





Organised in cooperation with T&T Executive and BK Plus Europe





# Register here

The deadline to receive application forms and participation fees:

Friday 6 June 2025



### **ICA World Annual Event 2025**

# Shaping the Future of Aid: Embracing Change for Sustainable Growth

We are delighted to invite you to the island of Rhodes, Greece, for 11<sup>th</sup> ICA World Annual Event this June. Organised in collaboration with our technical member organisations T&T Executive and BK Plus Europe, this event will bring together the ICA World community of development cooperation professionals from across the globe.

Over the years, the ICA World Annual Event has established itself as a **dynamic live networking platform**, enhancing international connections, generating new business opportunities, and facilitating trusted collaborations. It has also played a pivotal role in shaping the direction of the Alliance, fostering long-term cooperation across diverse regions, and building **strategic partnerships** that advance our shared mission.

The upcoming edition will feature a comprehensive programme designed to engage and connect participants by building new partnerships and strengthening existing collaborations. As the ICA network enters its next phase of growth, the expansion of ICA sectoral and thematic Hubs, which will be highlighted during the event, will open up even greater opportunities for cooperation. As always, the event will offer a blend of bilateral meetings, networking opportunities, practical workshops, strategic discussions and interactive thematic sessions.

This year's core theme will address the **uncertain future of aid**, examining both **emerging challenges and new opportunities** for business growth and collaboration among our members. Together, we will assess the **latest trends** and explore **innovative approaches** to best position ourselves in an evolving market.

We look forward to welcoming you in Rhodes and celebrating an exciting milestone – **100 member organisations in our network!** Your participation is highly valued, and we are confident that your contributions will make this 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the ICA World Annual Event one of the most impactful and memorable yet.





# **Contents**

Venue & Accommodation	4
Draft Agenda	4
Fees	8
Travel Information	9
Travel Arrangements	9
Visa Arrangements	10
Health Protocol for Arrivals in Greece	10
Registration	11



# **Venue & Accommodation**

The live Event will take place at Sheraton Rhodes Resort in Rhodes, Greece.

### **Sheraton Rhodes Resort**

lalyssos Avenue, Rhodes, Greece, 85100



**Sheraton Rhodes Resort** is a premium hotel located on the picturesque Ixia Beach, just a short distance from the historic Old Town of Rhodes. Situated on the northwest coast of the island, the resort offers a perfect balance of business and leisure, providing easy access to both the island's cultural landmarks and modern business centers.

The hotel provides a refined environment for business meetings, conferences, and events, alongside opportunities for relaxation and recreation.

Please note that the ICA Team has already taken care of all the necessary group accommodation arrangements with the hotel, so do not make any individual bookings.



# **Agenda**

All times are in the Central European Summer Time, GMT+2.

### **Monday 16 June**

Venue: Sheraton Rhodes Resort Hotel

**All day** Arrival of participants and registrations

10:00-12:30 First Bilateral meetings

**12:30-14:00** *Free time for lunch* 

14:00-16:00 Bilateral meetings

**16:00-16:30** Coffee Break

16:30-17:30 Bilateral meetings

**19:30** Welcome Reception & Dinner at Rhodes Resort Hotel

### **Tuesday 17 June**

Venue: Sheraton Rhodes Resort Hotel

09:00-10:30 Bilateral meetings

**10:30-11:00** Coffee Break

#### 11:00-12:30 Opening Plenary Session

- Welcome Remarks
- 2024-2025 Overview & Success Stories
- Introduction of the New Hub Strategy
- Presentation of New Members

Moderated by the ICA Team

12:30-14:00 Lunch

# 14:00-15:30 Panel Discussion: Shaping the Future of Aid in the Evolving Development Cooperation Landscape

This session will explore the shifting dynamics of development cooperation, including the declining role of traditional aid and the rise of new partnership models with funding institutions. Participants will engage in a strategic discussion on how to adapt to emerging challenges and explore innovative approaches to mobilising resources, strengthening partnerships, ensuring the long-term sustainability of development initiatives. Designed for member organisations and experts, participants will work in groups focused on key areas such as social impact and community resilience, governance and institutional capacity building.

**15:30-16:00** *Coffee Break* 

# 16:00-17:30 Workshop: Shaping the Future of Aid in the Evolving Development Cooperation Landscape

This session builds on the previous discussion on the emerging trends and challenges in development cooperation. Participants will collaborate in groups, focusing on key geographic areas and major donors, to develop practical solutions for addressing current business challenges.

18:30	Departure by bus to the old town
19:00	Tour of the Rhodes Old City
20:00	Dinner in Rhodes Old City

### Wednesday 18 June

Venue: Sheraton Rhodes Resort Hotel

#### 09:00-10:30 Bilateral meetings

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

# 11:00-12:30 Beyond Aid: Mobilising Blended Finance and Impact Investing for Global Development

As development financing shifts beyond traditional aid, blended finance and impact investing are emerging as key drivers of sustainable growth. This session will explore how these innovative funding models unlock private capital, de-risk investments, and create long-term impact. While highlighting initiatives like the European Commission's Global Gateway, we will examine broader strategies to mobilise resources, strengthen economic resilience, and foster global partnerships for sustainable development.

### **12:30-14:00** Lunch (and **Board Members Lunch Meeting**)

# 14:00-15:30 ICA Events Hub Meeting: Enhancing Closer Collaboration among Institutional Event Organisers Worldwide

Building on the first ICA Events Hub meeting at our previous event, this session aims to deepen cooperation among our event members. We will reflect on recent developments and explore ways to strengthen collaboration moving forward - ensuring we remain competitive and make effective use of innovative tools and solutions.

#### Bilateral meetings

#### **15:30-16:00** Coffee Break

# 16:00-17:30 Unlocking the AI potential: The Role of Digital Transformation for a Smarter Tomorrow

This workshop will explore how AI and digital transformation are reshaping industries, enhancing decision-making, and driving sustainable development. Participants will gain insights into the latest AI-driven innovations, their applications in development cooperation, and strategies for leveraging digital transformation to improve efficiency and impact

#### Bilateral meetings

#### 18:00-19:00 ICA Beach Volley / Team-Building Activities

19:30	Departure	for	dinner
-------	-----------	-----	--------

**20:00** Dinner (walking distance to the hotel)



### **Thursday 19 June**

All Day First departures

### Optional trip by boat to the Symi Island

Open Café: Welcome drink & networking

Free time to explore the island

Late lunch

Symi is one of the most picturesque and charming islands of the Dodecanese Island group, well known for its beaches, harbour and colorful neoclassical houses.



**Evening** 

Arrival to the hotel in the early evening Free time (no dinner organised)

### Friday 20 June

Morning Departures of the remaining participants





### **Fees**

### **Participation Fee**

The Participation Fee covers the following:

- Accommodation in a single room with breakfast for 3 nights from Monday 16 June to Thursday 19 June 2025 at Sheraton Rhodes Resort 5\*.
- Three days of meetings, workshops, and discussions at the premises of the event hotel from Monday 16 June to Wednesday 18 June.
- Two lunches and several coffee breaks at Sheraton Rhodes Resort.
- Three dinners on different locations in Rhodes.
- A welcome networking reception on Monday 16 June.
- Access to the Event Platform to view the programme, interact with other participants and set up bilateral meetings.
- Organisational costs

	Participation Fee  per person
Local Member Organisation  * first participant per organisation	1600€
Technical Member Organisation  ** and 2nd/3rd participants from local orgs	1850€
Guest Local Organisation  (full event, including accommodation, lunches and dinners)	1800€
Guest Technical Organisation (full event, including accommodation, lunches and dinners)	2000€

If you have any specific requirements regarding your attendance—such as length of stay, room type, or other preferences—please reach out to the ICA Team at info@icaworld.net

Join ICA World before the ICA World Event and attend the event in Greece to enjoy a 10% discount on your first-year membership fee. Plus, gain access to exclusive member discounts on participation fees, including Early Bird rates!

#### Extra fees

• An **optional day trip to the island of Symi** on Thursday 19 June 2025, including welcome coffee, lunch, boat and bus transfers.

Symi Island Trip 145 €	
------------------------	--

• Additional accommodation at Sheraton Rhodes Resort for those joining the Symi trip and/or wishing to extend their stay beyond the core event dates (before 16 and/or after 19 June), price per night incl. breakfast:

Single room (Classic Mountain View)	210€
Double room (Classic Mountain View)	230€
Triple room (Classic Mountain View)	290€
Premium room	+ 10%

• Obligatory Climate Crisis Resilience fee (tourist tax) to be paid directly to the hotel by all the participants upon their arrival:

Fee per room per night in a 5* hotel during high season	15€
---	-----

# **Travel Information**

### **Travel Arrangements**

Each participant organises and pays for their travel to Greece.

You can contact our member our event co-host **T&T Executive** (<a href="mailto:thm:recutive.gr">thm:thm:recutive.gr</a>) for assistance with flight bookings, available for a **small service fee**.



Please let us know about your planned arrival and departure days/times at the time of registration, as well as the number of nights required at the event hotel.

### **Visa Arrangements**

Individuals from an EU country and countries that are part of the Schengen Agreement wishing to enter Greece **do not require a visa**. This includes also citizens of the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and other **countries which have a visa-free agreement with the Schengen countries.** 

Admission to Greece, through the external borders of the Schengen area, is only permitted to **third-country nationals** who:

- are in possession of a valid travel document (passport) or recognised equivalent permitting them to cross the border (check specific requirements);
- are in possession of valid **entry or transit visa** if required;

To find out whether you need a visa to visit Greece, and how to go about applying for one, check out the <u>Hellenic Republic Ministry of Foreign Affairs website</u> or consult with your local Greek Embassy or <u>another EU diplomatic representative</u> before travelling.

We suggest **applying for the Greek/Schengen <u>tourist visa</u>**, allowing the holder to travel to Greece and all other countries in the Schengen area for a period of three months.

We kindly ask you to apply for the Visa as soon as possible.

Please contact the <u>ICA Team</u> for assistance. We will provide you with the invitation letter and accommodation booking.

#### **Health Protocol for Arrivals in Greece**

**Vaccination against yellow fever may be required if entering** Greece from a country with a risk of yellow fever transmission, specifically if you have been in an endemic country within the past 6 days.

For travelers who are **not EU citizens**, it is highly recommended to have **valid health insurance** for the duration of your stay in Greece. Health insurance coverage is important in case of any medical emergencies.

We recommend checking regularly for up-to-date information on health protocols and entry requirements, as they may change. You can consult the <u>Centers for Disease</u> <u>Control and Prevention (CDC)</u> website for further details.

Please ensure you are aware of any additional entry requirements that might apply to your specific situation or country of departure.

# Registration

To register for the ICA Event 2025, please fill in the online registration form:

## Register here

The deadline to receive application forms and participation fees:

Friday 6 June 2025

For any questions contact the ICA Team!



Avenue Louise 209A, 1050 Brussels, BELGIUM info@icaworld.net

