

14th International HCH and Pesticides Forum

 Life surfing

21-24 February 2023
Zaragoza, Spain



 GOBIERNO
DE ARAGON

 IHPA
International HCH & Pesticides Association

 sarga

 UNIVERSIDAD
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SUSTAINABLE EVENT

The [14th International HCH and Pesticides Forum](#) will be held in Zaragoza from February 21 to 24, 2023.

This Forum is carried out within the framework of the LIFE Environment Program of the EU, within the scope of the LIFE SURFING project, “SURFactant enhanced chemical oxidation for remediating DNAPL” (www.lifesurfing.eu). It is organized by the Government of Aragon, SARGA, the Complutense University of Madrid and the International HCH & Pesticides Association (IHPA).

In its 14th edition, the International HCH and Pesticides Forum will address the way the European Union manages the legacy of Lindane and HCH waste: What are the "Lessons Learned" and what is the "Way Forward".

The forum will bring together hundreds of researchers, experts, ecologists and representatives of countries affected by the mismanagement of POPs pesticides and other POPs, among other groups, who will attest to the advances in research to reduce and eliminate contamination, caused by the production of lindane and the related HCH residues that are dumped everywhere and specifically in the bedrock of Bailín, near the Pyrenees.

The event will follow a sustainable event management system. Its methodology and criteria consist of the implementation of an operation that makes it possible to identify the impact generated and minimize any negative impacts that may occur, thereby proving its social, economic and environmental commitment. The objective is to leave a beneficial legacy for the community and all the publics involved.

The trips to the meeting place, the consumption and the waste generated produce various effects that the organization has proposed to take into account. These aspects generate greenhouse gas emissions that have consequences on the global climate. Biodiversity is also affected by certain foods and other products that are consumed; and sustainability, due to the use of water at the local level.

The Government of Aragon and Sarga have prepared this document, to make it available to the organization, sponsors, as well as to all the people who participate in the forum, trying to generate in all the idea that we can make the 14th International HCH and Pesticides Forum a sustainable event. The recommendations of the "Manual of Good Practices" drawn up by Zaragoza Congressos, and which are included in this document, have been taken into account.

Our main objective is to minimize, as far as possible, the negative impact produced by holding the Forum, through a series of simple tips and recommendations available to everyone and that can be applied at different times of their participation, both individually and collectively, both in the planning of the trip, as well as in the displacement and during the stay in Zaragoza.

1) ZARAGOZA, VENUE OF THE 14th FORUM

After registering for the Forum (<https://www.hchforum.com/registration.php>), you can begin to get to know our city a little better. Find out about our culture, our history, our tourist offers, our character and main characteristics. Visit the Zaragoza Turismo website www.zaragozaturismo.es, as it offers information on Zaragoza, access to the city, routes to plan your visit, monuments and leisure activities.

Find the location of the Forum headquarters, the [Caja Rural de Aragon Building](#) (Coso 29) your hotel and the places you don't want to miss, also interested in knowing how to get there, to move around Zaragoza in a more sustainable way.

Find out on the web pages of the companies that carry out transport within the city, since it is very important to use the public transport network:

- Zaragoza Urban Transport: Grupo Avanza www.avanzabus.com y <https://zaragoza.avanzagrupo.com/lineas-y-horarios>
- Tram Zaragoza www.tranviasdezaragoza.es
- Area Transport Consortium Zaragoza www.consortiozaragoza.es

If you want to cycle around our city, check the “Bizi Zaragoza” website www.bizizaragoza.com to find out which bike lanes you can use.

In Zaragoza you can also rent ecological mobility systems such as scooters or electric bicycles, by activating the different applications that are made available to customers for download from the Internet.

In any case, you will immediately discover that Zaragoza is a very comfortable city to be able to walk through its streets and that the people of Zaragoza love to enjoy them.

Walking is the best solution to get to know the center, allowing you to discover new corners, squares, monuments, tapas places and shops that will surprise you at every step.

Remember that traveling in a responsible way implies knowing the place visited and respecting its citizens.

2) PLAN THE TRIP: HOW TO GET TO ZARAGOZA

It is possible that the greatest impact on climate change of their participation in the Forum is caused by their travel to our city.

You can arrive from your destination by plane, landing at our international airport, located just 9km from the city Zaragoza is currently connected to various European cities, such as London, Brussels, Milan Bergamo, Venice, etc.

From the airport, you can travel to the city center on the bus that leaves every half hour from Monday to Saturday. Check all the information on the page: <https://www.aeropuertodezaragoza.net>

If you arrive in our city by plane, you will produce a greater amount of CO2 emissions.

If you arrive in your private car, you will emit less CO2 into the atmosphere, but it will still be a much higher amount than a person who arrives in Zaragoza by train.

A positive aspect for our city is that we are connected to Madrid and Barcelona by high-speed train. Each high-speed train passenger emits an average of 14 kg. of CO2, an aspect that, together with the comfort and punctuality of this means of transport, make the AVE the best option to get to Zaragoza.

If your flight arrives at Madrid or Barcelona airports, you can use public transport in these cities to connect with the AVE that will bring you to our city. You can buy your train tickets at the following companies:

- RENFE (<https://www.renfe.com/es>)
- OUIGO (<https://www.ouigo.com/es>)
- IRYO (<https://iryo.eu/es/home>)

Likewise, you can get to our city through the Bus Station, using this means of transport that connects us with a significant number of Spanish and even European cities (<https://www.estacion-zaragoza.es/taquillas-estacion-buses/>).

If you have chosen the train or the bus for your trip, you will arrive at the “Delicias Intermodal Station”. From here you can go to the center using the urban bus (lines 34 and 51). You can check all the lines and their route at <http://zaragoza.avanzagrupo.com/>

Whichever way you have arrived in Zaragoza, we recommend that you find the most suitable way for you to offset the CO2 emissions caused, choosing among the different compensation projects that exist.

Remember that when registering for the Forum you can leave the information related to your trip and this information will be part of the calculation of the carbon footprint of the event. We thank you for your collaboration.

With the aim of being able to offset these emissions, the members of the Forum have proposed the planting of seeds, for which a kit for planting them is provided in the welcome bag.

Planting will be done collectively in the months after the forum, more favorable for the rooting and growth of trees, in Bailín - Sabiñánigo, as a sustainable memory of the event, as an act of responsibility and a good environmental image. Likewise, for those participants who so wish, they can carry out their own planting in the place that they consider, contributing and collaborating with the compensation of CO2 emissions. Keep in mind that the seed species are native to Aragon, so plant them in a place where the biodiversity of the environment is not altered. If you wish, you can leave your seed kit with the forum secretariat, for later planting in Bailín, Sabiñánigo.

Planting species are always autochthonous, adapted to the type of soil on the site and the weather. In addition, they are combined with shrub species, which allow the development of biodiversity of flora and fauna, under biological and environmental criteria.

3) PREPARE YOUR TRIP

If you want to be a responsible delegate, you should also take into account some details when packing your suitcase, taking special care not to bring imported waste to the venue of the meeting and trying to carry as little load as possible, to reduce the consumption of fuel on your trip.

When preparing your luggage, keep in mind that, on many occasions, and this case is one of those, "less is more".

First of all, check the weather in Zaragoza, on the dates you are going to attend the Forum, in order to avoid wearing clothes that will not be useful or necessary later. With this objective, you can review the AEMET (State Meteorological Agency) website <https://www.aemet.es/es/>

Check what services the hotel offers you in your room (hairdryer, gel, shampoo, toothbrush, razor...) and do not include in your suitcase what you will have during your stay and will be replaced daily. If this type of detail is not available in the room, prepare a small container of soap suitable for all body hygiene.

If you need to bring any type of documentation to the Forum, always try to take it on a USB stick, avoiding the use of paper as far as possible. In the event that you finally have to print an essential document for you, do it double-sided and preferably on recycled paper.

Also remember, if you are traveling by plane, the current European regulations on what you can carry in your hand luggage, which limits the liquid content in containers to 100 ml. In this way you will avoid increasing the considerable amount of waste that accumulates in the different airports of the world, for not taking into account the legislation.

Also, be sure to thoroughly clean your suitcase inside and out, removing any stains, dust, or traces of dirt, in order not to carry microorganisms that may be a threat to our city's habitat, as they may be invasive species in itself and affect local biodiversity. For this reason, also take special care with the sole of your shoes.

Finally, avoid taking a plant to Zaragoza as a gift, as it may contain living remains, such as seeds, live insects, insect eggs, bacteria or other microorganisms in the soil or food that can survive during the journey and also affect biodiversity. of our city.

4) STAY IN ZARAGOZA

Hotels consume a large amount of energy and water, given their characteristics, their function and the need to offer a quality service to their customers. For this reason, and for some time now, many hotels have been working to adopt measures to recycle and reduce waste, as well as to save energy and water, thus seeking to adapt their day-to-day activities to sustainability, offer a better image and even reduce costs.

For the choice of hotels, the distance between the selected hotel and the Forum venue prevails, minimizing distances, so that you can move around the city easily, using public transport, cycling or walking.

HOTELS	Distance to headquarters	Walking time
4* Hotel Alfonso	20 meters	1 min
3* Hotel Oriente	120 meters	2 min
4* Hotel Silken Reino de Aragón	280 meters	4 min
4* Hotel Vincci Zentro	350 meters	5 min
5* Hotel Palafox	600 meters	7 min
3* Hotel Zaragoza Royal	1100 meters	15 min

The hotels selected by the organization to accommodate the forum attendees are characterized by the fact that they have waste separation and recycling programs, use efficient energy

management systems, apply devices and practices to save water, and use environmentally safe cleaning products.

Whatever your accommodation in Zaragoza, keep a series of tips that minimize your energy and water consumption, as well as the amount of waste generated:

- Ask the hotel not to change your towels and sheets daily
- Check the thermostat of the room: Remember that the recommended temperature in bedrooms with heating is 18º and with air conditioning it is 22º. In any case, turn it off when you're not in your room.
- Turn off lights when not needed by opening curtains and allowing access to natural light whenever possible. Do not have electrical devices that you are not using turned on and put those that are possible in energy savings.
- Maintain your daily water-saving habits during your personal hygiene: turn off the tap while brushing your teeth, choose a shower instead of a bath, turn off the shower while soaping yourself, and use the cistern only when absolutely necessary.

5) THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE FORUM

The Caja Rural de Aragón Building is located at Coso, 29; Its central location that makes it easy to get around the city.

The building has an environmental policy for holding green events in all its aspects. While the forum is being held, a waste reduction and reuse program will be launched, and it will have containers to segregate waste paper and cardboard, glass, organic matter, plastics, batteries and chemical products; the substitution of incandescent lighting for another with low consumption; Home automation control of lighting in main halls.

During the forum, disposable containers will be eliminated, using returnable containers; The reuse of materials is prioritized.

In recent years it has been undertaking reforms and designs for greater energy efficiency.

For the different spaces, furniture owned by Caja Rural will be used, minimizing the placement of stands and external tables, which increases environmental costs.

During the congress, the use of paper will be minimized, using recycled paper as far as possible, water dispensers and metal bottles for each attendee, as well as menus with local or organic foods. The material will be delivered to attendees in an organic cotton bag. It will include gifts made with sustainable material, which will be provided by 0-kilometre companies, which incorporate workers at risk of social exclusion into their workforce.

Whenever possible, the digital transfer of information will be promoted, thus avoiding the distribution of printed documents.

Packaging and waste will be minimized as much as possible, and if necessary, managed properly.

In any case, when attending the Forum as a delegate you can also take into account small details, such as bringing your laptop and a USB memory to be able to take documentation of the event and even to exchange information with other participants; properly use the bathrooms that

have two flushing options; use the headquarters' paper, glass and plastic recycling services; or bring a reusable water bottle.

6) GASTRONOMY

For the selection of the catering, the choice of dishes made with fresh ingredients and products, not processed and that have been grown or obtained locally, has been taken into account.

The leftover food from each day will be taken to a soup kitchen, avoiding waste and contributing to helping disadvantaged groups socially.

We suggest that you opt for dishes from our kitchen, made with a wide repertoire of products, based on popular stews that incorporate vegetables, legumes and fruits from the Ebro garden, which supplies rich ingredients for the classic Aragonese fritters and the acclaimed chilindrones.

The list of products from our land is very extensive, with a repertoire that has vegetables, sausages, beef, rice, eggs, preserves, cheeses and fruits, virgin olive oil, etc.

In addition, “tapas” in Zaragoza represent one of the inevitable gastronomic customs. The gastronomic level on offer ranges from the classic pinchos and casseroles to innovative and brilliant creations in the form of sandwiches, fried foods or portions, often based on the aforementioned ingredients.

You can also consume organic wines from our province, since we have three Denominations of Origin: D.O. Calatayud www.docalatayud.com, D.O. Campo de Borja www.docampodeborja.com and D.O. Cariñena www.elvinodelaspiedras.es/

If you prefer beer, in our city we have a production company La Zaragozana, founded in 1900. It has 13 different varieties of beer since they make 13 different varieties, with traditional manufacturing processes www.ambar.com

We hope you enjoy your stay and we count on your collaboration.

THANK YOU

BENEFITS OF HOLDING A SUSTAINABLE EVENT

1) BENEFITS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- Elimination, mitigation or compensation of the negative impact caused on the global environment and nearby ecosystems
- Enhancement of the natural resources of the environment
- Optimization in the consumption of natural resources

2) BENEFITS FOR ASSISTANTS

- Satisfaction for participating in an event in line with sustainable trends
- They better know, understand and respect the social, cultural and natural environment where the event takes place
- They take advantage of the possibilities of leisure, gastronomy and culture that the environment offers

3) BENEFITS FOR THE CLOSE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT

- The cultural identity of Zaragoza is respected
- The inconvenience and impacts on coexistence and on the natural and cultural heritage caused by the event are mitigated.
- Increases the possibilities of economic development for the city
- The destination is promoted for tourism and its own products are made known.
- An orderly exchange of cultural aspects between the citizen and the attending public is allowed.

4) BENEFITS FOR THE EVENT

- Rational use of material and energy resources, with the consequent cost savings.
- a positive image is being forged in the face of society, the attending public and all the people involved.
- Greater organization and cohesion of the aspects related to the management of the event.

5) BENEFITS FOR SOCIETY

- Progress is being made towards a society that is more respectful of sustainability
- The dissemination of sustainability messages among the population is encouraged

Finally, remember that it is recommended that you do not print this document. You can find it on our website <https://www.hchforum.com> ; Or you can take it with you on a USB stick and read it whenever you need it.

<https://www.hchforum.com/>

Forum Secretariat in Zaragoza, Spain- lifesurfing@sarga.es

IHPA Forum Secretary-14forumhch@gmail.com