



Creating Sustainable Events

Sinéad Fox





Sustainable Events

- What is a Sustainable Event?
- Why should we create sustainable events?
- What impact do Events have on the Environment
- Green procurement – Sustainable products/ vendors/ suppliers



Key: Maximise Involvement & Messaging



So... what's involved?



Our Waste – Our Problem



Where does our
'Recycling' end up?





Ocean Waste



WASTE!!

- Waste **Prevention** – 2/3 bin option segregation
- **Elimination of single-use items from events**
- Clear ongoing **consistent messaging** – press releases, social media, adverts, interviews
- Eye-level signage, clear bags,
- Reinforcing the green message during the event: announcements
- Volunteers at the bin stations to assist
- Post Event – record waste figures from contractor and any comments/ suggestions during or post event

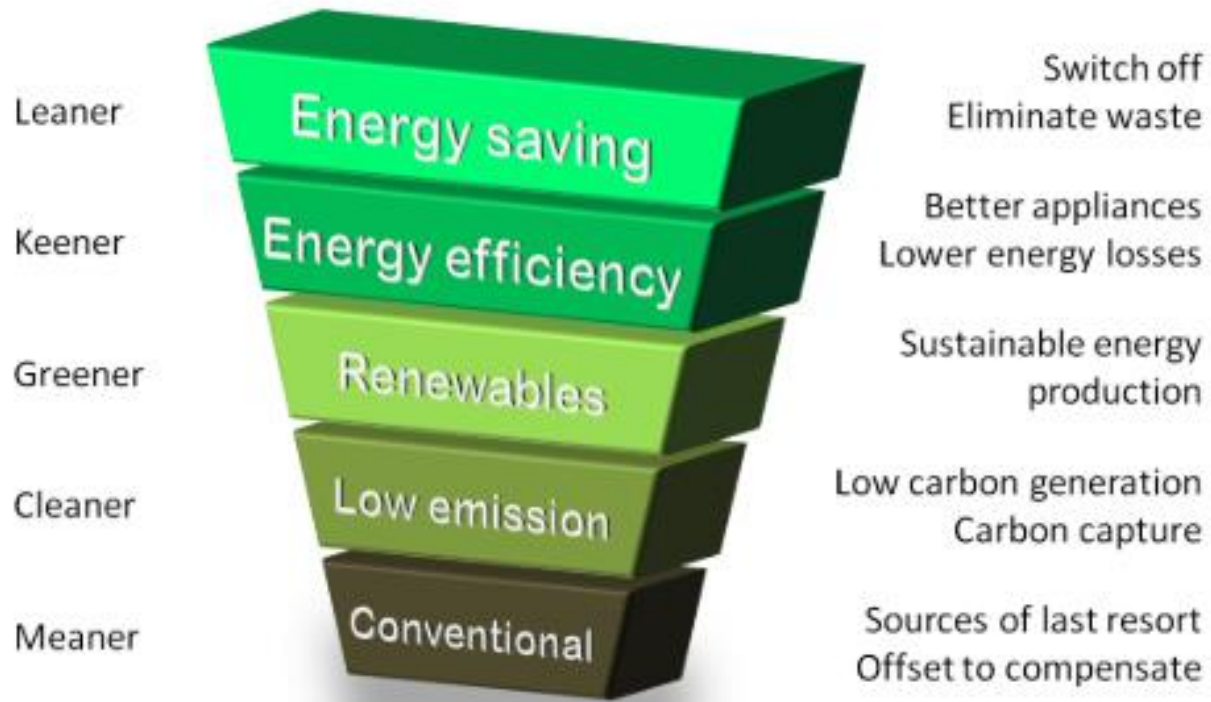


Water Use

- Water Pressure, leaks, cisterns, urinals – sensors/ timers
- Drinking water – Refill Points
- Messaging, Chemical Toilets
- Advice/ messaging on the savings that are being achieved



Energy



How can we reduce festival energy?



- Lighting – type of lighting and lighting needs
- Sound
- Energy Provider
- Renewable Energy
- Clean Fuel: Bio-diesel

- www.greenyourfestival.ie
- Carbon Footprint Calculator
- Tonnes of Carbon produced- off-setting



TRAVEL:

- If you can: car share, use public transport, cycle or walk. You will enjoy the fresh air and avoid traffic jams.
- If you must drive turn off your engine when stuck in a traffic jam.
- Avoid noise pollution by not honking your horn!



WATER:

- Drink tap water and refill empty bottles at taps.
- Don't leave taps running in toilets or kitchens.
- If you spot a leak, tell the owner of the facility.



Step 1 – Planning for participation

- Create a ‘Green Plan’
- Engage with a Committee/ events managers
- Gain a **written commitment**: a **Green Charter** for organisers/ stall holders/ members to sign/ participate/ display:

‘We, the _____ Festival committee are **committed to protecting the environment**. We will ensure that our event has a **minimum impact** on the environment by **preventing and segregating waste**, **consuming less water** and **energy** and **sourcing goods and materials sustainably**. We will **encourage visitors to also limit their impact** on the environment at this event.’

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Step 2 – Informing the Public

- Get the message out that the event is **going Green**
- Involve and inform staff, volunteers and visitors.
- Signage: Inform visitors to the greening of the event by placing clear, comprehensive signage at all entrances; Try not to date your signage so it can be used for other events or in future years. Use the same signage throughout the venue, particularly for waste segregation.



Step 3 –Green Checklist

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Waste & Litter

- Provide your Local Authority Environment Section with details of a Litter Control Plan for your festival/event.
- Organise litter teams to pick litter during & after the event – divide the teams in two – one to pick recyclables, one to pick waste – if necessary colour code the bags
- Use clear bags to line bins to ensure less contamination
- Make announcements throughout the day encouraging participation in the greening initiatives
- Ensure sufficient bins are located in the vicinity of catering outlets as the main accumulation of waste on the event site usually occurs around catering concessions
- Remember you are obliged by law to separate food from landfill waste



Green Checklist



Water

- Check all taps to ensure they are not leaking or left turned on
- Use nozzles on hoses to prevent water loss
- Use water conservation devices in cisterns where possible
- Avoid the use of power hoses for cleaning
- Assign a volunteer to check taps & cistern flow rates prior to the festival or event..

Energy

- Use daylight & avoid the use of floodlights as they are energy guzzlers & cost a fortune
- Switch off equipment in a timely fashion at the end of the event
- Do not leave vehicles idle, turn off the engine if not driving
- Avoid unnecessary heating.

Prevention Opportunities

- Avoid tickets & receipts by using a “back of the hand stamp” instead
- Supply visitors with a reusable bag – get a sponsor for this where possible, remember printed reusable bags can be used as a form of advertising for your festival/event.





Food Providers

Encourage Food Providers to

- Only use compostable consumables such as biodegradable cups and plates
- Replace burger boxes with a paper envelope and serve French fries in paper bags
- Reduce packaging by using reusable trays and boxes
- Avoid single portions of condiments such as ketchup by using refillable containers
- Avoid non edible garnishes
- Source local and seasonal produce
- Support Fair Trade or other similar schemes
- Clean up in accordance with Site Manager requirements

Encourage Non Food Stall Holders to:

- Use reusable trays and boxes for produce/goods
- Avoid using plastic bags at all times and where possible promote the use of reusable bags instead
- Try and reduce packaging as much as possible, avoid double bagging
- Flatten & tie up loose cardboard
- Carry out a site inspection - leave no trace.





For Participating Businesses

If your event incorporates permanent fixtures such as Cafe/Hotel/Shops, encourage them to:

- Segregate Waste into a three tier system – General Waste /Food waste /Recycling
- Use reusable bags
- Avoid single -use and single-portion iten (sauces, jams, sugars, salt & pepper etc)
- Present menus on recyclable paper
- Use non hazardous and eco-friendly cleaning products
- Where possible source compostable packaging for take away foods & drink
- Monitor taps and distribution systems for leaks and repairs on a regular basis
- Use water conservation devices in cisterns
- Supply free drinking water where possible
- Reduce energy by switching off equipment when not in use
- Choose local catering to reduce transportation miles
- Buy collectively wherever possible to reduce unnecessary trips.





Final Points

- Use the checklist
- Use Reusable products for food and beverages,
- Don't give out freebies, people already have far too much stuff...
- Eliminate single-use plastics and toys
- Provide a Water Refill Point – with signage

Target the areas of:

- Waste
- Water
- Energy – Look for opportunities that you can achieve this year and next year.
- **Visit and talk** to the businesses that are involved.
- Use Volunteers for assisting in waste segregation
- Record waste volumes to show a trend for future events

Sinead.fox@fingal.ie, 01 890 5453

