

Make your event more sustainable!

➤ What is a more sustainable event?

A green or more sustainable event is one designed, organized and implemented in a way that minimizes negative environmental impacts and leaves a positive legacy for the host community. The goals of a green event are: the use of the minor amount of natural resources as possible, the minimization of the generated waste and the protection of the biodiversity and the human health.

The Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) has been working for the last years in the field of greening events, and applying it in any type of event: parties and festivals, local or international conferences and meetings, etc. If you are an event organizer, you can make your event greener by introducing some very simple initiatives.

➤ Why making more sustainable events?

Greening your event will reduce the direct environmental impact of it, but should also leave a positive and lasting legacy to the local community. A number of opportunities and benefits can be identified, for the organizers, the participants, the service providers and for the host/local region:

- Environmental benefits: decrease of the event environmental impact (less energy and water consumption, less waste generation, less emissions to the atmosphere, etc).
- Economical benefits: decrease the use of raw materials and resources.
- Social benefits: it improves the image of the organizing entities, and the event can become more competitive in an international sphere.

➤ How can you make it?

It is very important to have into account some fields with a special environmental incidence and to introduce environmental criteria in the making decision process in order to select always the most environmentally friendly option. Some examples are listed below:

- Serving local, ecological and fair trade products in the meals.
- Promoting public transport among the assistants.
- Using online communication. Printing documentation only when necessary and in recycled paper and on both sides of the paper.
- Minimizing waste generation by using reusable material and recycling waste that can not be avoided.
- Using new technologies (internet, videoconferences, etc) in order to promote non presence meetings and, by doing so, reducing the journeys of potential participants.
- Informing and communicating the good environmental practices carried out to the participants.

➤ Who can help you?

If you would like to incorporate sustainable practices in your event, you can contact the Environment Office of the UAB that will provide you the advice and the technical support needed.

Contact: medi.ambient@uab.cat

Webpage: www.uab.cat/agenda21

Telephone: 93 581 49 16