

Guidelines for Sustainable Events at the Annual Meeting 2025



DAVOS - KLOSTERS, SWITZERLAND
20 - 24 JANUARY

The World Economic Forum is committed to integrating sustainability best practices into the core of its event operations. As part of this it encourages other organizations to adopt and participate in these sustainability standards.

This checklist contains recommended sustainability standards for other organizations planning to host private and accredited events around Davos during the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2025. To be effective, the elements of this checklist must be integrated from the start of the process and shared with team members and suppliers working on the project.¹

Design of temporary structures and spaces

- Ensure temporary heating facilities comply with the local regulations; for example, including necessary insulation, air traps/curtains at entrances, temperature controls with night setback system and heat distribution fans.
- Maximize **natural light** in structure design and choose efficient lighting systems (LED lighting units).
- Favour lean designs, keeping waste in mind. **Rent** interior design and decoration to avoid single-use elements, particularly carpet tiles, furniture, etc.
- Create streaming options to share sessions with a wider audience who do not need to travel to Davos to be part of them.

- Participate in the “GreenShare” project to empower circularity. The Swiss non-profit GreenUp collects good items (furniture, plants, office materials, deco) and good materials (wood, sturdy textiles, electronics), for local re-use. Items will be given out to the Davos community, and projects in the region. They also run several pilots during the week and are happy to support you. How to participate exactly? Go to <https://green-up.ch/greenshare>.
- Try to **avoid single-use packaging and plastics**. Discuss it with suppliers, and when single-use packaging is necessary, ask suppliers to dispose of and recycle it themselves.
- Work with **local** providers where possible. Check the GreenShare webpage, or get guidance from GreenUp.

Accessibility

- Ensure access for people with disabilities: ramps for stairs and sufficiently large entrances, doors, toilets, seat spaces, etc.
- Design signage with the visually impaired in mind: simple, large designs with high contrast and a non-glare finish.

1. If you are working with the event service provider PublicisLive, note that it is ISO 20121 certified and endorses all points outlined in the checklist below.

Event materials

- If applicable, **use sustainable and re-usable** give aways, such as seedpaper cards.
- Use **sustainable** materials for banners, backdrops and signage (non-PVC, FSC-certified).
- Favour use of **QR codes** to direct participants to the information to reduce printing handouts.
- Consider the **carbon footprint of emails** and avoid mass mailing to participants.
- During events, organize the separate collection and disposal of all recyclable materials. The Swiss sustainability association GreenUp is happy to support you, through their [GreenShare](#) project and for general guidance.



There are many recycled materials or upcycled products that have a simple yet attractive effect; for example, cardboard furniture and panels. For outside features consider “new” materials, like bamboo which, unlike plastic, can be easily reused, or stainless steel that can be used over and over.

Catering

- Offer Davos fresh mountain tap water in carafs and choose local over imported beverages (mountain herbal infusions, local wines, etc).
- Encourage employees to carry reusable bottles. Avoid single-use beverages (PET, cans). Avoid the use of aluminium coffee capsules; instead use traditional coffee makers (such as a percolator).
- Choose local and seasonal food products and include at least 50% plant-based food. Source organic and fairtrade products and select fish with Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification.
- Plan quantities based on 70% participation (rather than 100%) to limit food waste.
- Support the local [pop-up restaurant 4Reasons](#) with any leftover food.
- Refer to the World Economic Forum [Sustainable Catering Guidelines](#) for more details.

Mobility

- Travel by train to Davos and avoid renting private cars to reduce traffic congestion.
- Walk around Davos to avoid traffic and parking issues. Look out for the dedicated signage indicating walking times and distances. Bring warm clothes and spikes for your shoes or anti-slip-boots.
- Use the free buses and trains to get around.

If you have any question or comments, please contact the World Economic Forum's Sustainability team at sustainability@weforum.org, and Nicole Keller from GreenUp for the local implementation of sustainability initiatives at nicole@green-up.ch.

Climate Hub Davos

An impact space for nature and climate run by GreenUp from 20-23 January at the city's Culture Centre. Climate Hub Davos Promenade 58C: <https://green-up.ch/climatehubdavos>