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**SOSPARKS**  
Sustainable Sport in the Parks

# GUIDELINES

FOR SPORTS EVENTS IN PROTECTED GREEN AREAS





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GREEN AREAS

2023 September



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the European Union



In a collaborative effort with the consortium, the Zentrum für Innovative Bildung created and led the development of this manual.

### **The main partner of the project**

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AMBECO' Ambiente e Comunicazione Soc.Coop.Arl, Italia

### **Contributing partners**

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# PREMISE

The objective of the SOSPARKS project, Sustainable Sport in Parks, financed by the Erasmus+ Sport Program for the year 2023-2024, is to contribute to making the sporting events organized in contexts of particular environmental value, such as European parks and protected areas.

The project was born from the desire to combine sport and nature. Outdoor sporting activities represent a great opportunity for the psychophysical well-being of individuals, especially if practiced in environments of great landscape, ecological and naturalistic value. In recent years, especially following the pandemic, there are more and more sporting events taking place outdoors, often within protected natural areas.

The Guidelines, which ignore the legislation already existing in the various European countries, are a handbook of good practices to guide and support all the actors involved in the organization of sporting events, to undertake actions and adopt measures in order to mitigate their impacts and represent a formidable tool to spread and raise awareness on the topic of sustainability among all the protagonists of sporting events, such as: protected areas, sports teams and athletes, event promoters, companies involved in the realization of the events (spectator services, energy, logistics, management waste, marketing, etc.), public authorities, contractors, sponsors, citizens.

Through the adoption of the Guidelines, each individual can demonstrate their commitment to sustainability and, at the same time, become a promoter through the creation of environmental education activities and workshops, as indicated in the second part of the Guidelines. The environmental education methodology was chosen as it allows the culture of sustainability to be spread to all age groups, favoring forms of active knowledge and processes of effective behavioral change. The establishment of the "European Expert Group" will also allow the dissemination of the good practices suggested by the Guidelines in all European countries.

These Guidelines can be applied to all types and sizes of sporting events, at any time they occur and are a valid tool to raise awareness of the need to undertake a virtuous path towards sustainability.

Sport thus becomes a preferential channel for raising awareness among a wide public about correct lifestyles and spreading knowledge of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, promoted by the UN, by 2030, drawn up to promote environmental, economic and above all social sustainability in the world.

Numerous studies have been carried out to make sporting events more sustainable, both internationally and in Europe, carried out by the most important organizations dealing with Sport and the Environment. Many institutions (IOC, UN, UNESCO, IUCN, UNFCCC, SANDSI, etc.) have, for some time now and in various forms, called the attention of the organizers of sporting events to a greater awareness of the negative impacts that can be generated, affecting on the integrity of the environments in which they take place. The Guidelines also focus on the often complex links between biodiversity and sport. Since many sporting events depend on a healthy natural environment, it is vital that the environment is not damaged. Outdoor events can lead to a number of direct and indirect negative impacts on biodiversity, but at the same time they can benefit biodiversity, because they offer an opportunity to raise public awareness of the value of nature and influence attitudes towards biodiversity and its storage.

The Guidelines, starting from the analysis of what has already been produced and tested, intend to be a practical, easy-to-use tool for all those who wish to embark on a path towards sustainability, an easy-to-read handbook to stimulate all those involved in the events athletes to a new awareness of environmental sustainability.

The adoption of the Guidelines is voluntary, so the Parks, sports associations and all the actors who intend to implement them will have a practical and easy-to-understand tool at their disposal, useful for obtaining suggestions to make the event more sustainable. Adopting the Guidelines also means, and last but not least, declaring your commitment and making your contribution to achieving the objectives of the European Green Deal.

# 1. THE DIFFERENT REALITIES IN THE THREE PARTNER COUNTRIES

For the drafting of the Guidelines we started from the analysis of the context in the three partner countries, from which a different regulatory framework and approach emerged regarding the issue of sustainability, in particular in relation to sporting events in protected areas.

In Austria, almost half of the land is adorned with trees, highlighting a commitment to preserving its unique landscape and biodiversity, with around 48% of the land placed under special protection. This commitment goes beyond conservation, playing a crucial role in climate protection. In national parks, priority ecosystem conservation provides a haven for wildlife. Natural parks maintain a harmonious balance between nature and human influence, shaped over the centuries. Biosphere parks, part of the UNESCO programme, safeguard natural and cultural landscapes. Wilderness areas provide pristine refuges for rare plants and animals, contributing to Austria's role in protecting its green landscape while creating recreational sanctuaries for humans.

## **Austria: 48% Protected Nature**

- 6 National Parks 48 Parks
- Natural 4 Biosphere Parks
- UNESCO 1 Wilderness Area Site
- UNESCO World Heritage Site



National parks serve as a connection between recreation and conservation. These parks, largely exempt from economic use, offer people the opportunity to experience pristine nature.

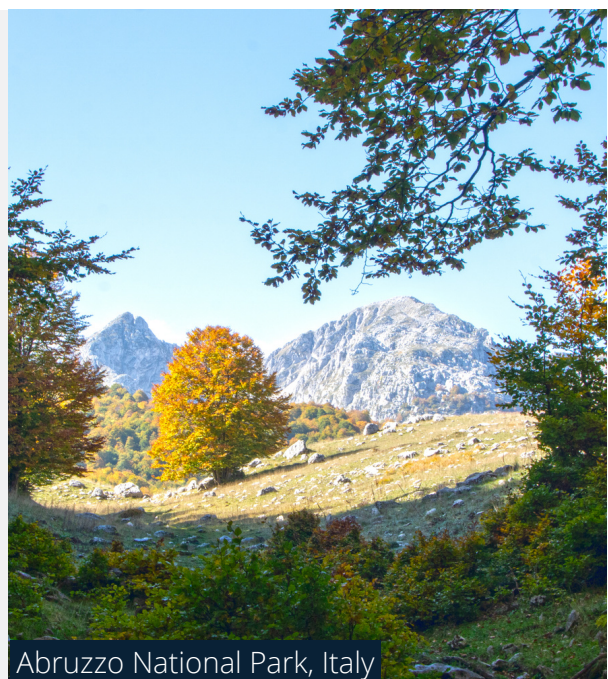
Hiking trails, climbing routes and mountain lodges are essential components of visitor orientation in these parks. These facilities allow visitors to explore the parks and participate in various recreational activities, while minimizing the impact on the environment.

Environmental education is another fundamental aspect of these parks. They offer a variety of educational opportunities that impart knowledge and experiences about nature. These programs are aimed at different groups with appropriate educational offerings on various topics. There is a particular emphasis on programs for children and youth, ensuring that future generations appreciate and understand the importance of national parks.

In Italy, parks and protected areas adopt different rules, regulations and protocols. In April 2019, CONI signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of the Environment and Protection of Land and Sea together with Sport e Salute Spa, to raise awareness in the world of sport on environmental issues linked to sustainable development. In June 2023, the "Guidelines for sustainable sporting events" were published by the Department for Sport of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, focusing on the measures, practices and actions to be pursued for the organization of sporting events with low environmental impact. This is a policy document to guide and support the actors involved in the organization of sporting events, through measures and strategies to reduce their environmental impact and increase their sustainability.

**Italy: 10.5% Protected nature**

- 24 National Parks
- 871 protected areas
- 32 Marine protected areas
- 20 Biosphere Reserves



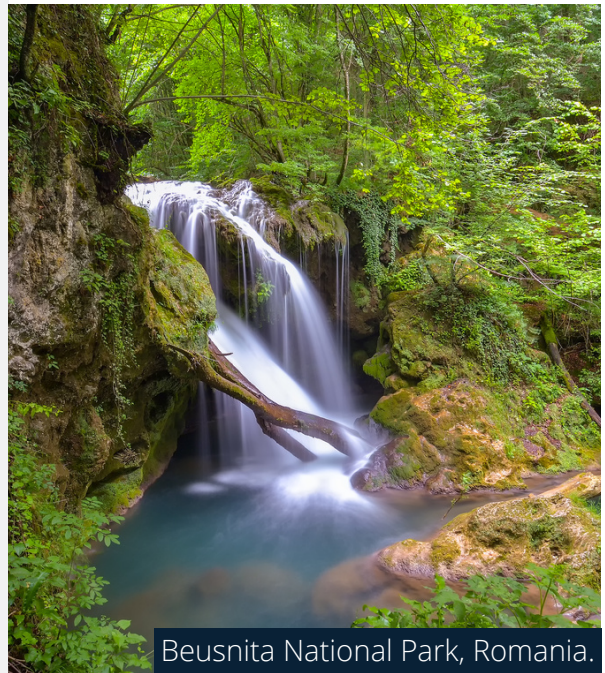
Abruzzo National Park, Italy



In Romania, activities permitted in national parks are regulated by management plans drawn up for each park or protected area. Regarding sporting activities, these plans include general aspects and there is no focus on the sustainability of sporting events; these Guidelines can become a useful tool for disseminating good practices to be adopted within parks and protected areas.

**Romania: 5.18% Protected nature**

- 11 National Parks
- 9 protected areas
- 3 Biosphere Reserves



Beusnita National Park, Romania.

The objective of the Guidelines is not to overlap with the rules, protocols or specifications already adopted in various European countries, but is to provide a handbook of good practices to accompany the actors involved in the organization of sporting events in protected areas , in a virtuous path towards sustainability.



Monti Făgăraș, Romania

## 2. HOW TO READ THE GUIDELINES

The Guidelines are structured in two sections:

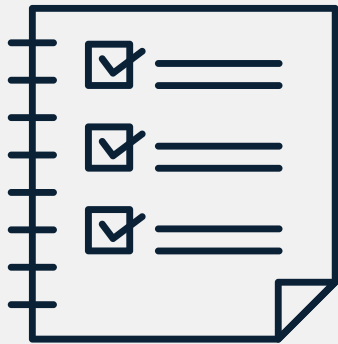
The first is dedicated to the sustainable management of a sporting event and describes in detail which are the main alternatives to be preferred to make a sporting event sustainable. Checklists are used for this. The questions, addressed to sports associations, were grouped based on the fields of action in which it is necessary to intervene to limit the impacts on the environment: preparation of the event area, food, waste, noise and lighting, mobility, accommodation facilities , communication on paper, digital communication, solidarity, information and awareness. The questions contained in the Guidelines suggest the actions and measures to be implemented, creating awareness of what can be done to make the sporting event more sustainable. The first section also contains a survey aimed at athletes and citizens to carry out a self-analysis of their behavior during sporting activities;

The second section contains useful indications, examples and good practices for structuring a communication plan that can be implemented by parks, sports associations and all the actors who intend to transform the sporting event into a unique opportunity to involve and raise awareness among citizens on sustainability issues. The purpose of this second section is to promote the Sustainable Development Goals within sporting events, through environmental education activities capable of creating paths to build awareness and skills, involving athletes and the community actively and emotionally.

Attached to the Guidelines are no. 3 checklists.

Annex 1 reports a survey aimed at athletes that can be used by sports associations to raise awareness among their athletes. Attachments 2 and 3 are two self-analysis questionnaires aimed respectively at parks and sports associations, support tools also for European sports event experts (for specifics, please refer to paragraph 15).

### 3. PROJECT METHODOLOGY



The preliminary phase of the project involved the collection of information and the analysis of the already existing scientific literature on the topic of sustainable sporting events. After a phase of discussion between the partners and with focus groups, "privileged observers", such as sports associations, park authorities and citizens, we moved on to the structuring and implementation phase of the Guidelines.

For the drafting of the Guidelines, the investigation methodology was identified which, through the creation of check-lists, allows the actors of the events to be involved in a direct and effective manner. The questionnaires thus become aids and tools for the self-evaluation of the behaviors of athletes, sports associations and parks.



In the second section of the Guidelines, dedicated to sustainability education, reference was made to the methodology of environmental education for the creation of a communication plan and for the drafting of sheets for the creation of workshops and games.

## 4. PARKS AND PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS

Protected natural areas are commonly classified as suggested by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) which defines “protected natural areas” as “A geographical space clearly defined, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other means effective, to ensure the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values.” The categorization of protected natural areas varies depending on the country and levels of protection, but the IUCN classification is widely accepted internationally and is recognized by organizations such as the United Nations and many national governments. Protected areas are classified as follows, based on management objectives: Nature Reserves, National Parks, other protected natural areas, Regional and Interregional Natural Parks. However, not all protected natural areas fall neatly into these categories.

In addition to the IUCN classification, reference is also made to that applied to Natura 2000 and UNESCO sites. Natura 2000 Sites are a Network established at EU level to prevent the loss of biodiversity, acting as breeding and resting sites for species at risk. UNESCO seeks to protect and enhance natural and cultural sites which are considered "common goods" for all humanity due to their intrinsic exceptional universal value.



All protected natural areas have as their common objective not only the conservation of biodiversity but are also created to guarantee benefits to local communities, offer educational and recreational activities, conserve specific landscape characteristics, conduct scientific research and improve the overall quality of the territory over time. These guidelines can be adopted not only by officially recognized protected areas but by all those entities that host sporting events and that intend to implement measures aimed at safeguarding the coexistence between Man and the Environment.



## 5. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPORTING EVENTS AND BIODIVERSITY

The relationship between sporting activities and biodiversity conservation is not always easy, the excessive exploitation or deterioration of the resource represented by the biodiversity of a given area, caused by incorrectly organized outdoor sporting activities, represents a great risk for the protection of biodiversity, contributing to the consequent well-known negative implications on ecosystems.

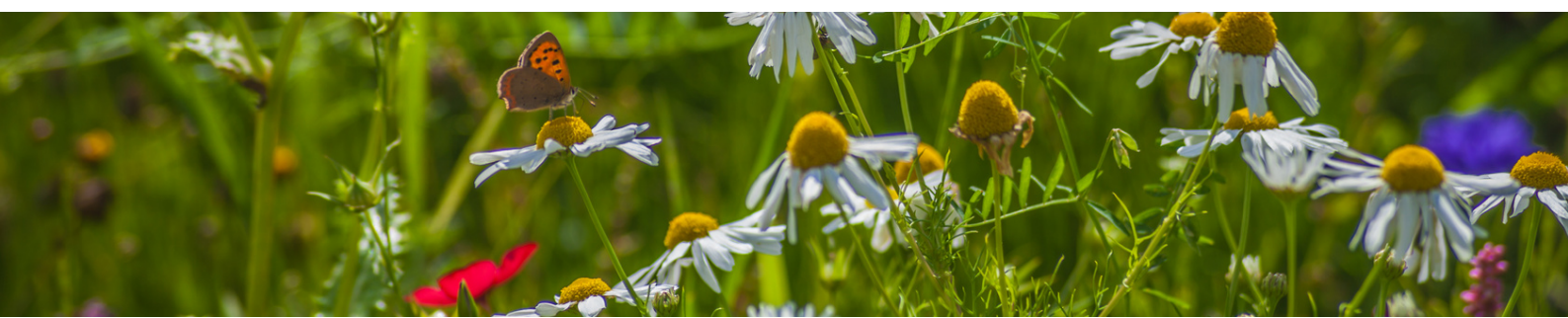
The relationship between sporting activities and biodiversity conservation is not always easy, the excessive exploitation or deterioration of the resource represented by the biodiversity of a given area, caused by incorrectly organized outdoor sporting activities, represents a great risk for the protection of biodiversity, contributing to the consequent well-known negative implications on ecosystems.

It is therefore of fundamental importance to experiment and promote new methodological and cognitive tools in order to reduce the impacts caused by sporting events.

Potential impacts on biodiversity relate to the type of sport, the size, the timing of the event and the ecological value of the area where the event takes place.

Outdoor sporting events can lead to a series of direct and indirect negative impacts on biodiversity and the environment: loss or modification of habitat, disturbance or damage to wild fauna and flora, soil erosion and compaction, depletion of water resources, pollution , etc, but, at the same time, they can also bring benefits through the implementation of targeted actions: launching projects to improve and conserve biodiversity, promoting awareness campaigns on biodiversity and sustainability, raising funds and financing relevant conservation initiatives , involvement of sponsors to strengthen conservation and support biodiversity initiatives, etc.

These Guidelines aim to make all actors involved in sporting events responsible and aware of the virtuous behaviors to be adopted to safeguard biodiversity and promote sustainability.

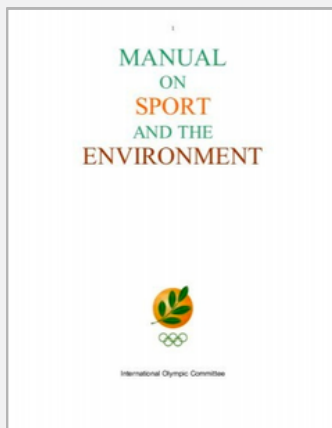


## 6. REGULATORY FRAMEWORK OF REFERENCE OF THE GUIDELINES

These guidelines start from the study of what has been produced, at an international and European level, on the topic of sport sustainability by the most important bodies dealing with Sport and the Environment (CIO, UN, UNESCO, IUCN, UNFCCC, SANDSI, etc. ).



The 1992 Rio de Janeiro Conference on Environment and Development played a significant role in raising attention to serious environmental concerns globally. In 1994, at the Centenary Congress of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the environment was officially proposed as the third pillar of Olympism, after sport and culture. This formal recognition marked a turning point in the consideration of the environment in the organization and management of sporting events.



In 1997 the IOC published the "Sport and Environment Manual", which underlines "the need for the initiatives taken by each individual and by each sports organization to be integrated into a general program of actions in favor of sustainable development".

At a European level, one of the first and most important contributions of the European Commission on issues relating to the exercise of sporting activities is the White Paper on Sport published in 2007, which explicitly recognizes that sporting facilities and events can produce an impact significant on the environment and the need to carry out sporting activities and events that are ecologically sustainable is highlighted.



The United Nations Global Agenda for Sustainable Development (UN, 2015), with the related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030, proposes an integration of the three dimensions necessary for the sustainable development of a given area: growth economic, social inclusion, environmental protection. The Kazan Plan (UNESCO, 2017) fits into this framework, a global agreement that seeks to combine sports policies with the objectives of sustainable development.

The International Charter for Sustainable Sports Events also known as the "Courmayeur Charter" (AICA, 2019), was born from the need to adopt objectives to make temporary events that bring people into direct contact with natural elements, such as sporting events, especially the outdoor ones. The Charter includes a specific in-depth analysis for the evaluation of the impacts that sport can have on biodiversity, as the protection of biodiversity is considered the "cornerstone" in the EU's sustainable development theories.



## The European Green Deal

Striving to be the first climate-neutral continent

For this reason, the New EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (COM/2020/380/EC) constitutes one of the pillars of the European Green Deal (COM/2019/640/EC). This is a series of initiatives aimed at setting the EU on the path to ecological transition and achieving neutrality by 2050.

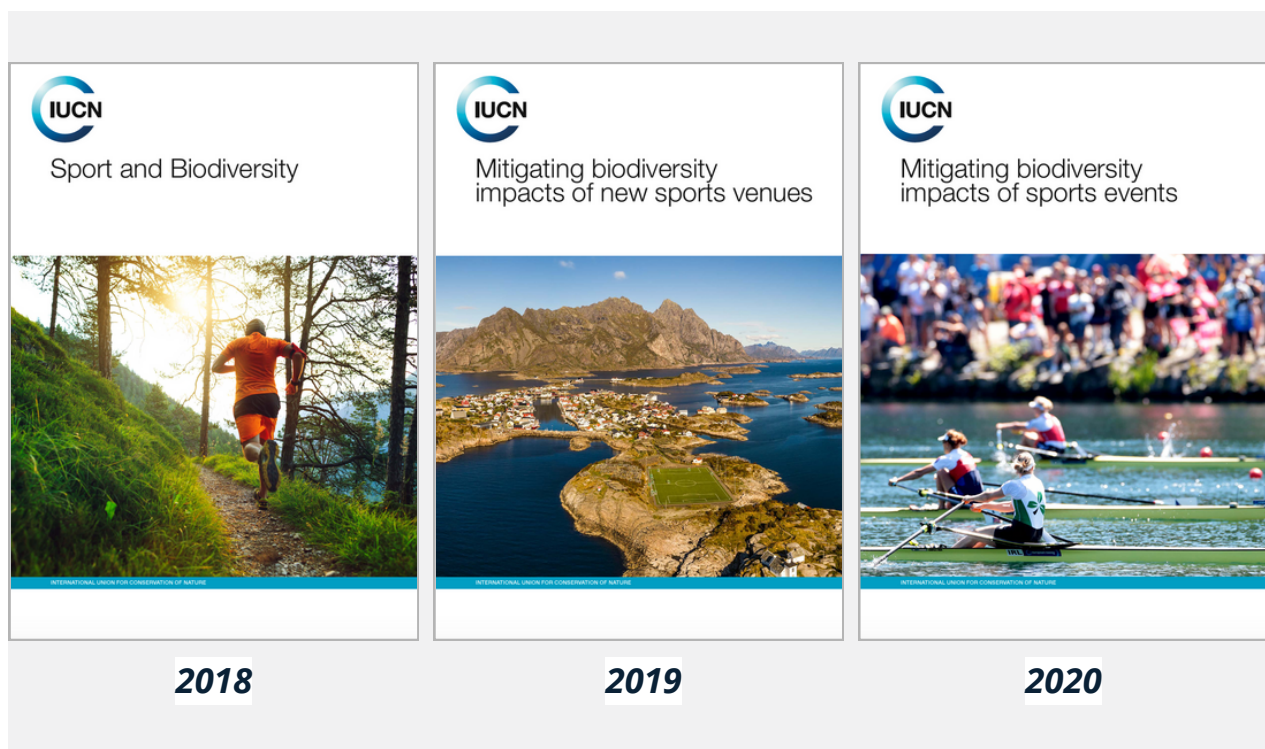


The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development itself explicitly refers to the conservation of biodiversity in two of its 17 objectives: objective 14 (conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development) and objective 15 (protect, restore and promote sustainable use of the terrestrial ecosystem, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation and halt the loss of biological diversity).





To shed light on the interaction between sport and biodiversity, the World Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has created four guides to support the sports industry to mitigate impacts on biodiversity and support its conservation: Sport and Biodiversity (IUCN, 2018), supports decision makers to understand potential impacts on biodiversity and propose options to mitigate them; Mitigating biodiversity impacts of new sports venues (IUCN, 2019), illustrates the possible range of impacts that the development of new sports venues can have on biodiversity, Mitigating biodiversity impacts of sports events (IUCN, 2020), applies to all types and the scale of sporting events, whenever and wherever they occur; Sports and urban biodiversity: a framework for achieving mutual benefits for nature and sports in cities (IUCN, 2020), includes seven strategic points all aimed at the eco-sustainability of urban environments in relation to sports infrastructures.



Of great importance are the n. 6 Guidelines published by the IOC, entitled “Sustainability Essentials” (1- Introduction to sustainability, 2 -Sport for climate action, 3- Sustainable sourcing in sport, 4 - The use of plastic in sport, 5 - Management in the sustainability of sport, 6 - How to be a sustainable champion), five of which are briefly described in the following paragraphs, which delve into the various issues relating to sport and the environment and which provide valuable information to support all the protagonists of sporting events in developing programs of effective sustainability.

## 7. THE GUIDELINES OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

In the IOC Guidelines entitled "SUSTAINABILITY ESSENTIALS" published in 2018, to which please refer for further information, it is highlighted how sustainability is one of the most pressing challenges of our time, which involves social, environmental and economic aspects. Major issues such as climate change, economic inequality and social injustice are affecting people around the world. These concerns also weigh on the sporting community, both in terms of the management of activities and its responsibilities towards young people and future generations. Sport and sports have an unrivaled ability to raise awareness and involve young people not, for this reason



**Reference:**

<https://olympics.com/ioc/sustainability/essentials>

it is important that the world of sport promotes its commitment to the topic of sustainability.

There are many organizations across the sporting world, large and small, that are already actively engaged in individual aspects of sustainability. True sustainability, however, goes much beyond the organization of a "green" event or an event attentive to "social responsibility", it is necessary to analyze how the organization behaves, the way in which it interacts with society in general, how manages its governance, its mission, the objectives it sets and the responsibility it assumes towards its members, society and the environment. Implementing a sustainability policy offers indisputable benefits for sports organizations, ranging from cost savings, risk management, improved relationships with stakeholders and gaining greater public credibility.

Sustainability involves the technical aspects and culture of the organization. An organization can begin to achieve its sustainability objectives only if it integrates the principles into daily actions and practices, so that these become an integral part of the thinking and behavior of the people who are part of it.



**Reference:** <https://olympics.com/ioc/sustainability/essentials>

The goal for any organization should be to maximize positive benefits and, at the same time, avoid or minimize negative impacts on people and the environment. To do this you need to be prepared to consider the consequences of decisions. This means having all the information necessary to make your own choices, committing to sustainability means finding better ways of doing things, making conscious choices with respect for man and the environment.



## 8. SPORTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

In 2018 the IOC published a second Guideline entitled Sports for climate action, which underlines how climate change is already having an enormous influence on sport around the world. The impact of higher temperatures, more frequent floods, drought and rising sea levels are also causing significant changes in the field of sport: lack of snow and consequent closure of ski resorts, higher energy bills for sports facilities , restrictions on the use of water, heat stress for athletes, playing surfaces that are being lost, playing seasons that change as well as the timing and management of sporting events, are just some of the consequences of climate change .



**Reference:**

<https://olympics.com/ioc/sustainability/essentials>

Extreme climate affects sport, the performance of athletes, and changes the habits of players and spectators. Climate change thus becomes a threat also for the world of sport.

Sport is not only a victim of climate change, but it also contributes negatively: it produces travel-related greenhouse gas emissions, contributes to energy consumption and other forms of consumption.

This means that sports organizations have a responsibility to limit their impacts on the climate, and take measures to adapt to the impacts caused by climate change.

It is therefore necessary that the sporting community plays an active role to act on climate change but it can do more through its power to influence and raise awareness among people towards subjective environmental responsibility



## SPORTS FOR CLIMATE ACTION ESSENTIALS IN BRIEF: SUMMARY OF KEY STEPS



### 1. MEASURE AND UNDERSTAND: KNOW WHERE YOU STAND

Establish a reference (baseline) carbon footprint to identify your organisation's current levels of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and understand how you can take effective action.



### 2. TAKE ACTION



**Avoid:** *choose not to do something*  
Prioritise opportunities to avoid carbon emissions.



**Reduce:** *choose to do less*  
Optimise resource-efficiency in energy use, transport, materials and work practices in order to reduce your carbon footprint.



**Substitute:** *do the same but with "cleaner" processes/equipment*  
Introduce renewable energy and lower-carbon technologies in place of older more carbon-intensive energy sources and equipment.



**Compensate:** *do good elsewhere to balance your unavoidable GHG emissions*  
Implement measures to deal with residual or unavoidable emissions and promote behaviour change.



**Report:** *account for your GHG emissions and show progress towards carbon neutrality*  
Publish results of your actions and share lessons learned.



### 3. EDUCATE AND INSPIRE

Inform your stakeholders about your climate action initiatives and encourage them to take action themselves.

## 9. SUSTAINABLE PURCHASES IN SPORT

In the third Guideline published by the IOC in 2019 entitled Sustainable sourcing in sport, it is underlined that one of the most effective ways for sports organizations to put sustainability into practice is through the control of procurement processes. Purchases have direct and indirect impacts on the environment, people, communities and the market. Sourcing is the process by which goods and services are identified and then purchased or acquired from suppliers or partners. Doing this in a more sustainable way means offering your contribution from a social, environmental, ethical and economic point of view.

There are some key considerations to think about for sustainable sourcing:

- how the organization can reduce its impact on society by doing more with less, for example by asking whether a purchase is really necessary or could be done in a different way, such as renting an item or service;
- how the products are produced and purchased, what they are made of, their lifespan and how they are disposed of;
- how the items will be delivered, how they are packaged and whether the packaging can be reused or recycled;
- how the people who produced and supplied the product were treated, whether human rights were respected and guaranteed;
- how the procurement process itself is managed in a fair and transparent manner to avoid issues of bribery and corruption.



**Reference:**

<https://olympics.com/ioc/sustainability/essentials>

Ultimately, the objective of sustainable purchasing is to orient market choices towards the production of more sustainable products, with a view to not only environmental but also social and ethical respect.

#### **WHAT IS REQUIRED?**

This is about understanding how your impact on society can be reduced by doing more with less, such as questioning if a purchase is really needed or whether it could be done in a different way such as challenging excessive specifications, renting an item or buying a service instead of a product.

#### **WHERE DOES IT COME FROM AND WHO MADE IT?**

We live in an increasingly globalised society. Many of the products we enjoy in everyday life have been sourced and produced in locations from all over the world. The production of products or delivery of services can have damaging human rights or environmental impacts. For example, what are the working conditions in the factories where the product was made or adopted by a provider of services? Labour standards are a hugely important issue these days, and high-profile entities like sports bodies and sports event organisers can be under considerable scrutiny from campaign groups and the media.

#### **WHAT IS IT MADE OF?**

This is about ensuring that products have minimal negative or positive impact on human health and the environment. It is good to give preference to products containing recycled materials and which are recyclable. Those containing or using toxic or polluting substances should be avoided. Equipment should be efficient in use, notably with regard to energy, water and consumables (e.g. paper, ink, lubricants, etc.), and low noise and vibration.

#### **WHAT IS IT WRAPPED IN?**

Packaging is a major issue in terms of waste management and resource use. Aim to optimise packaging wherever possible and emphasise the need for recycled and recyclable materials to be used in any packaging that is required. Suppliers should take responsibility for taking back and reusing or recycling their own packaging, but this doesn't happen automatically and should be specified in the contract.

#### **WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO IT AFTERWARDS?**

The responsible disposal of goods and materials after their initial use is a key concern. If this is not considered at the beginning (i.e. when specifying requirements in tender documents), there can be a lot of unexpected costs in storage and disposal. Can goods be returned, donated, reused, recycled or otherwise reprocessed into something useful? By extending the useful life of goods and materials beyond their initial use you would be contributing to the "circular economy", a rapidly growing discipline within the world of sustainability.



## 10. THE USE OF PLASTIC IN THE WORLD OF SPORT

In the fourth "Plastic Game Plan for Sport" Guideline, published in 2020, it is underlined that millions of tons of plastic are used every year throughout the world, much of which is used only once and then thrown away, while only once low percentage is recycled.

Pollution caused by plastic causes problems for the habitat of wild fauna and flora, as well as for humans. This type of pollution affects the air, soil, rivers, lakes and oceans and this also affects the world of sport.



**Reference:** <https://olympics.com/ioc/sustainability/essentials>

Plastic is now found everywhere in our environment, we know that it affects ecosystems but we do not yet fully understand its impact on human health. What we know is that the production, refining, use and disposal of plastic exposes us to enormous risks: microplastics have been found in most foods, it is estimated that the average person consumes 52,000 plastic microparticles every year .





Reference: <https://olympics.com/ioc/sustainability/essentials>

It is enough to observe any sporting event to understand that plastic is present everywhere: in the athletes' clothing, in the catering that accompanies the events, in the setting up of the area, in the packaging for the transport of goods, in the signage used, etc. The world of sport can contribute to reducing its use: with the right planning it is possible to reduce the use of plastic, for example, by eliminating the use of disposable products, reducing the use of plastic by acting on the supply chain, recycling the one produced and, last but not least, raising awareness among participants and spectators to reduce the use of plastic.

Sport therefore represents a great opportunity to encourage millions of people to reduce their plastic consumption, thus promoting a more circular economy.

The Guidelines provide ideas for reducing, recycling and reusing plastic and suggests actions and activities that can be undertaken to create a "plastic free" sporting event.

## 11. SUSTAINABILITY IN SPORT

The Guidelines, published in 2020, entitled Sustainability management in sport, explain how sustainability should not be separated from the way in which the sports organization is managed, but must be a concept intrinsically rooted in the organisation.

Even when organizations have a sustainability strategy (how goods and services are purchased, how people are hired, how data is collected and managed, how things are communicated, etc.) commitments are not always respected. The challenge is not just to bridge the gap between strategy and action, it is to do it in such a way that the sustainability becomes an integral part of the organisation's

culture. The commitment made by the top management of the sports organization is important, as they must be aware and sensitized to the concept of sustainability. Embarking on a sustainability path means committing to changing your strategy and working methods and investing in the change of the entire staff, participants and all the actors involved in the sporting event, with the aim of becoming protagonists and promoters of change.

The sixth and final Guideline, published by the IOC in 2022, entitled How to be a sustainable champion, contains testimonies from famous athletes and suggestions on actions to be taken to reduce the impact of sport on the environment.



**Reference:**

<https://olympics.com/ioc/sustainability/essentials>



**Reference:** <https://olympics.com/ioc/sustainability/essentials>

## 12. CERTIFICATION OF EVENTS

The international standard, ISO 20121:2012 is a voluntary and certifiable certification for the events sector (sports, cultural, political and corporate). It was first developed as a British standard (BS 8901: 2009) for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The standard was later spread internationally as ISO 20121. As a management system standard, ISO 20121 talks about how an organization should address sustainability: it is a tool for help organizations incorporate sustainability

principles and actions into their corporate policies and procedures. The standard does not define the degree of sustainability of an event, but certifies that the organizer has an effective sustainability management system in place, which is a prerequisite for achieving its sustainability objectives. It is therefore a means to an end, not the end itself. By following the requirements of ISO 20121, an organization will be able to implement a plan, monitor and evaluate progress, in order to refine and improve future plans. A key principle of ISO 20121 is continuity and commitment. Sustainability is by its nature an ever-evolving topic continually seeking methods and ways to improve its performance and minimize risk.



**Reference:**

<https://www.iso.org/publication/PUB100302.html>





In 2020, the revision of the ISO 26000 Guidelines was approved, an international standard that provides guidelines on the Social Responsibility of Businesses (CSR) and Organizations, better known by the English acronym CSR, Corporate Social Responsibility.



It acts as a guideline, i.e. a tool to support organizations with the aim of guiding them in adopting a responsible approach and involving interested parties. The most innovative aspect of the ISO 26000 standard is represented by its operational part, which highlights the need to adopt an active approach, aimed at self-diagnosis and aimed at recognizing one's social responsibility, with consequent identification of internal and external categories ( stakeholders) on whom the impacts deriving from the decisions and activities of the organization fall.

**Reference:**

<https://www.iso.org/iso-26000-social-responsibility.html>

The project guidelines can become an excellent starting point for promoting the certification of events, always with a view to supporting and accompanying sports associations on the path to sustainability.



## 13. THE LIFE CYCLE OF THE EVENT

The most effective way to manage the potential impacts of sporting events is to intervene already in the event planning phase. The organization of a sporting event follows a life cycle that includes three main phases: planning, implementation and conclusion of the event.

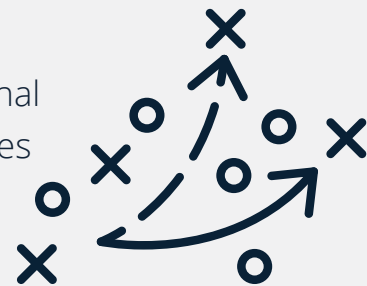


### Phase 1



**Concept** - define the scope, location and timing of the event. In this phase, the suitable places/sites for holding the event are identified;

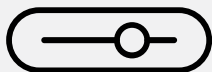
**Strategic planning** - definition of organizational governance and the main policies and processes required.;



**Detailed planning:** detailed design and layout of the location, procurement of goods and services and mapping of functional requirements so that everyone is aware of their responsibilities and tasks.

## Level 2

The realization of the event includes two main phases:



**Set-up – pre-event works:** installation of all temporary infrastructure, services and equipment and arrangement of the site and access roads, car parks, etc.



**Event implementation** – management of all ongoing sporting and cultural activities and all support services such as transport, catering, waste management, public communication, lighting etc.



## Phase 3

**Post-event removal** – post-event removal of all temporary infrastructure, services and equipment, site remediation and, where necessary, site restoration. Post-event activities may involve a range of measures to ensure the event brings benefits to biodiversity, these may include improvements to wildlife habitats, ongoing conservation monitoring and management work and increased awareness of biodiversity conservation. This phase could also include repairs to any environmental damage caused by the event.



All stages are interrelated, delivering a successful event depends on effective and timely planning and this includes attention to biodiversity. The post-event phase is the one in which the positive and negative impacts on biodiversity will occur, which will be strongly influenced by the policies, plans and processes established already in the planning phase of the event.



The key to obtaining positive results for biodiversity lies in the initial indications offered by the mapping of the territory implemented by the protected areas and by the planning phase. It therefore seems clear that the sooner one intervenes, the lower the risks and impacts that will occur during the event and the greater the benefits that can be obtained after its conclusion.

# 14. SUSTAINABILITY QUESTIONNAIRE

## GENERAL INFO

### EVENT NAME & EVENT LOCATION

### TYPE OF EVENT

### DATE (START DATE - END OF THE EVENT) (DD/MM/YYYY)

## 1. SETUP OF THE EVENT AREA

The choice of site is essential to make the sporting event more sustainable. To optimize the environmental impact it is necessary to choose a place already intended for sporting events and/or pre-set up by the protected area in which the sporting event takes place. The event location must be easily accessible and managed responsibly, the entire setup of the area must favor eco-sustainable solutions.

### **The impacts on biodiversity**

Avoiding and minimizing impacts on biodiversity is preferable to restoring or compensating for any damage caused, not only for the benefit of ecosystems and species, but also because the costs of addressing negative impacts can be significant. When habitats are damaged, the impact on biodiversity is usually immediate, while their restoration is a long-term undertaking, with no certainty of success. For this reason, particular attention should be paid to avoid and minimize impacts on areas of significance for biodiversity. Sporting events within areas of great environmental value should take place within already identified areas and routes, in areas that are not very vulnerable from an environmental point of view. For these areas it is necessary to ensure that they are easily accessible by public transport, be equipped with parking, provide services and supply methods with low environmental impact and the set-up of the area must be made with recyclable and reusable material.

### **Biodiversity objectives:**

- Avoid indirectly contributing to the loss of biodiversity by holding events in areas designated for sporting events
- Choose places that are easily accessible by public transport
- Select areas that have nearby accommodation, easily accessible by public transport and/or provide low-emission shuttles
- Favor places accessible via pedestrian or cycle paths and encourage the use of non-motorised transport
- Choose venues that prioritize the use of local goods and services during the event
- Avoid damage to areas important for biodiversity when locating, installing and removing cables and cabling, minimizing the impact on wildlife and their movements
- Reduce sound and visual pollution (speakers, excessive lighting, etc.)
- Avoid and minimize the direct loss of biodiversity on site due to area development activities.



1.1	Does the event take place in an area designated by the protected area for sporting events?		
1.2	Have the stands and installations been designed in an eco-sustainable way (natural materials, reusable, recyclable, etc.)?		
1.3	Is the signage used for the event made of recyclable and/or reusable material?		
1.4	Do we need to create or set up spaces or kitchens for catering services?		
1.5	Are the toilets connected to a sewerage or other drainage system?		
1.6	Has the use of generators been optimised?		
1.7	Were equipment rental/space planner companies committed to a responsible approach favored?		
1.8	Has a responsible approach to water management been adopted?		
1.9	Has a responsible approach to energy management been adopted?		
1.10	Has a responsible approach to waste management been adopted?		
1.11	Are most of the materials supplied to set up the event area locally sourced (less than 100 km)?		
1.12	Has separate collection been arranged for waste and non-reusable objects used to set up the area?		
1.13	Have measures been taken to compensate for the negative impacts of the event?		
1.14	Has the restoration of the venues been planned at the end of the event?		

**IN SHORT**

- Use mapped sites and routes for sporting events, taking advantage of existing infrastructure (start/finish area, grandstands, car parks, etc.)
- Cover energy needs with renewable energy
- Pay attention to energy efficiency and water consumption
- Use diesel generators equipped with a particulate filter
- Provide a sufficient number of toilets, ensure that the toilets are clean during the event and provided with the necessary supplies (soap, toilet paper, etc.) and provide for the collection of waste water through the sewer system and/or with tankers, such as required by law
- Host participants and visitors in accommodation in the immediate vicinity of the event location and/or organize a low-emission transport service
- Offset the event's carbon emissions
- Ensure site recovery after the event

## 2. FOOD

Whatever its form (welcome coffee, lunches, dinners, cocktails, etc.), catering for sporting events generates impacts on the environment. Preserving the environment during the catering phase of the event means managing quantities well to avoid any risk of waste but, above all, favoring seasonal, local products from sustainable production methods, but also optimizing the choice of equipment. The organization and management of food supply has a great influence on reducing the environmental impacts generated.

The biodiversity impacts of providing food and drink during an event are similar to those of other service providers introducing temporary infrastructure (clearing vegetation, soil compaction, waste generation and greenhouse gas generation). Less tangible, but equally important to address, is the choice of ingredients and origins of food and drink that may come from suppliers who use unsustainable practices. Providing food and drinks at a sporting event can generate waste due to waste left behind by consumers and caterers disposing of food waste and packaging. The supply chain of all foods and drinks, starting from their ingredients, is often associated with the loss of biodiversity due to the change in land use caused for its production (deforestation for agriculture, excessive exploitation of natural resources, overfishing, etc.). It should be remembered that our food system causes 80% of the extinction of species and habitats globally.

### Biodiversity objectives:

- Avoid indirectly contributing to the loss of biodiversity through the product supply chain by choosing those of local origin and/or certified
- Spread a conscious food culture and fight food waste
- Choose products that do not come from uncontrolled agriculture and intensive farming
- Promote the consumption of plant-based foods

		YES	NO
<b>2.1</b>	Are the foods consumed of local origin (produced within a 100 km radius)?		
<b>2.2</b>	Are vegetarian meals offered to participants?		
<b>2.3</b>	Are individually packaged foods distributed?		
<b>2.4</b>	Do animal products carry a recommended environmental label?		
<b>2.5</b>	Are fruit and vegetables seasonal products?		
<b>2.6</b>	Are foods from organic farming used?		
<b>2.7</b>	Is the sale of products from Fair Trade also encouraged?		

<b>2.8</b>	Are non-perishable and uneaten foods collected by suppliers or donated to associations, food banks, etc.?		
<b>2.9</b>	Are food and dishes served based on the number of people actually present?		
<b>2.10</b>	Is there a way to count the number of meals to be served to avoid waste (registration system, etc.)?		
<b>2.11</b>	Is there an information campaign aimed at catering suppliers to combat food waste?		
<b>2.12</b>	Are the drinks distributed by taking them from large distributors?		
<b>2.13</b>	Have devices for the distribution of mains water been made available to the participants where they can fill their water bottles?		

**IN SHORT**

- Distribute seasonal fruit and vegetables
- Avoid products imported by air or long distances
- Also offer fair trade products
- Use locally sourced products and give preference to local companies
- Offer at least one vegetarian menu
- Use products from organic farming and from companies that pay attention to animal welfare
- Recover excess drinks and food
- Prefer foods and drinks with little packaging
- Involve and raise awareness of the topic among suppliers, participants and stakeholders

## 3. WASTE

Solid waste is generated during all phases of a sporting event. Typically these are food waste, packaging, disused sports equipment, waste produced by participants and spectators. Liquid waste includes waste water, fuels and oils, refrigerants, paints and other toxic or hazardous liquids used for the event, which are harmful to human health and the environment.

### **The impacts on biodiversity**

It is likely that solid waste generated during a sporting event, if not disposed of properly, can pollute groundwater, surface water and soil, damaging wildlife habitat. Large solid waste, such as abandoned equipment and packaging, can kill or injure wildlife that may become entangled or trapped. Smaller solid waste (for example plastic that degrades into micro-particles) could be eaten by wild animals and pass through the food chain to humans with serious consequences for living beings.

The ideal scenario would be to avoid solid waste disposal altogether by reusing or recycling materials and composting organic matter. No waste should be thrown into the natural environment and disposal of waste in landfill or by incineration should be avoided where possible. All waste must be strictly managed with clearly marked containers to allow for separate collection.

Liquid wastes such as gray water, sewage, fuels and oils, and other toxic or hazardous liquids disposed of in the natural environment can pollute terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems and associated wildlife. All liquid waste must be contained, managed, treated and disposed of in a manner that prevents damage to the ecosystem.

Procedures should be in place to respond to and clean up accidental spills immediately.

### **Biodiversity objectives**

Avoid abandoning waste to avoid causing damage to flora and fauna

- Reduce waste production by implementing all necessary measures for their recovery and recycling
- Avoid damage, both direct and indirect, to ecosystems and wildlife resulting from the management and disposal of solid and liquid waste
- Organize separate waste collection to prevent the deterioration of ecosystem systems following incorrect waste disposal
  - Reduce packaging and disposable materials
  - Reduce the use of plastic



3.1	Are glass and/or porcelain dishes used?		
3.2	Are disposable products such as tableware, aluminum cans, glass bottles, tetra packs, etc. avoided in the distribution of food and drinks?		
3.3	Are the disposable tableware, if used, made of certified compostable material?		
3.4	Is the distribution of individually packaged products avoided?		
3.5	Are napkin or paper bag food delivery systems used?		
3.6	Is there a separate waste collection system?		
3.7	Are there points for separate waste collection in the restaurant areas?		
3.8	Is there a separate waste collection system at all important points of the event?		
3.9	Has an operator or team been identified who is responsible for the correct functioning of the collection points?		
3.10	Is the staff informed and trained to manage the correct disposal of waste?		
3.11	Is it agreed with suppliers to abstain from the distribution of disposable products?		
3.12	Any prizes and gadgets are made of recycled, natural and/or organic materials guaranteed by environmental product certifications		

**IN SHORT**

- Serve drinks in reusable cups with a deposit, where safety regulations allow, use glass or porcelain cups
- Deliver the dishes in reusable crockery upon deposit, where safety regulations allow it, use traditional porcelain crockery
- Avoid disposable products such as disposable (compostable) tableware, aluminum cans, disposable glass bottles, tetra packs, decorations, etc.
- Refrain from using food stands without seats
- Use paper packaging, limiting its use, evaluating the possibility of distributing food with a napkin or in a paper bag
- Dispense drinks from large containers or use concentrated mixes
- Minimize the distribution of printed materials, in agreement with sponsors, avoid large-scale distribution of free samples and flyers
- Place a sufficient number of containers for separate waste collection, ensuring that waste bins are emptied regularly and ensuring that cleaning staff are present during the event
- Place the areas for separate waste collection in close proximity in order to facilitate disposal
- The separate collection of waste in public areas works only to a limited extent, it is advisable to collect it separately in the production areas (refreshment areas, rest areas, etc.)
- Involve and raise awareness of the topic among suppliers, participants and stakeholders

## 4. NOISE AND LIGHTING

### ONE

External speakers and audio systems can generate considerable noise during a sporting event, causing sonic impact on the environment.

Additionally, many animals use sound to move, find food, attract mates, and avoid predators. Noise pollution makes it difficult for them to complete these tasks, which has a major impact on their ability to survive.

Even the use of excessive lighting in the places affected by the event can cause serious impacts on animals; it is necessary to use, especially at night, a spectrum that does not disturb nocturnal fauna (avoid the short "blue" wavelength to reduce minimal impacts on bats and insects).

### **The impacts on biodiversity**

Significant increases in noise above background levels, as well as sudden and unpredictable noises, can disturb wildlife and be a problem particularly at certain times of the year, such as breeding or nesting seasons.

Fireworks displays should be absolutely avoided as they can seriously disturb wild animals and can create panic, flight, stress and disorientation in nesting birds, resulting in collisions with infrastructure, abandonment of the nest and failure to reproduce.

Furthermore, attention must be paid when filming sporting events; the use of drones should be avoided as their noise can cause a negative impact on the habitat of wildlife.

### **Biodiversity objectives**

- Avoid damage to important conservation areas and noise-sensitive wildlife habitats when locating, installing and removing equipment
- Minimize disturbance to noise-sensitive wildlife when using sound systems
  - Avoid the use of drones where possible
  - Avoid damage to important areas for biodiversity and wild animal habitats caused by excessive and improper lighting
  - Minimize the use of lighting systems, especially at night, which can disturb wildlife

<b>4.1</b>	Is the use of outdoor speakers planned?		
<b>4.2</b>	Is the use of drones planned to film the event?		
<b>4.3</b>	Is music used to accompany the event?		
<b>4.4</b>	Is there provision of cables and wiring along the event route?		
<b>4.5</b>	Has a careful analysis of sensitive sites been carried out for the positioning of the lights?		
<b>4.6</b>	Is the use of a timer foreseen for the use of any light points?		

### IN SHORT

- Limit the use of loudspeakers in open spaces, ensuring that this occurs in certain places and at certain times
- Avoid using entertainment music
- When setting up and dismantling, ensure this does not occur between 10pm and 7am, to protect residents from noise
- Minimize the impact on wildlife and their movements through careful routing of cables and harnesses
- Minimize the use of artificial light
- Use timers to control lighting
- Involve and raise awareness of the topic among suppliers, participants and stakeholders

## 5. MOBILITY

During an event, the movement of people and goods is the most important source of greenhouse gas emissions.

A sporting event, whether large or small, usually involves the mobility of a large number of people using different means of transport.

To minimize the carbon impact on the environment during a sporting event, the location of the events, the frequency of the events and good accessibility with sustainable means of transport play a central role.

Conscious choices to limit travel when planning and organizing an event can help reduce its impacts.

### **The impacts on biodiversity caused by mobility**

The type of transport, as well as the volume and circulation of vehicles, can affect biodiversity. Different modes of transport have different implications in terms of ecosystem damage, fuel and energy consumption, emissions, pollution and noise. Effects of vehicular traffic may include direct impacts (e.g., impacts on animals resulting in injury or death), localized indirect impacts (e.g., noise, visual disturbances), and broader indirect impacts such as air pollution that contribute to change climate, with important implications for biodiversity.

### **Biodiversity objectives**

- Organize the sporting event in an area easily accessible by public transport, preferably train and/or bus
- Organize low-emission collective shuttles to transport participants
- Encourage participants to use alternative means of transport to reduce carbon emissions and air pollution such as cycling, carsharing, low-carbon vehicles
- Promote eco-mobility also among spectators of the sporting event
- Avoid organizing multiple events in the same area, to avoid overcrowding, traffic congestion and a related greater environmental impact
- Encourage participants to use environmentally friendly means of transport by offering, for example, a reward (discount on the event ticket for those who use public or low-emission means of transport);
- Control air quality using advanced technological tools that monitor its quality, such as dedicated "apps", communicating the results to stakeholders



5.1	When choosing the site, was the proximity of the public transport network taken into account? (buses, shuttles and stations, etc.)		
5.2	Has adequate publicity been made for the use of public transport to reach the event venue?		
5.3	Are there car parks dedicated to the event?		
5.4	Are charging stations for electric vehicles available in the car parks?		
5.5	Is the place easily accessible by bicycle?		
5.6	Are there parking spaces for bicycles?		
5.7	Is the use of the train to reach the event encouraged?		
5.8	Were the vehicles for organization and logistics chosen with low greenhouse gas emissions in mind?		
5.9	Are shuttles available to reach the various accommodations and/or event locations?		
5.10	Is there any signage to get from the station and/or the airport to the event location?		
5.11	Has a survey been carried out relating to the modes of transport used by the participants in the event (origin of the participants, visitors, means of transport used, etc.)?		
5.12	Will an environmental assessment of the "Mobility" of the event be carried out, in order to make improvements for future events?		

**IN SHORT**

- Organize the sporting event in an area easily accessible by public transport or, alternatively, organize a collective shuttle service
- Match event times with public transport times, informing public transport companies of the event and the expected number of participants and visitors
- Inform participants comprehensively about routes, stops, timetables - in the tender documents, on your website and on site
- Offer a combined ticket (entrance/start ticket and public transport ticket)
- Encourage non-motorized traffic and provide clearly marked parking for bicycles and clearly marking routes for pedestrians and cyclists
- Provide participants, sponsors and suppliers with information on the maximum number of vehicles allowed to participate in the sporting event
- Define parking rates in relation to the number of people occupying the vehicle
- For the transport of material and passengers, favor low-consumption and low-emission vehicles
- Ensure that transport routes for rented or purchased material are as short as possible
- Involve and raise awareness of the topic among suppliers, participants and stakeholders

## 6. ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES

When choosing accommodation facilities for the sporting event, various factors must be taken into account, such as: proximity to the event location, accessibility and environmental commitment. Many athletes are increasingly sensitive to environmental issues and the topic of environmental sustainability. In this sense, voluntary environmental management certifications for accommodation facilities take on, in addition to their ethical value, an increasingly promotional and commercial importance. The certifications indicate that the performance of the tourist facility in question is positive from an environmental point of view, as it adopts strategies aimed at respecting the environment, the territory and its inhabitants. The adoption of environmental certifications allows the traveler to become a respectful, aware and sustainable traveller.

### **The impacts on biodiversity**

The construction sector contributes significantly to the loss of biodiversity. The application of the circular model to the construction sector, a consequent reduction in land consumption, and building design attentive to the environmental and management aspects of buildings, can contribute to reducing impacts on the environment.

### **Biodiversity objectives**

Accommodation facilities can contribute to the defense of biodiversity by adopting a series of measures, such as: use of natural and recyclable materials for the construction of buildings, use of renewable energy sources and adoption of energy saving measures, reduction of the production of waste and water consumption, use of sustainable products and services (bike rental services, promotion of sustainable tourist activities, etc.), use of 0 km or organic food products, reduction of food waste, use of biodegradable detergents and soaps, recovery of rainwater. Furthermore, making the facilities accessible for the disabled are just some of the solutions available to accommodation facilities to contribute to the protection of biodiversity.

<b>6.1</b>	Are the identified accommodation facilities certified by environmental sustainability brands?		
<b>6.2</b>	Have measures been adopted to raise awareness among accommodation facilities to adopt environmental protection processes?		
<b>6.3</b>	Are the selected accommodations easy to access and close to the event?		
<b>6.4</b>	Do the accommodations adopt systems to limit water consumption (flow limiters on showers and taps, toilets, rainwater collection, etc.)?		
<b>6.5</b>	Do they adopt energy saving systems (lighting timers, thermostat, etc.)?		
<b>6.6</b>	Has an environmental assessment been prepared for the identification and selection of accommodation facilities?		

**IN SHORT**

- Identify facilities close to the location of the sporting event
- If possible, prefer accommodation facilities certified on environmental sustainability and/or facilities that demonstrate commitment and sensitivity towards environmental issues
- Raise awareness among accommodation facilities of the importance of sustainability.

## 7. PRINTED COMMUNICATION

To disseminate information and promote a sporting event, it is often expected to use printed paper materials: program, posters, signs, flyers and promotional products. The impacts of this communication are linked to the editorial staff and the press, but also to the abandonment of the material at the end of the event.

To limit the "all paper" logic and avoid the impacts related to printing, it is necessary to rely on eco-responsible companies and favor reusable supports. Reduced use of paper and cardboard helps reduce impacts on biodiversity.

### **The impacts on biodiversity**

The paper production cycle requires high quantities of water and energy.

The main impacts deriving from its production are: water consumption, waste water discharge, thermal and electrical energy consumption, atmospheric emissions, waste production, noise, odors. Deforestation and deforestation also have negative impacts on biodiversity.

When organizing a sporting event, it is possible to reduce paper consumption by advertising the event on online platforms and encouraging participant registration online. Correct information addressed to sponsors and suppliers of services and materials will allow us to reduce the excessive production of paper material

### **Biodiversity objectives**

- Prevent the deterioration of ecosystem systems following the production and disposal of paper material produced for the organization and promotion of the event
- Avoid indirectly contributing to the loss of biodiversity by reducing paper consumption and the consequent felling of trees for its production



		YES	NO
7.1	Has the quantity of documents to be printed (tickets, maps, programmes, etc.) been optimised?		
7.2	Is the paper generally used for the event recycled or certified (PEFC, FSC, ecolabel)?		
7.3	Has the distribution of paper documents been optimized (avoiding the use of express courier, updating the "recipients" databases to avoid mail returns, etc.)?		
7.4	Are large format media (advertising tarpaulins, banners, etc.) dateless and long-lasting and therefore reusable?		
7.5	For large format signs, are the supports eco-designed (choice of materials, ink, format, etc.)?		
7.6	Are the promotional items eco-designed (local production, intangible gift, etc.)?		
7.7	Have special bins for the collection of paper/cardboard been distributed in the place where the event will take place?		
7.8	Is there an environmental assessment of the printed communication used in order to reduce its use in future events?		

## IN SHORT

- Limit the use of paper and where this is not possible, prefer recycled and certified paper
- Use small formats and less impactful colors
- Identify printing companies that use certified materials and processes
- To create any promotional products, use ecological products and make sure that all the chemicals used are biodegradable within a short period of time.
- Plan the distribution of advertising material, avoiding excessive production
- Make reusable banners and tarpaulins.

## 8. DIGITAL COMMUNICATION

In recent years, digital technology has proven to be an extremely important tool before, during and after an event. But the use of digital is not without impacts: environmental, social and ethical. There are several areas of action to reduce its impact and to make digital communication more sustainable, ethical and inclusive.

### **The impacts on biodiversity**

The digital revolution impacts various sectors related to environmental sustainability.

- Resource depletion: Production of notebooks, smartphones and tablets, including the acquisition of raw materials, results in 85% of raw material depletion
- Water consumption: Water consumption is caused by both the extraction of raw materials and semiconductor production processes
- Release of hazardous materials (such as heavy metals, toxic fumes, acidic materials): from raw material extraction processes, as well as from inappropriate recycling and disposal processes that cause the release of hazardous substances into natural habitats;
- Energy consumption: The Internet remains the main source of pollution, if it were a country, it would be the sixth largest consumer of energy in the world.

The correct use of digital technology for the organization of the sporting event can help reduce the impacts: the choice of search engines, attention to the maintenance of hardware equipment, management of communication on social media, correct information aimed at within the organization and to participants on the sustainable use of digital technology, are all measures that contribute to making the sporting event more sustainable.

### **Biodiversity objectives**

- Prevent the deterioration of ecosystem systems following excessive use of digital technology
- Avoid indirectly contributing to the loss of biodiversity by avoiding the excessive purchase of hardware and software products, preferring their prolonged use over time or purchasing regenerated products.

8.1	Is digital equipment purchased second hand or repaired if broken (recycling, refurbishing, etc.)?		
8.2	Is the hardware and software equipment used by the sports association used for as long as possible?		
8.3	Are digital communication actions used in the most rational way possible (posts on social networks, distribution of videos, etc.)?		
8.4	Is the involvement of the sports organization envisaged on the topic of responsible digital?		
8.5	Have green energy suppliers been identified for IT infrastructures?		
8.6	Are search engines with a responsible commitment used (Lilo, Ecosia, etc.)?		
8.7	Has the number of platforms on which you intend to publish any videos been limited?		
8.8	Have the digital tools (website, applications, etc.) been eco-designed (image and video optimization, less complex codes, dark mode, etc.)?		
8.9	Are participants asked to limit data consumption during the event (cut the video stream, etc.) and to connect to the wired/wifi network only in 3G/4G?		
8.10	Has the sending of electronic documents been optimized by avoiding adding attachments, reducing the weight of the attached files or replacing the attached files with hyperlinks?		

**IN SHORT**

- Extend the life of the hardware and software equipment used
- Use social media and the networking of videos and presentations in a consistent and rational manner
- Choose certified equipment suppliers
- Use environmentally friendly search engines
- Invite attendees to limit data consumption during the event
- Optimize the sending of electronic documents
- Raise participants' awareness of the impacts caused by the use of digital technologies.

## 9. ETHICS AND SOLIDARITY

The challenge of a sporting event is to bring together, unite and allow everyone to intensely experience moments of sharing and exchange. There is no doubt that sport is a vehicle for inclusion, aggregation and participation. Through sport it is possible to convey essential ethical and moral values to promote peaceful and supportive coexistence. The 17 Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development refer to a set of important issues for development that take into consideration in a balanced manner the three dimensions of sustainable development - economic, social and ecological - and aim to put an end to poverty, to fight against inequality, to tackle climate change, to build peaceful societies that respect human rights.

Sport, regardless of age, religion or social origin, has a great aggregative value and promotes physical and social well-being. Organizing collateral events, be they sporting or cultural, capable of involving children, young people, the disabled, the elderly, etc., allowing a large audience to actively participate in the event, helps to make everyone aware of their social and environmental responsibilities.

		YES	NO
<b>9.1</b>	Is gender equality promoted in the event organization team?		
<b>9.2</b>	During the event registration phase, are participants asked if there are any particular accessibility needs?		
<b>9.3</b>	Have measures been taken and implemented to facilitate the arrival of people with disabilities?		
<b>9.4</b>	Is the integration of people with difficulties within the organization's team supported and promoted (people without work, people with disabilities, etc.)?		
<b>9.5</b>	Is the team informed and sensitized on the fight against discrimination?		
<b>9.6</b>	Is the involvement of particular target groups (unemployed, pensioners, etc.) envisaged for the organization and realization of the event?		



9.7	Is there an access/fee system based on the participant's income?		
9.8	Has the event been designed to make it effectively accessible to participants with reduced mobility?		
9.9	Have paths or activities been identified to encourage the participation of people with sensory disabilities (sight, hearing)?		
9.10	Is there a person within the organization responsible for the well-being of the participants?		
9.11	Will there be room for progress and improvement in this area for future events?		

**IN SHORT**

- Take appropriate measures to create an ethical and supportive sports culture
- Respect equal opportunities and fight against all forms of discrimination
- Always encourage access to people with disabilities
- Commit not to support or tolerate discrimination in employment
- Condemn acts of bullying, harassment, abuse or other forms of intimidation
- Appoint a safety officer and raise awareness of the concept of safety
- In advertising the sporting event, refer to the fight against doping
- Make participants aware of the dangers of drug use
- Select products (gifts, fabrics, merchandising items, printed materials, signs, etc.) according to social and ecological aspects.

## 10. INFORMATION AND AWARENESS RAISING

The implementation of a responsible approach to events is inseparable from the mobilization of all stakeholders involved, including participants and citizens. It is necessary to inform and raise awareness of all the protagonists of the sporting event to adopt more responsible behavior towards the environment. The mobilization of everyone is essential for raising individual awareness and for the event to become sustainable.

Communicating publicly about sustainability always requires careful planning. It is important to define the narrative you want to promote, the channels to use to spread the message you intend to convey. The challenge is to make messages engaging and relevant. If done well, communication about biodiversity through sporting events can be an effective way to raise awareness among the sporting public and create long-term benefits for the territory and local communities.

It is possible to contribute to the conservation of biodiversity also through information and raising awareness among the population:

- Communicate measures taken during the event to mitigate impacts on biodiversity, to set an example of good practice and raise awareness of biodiversity and conservation
- Invite local organizations involved in environmental conservation to provide information on the biodiversity of the host area, this allows you to amplify the message on the importance of conservation
- Provide information material for athletes, spectators and the general public on biodiversity, to communicate sustainability requirements and expectations on the behaviors to be adopted
- Provide information to visitors using signage, posters, apps and blogs to explain the fauna and flora on site, highlighting any species of particular interest
- Provide information on the biodiversity present in the area to support "sustainable tourism" initiatives in the area.

10.1	Has a working group been formed on the challenges of the ecological transition?		
10.2	Are there information panels (or stands, etc.) to explain the measures implemented and encourage their use (carpooling, vegetarian offer, 0 km food, etc.)?		
10.3	Are the environmentalist arguments used to promote sustainability well argued in order to avoid "greenwashing"?		
10.4	Is there payment of carbon offsets for impacts that cannot be avoided?		
10.5	Have environmental criteria been included in the specifications of the partners and suppliers present?		
10.6	Are public meetings planned to inform citizens about the measures implemented (public transport shuttles, separate waste collection, management of water and energy resources, etc.)?		
10.7	Are there any awareness campaigns planned during the event (documents on sustainable nutrition, adaptation to climate change, environmental issues, etc.)?		
10.8	Are there tools to raise awareness among individual participants about sustainability (participant commitment card, quiz, competition, etc.)?		
10.9	Are there planned events on eco-citizenship (games, workshops, quizzes, etc.)?		
10.11	During the event, will cultural events (films, exhibitions, etc.) be organized that encourage people to adopt more responsible behaviour?		
10.12	Will the results (including environmental) of the event be publicly communicated?		
10.13	Were local environmental protection organizations involved?		

**IN SHORT**

- Plan and implement a communication plan, aimed at participants, the public and local populations to raise awareness of environmental issues
- Involve local organizations and the local population in organizing the event, involving the community
- Spread the environmental message using all communication channels
- Involve and raise awareness about sustainability also through the organization of cultural events.

## 15. THE CORE OF EUROPEAN EXPERTS

The initial core of the European Experts is made up of representatives of the project partner organizations who drafted the Guidelines of the "SOS Parks" project. The multidisciplinary work carried out in the drafting of the Guidelines was tested in sporting events organized in the three partner countries, as part of the "Sport in nature" program envisaged in the project.

The core of experts in the implementation of sporting events involved institutions, sports federations and associations, local authorities, local communities and educational institutions in order to verify the effectiveness and applicability of the Guidelines.

The initial nucleus may expand by involving other expert European figures with skills in environmental, educational, social and sporting issues proven by experience in the organization and management of sporting events. The Guidelines are in fact to be considered as a flexible tool, open to suggestions, improvements and future contributions. Making the presence of experts in sustainable sporting events widespread in the various European countries will make it possible to disseminate the good practices suggested by the Guidelines and to assist parks and protected areas, as well as sports associations in improving their performance in terms of sustainability.

In order to support the work of European experts, check-lists have been created, reported in annexes 2 and 3, which can be used by experts to support parks and protected areas, as well as sports associations to adopt procedures to make the most sustainable sporting events. The checklists are also a formidable self-analysis tool to support parks and sports associations.



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**SOSPARKS**

Sustainable Sport in the Parks

ATTACHMENTS

## ATTACHMENT 1

### ATHLETE QUESTIONNAIRE



The questionnaire aimed at athletes is a very useful and easy-to-use tool for sports associations to raise awareness among their athletes about sustainability.

The checklist can be published on the social channels of sports associations and administered to all participants in sporting events. By answering the questionnaire, athletes are made aware of their habits during sporting activity which, if modified or improved, can contribute significantly to making sporting events held within protected areas more sustainable.





Erasmus+ Sports Program of the European Commission, a unique initiative to enhance the sustainability of sports events in Protected Natural Areas. In addition, the project investigates the environmental effects of these sports events on biodiversity and formulates guidelines to mitigate these impacts. The survey aims to understand the habits stimulating behaviors that can contribute significantly to making the sporting event more sustainable. Your involvement makes a difference. Together, we can make sporting events in Europe's parks and protected areas more sustainable. Sport can help the environment.

Thank you for your time and contribution!

We invite you to stay in touch and keep updated on our progress and activities.

You can follow the SOSPARKS project on **Facebook:** [SOSPARKS Project](#)

**Instagram:** [@sosparksproject](#) **Website:** [SOSPARKS Project](#)

1. Email \*

---

2. In which European country do you live?

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3. How old are you?

Less than 10     10-18     18-35     35-45     More than 45

4. How many sporting events do you participate in a year?

Less than 2     2-5     5-10     More than 10

5. What mode of transportation do you typically utilize to get to the event venue?

- Personal vehicle       Public transportation       Bike or walking  
 Carpooling       Taxi or ride-sharing services

6. When securing accommodations for an event, do you favor establishments with environmental certifications or eco-friendly policies?

- Yes, always. It's a key part of my decision.  
 Most of the time if such options are available.  
 Sometimes, if it aligns with other factors like location and price.  
 Rarely, it's not a major factor in my decision.  
 No, it doesn't influence my choice at all.  
 Not applicable

7. Are you sensitive to respect for the environment and sustainability issues?

- Yes, I always prioritize respecting the environment and sustainability issues.  
 Somewhat, I am aware of these issues but do not always act on them.  
 Neutral, I neither prioritize nor disregard these issues.  
 Not really, I rarely consider environmental respect and sustainability issues.  
 No, I do not prioritize respect for the environment and sustainability issues at all.  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Is your preference to consume locally sourced food during a sporting event?

- Yes, I always opt for local products during the event.  
 Most of the time, I try to choose local products when available.  
 Occasionally, I consume local products if they are convenient.  
 Rarely, local products are not usually my first choice.  
 No, I do not prefer local products during the event.  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

9. During sporting events, do you utilize a refilled water bottle as a measure to decrease waste?

- Yes, I always use a refilled water bottle during sporting events.  
 Often, but not always.  
 Sometimes, when I remember to bring it.  
 No, I do not use a refilled water bottle at all.  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_



10. During sporting events, do you make use of single-use items such as tissues, disposable drinks containers, etc.?

- Yes, I frequently use disposable products.
- Most of the time, unless reusable options are readily available.
- Occasionally, only when necessary.
- Rarely, I try to avoid disposable products when possible.
- No, I do not use disposable products at all.

11. At sporting events, is your preference inclined towards vegetarian and vegan food options?

- Yes, I always choose vegetarian and vegan options.
- Mostly, I prefer plant-based options when they're available.
- Sometimes, I opt for vegetarian and vegan options if they look appealing.
- Rarely, I usually prefer non-vegetarian options.
- No, I do not prefer vegetarian or vegan options.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you consider the environmental practices of manufacturers when selecting your sportswear?

- Always, the manufacturer's eco-commitment is a big factor in my choices.
- Usually, if the information is readily available.
- Sometimes, but it's not my primary concern.
- Rarely, I don't usually consider it.
- Never, it doesn't influence my decisions.

13. Do you consciously and responsibly use social media and video networking platforms during sporting events?

- Always, I am very conscious about my online behavior.
- Mostly, I try to be mindful of my usage.
- Occasionally, it depends on the situation.
- Rarely, I don't give it much thought.
- Never, I use them freely without considering this aspect.

14. Would you be interested in attending cultural activities (like workshops, screenings, exhibits) that encourage eco-friendly behavior, either before, during, or after the event?

- Definitely, I would love to participate in such events.
- Likely, if my schedule allows for it.
- Maybe, depending on what's being offered.
- Unlikely, unless it's particularly appealing.
- Not at all, I'm not interested in these types of activities.

Thank you for your time!

### **GDPR Consent**

We, SOSPARTS Project Consortium, are committed to protecting your personal information and respecting your privacy. In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), we your explicit consent to collect, process, and store your personal data for the purpose of modifying our project outputs and guidelines.

By providing your consent, you authorize us to:

1. Collect and process your responses to our surveys, discussions, and other participatory activities.
2. Use this data to inform modifications to our project outputs and guidelines.
3. Store this data securely in compliance with GDPR regulations.

You have the right to withdraw your consent at any time. To do so, please contact us at [infoambeco@gmail.com](mailto:infoambeco@gmail.com) . Please note that withdrawal of consent will not affect the lawfulness of data processing based on consent before its withdrawal.

15. I hereby agree to allow the use of my personal data for the above purposes. \*

I confirm

## ANNEX 2

### PARKS QUESTIONNAIRE

The following questionnaire can be used as a self-analysis tool by parks and protected areas to evaluate their commitment to making sporting events more sustainable or become a survey tool for use by European experts who can support park authorities to identify and plan actions and procedures to be implemented to promote greater sustainability of events.





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# DETECTION GRID

SURVEY AIMED AT THE PARKS AND PROTECTED AREAS WHERE THE EVENT TAKES PLACE

## EVENT NAME & EVENT LOCATION

## EVENT TYPE

## DATE (START - END DATE OF THE EVENT) (DD/MM/YYYY)

YES NO

Has the Park adopted a protocol/regulation for the holding of sporting events?		
Has the Park provided a zoning plan for the identification of areas and/or routes suitable and unsuitable for holding sporting events?		
In the case of permanent and/or itinerant sporting events, has the Park identified routes and/or areas to be protected characterized by the presence of floristic species of particular interest or protected?		
Has an annual calendar been prepared for sporting events, respecting the life cycle of the wildlife present in the Park (wintering, mating, birth of puppies, breastfeeding, etc.)?		
Has the calendar of events been drawn up so as not to concentrate sporting events in short periods?		
When choosing the areas, did the Park take into account the proximity to the public transport network?		
Has the Park planned actions to encourage the use of the train?		
Has the Park prepared access maps/route software (with mention of bike sharing stations, cars, etc.) to encourage sports associations and participants to use public transport?		
Is there any signage to get from the station and/or the airport to the event location?		
Are the areas identified by the Park equipped with parking?		
Are the car parks equipped with charging stations for electric cars?		
Are there parking spaces for bicycles?		
Is it possible to recharge electric bikes?		
Are there road signs to get to the event location?		
Has the Park planned a survey relating to public transport for sporting events (origin of visitors, means of transport used, etc.)?		
Have signs been installed along the routes dedicated to sporting activities?		
Is the signage used made of reusable and recyclable material?		
Has the Park adopted water saving systems when setting up the areas?		
Have energy saving systems been adopted?		
Are the identified areas equipped with toilets?		
Has the use of generators been avoided/optimised?		

	YES	NO
Has the Park carried out a careful analysis of sensitive sites for the positioning of the lights?		
Have you planned the use of timers for using the lights?		
Has separate waste collection been set up in areas designated for sporting events?		
Has the Park provided for the provision of cables and wiring along the event route?		
Have any cables present been protected so as not to disturb wildlife?		
Has the Park provided a system for monitoring the noise impact in the identified areas in order to safeguard the local fauna?		
Has the Park foreseen the use of loudspeakers only in closed rooms?		
Has the Park chosen suppliers based on their commitment to environmental sustainability?		
Has the Park encouraged accommodation facilities to adopt a responsible environmental approach?		
Has an environmental assessment been prepared to identify the most sustainable accommodation facilities?		
Does the Park have a communication plan to raise awareness among sports associations?		
Does the communication plan also include environmental education activities for the involvement of different population targets (schools, citizens, tourists, local producers, stakeholders, etc.)?		
Does the Park promote awareness-raising activities through a team of environmental educators?		
Have information panels (or stands, etc.) been planned and/or installed to explain the measures put in place to encourage the use of public transport, the consumption of vegetarian food, the use of structures attentive to sustainability, etc.?		
Has the Park planned public meetings to inform citizens about the measures implemented to make the events more sustainable (public transport shuttles, separate waste collection, management of water and energy resources, etc.)?		
Are there tools to raise awareness among individual participants about sustainability (participant commitment card, quiz, competition, etc.)?		
In order to raise awareness among participants and citizens, are there planned events on eco-citizenship (games, workshops, quizzes, etc.)?		
Has the Park verified that the identified areas are adequately equipped to allow accessibility to all (elderly, children, disabled people, etc.)?		
Has the Park verified that the measures implemented have facilitated the effective arrival of people with disabilities (routes, accommodation facilities, means of transport, etc.)?		
Is the organization of cultural events (films, exhibitions, etc.) planned during the sporting event to encourage people to adopt more responsible behaviour?		
Does the Park plan to communicate the results (including environmental) of the event?		
Will the Park equip itself with tools to analyze the greenhouse gas emissions produced by sporting events?		



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## ANNEX 3

### **SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS QUESTIONNAIRE**

Sports associations can self-assess their events using the following questionnaire which suggests the actions to be implemented to reduce the impacts caused by sporting events. The European Experts, through their skills and using the questionnaire, can raise awareness and support sports associations to improve and increase their commitment in order to become promoters of sustainability themselves.





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# DETECTION GRID

SURVEY AIMED AT THE SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS  
ORGANIZING THE EVENT

## EVENT NAME & EVENT LOCATION

## EVENT TYPE

## START AND END DATE OF THE EVENT (DD/MM/YYYY)

## AREA SETUP

YES NO

Did the sports association organize the event in an area designated by the Park for sporting events?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If the area does not fall within the Park's zoning, has the association identified a suitable area for parking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the association installed new signs in the areas and along the routes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the signage used by the association made of reusable and recyclable material?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have the stands and installations been designed by the association in an eco-sustainable way (reusable material, natural or recycled materials, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the organization favored equipment rental companies/space planners committed to a responsible approach?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the event require the installation of additional public reception areas, involving transport or the construction of structures?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the organization need to install additional lighting fixtures?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have spaces or kitchens been set up for catering services?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Did the association need to install toilets?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the use of generators been avoided/optimised?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the organization adopted a responsible approach to water management?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a responsible approach to energy management been adopted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are most of the materials/products needed for the event local (less than 100 km)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has additional audio equipment been installed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the association made its suppliers aware of a more sustainable approach?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the association created a communication plan to raise awareness among participants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the restoration of the venues been planned at the end of the event?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an environmental manager been identified and trained to make the event more sustainable?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## FOOD

Are fruit and vegetables, if distributed, in season?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do the animal products distributed carry a recommended environmental label?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are the teams in charge of catering trained to combat food waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will non-perishable and uneaten food be collected by suppliers or donated to an association, food bank, etc.?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is there a way to count the number of meals to be served to avoid waste (registration system, etc.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>WASTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Are disposable products such as tableware, aluminum cans, glass bottles, tetra packs, decorations, etc. avoided in the distribution of food and drinks?		
Are the plates used by the organizers and participants reusable?		
If used, are disposable plates, glasses and cutlery compostable?		
Are drinks taken from large containers and dispensed in reusable cups served?		
Are napkin, paper bag food delivery systems used?		
Has the association verified that each waste stream is collected and sent to the right channels?		
Has the organization provided points for separate waste collection in the catering areas?		
Is there a separate waste collection system at all important points of the event?		
Has an operator or team responsible for the association been identified for the correct functioning of the collection points?		
Has the organization agreed with the sponsors to refrain from distributing disposable products (free samples, flyers, etc.)?		
Are disposable products such as tableware, aluminum cans, glass bottles, tetra packs, decorations, etc. avoided in the distribution of food and drinks?		
<b>ACCOMMODATION</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Has the association prepared an environmental assessment to identify the most sustainable accommodation facilities?		
Are the accommodations selected by the association easily accessible and close to the event?		
Are the identified accommodation facilities reachable by shuttles or public transport?		
Do the identified structures adopt systems to limit water consumption (flow limiters on showers and taps, toilets, rainwater collection, etc.)?		
Do they adopt energy saving systems (lighting timers, thermostat, etc.)?		
Are the accommodation facilities identified plastic free?		
Have the facilities adopted separate waste collection systems?		
<b>SOLIDARITY'</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
During the registration phase, did the organization ask if there are participants with particular accessibility needs?		
Has the association verified that the measures adopted (easy access areas, etc.) have facilitated the effective arrival of people with disabilities?		
Has the association provided spaces dedicated to the rest of the most vulnerable people?		
Is gender equality respected in the association's team?		
Does the association promote diversity among stakeholders and within its team?		
Does the association encourage diversity within teams (people without work, people with disabilities, etc.)?		
Has the association verified that the areas identified are adequately equipped to allow accessibility to all (elderly, children, disabled people, etc.)?		
Has the association verified that the measures implemented have facilitated the actual arrival of people with disabilities (routes, accommodation facilities, means of transport, etc.)?		
Is an access/fee system based on participant or organization income implemented?		
Have you informed and trained your team and collaborators against discrimination to make your event as safe and welcoming as possible?		

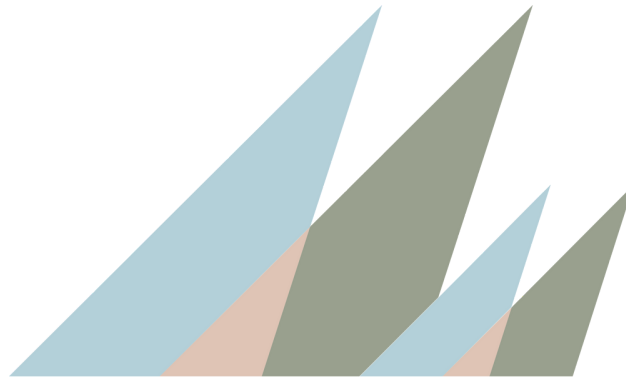
DIGITAL COMMUNICATION	YES	NO
Are attendees asked to limit data consumption during the event (cut video streaming, etc.) and connect to the wired/wifi network only in 3G/4G?		
Has the association optimized the sending of electronic documents by avoiding adding attachments, reducing the weight of the attached files or replacing the attached files with hyperlinks?		
Has the number of platforms you plan to post photos and videos been limited to?		

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION	YES	NO
Has the association established a maximum number of participants for the event?		
Have environmental criteria been included in the specifications of the event partners and suppliers?		
Has the association prepared a communication plan to raise awareness among participants?		
Does the communication plan also include environmental education activities for the involvement of different population targets (schools, citizens, tourists, local producers, stakeholders, etc.)?		
Does the association promote sustainability awareness activities through environmental education experts?		
For paper communication, has the organization correctly assessed the target and therefore the number of paper copies needed for the event?		
Have systems been put in place to avoid printing too many documents (tickets, maps, programs, etc.)?		
Is the paper used recycled or certified (PEFC, FSC, ecolabel)?		
Are large format media (advertising sheets, banners, etc.) undated and therefore reusable?		
Has the organization planned the use of promotional items for the event?		
Are any promotional items eco-designed (local production, intangible gift, etc.)?		
Has the association provided information panels (or stands, etc.) to explain the measures implemented to encourage the use of public transport, accommodation facilities attentive to sustainability, the consumption of vegetarian food, etc?		
Has the association planned public meetings to inform citizens about the measures implemented to make events more sustainable (shuttles for public transport, separate waste collection, management of water and energy resources, etc.)?		
Are there tools to raise awareness among individual participants about sustainability (participant commitment card, quiz, competition, etc.)?		
During the event, did the association organize cultural events (films, exhibitions, etc.) that encourage people to adopt more responsible behaviour?		
Are there planned events on eco-citizenship (games, workshops, quizzes, etc.)?		
Does the organization plan to communicate the results (including environmental) of the event?		
Has the association equipped itself with tools to analyze the greenhouse gas emissions produced by sporting events?		



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# SOSPARKS

Sustainable Sport in the Parks

This publication "GUIDELINES FOR SPORTS EVENTS IN PROTECTED GREEN AREAS" was developed within the project: 101090526 — Sustainable Sports in the Parks "SOSPARKS".

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