

Changes to UFI's educational programmes

- Postponement of UFI Sustainable Development Forum Paris
- Postponement of UFI VMS Macau
- Cancellation of UFI EMD Macau

Paris/Hong Kong – 1 April: Following the recent developments of new, serious outbreaks of the COVID-19 virus around the world, many countries have tightened their border controls and limited public gatherings.

Based on these developments, UFI has reviewed and adapted the scheduling of three of its education programmes. This leads to postponements and a cancellation. Although this is disappointing, of course, we at UFI always put the health and safety of our members and staff first.

UFI Forum on Sustainable Development

This event will now take place in 2021, and we will work with the hosts, sponsors and speakers on the next steps. "In the meantime, UFI will maintain opportunities for the sharing of best practices, and develop several online sessions on focused topics" said Christian Druart, Secretary of the UFI Sustainable Development Working Group.

UFI VMS and UFI EMD Macau

The UFI VMA Venue Management School (VMS) will be postponed to a later date this year. "Like many of you faced with similar decisions, and after discussions with our hosts in Macau, we have opted to postpone the VMS until later in the year. As soon as we have confirmed the new dates, we will share them with you", commented Mark Cochrane, UFI Regional Manager Asia/Pacific.

The 2020 UFI-EMD edition in Macau will be cancelled, after conferring with our hosts. Based on the UFI community's feedback, we know that June is the best time during the year when this week-long programme can be held. We will continue to work hard to bring high quality education to Macau.

The UFI team will make every effort to confirm and announce the new date for the Macau edition of the UFI-VMA Venue Management School (VMS) in the coming weeks.

During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, UFI is supporting our global community and the industry at large in many ways. A list of resources is available at www.ufi.org/coronavirus.

UFI has as well launched "UFI connects", a designated online programme of educational talks, panels, and sessions to provide content and dialogue while our regular events and educational programmes cannot take place as usual. You can see upcoming as well as previous sessions at www.ufi.org/uficonnects.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact paris2020@ufi.org for the UFI Forum on Sustainable Development, and the UFI Asia/Pacific Office at asia@ufi.org for the UFI VMS and UFI EMD Macau.

About UFI – The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry: UFI is the global trade association of the world's tradeshow organisers and exhibition centre operators, as well as the major national and international exhibition associations, and selected partners of the exhibition industry. UFI's main goal is to represent, promote and support the business interests of its members and the exhibition industry. UFI directly represents more than 50,000 exhibition industry employees globally, and also works closely with its 60 national and regional association members. More than 800 member organisations in 89 countries around the world are presently signed up as members. Around 1,000 international trade fairs proudly bear the UFI approved label, a quality guarantee for visitors and exhibitors alike. UFI members continue to provide the international business community with a unique marketing media aimed at developing outstanding face-to-face business opportunities.

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