compact which seeks to inspire news and entertainment organisations to leverage their resources and talent to amplify and accelerate progress towards achieving the goals.

In 2023, RX's World Travel Market launched the inaugural Diversity and Inclusion Summit and pledged to ensure that 50% of speakers within the conference programme come from under-represented groups ensuring broad perspectives and knowledge are passed on to WTM attendees.

Arabian Travel Market, hosted in Dubai, presented its new Sustainable Stand Award to Hilton for their work on engaging local suppliers in the creation of the stand and commitment to repurpose materials over the next three years.

RX's in-cosmetics published its first Global Sustainability Trends Barometer, and a second regional report on sustainability in the APAC region. Both addressed the challenges and opportunities facing the cosmetics and personal care industry in its ongoing journey to reduce its carbon footprint.

MIPIIM, the international property show in Cannes, launched a new Road to Zero area, combining 400 sqm of exhibition, networking and conference space, with a focus on ground-breaking methods to decarbonise the real estate industry.

## Across RELX

Recognising that across RELX we have products, services, tools and events that advance the UN's 17 SDGs, we created the free RELX SDG Resource Centre in 2017 to advance awareness, knowledge and implementation of the SDGs. Since 2017, we have made over 1,800 journal articles and book chapters free to access via the RELX SDG Resource Centre which would have otherwise cost nearly £4m to make open access.

### 2023 PERFORMANCE

#### Meaningful support of SDG 13 by progressing the Net Zero Carbon Events Initiative and developing the net zero pathway for RX shows

In February 2023, RX published a Carbon Reduction Playbook to accelerate best practice across our event and operations teams in order to help them make more sustainable choices. To promote engagement with the Playbook, the RX Head of Sustainability undertook a roadshow and held online events that attracted 500+ attendees. This work will continue in 2024 with the publication of a Pathway to Net Zero roadmap, setting out RX's carbon reduction strategy to achieve net zero by 2040, with key milestones for all shows.

During the year, as a member of the Net Zero Carbon Events taskforce, RX participated in working group sessions to advance industry measurement of event-related carbon emissions, including event energy, waste, and production inputs. In the year, 56 venues covering 141 face-to-face events reported energy and/or waste data across RX. Additionally, we conducted carbon footprints of ten events to understand what data is available and get a fuller picture of emissions categories such as logistics and production. These footprints have formed the basis for specific event strategies to target reductions.



Highlighting the importance of industry collaboration in driving climate change action, RX partnered with Elsevier at the 2023 London Book Fair on a new Sustainability Hub, which delivered three days of programming designed to raise awareness about climate change and encourage publishers to adopt sustainable responses across the supply chain. Elsevier and RX also partnered to calculate the emissions associated with Elsevier's exhibition stand and highlight their carbon emissions label. RX will build on this work to calculate further stand emissions and educate exhibitors on sustainable practices.