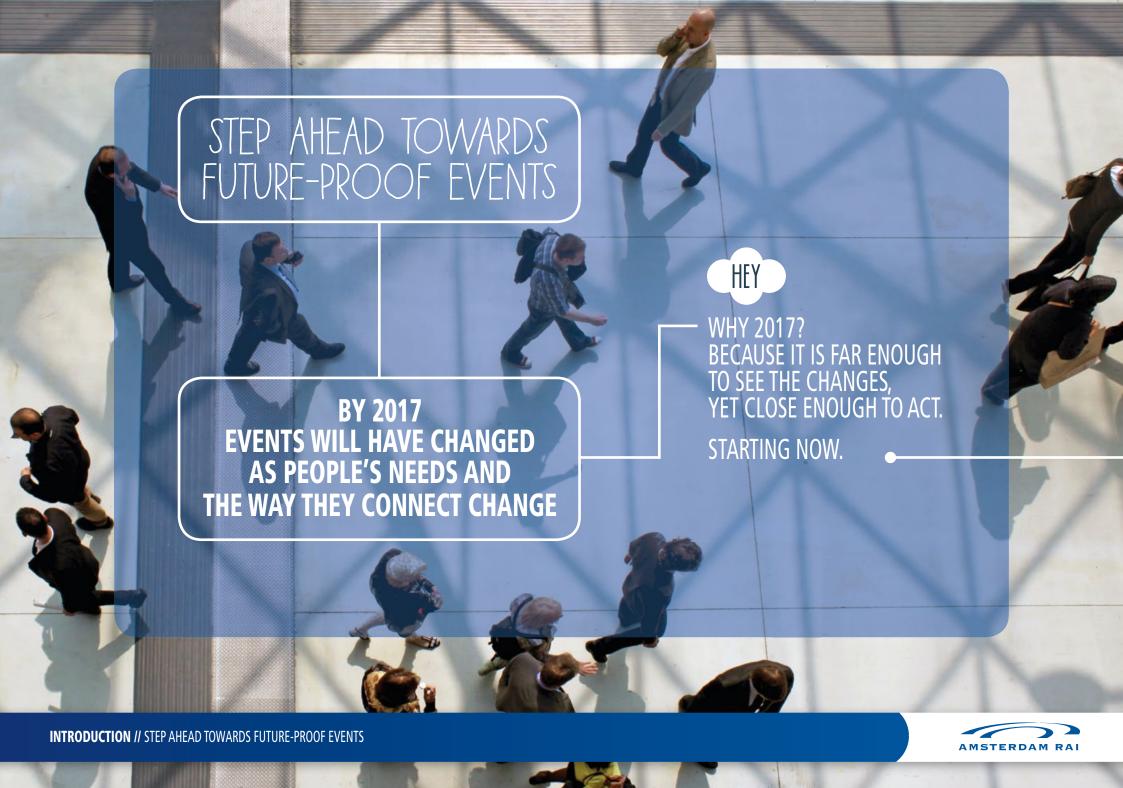
INSPIRATION FOR EVENT ORGANISERS AND EXHIBITORS

HOW TO TRANSLATE TRENDS INTO FUTURE-PROOF EVENTS

INSPIRING PEOPLE





STEP AHEAD TOWARDS FUTURE-PROOF EVENTS



Sanne Jolles

Market Research Manager, for exploring the world and being our event trendwatcher s.jolles@rai.nl THIS RAI INSIGHTS REPORT IS BASED ON THE LATEST INSIGHTS INTO TRENDS WHICH WE SELECTED THROUGH DESK RESEARCH, AS WELL AS THE THOUGHTS THAT EVENT ORGANISERS, EXHIBITORS AND PARTNERS SHARED WITH US.

WE DISCUSSED THE GENERAL TRENDS WITHIN A CROSS-FUNCTIONAL RAI TEAM AND TRANSLATED THEM INTO OUR VISION FOR 2017.

WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE INSPIRED BY THIS REPORT, AS WE ARE BY THE MANY EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES THAT WE SEE FOR THE NEAR FUTURE.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF EVENTS FURTHER, AMSTERDAM RAI WOULD LOVE TO BE YOUR SPARRING PARTNER.

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LET'S START! CLICK HERE TO GO DIRECTLY TO

PART 01
TRENDS AND PREVIEW
ON EVENTS IN 2017

PART 02
HOW TO CREATE VALUE
FOR EVENT VISITORS

PART 03
INVITATION TO
CO-CREATE







TRENDS AND EVENTS IN 2017

INTERNATIONAL LOCAL PERSONAL

THE SHARE OF INTERCONTINENTAL VISITORS AND EXHIBITORS AT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS IS GROWING.

VISITORS AND EXHIBITORS EXPECT INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS COMBINED WITH LOCAL ELEMENTS.

A PERSONAL APPROACH AND MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE ARE CRUCIAL.



TRENDS AND EVENTS IN 2017

MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES

FOCUS ON VALUE

WORK-LIFE BALANCE

SHARING INSTEAD OF OWNERSHIP

GROWING CULTURAL INTELLIGENCE

COMBINATION OF BUSINESS AND LEISURE

FASTER ADOPTION OF TECHNOLOGY ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE FROM TRUSTED EXPERTS AND PEER-TO-PEER

SUSTAINABILITY

CO-CREATION

A CHANGING WORLD

THE GENERAL DOMINANT CULTURE IS CHANGING

AUTHENTICITY

CUSTOMISATION





SCENARIO BASED ON TRENDS

THE POWER OF FACE-TO-FACE

THE PHYSICAL ENCOUNTER REMAINS CRUCIAL TO BUILDING TRUST BETWEEN PEOPLE, ENGAGING IN OR STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS. THIS CREATES A STRONG BRAND EXPERIENCE, INSPIRATION, INNOVATION AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE, WHICH HELPS US ACHIEVE BUSINESS AS WELL AS PERSONAL GOALS. VIRTUAL APPLICATIONS ENRICH THIS. THE OFFLINE-ONLINE COMBINATION PROVIDES UNSURPASSED VALUE.





SCENARIO BASED ON TRENDS

SUCCESS FACTORS



SUCCESSFUL EVENTS COMBINE:

- AN ATTRACTIVE DESTINATION
- A PERSONAL APPROACH
- A SENSORY EXPERIENCE
- A GOOD BALANCE OF BUSINESS & LEISURE
 SERVICE DELIVERY ON AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL
- MEASURABLE ROI
- OPTIMAL PROCESSES
- QUALITY FACILITIESCO-CREATION
- SUSTAINABILITY





SCENARIO Based on Trends







FOR EVENT PROFESSIONALS, IT IS CRUCIAL TO INVEST IN BOTH THE VALUE OF THE PHYSICAL ENCOUNTER AND ITS IMPACT OUTSIDE THE EVENT.













HOW TO CREATE VALUE FOR EVENT VISITORS

MATCHMAKING

EXPERIENCE

PERSONAL

AUTHENTICITY

SMART CHOICES

CO-CREATION

EVENT SCIENCE

CROSS-BORDER

WELL-BEING

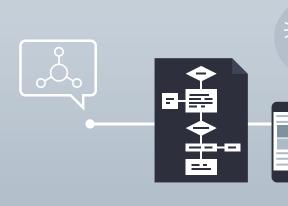
BALANCE







MATCH-MAKING IDEAS



ENGAGE!

AN ACTIVE COMMUNITY NEEDS A COMMUNITY MANAGER. GIVE YOUR VISITORS THE OPPORTUNITY TO FORGE AND MAINTAIN GOOD CONTACTS OUTSIDE THE EVENT TOO. OFFER THEM A PLATFORM AND FACILITATE THE CONVERSATION. SHARE KNOWLEDGE, START DISCUSSIONS AND DISCUSS SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS THAT EXIST WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

ALLOW FOR SERENDIPITY

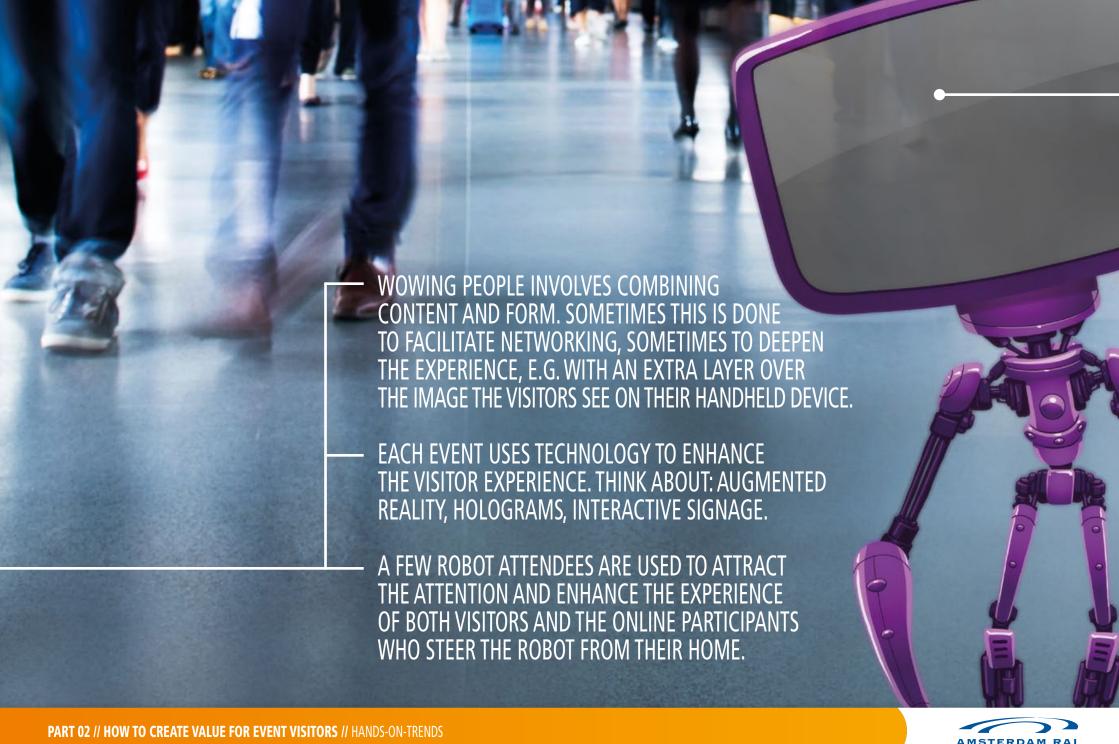
ALL THE SOPHISTICATED MATCHMAKING TOOLS AT OUR DISPOSAL MAKE IT EASY TO COMPLETELY FILL ONE'S AGENDA. MAKE SURE YOU LEAVE SPACE FOR CHANCE MEETINGS — HELP VISITORS MAKE UNEXPECTED NEW CONNECTIONS AND HAVE FUN.











EXPERIENCE IDEAS



MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES

STEP INTO THE SHOES OF YOUR VISITOR AND EXPERIENCE THE CUSTOMER JOURNEY. ACKNOWLEDGE BRAND EXPERIENCE, INSPIRATION, INNOVATION AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE. ASK YOURSELF: HOW CAN WE DELIVER A MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE? REACH PEOPLE ON PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL LEVELS.

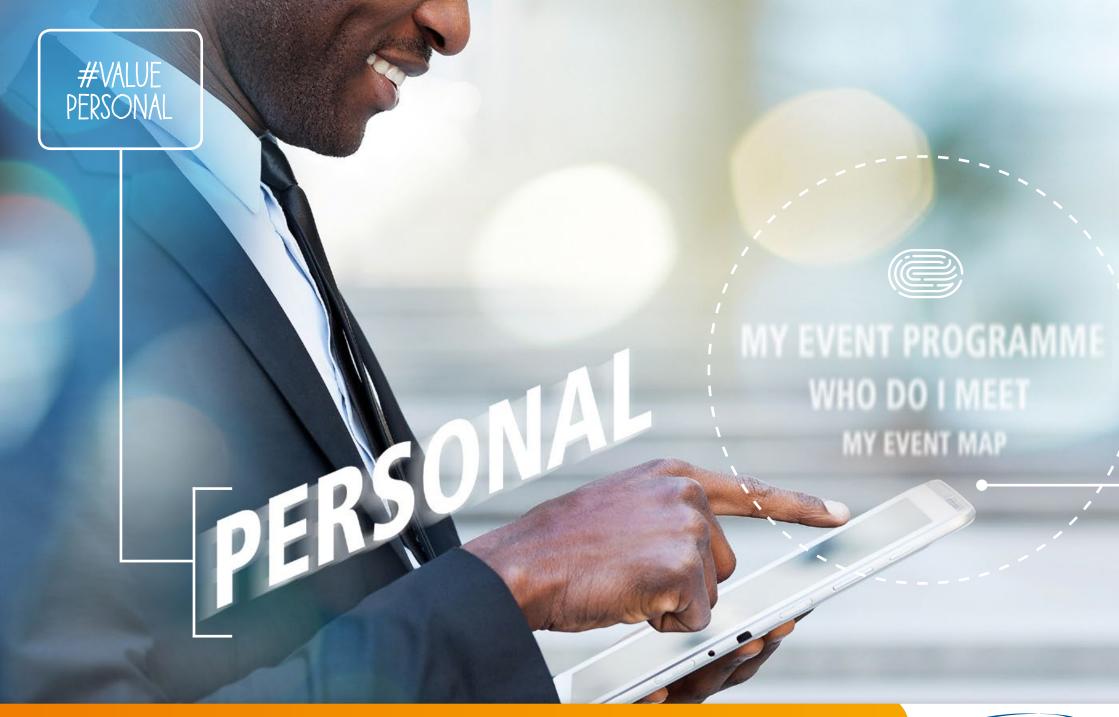
DEDICATED PROGRAMME FOR VIRTUAL VISITORS ONLINE PARTICIPANTS IN THE HYBRID PROGRAMME

ALSO LOOK FOR EXPERIENCES. CREATE, E.G. DEDICATED PROGRAMMES WITH 'BEHIND THE SCENES' SESSIONS INCLUDING EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS WITH SPEAKERS. ALLOW FOR ONLINE INVOLVEMENT OR CO-CREATION.











PERSONAI IDEAS





MAKE IT PERSONAL

IF AN INDOOR POSITIONING IS AVAILABLE IN THE CHOSEN VENUE, YOU CAN OFFER YOUR VISITORS AN INDIVIDUAL TAILOR-MADE EVENT PROGRAMME OR A PERSONAL ROUTE, ALL TOGETHER.

VIRTUAL EVENT 'BAG'

GIVE VISITORS THE ABILITY TO FILL A PERSONAL VIRTUAL EVENT 'BAG' BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER THE EVENT. THIS LETS VISITORS TAKE ONLY WHAT THEY NEED, WHEN THEY NEED IT, AND ENTER THE CONVERSATION DIRECTLY. THINK ABOUT CONTACT DETAILS OF PEOPLE THEY MEET, EXHIBITOR WHITE PAPERS OR SPEAKER'S PRESENTATIONS.







AMSTERDAM RAI







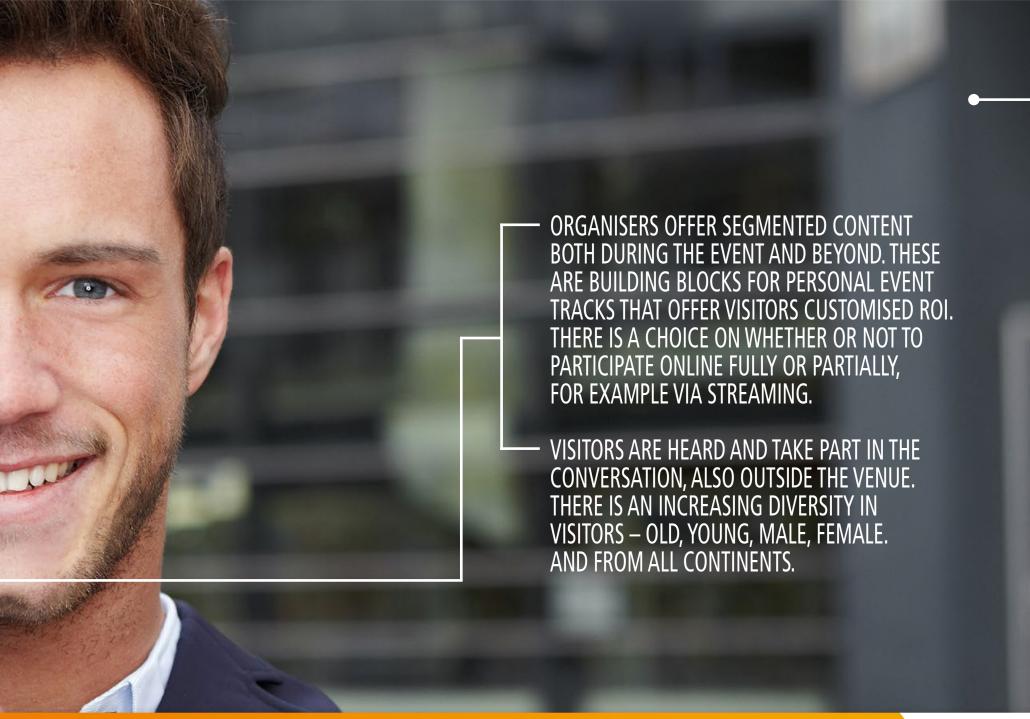
VISUALISE SUSTAINABILITY STEPS
INTEGRATE YOUR SUSTAINABILITY STEPS
AND RESULTS IN THE EVENT AND MAKE
YOUR STORY VISIBLE, E.G. IN THE FIELD
OF WASTE MANAGEMENT OR
SUSTAINABLE CATERING OPTIONS.

FACILITATE REAL CONVERSATIONS
CONVERSATIONS CAN TAKE PLACE IN
DIFFERENT WAYS: CEOS CAN ENGAGE
WITH VISITORS, PHYSICALLY OR VIRTUALLY,
AT THE EXHIBITION STAND OR CONFERENCE
BREAKOUT SESSION.











SMART CHOICES IDEAS



PERSONAL EVENT TRACKS

MAKE IT EASY FOR VISITORS TO IDENTIFY
AND CHOOSE THEIR OWN TRACK WITHIN THE
PROGRAMME – THROUGH YOUR OFFLINE AND
ONLINE CHANNELS DURING THE EVENT. SHARE TIPS
AND NEWS THAT MATCH PERSONAL PREFERENCES.

VALUABLE CONTENT THROUGH VALUABLE CONNECTIONS

CONNECT BEGINNERS WITH EXPERTS, FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES WITH VETERANS, GENERATION Y WITH BABY BOOMERS, PHYSICAL VISITORS WITH THOSE THAT FOLLOW EVERYTHING ONLINE. LOOK FOR SHARED INTERESTS IN TOPICS AND INNOVATION TRACKS TO LET BOTH PHYSICAL AND VIRTUAL VISITORS ENGAGE IN VALUABLE ENCOUNTERS.





<u>@</u>



ACTIVE COOPERATION TO SET UP THE CONTENT OF THE PROGRAMME IS EXPECTED. IT INVOLVES ALL STAKEHOLDERS. CO-CREATION IS VISIBLE, E.G. THROUGH PERSONAL PHOTOS FOR THE EVENT MOOD BOARD OR A JOINT CHOICE OF MUSIC AT THE EVENT.

THERE IS MORE AND MORE SPACE FOR CROWD-SOURCED BREAKOUTS (PROGRAMME SEGMENTS DETERMINED BY VISITORS). IN THESE SESSIONS, THE ROLES ARE REVERSED: FROM VISITOR TO SPEAKER, WE LEARN FROM EACH OTHER.

HANDHELD TECHNOLOGY HELPS VISITORS
TO BE HEARD DIRECTLY DURING THE EVENT.
ORGANISERS AND EXHIBITORS OFFER ANSWERS
TO VISITORS' QUESTIONS IN REAL TIME,
DISPLAY THE CONVERSATION, AND ENRICH
COMMUNICATION BETWEEN STAKEHOLDERS.













CREATE WHITE SPACES

LEAVE SPACE IN YOUR PROGRAMME FOR VISITORS TO FILL IT IN THEMSELVES, THROUGH CROWDSOURCING OR 'UNCONFERENCE' SESSIONS. THIS PROMOTES NETWORKING AND CREATES A SOLID COMMUNITY WHICH FEELS OWNERSHIP OF THE EVENT – AND WILL RETURN.



BEFORE AND DURING THE EVENT ASK VISITORS BEFOREHAND AND DURING THE EVENT WHAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO HEAR OR SEE. THE ONLINE COMMUNITY ENABLES YOU TO ENGAGE IN A CONVERSATION BEFORE THE EVENT.









EVENT SCIENCE IDEAS







INVOLVE MEETING DESIGN TO ENSURE THAT CONTENT AND, SAY, CATERING FORM AN INTEGRATED WHOLE. SHAPE THE EVENT IN TERMS OF TASTE, SOUND, DYNAMICS AND DÉCOR. THINK OF BRAIN FOOD: GIVING THE RIGHT ENERGY FOR THE OPTIMAL ABSORPTION OF INFORMATION.

SHAPE YOUR EVENT DYNAMICS

COACH SPEAKERS AND PARTNERS TO HAVE THE RIGHT TONE OF VOICE AND CREATE THE OPTIMAL DYNAMIC FOR WHAT YOU WISH TO ACHIEVE.



ESSENTIALS







PEOPLE TRAVEL A LOT AND EASILY. VISITORS
CHOOSE EVENTS AND DESTINATIONS THAT MATCH
THEIR PERSONAL INTERESTS, EVEN IF THIS MEANS
THEY HAVE TO TRAVEL FURTHER, AS LONG AS THERE
IS A CLEAR ROI THAT SUITS THEIR OBJECTIVES.

EVENT BRAND LEADERS INCREASINGLY ATTRACT INTERNATIONAL VISITORS. THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARD IS BECOMING THE NORM, ALSO FOR NATIONAL EVENTS. THIS MAKES VISITORS FEEL AT HOME EVERYWHERE, AND LETS THEM ENJOY THE LOCAL EXPERIENCE WITH AN INTERNATIONAL FLAVOUR.

HYBRID AND VIRTUAL SESSIONS ALLOW VISITORS TO EXPERIENCE THE EVENT ACTIVELY WORLDWIDE, TOO.



CROSS-BORDER IDEAS



INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS WITH LOCAL FLAVOURS

INTERNATIONAL FLAVOURS MAKE VISITORS FEEL AT HOME EVERYWHERE. BUT ALSO CONVEY TO THEM THE UNIQUE ASPECTS OF THE LOCATION THROUGHOUT THE EVENT. GIVE SUFFICIENT ATTENTION TO LOCAL SPECIALTIES, E.G. BY MEANS OF A STORY.

ENRICH THE PRE-EVENT EXPERIENCE THE VISITORS' PHYSICAL JOURNEY BEGINS AS SOON AS THEY LEAVE THEIR HOME. TRY TO IMAGINE MOMENTS SUITABLE FOR GIVING A TASTE OF THE EVENT EARLY ON. THIS COULD INCLUDE MATCHMAKING OF TRAVELLING VISITORS OR PLAYING ON EXPERIENCES DURING THE TRIP.



HOME







FEELING COMFORTABLE DURING THE EVENT MAKES VISITORS FEEL MORE AT HOME: EVENTS ARE INCREASINGLY FOCUSING ON THIS FACTOR.

EVENTS GAIN A NEW DYNAMIC, WHICH INCORPORATES THE OUTSIDE WITH THE INSIDE, SESSIONS IN OTHER SHAPES AND SIZES, VARIATIONS IN FURNITURE, EXHIBITION SET-UPS.

WELL-BEING IDEAS





GIVE ROOM TO INDIVIDUAL NEEDS

DEDICATED SPACES IN THE VENUE CAN
MAKE A PERSONAL DIFFERENCE TO
VISITORS. PRAYER ROOMS, QUIET ROOMS,
PLACES TO FEED BABIES, LIBRARIES,
GARDENS: THESE CAN BE AS IMPORTANT
AS THE BUSINESS CENTRE.



AROMA THERAPY IN SPECIFIC PLACES ON THE EXHIBITION FLOOR OR IN THE CONFERENCE ROOMS. INTEGRATION OF MUSIC, IMAGE AND COLOUR. FOCUS ON MAKING VISITORS FEEL GOOD.











BALANCE IDEAS



ROOM TO RECHARGE AND UNWIND OFFER SUFFICIENT PLACES FOR

VISITORS TO RECHARGE (LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY). APART FROM ALL THE BUSTLE OF THE EVENT, A HOME AWAY FROM HOME WHERE CONTACT WITH ONE'S HOUSE OR WORKPLACE IS ACHIEVED QUICKLY AND EASILY.

EVENT SPARE TIME: EASY CHOICES

MAKE IT EASY FOR VISITORS TO EFFECTIVELY USE TIME OUTSIDE THE EVENT. FOR EXAMPLE, MATCH PERSONAL INTERESTS WITH TOURS BY LOCALS. ASK FOR THESE PREFERENCES DURING REGISTRATION.





THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR EXPERIENCES: ORGANISERS, EXHIBITORS AND VISITORS THANK YOU FOR SHARING
YOUR KNOWLEDGE, WHITE PAPERS
AND RESEARCH:
EVENT INDUSTRY PARTNERS

THANK YOU

THANK YOU FOR INSPIRING US FROM THE OUTSIDE IN: COMPANIES, ASSOCIATIONS, UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH CENTRES

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR BEST PRACTICES: PARTNERS AND SUPPLIERS

THANK YOU FOR ENGAGING
IN THE CONVERSATION
FACE TO FACE OR ON
SOCIAL MEDIA: EVERYBODY



ANY IDEAS, SUGGESTIONS OR INSIGHTS YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE

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#INSIGHTS

EMAIL INSIGHTS@RAI.NL OR WHISPER IT TO AN AMSTERDAM RAI TEAM MEMBER



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