

Post-Event Sustainability Report

Event name: 2025 World Rowing U23 Championships

Event location: Malta Regatta Venue, Poznan, Poland

Event date: July 23-27, 2025

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Introduction

This report summarizes the key activities undertaken during the organization and execution of the Sports Event, focused on implementing sustainability principles and minimizing the negative impact on the natural environment. These actions covered areas ranging from administration and logistics to water environment protection. The findings and conclusions serve as the basis for optimizing future events.

1. Resource, Waste Management, and Administration

Area of Activity	Activity Undertaken	Implementation Report	Key Conclusions
Paper Consumption	Limiting the use of photocopier paper.	A high level of discipline was maintained in limiting unnecessary printouts and promoting the use of a mobile application.	Efforts should be made to maintain this level.
Staff Uniforms	Implementing a policy for sourcing and manufacturing staff uniforms.	The guidelines for the sourcing and manufacturing policy were fulfilled.	For subsequent orders, consider the uniforms issued in previous years.
Waste Segregation	Segregation of waste according to local regulations.	Waste was segregated in a satisfactory manner.	Maintain these solutions.

Disposable Tableware	Reducing the number of disposable tableware in favour of ceramic and metal.	Disposable tableware was completely eliminated. Only boxes remained for situations when meals had to be delivered to the workstation.	Maintain this situation.
Cup Disposal	Distributing containers for used disposable cups.	Containers were not set up everywhere there was a source of dirty cups and were not properly marked, resulting in many ending up in mixed waste.	Containers must be placed near every water dispenser and coffee machine. They must also be clearly marked with a sign or hologram.
Food Surplus	Managing food surpluses.	Food surpluses were distributed to employees of companies involved in the event.	Maintain this solution.
Event Materials	All informative boards, banners, etc., must be reusable.	All boards were collected and stored for later use. Banners were handed over for material reuse.	Maintain current practices.

2. Energy Efficiency and Low-Emission Transport

Area of Activity	Activity Undertaken	Implementation Report	Key Conclusions
Artificial Lighting	Eliminating artificial lighting.	The daytime hours of the event and the long daylight hours in the event period marginalized this issue.	Continuation of the current policy.

Equipment Purchases	Purchasing energy-efficient equipment.	Such purchases were carried out.	Continuation of this policy.
Accreditation as a Ticket	Accreditation simultaneously serves as a public transport ticket.	The agreement with the City Transport Company (MPK) granted the right to travel by public transport based on accreditation. No agreement was reached with the City Hall for museum entry.	The agreement with MPK should be renewed. Negotiate with the City Hall for museum entry for the next event.
Public Transport Promotion	Widespread information on the possibility of using public transport.	Too many people associated with the event still arrive by private cars. A much greater number of parked cars was observed up to 2 km from the venue.	More broadly promote the possibility of free public transport. Include a mention on posters and advertisements.
Cycling/Walking	Promoting cycling or walking to the event venue.	The planned city map with designated cycling routes was not implemented. Bicycle rental operated, but no parking was provided, causing some disorder.	Develop a city map with marked cycling and walking routes. Provide bicycle parking.
Event Buses	Exploiting exclusively electric or hydrogen buses.	Such buses were operated.	Maintain the current solution.

Bus Timetables	Synchronizing bus timetables with the regatta programme.	The initial timetable accounted for the regatta programme but not the teams' accommodation in specific hotels, leading to empty runs.	When planning timetables, also consider which teams are staying in which hotel.
Electric Cars	Using electric cars.	Cars rented for the event were electric, but private and institutional cars were not.	Encourage private car owners to use public transport. Allocate parking spaces only to electric cars. Provide an electric delivery car for current OC needs.

3. Environmental Protection and Venue Stewardship

Area of Activity	Activity Undertaken	Implementation Report	Key Conclusions
Lake Water Protection	Protecting lake waters from sewage runoff from boat washing.	Due to the inconvenient location, some athletes tried to avoid the designated washing station. Failure to pump out dirty water left to evaporate results in it entering the lake with rain later.	Analyse the consequences of abandoning the washing station in favour of strictly monitoring washing without chemicals or using only mild, certified products.
Kitchen Wastewater	Draining temporary kitchen wastewater to the sanitary sewage system.	All temporary kitchen wastewater was collected and directed to the sanitary sewage system.	Maintain this solution.

Water Access	Ensuring access to tap water.	One traditional water station and one water bowser were provided. The bowser was not well described, and the taps were too low, suggesting a handwashing station.	Provide two water stations and describe the bowser more clearly or replace it with a third station.
Vegetation	Not removing any vegetation for event needs.	This rule was respected.	Continue to adhere to this rule.
Decorations	Using plants meeting ecological trade conditions for decorations.	All plants used in the decoration area were returned to the grower for further sale after the event.	Continue to apply this principle.

4. Communication, Collaboration, and Procurement

Area of Activity	Activity Undertaken	Implementation Report	Key Conclusions
Cooperation with Venue Owners	Discussions with venue owners on sustainable development.	Discussions on sustainable development are not yielding the desired results (especially regarding lake water cleanliness and vegetation manipulation).	Continue to pursue talks.
Public Image	Presenting our sustainable development image to the public.	We have done too little in this area. The image of rowing as a sport consistent with sustainable development is missing in society.	We must more widely place our sustainable development goals on the website, and signal the topic at every press conference and media appearance.

Certified Products	Rewarding traders selling certified goods in the trade zone.	No facilities or discounts were applied to traders offering certified goods.	Any actions encouraging traders to care for sustainable development were realistically omitted. These and other actions should be taken in the future.
Plastic Bag Elimination	Encouraging traders to eliminate the use of plastic bags.	The use of plastic bags by traders was not monitored.	These and other actions should be taken in the future.
Supplier Training	Sustainable development training for suppliers.	Training was not conducted.	Efforts should be made to conduct such training, covering the very basics of the issue.
Procurement Needs	Estimating needs based on previous years.	Information on current year demand was entered into the database.	Estimate needs based on the database.

Final Summary

The event successfully implemented several core sustainability measures, particularly in waste management (eliminating disposable tableware), sustainable transport (electric rental cars and buses), and resource efficiency (limiting printouts).

However, key areas for improvement include:

- **Communication & Promotion:** Significantly enhancing the public image of rowing as a sustainable sport and intensifying the promotion of public and low-emission transport.
- **Infrastructure:** Developing bicycle infrastructure and parking and improving water access points.
- **Collaboration:** Achieving better results in cooperation with venue owners regarding environmental protection and implementing incentives for traders to promote certified goods.