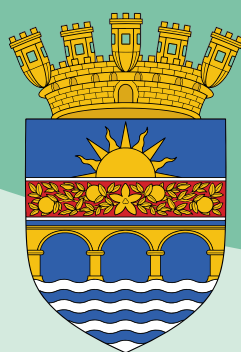


KUNSILL REĠJONALI LVANT

Green Events Framework:  
**A Sustainability Policy**

EASTERN REGION OF CULTURE 2024



KUNSILL REĠJONALI IWANTI



**BIRKIRKARA**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**GHARGHUR**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**GŻIRA**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**IKLIN**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**HAL LIJA**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**MSIDA**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



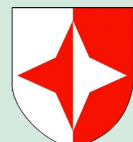
**PEMBROKE**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**PIETÀ**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**ST. JULIAN'S**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**SLIEMA**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**SWIEQI**  
LOCAL COUNCIL



**TÀ XBIEX**  
LOCAL COUNCIL

# EASTERN REGION OF CULTURE 2024

## #EROC2024

The Eastern Regional Council is proud to host the Eastern Region of Culture 2024.

Our commitment to sustainability is paramount, and all events will follow guidelines and regulations aligned with our Green Events Framework Sustainability Policy. We are dedicated to minimising our environmental impact, promoting inclusivity, and supporting local businesses. By embracing these principles, we aim to enrich cultural experiences that leave a positive and lasting legacy for our community and the environment.

**Disclaimer:** *The Green Events Framework: A Sustainability Policy is the basic requirement for all events hosted under the title Eastern Region of Culture 2024. Should 'Phase 2' be initiated the scope of the applicability of the policy will be widened to cover other events, including local feasts. It is within the Local Councils' interest to consult with experts and increase the level of sustainability within the events held. Additionally, we recommend prioritising GSTC, Green Key, and the EU Eco label certified establishments as endorsed by the Malta Tourism Authority.*

Should you have any questions along the way, kindly do not hesitate to contact us for further clarification. More resources, training and support is available at [www.globalgreenevents.org](http://www.globalgreenevents.org).

This document has been created in collaboration with: **Global Green Events Ltd.**



## **WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

*ANTHONY CHIRCOP*

Our team has dedicated substantial effort to curate the Event Sustainability Policy Document, a comprehensive compilation of recommendations by the Eastern Regional Council. This document outlines environmental measures crucial for events organized by both the Eastern Regional Council and the constituent Local Councils within the Eastern Region, particularly during the upcoming Eastern Region of Culture 2024.

I seize this moment to encourage the active collaboration of all stakeholders in thoroughly reviewing this document. Should any queries arise, the Eastern Regional Council offices stand ready to provide assistance and clarification. Prior to finalizing the Policy Document, extensive consultations were conducted with the Local Councils.

This collaborative process aimed to gain a profound understanding of the practical and feasible measures each council could undertake, all in pursuit of the greater good for current and future generations. Your thoughtful consideration and cooperation are paramount in ensuring the success and impact of our shared commitment to sustainability.



## **WORDS FROM THE ENVIRONMENT MANAGER**

*ANDREA BORG BRINCAT*

The Eastern Regional Council is thrilled to announce the release of the Green Events Framework: A Sustainability Policy for the Eastern Region of Culture 2024.

This comprehensive set of guidelines reflects our commitment to fostering environmentally responsible practices within the Local Councils. With a focus on sustainability, the framework encourages the incorporation of eco-friendly initiatives in event planning and execution. From waste reduction and energy conservation to promoting green transportation options, the policy is designed to ensure that cultural events in our region align with environmentally conscious principles.

By adhering to these guidelines, Local Councils will play a crucial role in promoting a harmonious balance between cultural celebrations and well-being of our planet.



## **WORDS FROM THE CEO OF GLOBAL GREEN EVENTS LTD.** *GAYLE MURPHY*

Last year the Arts Council Malta funded the Regional Councils to go through our Strategy Implementation Programme. Since the sessions, the Eastern Region have invested focus and energy into continuing their own consultation sessions with Global Green Events Ltd. This is to be highly commended as the first Region to truly bring Sustainability to the forefront.

The Sustainability Policy has been structured based on the key impact areas that the Regions events create, legislation here in Malta and with a strong collaboration with all stakeholders. The Region of Culture is a platform for this Region and its Local Councils to raise the bar in sustainable events here in Malta. To be the first to invest such attention into not just talk, but action, to make a difference across all pillars, the environmental, social and economic; to reduce their environmental impacts, while improving social benefits and economic choices for the good of all.

It is a marked moment in Malta's history, and starting with this Policy, and the support of the President, Environmental Manager and Regional Office, as well as accessing the free resources on our website, we trust that you all feel supported enough to step outside the box of the norm, and use your leverage as Councils to pave a sustainable way forward for the Eastern Region and other Regions to follow, far beyond the bounds of the Region of Culture.

# ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

## WASTE MINIMISATION

Points marked in **orange** refer to non-negotiables supported by legislation

- Adopt practices like **Refusing, Reducing, Reusing, Repurposing,** and **Recycling**, and composting; whilst prohibiting **single-use products** from all events hosted under the title of 'Region of Culture'.

### Refuse

- > Exclusion of any type of **balloons** and plastic **confetti** to be released during events.
- > Encourage attendees to bring their own food and beverage containers and lessen the reliance on disposable items. Incentivise attendees to bring their own containers through a depositing system.

### Reduce

- > Opt out of printing on paper and focus on virtually promoting events on social media.

### Reuse

- > Invest in equipment which may be used several times; whilst we encourage the concept of sharing resources across the Local Councils.



## Repurpose

- > Utilise an item which no longer serves its purpose by reinventing its purpose. i.e. industrial pallets as seating and decorative bunting from old fabrics.

**Recycling:** adequate waste separation must be tailored for all events.

- > Collaborate with the Regional Council to reserve the required amount of bin signage structures for events
- > Through an understanding with the Eastern Regional Council, the Cleaning and Maintenance Division will provide the service of wheelie bin rental for free.
- > Should the Cleaning and Maintenance Division not provide the service of waste separation, the Local Council must engage with relevant suppliers to provide the service of correct waste separation as per legislation (general waste, recycling and organic).
- > Waste generated by suppliers (e.g. from catering services) should be separated at source (i.e. organic, recyclable, glass, etc.) to enable separate collection and treatment.
- > Deploy portable BCRS machines to encourage attendees to further recycle.



We champion the **“Leave No Trace”** principle by ensuring that *proper disposal options* are available for all esteemed guests.





## CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE



- Engage dedicated cleaning personnel to oversee the event's cleanliness.

Frequent cleaning checks should be made throughout events hosted for more than 100 individuals to encourage adequate waste disposal.

- > Cleaning checks include, emptying and preparing of waste disposal bins for mixed, recycling, and organic waste and litter picking from the floors to encourage less littering.

**For specifications kindly refer to the 'Waste Management Document'.**

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY



- Emphasise the importance of energy efficiency and opting for energy-efficient equipment and methods to curtail energy consumption throughout events.

- Take into consideration the brightness level during your events as to not disturb the biodiversity within the area.

**Choose** energy-efficient equipment, such as LED bulbs, over traditional halogen bulbs; extending this principle to partnership with event suppliers for a collective commitment to energy-conscious practices.

## SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS



- Opt for ecological materials when preparing event paraphernalia.

**Reusable, recyclable, and compostable where necessary.**

- Food vendors and bars must provide alternatives to single-use plastic products and/or packaging. A strict prohibition on plastic straws and cutlery is steadfastly encouraged as per the Restrictions on Placing on the Market of Single-Use Plastic Products Regulations (S.L.549.140).

*It is important to note that whilst no event may be "net-zero", decisions made must follow refusal and reduction, in order to improve how resources are best managed and utilised.*



## FOOD AND BEVERAGE



- Opt for locally sourced, organic, seasonal and sustainable food and beverage alternatives to decisively mitigate the ecological impact linked with catering services.
- Food by order and minimal menu options reduce the likelihood of disposing any miscalculated food items. Do not dispose of any extra food items, but distribute them (taking into consideration food safety) after events.
- Responsible hydration may be achieved through drinking water dispensers providing attendees the choice between refillable containers and compostable disposables.
- Concurrently discourage the use of **single-use plastics**.  
**For specifications kindly refer to the 'Food Vendors Document'.**

## SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY



- **Promote sustainable transportation choices among attendees, participants and organisers to contribute towards reduced air and noise pollution, thus benefitting the health and quality of life of the community. Incentivise individuals who utilise the below means of sustainable mobility through fare reduction, tickets or priority entry.**

**Public Transport:** list the adequate ferry schedule and bus numbers and stops to and from the event.

**Carpooling:** collaborate with Malta Public Transport to provide tailor-made routes to and from the event.

**Cycling/Walking:** provide safe cycling and walking routes to and from the event.

- The provision of shuttle buses, park-and-ride programs, and carpooling opportunities enhances accessibility for event attendees, ensuring both convenience and environmental responsibility. By facilitating diverse and efficient transportation methods, we not only underscore our commitment to sustainability but also guarantee robust attendance.

# SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## HEALTH AND SAFETY



**The Region of Culture Agreement's Terms and Conditions (points 8 & 9) emphasises the possession of the following:**

- > A risk assessment of the venue,
- > Supplier compliance certification and
- > Adequate accessibility options at the venue for all.



**Events which host less than 100 individuals must have a first aider on site throughout the duration of the activity.**

- > Should vulnerable individuals be present and physical activity is conducted during the event, it is suggested to automatically opt for an ambulance.



**Events hosting more than 100 individuals must always have a well-equipped ambulance.**

- > The quantity of ambulances on site is determined by the capacity of the event.



**Inform**

- > The Malta Police Force of any potential safety hazards.
- > The Local Enforcement System Agency (LESA) in conjunction with Transport Malta with relevance of any potential road closures.

*It is up to the Local Councils to employ additional ambulances and health personnel.*



## LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- Engage with local communities and identify opportunities for collaboration and support on events, to ensure bridging long-term sustainability networks.

**Partner with local businesses, organisations, and residents to ensure that any event has a positive impact on the community. Feel free to establish collaborative partnerships with local band clubs and kiosks to ensure seamless coordination when organising events.**

- > Uphold human rights and promote diversity, inclusion, and equity.
- > Create a safe and welcoming environment for all participants, regardless of ability, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion or any other personal characteristics.


## BIODIVERSITY

- This policy follows the Whole-of-Society Approach present within the National Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). Green Events are an excellent platform for raising awareness on matters pertaining to biodiversity.
- Activities that may affect protected species or areas should be carefully assessed, and appropriate mitigation measures must be in subject to the activity and location in question.
- Consideration should also be given to minimising noise and light pollution during events, in order to further protect biodiversity.
- It should be ensured that activities carried out in public green spaces do not result in damage to such green areas.




# CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

## IMPROVEMENT AND ADAPTATION

 We are committed to hosting sustainable events which:


- > **make a positive impact on the environment**
- > **promote health and well-being, and**
- > **strengthen local communities.**

 We believe that sustainable events are not only environmentally responsible but also socially and economically beneficial. We will continuously strive to improve our sustainability practices and set a new standard for sustainable event management. We remain receptive to integrating novel sustainable methodologies and emerging technologies as part of our ongoing commitment to refinement.

**For guidance on adequate suppliers who provide adequate services, kindly contact Global Green Events - [www.globalgreenevents.com](http://www.globalgreenevents.com)**



## FOSTERING CONSCIOUSNESS

 Cultivate a sense of engagement among participants, suppliers, crew, and vendors by illuminating the objectives you aspire to accomplish through your event.

**Prior to the event, disseminate the appropriate documents present within the Events Sustainability Policy, containing the required specifications to meet the aims of this policy and effectively conveying our purpose and progressive initiatives.**

**Harness the power of social media, national press, and media outlets as potent platforms to magnify your message and inspire resonance.**

### RELEVANT LINKS

<https://legislation.mt/eli/si/441.4/eng/pdf>

<https://www.wastecollection.mt/#:~:text=Mandatory%20Waste%20Separation,as%20from%2014%20April%202023.>

<https://era.org.mt/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Single-Use-Plastics-Strategy.pdf>

<https://www.um.edu.mt/iccsd/projects/nudgingactivetraveleasterregionalcouncil/>

<https://www.globalgreenevents.org/how-to-docs/>

<https://sostenibilita.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/National-Energy-and-Climate-Plan-2021-2030.pdf>



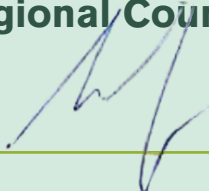
# DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO THE GREEN EVENTS FRAMEWORK

The undersigned Mayors and Executive Secretaries of the Local Council wholeheartedly endorse and commit to the Events Sustainability Policy and its commitments listed hereunder.

- Prohibiting single-use plastic products at all events. Encourage attendees to bring their own containers and collaborate with Local Councils to optimise waste management.
- Ensure event cleanliness by engaging dedicated cleaning personnel to make frequent interventions for events hosting more than 100 individuals.
- Encourage and facilitate sustainable transportation options such as public transport, cycling, and carpooling, and provide shuttle buses, park-and-ride programs, and carpooling opportunities to enhance accessibility.
- Prioritise energy efficiency by utilising energy-efficient equipment and partnering with eco-conscious suppliers.
- Use eco-friendly materials, reduce a priority, reuse as secondary, and ban plastic straws and cutlery.
- Promote sustainable food choices and provide water dispensers to encourage reusable containers.
- Ensure event safety by conducting risk assessments, obtaining supplier certifications, providing accessibility options, and having appropriate medical personnel on-site.
- Engage with local communities to foster sustainability and promote diversity, inclusion, and equity.
- Commit to hosting sustainable events that benefit the environment, health, and community.
- Engage stakeholders by sharing sustainability goals and initiatives through various communication channels.

Kindly refer to the Local Council signatures in **Annex A**.

## Eastern Regional Council



---

**Mr. Anthony Chircop**  
President

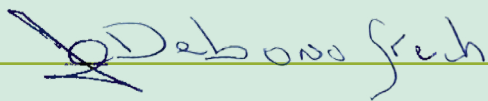


---

**Ms. Jeanette Galea**  
Executive Secretary

## ANNEX A

### BIRKIRKARA LOCAL COUNCIL



**Ms. Joanne Debono Grech**

Mayor



**Ms. Mandy Farrugia**

Executive Secretary

### GHARGHUR LOCAL COUNCIL



**Ms. Helen Gauci**

Mayor



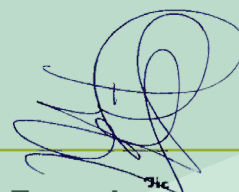
**Ms. Maria Tanti**

Executive Secretary

### GŻIRA LOCAL COUNCIL

**Dr. Conrad Borg Manché**

Mayor



**Ms. Mandy Farrugia**

Acting Executive Secretary

### IKLIN LOCAL COUNCIL



**Dr. Dorian Sciberras**

Mayor

**Mr. Etienne Montfort**

Executive Secretary

### LIJA LOCAL COUNCIL

**Mr. Anthony Dalli**

Mayor

**Ms. Pamela Borg**

Executive Secretary

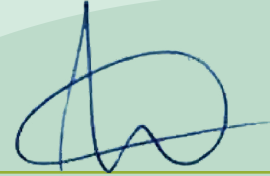


IMSIDA LOCAL COUNCIL



---

**Ms. Margaret Baldacchino Cefai**  
Mayor



---

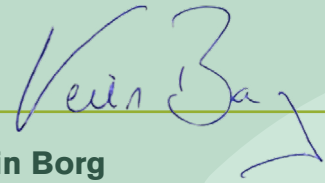
**Mr. Alan Vella**  
Executive Secretary

PEMBROKE LOCAL COUNCIL



---

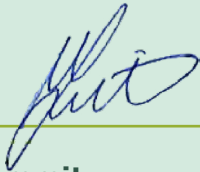
**Dr. Dean Hili**  
Mayor



---

**Mr. Kevin Borg**  
Executive Secretary

TA' XBIEX LOCAL COUNCIL



---

**Mr. Max Zammit**  
Mayor



---

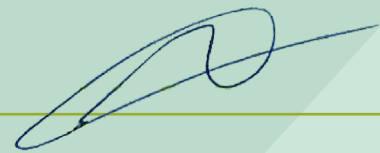
**Mr. Kurt Guillaumier**  
Acting Executive Secretary

PIETA' LOCAL COUNCIL



---

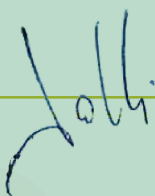
**Ms. Zoya Attard**  
Mayor



---

**Mr. Simon Cauchi**  
Executive Secretary

ST. JULIAN'S LOCAL COUNCIL



---

**Mr. Guido Dalli**  
Mayor



---

**Mr. Malcolm Agius**  
Acting Executive Secretary

## SWIEQI LOCAL COUNCIL

---

**Mr. Noel Muscat**

Mayor



---

**Ms. Clarissa Buhagiar**

Executive Secretary

## SLIEMA LOCAL COUNCIL



---

**Mr. John Pillow**

Mayor



---

**Mr. Pierre Portelli**

Executive Secretary

# FOOD VENDORS DOCUMENT



The Eastern Regional Council is dedicated to incorporating sustainability into its events. This document establishes guidelines for hiring food vendors, ensuring alignment with the organisation's sustainability policy. The focus is on fostering a positive environmental impact, supporting local communities, and delivering a diverse and high-quality culinary experience for event attendees.

## *VENDOR ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA*

- Local sourcing:** Opting for locally sourced food is encouraged.
- Menu Diversity:** A diverse menu that caters to various dietary preferences including vegetarian and vegan options is encouraged.

## *PROCESS*

- Documentation:** Vendors must provide relevant permits, licenses, and certificates demonstrating compliance with local health and safety regulations.
- Review Process:** Quotations will be reviewed according to dedication to sustainability, menu diversity, and overall fit with the event.

## *SUSTAINABILITY REQUIREMENTS*

- Packaging:** Vendors must provide alternatives to single-use plastics for their food and beverages.
- Waste Management:** Vendors are responsible for managing their waste responsibly in line with local waste management regulations.
- Energy Efficiency:** Vendors are encouraged to use energy-efficient equipment and practices to minimise environmental impact.

## EVENT DAY OPERATIONS

### **Setup and Dismantling:**

Vendors should adhere to designated setup and dismantling times provided by the event organisers.

### **Waste stations:**

Vendors must provide clearly marked waste stations for attendees to dispose of waste properly.

### **Communications:**

Vendors should communicate any special requirements or challenges to event organisers in advance.

## COMPLIANCE AND CONSEQUENCES

### **Inspections:**

Random inspections may be conducted during the event to ensure vendors are adhering to sustainability guidelines.

### **Non-compliance:**

Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in penalties, exclusion from future events, or other appropriate actions.

## CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

### **Feedback:**

Vendors are encouraged to provide feedback on the guidelines and suggest improvements for future events on [regjun-lvant.dlg@gov.mt](mailto:regjun-lvant.dlg@gov.mt)

### **Adaptation:**

These guidelines may be updated to reflect evolving sustainability practices and community needs.



**By participating in our events, food vendors acknowledge their understanding and commitment to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document.**

# WASTE MANAGEMENT DOCUMENT

## WASTE DISPOSAL TEAMS

- > Trained waste disposal teams will be stationed to monitor collection stations and assist attendees in proper waste sorting.
- > Teams will be responsible for emptying and maintaining waste bins throughout the event.

## COMMUNICATIONS


- > Event organisers will communicate waste management guidelines to attendees through various channels, including event websites, social media, and on-site signage.

## MID- & POST-EVENT CLEAN-UP

- > Conduct a thorough post-event clean-up to ensure all waste is properly disposed of, and the venue is returned to its original state.

## COMPLIANCE AND PENALTIES

- > Non-compliance with waste management guidelines may result in penalties for vendors or individuals, as outlined in the event sustainability policy.

-  **By adhering to these waste management guidelines, we strive to make our events more sustainable and contribute to the broader goal of environmental conservation.**

## KUNSILL REĠJONALI LVANT

Uffiċċju Amministrattiv, 33, 'Mabruka',  
Triq il-Qasab, San Ġwann - SGN 1713

**T:** +356 21374378 | **F:** +356 374367 | **E:** regjun-lvant.dlg@gov.mt



GLOBAL  
GREEN  
EVENTS

