



AGF

AGREENERFUTURE

A Greener Festival Feedback Report

Paradise City Festival

2025

THE SUSTAINABLE EVENT SPECIALISTS

CERTIFICATION | CONSULTANCY | TRAINING | CO2 ANALYSIS | NET ZERO STRATEGY

AGF Feedback Report

1. Scope

Pre, on site and post event assessment of the Festival by A Greener Future assessors.

Analysis of 11 subjects across 5 key areas:

GOVERNANCE & SYSTEMS

Governance & Systems

LOCAL: DIRECT IMPACTS

Local Environments | Local Community

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

Travel & Transport | Energy & Power | Procurement | Food & Beverage | Waste & Recycling | Water & Sanitation

PEOPLE AND CULTURE

External Reach & Behaviour Change

CARBON ANALYSIS

Carbon Footprint

2. Aims & Objectives

To assess the event's achievements using the Greener Future Certification criteria within the 5 key areas of analysis.

To identify potential for improvement in the events' sustainability management and actions.

Disclaimer: This Report is produced based upon information and data provided by the Festival or Event to A Greener Future ("AGF") and the independent assessor(s). Whilst every effort is made to present a current and accurate report based upon that information, AGF makes no guarantees of any kind as to the nature or accuracy of the Report or the data. The Report provided by AGF to the Festival or Event may offer general recommendations based on the data provided, AGF's analysis of that data, and current good practice. However, specific professional advice tailored to the Event or Festival should always be taken on matters referred to in the report. AGF makes no representations or warranties, express or implied. A Greener Festival Ltd accepts no liability whatsoever for any loss caused or alleged to be caused by the use of the data herein and/or the Report.

AGF Feedback Report

FESTIVAL DETAILS

Organisation	Paradise City bv
Name	Paradise City Festival
Location	Perk - Steenokkerzeel
Dates	June 27-28-29, 2025
Country	Perk - Belgium

Rural or Urban	Rural
Indoor / Outdoor / Mixed	Outdoor
First Year?	No
Camping	Yes

Event Days	3
Capacity	17000
Capacity	16000
Av. Audience per Day	15500

Description ▼

Paradise City is a beautiful haven of positivity where the vibrant colours of a lush green castle garden blend seamlessly with the soothing presence of the surrounding waterways. This hidden oasis at a stone's throw from Brussels promises unforgettable experiences and welcomes all who seek joy and connection.

Since its inception in 2015, Paradise City has followed a straightforward recipe for success. Combining the finest electronic music from around the world on more than six unique dancefloors with a community of open-minded individuals has created a unique atmosphere that transcends traditional boundaries. But its vision doesn't stop there; Paradise City is incredibly committed to minimizing its environmental impact, ensuring that the beauty of the natural environment remains undisturbed.

This is why the festival operates with a strict green policy, including an upgraded power plan to minimize the dependency on non-renewable electricity, a green mobility plan incentivizing public transport options and a broad set of extra measures.

Paradise City is an invitation to revel in the sweet harmony of music, nature, and human connection. It is a place where good times are not only anticipated but guaranteed - and where all are invited to immerse themselves in an experience that will linger for years.

AGF Assessment Summary Scores

Area ▾	Grading	PerCent
01 GOVERNANCE & SYSTEMS	HIGHLY COMMENDED	69%
02 LOCAL ENVIRONMENTS	OUTSTANDING	76%
03 LOCAL COMMUNITY	OUTSTANDING	93%
04 TRAVEL & TRANSPORT	HIGHLY COMMENDED	70%
05 ENERGY & POWER	OUTSTANDING	78%
06 PROCUREMENT	COMMENDED	63%
07 FOOD & BEVERAGE	OUTSTANDING	80%
08 WASTE & RECYCLING	OUTSTANDING	80%
09 WATER & SANITATION	OUTSTANDING	76%
10 EXTERNAL REACH & BEHAVIOUR CHANGE	HIGHLY COMMENDED	66%
11 CARBON FOOTPRINT	HIGHLY COMMENDED	74%

Overall Certification Grade

OUTSTANDING

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS & ORGANISATIONAL PROCEDURES



GOVERNANCE & SYSTEMS

Increasingly legislation is in place to protect the environment from pollution and climate change. It is important for organisers to be aware of the legislation and regulations that are relevant to their operations, much in the same way that event adhere to Health & Safety legislation and expect the same of their contractors.

In order for environmental management of events to be as successful as possible, it is necessary to have a clear management structure with appropriate resources, responsibility, communication, monitoring and reporting.

Governance & Systems: **Actions and Observations** from the event;

PARTNER & SPONSOR DUE DILIGENCE

The festival requires all sponsors and commercial partners to sign its extended Green Charter, which functions as a code of conduct aligned with the event's values. However, there is currently no formal due-diligence framework in place to assess partners beyond this commitment. During interviews on site, commercial partners (including food vendors) confirmed that they had received and were following the code of conduct. The festival also stated that it does not collaborate with partners involved in unethical or non-sustainable practices, including activities related to arms, unsustainable resource exploitation, or human rights violations. Overall, the festival demonstrates clear intentions through its Green Charter and partner selection approach.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

The festival demonstrates a strong commitment to sustainability and communicates this widely across all stakeholder groups. A comprehensive Green Charter is issued to all partners, suppliers, artists, food vendors, sponsors, and contractors, and must be signed before engagement. Crew receive sustainability information through the Eventication platform and dedicated briefings, while visitors are informed through online channels, on-site signage, and, since 2024, a campsite Green Charter displayed at entry. The assessors confirmed extensive sustainability communication both online and on-site. To date, the festival has relied on AGF assessments, AGF carbon footprint results, and the Green Deal Circular Festivals targets to guide progress. Annual reporting through these frameworks enables year-on-year tracking, although a fully developed internal strategy with explicit KPIs is not yet in place. The assessors noted that the festival has recently begun working with Science Based Targets. Paradise City Group aims to establish a climate strategy aligned with the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). This will include setting emissions-reduction targets consistent with a 1.5°C pathway, with validation by the SBTi.

CHAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY - ENVIRONMENT

The festival has a dedicated Sustainability Manager, Laure Bouillon (appointed January 2025), who oversees all sustainability topics, reporting, and cross-departmental follow-up. She is supported by Lucas Trouessin, who contributes to data collection and analysis and is increasingly involved in sustainability work. The Sustainability Manager has clear authority to ensure implementation of the Sustainability Policy, with strong backing from top management. Key decisions, particularly around partnerships, are checked with the Sustainability Manager before approval. The assessor confirmed that sustainability responsibilities are well understood across the team. Staff members on site were knowledgeable about the festival's strategy, and the dual role of the Sustainability Manager as Financial Manager enables direct influence on budget allocation towards sustainability initiatives.

An organisational chart details responsibilities and communication lines, including sustainability roles. Departments retain responsibility for their operational decisions but are expected to align them with sustainability objectives, with trade-offs discussed jointly with sustainability and top management.

The Sustainability Manager holds a MSc in Sustainability Science and Policy and has four years of consulting experience. The festival is open to external expertise and already uses AGF recommendations as part of its improvement process. For 2025, Paradise City will work with an external consulting firm to develop climate targets aligned with the SBTi and the Paris Agreement. The festival demonstrates strong internal capacity and commitment to sustainability, supported by knowledgeable staff and significant investment. The team is receptive to assessor feedback and actively working to strengthen its approach further.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS & ORGANISATIONAL PROCEDURES



GOVERNANCE & SYSTEMS

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Governance & Systems: **Actions and Observations** from the event;

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION (EDI) POLICY

The festival has an EDI Policy released in April 2025, applicable to all employees, freelancers, partners, and stakeholders across the entire Paradise City Group. This establishes a group-wide commitment to inclusive and equitable practices. A formal EDI strategy with defined targets and KPIs is currently under development, led by the HR Manager, Layla. As this work is ongoing, monitoring frameworks and concrete indicators are not yet fully in place. Responsibility and Implementation Responsibility for EDI sits primarily with Layla and Zoé, who holds authority at festival level. The assessor confirmed that both were familiar with the policy and able to explain its implementation. Additional initiatives were discussed on site, including the Angels of Paradise.

CHAIN OF RESPONSIBILITY - EDI

The festival has clear roles in place to oversee EDI. At company level, the HR Manager, Layla, is responsible for EDI across Paradise City Group. At the event level, Zoé leads the “citizenship” work, which includes managing the Angels of Paradise, safe zone provisions, and EDI-related community initiatives. Zoé has operational authority on site and is supported by Flow, an external organisation specialising in event safety and nightlife hospitality. The assessors confirmed that both Layla and Zoé were well informed, accessible, and clearly recognised by the team as responsible for EDI implementation. The festival provided an organisational chart showing EDI responsibilities and reporting lines within the broader Paradise City Group, including the roles of Layla (company-level EDI lead) and Zoé (event-level lead). Zoé also runs Rebel, a feminist platform in Brussels focused on safety and visibility of women and minorities in the electronic music scene, adding relevant expertise. Paradise City has an established collaboration with Flow since 2022, strengthening on-site EDI and safer-space practices. Additionally, Plan Sacha delivered workshops in 2022 and 2023 on inclusiveness and responding to inappropriate behaviour, which were attended by the core team.

REGISTER OF LEGISLATION

No register of legislation available.

FINANCIAL RESOURCING

The festival allocates a dedicated annual budget for sustainability, covering costs such as the AGF assessment, carbon footprinting, GEI/AGF participation, Klimato (food carbon tracking), Slinger (carpooling), and You Smart Thing (mobility planning). This budget is reviewed each year with the CEO. Additional sustainability-related expenditures—such as solar panels or the waste management team—are funded through departmental budgets, reflecting the integration of sustainability across all operations. The Sustainability Manager also serves as the Financial Manager, which, according to her, facilitates decision-making and enables efficient allocation of funds toward sustainability initiatives. A specific budget is also in place for EDI work (for the citizenship programme). This budget covers workshops, trainings, and coordination of the Angels of Paradise. The assessor confirmed that EDI activities have allocated financial resources.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS & ORGANISATIONAL PROCEDURES



GOVERNANCE & SYSTEMS

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Governance & Systems: **Actions and Observations** from the event;

ACCESSIBILITY

The festival provides dedicated access points to several stages for visitors using wheelchairs, with plans to expand these provisions further. All food on site is 100% plant-based, offering a wide range of options that accommodate diverse dietary needs. Assessor Observations While some accessibility measures are in place, there is still room for improvement. The assessor noted missing signage and inadequate fall protection on certain platforms. It is recommended that the festival work with a specialist accessibility consultant to strengthen inclusive design and ensure safe, fully accessible infrastructure across the site.

TRAINING & COMPETENCY

The Sustainability Manager, Laure, holds a MSc in Sustainability Science and Policy and has four years of prior experience in sustainability consulting. Although new to the festival sector, she is actively expanding her knowledge through webinars, the Green Deal Circular Festivals network, and conferences such as GEI. She also draws on internal expertise from colleagues and management but has not yet completed additional industry-specific courses. For EDI, Zoé brings relevant experience through her professional and community work and continues to undertake training, including sessions on racism and other inclusion-focused topics.

GOVERNANCE & SYSTEMS CHECK

While no formal review has yet been carried out for the Environmental Sustainability Policy targets and KPIs, as these are still in development, the festival does monitor several operational sustainability indicators, including live energy consumption, noise disturbance, and water pollution. Similarly, no evidence was found of a structured review process for EDI-related KPIs.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

 GOVERNANCE & SYSTEMS - RECOMMENDATIONS	
A. Environmental History	Not Applicable
D. Chain of Responsibility - Environment	No Recommendations The festival could consider collaborating with experts from various fields, such as accessibility consultants. To further enhance the overall experience and ensure best practices are applied across all aspects of the event.
F. Chain of Responsibility - EDI	The festival could consider collaborating with experts from various fields, such as accessibility consultants. To further enhance the overall experience and ensure best practices are applied across all aspects of the event.
G. Register of Legislation	Look at developing and maintaining a register of all Environmental and EDI legislation and regulations that are applicable to the event, with procedures and personnel to keep this up to date
I. Accessibility	Some actions are in place to make the event accessible for all however, look to revise to ensure people with both visible and invisible disabilities are considered.
J. Training & Competency	It could be beneficial to document any relevant qualifications or training carried out in both environmental sustainability and EDI by relevant people within the event organisation, including attendance records for any training undertaken.
K. Governance & Systems Check	It is recommended to carry out a review of targets and KPI's related to the Environmental Sustainability Policy, or if the first year of monitoring developing tools or records to monitor targets and KPI's. As the first year of EDI monitoring consider developing tools or records to monitor targets and KPI's.
Governance & Systems: Grade & Score HIGHLY COMMENDED69%	

LOCAL: DIRECT IMPACTS



LOCAL ENVIRONMENTS

Particularly on 'green field' sites, but also on some urban sites, ecologically sensitive areas could be damaged by the venue operations. Staff, contractors and eventgoers need to be made aware of this and access controlled to sensitive areas. Local watercourses can be affected by the actions of eventgoers and event operations. There could be a risk of pollution to watercourses or groundwater, directly or via drainage, which is not immediately visible or apparent from the surface.

Local Environments **Actions and Observations** from the event;

BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT

The festival has conducted comprehensive biodiversity assessments, most recently for Paradise City 2024, carried out by the independent consultancy Intoe. The reports concluded that the event does not cause significant or irreversible damage to valuable vegetation, habitats within protected areas, or tree groups on site. Additional targeted studies were undertaken on breeding birds (Mieco Effect) and bats (Greenspot), both confirming no significant impacts when appropriate precautions are in place. A tree health assessment by Greenlight in 2024 identified one dead tree for removal and recommended an action plan to support long-term tree vitality.

Noise monitoring was also performed by a third party, confirming that noise levels in surrounding areas remained within expected ranges, with impacts varying by proximity to individual stages. The festival engaged multiple specialist organisations—including Intoe, Mieco Effect, Greenspot, and Greenlight—covering ecological impact assessment, biodiversity, fauna studies, and tree management.

On-site, protective measures for trees and vegetation were visible, biodiversity information was displayed, and noise monitoring equipment was in use. Overall, the festival shows a strong commitment to identifying and managing sensitive habitats through expert consultation and evidence-based assessments.

BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION & ENHANCEMENT

The festival has implemented multiple measures to protect local wildlife. Stages are intentionally oriented away from the forest to avoid disturbing bat habitats. Sensitive areas—including trees, riverbanks, and ecological zones—are fenced off to prevent visitor intrusion and reduce impacts such as urination near waterways. Areas of fallow ground are retained to support biodiversity.

Water quality in the on-site pond is monitored before and after the event, with slight post-event changes remaining within acceptable limits. Liquids and containers are stored well away from waterways. Since 2023, the festival has collaborated with local schools and partners to restore waterways using EM mud balls, resulting in measurable reductions in silt levels. A third-party noise assessment and on-site monitoring also contribute to reducing disturbance to nearby habitats.

The festival invests in long-term ecological care of the site. A gardener is contracted year-round to repair and preserve the grounds, with no strict budget limitations for necessary work. Past restoration projects include the 2020 reinforcement of lake bays and reuse of extracted pond mud as natural fertiliser. These actions demonstrate an ongoing commitment to enhancing the local ecosystem.

Stage design prioritises circularity, with widespread reuse of structures across editions and sister festivals. Materials are reused or reworked, and PFEC-certified wood is employed where new material is needed. The assessors confirmed that the design team actively seeks to reduce material use and waste.

The festival shows strong, practical actions to protect wildlife, regenerate habitats, and reduce environmental impacts. Water filtration initiatives, habitat protections, and circular construction methods are well established, and collaboration with ecological experts and the site owner further strengthens environmental stewardship.

LOCAL: DIRECT IMPACTS



LOCAL ENVIRONMENTS

Particularly on 'green field' sites, but also on some urban sites, ecologically sensitive areas could be damaged by the venue operations. Staff, contractors and eventgoers need to be made aware of this and access controlled to sensitive areas. Local watercourses can be affected by the actions of eventgoers and event operations. There could be a risk of pollution to watercourses or groundwater, directly or via drainage, which is not immediately visible or apparent from the surface.

Local Environments **Actions and Observations** from the event;

DRAINAGE & RUNOFF PLANNING

The festival uses DSSV tanks for wastewater storage, with grey and black water kept in separate systems and transported by DSSV to the nearest Aquafin facility. Some wastewater is directed through existing grey pipe infrastructure to either sewerage or DSSV tanks. All wastewater handling is managed by specialist providers, and there are no mixed flows that would require additional filtration. However, no Site Drainage Plan or equivalent documentation was provided in the assessment materials. The assessors observed a filtration system for shower water, which ensures the water is clean enough to discharge into the local drainage canal. However, beyond this system, no additional measures—such as drainage modifications, filters for runoff, or actions to reduce surface water pollution—were identified.

POLLUTION PREVENTION & INCIDENT PLANNING

The festival primarily uses HVO fuel on site and only small quantities of other chemicals (e.g., cleaning agents for remote toilets). Technical crews from MANA Event Team, Dixi, and Pon Energy are present on site and equipped to handle incidents. Absorption kits are available to contain leaks of hazardous liquids, and contaminated soil is removed and replaced, with disposal handled by a specialised provider. Liquid containers are stored away from waterways to minimise pollution risk.

The festival states that a written procedure is communicated to crew and that an updated, clearer process is being introduced to ensure all staff can respond effectively to spills or contamination incidents. However, no formal Pollution Prevention or Incident Response Plan was found in the documentation, and instances of unprotected paint left on grass were observed.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

The festival has a comprehensive external risk analysis prepared by To Be Seen, which forms part of its overall Event Safety Management framework. This assessment includes planning for emergency scenarios and extreme weather events and outlines the environmental risks and mitigation measures required to ensure safe operations. The risk analysis covers a wide range of potential risks—including high winds, flooding, heat, fire, and health-related scenarios—and incorporates preventative and mitigating actions. Environmental risks are explicitly addressed within the document, demonstrating a structured and legally aligned approach.

LOCAL ENVIRONMENTS CHECK

The festival conducts post-event environmental evaluations primarily through a professional gardener, who is responsible for assessing impacts on flora and restoring the site to its natural state. The gardener is given full autonomy and no strict budget limitations, ensuring that all necessary restorative actions can be carried out. The assessors confirmed that this work functions as a post-event environmental assessment, including specialised techniques such as ploffen to repair impacts on trees. Extensive restoration work is performed after each edition, including repairing vegetation, treating trees, and restoring damaged ground. Beyond flora, the festival also carries out post-event bird and bat counts, complementing the pre- and mid-event ecological studies described earlier. These measures help track any potential impacts on local fauna.

LOCAL: DIRECT IMPACTS



LOCAL ENVIRONMENTS - RECOMMENDATIONS

C. Drainage & Runoff Planing	Consider creating a site drainage plan that could be used for this event and any other activities at the site. Consider creating a document as part of the SDP that details the positioning of onsite storage facilities, any potential contaminants in relation to these, and/or final wastewater destinations Consider measures that can increase surface water permeability of the site grounds and/or reduce runoff, such as; ground surface solutions (for example; gravel pathways or mulched or vegetated areas, if suitable to the event site)
D. Pollution Prevention & Incident Planning	Consider creating a comprehensive pollution prevention / incident response plan with focus on prevention. Include details of any potential contaminants and response actions. This could include the location and type of spill kits to be used in the event of an incident or accidental contamination.
Local Environments: Grade & Score OUTSTANDING76%	

LOCAL: DIRECT IMPACTS

LOCAL COMMUNITY



It is important to minimise any negative effects of the event on the local community and to work with them wherever possible to enhance maximise any potential positive impacts. Noise pollution should be a consideration for build , break and during the event for impact on community and also wildlife that could be impacted (e.g. nesting birds).

Local Community **Actions and Observations** from the event;

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The festival maintains an ongoing, positive relationship with the local community throughout the year. Residents receive a dedicated letter with practical information (event schedule, road closures, parking restrictions), an invitation to a “Neighbours Day” event, and details of a ticket discount. An email address is provided for raising concerns before, during, or after the event. The Head of Operations is identified as the responsible contact. The assessors confirmed that these community events—such as the pre-festival gathering and a winter gathering—effectively engage residents and strengthen local ties, contributing to high levels of local participation, including employment at the festival. The festival works closely with the City Council year-round. Discussions cover event dates, sound levels, operating hours, and other potential impacts. After the event, a debrief and safety meeting are held to review outcomes and community feedback. Residents can also provide input through the City Council, whose representatives take local opinions seriously.

NOISE MANAGEMENT

The festival has a professional noise management plan implemented by DB Control, an external specialist. A competent noise manager (Marcel Kok) monitors sound levels across the site in real time using distributed dB meters. When complaints arise or levels exceed permitted limits, he adjusts sound, bass, or frequency output at specific stages. The event operates within noise limits authorised by the City Council (95–96.5 dBA). The assessors confirmed the presence of monitoring equipment throughout the site and effective real-time management. Hearing protection is provided free of charge to both crew and visitors. Foam earplugs are available at the information booth, supplied by partner Blox, who also offers reusable high-quality earplugs for purchase. Used foam plugs are collected for recycling into urban furniture components. Sound levels are continuously monitored and adjusted immediately when thresholds are approached. The festival also takes steps to reduce operational noise, including optimising truck movements. Noise mitigation is coordinated closely with the City Council, with regular communication throughout planning and delivery. The assessors noted strong evidence of active noise control and community consideration.

ACTIONS TO MINIMISE NEGATIVE IMPACTS

The festival implements a broad set of measures to limit disruption for residents and local businesses. A mobility plan helps manage traffic flow during build, event days, and break, and suppliers are instructed to use major roads and avoid passing through nearby villages wherever possible. Assessors observed that traffic control measures and supplier route planning were well established on site. To reduce off-site litter, the festival provides local cafés and restaurants with waste bags (residual and PMD) and encourages them to use reusable cups; in recent years, many have adopted their own systems. On site, assessors noted that litter management measures help visitors keep their areas clean, supporting wider off-site cleanliness. Noise disturbance is limited through real-time monitoring by DB Control, which can adjust sound outputs immediately, as confirmed by the assessors on-site. Safety in surrounding areas is reinforced by TeamWauw stewards patrolling the perimeter, offering improved service and visibility compared to previous providers. This contributes to safer movement around the festival site and surrounding roads. Finally, neighbours are informed in advance through letter distribution, which includes details of possible disturbances and a dedicated contact channel for raising concerns. Assessors confirmed that communication with the community is proactive and supports effective issue resolution.

LOCAL: DIRECT IMPACTS

LOCAL COMMUNITY



It is important to minimise any negative effects of the event on the local community and to work with them wherever possible to enhance maximise any potential positive impacts. Noise pollution should be a consideration for build , break and during the event for impact on community and also wildlife that could be impacted (e.g. nesting birds).

Local Community **Actions and Observations** from the event;

ACTIONS TO MAXIMISE POSITIVE IMPACTS

The festival delivers strong, tangible benefits for the local community. Through FONDS 1820, a contribution per visitor finances local sustainability projects, including the EM mud ball water-restoration programme with the local school and solar panels for the youth movement. Both assessors confirmed these initiatives as effective and well received. The festival maintains close cooperation with the City Council and contributes to the #182030 municipal call for local sustainability ideas, with the Sustainability Manager involved in project selection. A neighbourhood event is held on the Wednesday before the festival, offering residents site access, hospitality, and discounted tickets. Assessors noted this strengthens local relationships, and many residents work at the event as part of more than 20 local volunteer groups whose earnings directly support their organisations. Creative opportunities include high representation of national artists and a performance slot for a local artist from Perk. Social collaboration with the City Council includes a joint anti-drug communication initiative for local youth.

RECOGNITION & PROTECTION

The festival takes place on the historic Ribaucourt Castle estate. The castle itself is kept strictly off-limits to visitors to ensure its protection, with only limited areas used by crew and artists. The surrounding park is part of the Natura 2000 network, and the festival operates with care to avoid impacts on this protected landscape. Heritage protection measures are clearly in place, and collaboration with the site owner supports the preservation of both the castle and its natural surroundings.

LOCAL COMMUNITY CHECK

The festival maintains regular communication with the community council and the mayor to identify areas for improvement each year. However, no clear evidence was provided to show the specific actions. Assessors noted that the intention to engage is strong, but structured review processes were not demonstrated. Similarly, while the festival actively collaborates with local authorities and runs multiple positive-impact initiatives, there is no documented process showing how these actions are evaluated for effectiveness or improved over time. While regular dialogue with local authorities takes place, more formalised evaluation of community-impact measures—both positive and negative—would strengthen performance against this criterion.

LOCAL: DIRECT IMPACTS



LOCAL COMMUNITY - RECOMMENDATIONS

F. Local Community Check

If any actions have been implemented, or are planned to be,, consider suitable ways of reviewing these for effectiveness and to identify potential improvements for future editions.

If the event has worked to ensure inclusion and involvement in the event from the local community, consider suitable ways of reviewing any actions taken for effectiveness and to identify potential for further improvements at future editions

Local Community: Grade & Score

OUTSTANDING

93%

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT



There is a direct impact on the environment from emissions to air from attendees and staff transport. This can be quantified as CO₂ equivalent emissions (CO₂e) in Tonnes. Higher vehicle occupancy through car sharing or use of public transport can reduce this impact. Artist travel and production transport can be a significant factor in travel emissions e.g. flying in international talents / haulage etc. However, if an talent is touring or contractors visiting multiple events it may be difficult to apportion the attributable emissions to the event. As well as attendees and off site travel, on site crew vehicles and movement should also be considered.

Travel & Transport **Actions and Observations** from the event;

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL & TRANSPORT PLANNING

The festival has a Sustainable Travel & Transport Plan in place, which is updated annually. Mobility information is clearly communicated to visitors through the festival website. The plan includes provisions such as additional trains from Brussels, shuttle buses from the nearest station, and the use of electric cars for artist transport, confirmed by the assessors during the on-site assessment. While the festival uses carbon-footprint assessment outputs to inform its ambitions, no clear reduction targets or KPIs for travel-related emissions are currently included in the plan. The assessors also noted that targets were not evident in the documentation provided. The festival acknowledges the challenge of setting formal targets in a context of event growth, but there is no documented methodology for monitoring transport measures or tracking improvements over time.

LOCATION

Although the festival is set in a rural and scenic location, it remains reasonably accessible by low-carbon transport. Regular public buses run close to the site, extensive cycling infrastructure in Flanders supports travel by bike (including from Brussels), and the nearest train station (Vilvoorde, 6 km away) is served by shuttle buses. However, not all were electric, as announced. Night trains also operate to facilitate late returns. The site is within moderate distance of Brussels South international station and the airport, supporting travel by rail and other lower-carbon modes. Because the event takes place in a park where all infrastructure must be built from scratch, trucking is unavoidable for transporting tents, scaffolding, driving plates, bars, and other materials. The festival mitigates impacts by consolidating loads, using full trucks, and favouring local partners when possible. The assessors noted that while these efficiency measures are helpful, the choice of location inherently requires significant freight movement.

AUDIENCE TRAVEL ACTIONS

The festival is well served by public transport, with regular buses and nearby rail connections. Sustainable mobility options are widely communicated via email, the website, and social media. Visitors receive a 50% discount on train tickets. Assessors confirmed that public transport options were available and well promoted. The festival provides shuttle buses between Vilvoorde station and the event site (intended to be mostly electric, although the supplier failed to deliver sufficient electric vehicles last minute. However, last year there was also a similar issue). Additional low-carbon provisions include special night trains and a party train from Antwerp. The festival has not introduced specific long-distance transport packages to discourage flying, as 95% of the audience is local. Secure on-site bicycle parking is provided, supporting travel by bike, a popular option due to extensive regional cycle paths. The festival uses the trip-planning tool You.Smart.Thing to highlight sustainable routes first, and the Slinger app to promote carpooling among visitors. Both tools are prominently integrated into the website.

AUDIENCE CAR PARKING

The festival applies parking charges, with lower prices for advance online purchase. A broad set of alternatives is provided and promoted, including trains, shuttle buses, cycling routes, and the Slinger carpooling app, which is integrated into the mobility page of the festival website. However, the size of the car parking area

has increased over recent editions, in spite of the festival's efforts to promote alternative transport and carpooling.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT



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Travel & Transport **Actions and Observations** from the event;

ARTIST TRAVEL ACTIONS

The festival actively works to lower artist travel emissions through its Artist Green Charter, which includes a “Green Rider” encouraging artists to travel by train. This is supported by tailored “green push” communications showing carbon comparisons and proposing alternatives. The festival leverages its proximity to Brussels South International Station (22 km away), which offers high-speed rail connections to major European cities. Electric vehicles are used for artist transfers between hotels and the festival site, and the team groups artists into shared cars whenever possible. Selection practices also contribute: in 2025, 45% of the line-up is local (Belgian), and the festival continues to increase this proportion. For international acts, the team prioritises booking those already touring in Europe, thereby minimising long-haul travel. The festival sends the Green Charter to all artists and management teams, but does not implement specific initiatives for large touring productions to use public or grouped transport. The assessors did not identify additional measures in this category.

CREW & VOLUNTEER ACTIONS

Crew and volunteers have access to the same low-carbon transport options as festival attendees, including public buses, trains, shuttle services, cycling routes, and carpooling initiatives. To further reduce transport needs during the event, the festival provides an on-site camping area for crew and volunteers.

ARTIST & CREW ACCOMMODATION & TRANSPORT

Artists can stay on the visitor campsite or the dedicated crew campsite upon request—an option often used by local performers wishing to remain on site. The festival provides a separate crew and volunteer campsite and is introducing a small, quieter camping area for the core team to support adequate rest. For artists, the festival works with nearby hotels including the Pullman (17.5 km from site, Green Key certified) and the Sheraton Brussels Airport (11 km). Crew accommodations are primarily on-site, though a portion of the core team stays off-site in hotels located close to the festival (Campanile at 6.5 km and The Lodge Vilvoorde at 8.5 km). Artist transfers between hotels and the festival site are undertaken by drivers using primarily electric vehicles. In 2025, the fleet included four electric Cupra cars, two electric vans, and two fuel vehicles. The team also consolidates transfers where possible by grouping artists in shared vehicles.

ON-SITE VEHICLES

The festival uses a mix of sustainable transport options for on-site operations. Production crew primarily move around the site by bike or gators, with 50% of gators being electric and the remaining powered by HVO diesel. All hired plant machinery also runs on HVO. Artist backline is delivered in advance, stored centrally, and collected after the event, eliminating additional on-site logistics during show days. When live acts require transport for instruments, the festival uses 100% electric cars. On-site power for buggies and other equipment is supported by a smart system prioritising solar energy, then renewable grid energy, and using HVO generators only when necessary. On-site vehicle use is intentionally minimised. Crew frequently walk or cycle, aided by the festival's compact layout, which assessors confirmed makes most areas easily accessible without motorised transport. Truck movements are optimised by allowing delivery vehicles to get as close as possible to their destination and by providing three designated loading zones to reduce unnecessary internal transport. Clear supplier guidelines further support efficient movement of vehicles and machinery.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT



There is a direct impact on the environment from emissions to air from attendees and staff transport. This can be quantified as CO₂ equivalent emissions (CO₂e) in Tonnes. Higher vehicle occupancy through car sharing or use of public transport can reduce this impact. Artist travel and production transport can be a significant factor in travel emissions e.g. flying in international talents / haulage etc. However, if an talent is touring or contractors visiting multiple events it may be difficult to apportion the attributable emissions to the event. As well as attendees and off site travel, on site crew vehicles and movement should also be considered.

Travel & Transport **Actions and Observations** from the event;

PRODUCTION TRANSPORT ACTIONS

The festival takes several actions to reduce emissions and impacts from contractor, supplier, and trader transport. A significant proportion of suppliers—estimated at 75–80%—are based in Belgium, with many located very close to the festival. Assessors confirmed strong use of local suppliers, including food vendors. To further reduce transport distances and inefficiencies, goods from suppliers located near the festival warehouse (75 km from the site) are consolidated there. The production team ensures trucks leave fully loaded, reducing unnecessary trips. The festival also provides suppliers with detailed route maps and requests that they use highways rather than passing through small villages. Strict delivery and collection time slots during build and break minimise waiting times, engine idling, and congestion. These procedures also apply to food trucks and caterers.

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

The festival actively communicates sustainable mobility options to audiences and crew through email, social media, and its website. Tools such as You Smart Thing help visitors plan low-carbon routes by prioritising walking, cycling, and public transport. Carpooling is encouraged through the Slinger app, which is integrated into the festival's mobility page. Although Slinger is still relatively new in Belgium and adoption is developing, the assessors recognised the festival's efforts to invest in awareness and make lift-sharing more accessible.

The festival includes a “Green Rider” within its Artist Green Charter, encouraging travel by train and providing facts to support lower-carbon decision-making. Tailored “green push” communications are also sent to artists and management, and the festival supports artists or tours that implement their own greener travel policies.

AUDIENCE TRAVEL DATA

The festival collects audience travel data through multiple sources: parking ticket sales, train ticket sales, campervan tickets, postcode analysis to determine local attendance (<5 km), and post-event audience surveys. Additional insights are gathered through You.Smart.Thing trip-planning data, although this is used only for behavioural understanding, not for carbon reporting. The dataset provided to assessors was complete and clearly structured, enabling accurate calculation of travel-related emissions. Continued tracking will support progress assessment within the festival's broader sustainable mobility strategy.

ARTIST TRAVEL DATA

The festival collects artist travel data per individual artist/crew member. The team monitors artist travel closely and actively encourages greener options through communication (e.g., Green Rider). The festival's internal monitoring and encouragement of greener artist travel appear to have led to real reductions, especially: large decrease in flights, higher use of public transport, much shorter travel distances overall. Car travel rose slightly compared to 2024 but remains lower than in 2023. The stable share of domestic artists continues to support lower emissions. Overall, the 2025 data indicates a meaningful improvement in the environmental impact of artist transport compared with previous years.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT



There is a direct impact on the environment from emissions to air from attendees and staff transport. This can be quantified as CO2 equivalent emissions (CO2e) in Tonnes. Higher vehicle occupancy through car sharing or use of public transport can reduce this impact. Artist travel and production transport can be a significant factor in travel emissions e.g. flying in international talents / haulage etc. However, if an talent is touring or contractors visiting multiple events it may be difficult to apportion the attributable emissions to the event. As well as attendees and off site travel, on site crew vehicles and movement should also be considered.

Travel & Transport **Actions and Observations** from the event;

CREW & VOLUNTEER TRAVEL DATA

The festival reports that collecting accurate travel data for crew and volunteers is challenging due to the large number of individuals coming from many different suppliers and organisations. Data collection relies on surveys sent to suppliers, and therefore remains an estimation rather than a complete dataset. For 2025, the travel data for crew and volunteers was carried over from 2024, meaning it does not accurately represent the current edition. A more structured process will be needed in future years to assess for crew and volunteer travel.

PRODUCTION MEASUREMENTS & DATA

The festival records production-related transport impacts through two main approaches: Fuel monitoring: The team tracks fuel use for on-site production machinery, supported by supplier invoices that detail total fuel consumption. Supplier surveys: All suppliers and contractors are surveyed to provide transport information such as vehicle types, trips, and distances. The festival has consistently operated its production machinery using biofuels only, avoiding fossil fuels entirely. The increase in HVO use in 2025 however, represents a return to near-2023 operational levels.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



TRAVEL & TRANSPORT - RECOMMENDATIONS

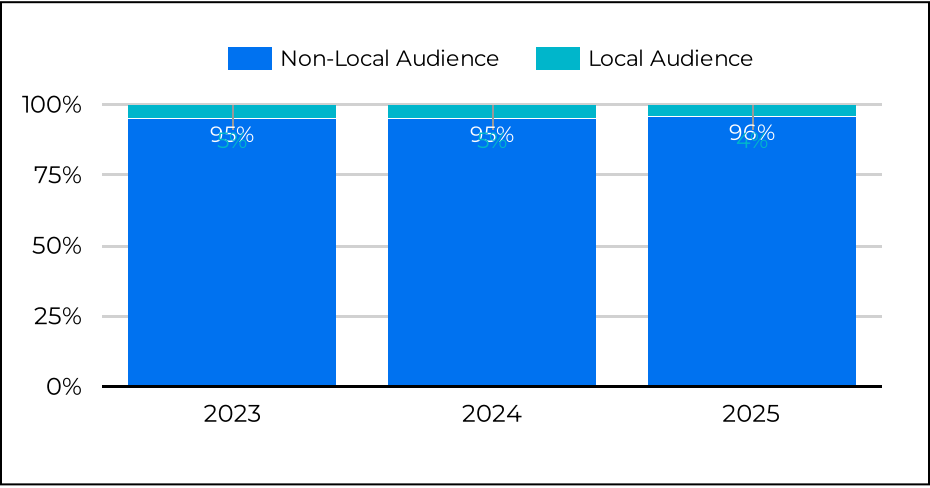
A. Sustainable Travel & Transport planning	No Recommendations Ensuring any Sustainable Travel and Transport plan has a clear methodology for monitoring requirements and use, with records of measurements could also be beneficial for ongoing developments.
B. Location	No Recommendations If the event is in a location that results in a lot of trucking for event production and build, look for more local suppliers or storage solutions to minimise transport emissions. Also consider searching for another location closer to required services and preferred suppliers.
D. Audience Car Parking	It is recommended that the event sets ambitious targets, with concrete actions, to reduce the car parking area. Consider if it is possible to remove car parking all together, keeping in mind disability and accessibility needs.
E. Artist Travel Actions	The event could seek to collaborate on travel with other events and/or promoters of touring productions, or arrange low carbon travel initiatives. Elements of this could include sharing international artists with other events, recommending or organising lift shares and encouraging train instead of air travel.
F. Crew and Volunteer Travel Actions	No Recommendations Consider not providing financial compensation for crew car use, such as fuel reimbursements, to encourage more sustainable transport options.
H. On-site Vehicles	The event may wish to encourage and facilitate the use of bicycles and electric buggies charged by renewable energy on site during the event, build and break. Opting for site vehicles using low carbon fuel sources (HVO / electric) is recommended. The event may want to explore options to reduce the reliance on Gators by increasing the availability of alternatives such as wheelbarrows.
M. Crew and Volunteer Travel Data	It could be beneficial for the event to collect and analyse crew/volunteer travel data to establish their travel habits, and to help identify where low carbon incentives and improvements could be made in this area.
N. Production Measurements & Data	As part of the data gathering process for production transport, it could be beneficial to document any reductions achieved since previous editions (if applicable) and how data gathered is used.
Travel & Transport: Grade & Score	
HIGHLY COMMENDED 70%	

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

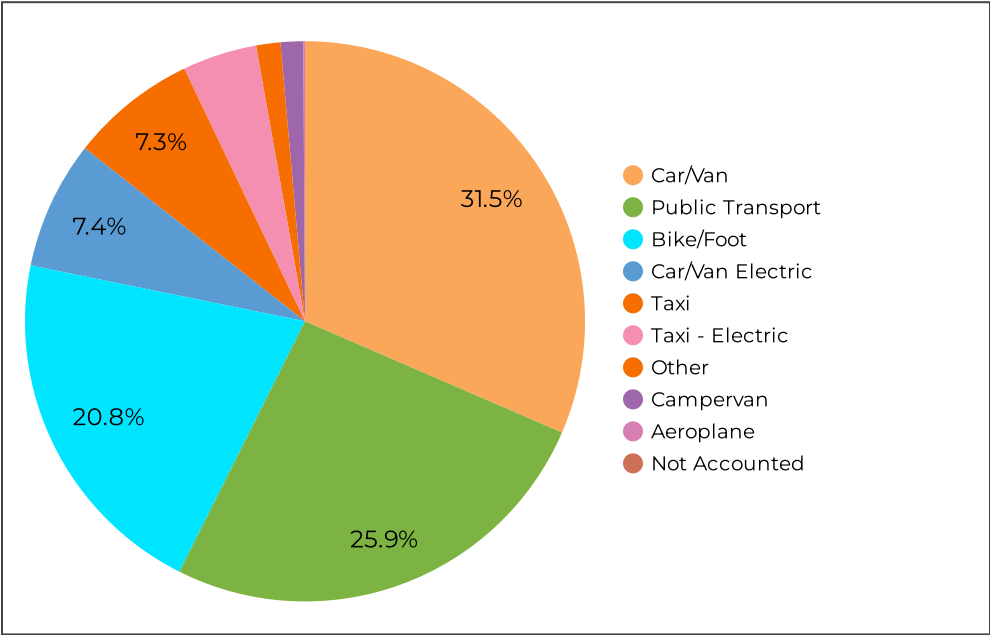


TRAVEL & TRANSPORT - AUDIENCE DATA

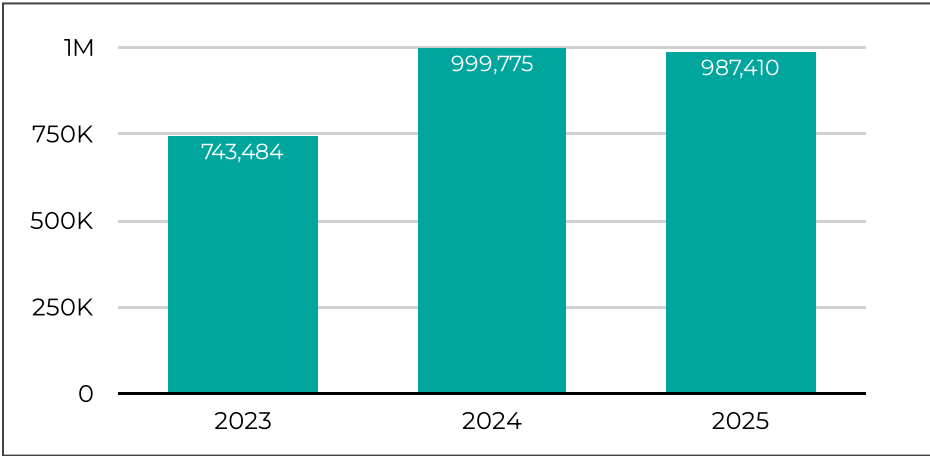
Audience Origin 2025



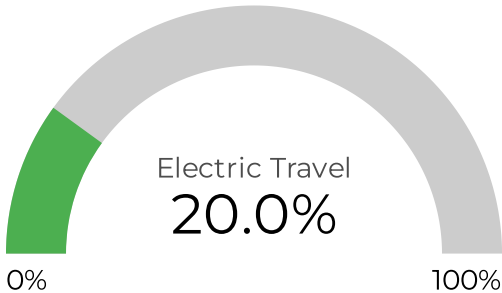
Audience Travel Mode 2025



Average Return Journey (km) by Year



% of Audience Arrivals by Electric Car / Taxi / Van

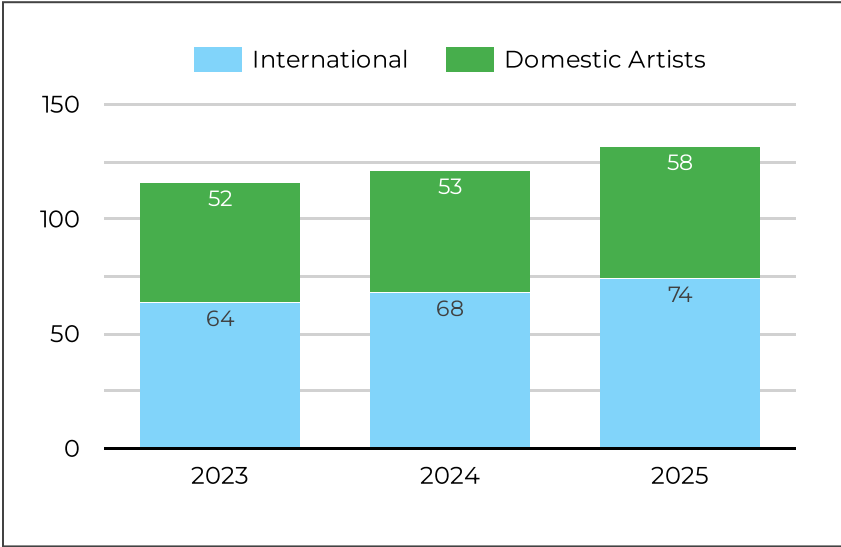


GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

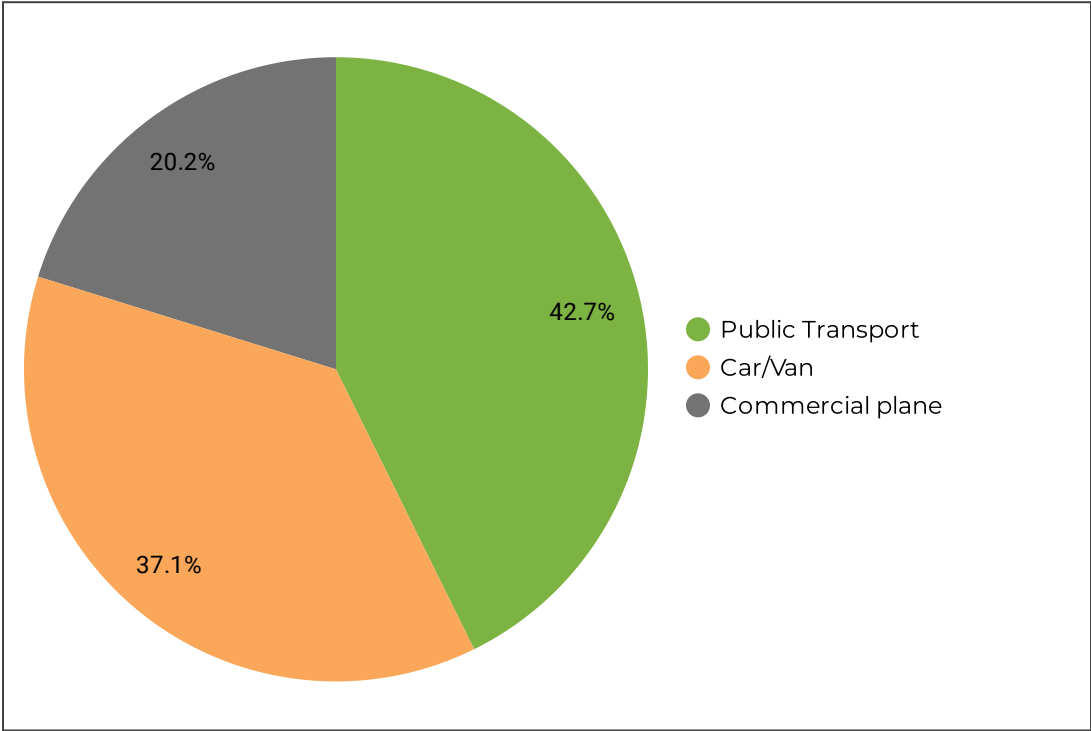


TRAVEL & TRANSPORT - ARTIST DATA

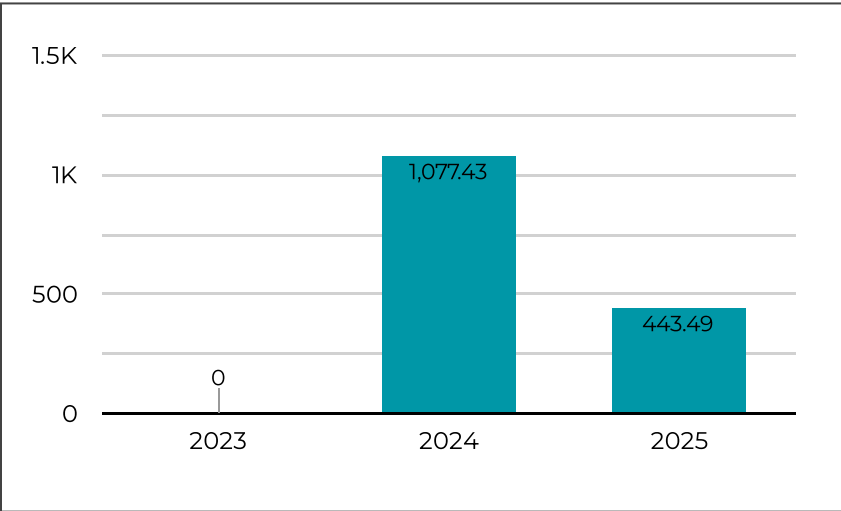
Artist Origins



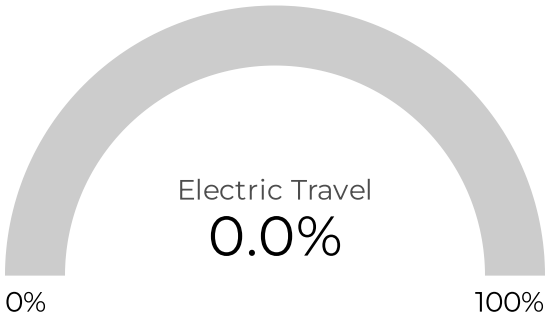
Artist Travel Mode 2025



Average Artist Return Journey (km) by Year



% of Artist Arrivals by Electric Car / Taxi / Van

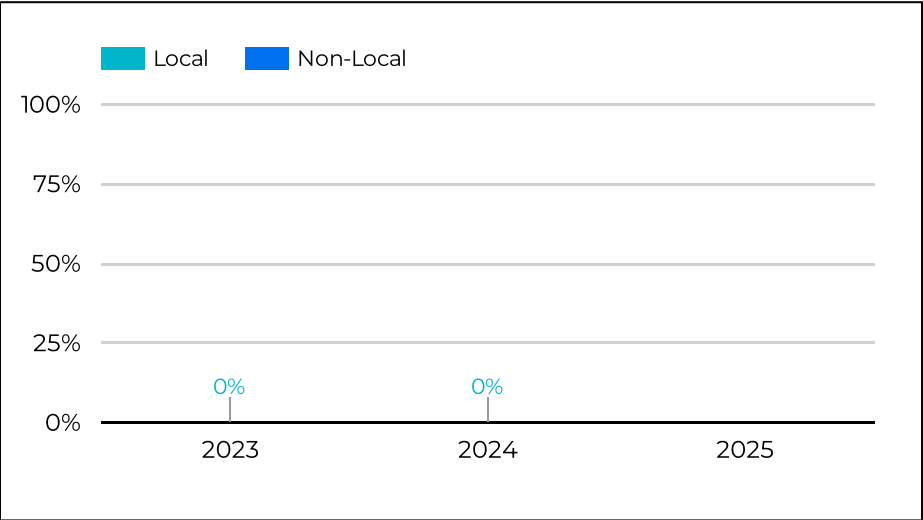


GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

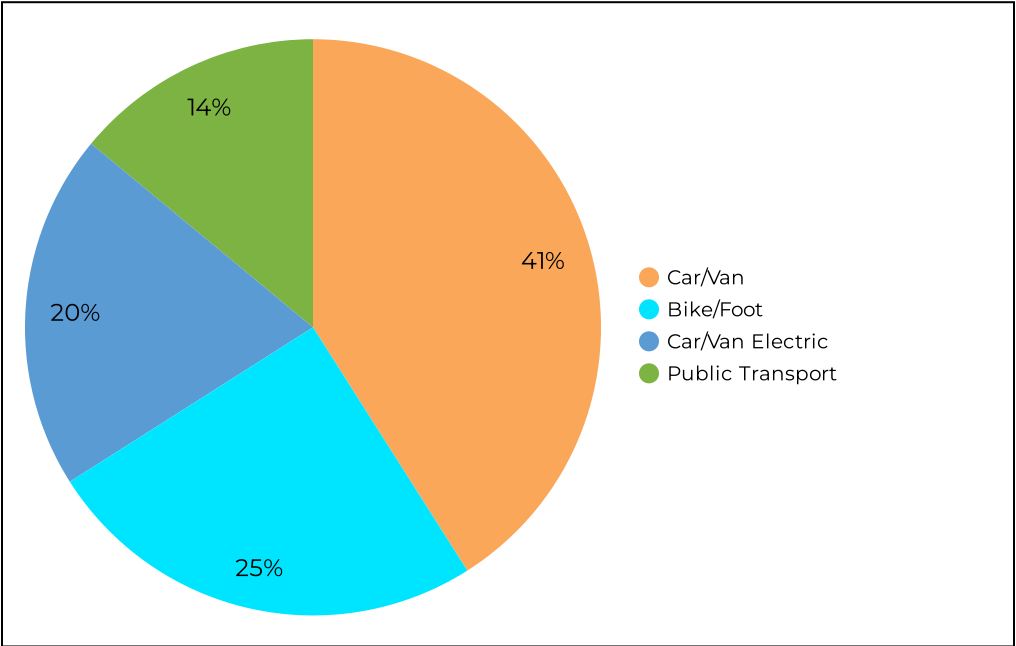


TRAVEL & TRANSPORT - CREW/VOLUNTEER DATA

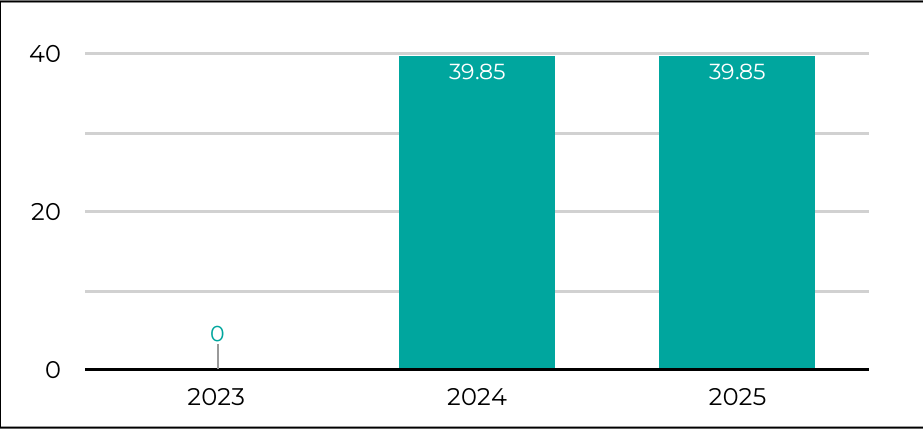
Crew / Volunteer Origin (NO DATA)



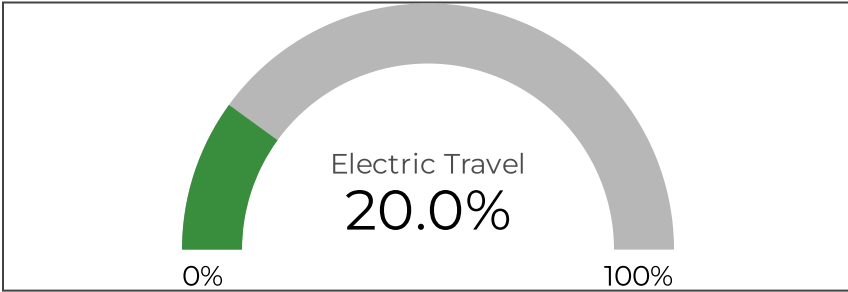
Crew / Volunteer Travel Mode



Average Staff Journey (km) by Year



% of Arrivals by Electric Car / Taxi / Van



GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

ENERGY & POWER



Events generally require a temporary power supply. This can be supplied through use of diesel generators, renewable energy sources or grid connection. Burning of diesel impacts through emissions to air (CO₂e) and use of unsustainable resources (fossil fuels). Grid power use can impact the wider environment in ways depending upon the energy source. The impact of power use can be reduced through Energy Efficiency (matching capacity to actual power demand and reducing demand overall), utilising renewable energy sources and electricity from the grid to replace diesel generators where possible and using renewable fuels in the generators in preference to diesel where possible. If the event site uses 100% grid connection, monitoring and reduction of power usage is still desirable, and where possible use of "green tariff" electricity should be prioritised. As well as attendees and off site travel, on-site crew vehicles and movement should also be considered.

Energy & Power **Actions and Observations** from the event;

ENERGY & POWER PLANNING

The festival has a clear and actively evolving Energy & Power Management Plan. A combination of solar energy, green grid electricity and battery systems that manage distribution and peak demand is used. Assessors observed that all stages are equipped with batteries and the power setup is well organised. Generators are used only when necessary and run exclusively on HVO100. The festival expanded its solar fields in 2025, aiming to further reduce biofuel consumption after achieving a 40% reduction in 2024. While the festival does not set formal emission-reduction KPIs, it focuses on continuous improvement of its power infrastructure, which has already led to measurable reductions. An extensive real-time monitoring system tracks energy use per stage and consumer, allowing optimisation and accurate assessment of needs. Assessors confirmed effective monitoring and active management. Overall Paradise City shows strong, ongoing progress in reducing energy impacts through renewable generation, grid integration, battery optimisation, exclusive use of HVO, and advanced monitoring systems.

PLANNING & PREPARATION - Available power & design

The festival site, a historic castle park, did not originally offer suitable infrastructure for low-emission energy. However, in 2024 the festival secured a permanent green grid connection, enabling significantly greater use of low-carbon power. It now operates with a 63A connection for production and a 250A connection for the festival, allowing grid power to cover the campsite, production areas, and much of the build and break without generators. Although the site cannot host permanent solar infrastructure, temporary solar installations are deployed each year without altering the domain. The grid upgrade in 2024 represents a major investment, enabling a shift away from generator dependence. Solar capacity is expanded annually, and the system design optimises battery storage and distribution to further reduce biofuel use. In addition, the festival consistently engages appropriate experts to ensure optimal, future-focused energy management.

PLANNING & PREPARATION - Spec'ing

The festival gathers energy requirements from all major users, including food trucks, stage managers, and bar managers, through an online form distributed several months before the event. These inputs are used to build the power plan, after which the production team conducts calculations and maps out the distribution. Although the assessors noted that some supporting documentation was missing, the described process demonstrates structured advance planning. To ensure accuracy, reported energy needs are cross-checked against real consumption data from previous editions, supported by metering systems installed on site. Assessors confirmed that technical support is present during the event and that energy consumption is monitored effectively in real time. The production team is available throughout the planning phase to support users in specifying their requirements correctly, helping to validate data and refine estimates with sufficient time planned.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

ENERGY & POWER



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Energy & Power **Actions and Observations** from the event;

REDUCTION & EFFICIENCY MEASURES

The festival requires all energy users to minimise their consumption, supported by the Green Charter, which sets expectations for responsible energy use. Food trucks also face financial incentives to limit consumption, as their energy fees increase if usage exceeds the fixed allocation. Practical actions are in place to reduce fuel and energy use. Build-up and break-down periods run entirely on solar and grid power, avoiding generator use. During the event, hybrid systems combining batteries, solar, grid input and HVO generators allow efficient peak shaving. Real-time monitoring through Calculus and smart energy cabinets enables the team to identify and act on any unusual usage immediately. Assessors observed this live monitoring system in operation. Energy-efficient equipment is prioritised. AVL suppliers are encouraged to use LED and low-consumption technologies, and the festival continually updates its tools and equipment where possible. The site layout and power distribution are planned using data from previous years to optimise efficiency. Assessors confirmed that each stage is equipped with a combination of batteries and generators positioned for optimal performance.

ENERGY SOURCE - GRID CONNECTION

The festival uses a grid power connection and, since 2024, receives 100% renewable electricity from Eneco, sourced from a local solar park. This grid connection now supplies both the festival and campsite, significantly reducing the need for generator use outside peak show periods. Assessors confirmed the connection is fully operational and provides exclusively renewable power. According to Eneco's publicly available information, the green tariff used by the festival supplies 100% locally generated renewable electricity, recognised by Greenpeace with a high sustainability rating. The 2024 grid upgrade represents a major shift in the festival's energy profile, securing 100% grid power from renewable sources.

ENERGY SOURCE - RENEWABLES AND OTHER STORAGE SOLUTIONS

The festival deploys substantial temporary solar capacity, totalling 234 panels across production areas, the festival entrance, and floating installations on the castle pond. Every stage is equipped with its own battery system, forming a central part of the festival's hybrid energy setup. These batteries were primarily charged from solar and the 100% renewable grid connection, with clear monitoring showing that batteries charged during the night and morning and supplied the site throughout the day and evening. The festival makes strong use of on-site renewables and energy storage. Solar generation feeds directly into the power ring, and smart batteries handle peak loads with minimal reliance on HVO generators. Assessor observations confirm that the charging and discharging cycle functioned effectively in practice, demonstrating a well-optimised and low-emission power system.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

ENERGY & POWER



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Energy & Power **Actions and Observations** from the event;

ENERGY SOURCE - GENERATORS

All generators on site run exclusively on HVO, also confirmed by the assessors on-site and through supporting documentation. No fossil diesel is used for power generation. Generators are deployed only as backup within a hybrid system dominated by grid and solar-supported batteries. The festival uses Stage V / Euronorm 6-compliant units for backup, paired with a substantial battery fleet (various units from 90 kWh up to 2,420 kWh). Assessors noted that generators and batteries were openly shown on site and that each stage operated with its own battery, reducing generator runtime. The festival reports continuous efficiency improvements in its hybrid setup. While HVO use temporarily increased in 2023 due to new Stage V battery systems requiring higher charging peaks, HVO consumption dropped by 40% in 2024, largely due to the new grid connection and expanded solar capacity. Generator capacity increased in 2025, however, generator energy (HVO) remains steady in proportion: 70.7% (2023) 46.95% (2024) 44.6% (2025). In addition, fuel efficiency has improved since 2023. Assessors noted visible improvements in infrastructure and system design.

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

The festival has processes in place to ensure internal and external stakeholders are aware of energy-saving expectations. Crew rules explicitly encourage energy-efficient behaviour (e.g. switching off lights and air-conditioning, closing cooling-container doors, carpooling), which aligns with what assessors observed on site. Artists also receive sustainability guidelines through the Green Rider, which includes messaging on responsible energy use. Energy-related information is shared publicly via the festival's sustainability assessment, website and social channels, giving partners insight into consumption trends and environmental impact. The creative team is fully integrated into sustainability planning as part of the core team. They receive ongoing updates on energy goals and translate them into practice by prioritising LED lighting, avoiding high-consumption effects (e.g. fireworks), and reusing or adapting stage components. Assessors confirmed that almost all lighting is LED and that the creative team actively works each year toward greater efficiency. Collaboration with sound, light, video and production teams ensures that designs align with available renewable and low-carbon energy systems. Logistics optimisation, such as sharing trucks/machinery and careful build-up planning, further supports emissions reduction. Interviews confirmed strong cross-departmental cooperation toward energy efficiency and reduced transport impacts.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

ENERGY & POWER



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Energy & Power **Actions and Observations** from the event;

ENERGY MONITORING

The festival monitors its energy consumption in kWh using a smart metering system (Calculus), which provides real-time data across the site. Assessors confirmed that live consumption data was visible on site and that the system offers clear insight into usage patterns. Submetering is in place via the same system, allowing the festival to track consumption at specific locations or for individual processes. This supports accurate assessment of needs and improved power planning in future editions. Energy-efficiency measures can be monitored over time, and the festival reports that it can provide consumption graphs upon request. The existing monitoring framework therefore enables meaningful evaluation of progress and supports continuous improvement.

PEAK & AVERAGE MONITORING (GENERATORS ONLY)

The festival uses telemetry to monitor both peak and average power use in kW, as confirmed on-site. Telemetry data can be broken down by specific zones—including stages, bars, comfort area, and the food court—allowing the festival to identify peaks, troughs, and opportunities for energy savings across different operational areas.

ENERGY & POWER DATA

The festival significantly expanded its renewable-ready energy infrastructure in 2025, increasing total installed capacity, particularly through added battery storage and solar generation, to support a growing event while reducing reliance on generators. Grid use continued to supply almost half of total demand, now backed by 100% green electricity from a local solar park. Solar production nearly tripled compared to 2024, and overall renewable energy accounted for 55% of total consumption, a slight improvement despite the substantial rise in total energy use. Generator reliance increased in absolute terms, but all units operated on HVO and delivered improved fuel efficiency year-on-year.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



ENERGY & POWER - RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Energy & Power Plan	It is recommended to develop an Energy & Power Management Plan that aims to to reduce energy consumption and dependency on fossil fuels. Alongside this, having a clear methodology for monitoring requirements and use with records and set targets for reductions with KPI's and normalised values that include targets to end us of fossil fuel in any portable power supply by 2027
E. Energy Source - Grid Connection	Discuss with the energy provider whether funds from the green tariff is further invested into the building of new renewable energy projects.
F. Energy Source - Renewables & Other Storage Solutions	The event may look to elevate their use of on-site installed renewable energy sources (e.g. solar PV, wind and green hydrogen) by also implementing hybrid/energy storage.

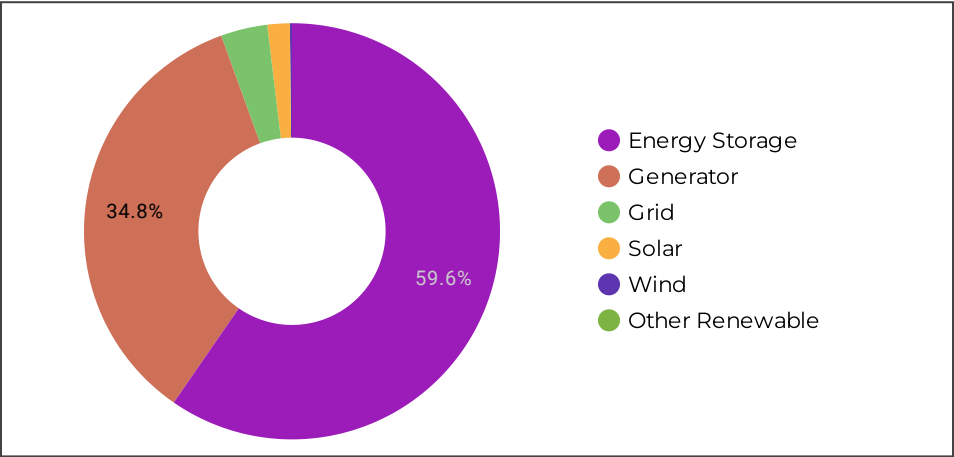
Energy & Power: Grade & Score	
OUTSTANDING	78%

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

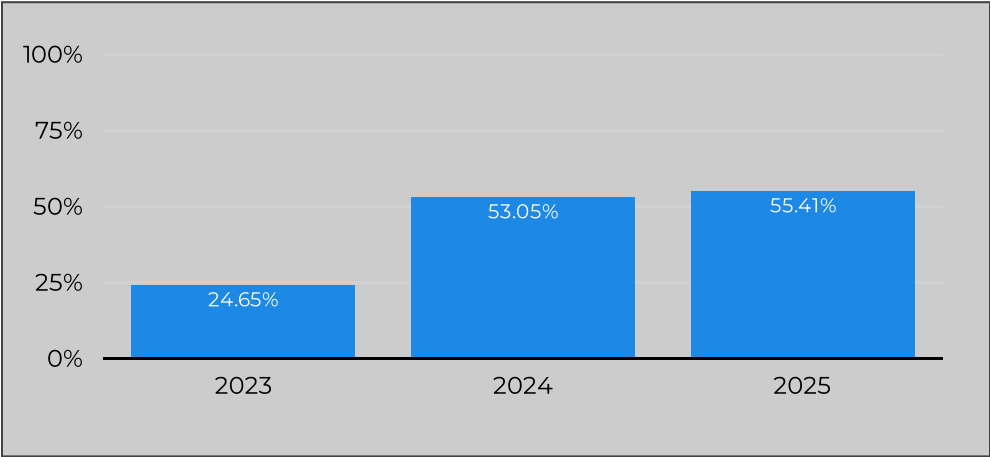


ENERGY & POWER DATA

2025 Installed Capacity



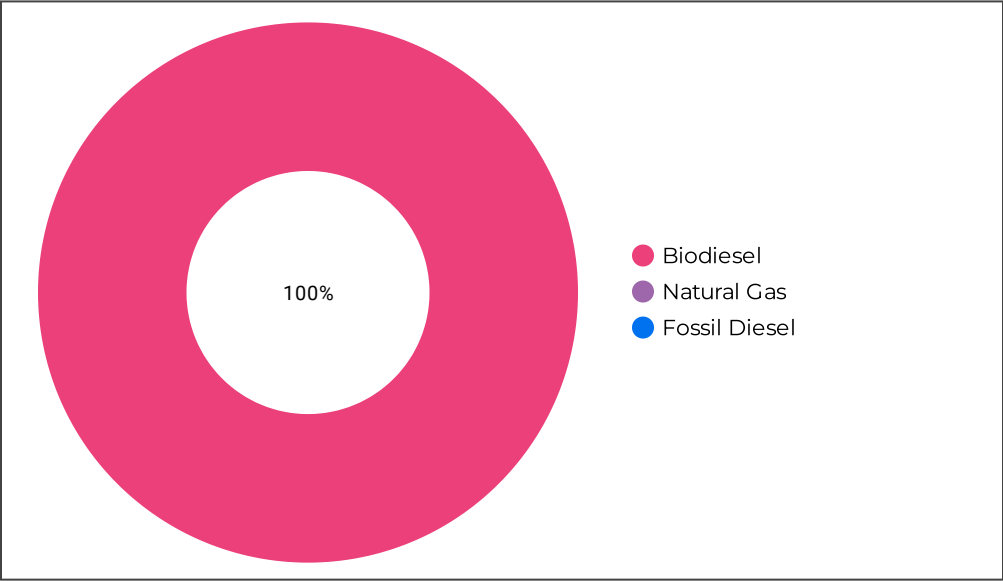
Total Renewable Energy %



Energy Usage over 3 Year Period (kWh)

Year / Metric			
Measure	2023	2024	2025
Total Energy Use	13,403	54,918.6	101,318.5
Bio Diesel	9,478	25,784	45,174
Grid	862	26,121	47,199.5
Solar	3,063	3,013.6	8,945

2025 Fuel Use for Power Generation (Litres)



GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



PROCUREMENT

Procurement is the backbone of any events sustainability plan. What the event brings on to site impacts resulting waste streams, fuel usage in transportation, and the events purchasing choices have global repercussions depending on the supply chain and life cycle of products. Events should be aware of what their purchases support and where products are coming from, aiming to reduce mileage, support good social and environmental projects, and seek suppliers whose sustainability policies are aligned with the events own aspirations.

Procurement **Actions and Observations** from the event;

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE

Paradise City communicates sustainability expectations through its Green Charter and Supplier Code of Conduct, which outline clear requirements on waste reduction, reusable systems, eco-friendly materials, and responsible behaviour. However, there is no dedicated procurement policy or explicit section addressing sustainable sourcing or material traceability. The Green Charter sets detailed operational rules for suppliers, such as prohibitions on single-use plastics, mandatory reusable cups, bulk dispensing, and proper waste sorting, while the Code of Conduct reinforces environmental responsibility and labour standards. Although ethical sourcing is not formally addressed, assessors observed fair-trade merchandise onsite. Green Charters also exist for artists, suppliers, partners, and sponsors, with compliance supported by deposits and infringement mechanisms, though enforcement procedures for artists remain unclear. Sustainability governance is strong: the Sustainability Manager sits directly below the CEO and coordinates efforts across teams, supported by regular internal communication structures. Paradise City reports good visibility of its tier-1 suppliers but does not yet assess deeper supply-chain tiers. An inventory system for hired and purchased materials was initiated in 2025, marking a positive step toward more systematic procurement oversight.

NON-RECYCLABLES

Paradise City implements strong operational measures to eliminate single-use plastics, as outlined in its Green Charters and Code of Conduct. These include mandatory reusable cups and serveware, bans on plastic bottles, sachets, straws, and polystyrene, requirements for bulk dispensing, and strict waste-sorting rules. Compliance is enforced through onsite checks and fines. Assessors confirmed these measures in practice across décor, merchandise, food stalls, and crew catering. The Green Charters also require all suppliers, partners, and sponsors to seek approval for any giveaways, with the Sustainability Manager conducting regular onsite controls. No non-compliant items were observed during the assessment, except for the single-use, non-recyclable coffee capsules found in the artist area, despite the otherwise package-free setup. However, the policies do not yet set SMART targets for reduction.

MATERIAL SOURCING

Paradise City applies a reuse-first approach to procurement, hiring approximately 79% of its materials, borrowing items such as plants and décor from Tomorrowland, and reusing assets across its five festivals. Purchased items are stored in a warehouse for repeated use, and on-site assessors confirmed strong reuse practices: banners, signage, Green Charters, Green Goals, and merchandise were undated to ensure multi-year usability. Stage materials from last year are being reused, and the Orbit Stage will be redeployed at Paradise Garten in Austria. While this demonstrates a clear sustainability mindset, there is no sustainable procurement policy, checklist, or documented decision-making process guiding purchases or hires. The inventory spreadsheet developed by the festival currently functions as a logistics load list rather than a sustainability-tracked procurement tool. It does not record supplier location, material sustainability, reuse status, or certifications, and no evidence was provided showing that sustainability criteria are formally applied when selecting hired materials.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



PROCUREMENT

Procurement is the backbone of any events sustainability plan. What the event brings on to site impacts resulting waste streams, fuel usage in transportation, and the events purchasing choices have global repercussions depending on the supply chain and life cycle of products. Events should be aware of what their purchases support and where products are coming from, aiming to reduce mileage, support good social and environmental projects, and seek suppliers whose sustainability policies are aligned with the events own aspirations.

Procurement **Actions and Observations** from the event;

PRODUCT MANUFACTURE

Paradise City offers a limited, sustainability-focused merchandise range, including Stanley & Stella textiles, Doppo reusable bottles, and Hedgren recycled bags, all from suppliers with strong social and environmental commitments. Assessors confirmed that all merchandise sold onsite was sustainably sourced. The festival bans non-sustainable promotional items, and any “goodies” must be approved by the Sustainability Manager, with suppliers required to provide relevant sustainability certificates. However, there is no dedicated Sustainable Procurement Policy, and merchandise requirements are not explicitly defined in the Green Charters beyond general references to avoiding environmentally harmful products and plastic packaging. The Supplier Code of Conduct references compliance with environmental standards but does not explicitly address ethical or sustainable sourcing. Despite this, the festival’s practice shows clear intention: its online shop notes that all clothing is made from 100% recycled materials, reinforcing the commitment observed onsite. Overall, Paradise City demonstrates strong practical action on sustainable merchandise, though documentation and formalised procurement guidance could be strengthened to match actual practice.

REFRIGERATION & AIR-CONDITIONING

The festival reports having procedures in place to manage refrigeration and cooling equipment, including a mandatory 30-minute temperature check for all fridges used by food vendors and bars. According to the Production Manager, bar staff and the logistics team are instructed to monitor temperatures, record them on log sheets attached to each unit, and report anomalies so the technical team can intervene. However, assessors were unable to verify the implementation of these procedures on-site. No log sheets were found on fridges, and staff from several food trucks, bars, and the artist area were unaware of any temperature-check requirements or maintenance protocols.

Refrigerated trucks are expected to remain connected to the electric system rather than running on generators, and food vendors are encouraged to minimise cooling needs through shared units and daily restocking, coordinated by the Food Manager. The production team actively monitors live energy consumption across the site, allowing them to detect unusual peaks, such as from malfunctioning cooling units, and respond immediately, as observed by the assessors during the site visit.

MATERIAL FLOW ANALYSIS

No Material Flow Analysis has been provided.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



PROCUREMENT

Procurement is the backbone of any events sustainability plan. What the event brings on to site impacts resulting waste streams, fuel usage in transportation, and the events purchasing choices have global repercussions depending on the supply chain and life cycle of products. Events should be aware of what their purchases support and where products are coming from, aiming to reduce mileage, support good social and environmental projects, and seek suppliers whose sustainability policies are aligned with the events own aspirations.

Procurement **Actions and Observations** from the event;

NON-FOOD TRADERS

Paradise City collaborates with sustainable merchandise partners, Stanley/Stella for certified textiles, Doppler for reusable bottles (B Corp, Net Zero 2030), and Hedgren for bags made from recycled plastic. Additional partner activations (e.g., Wonder's soap bars for River Cleanup pledges, Eneco's gamified giveaways) also align with the festival's sustainability ethos. Non-food traders are limited, and partners are selected based on alignment with the festival's values, although traceability is not formally monitored. The Green Charters set clear restrictions on single-use plastics, packaging, and environmentally harmful products, and require all "goodies" to be pre-approved by the Sustainability Manager. However, they do not explicitly require sustainable or ethical sourcing of materials. To ensure compliance, the festival conducts on-site checks and applies fines for infringements, including the use of banned materials, unsorted waste, littering, or non-biodegradable items. While sustainable practice is strongly encouraged and observed on site, the festival does not yet have formal procedures for tracking material origin or ethical sourcing. Selection appears to rely on choosing traders who already demonstrate sustainability awareness rather than through structured traceability criteria.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



PROCUREMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

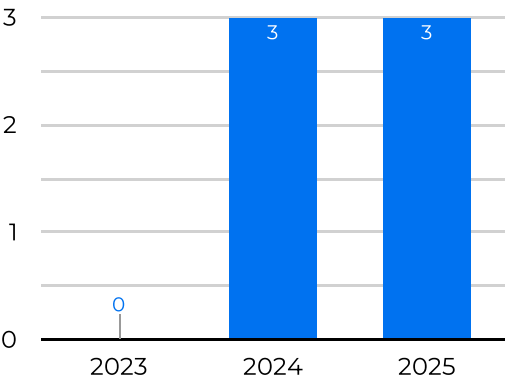
A. Sustainable Procurement Procedure	Supply chain mapping could be a useful tool to fully address all aspects of procurement. Potential aspects to consider as part of the mapping could include: Number of tiers in supply chain, complexity of supply chain in terms of locations and materials, environmental and social policies of suppliers, due diligence (risks and mitigation), ethical trading, human rights and labour conditions. Paradise City might add more information about sustainable procurement, such as ethical sourcing and traceability of materials, reduction and reuse as part of its Green Charters or creating a separate procurement policy.
C.1 Material Sourcing - Hire	It is recommended to regularly review suppliers of hire materials to help ensure the most durable and reusable ones are requested for every event. Supporting local suppliers could also be consideration in the review process. Paradise City might opt to link its procurement policy to the inventory to make sure that sustainable aspects are considered for each hire. Alternatively, a short checklist could be created to make sure all hires align with Paradise City's sustainability policy.
C.2 Material Sourcing - Purchases	It is recommended that the event conducts due diligence or supply chain mapping on all materials and products purchased, to help ensure nothing comes from unsustainable or unethical sources. Explore suitable ways of evaluating sources prior to purchasing and keeping records of any purchasing considerations.
D. Product Manufacture	Paradise City could further explore ways to minimise merchandise production. The festival can maintain its collaboration with sustainability-certified manufacturers. Promoting the use of sustainable and Fairtrade-certified merchandise—such as highlighting the Stanley/Stella brand on the festival website could also enhance transparency and visibility.
E. Refrigeration & Air-conditioning	The event could ask providers of any equipment using F-gases, to provide compliance and/or maintenance documentation to ensure applicable regulations related to F-gases are met. Paradise City might consider strengthening its procedures for inspecting refrigerated trucks and ensuring that all crew members are adequately briefed to maintain compliance.
F. Material Flow Analysis	The event may look to implement a Material Flow Analysis procedure that monitors the material inputs and outputs, i.e. procurements as well as materials use and waste management. Consider utilising this type of analysis to pinpoint where reduction, reuse and recycling can be achieved, with disposal being avoided as much as possible.
Procurement: Grade & Score	
COMMENDED 63%	

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

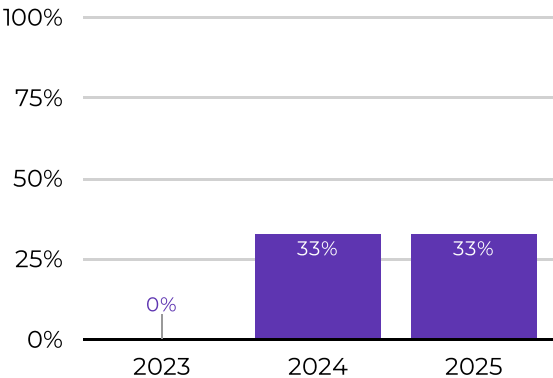


PROCUREMENT DATA

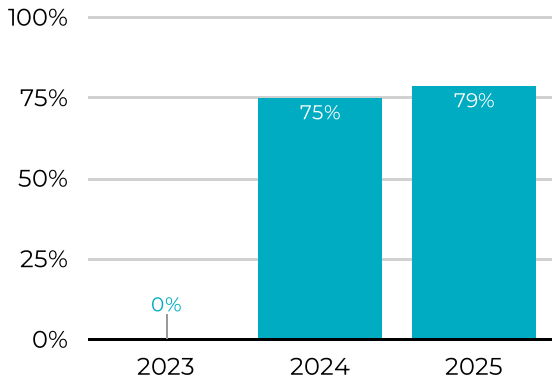
Total Number of Non-Food Traders



% of LOCAL Non-Food Traders



% of Event Items Hired



Non-Energy Fuel Usage (kg)

Year / Metric			
Measure	2025	2024	2023
Gas	0	0	0
CO2	0	-	-
Green Gas	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

FOOD & BEVERAGE



Food and beverage are the ultimate products of a whole chain of production that contributes directly to climate change. The way that food is produced (farming practices), the location, and type of food sources, as well as food waste, are key factors that influence the overall sustainability of the event. An event can prioritize food and beverage products that, i) have less carbon footprint, i.e. plants and plant-source proteins extensively produced; ii) are local, from the surrounding area; iii) are certified, i.e. fair trade, MSC for fisheries or grazing certifications, additionally to prioritizing zero food waste in order to reduce the emissions. Aspects in relation to packaging and transportation should also be accounted.

Food & Beverage **Actions and Observations** from the event;

FOOD & BEVERAGE PLANNING

Paradise City enforces a strong Green Charter for all food partners, requiring 100% plant-based catering across the festival (with one isolated exception in the artist area), prioritisation of local and seasonal ingredients sourced mostly within 50 km, mandatory sustainability certifications for high-impact commodities (coffee, tea, chocolate, sugar, bananas), and strict hygiene and cleaning requirements. Food suppliers must submit ingredient lists for CO₂ calculation via Klimato, with Petra (Food Curator) reviewing dishes to keep average emissions low (0.39 kg CO₂e per serving in 2025). Zero food waste is targeted through redistribution, animal feed, and composting. Most food trucks were local and aligned with the sustainability criteria. However, while plant-based, the audience menus consisted mainly of typical festival comfort food (fries, burgers, pizza, fried items). Healthier options were limited, though artist and crew catering offered higher nutritional diversity overall. Water provision remains a recurring issue. Although crew catering had a convenient Robinetto dispenser, free potable water access for the audience and campers was limited and unclear. Several water taps were marked as non-potable, water taps were scarce, no signage for potable water was observed on-site and long queues formed. The only clearly accessible water station was located outside the festival and campsite area, a 5-minute walk from the entrance.

LOCAL SUPPLY & PRODUCE

Most food trucks source their ingredients locally, but ordering is done individually, and the festival does not currently facilitate or coordinate collective purchasing from local producers. While traders are predominantly local, there is no structured system in place to support or prioritise local supply chains beyond supplier selection. A Belgian Beer bar was also present on-site, further contributing to local product representation.

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

Paradise City clearly communicates its food sustainability ambitions online, highlighting its transition to 100% plant-based catering in 2025, strict use of local and seasonal ingredients, continuous CO₂ reduction per meal, and reusable cup systems with off-site washing to minimise water use. The festival also reports strong annual progress through Klimato monitoring, supported by its Food Supplier Agreement and close collaboration with caterers. However, this strong communication was not reflected on-site. Information about healthy food options and CO₂ impacts was minimal and difficult to find for both audience and crew. Only one green pillar displayed Klimato data, and it was not centrally located. No CO₂ values or sourcing information were shown on menus. Unlike 2024, when each food truck displayed Klimato charts, these were removed after the municipality warned the signs were too small and could trigger fines. As a result, visitors received limited transparency about meal impact. Water access and communication could also improve. Water stations were not clearly marked, potable water was difficult to identify, and many sinks had conflicting “not potable” signage, except for the Robinetto water station at the crew catering. The lack of clearly visible drinking water points resulted in queues and confusion, an issue already flagged in previous years.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

FOOD & BEVERAGE



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Food & Beverage **Actions and Observations** from the event;

SERVEWARE

Paradise City implements a strong reusable system across the festival, using KioBox/Re-uz plates and cups in all zones, including public areas, camping, crew catering, and the comfort area. Food trucks receive sustainability briefings from the Food Curator and Ecofest, and assessors confirmed that reusable serveware was effectively enforced onsite. The Green Charters explicitly ban disposable serveware and single-use condiment sachets. However, assessors observed several inconsistencies in controlled areas: single-use salt and pepper sachets were available in crew catering, and single-use plastic cups and coffee capsules were used in the artists' area.

CUP USAGE

Paradise City operates a comprehensive reusable cup system in partnership with Re-uz, using BPA-free polypropylene cups with a €1.50 deposit automatically linked to wristbands. Deposits can be refunded up to two weeks post-event or donated to River Cleanup. The reported loss/breakage rate for 2025 is 3.9%. Although assessors requested additional details about the Re-uz washing facility, no further documentation was provided. Based on Re-uz's public information, washing is carried out in decentralised centres across Europe, with Belgian operations located in Grâce-Hollogne (approx. one hour from the festival), and mobile laundries deployed when needed. Cups are generally unbranded for Paradise City, though some branded beer cups were used. Reusables were widely implemented across the festival. However, assessors observed some inconsistencies: single-use plastic cups were used in the artist village, and paper cups were served at the Hierbas de las Dunas bar.

FOOD TRADERS

Paradise City maintains a 100% plant-based food offer across the festival, significantly reducing its food-related carbon impact. Organic certification is not a requirement, but local sourcing is strongly prioritised: most traders (95%) operate within a 50 km radius, with one long-standing exception from the Netherlands due to their unique organic fries. Selection of traders follows a rigorous process led by the Food Curator, who reviews credibility, production methods, ingredient sourcing, and menu feasibility. New traders are limited to three dishes to ensure fast service and consistent quality. Although no formal local-sourcing map exists, caterers are encouraged to buy from nearby bakeries, farms, and suppliers. Ingredient origins are partly captured through the Klimato tool and through direct checks by the Food Curator. On-site monitoring by both the Food and Sustainability Managers ensures compliance with the Green Charter, which includes a detailed list of sustainable criteria and a fine system for infringements (e.g., use of banned materials, failure to compost or sort waste, or non-compliant menu changes). Paradise City calculates the CO₂ impact of all meals via Klimato, with traders required to input their recipes. The Food Curator validates these entries and challenges high-impact dishes. For 2025, the average estimated footprint per dish is 0.39 kg CO₂e. Buffet impacts are calculated using attendance figures and average dish scores. Artists' catering is managed partly through Nowa Market.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



FOOD & BEVERAGE

Food and beverage are the ultimate products of a whole chain of production that contributes directly to climate change. The way that food is produced (farming practices), the location, and type of food sources, as well as food waste, are key factors that influence the overall sustainability of the event. An event can prioritize food and beverage products that, i) have less carbon footprint, i.e. plants and plant-source proteins extensively produced; ii) are local, from the surrounding area; iii) are certified, i.e. fair trade, MSC for fisheries or grazing certifications, additionally to prioritizing zero food waste in order to reduce the emissions. Aspects in relation to packaging and transportation should also be accounted.

Food & Beverage **Actions and Observations** from the event;

MEAL TYPES SERVED

The festival has successfully achieved its 100% plant-based food ambition in 2025, with 38.69 tonnes of plant-based meals served and no recorded dairy, meat or fish, representing a clear improvement compared to 2024 (a small exception was observed in the artist area, where cow milk was provided upon explicit artist request). This shift strongly supports the festival's low-carbon food strategy. However, the percentage of locally sourced food remains reported as 0% for all years, indicating that local sourcing is not being systematically measured, despite claims of extensive local procurement.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



FOOD & BEVERAGE - RECOMMENDATIONS

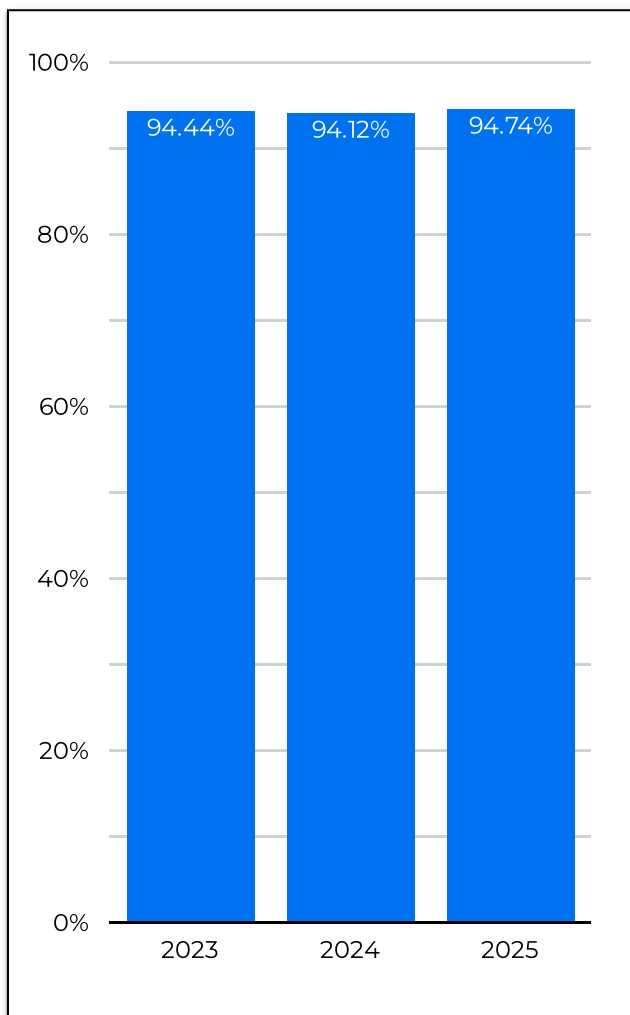
A. Food & Beverage Planning	The festival could consider encouraging food trucks and bars to offer healthier F&B options, as well as increasing the number of free water refill stations available across the festival site for attendees with clear signs that water is potable.
B. Local Supply & Produce	Explore implementing a procedure to facilitate collective purchasing options for traders on site, giving priority to local suppliers and locally sourced produce, to help reduce vehicle movements and promote a more sustainable supply chain. If collective purchasing is not possible, it is recommended to gather information on the availability of local products and services and engage with traders in order to help facilitate their use of the local provisions.
C. Communication & Engagement	Look to ensure there is clearly accessible and visible information provided about healthy food and beverage choices, for audience, staff and crew. It could be beneficial for audience, staff, and crew to make informed choices about what they eat and drink, to display information about the sources of the ingredients in the food and beverage provisions at the event Clearly signposting the provision and location of drinking water for audience, staff and crew could be an effective tool for ensuring people stay hydrated at the event, as well as reducing the use of bottled water. Clearly displaying information about the carbon footprint of food and beverage provisions at the event, for audience, staff, and crew, could be a beneficial tool for educating people and cultivating positive behaviour change in relation to food choices.
D. Serveware	The festival could encourage and closely monitor that all areas adhere to the Green Charters, including Crew Catering and the Artists Village, ensuring the ban on single-use plastic and single-use condiments.
E. Cup Usage	The festival can continue working on encouraging all stakeholders to adhere to the Green Charters, and especially portable bar trucks and the artist village to avoid the use of single-use plastic or paper cups (containing plastic) and double checking that no areas and partners offer them.
F. Food Traders	The festival might consider including CO2 information of the meals as part of the menu and encourage food traders to document traceability of ingredients.
Food & Beverage: Grade & Score	
OUTSTANDING	
80%	

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

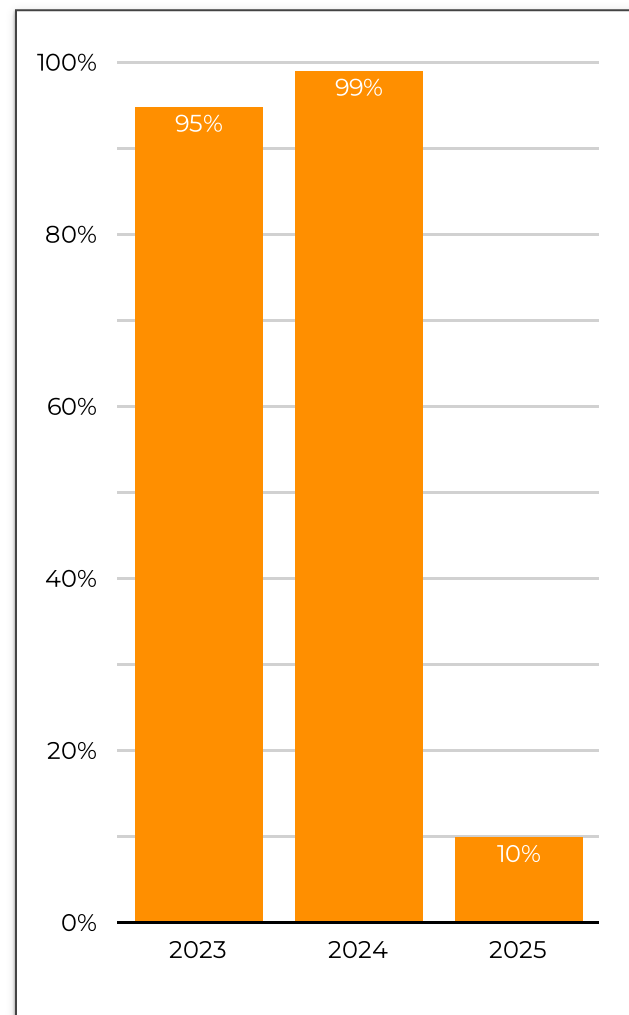


FOOD & BEVERAGE DATA

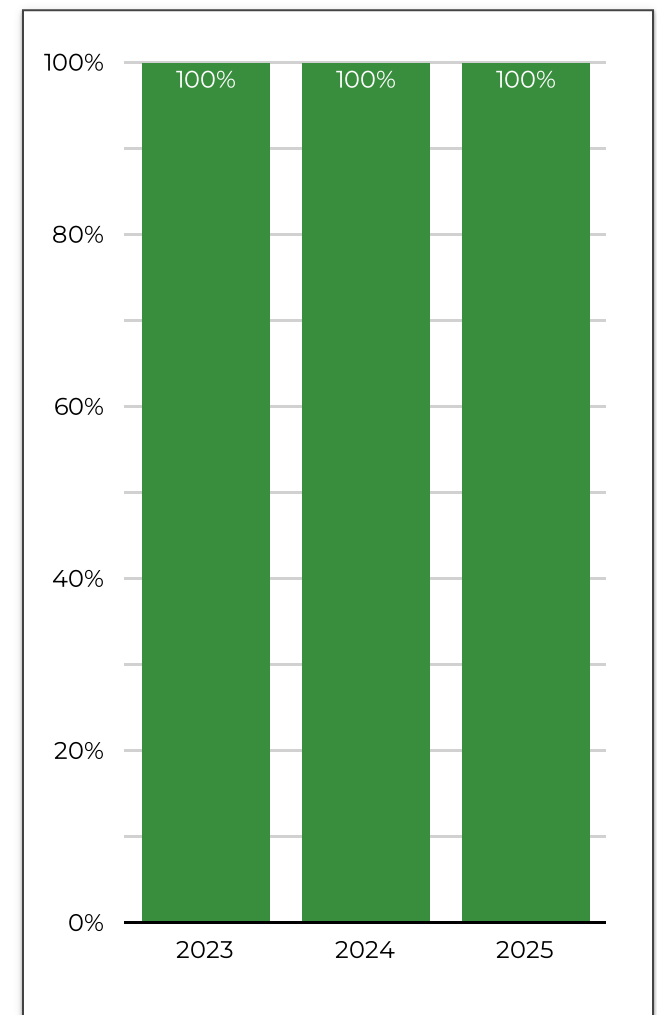
% Local Food Traders by Year



% Organic or Eco Certified Traders by Year



% Vegan/Vegetarian Traders by Year

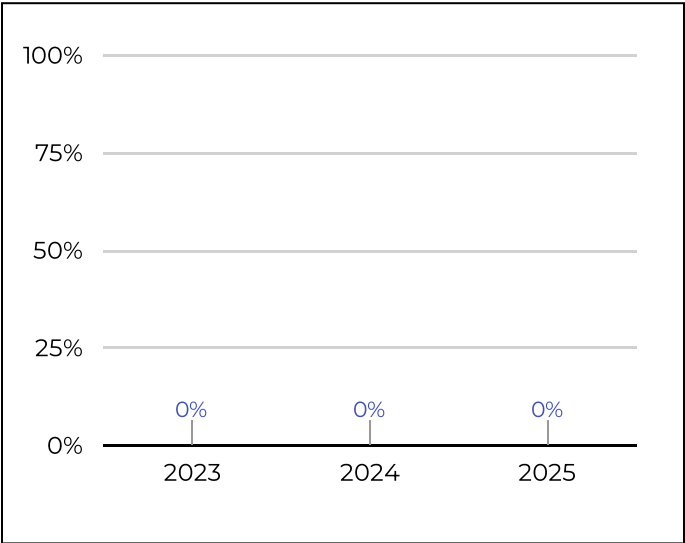


GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

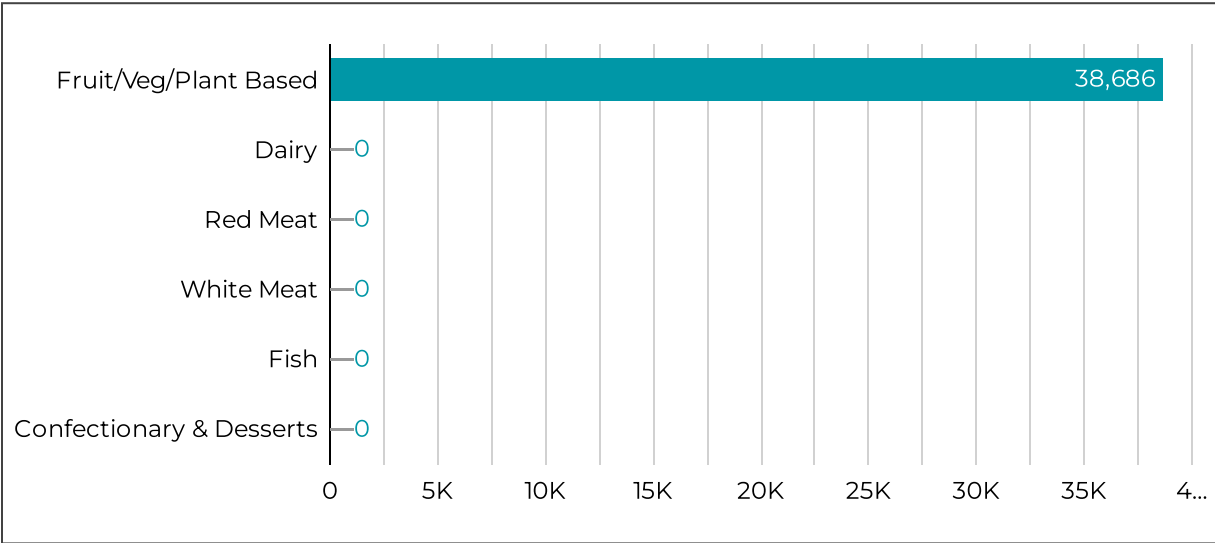


FOOD & BEVERAGE
DATA

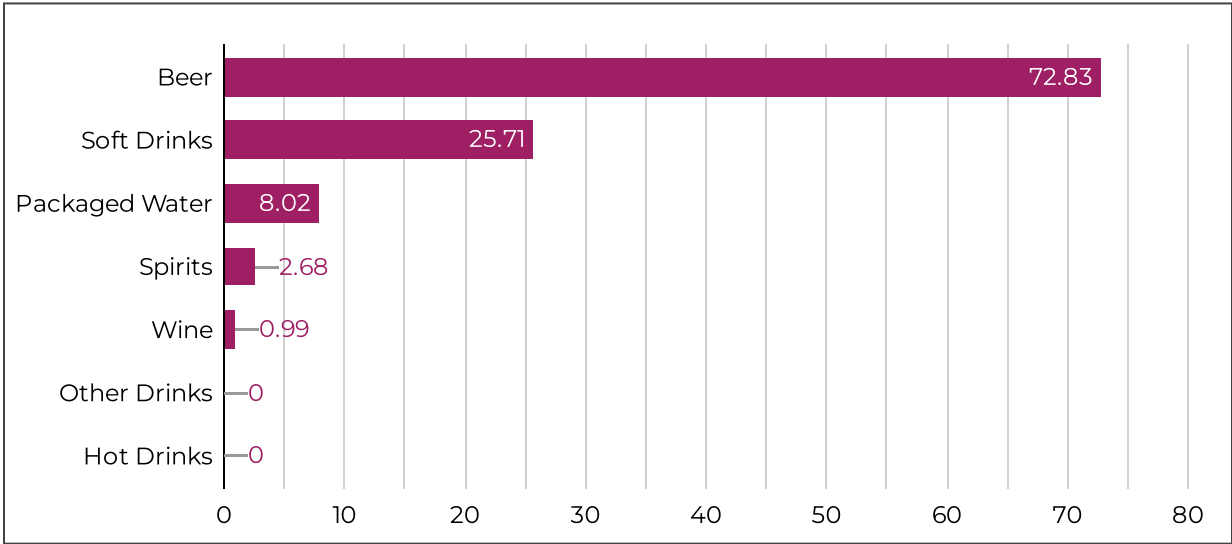
% of Locally Sourced Meals by Year (NO DATA)



2025 - Type of food Served (Tonnes)



2025 - Type of Drinks Served (m3)



GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



WASTE & RECYCLING

Temporary events can be a significant source of waste materials, through packaging, attendees waste and build materials. Solid waste has implications for the environment through extraction of raw materials, energy in production and transportation, direct impact to ecosystems through litter, energy use in disposal, and emission from disposal - including landfill, incineration, recycling procedures. Solid waste can also cause contamination of land and water ways through leachate, and release of highly toxic, teratogenic and carcinogenic substances such as heavy metals in to the ecosystem. We assess solid waste management of events using the waste hierarchy which places the following in order of preference: Minimisation & Prevention / Preparation for Reuse / Recycling / Other Recovery / Disposal.

Waste & Recycling **Actions and Observations** from the event;

WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Paradise City Festival demonstrates a strong commitment to waste reduction and circular practices, supported by comprehensive Green Charters that ban single-use plastics, restrict non-recyclable materials, and mandate the use of reusable cups and plates. The festival emphasises minimisation, reuse, and recycling across production, catering, and camping areas, although no formal targets or SMART objectives have been set for 2025 due to a transition in sustainability management. Waste operations are led by Ecofest, an experienced zero-waste event specialist, who coordinates bin placement, stakeholder training, vendor compliance checks, and waste monitoring throughout the festival. Waste contractor Remondis provides sorted waste collection and processing, although residual waste is not separated Front of House and is incinerated. The Green Charters outline clear prohibitions (e.g., plastic bags, sachets, polystyrene, littering, improper wastewater disposal), and fines are applied for infringements.

HAZARDOUS, ELECTRONIC & OFFENSIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT

Chemical waste at Paradise City Festival is managed internally by the Production Team (Mana Event), and medical waste is handled separately by the First Aid provider. Sanitary waste is collected by the sanitary crew and disposed of as residual waste; in previous years, Outi cabin waste was separated into dedicated bags. The festival no longer permits the sale of disposable vapes in line with updated regulations. Dedicated storage areas exist for hazardous materials, including used cooking oils, gas tanks (food court), and heaters (shower area). A designated hazardous-waste storage facility is available at the on-site container park. The production team receives internal briefings on correct handling procedures, and Ecofest provides support through qualified waste specialists, although no formal certification of internal staff was presented.

LITTER CONTROL

Paradise City Festival sets clear expectations for litter prevention through its Green Charters, which prohibit littering, cigarette-butt disposal on the ground, single-use plastics, sachets, plastic bags, and flyering. Campers are additionally instructed not to bring confetti, and food trucks/partners are asked to avoid handing out items that may create wind-blown litter. Despite these rules, the assessors observed isolated non-compliances, including a partner distributing stickers. The festival acknowledges increased waste per visitor in 2024, particularly from the campsite, and has strengthened actions for 2025. Measures include a €10 campsite waste deposit, mandatory purchase of waste bags (residual and PMD), prominent clean-site signage at entrances, and visible eco-stewards across the site. Portable ashtrays and ash-bins were widely available. According to Ecofest and on-site observations, litter management—especially on the campsite—improved significantly in 2025, supported by enhanced communication, NGO involvement (River Cleanup, Ecofest), and a dedicated hospitality team.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



WASTE & RECYCLING

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Waste & Recycling Actions and Observations from the event;

PREVENTION & REDUCTION

Paradise City Festival actively promotes waste minimisation through extensive communication channels, including on-site signage, social media, pre-event emails, the festival newspaper, and tailored guidance for crew, bars, and stages. All suppliers, partners, and traders sign the Green Charter, which strictly bans unapproved giveaways, single-use plastics, sachets, and non-recyclable materials. Enforcement is backed by fines starting at €250, though the festival reports that no penalties were issued this year. To reduce campsite waste, breakfast is included in the ticket, meals are served on reusable serveware, and a €10 waste-bag deposit system is implemented. Food waste prevention is supported by strong forecasting, real-time stock control by food trucks, and defined surplus-management pathways (reuse, storage, or donation). Waste reduction measures are further reinforced through NGO partnerships, additional staff, and enhanced bin infrastructure. Artist riders are partly sourced through Nowa Market in reusable glass containers, although assessors observed packaging still present in the artists' village. The village infrastructure itself is fully upcycled and second-hand, delivered in collaboration with Easy Done. Reusable bottles are provided to crew and reusable cups are used across all areas. Attendees may bring refillable bottles, though water refill points were insufficient and not clearly marked as potable.

REUSE OF MATERIALS

Paradise City demonstrates strong circular-material practices. Wood, signage, textiles, and stage elements are systematically collected post-event and stored for reuse at future editions and across the organiser's other festivals. Scenic and stage designs are intentionally created for multi-year use, and non-reusable materials are recycled through Remondis. Signage that cannot be reused is returned to suppliers for recycling, and the festival is exploring partnerships to upcycle old banners into items such as notebook or agenda sleeves. Banner designs are produced without dates to enable repeated use, and older materials are retained for upcycling. In terms of social impact, the festival donated a significant volume of salvaged camping and clothing items to Mobile Refugee Support, including tents, tarps, sleeping bags, chairs, towels, assorted clothing, and accessories.

SURPLUS FOOD REDISTRIBUTION

Paradise City Festival donates all recoverable food surplus to local charities. In 2025, most surplus was redistributed to Aide Alimentaire Jettoise, with additional collections by Hearth Project, coordinated through Réseau Loco, which specialises in redirecting edible surplus to people in need. According to the festival's data, 0.25 tonnes of food were salvaged for redistribution.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

WASTE & RECYCLING



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Waste & Recycling **Actions and Observations** from the event;

RECYCLING

Paradise City manages waste with EcoFest, separating Residual, PMD, Paper/Cardboard, Glass, and Swill, with larger materials sorted later by Remondis. A detailed WMP defines bin types, volumes, and placement across all areas. Infrastructure is deployed as follows: Festival site: Residual only (though assessors observed cans, bottles, and reusable cups in these bins), Campsite & crew areas: PMD, Residual, and Organic (crew), Bars/food zones: Full separation, including swill. In 2025, 27.99 tonnes of waste were recycled.

COMPOSTABLE WASTE RECYCLING

Food waste is collected in 120L green bins and processed via GRCT for anaerobic digestion, with organic waste sent to the IOK Geel digestion plant, which produces compost and green biogas. According to the festival, a small portion of leftovers is composted on-site, while the majority is handled through industrial digestion by the waste contractor.

FOOD & ORGANIC WASTE RECOVERY

Food and organic waste was collected separately in green bins and processed by GRCT, a certified waste management facility.

WASTE RECOVERY & DISPOSAL

Residual waste is sent to a Waste-to-Energy (WtE) plant, classified as D10 + R1 (incineration with energy recovery following pre-treatment). However, no supporting documentation was provided.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



WASTE & RECYCLING

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Waste & Recycling **Actions and Observations** from the event;

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

Paradise City Festival promotes waste prevention primarily through its Green Charters, which, although not explicitly framed as a waste prevention policy, clearly prohibit high-impact materials and behaviours. The mandatory and prohibited items (e.g., no single-use plastics, no sachets, no flyering, mandatory refillable bottles, reusable serveware, ecological products) implicitly support waste reduction across all areas. Waste-related expectations are communicated in advance to all stakeholders via Green Charters, emails, and departmental briefings, with additional emphasis placed on the campsite for 2025. On-site awareness is reinforced through River Cleanup activations, visible signage, green pillars, and bin pictograms. Crew zones receive tailored messages to “lead by example”, and Ecofest remains available for questions. The festival’s website and social media outlines a strong commitment to circularity, highlighting actions such as reusable cups and plates, pocket ashtrays, food donation, campsite waste sorting with deposit-return, and reusable production materials. It also acknowledges the rise in campsite waste in 2024 and commits to targeted campaigns and actions in 2025. Ecofest provides structured waste guidelines for all departments and performs regular checks at food zones, bars, and stages. Waste briefings instruct teams to maintain clean workspaces, use ashtrays, and secure full bags for collection. Camping teams receive the same instructions. Pre-event, campers received a dedicated waste-prevention email, while post-event communication has not yet been issued due to staff absence.

WASTE & RECYCLING MONITORING

Waste volumes increased significantly from 25.27 tonnes (2022) to 52.23 tonnes (2025), driven by the festival’s growth in audience size, camping capacity, and the number of stages. Despite this rise, the festival reiterates that waste prevention and reduction remain core priorities. Recycling performance has strengthened: the rate improved from 46.1% (2023) to 53.6% (2025). Per capita waste generation at the festival is 1.07 kg PPPD, slightly below AGF benchmarks for camping events. For context, Belgium’s national municipal waste average is 1.89 kg PPPD (Eurostat, 2023), meaning the festival performs notably better than the national per-day average despite the constraints of a temporary event environment.

WASTE & RECYCLING DATA

Total waste continues to rise year-on-year as the festival grows, increasing from 30.84 tonnes in 2023 to 54.59 tonnes in 2025, with campsite behaviour remaining the main driver of this upward trend. Despite this increase, recycling performance has improved: separated recycling reached 27.99 tonnes in 2025, and the overall recycling rate has stabilised at around 53%, demonstrating effective infrastructure, clear communication, and stronger enforcement. Organic waste recovery also progressed, with 2.37 tonnes sent to anaerobic digestion in 2025, highlighting better reporting and separation practices compared with previous years. However, residual waste sent to waste-to-energy grew in absolute terms, confirming that FOH sorting and campsite waste remain key challenges. Waste generation per person per day rose slightly to 1.07 kg in 2025 but remains significantly lower than national averages, indicating that the festival’s circularity measures are generally effective, even as scale and audience numbers increase.

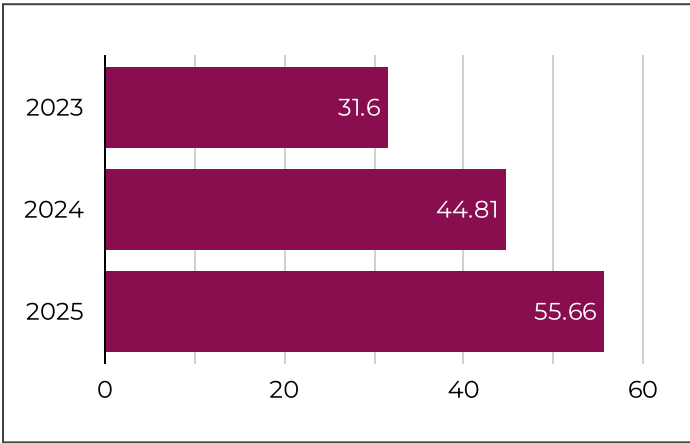
A. Waste Management Planning	Consider developing a Waste Management Plan (WMP) that prioritises Prevention, Reduction, Reuse and Zero to Landfill service providers (if available in the location of the event). Look to include activities for the full duration of the event (including for build and break). Include information about where any waste and recycling goes for processing after it leaves the event, as well as having clear procedures in place for communicating and enforcing all aspects of the plan. Paradise City might consider creating a separate Waste Management Plan, prioritising reduction, reuse and recycling and zero to landfill service providers, and setting targets (SMART goals) and KPIs for better monitoring and evaluation of achieved objectives.
B. Hazardous, Electronic & Offensive Waste Management	Paradise City might consider reviewing the offensive waste streams at the event and providing appropriate storage facilities.
C. Recycling	The festival can continue to work on improving its recycling strategies and providing records of post-festival recycling from Ecofest/Remondis.
J. Waste Recovery & Disposal	The event can continue working on improving its waste management strategy and provide records of post-festival waste treatment.
L. Waste & Recycling Monitoring	Paradise City can continue its efforts to reduce the overall amount of waste generated and increase the proportion of waste sent for recycling.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

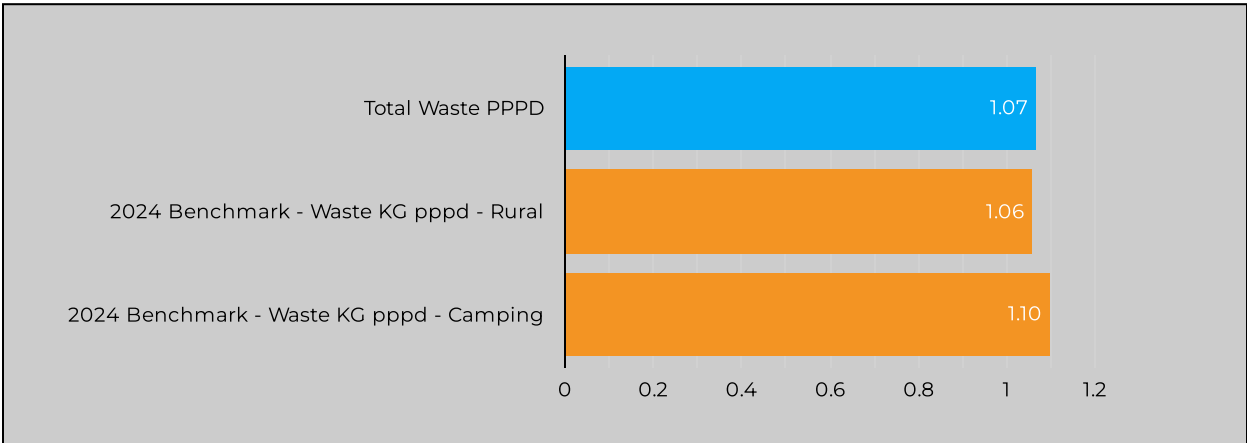


WASTE & RECYCLING DATA

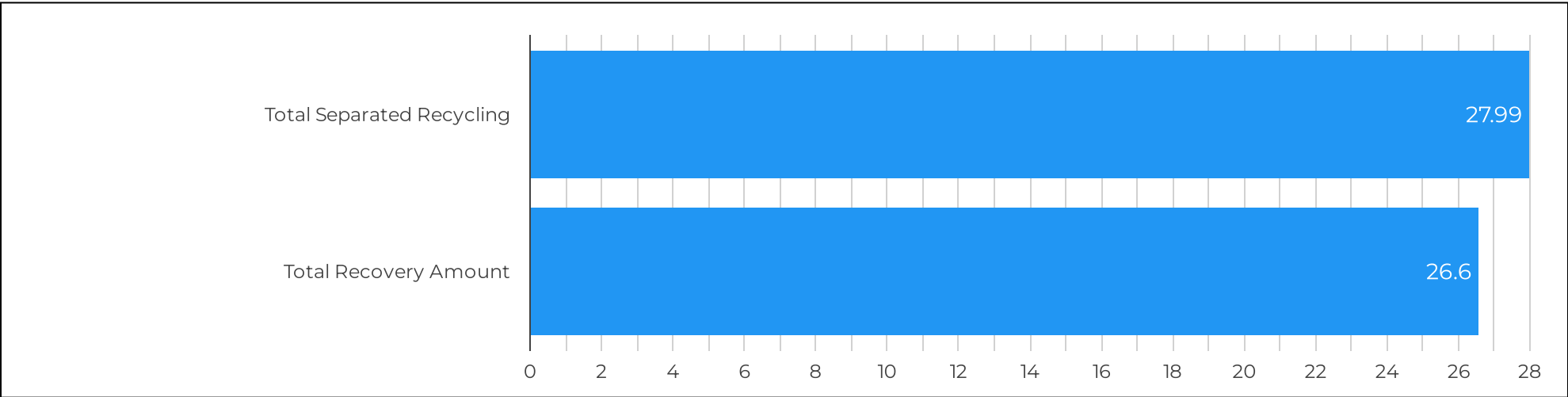
Total Waste Collected (tonnes) by Year



2025 Total Waste Per Person Per Day (PPPD) versus AGF 2024 Benchmarks



2025 Waste Generated (Tonnes) by Treatment

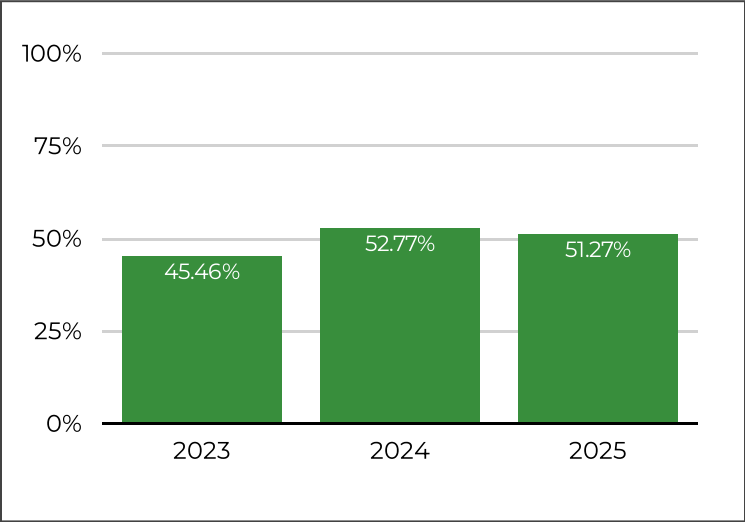


GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

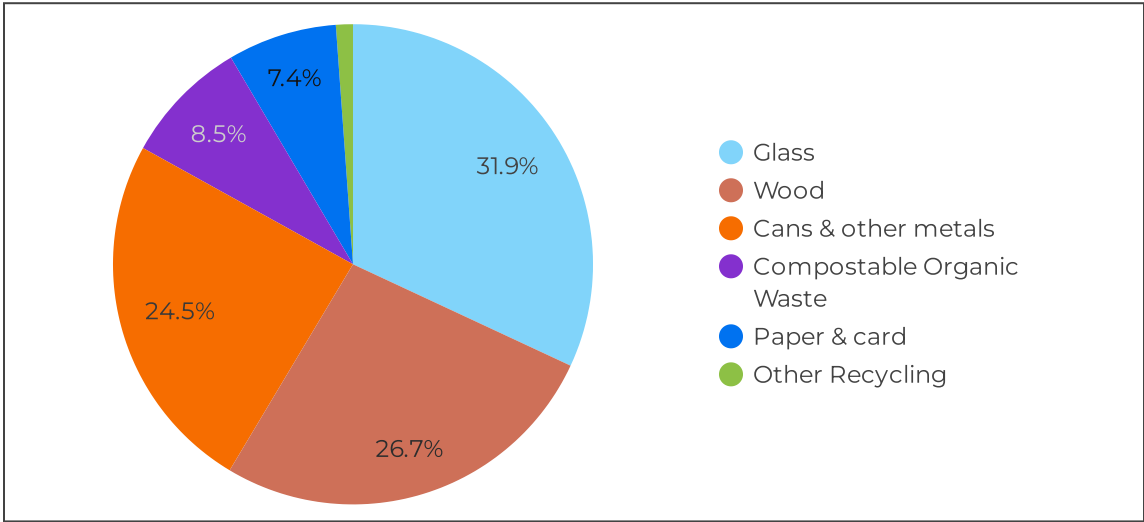


WASTE & RECYCLING DATA

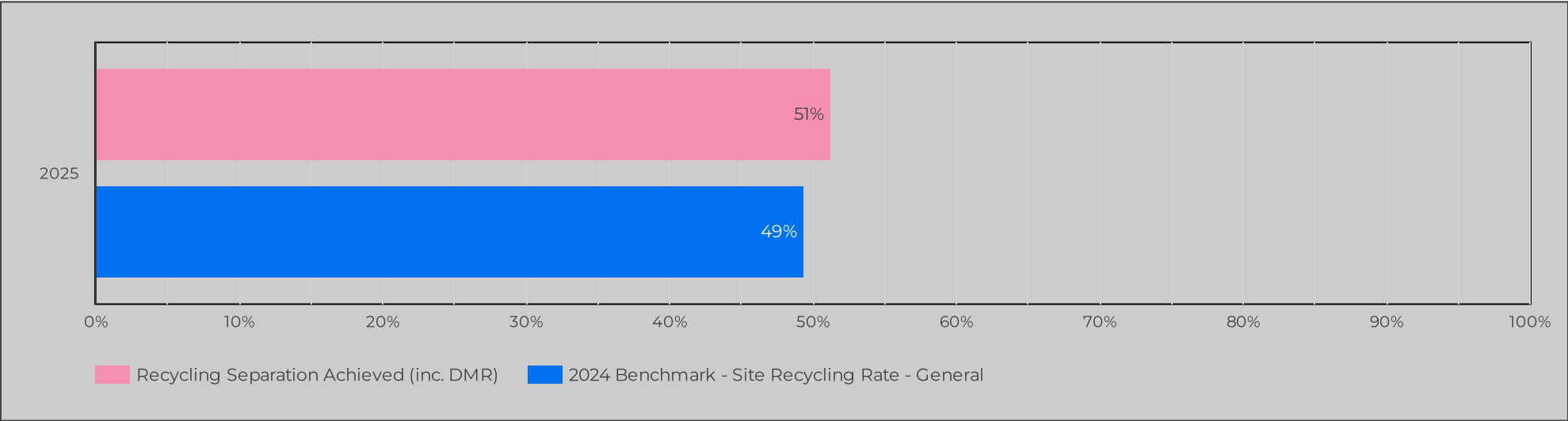
Separation for Recycling (inc. DMR) by Year



2025 - Materials Collected for Recycling (% of Total)



2025 Site Recycling Separation Rate versus 2024 AGF Benchmarks



GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



WATER & SANITATION

Events can use water in various ways such as catering, cleaning, toilets and showers, ballasts, dust control and as a part of some event attractions. The overuse or wastage of water can not only impact the environment but also have significant social repercussions if water provisions are impacted elsewhere. Cleaning of water is often an energy intensive and expensive practice and can involve the use of chemicals harmful to both humans and environment. Conservation of water is an important issue even for countries where freshwater is in abundance. In some locations this issue will be even higher on the priorities where freshwater supplies are scarce. The source of water is an important consideration for an event.

Water & Sanitation **Actions and Observations** from the event;

WATER & SANITATION PLANNING & CONTROL

Paradise City has no written Water & Sanitation Management Plan, but water management is clearly integrated into operations through the buffer tank map and the festival's broader sustainability strategy. Water is one of the event's seven core pillars, and the website outlines a range of initiatives focused on reducing consumption, improving infrastructure efficiency, and ensuring responsible wastewater treatment. Key measures include the long-term use of water-use calculators across terminals, vacuum toilets on both the festival site and, starting in 2025, the camping area, significantly reducing water use and wastewater volumes. The upgraded pipe network allows isolated shut-offs to prevent leaks, supporting better control of consumption. Wastewater is professionally managed: black water is collected by DSSV and treated by Aquafin, with a new agreement allowing part of the flow to enter the local sewage system to reduce transport emissions. Grey water from camping showers is filtered on-site by HelloWater and reused for toilet flushing, contributing to a closed-loop system. The festival is also participating in a pilot with WhenNatureCalls to test waterless, chemical-free toilets, demonstrating innovation and forward momentum. These systems are overseen by Mana Event and supported by clear behavioural guidance in the Green Charters, which prohibit environmentally harmful products and mandate spill prevention, proper disposal, and the use of refillable bottles. Food suppliers must submit technical water needs in advance, supporting efficient planning, but no detailed water consumption or treatment data was provided in the documentation. The festival stated that two zones still discharge wastewater directly to sewer with no monitoring, and that detailed operational data for the on-site treatment system is not available.

WATER SOURCING

Paradise City's water supply system is built around four on-site sources that distribute mains water efficiently across the festival, reducing dependence on any single point of failure and optimising pressure through large blue buffer tanks. While all water ultimately comes from the municipal network, the distribution design allows tailored supply to comfort areas, bars, campsites, catering zones, and large toilet blocks. In 2025, the festival introduced two significant upgrades aimed at reducing potable water use: reusing greywater from showers for toilet flushing for the first time, and installing vacuum toilets on the campsite, which reduce water consumption. This shift represents meaningful progress toward closing the water loop and lowering total freshwater demand. The festival also intended to pilot rainwater harvesting during the event, but insufficient rainfall prevented testing in 2025. Greywater reuse is now the primary circular measure, replacing earlier years in which greywater was treated and discharged off-site. The festival acknowledges that 2025 is a transitional year and will monitor the balance between recycled water availability and operational demand as the new system scales.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



WATER & SANITATION

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Water & Sanitation **Actions and Observations** from the event;

ABSTRACTION OF WATER

Paradise City relies exclusively on mains water for all potable needs, ensuring drinking and food-related uses meet safety standards. Non-potable water is supplemented by extracting lake water for toilet flushing, but the overall demand for flushing water has dropped in 2025 due to the introduction of vacuum toilets across the campsite. This shift significantly reduces total water consumption, as vacuum systems use less water than conventional toilets.

MAINTENANCE & SERVICING

Paradise City manages a complex water network that spans the entire festival site, ensuring stable pressure through multiple pressure tanks. Since 2024, the festival has been permitted to discharge crew campsite wastewater into the local sewage system, and it is working with Aquafin to expand this capacity. However, due to limits at the local treatment station, part of the wastewater still requires transport by DSSV to a larger facility. Greywater from showers is treated on-site through HelloWater's horizontal green filtration system; unlike previous years, this purified water will now be reused for toilet flushing, closing part of the water loop. Water infrastructure maintenance is handled by the production team (Mana Event), who oversee pumps, tanks, taps, and distribution networks. All systems are equipped with smart meters that provide real-time data through a cloud platform, enabling rapid identification of leaks or abnormal consumption. Potable water quality is verified by an external laboratory. Although the festival has no written procedure, operational responses are well established: any anomaly triggers immediate walkie-talkie alerts, and the site's segmented pipe network allows isolated shut-offs without compromising the wider supply. Wastewater and greywater containers are placed on or beside driving plates so collection trucks can access them safely and efficiently.

WASTE WATER & SEWAGE

An increasing share of Paradise City's wastewater is now discharged directly into the local sewage system, reducing transport needs, while the remaining volume continues to be hauled by DSSV to a larger treatment facility. The festival has not yet received supporting documentation or invoices from DSSV. Greywater from showers is collected, treated, and reused for toilet flushing, as confirmed in the MET greywater reuse documentation. All black water is transported off-site for treatment.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

WATER & SANITATION



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Water & Sanitation **Actions and Observations** from the event;

PERMITS FOR DISCHARGE

Aquafin has a permit allowing up to 60 m³ of toilet wastewater to be discharged into the local sewage system over one month. This approval followed a capacity assessment confirming that the receiving treatment plant (Steenokkerzeel-Noord) could handle the additional load. Despite this partial allowance, the majority of the festival's wastewater continues to be transported off-site for treatment, making discharge-related criteria largely not applicable.

WATER & SANITATION EFFICIENCY & REDUCTION

Paradise City uses push-taps for sinks and showers, but they run for more than five seconds, meaning they do not function as true water-saving fixtures. Although the festival monitors consumption in real time through its Environmental Impact Monitoring project and can react quickly to abnormal usage, this system alone does not constitute water-efficient hardware. The festival confirmed that shower heads were aerated. Despite the limitations of the tap system, the festival has implemented meaningful water-reduction measures elsewhere: greywater from showers is now reused, vacuum toilets have been introduced to cut water use significantly, and a pilot project with water- and chemical-free toilets is underway.

SEPARATION OF LIQUID WASTES

Waste water from food zones is collected in IBC containers, and the few food trucks using cooking oil are required to take it back with them—this is communicated ahead of the event and enforced on-site. Black and grey water are separated across the festival: greywater from showers is purified via HelloWater's on-site mobile system and reused, while black water is collected by DSSV and either discharged into the local sewage network (where permitted) or transported to Aquafin for treatment. In addition, three composting toilets allow for separated toilet waste, but all remaining toilet wastewater is either routed to the sewage system without separation or removed off-site by DSSV.

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

Paradise City publicly outlines a strong commitment to water efficiency on its website, highlighting measures such as water-use calculators, vacuum toilets, improved pipe systems, greywater reuse, and a pilot project for waterless, chemical-free toilets. These initiatives demonstrate a clear strategic direction toward reducing potable water use and closing the water loop. The festival has also expanded infrastructure improvements, including switchable pipe networks to prevent leaks, vacuum toilets extended to the campsite from 2025 onwards, and on-site greywater purification via HelloWater for reuse in toilet flushing. The assessors noted visible onsite communication encouraging shorter showers and sustainability messaging on the Green Pillars, both at the festival and campsite. However, no water-saving communication was observed in crew areas.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



WATER & SANITATION

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Water & Sanitation **Actions and Observations** from the event;

ECO FRIENDLY TOILETS

Paradise City introduced a pilot compost toilet system in 2025, testing a new water- and chemical-free concept designed to separate and valorise liquid and solid waste. Although still in development, the trial demonstrates the festival's ambition to explore low-impact sanitation solutions. Waste from the pilot units was collected and composted off-site. Alongside the pilot, the festival has now shifted almost entirely to vacuum toilets across both the festival site and the campsite. This marks a substantial reduction in water consumption compared with previous years, as only a limited number of traditional flush toilets remain in the comfort and production zones.

WATER & CHEMICAL BASED TOILETS

Paradise City now operates a mixed sanitation system, with a substantial portion of the site connected to mains sewage. According to the festival, 100% of the production area, 50% of the campsite, and 30% of the festival site are linked directly to the municipal sewer network. In the artist village, three toilets are also connected to mains sewage. In areas where connection is technically difficult—such as remote parking zones or locations behind certain stages—the festival still relies on chemical toilets.

SHOWERS & SINKS

Paradise City operates multiple shower systems with differing wastewater pathways. The artists' area includes one permanent on-site shower that seemed not in use. Temporary crew camping showers are fully connected to the mains sewage system, ensuring compliant wastewater disposal. In contrast, campsite showers feed into the HelloWater purification system, where greywater is treated on-site and subsequently reused—supporting the festival's efforts to close the water loop and reduce overall consumption.

GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

WATER & SANITATION



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Water & Sanitation **Actions and Observations** from the event;

WATER USE DATA

Paradise City monitors water use comprehensively through water calculators, pressure-tank metering, and utility invoices, enabling detailed visibility of consumption across toilets, showers, bars, food areas, and camping zones. The 2025 data shows a total water use of 543 m³, a substantial reduction from 638.5 m³ in 2024 and 681.49 m³ in 2023, despite continued festival growth. Per-person water consumption has also decreased consistently, from 16.83 L pppd in 2023 to 13.73 L in 2024, and further down to 10.65 L in 2025, reflecting improved efficiency measures such as expanding vacuum toilets, optimising the pipe system to prevent leaks, and starting greywater reuse for toilet flushing. Toilets and showers remain the largest water users, but both categories show a downward trend compared with previous years. The assessors confirmed that real-time monitoring is in place, allowing the production team to quickly identify anomalies—an advanced practice that strengthens leak prevention and supports long-term optimisation. While the monitoring infrastructure is strong, no written Water & Sanitation Management Plan was provided, and on-site communication about water saving could be strengthened.

WASTE WATER & SEWAGE DATA

The festival demonstrates strong progress in wastewater management, with clear improvements compared to previous years. In 2025, a total of 490 m³ of sewage and greywater was disposed of (178 m³ discharged to the local sewage system and 312 m³ transported by DSSV), representing a notable reduction from 540 m³ in 2024. Greywater reuse also increased significantly—243 m³ in 2025, up from 175 m³ in 2024—reflecting the impact of the new system that purifies shower water for toilet flushing. No urine separation or composting was reported this year, unlike 2023, when small quantities of composted toilet waste were recorded; this aligns with the transition to vacuum toilets and pilot compost systems still in development.

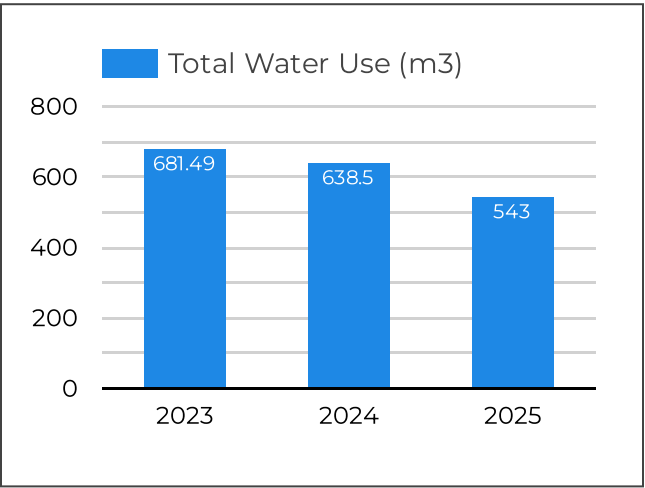
GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS

 WATER & SANITATION RECOMMENDATIONS	
D. Maintenance & Servicing	The festival can continue refining its maintenance procedures by documenting the management of all facilities, pipelines, and temporary containment units in detail.
E. Waste Water & Sewage	The festival can continue exploring ways to enhance access to mains sewage, process and reuse greywater, and consider implementing on-site wastewater treatment solutions.
G. Water & Sanitation Efficiency and Reduction	The festival can continue working on ways to improve the efficiency and water reduction practices on site. The festival can explore water saving equipment on site, such automatic turn off taps (running less than 5 s), etc.
H. Separation of Liquid Wastes	The festival might can continue exploring possibilities for toilet waste separation on-site.
I. Communication & Engagement	The event could consider sharing information about water efficiency with all stakeholders pre-, during and post-festival. Additionally, the festival might ensure clear information is provided regarding non-biodegradable waste in the toilets.
J. Eco-Friendly Toilets	The festival can continue exploring alternative options to identify the most suitable eco-friendly toilets for the event.
K. Water & Chemical Based Toilets	The festival might continue exploring alternative options for eco-friendly toilets to further reduce water consumption and to expand the connection to the mains sewerage system.
M. Showers & Sinks	The festival can continue exploring ways to increase the number of showers and sinks plumbed into mains waste water drainage.
Water & Sanitation: Grade & Score	
OUTSTANDING76%	

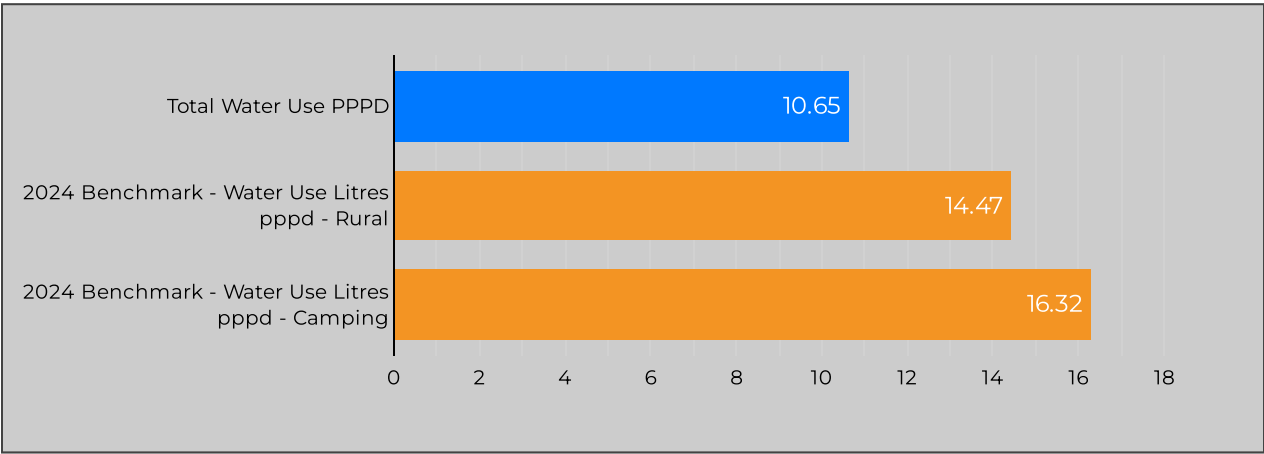
GLOBAL: WIDER IMPACTS



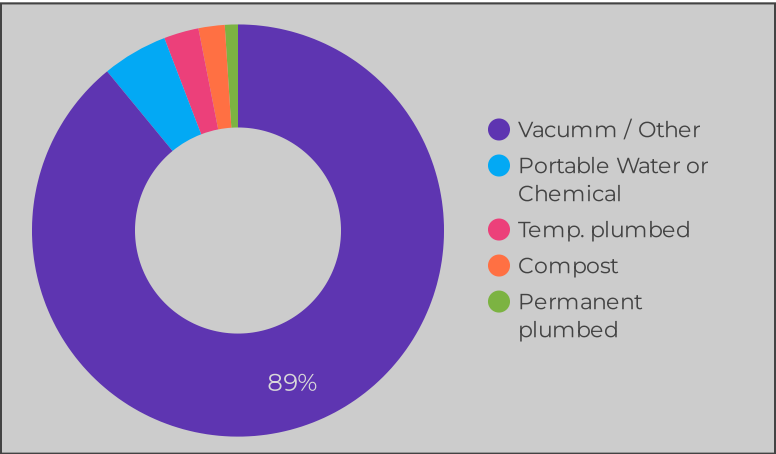
WATER & SANITATION
DATA



2025 Total Water Use Per Person Per Day (PPPD) versus AGF 2024 Benchmarks (Litres)



2025 Types of Toilets (%)



Grey Water & Sewage (m3)

Year / Metric			
Measure	2023	2024	2025
Sewage only disposed	297.5	523	490
Grey water reused	237.5	175	243
Total Grey Water & Sewage Disposed	-	-	490
Grey water disposed	96.1	17	0
Urine separated, processed	0	0	0

PEOPLE AND CULTURE



EXTERNAL REACH & BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

Events have a great platform and opportunity to reach out beyond themselves to raise environmental awareness and encourage action amongst their audience, suppliers, and partners.

Acting as a role model, events can communicate strong messages on their own positive actions, carrying significant influence to audiences and partners alike. Events must also demonstrate through effective actions a strong commitment to Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion.

External Reach & Behaviour Change: **Actions and Observations** from the event;

SUSTAINABILITY TRANSPARENCY

Paradise City communicates its sustainability and EDI commitments transparently through its website, social media, app, and a publicly available AGF carbon footprint report (including recommended targets). An Extended Green Charter / Supplier Code of Conduct is shared and signed via Eventication, and in 2025 the festival also published a formal EDI policy online. Due to a change in sustainability management, no new written environmental or EDI targets were set for 2025; instead, the team relied on recommendations from the previous AGF assessment to prioritise improvements, including the development and rollout of the EDI policy.

MEASURES BEYOND THE EVENT

Paradise City Festival actively promotes sustainability beyond the event through sector engagement and local partnerships. The former sustainability manager regularly spoke at industry conferences such as GEI and ADE Green, and the new manager intends to continue this advocacy. Locally, the FONDS 1820 initiative finances community sustainability projects, including school-led Mud Ball activities and solar panels for youth groups, and the festival supports the municipality's #182030 innovation call, with the sustainability manager involved in project selection. The festival also participates in pilots such as water- and chemical-free composting toilets, further contributing to knowledge-sharing in the sector. By contrast, external EDI outreach remains limited. While an EDI policy has been published and EDI expectations are integrated into the Extended Green Charter for partners and suppliers, there is no evidence of programmes or campaigns to raise EDI awareness beyond the event itself. On-site initiatives such as the citizenship programme and well-being team are positive but appear confined to the festival context, with no documented legacy or wider community impact in this area.

ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

Paradise City Festival collaborates with River Cleanup as its main environmental charity partner, raising funds via donated cup deposits, unclaimed wristband balances, and guest tickets, while River Cleanup volunteers run on-site awareness and clean-up activities. Eco-bins for cup donations were present but not highly visible; however, a prominent River Cleanup banner at the campsite entrance encouraging campers to pledge to keep the site clean. No EDI-related charities or partnerships were identified on-site or online, and the festival confirmed that none are currently in place.

SUSTAINABLE MESSAGING

Paradise City Festival communicates its sustainability policy on-site via large "Green Pillar" banners across the festival and campsite, highlighting key themes such as waste reduction, nature protection, and sustainable food, including Klimato CO₂ data. These pillars are reused where possible and integrated into the décor, though in 2025 they were not always placed in the most visible or central locations. EDI messaging is more limited: aside from the Angels of Paradise team promoting collective wellbeing and safer spaces, and a "Milk & Chill" tent providing a breastfeeding and pumping area for mothers, no broader EDI communication or visibility was observed by the assessors.

PEOPLE AND CULTURE



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External Reach & Behaviour Change: **Actions and Observations** from the event;

COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT

Paradise City communicates its environmental and EDI efforts through multiple channels and at different stages of the event. Before the festival, sustainability, citizenship and safer-space guidelines (including Angels of Paradise and Milk & Chill) are shared via the website, FAQs, policies, and participant emails (e.g. campsite waste rules). On site, large “Green Pillar” banners, citizenship messaging, and some CO₂ information on food help raise awareness, although assessors noted that pillars and environmental information were not always centrally placed or highly visible in 2025. The Angels of Paradise and the Milk & Chill space provide clear, practical expressions of EDI and wellbeing, supported by detailed online guidelines covering zero tolerance for harassment, consent, drugs, hearing protection, and environmental behaviour. Post-festival, Paradise City publishes environmental information such as its AGF carbon footprint report and, in 2024, communicated campsite litter issues on social media; however, no similar 2025 follow-up was found.

EXTERNAL REACH & BEHAVIOUR CHANGE REVIEW

Paradise City Festival offers clear channels for feedback and enquiries via a website contact form, direct email (info@paradisecity.be), social media, and a published phone number, with email positioned as the primary route. A post-event survey is used both for carbon reporting and to inform improvements, and in 2025 it included specific questions on sustainability perceptions. According to the results shared, over 60% of respondents felt the festival influences people’s behaviour, and around 80% agreed that Paradise City has a positive impact, indicating that its environmental messaging and actions are not only noticed but also perceived as meaningful by a large majority of attendees.

A. Sustainability Transparency	The event could consider setting targets for this EDI and environmental policies.
B. Measures Beyond the Event	Consider taking measures beyond the event itself to raise EDI awareness and action amongst industry and suppliers. This could include sharing information with the wider industry, workshops and engagement outside of the event, local projects and education using experience from the event..
C. Associated Charities	The festival can continue supporting environmental causes and collaborating with environmental organisations as part of the event. Additionally, the festival might consider expanding its efforts to include partnerships and initiatives focused on EDI and social justice causes.
D. Sustainable Messaging	The event could review current use of EDI and social justice messaging in décor, installations and creative content of the event, in order to identify areas where it is possible to incorporate more
E. Communication & Engagement	Consider ways of further engaging with audience (and other potentially interested stakeholders) on EDI and social justice issues that align with the events values, to help raise awareness and generate wider action.
F. External Reach & Behaviour Change Review	The festival can continue promoting its numerous initiatives to inspire environmental and social awareness and action among the audience and conducting studies to evaluate the impact of event actions. Furthermore, Paradise City could continue testing and implementing different measures, such as at the campsite, to evaluate their effectiveness.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

66%

CARBON ANALYSIS



CARBON FOOTPRINT

CARBON FOOTPRINT

Carbon Analysis looks at the Carbon Equivalent Emissions generated by the event taking place. This is an important measure because Carbon Equivalent Emissions are directly associated with global climate change and there is a grave need for their control. Measurement is important so that events can really gage what impact their event is having, and whether the actions the event adopts are having the desired impact in terms of these important emissions. Analysis is not only beneficial for the events own benchmarking, but when shared can help to feed in to benchmarks for the industry as a whole.

Carbon Analysis: **Actions and Observations** from the event;

CARBON FOOTPRINT PLANNING

Paradise City Festival has been using AGF carbon footprint reports, including recommendations to set clear reduction targets, and in 2025 began developing a carbon reduction strategy aligned with the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) in collaboration with consultancy SLO. While this represents a positive and potentially robust future framework, no written strategy or concrete science-based targets were made available during the assessment period. The festival explains that a change in sustainability management prevented the development of a full 2025 sustainability report and updated targets, and that SBTi-aligned goals will provide this structure going forward. As of the end of the assessment, however, no documented carbon reduction targets or strategy had been shared.

CARBON EMISSION DATA - ENERGY & RESOURCE USE

Data featured in the CO2 report.

CARBON EMISSION DATA - TRANSPORT & ACCOMODATION

Data featured in the CO2 report.

CARBON EMISSION DATA - PROCUREMENT

Data featured in the CO2 report.

CARBON EMISSION REDUCTION

Paradise City's 2025 carbon data shows that overall impacts are rising with growth, while efficiency per person is improving. Emissions per person per day decreased from 11.6 to 10.2 kg CO₂e, driven notably by a sharp reduction in audience air travel and lower artist transport and accommodation emissions, although audience and contractor ground transport increased. Energy use rose in 2025, with higher generator fuel and grid electricity consumption, even though fuel use per kWh has improved compared with previous years. Food and beverage emissions increased, mainly due to higher sales volumes and a slightly higher Klimato intensity per serving, while artist and comfort catering emissions decreased. Purchased materials still represent a small share of total emissions (around 1.2%) but show a clear rise, particularly for production materials and merchandise, largely due to broader and more complete data coverage. Waste-related emissions went up in line with higher volumes and better reporting, whereas water-related emissions remained broadly stable, with total water use decreasing and efficiency (litres per person per day) improving. Overall, the festival is becoming more carbon-efficient per attendee, but absolute emissions continue to grow, especially in energy, food and materials, underlining the need for clear reduction targets and prioritised action in these areas.

CARBON ANALYSIS**CARBON FOOTPRINT****CARBON FOOTPRINT**

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Analysis is not only beneficial for the events own benchmarking, but when shared can help to feed in to benchmarks for the industry as a whole.

Carbon Analysis: **Actions and Observations** from the event;

GREEN INVESTMENTS

Paradise City reports that it offsets its emissions and has already invested in several projects that are not yet fully integrated into its carbon accounting. The festival is currently working with ClaireCO₂ to incorporate past projects and to select new ones with the aim of fully offsetting its 2024 and 2025 emissions; however, no evidence was provided to clarify whether these are verified carbon removal projects with long-term storage. No information was presented regarding carbon in-setting measures specifically framed as such, beyond the festival's general investments in lower-impact infrastructure and operations.

CARBON REMOVALS OR OFFSETS

Paradise City states that it offsets its emissions, but no supporting evidence (e.g. project details, certificates, or volumes of tCO₂e offset) was provided for review. No investments in carbon removal projects with long-term storage were documented.

CARBON ANALYSIS



CARBON FOOTPRINT RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Carbon Footprint Planning	The event could set out specific emission reduction targets over a set period of time, either for the event as a whole or for specific emission sources. Consider aligning with the 50% emission reduction by 2030 target defined by The Paris Agreement, taking into consideration the event country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Examples of alignment with this include The Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research's 'Roadmap to Super Low Carbon Live Music' and Net Zero Carbon Events' 'Net Zero Roadmap'.
E. Carbon Emission Reduction	Expand the emission reduction plan by setting specific reduction targets for energy, resource use, travel, and/or procurement.
F. Green Investments	Consider investing in carbon removals through reputable projects with evidence of carbon removals over time. This could be for the complete event emissions or specific emissions source (such as Scope 1 and 2). AGF advocates the use of projects that REMOVE carbon from the atmosphere, rather than carbon avoidance projects. Consider developing an investment plan for in-setting and improvement projects (such as equipment upgrades, building efficiencies, etc.) to reduce future emissions on site. Look at broader investments, partnerships, or funding for environmental and biodiversity charities or causes.
G. Carbon Removals or Offsets	Carbon removals and offsets should be considered a last resort after reductions and improvements. However, if either of these options are used, it is recommended to obtain and be able to provide clear information on the types of projects used, along with records of amounts removed or offset issued by the applicable project itself.

Carbon Analysis: Grade & Score

HIGHLY COMMENDED

74%

CARBON ANALYSIS



CARBON FOOTPRINT DATA

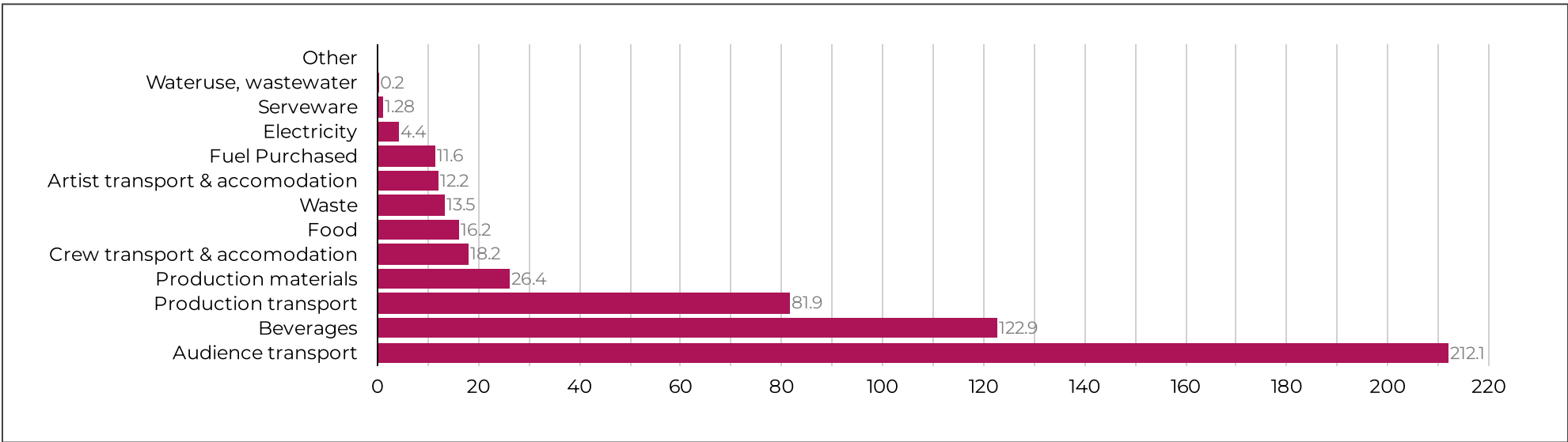
Total Measured Carbon Footprint (Tonnes CO₂e)

520.88

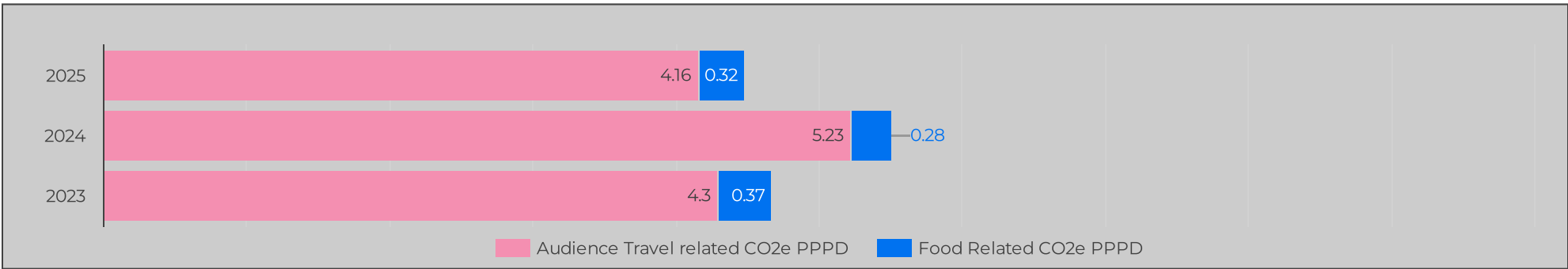
Carbon Footprint Per Person Per Day (kg)

10.2

2025 - Festival Carbon Footprint by Activity



Audience Travel & Food Related CO₂e Per Person per Day



Congratulations!

Paradise City Festival

..

for achieving the Greener Festival Certification 2025

OUTSTANDING



AGF would like to thank you for your participation in the Certification scheme, and for the extremely important efforts and commitment in creating a greener event industry.

We hope to continue this journey with you in the years ahead.