



The 2023 Zoo and Aquarium Association Conference to be held at Willowbank Wildlife Reserve - Christchurch NZ, will focus on “positive impact via partnership & community”. This conference aims to bring to life ZAA’s newly invigorated vision and 2023-25 strategy whilst also aligning to the United Nations’ 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We’re looking for speakers with engaging content that relates back to our theme and touches on one or several of the SDGs with relevance to our zoo and aquarium audience. This may be via partnerships and collaboration relating to a connection to conservation, animal welfare, education, environmental impacts, business continuity and growth, inclusion and diversity, community engagement and more.

Dates: Wednesday 9 – Friday 11 August, 2023

Location: Christchurch Conference Centre/Willowbank Wildlife Reserve face-to-face and streamed online

Below are some thought-starters of possible topics, however we welcome additional ideas for presentations.

1 NO POVERTY 	Community programs Volunteering	10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES 	Diversity & inclusion First Nations & Maori engagement Supporting low socio-economic communities
2 ZERO HUNGER 	Animal welfare (nutrition domain) Innovative feed options for animals Sustainable food/beverage supply community donations	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES 	Council-owned zoo programs Extreme weather events Zoo connections with local communities
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING 	Staff/visitor wellbeing programs Zoos/aquariums as natural spaces	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION 	Sustainable tourism & advocacy Zoo supply chains Impacts on wildlife (e.g. plastic ingestion)
4 QUALITY EDUCATION 	Education programs Community engagement initiatives University/TAFE partnerships	13 CLIMATE ACTION 	Carbon neutral initiatives Climate action advocacy Impacts on biodiversity & members
5 GENDER EQUALITY 	Girls/women in STEM education/careers, Recruitment & staff development Role of women in conservation	14 LIFE BELOW WATER 	Marine conservation projects Species management Aquatic animal welfare
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION 	Water recycling systems Animal welfare initiatives Emergency response	15 LIFE ON LAND 	Terrestrial conservation projects Species management Animal welfare
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY 	Solar energy systems Renewable energy sources	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS 	Zoo/aquarium ethics & wicked problems Welfare perceptions Ethical communications
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH 	Business continuity & innovation Marketing & new products/services	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS 	Collaborative initiatives between zoos/ aquariums & other organisations, compa- nies & communities
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 	Capital works & construction Accommodation & visitor facilities Start-ups and partnerships Virtual/digital innovation		

To complement the in person conference, there will be visits to Willowbank and so much more as part of the week’s itinerary. Stay tuned over coming months for registration forms and for now BLOCK OUT THE WEEK to travel to Christchurch.