

Guide to sustainability

What is sustainability (for HHGS)?

Sustainability is a very important, and ever ongoing work within HHGS. As an organization we work on all three aspects of sustainability, social, environmental and economical. We aim to ensure that every part of our organization is actively contributing to a sustainable future. To get started we have set up a guide that you as part of an association and/or project can use as a helping hand. If you want to know more, you can always check out our sustainability policy!

Environmental

Events

The food you choose for an event will have an impact on the environment. We recommend selecting vegetarian or vegan options since they are more sustainable. Also remember to ensure that the food you order doesn't end up at the landfill, calculate the number of participants and order the food accordingly. And if there are any leftovers, make sure to bring them home or donate. Another important aspect to consider when hosting an event is recycling. You probably already do it in the school corridors so please continue sorting all the used materials at events.

Travel

When traveling, try to choose sustainable transportation like bus or train and consider destinations that you can reach by those means. There are a lot of exciting places to visit close by! Please remember that you aren't allowed to travel by plane when your destination is less than 500 km.

Reusable Resources

If you want to have a themed event, try to be selective with your decorations. Instead of buying new decorations, ask your fellow organizations perhaps they have exact items you need! Specific themes, such as Christmas or Halloween are recurring, so try to gather your decorations afterwards and save them for 365 days. By not putting personalized labels, such as names or dates on your roll-ups or shirts you can extend their lifetime. If you still want a more personal touch you can always buy name tags or use digital screens!

Social

Events

During your events we want everyone to feel included, which also means that you have to think about the kind of events you choose to arrange and that you offer a broad variety. There are many different aspects to consider when you plan an event, and many things could make the attendees feel more included. Reasons such as religion, preferences or health conditions can prevent people from wanting to participate in, for example, alcohol consumption and the focus on drinking could be off putting. So always try to have everyone in mind when you plan events and try to put yourself in the shoes of as many different people as you can. The more the merrier!

Recruitment

When you start your recruitment process, make sure you put out information about this on various platforms, in order to reach as many as possible. HHGS takes a strong stand against nepotism and favoritism, and advocates inclusivity. Remember to evaluate all candidates and make a justified decision. A no feels better for the person receiving it if you can back up your decision with logical and fair arguments, and remember to always have a kind tone during correspondence.

Marketing

Remember that your marketing should not only be flashy and include fun colors, but that the language you use is just as important. Use vocabulary that is respectful and inclusive; is there a better way to get your point across?

Economical

Events

HHGS events should be for all HHGS-members. Since all of us are students, money is quite limited. Therefore always try to make your events as affordable as possible. Money should never be the reason a person chooses not to attend your events! If some events are naturally more expensive than others, make sure to offer a variety of events where some can be more affordable.

Partners & collaborators

Many organizations have partners or collaborations with external partners. When considering a new or a continuation of a partnership, always try to ensure that their values do not go against HHGS

sustainability policy. If you want to hand out products or give away, always bare in mind that the products should be both sustainable and ethical.

Budget

As a HHGS-member you should always feel that you gain benefits from your membership. Therefore, it is important for us that all organizations invest in their members best interest. If you want to have a kick-off, handover or other internal events, that is okay as long as you ensure your main priority is giving back to your members.

