FIS SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT GUIDE

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1. INTRODUCTION

Behind every snow sports event is a trail of materials and resources. Temporary structures, including tents, fencing, seating, and sporting equipment, along with electricity and transport, all play a role in bringing these events to life. However, if these materials and resources are not procured carefully, they could cause harm to the environment and, in some cases, to people as well.

The choices made when purchasing goods and services for snow sports events could increase greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs), cause pollution, damage natural environments, and, in some cases, involve unfair labour practices.

For instance, procurement decisions can play a role in either supporting poverty reduction or reinforcing existing inequalities. With 241 million workers worldwide still living in poverty in 2023, responsible sourcing can be one practical way to help address this challenge.

Furthermore, Scope 3 emissions – those released from activities an organization does not directly control but is still connected to – account for the majority of emissions from large outdoor events. Many of these emissions are directly linked to procurement activities, including the manufacturing of purchased products, their transportation, electricity use, and the disposal of materials. Some studies suggest that up to 99.9 % of emissions at mass sporting events fall under Scope 3.

At the same time, because procurement decisions shape many of the environmental and social impacts of snow sports events, they also represent a key part of the solution. More responsible sourcing can significantly reduce harm to both the environment and people, while maintaining operational quality and safety.

Sustainable sourcing means taking into account environmental, social, and ethical considerations when selecting suppliers and products, alongside price, quality, and performance.

FIS recognises its responsibility to promote sustainable practices across all its activities, including supply chains and value chains. Procurement is therefore an important lever to reduce environmental and social impacts, shape markets, and drive more responsible practices across the snow sports ecosystem.

To clarify how these concepts apply in practice, it is useful to distinguish between supply chains and value chains:

- **Supply Chain**: A supply chain focuses on logistics and flow, determining how a product or service is made and delivered. This includes accessing raw materials, manufacturing, warehousing, shipping, and delivery to customers.

- **Value Chain:** The value chain looks at how each step makes a product or service better or more valuable. It includes product design, branding, marketing, customer service, and innovation.

This guide is primarily designed for Local Organizing Committees (LOCs) but also applies to National Ski Associations (NSAs). It gives decision-makers the tools they need to control and reduce the environmental impact of their procurement choices by providing practical guidance.

Users of this guide will learn how to:

- Recognize key sustainability issues when making procurement decisions
- Identify the relevant people and groups involved in the procurement process
- Evaluate and select suppliers in a responsible way
- Use trusted standards, labels, and certifications to support decision-making across different types of goods and services

This guide builds on existing frameworks, including work developed by the International Olympic Committee. Although designed for snow sports, its approach and principles are relevant to any organization looking to drive sustainability in sport.

Organizers who want to better protect biodiversity and reduce harm to natural ecosystems through their purchasing decisions are encouraged to use the Sports for Nature (S4N) Sourcing Framework.

2. SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITIES FOR PROCUREMENT

Even though budget, technical, or performance limits will always apply, the most sustainable option should be selected within those limits. Environmental, social, and economic priorities must be considered in every decision in the procurement process.

Every sourcing and supplier decision should be guided by the following core values, explained in Table 1:

- **Climate change mitigation**
- **Biodiversity protection**
- **Pollution reduction at every stage**
- **Respect for people, human rights, and labor practices**
- **Meaningful support for local economies**

Table 1: Sustainability Priorities for Procurement

THEME	HOW PROCUREMENT IS LINKED	WHY IT MATTERS	WHAT TO DO
Climate Change Mitigation	Every stage of a product's life (raw materials extraction, manufacturing, transportation, installation, and disposal) generates greenhouse gas emissions. Procurement choices shape the carbon footprint of events at each stage.	Climate change threatens human health, safety, and the natural environments where snow sports take place. If warming reaches 2°C, over half of Europe's ski resorts could face severe snow shortages; at 4°C, nearly all (98%) would be at risk.	Prioritize local and regional suppliers, cut transport emissions, select products with lower embodied carbon, use energy-efficient and low-carbon technologies, and work with suppliers that rely on renewable energy.
Biodiversity Protection	High demand for natural materials (wood, metals, water) and manufactured products leads to overuse of resources, land-use change, water stress, habitat destruction, and harm to wild-life and communities.	Healthy ecosystems provide clean air, water, climate regulation, and essential resources like food and medicine. When biodiversity is lost, these systems weaken and can no longer provide services that life on Earth and snow sports alike depend on.	Prioritize recycled or reused materials, select certified responsibly sourced products, avoid products linked to deforestation or habitat damage, and favor suppliers that respect local communities and land rights.
Pollution Reduction at Every Stage	Manufacturing, packaging, transporting, and disposing of products all create pollution – including solid waste, contaminated water, air pollution, and harmful substances. Chemicals, plastics, and pesticides are widespread across supply chains.	Pollution degrades soil, water, and air, harming ecosystems and human health. Plastic waste is a major concern: as it breaks down into microplastics, these particles accumulate through the food chain, harming wildlife and people.	Minimize packaging, avoid single-use plastics, choose reusable, recyclable, or compostable materials, work with suppliers that reduce hazardous chemicals and air pollution in production processes, and ensure proper waste disposal.
Respect for People, Human Rights, and Labor Practices	Procurement choices affect workers' conditions across the value chain – in factories, construction, logistics, and service jobs.	Workers may face unsafe conditions, excessive hours, low or unpaid wages, discrimination, child labor, or forced labor. Respect for human rights and fair working conditions is essential.	Ensure suppliers follow national labor laws and international standards, require safe workplaces, fair pay, and respect for workers' rights, prohibit child and forced labor, and formalize expectations through codes of conduct and contract clauses.
Meaningful Support for Local Economies	Where goods and services are purchased determines who benefits economically from snow sports events.	Supporting local businesses and workers strengthens host communities, improves social acceptance of events, and reduces transport-related emissions.	Prioritize local and regional suppliers, divide contracts into smaller lots for SME participation, build long-term local relationships, and involve host communities in event delivery.

3. STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED

Sustainable procurement requires the involvement of many people across the organization, the value chain, and the supply chain. Mapping these stakeholders helps identify:

- Who needs to be involved at each stage of procurement
- What information is needed
- Who is responsible for what

Doing so increases the likelihood that sustainability priorities are respected by ensuring they are understood and put into practice.

Internal stakeholders

Internal stakeholders include all departments and teams within an organization that help decide what to buy, manage purchases, or depend on goods and services to do their work. These usually include:

- Procurement and purchasing teams
- Sustainability teams
- Operations and event delivery teams
- Legal and contract management teams
- Finance and budgeting teams
- Marketing, communications, and partnerships teams

These internal stakeholders need to agree on sustainable procurement requirements from the start. Sustainability expectations should be clearly communicated, understood, and accepted by everyone involved, and integrated into specifications, budgets, timelines, and contracts across all purchasing areas.

Since procurement teams often depend on decisions made by others (event directors, finance leads, senior management), leadership support is critical – without it, sustainability requirements risk being deprioritized when budgets are tight or timelines are short. To secure buy-in, involve senior leaders when procurement criteria and specifications are being defined, so sustainability is built in rather than added on. Frame it as a business case – highlighting cost savings, reputational benefits, regulatory compliance, and long-term supplier resilience – and anchor sustainability objectives in event delivery plans and governance structures so they carry the same weight as budget and timeline targets.

External stakeholders

External stakeholders are teams and individuals outside your organization that provide, influence, or support the delivery of goods and services. These typically include:

- Suppliers and manufacturers
- Contractors and subcontractors
- Service providers
- Delivery, transport, and logistics partners
- Venue owners and operators
- Sponsors, commercial partners, and licensees

When working with external stakeholders, it's important to balance collaboration with clear expectations. Suppliers are more likely to embrace sustainability requirements when they understand the reasoning behind them and see a clear benefit to their business. Therefore, explain the goals behind sustainability criteria, helping suppliers see their role in a larger purpose rather than just a compliance checklist.

Starting with dialogue rather than demands – asking suppliers about their current practices and challenges – builds trust and may reveal solutions you hadn't considered. Where possible, support smaller suppliers with guidance or practical tools to lower the barrier to participation, and recognize those that demonstrate strong sustainability performance through preferred supplier status, longer contracts, or public recognition. Contracts, codes of conduct, and monitoring mechanisms then help ensure commitments are respected and delivered across the supply and value chain.

4. PROCUREMENT CATEGORIES IN SNOW SPORT EVENTS

Delivering snow sports events demands a wide range of goods and services, including infrastructure, equipment, merchandising, transport, security, and operational services. All of these goods and services should be identified in advance so it is clear what is required to deliver the event successfully. To support this step, Table 2 below outlines common procurement categories. These categories can be completed and modified to suit the specific needs of the event.

Before purchasing any goods or services, organizers are encouraged to take a structured approach aligned with **circular economy** principles. This means keeping products and materials in use for as long as possible – through reuse, repair, sharing, or recycling – thereby making the most of available resources and reducing waste. Such an approach can help minimise resource use, waste, and environmental and social impacts, while maintaining operational effectiveness.

For each item or service, consider the following reflections:

- **Refuse:** Is it really needed? Can the need be met using existing infrastructure, shared equipment, or another solution?
- **Reuse:** Do we already have it? Can it be reused? If not, can it be rented or borrowed, preferably from a nearby supplier?
- **Recycle:** If it is truly needed, can the product be made from recycled materials and be recycled at the end of its life?
- **Rethink:** Are there more innovative or lower-impact ways to achieve the same purpose?

New items should only be purchased when there are no other options. When this is the case, it is important to:

- Buy only what is strictly necessary
- Choose durable products that last longer
- Select materials and designs that can be reused or recycled
- Follow the guidance outlined in the sections below

Table 2: Procurement Categories in Snow Sport Events

PROCUREMENT CATEGORY	DETAILS
Arena (Venue & Infrastructure)	**Permanent & Temporary Infrastructure** Tribunes/grandstands, tents, containers, portable buildings, temporary toilets, temporary parking infrastructure, temporary fencing and other crowd control facilities, signage and wayfinding structures, media setups **Snow Production & Operations** Snow guns and pumps, groomers, snowcats, snow transport, sensors, maintenance tools, water supply infrastructure, power supply, cabling for snowmaking systems **Slope & Course Infrastructure** Safety nets, gates, ramps, jumps, poles, course marking and fencing, snow fencing and wind protection **Venue Fit-Out & Design** Seating, layouts and partitions, flooring, podiums, banners, flags, branding mesh, draping and soft furnishings, other decorative elements **Lighting Systems** Arena, competition and slope lighting, night grooming and operations lighting, safety and emergency lighting, temporary floodlights and lighting towers, digital signage
Stage	**Stage Structures** Modular or truss stages, stage decking and substructures, stage roofs, canopies or weather covers, access stairs, ramps, safety railings, wind bracing and ballast systems **Ceremonial Podiums** Winner podiums (modular or custom-built), podium backdrops and sponsor walls, flagpoles and flag-raising mechanisms, award presentation platforms **Event Decoration** Thematic scenic elements (e.g., branded structures), decorative panels and cladding, branded wraps and coverings for stages and platforms, temporary architectural features (arches, frames) **Audio-Visual Elements** LED screens and video walls, speaker towers and PA systems, lighting trusses and rigging structures, camera platforms linked to stage coverage **Broadcasting Setup Areas** Commentary booths (temporary or modular), camera towers and elevated platforms, interview and mixed-zone backdrops, cable bridges, protective cable runs, equipment mounts

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Table 2: Procurement Categories in Snow Sport Events (continuation)

PROCUREMENT CATEGORY	DETAILS
Food & Beverages	**Food & Beverages** For athletes, teams, staff, the public **Serviceware** Cups, plates, bottles, cutlery, napkins
Equipment	**Sport & Competition** Clothing and footwear (officials' and workforce uniforms), ski and snowboard equipment, protective equipment (helmets, back protectors, padding), timing and scoring equipment, bibs, waxing and tuning equipment, sport tools and spare parts **Appliances & Furniture** White goods (refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, washing machines), small appliances (coffee machines, kettles, microwaves), office furniture (desks, chairs, filing cabinets, shelves, meeting tables)
Transport & Logistics	**People Transport** Planes, cars, vans, buses, trains **Goods & Logistics** Freight transport (trucks, vans, trailers), warehousing and storage (short- and long-term), equipment transport (snowmaking, sport and technical equipment), snow-capable transport (snowmobiles, tracked vehicles), loading and unloading operations
Energy	**HVAC Systems** Heating, ventilation, and air conditioning for temporary and permanent buildings, space heating for athlete, staff, and spectator areas, climate control for offices, media, and technical rooms **Power Generation** Temporary generators (diesel, biofuel, hybrid), battery-based and hybrid power systems, grid connections and temporary substations, backup and emergency power supply, fuel supply and fuel storage systems
Accommodation	**Hotels & Other Forms of Lodging** Hotels, hostels, and serviced apartments, athlete and team accommodation (room capacity, equipment storage), lodging for officials, staff, volunteers, and media **Meeting Venues** Conference rooms, team briefings and technical meeting spaces, officials' and jury meeting rooms, media press rooms and mixed-zone briefing areas, spaces for registration and accreditation

Table to be continued on the next page.

Table 2: Procurement Categories in Snow Sport Events (continuation)

PROCUREMENT CATEGORY	DETAILS
Purchases	**Merchandise & Branding** Awards, flowers, medals, mascots, promotional items (e.g., branded apparel) **Printing & Media** Event brochures, programs, tickets, accreditations, venue plans, posters, flyers and promotional materials **Office & Operational** Office supplies (paper, pens, folders, clipboards), consumables (printer ink, toner, batteries), accreditation materials (lanyards, badge holders), IT and communication supplies (routers, cables, headsets), cleaning and hygiene supplies (sanitizer, wipes, paper products), temporary office equipment (printers, copiers, shredders), storage (boxes, shelving)
Services	**Operations & Facility** Facility management (venue operations, utilities coordination), cleaning services (indoor and outdoor areas), laundry services for athlete wear, uniforms, and linens, venue setup and teardown crews **Safety & Health** Security personnel (access control, crowd management), safety officers, ski patrol and slope safety teams, first-aid responders, on-site medical teams, fire safety and evacuation personnel **Professional Services** Editorial and content staff, legal services (contracts, compliance, liability management), consulting services (sustainability, logistics, operations), design services (branding, signage, digital assets)

5. SUSTAINABLE SOURCING CODE

This Sustainable Sourcing Code sets out the basic principles and minimum requirements that must be respected throughout the supply and value chain when procuring goods and services. These requirements cover areas such as environmental protection, human rights and labor practices, ethical business behavior, legal compliance, and transparency (meaning the open and accurate disclosure of operations).

The Code sets clear expectations for suppliers and partners. It provides a common baseline to ensure sustainability is built into all procurement activities, including tender documents and contracts, regardless of the type of goods, services, or supplier involved.

A Sustainable Sourcing Code template is provided in Annex 2. LOCs and NSAs are encouraged to use it as a starting point, either applying it directly or adapting it to their specific context, needs, and priorities. This flexibility allows each organization to shape the document in a way that best reflects their operations while maintaining alignment with overall sustainability principles.

6. SUPPLIERS

Sustainability should be included at every stage of the supplier selection process, from identifying potential suppliers to reviewing proposals and building long-term partnerships. The goal is to choose suppliers that share sustainability values and meet environmental, social, and ethical standards.

1. Identifying Potential Suppliers

When identifying and shortlisting potential suppliers, priority should be given to suppliers that demonstrate:

- Management of environmental impacts, including the reduction of emissions, the minimization of waste, and the efficient use of resources.
- Social responsibility, such as fair labor practices and respect for human rights.
- Transparency, including openness about where materials come from and how products are produced and supplied.

Local sourcing should be prioritized whenever possible because it reduces transportation emissions, supports local businesses, and strengthens relationships with local communities.

Sustainability expectations should be communicated clearly early in the process to ensure suppliers understand the requirements and can be evaluated using consistent criteria.

2. Requesting Documentation and Evidence

Before signing a contract, suppliers should provide documents that show their sustainability practices and commitments. The required documents will depend on the type of goods or services being delivered and the level of risk involved. Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 present a list of certifications and standards, in other words, documents that can be requested for most procurement activities. Use this list as a reference when reviewing the procurement guide in Section 7. Certifications specific to each procurement category and that apply to certain products and services are also included in Section 7.

Requests for documentation should be reasonable and, where possible, standardized to ensure suppliers are assessed consistently and efficiently.

3. Assessing Suppliers

All suppliers should be evaluated against defined sustainability requirements, along with other procurement factors such as cost, quality, and delivery capacity. Sustainability should be treated as a core evaluation criterion throughout the assessment process.

Suppliers may still be selected even if they do not fully meet all requirements, provided they demonstrate the ability and commitment to improve. This approach can support positive progress, especially when working with long-term or strategic suppliers.

Beyond meeting minimum requirements, LOCs are encouraged to give preference to suppliers that:

- Have clear sustainability goals and show a commitment to improving over time
- Are responsive and able to adapt to evolving sustainability requirements
- Offer innovative sustainability solutions, such as low-impact materials, circular practices, or low-emission logistics

Engaging with suppliers early and conducting market research can help identify new solutions, local or regional suppliers, and opportunities to collaborate. If the market does not yet fully meet sustainability needs, LOCs can communicate their future sustainability requirements to suppliers to encourage the development of innovative solutions.

4. From Selection to Contracting

Sustainability commitments made by suppliers during the tender process *(when proposals are submitted to compete for a contract)* can only be enforced if they are included in the final contract. Therefore, LOCs should ensure that:

- Sustainability requirements and any commitments or promises made by suppliers in their tender responses are clearly included in the contract
- Contracts state how performance will be monitored and outline consequences for non-compliance and, where appropriate, incentives for good performance.
- For long-term suppliers, changes should be made through open communication and collaboration, supported by clear terms in the contract

In summary, strong relationships with suppliers and clear contract requirements are essential to ensure sustainability commitments are met.

The next section outlines sustainability expectations and supplier questions for specific categories that should be included when engaging suppliers and during the tender process. A template with suggested sustainability clauses and contract language is provided in Annex 3.

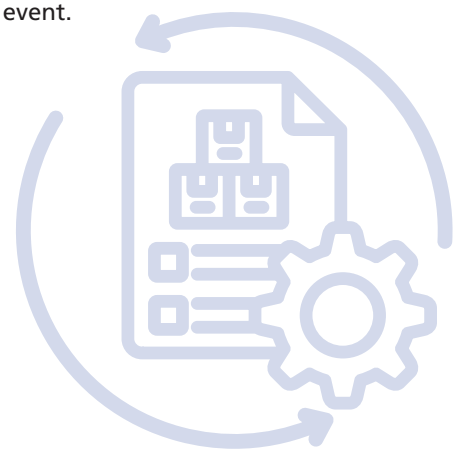
7. SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT BY CATEGORY

This section explains the sustainability expectations for each type of purchase and includes questions for suppliers based on their main impacts.

All suppliers are expected to act responsibly throughout their operations and supply chains, follow all relevant and applicable laws, and address environmental, social, health and safety, and human rights issues.

In general, suppliers should aim to reduce resource use, reuse products and materials when possible, choose recycled materials while also making sure products can be recycled at the end of their life, and respect fair labor practices and human rights at every stage of production and service delivery.

To support informed decision-making during planning and procurement, organizers are encouraged to consider the environmental impact of different options early in the event design phase. The FIS CO_2 Calculator can be a valuable tool to compare different scenarios – particularly when selecting suppliers – and to identify options that lead to lower greenhouse gas emissions. It also provides a solid data basis for reporting after the event.



For all matters related to waste prevention, reuse, recycling, disposal, and end-of-life treatment, organizers should refer to the FIS Waste Management Handbook. This handbook provides detailed guidance and practical recommendations applicable across all procurement categories.

Note: All applicable industry laws and regulatory requirements must be met as a baseline (e.g., Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive (RoHS), Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE Directive) EU). The certifications and standards listed in this guide represent voluntary programs that go beyond regulatory compliance and demonstrate a commitment to higher environmental, social, and ethical performance.

Organizers and suppliers should also be aware of emerging regulatory developments, particularly the proposed EU-wide restriction on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) under REACH. PFAS are persistent synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of products, such as water-repellent coatings, non-stick surfaces, and grease-resistant packaging. Because they do not break down in the environment, they are often referred to as 'forever chemicals.' Several procurement categories in this guide – including textiles, sports equipment, and food serviceware – may involve PFAS-containing products. Organizers are encouraged to begin phasing out PFAS-containing products now in anticipation of future regulatory requirements, and to reduce environmental and human contamination.

Table 3: Arena (Venue & Infrastructure)

Wood and Wood-based Materials	**Wood and wood-based materials,** such as solid wood, plywood, OSB, and MDF, are used to build tribunes, ramps, jumps, walls, floor supports, and interior features. These materials are typically joined with steel fasteners and finished with coatings and adhesives.
Why it matters	• Cutting down forests can lead to deforestation, loss of wildlife, and illegal logging. • If the wood is not responsibly sourced, it can have high embodied carbon. • Glues, binders, and surface coatings may release harmful chemicals.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Wood from tropical species, even if it is certified. • Composite wood products (such as plywood, OSB, and MDF) that contain high levels of formaldehyde or other VOCs. **Prefer:** • Reused wood. • Modular wood elements that can be reused. • Wood products that can be recycled. **Ensure:** • The wood is legally sourced. • There is clear documentation that tracks the wood from the forest to the final product, proving where it came from and that it was handled responsibly at every step (verified chain of custody).

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **FSC or PEFC (including FSC Recycled / PEFC Recycled):**
	These certifications show that wood or paper products come from responsibly managed forests. The "Recycled" label means the product is made with recycled wood or paper materials instead of new (virgin) wood.
	
	• **European Union Timber Regulation (EUTR) / EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) compliance documentation:**
	Documents provided by suppliers to show that wood products were legally harvested and, under the EUDR, that they do not come from land that has been recently deforested. These documents confirm the supplier has checked and verified the origin of the materials.
	
	• **Low-emission certifications (for composite wood products):**
	Certifications show that products like plywood or particleboard meet strict limits for formaldehyde emissions. Examples include GREENGUARD and EN 717-1 (E1/E0 classification), which confirm the product releases low levels of harmful chemicals into the air.
	
	  • **GREENGUARD / GREENGUARD Gold:**
	  Verifies that products have low chemical emissions.
	
	  • **EN 717-1 (E1/E0 classification):**
	  Engineered wood products classified as E1 emit no more than 0.1 parts per million (ppm) of formaldehyde into the surrounding air. This rating indicates that the product has low formaldehyde emissions and is considered safe for most applications.

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Table 3: Arena (Venue & Infrastructure) (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **EU Ecolabel** • **Nordic Swan** • **Blue Angel**
Metals	**Metals,** primarily steel and aluminum, are the main materials used in tribunes, grandstands, tents, containers, portable buildings, safety installations, and lighting systems. Steel is used for strong, load-bearing parts such as frames, barriers, anchors, fasteners, and reinforcement. Aluminum is widely used for lighter components such as profiles, cladding, poles, lighting housings, and signage. Copper is used in electrical systems, including wiring, motors, sensors, and digital displays.
Why it matters	• Mining and processing metal ores (the raw materials used to produce metals) require large amounts of energy and generate high carbon emissions. • Mining for metal ores can be linked to social and human rights risks in some regions. • The extraction of metal ores can damage land and lead to water pollution.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Avoid metals and minerals that come from conflict areas or from regions where mining is linked to human rights abuses, unsafe working conditions, corruption, or serious environmental damage. Also, avoid suppliers that cannot prove they follow responsible environmental and labor practices. **Prefer:** • Reused, rented, or modular metal structures that can be used on multiple projects. This reduces the need for new raw materials. Choose metals with recycled content and materials that can be clearly traced through the supply chain. **Ensure:** • Metals and minerals are sourced responsibly, with proper checks in place to reduce environmental harm, protect workers and communities, and meet recognized responsible sourcing standards.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Aluminum Stewardship Initiative (ASI):** A global organization that sets standards and runs certification programs to ensure aluminum is produced and sourced responsibly, in ways that protect the environment, respect human rights, and follow ethical business practices. • **Responsible Steel:** A global organization that sets standards and provides certification for steel producers and sites that meet environmental, social, and governance (ESG) requirements across the steel supply chain. • **Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP):** A program run by the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI) that checks whether smelters and refiners source their minerals responsibly. It uses independent third-party audits to verify that these companies have proper systems in place to ensure the minerals they process are obtained in line with global responsible sourcing standards. This helps companies and their suppliers identify which smelters and refiners they can trust to source minerals ethically.

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Table 3: Arena (Venue & Infrastructure) (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)** • **SA8000** • **SMETA / Sedex**
Plastics and Polymers	**Plastics and polymers** are extensively used in infrastructure and equipment: • **High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE)** and **Polypropylene (PP)** are used to make seats, toilet units, and other plastic components. • **Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)** is used for flooring, banners, pipes, fabrics, and signage. • **Acrylonitrile Butadiene Styrene (ABS)** and **Polyamide (PA)** are used for machinery housings, electronic casings, and interior components. • Portable buildings and containers often use composite panels, such as steel panels filled with **Polyurethane (PU)** foam for insulation. • **Rubber** is used for seals, hoses, non-slip surfaces, padding, and tracks. • **Geotextiles,** commonly made from Polypropylene, are used for temporary parking areas and ground protection.
Why it matters	• Most plastics are made from fossil fuels such as oil and natural gas. They may also contain chemical additives that can raise environmental or safety concerns. • Plastics can break down into microplastics, which are small plastic particles typically less than 5 mm in size, that can enter soil and water persistently. • Mixed or PVC-based materials have limited recyclability. • Workers who manufacture or handle plastics may be exposed to hazardous chemicals if proper safety controls are not in place.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Using PVC where possible. • Unnecessary composite materials, especially when single-material alternatives are available, to improve recyclability. **Prefer:** • Recycled plastics where possible to reduce the use of virgin fossil-based materials. • Mono-material plastics (products made from a single type of plastic) to make recycling easier and more efficient at end of life. • Where appropriate, certified bio-based or compostable plastics and make sure they are clearly labeled and approved for proper composting at the end of their life. **Ensure:** • Compliance with REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals) to confirm the absence of Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) in products. • To use products designed to be easily disassembled, repaired, and reused to extend their lifespan and support recycling at end of life.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **RecyClass Recyclability Certification:** Verifies whether plastic packaging is compatible with the full recycling system. It evaluates how well packaging performs across the entire waste management chain, including collection, sorting, recycling, and the ability of the recycled material to be reused in new products.

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Table 3: Arena (Venue & Infrastructure) (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **EN 15343:**
	A European standard that sets requirements for tracking recycled plastics and verifying the amount of recycled material used in plastic products. It applies to companies that manufacture, recycle, or package plastic products. Companies can obtain certification against the standard to demonstrate that they have reliable processes in place to track materials, verify product quality, and accurately calculate recycled plastic content.
	
	• **European Bioplastics Seedling Mark:**
	A certification label that shows plastic packaging is compostable under European standards. This means the material can break down properly in approved industrial composting facilities.
	
	• **EN 13432:**
	A European standard that sets requirements for packaging to be labeled as industrially compostable. It ensures the packaging breaks down in industrial composting facilities within a specified timeframe and does not leave harmful residues.
	
	• **OK Compost:**
	A certification from TÜV Austria that confirms a product or packaging can safely break down through composting. It shows the material meets strict composting standards and will decompose properly without causing environmental harm.
	
	  • **OK Compost INDUSTRIAL:**
	  Shows that a product can break down in industrial composting facilities at high temperatures (55–60 °C) within a set period of time.
	
	  • **OK Compost HOME:**
	  Shows that a product can break down at lower temperatures, such as in a backyard compost pile or home compost bin.
	
	Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include:
	
	• **Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)**
	• **Global Recycled Standard (GRS)**
	• **SA8000**
	• **SMETA/Sedex**

Textiles	**Textiles** are used to make tents, banners, flags, safety nets, mesh materials, curtains, and ropes. They are usually made from synthetic materials such as polyester or nylon, or from coated fabrics, which are materials treated or covered with a protective layer (such as PVC or polyurethane) to make them waterproof, stronger, or more durable. These textile products are often combined with metal parts like eyelets, cables, and anchors for strength and support.
Why it matters	• Textile production can cause chemical pollution and release microfibers (very small fibers, less than 5 mm long, that shed from fabrics) into water and the environment. • Workers in textile supply chains may face poor working conditions. • Textile manufacturing can require large amounts of water, contribute to water pollution, and create significant waste that often ends up in landfills.

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Table 3: Arena (Venue & Infrastructure) (continuation)

Expectations	**Avoid:** • Brand-new synthetic fibers (such as virgin polyester). • Textiles with PFAS-based coatings or finishes, and PVC-coated fabrics. • Textiles treated with harmful chemicals. • Mixed-material fabrics that cannot be recycled. **Prefer:** • PFAS-free water-repellent treatments. • Products designed for repeated use. • Clear labels indicating fiber content to support proper recycling. **Ensure:** • Textiles are produced under safe and fair working conditions. • Wastewater from production is treated responsibly. • Effective pollution control measures are implemented.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Leather Working Group (LWG):** An international organization that certifies leather manufacturers based on their environmental performance. This includes how they manage water and energy use, control chemicals, handle waste, and track where the leather comes from. • **Bluesign®:** An independent certification system that ensures textiles are produced with reduced environmental impact, responsible chemical management, and safe working conditions throughout the supply chain. • **Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS):** An international certification for textiles made from organic fibers. Certification confirms products meet strict environmental and social standards at every stage, from raw materials to manufacturing and final processing. • **OEKO-TEX® MADE IN GREEN:** A certification that confirms that textiles and leather products are made in safe and socially responsible workplaces, tested to ensure they do not contain harmful substances, and produced using methods that reduce environmental impact. • **OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100:** An independent certification that confirms textiles have been tested for harmful chemicals and are safe for people to use. • **Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP):** A certification for factories that produce clothing, shoes, and other sewn products. It confirms that these factories follow standards for safe workplaces, fair treatment of workers, compliance with laws, and responsible business practices. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **Global Recycled Standard (GRS)** • **Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)** • **SA8000** • **International Labor Organization (ILO)** • **SMETA / Sedex**

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Table 3: Arena (Venue & Infrastructure) (continuation)

Lighting, and Electrical Components	**Lighting, electronics, and electrical components,** which include sensors, circuit boards, batteries, LED modules, drivers, and power supplies, are essential parts of snowmaking systems, grooming machines, lighting installations, timing and scoring systems, and other technological equipment.
Why it matters	• High energy use and GHG emissions result from lighting and electronic systems consuming significant electricity during operation. • Components such as circuit boards, batteries, and LEDs rely on scarce minerals and generate electronic waste at the end of their life. • Rapid upgrades and component wear lead to frequent replacement and increased waste.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Hazardous materials such as mercury and lead. **Prefer:** • Energy-efficient equipment and LED lighting. • Systems that are durable, easy to repair, and built with replaceable parts. **Ensure:** • Important raw materials used in electronics (critical minerals) are obtained in a way that protects the environment and respects workers' rights.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **EU Energy Label:** A mandatory label in the EU and UK for many electronic products. It shows how energy efficient a product is. Products with higher ratings (such as A or B) use less energy and should be chosen whenever possible. • **ENERGY STAR® Certification:** A label that identifies products that meet energy efficiency standards set by the U.S. government. Products with this label use less energy, which helps reduce environmental impacts. • **Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT):** A certification system that helps organizations choose more environmentally responsible electronic products. It evaluates products based on science-based environmental and social standards and requires independent third-party verification. • **TCO Certified:** A global certification for IT products that confirms they meet environmental and social responsibility standards at every stage, from manufacturing and use to disposal or recycling. • **Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP):** A program run by the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI) that checks whether smelters and refiners source their minerals responsibly. It uses independent third-party audits to verify that these companies have proper systems in place to ensure the minerals they process are obtained in line with global responsible sourcing standards. This helps companies and their suppliers identify which smelters and refiners they can trust to source minerals ethically.

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Table 3: Arena (Venue & Infrastructure) (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **R2 (Responsible Recycling) Certification:** A certification for electronics recycling facilities that confirms they follow strict environmental, health, and safety standards when handling and recycling electronic waste. • **e-Stewards Certification:** A certification for electronics recyclers that confirms they handle and recycle electronic equipment responsibly. It ensures hazardous electronic waste is not improperly exported and is managed in a safe and environmentally responsible way. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **Climate Neutral Certification** • **SA8000** • **SMETA / Sedex**

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Table 3: Arena (Venue & Infrastructure) (continuation)

Questions for Suppliers	**Note: Not all questions will apply to every supplier. Please use your discretion to determine which questions are relevant based on the supplier's products, services, and scope of operations.**
	1. Can you show that [material] is sourced responsibly, follows the law, and can be tracked from its origin to the final product? This should include checks to ensure the [material] does not come from conflict-affected or high-risk areas without proper due diligence. 2. Do you have independent certifications or follow recognized international standards that confirm your products are sourced and made responsibly? 3. Are your products designed to last longer, be repaired, reused, or recycled, and do they include recycled materials where possible? Can you provide evidence to show this? 4. Do you measure and report the greenhouse gas emissions from the materials and products you supply, from production to disposal, and are you taking steps to reduce them? Can you provide evidence of your goals and progress? **Wood and Wood-Based Materials** 5. Do you ensure that your wood products do not use any endangered, vulnerable, or protected species, as listed by CITES or the IUCN Red List? 6. Do you make sure your wood is sourced without causing net deforestation? This means that any trees that are cut down are replaced through replanting or natural forest regeneration. **Metals** 7. How do you limit and manage the environmental and social impacts of mining? This includes how you manage water use, handle waste, restore land after mining (such as repairing damaged areas and replanting vegetation), and protect workers and nearby communities. **Plastics and Polymers** 8. What measures do you have in place to prevent microplastics from entering soil or water during the manufacturing or use of your plastic products? **Textiles** 9. What systems do you have in place to clean and monitor wastewater from textile manufacturing to prevent water pollution? 10. What steps do you take to reduce or capture small fibers from your textile products before they enter the environment?

Table 4: Stage

Stage Installations	**Stage installations,** such as main stages, platforms, stairs, rigging, and podiums, use many of the same materials as arena infrastructure. These include: • Wood and wood-based panels (timber, plywood, MDF, OSB) for floors, podium surfaces, and structural components • Metals such as steel and aluminum for frames, trusses, fasteners, and support structures • Plastics for panels, casings, and fasteners • Textiles for banners, backdrops, and decorative or acoustic elements Because these materials are similar to those used in arena infrastructure, the same sustainability requirements apply. This includes responsible sourcing, recyclability, chemical safety, and respect for labor and human rights. For detailed specifications, refer to the Arena category. In this section, additional stage-specific procurement elements are addressed.
Printing Materials, Coatings, Paints, and Adhesives	**Printing materials, coatings, paints, and adhesives** are commonly used on stage structures, podiums, and decorative elements. They are used to add graphics, improve appearance, protect surfaces, and join parts together.
Why it matters	• These products can release harmful air pollutants called VOCs, which can reduce air quality and negatively affect workers' health. • They may also contain hazardous chemicals that can cause pollution and create hazardous waste during manufacturing and disposal. • Coatings, laminates, and mixed materials can make it harder to separate materials correctly, which reduces their ability to be recycled at the end of their life.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • PFAS-containing surface treatments. • Solvent-based paints. • High-VOC coatings. • PVC-based vinyl wraps. • Permanent laminations that prevent reuse or recycling. **Prefer:** • Water-based, low-VOC, or VOC-free paints. • Printing on FSC- or PEFC-certified paper with high recycled content. • Vegetable-based or water-based inks. • Removable graphics that can be reused. • Mechanical fixing (such as clips or screws) instead of permanent gluing. • Printed textiles made from recycled polyester or organic cotton. • Modular graphic systems with replaceable covers or skins. **Ensure:** • Compliance with REACH regulations and no use of SVHC (Substances of Very High Concern). • Safe handling and proper disposal of chemical products. • Clear plans for reuse, storage, or recycling after the event.

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Table 4: Stage (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **FSC or PEFC (including FSC Recycled / PEFC Recycled):** These certifications show that wood or paper products come from responsibly managed forests. The "Recycled" label means the product is made with recycled wood or paper materials instead of new (virgin) wood. • **GREENGUARD / GREENGUARD Gold:** Verifies that products have low chemical emissions, helping improve indoor air quality. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **REACH** • **Cradle to Cradle Certified ®** • **Blue Angel** • **EU Ecolabel** • **Nordic Swan** • **ISO 45001** • **SA8000** • **International Labor Organization (ILO)** • **SMETA / Sedex**
Audio-visual (AV) Equipment	**Audio-visual (AV) equipment,** such as sound systems, screens, stage lighting, and control electronics, is used on stages, podiums, broadcast areas, and temporary setups. This equipment uses considerable energy, contains valuable raw materials, and needs to be managed responsibly throughout its lifecycle.
Why it matters	• AV equipment contains raw materials such as lithium, cobalt, gold, tantalum, and rare earth elements, which are limited and difficult to source sustainably. • This equipment uses a large amount of energy during operation. • It can become outdated quickly, which leads to electronic waste if it is not reused, repaired, or properly recycled.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Single-use AV equipment. • Equipment that cannot be repaired. • Equipment designed for a short lifespan. **Prefer:** • Rental equipment instead of purchasing new items. • Modular systems that can be reused and upgraded. • Standardized components that are easy to replace. • Devices with eco-mode or low-power settings. • Energy-efficient equipment. **Ensure:** • Critical minerals are sourced responsibly and do not contribute to conflict. • Equipment can be repaired and spare parts are available. • Take-back programs are in place at the end of life. • Electronic waste is handled through certified recycling programs.

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Table 4: Stage (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **DesignLights Consortium (DLC) Certification (for stage lighting):** Certification confirms that a LED lighting product, such as stage or studio lighting, meets strict standards for energy efficiency and performance. In simple terms, it means the light works well and uses less electricity. • **EU Energy Label:** A mandatory label in the EU and UK for many electronic products. It shows how energy efficient a product is. Products with higher ratings (such as A or B) use less energy and should be chosen whenever possible. • **ENERGY STAR® Certification:** A label that identifies products that meet energy efficiency standards set by the U.S. government. Products with this label use less energy, which helps reduce environmental impacts. • **Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT):** A certification system that helps organizations choose more environmentally responsible electronic products. It evaluates products based on science-based environmental and social standards and requires independent third-party verification. • **TCO Certified:** A global sustainability certification for IT products that verifies environmental and social responsibility across the product lifecycle. • **Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive (RoHS):** A mandatory regulation in the European Union that limits the use of harmful materials in electrical and electronic products. This includes substances such as lead, mercury, cadmium, and certain flame retardants. • **Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP):** A program run by the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI) that checks whether smelters and refiners source their minerals responsibly. It uses independent third-party audits to verify that these companies have proper systems in place to ensure the minerals they process are obtained in line with global responsible sourcing standards. This helps companies and their suppliers identify which smelters and refiners they can trust to source minerals ethically. • **R2 (Responsible Recycling) Certification:** A certification for electronics recycling facilities that confirms they follow strict environmental, health, and safety standards when handling and recycling electronic waste. • **e-Stewards Certification:** A certification for electronics recyclers that confirms they handle and recycle electronic equipment responsibly. It ensures hazardous electronic waste is not improperly exported and is managed in a safe and environmentally responsible way. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **SA8000** • **International Labor Organization (ILO)** • **SMETA/Sedex** • **Bluesign**

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Table 4: Stage (continuation)

Broadcast Setup Areas	**Broadcast setup areas** use temporary platforms, control areas, and studio spaces for camera, audio, and IT operations. These setups include modular structures, cables, and electronic equipment that are assembled and taken apart multiple times, so materials, energy use, and operations need to be managed carefully.
Why it matters	• Transporting heavy equipment produces high greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. • Non-reusable parts and damaged cables can create waste. • Installation and operation can disturb wildlife and natural habitats if not managed carefully.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Single-use cable trays. • Disposable cable ties. • Improvised or temporary fixing methods (such as random tape, string, or non-standard clips used to quickly secure cables without proper planning or reusable systems). • Temporary supports that damage floors or other surfaces. **Prefer:** • Reusable cable management systems, such as durable cable trays, covers, clips, and Velcro straps that can be used multiple times instead of disposable materials. • Modular cable trays made of interchangeable sections that can be assembled, adjusted, and reused for different setups. • Clearly labeled cables to make identification, organization, and reuse easier. • Remote production methods to reduce the need for equipment transport and travel. **Ensure:** • Equipment is assembled and taken apart safely to prevent damage, injury, or unnecessary waste. • Broadcasting equipment is properly stored after use so it can be reused for future events. • Equipment is redeployed whenever possible instead of purchasing or transporting new items. • Unnecessary travel is minimized by using local equipment, local crews, or remote production when possible.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **EU Energy Label:** A mandatory label in the EU and UK for many electronic products. It shows how energy efficient a product is. Products with higher ratings (such as A or B) use less energy and should be chosen whenever possible. • **ENERGY STAR® Certification:** A label that identifies products that meet energy efficiency standards set by the U.S. government. Products with this label use less energy, which helps reduce environmental impacts. • **Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT):** A certification system that helps organizations choose more environmentally responsible electronic products. It evaluates products based on science-based environmental and social standards and requires independent third-party verification.

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Table 4: Stage (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **TCO Certified:** A global certification for IT products that confirms they meet environmental and social responsibility standards at every stage, from manufacturing and use to disposal or recycling. • **Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP):** A program run by the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI) that checks whether smelters and refiners source their minerals responsibly. It uses independent third-party audits to verify that these companies have proper systems in place to ensure the minerals they process are obtained in line with global responsible sourcing standards. This helps companies and their suppliers identify which smelters and refiners they can trust to source minerals ethically. • **R2 (Responsible Recycling) Certification:** A certification for electronics recycling facilities that confirms they follow strict environmental, health, and safety standards when handling and recycling electronic waste. • **e-Stewards Certification:** A certification for electronics recyclers that confirms they handle and recycle electronic equipment responsibly. It ensures hazardous electronic waste is not improperly exported and is managed in a safe and environmentally responsible way. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **Bluesign** • **SA8000** • **International Labor Organization (ILO)** • **SMETA / Sedex**

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Table 4: Stage (continuation)

Questions for Suppliers	**Note: Not all questions will apply to every supplier. Please use your discretion to determine which questions are relevant based on the supplier's products, services, and scope of operations.**
	1. Can you show that your materials, products, and equipment meet all required environmental, chemical safety, energy efficiency, and responsible sourcing standards (such as REACH, RoHS, WEEE, FSC/PEFC, ENERGY STAR®, EPEAT, and TCO Certified)? If so, please provide the relevant certifications or supporting documents. 2. Are your products and materials designed to support a circular economy? That is, are they designed to be durable, easy to repair, modular, reusable, made with recycled content, and recyclable? If so, can you provide evidence or documentation to support this? 3. Do you track, report, and work to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the production, transportation, use, and disposal of the materials and products you supply? If so, can you provide evidence of your reduction goals and progress? **Printing Materials, Coatings, Paints, and Adhesives** 4. What steps do you take to reduce environmental and health impacts from paints, coatings, inks, and adhesives? For example, do you use low-VOC, water-based, or certified products such as GREENGUARD? **Audio-visual (AV) Equipment** 5. Can you share information about how energy-efficient your equipment is (for example, whether it has an EU Energy Label, ENERGY STAR® certification, or an eco-mode)? Also, what steps do you take to reduce energy use during operation? **Broadcast Setup Areas** 6. What steps do you take to reduce emissions from the transportation and setup of broadcast equipment? For example, do you use local equipment and crews, improve shipping and logistics efficiency, or offer remote production options? 7. How do you manage cables, electronic equipment, and components at the end of their use? Do you reuse them whenever possible? If reuse is not possible, do you ensure they are recycled through certified programs that comply with WEEE and recognized standards such as R2 or e-Stewards?

Table 5: Food & Beverages

Food and Beverages	**Food and beverages** refers to providing meals and drinks for athletes, teams, staff, and the public. It also includes the items used to serve and consume them, such as cups, plates, utensils, and napkins.
Why it matters	• Food and drinks can harm the environment through their production, transportation, and storage, which use energy and natural resources and contribute to climate change. • Disposable packaging and non-compostable tableware can cause pollution and increase waste. • Food waste means that the energy, water, and materials used to produce, transport, and prepare food are wasted, and it also increases environmental problems such as landfill waste and greenhouse gas emissions.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Food-contact packaging or serviceware with PFAS-based grease-resistant coatings (relevant for paper plates, cups, food wrapping, takeaway containers). • Mostly meat-based menus. • Preparing more food than realistically needed. • Using disposable tableware and containers that cannot be composted. **Prefer:** • Seasonal and locally sourced ingredients. • Vegetarian or plant-based menu options. • Short supply chains to reduce transportation impacts. • Reusable or washable tableware and bottles. • Biodegradable or compostable disposable items when reuse is not possible. • Minimal packaging made from single, recyclable materials with recycled content. **Ensure:** • Providers have environmental certifications. • Providers follow social responsibility practices, such as employing people from disadvantaged or vulnerable groups. • A plan is in place to manage leftovers and food waste, including donation, redistribution, or composting.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **EU Organic:** A certification used in the European Union to show that food and agricultural products meet strict organic standards. • **Regenerative Organic Certified:** A newer certification for food, textiles, and personal care ingredients. It shows that farms meet high standards for soil health, animal welfare, and fair treatment of workers. • **LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming) Marque Certification:** An independent environmental standard for farms that use sustainable farming methods. Certified farms are regularly inspected and must protect soil, water, and wildlife, and continually improve these environmental practices. • **Biodynamic (Demeter) Certification:** A farming standard that goes beyond organic and treats the farm as one connected system where soil, plants, animals, and people all work together. It focuses on soil health, protecting nature, regenerative practices, and specific planting methods. Farms must meet strict requirements set by Demeter to be certified.

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Table 5: Food & Beverages (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Certification:** A label that shows seafood comes from well-managed fisheries. It means the fishes are caught in a way that prevents overfishing and helps keep fish populations at sustainable levels. • **ASC (Aquaculture Stewardship Council) Certification:** A program that shows farmed seafood is raised responsibly, with low environmental impact and respect for workers and local communities. • **UTZ Certified:** A program for products like coffee, cocoa, tea, and hazelnuts that supports more responsible farming. It shows that farms follow strict rules for safe working conditions and environmental protection, and that they are independently audited to ensure compliance. UTZ is now part of the Rainforest Alliance. • **Cacao Trace / Cocoa Horizons:** Two programs that aim to improve farmers' incomes, track where cocoa comes from and protect the environment in the cocoa supply chain. • **Global G.A.P:** An international agricultural standard and certification program used by many supermarkets to ensure food is produced safely and responsibly. It sets requirements for food safety, environmental protection, efficient resource use, and the health and welfare of workers. • **Fairtrade International Certification:** A program that helps ensure workers receive fair pay and work in safe, fair conditions. • **Certified Humane®:** A third-party certification by the nonprofit Humane Farm Animal Care verifying that meat, dairy, egg, and poultry products meet rigorous, science-based animal welfare standards. • **Global Animal Partnership (GAP) Certification:** A third-party animal welfare certification that sets tiered standards for humane farm animal treatment, using a 5-Step® rating system (plus Step 5+) to support progressive welfare improvement. • **Certified Animal Welfare Approved by A Greener World (AGW):** A third-party certification confirming that farm animals are raised to high welfare standards, including pasture-based systems, humane treatment, and responsible farm management practices. • **EN 13432:** A European standard that sets requirements for packaging to be labeled as industrially compostable. It ensures the packaging breaks down in industrial composting facilities within a specified timeframe and does not leave harmful residues.

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Table 5: Food & Beverages (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **OK Compost:** A certification from TÜV Austria that confirms a product or packaging can safely break down through composting. It shows the material meets strict composting standards and will decompose properly without causing environmental harm. • **OK Compost INDUSTRIAL:** Shows that a product can break down in industrial composting facilities at high temperatures (55–60°C) within a set period of time. • **OK Compost HOME:** Shows that a product can break down at lower temperatures, such as in a backyard compost pile or home compost bin. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **EU Ecolabel** • **EMAS** • **ISO 14001** • **SA8000** • **SMETA / Sedex**

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Table 5: Food & Beverages (continuation)

Questions for Suppliers	**Note: Not all questions will apply to every supplier. Please use your discretion to determine which questions are relevant based on the supplier's products, services, and scope of operations.**
	1. Do you track and report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for your products from start to finish? Are you working to reduce them, and can you show proof of your goals and progress? 2. How do you show that your sustainability efforts are independently verified through recognized third-party certifications for sourcing, environmental management, social responsibility, animal welfare, and packaging? Please attach copies of your current certificates. 3. For outsourced catering suppliers, what percentage of your menu is made up of: 3.1. Seasonal foods 3.2. Plant-based or vegetarian options 3.3. Locally sourced ingredients 4. Can you list your direct suppliers, including any subcontractors, staffing agencies, kitchens, and wholesale suppliers you work with? 5. Do any of your products contain plant or animal species that are officially listed as threatened or endangered (for example, under CITES or the IUCN Red List)? 6. How do you make sure animals are treated well throughout your supply chain? Please list any recognized third-party certifications you have (such as Certified Humane®, GAP, AWA, or RSPCA Assured) and confirm whether they are independently audited. 7. How do you ensure that your beef and palm oil are not sourced from land where virgin rainforest has been cleared? 8. How do you ensure that your kitchen and catering equipment is energy- and water-efficient? 9. Do you use reusable tableware and cleaning methods whenever possible instead of disposable items? 10. Do you have a food waste management plan? Please describe the steps you take to prevent and reduce food waste.

Table 6: Equipment

Sports and Competition Equipment	**Sports and competition equipment,** including clothing and footwear worn by staff, officials, and volunteers, is made from materials such as natural and synthetic fibers, rubber, and plastics. The production of these materials often requires significant resources, involves the use of chemicals, and can pose environmental, labor, and human rights risks.
Why it matters	• Making fabrics often uses a lot of water, energy, and chemicals, which can cause water pollution and environmental harm. • Many garments are difficult to recycle, especially if they are made from multiple materials, and short-use items create unnecessary waste. • Global textile supply chains can involve poor working conditions and human rights risks. • Technical outerwear and gear commonly use PFAS-based durable water repellent (DWR) treatment, harmful to humans and the environment.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Using new (virgin) synthetic materials when recycled options are available. • Choosing garments made from multiple materials that are difficult to recycle. • Adding dates or event branding to clothing that prevents items from being reused. • PFAS-based water-repellent treatments (DWR) in clothing and equipment where PFAS-free alternatives are available. **Prefer:** • PFAS-free Durable Water Repellent (DWR) alternatives. • Organic cotton and recycled materials. • Clothing made from a single material to make recycling easier. • Durable designs that last longer. • Responsible regional or local brands. • Suppliers that offer repair services, take-back programs, or recycling options. **Ensure:** • Clear information about where products come from and the ability to track them. throughout the supply chain. • Compliance with international labor standards and proper due diligence to protect human rights. • A plan for what happens at the end of a product's life, such as reuse, donation, or recycling.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Leather Working Group (LWG):** An international organization that certifies leather manufacturers based on their environmental performance. This includes how they manage water and energy use, control chemicals, handle waste, and track where the leather comes from. • **Responsible Down Standard (RDS):** This standard makes sure the birds are treated humanely and are not live-plucked or force-fed. Important for snow gear that contains down insulation, such as down jackets, ski pants and mittens • **Responsible Wool Standard (RWS):** A certification that makes sure wool, often used in snow boot liners and insulation, comes from farms that treat animals well and take care of their land. • **Bluesign®:** An independent certification system that ensures textiles are produced with reduced environmental impact, responsible chemical management, and safe working conditions throughout the supply chain.

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Table 6: Equipment (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS):** An international certification for textiles made from organic fibers. Certification confirms products meet strict environmental and social standards at every stage, from raw materials to manufacturing and final processing. • **OEKO-TEX® MADE IN GREEN:** A certification that confirms that textiles and leather products are made in safe and socially responsible workplaces, tested to ensure they do not contain harmful substances, and produced using methods that reduce environmental impact. • **OEKO-TEX® STANDARD 100:** An independent certification that confirms textiles have been tested for harmful chemicals and are safe for people to use. • **Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP):** A certification for factories that produce clothing, shoes, and other sewn products. It confirms that these factories follow standards for fair labor practices, safe working conditions, and responsible manufacturing through independent audits. • **Fair Wear Foundation (FWF):** Ensures that workers in garment factories have safe and decent working conditions. • **Fairtrade International Certification:** A program that helps ensure workers receive fair pay and work in safe, fair conditions. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **SA8000** • **SMETA / Sedex**
Appliances and Furniture	**Appliances and furniture** include: • Large appliances such as refrigerators, ovens, and freezers; • Small appliances such as coffee machines, kettles, and microwaves; • Office or event furniture such as tables, chairs, desks, shelving, and temporary offices or structures. These products are typically made from materials such as metal, plastic, wood-based panels, textiles, glass, and electronic components. Whenever possible: • Choose rental, modular, or reusable furniture and appliances. • Reuse existing items instead of buying new ones. • Have a clear plan for how items will be reused or redeployed after an event. • Minimize single-use items. If single-use products are necessary, they should be made from recycled materials and be fully recyclable. Suppliers should offer take-back, refurbishment, or recycling programs to ensure products are responsibly managed at the end of their life. Products should also be designed and selected for durability, repairability, and efficient use of resources.

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Table 6: Equipment (continuation)

Questions for Suppliers	**Note: Not all questions will apply to every supplier. Please use your discretion to determine which questions are relevant based on the supplier's products, services, and scope of operations.**
	1. Do you track and report greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for your products from production to delivery? Are you working to reduce these emissions, and can you provide evidence of your targets and progress? 2. What materials are used in your clothing, footwear, and equipment (for example, natural fibers, recycled materials, synthetics, rubber, or plastics)? Please include the percentage of each material where possible. 3. Which recognized third-party certifications do your products or facilities have? Please provide copies of current certificates (for example, GOTS, OEKO-TEX®, Bluesign®, LWG, RDS, RWS, Fair Wear Foundation, or GREENGUARD). 4. Have you mapped your full supply chain beyond your direct suppliers, including processing facilities and raw material suppliers? 5. Do you take steps to reduce or prevent microplastic pollution from your sports equipment? 6. How do you ensure that your manufacturing processes use energy and water efficiently? 7. Are branded products intentionally designed so that their logos can be removed or covered without causing damage to the item? 8. How do your furniture and equipment products support a circular approach throughout their life cycle? For example, are they durable, easy to repair, made with recycled materials, and recyclable at the end of their life? 9. Do you offer second-hand or refurbished products and take-back or buy-back programs to support circular use? 10. Does your organization work with the Global Plastic Partnership? What steps are you taking to reduce plastic use and prevent plastic waste in your operations and supply chain?

Table 7: Transport & Logistics

Passenger Transportation & Goods Transportation and Logistics	**Passenger transportation** includes moving athletes, staff, volunteers, and guests by plane, car, van, bus, train, or shuttle. **Goods transportation and logistics** include shipping freight, making deliveries, and managing on-site storage.
Why it matters	• Transport contributes to greenhouse gas emissions because vehicles, trucks, and planes burn gasoline, diesel, and jet fuel. • Transport can cause noise and water pollution through engine noise, tire wear, fuel leaks, and road runoff, which can harm ecosystems and wildlife. • High levels of traffic can disrupt local communities by increasing congestion, causing road closures, and worsening air pollution.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Short flights and single-person car trips. • Many small deliveries instead of combining shipments into larger loads. **Prefer:** • Electric or hybrid vehicles for staff and guests, or the most fuel-efficient options available. • Train travel whenever possible. • Large, combined shipments and well-planned delivery routes. • Local suppliers and shorter supply chains. • Rail or sea freight over air transport for long-distance shipping whenever possible. • Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) for flights that cannot be avoided, with a minimum blend target (e.g., 10–50% SAF). • Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) or renewable diesel for buses, trucks, vans, and logistics vehicles where electric alternatives are not yet available. **Ensure:** • Public shuttle services for attendees and staff. • Incentives for carpooling, such as priority parking, reduced fees, or dedicated lanes. • Coordination with local authorities to include public transport in event tickets. • On-site storage for frequently used materials to reduce repeated transport. • Proof of SAF or HVO sourcing through recognized chain-of-custody or book-and-claim certificates (e.g., ISCC CORSIA for SAF, ISCC EU or RSB for HVO).
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **ISO 50001:** An international standard for energy management systems. It provides a structured framework that helps organizations improve energy performance and efficiency, including transportation, to lower greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). • **ISO 14083:** An international standard for measuring and reporting greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and logistics activities. • **Green Award:** An environmental certification program for ships and maritime companies that meet higher standards for safety, environmental performance, and operational sustainability than required by regulations.

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Table 7: Transport & Logistics (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Zero-Emission and Ultra-Low Emission Vehicles (ZEVs/ULEVs):** Vehicle classifications for cars that produce no tailpipe emissions (such as fully electric or hydrogen fuel cell vehicles) or very low emissions that meet strict limits for green-house gases and air pollution. • **ENERGY STAR® Certification:** A label that identifies products that meet energy efficiency standards set by the U.S. government. Products with this label use less energy, which helps reduce environmental impacts. For electric vehicles, ENERGY STAR® applies to certified EV charging equipment. • **EU Energy Label of Vehicles:** Established under EU Directive 92/75/EC, provides standard-ized information on a vehicle's energy consumption and efficiency, rating models from A (most efficient) to G (least efficient) to help consumers compare them. • **ISCC CORSIA (International Sustainability and Carbon Certification):** A certification scheme that verifies SAF meets the sustainability and emissions reduction criteria set by ICAO's CORSIA programme. • **ISCC EU:** A certification system recognized under the EU Renewable Energy Directive for verifying the sustainability of biofuels, including HVO. • **RSB (Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials):** An independent global certification standard that verifies fuels like SAF and HVO are produced from sustainable feedstocks with genuine greenhouse gas reductions. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **ISO 14001** • **Climate Neutral Certification**

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Table 7: Transport & Logistics (continuation)

Questions for Suppliers	**Note: Not all questions will apply to every supplier. Please use your discretion to determine which questions are relevant based on the supplier's products, services, and scope of operations.**
	1. How do you measure, manage, and report greenhouse gas emissions from transportation? Which standards or methods do you use (for example, GHG Protocol, GLEC, or ISO 14083)? 2. Do you have science-based targets, meaning goals that align with climate science and global temperature limits, to reduce transportation emissions? Are these targets time-bound, with clear deadlines for when they must be achieved? 3. What percentage of your passenger vehicles are electric, hybrid, or ultra-low-emission (ZEVs/ULEVs)? 4. Do you have a plan to increase the number of zero- or low-emission vehicles in your fleet? 5. How do you combine shipments to reduce the number of deliveries? 6. Do you choose rail or sea transport instead of air freight whenever possible for long-distance shipping? 7. What do you do to plan delivery routes more efficiently and use less fuel? 8. Do your shipping operations take part in recognized sustainability programs, such as Clean Cargo, the Clean Shipping Index, or the Green Award? 9. Do you use HVO or other renewable fuels for ground transport and logistics vehicles? What share of your fuel consumption do these represent? 10. How do you verify the sustainability and origin of alternative fuels (e.g., through ISCC, RSB, or equivalent chain-of-custody certification)?

Table 8: Energy

Energy	**Energy** is needed to run both temporary and permanent facilities. This includes powering electronic timing and scoring systems, as well as broadcasting and IT equipment, lighting, media centers, offices, and hospitality areas. Energy is also used to heat tents and temporary buildings. In addition, extra energy may be required before the event for preparation activities, such as snowmaking.
Why it matters	• Greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution occur when fossil fuels such as coal, oil, and natural gas are used to produce energy. These emissions contribute to climate change and local air pollution. • Human rights risks can arise in energy supply chains, including child labor, forced labor, and unsafe working conditions in fuel extraction and power generation. • Energy production can lead to resource depletion and damage to ecosystems due to activities such as mining, drilling, building infrastructure, and generating power.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Diesel-powered generators • Gas, diesel, or LPG boilers for heating where alternatives are available • Halogen or neon lighting **Prefer:** • Connect to the local electricity grid instead of using stand-alone generators, as grid power is often cleaner and more cost-effective. • If generators are necessary, use models that run on renewable fuels (such as HVO). • Use heat pumps or biomass boilers (for example, wood pellet systems or water systems) for heating **Ensure:** • Use LED lighting with smart controls, such as timers, motion sensors, and dimming systems, to reduce energy use. • Take steps to minimize noise and air pollution, especially in residential areas and near natural habitats.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Guarantees of Origin (GO):** Certificates that provide proof of where energy was produced and verify that electricity comes from renewable energy sources. • **International Renewable Energy Certificate (I-REC):** A certificate that represents 1 MWh of electricity generated from renewable sources and is used to track and claim renewable energy use. • **ISO 50001:** An international standard for energy management systems. It provides a structured framework that helps organizations improve energy performance and efficiency to lower greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). • **EU Energy Label:** A mandatory label in the EU and UK for many electronic products. It shows how energy efficient a product is. Products with higher ratings (such as A or B) use less energy and should be chosen whenever possible.

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Table 8: Energy (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **ENERGY STAR® Certification:** A label that identifies products that meet energy efficiency standards set by the U.S. government. Products with this label use less energy, which helps reduce environmental impacts. For electric vehicles, ENERGY STAR® applies to certified EV charging equipment. • **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED):** A globally recognized green building certification and rating system that provides guidelines for designing, constructing, and operating buildings that are more energy efficient and environmentally sustainable. • **Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM):** A certification system that rates the sustainability of buildings based on factors such as energy use, water management, and other measures of environmental impact, with ratings from Pass to Outstanding. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **Climate Neutral Certification** • **Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) validation**

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Table 8: Energy (continuation)

Questions for Suppliers	**Note: Not all questions will apply to every supplier. Please use your discretion to determine which questions are relevant based on the supplier's products, services, and scope of operations.** 1. What energy sources will you use for this contract (such as grid electricity, generators, or heating)? What percentage of the energy will come from renewable sources? Please provide evidence, such as GO or I-REC certificates. 2. If generators or temporary power are needed, what type of fuel will be used (e.g., HVO or diesel)? What steps will you take to reduce air pollution and noise? 3. What steps do you take to ensure equipment and installations use energy efficiently (e.g., LED lighting with smart controls or equipment certified by ENERGY STAR® or with high EU Energy Label ratings)? 4. Do you have a certified Energy Management System (e.g., ISO 50001), which is a formal system for managing and improving energy use? 5. How do you measure, track, and report the energy used during projects/service delivery? 6. Can you provide data on the greenhouse gas emissions from delivering this service/project, in line with the GHG Protocol (Scope 1, Scope 2, and relevant Scope 3 emissions)? 7. Do you have science-based targets, meaning goals that align with climate science and global temperature limits, to reduce emissions? Are these targets time-bound, with clear deadlines for when they must be achieved? 8. What targets or commitments do you have to increase the use of renewable energy (e.g., an RE100 commitment)? 9. What low-carbon heating options do you provide (e.g., heat pumps or biomass systems)? In what situations would fossil-fuel boilers be used?

Table 9: Accommodation

Accommodation	**Accommodation** covers lodging for athletes, coaches, staff, technicians, judges, and key volunteers, as well as meeting venues. While LOCs do not own or operate these facilities, they can influence impacts by selecting, recommending, and partnering with responsible accommodation providers.
Why it matters	• High use of resources such as energy (and associated GHG emissions), water, and materials for heating, cooling, lighting, laundry, catering, and guest services. • Labor and social risks in hospitality supply chains, including low wages, insecure jobs, and heavy workloads during major events.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Working with hotels that do not meet basic environmental standards, such as energy- and water-saving systems (e.g., motion sensors, smart thermostats, low-flow fixtures, and linen reuse programs) or waste reduction practices (e.g., reusable amenities). **Prefer:** • Accommodation close to event venues, with recognized environmental certifications, that supports local jobs and the regional economy. **Ensure:** • Rooms are booked in a limited number of higher-performing hotels to concentrate demand and centralize reservations, helping to reduce transportation-related impacts.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	**Building and infrastructure certifications:** (focused on the design, construction, and physical performance of the building) • **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED):** The world's most widely used green building rating system. It provides guidelines for designing and operating buildings that are more energy efficient and environmentally friendly. • **Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM):** A certification system that rates the sustainability of buildings based on factors such as energy use, water management, and other measures of environmental impact, with ratings from Pass to Outstanding. **Operational and management certifications:** (focused on how the accommodation is managed, including energy use, waste, water, staff practices, and guest services) • **Green Key:** An international certification for tourism and hospitality businesses that meet high environmental and sustainability standards. The program helps reduce the use of energy, water, and other resources, and encourages sustainable practices among staff, guests, and suppliers. • **Bio Hotels:** A sustainability certification and membership program for accommodations that commit to operating sustainably across all aspects of their business. Requirements include the use of renewable energy, waste reduction, water conservation, support for local communities, and the provision of organic food and products.

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Table 9: Accommodation (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Green Tourism Active (GTA):** A nonprofit organization that provides global certification for sustainable tourism. Businesses are assessed against 15 Sustainability Goals covering areas such as energy, water, waste, carbon, chemical use, community impact, health and well-being, and more. Businesses are then awarded a Gold, Silver, or Bronze rating based on their performance. • **Good Travel Seal:** A certification program that provides practical, step-by-step guidance to help businesses improve their sustainability performance. The process begins with a self-assessment across 10 themes, such as reducing pollution, protecting nature, supporting people, and reducing waste, covering a total of 59 criteria. • **Green Globe:** An international certification program for sustainable tourism and hospitality. It assesses accommodation providers across 44 criteria covering environmental management, social and economic performance, and cultural heritage. Certified properties undergo an annual on-site audit to verify continuous improvement. • **EU Ecolabel Tourist Accommodation:** A voluntary certification under the European Commission's EU Ecolabel scheme, specifically designed for hotels, hostels, campsites, and other lodging. It sets strict limits on energy and water consumption, waste generation, and the use of hazardous chemicals, and requires actions to raise environmental awareness among guests and staff. **Destination and tourism system certifications:** **Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC):** Certification from a body accredited by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) confirms that a supplier has been independently audited and meets internationally recognized sustainability standards. Examples of such standards include: • **Mountain IDEAL Destinations Standard:** Focuses on sustainability in mountain regions with both winter and summer tourism. It covers topics such as energy and water use for snowmaking, housing for local and seasonal workers, collaboration with land managers, and the protection of mountain cultural heritage. • **Biosphere Standard for Hotels:** A sustainability standard developed by the Responsible Tourism Institute (RTI). It supports sustainable development by measuring how tourism contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and aligns with the Paris Climate Agreement. • **EarthCheck Community Standard:** Helps organizations and communities achieve sustainable tourism goals. The standard is regularly reviewed and updated to reflect the latest science and best practices in sustainable travel certification. • **Green Destinations Standard:** A sustainability assessment used by more than 250 destinations to measure and improve their performance in environmental, social, and management areas. It helps destinations track progress, compare results, and monitor their contribution to the UN SDGs.

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Table 9: Accommodation (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **GreenStep:** The standard used by GreenStep Solutions in its assessment and certification program, which provides tools and advisory support to destinations and tourism businesses. It enables destinations to measure performance across key sustainability areas. • **Innovation Norway's Sustainable Destination Standard:** Includes 45 criteria and 108 indicators that cover environmental, cultural, social, and economic sustainability. • **TourCert Destination Criteria:** These criteria are based on international quality and environmental management standards, including ISO and EMAS. They are also aligned with ISO 26000 guidelines for corporate responsibility and the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC) criteria. • **European Ecotourism Labelling Standard (EETLS):** Developed by the European Ecotourism Network, this standard promotes responsible ecotourism across Europe through 40 criteria covering sustainable management, community benefits, cultural heritage, and environmental protection. • **Global Ecosphere Retreats (GER):** The standard is based on five pillars, Commitment, Commerce, Conservation, Community, and Culture, which guide how an organization is managed, how it operates financially, how it protects the environment, supports local communities, and builds its internal culture. • **Ecostars Standard:** A hotel-focused sustainability program that rates properties based on their environmental impact per stay, awarding eco-stars accordingly. It applies to both independent hotels and major international chains and is recognized by a wide range of global brands. • **Travelife:** A sustainability certification program for the tourism industry that helps businesses improve their environmental and social practices through a clear, step-by-step process. • **GreenSign:** A certification program for hotels that measures sustainability using more than 130 criteria across ten key areas. Hotels are certified following an on-site audit, and the certification is valid for three years. Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **EU Ecolobel** • **ISO 26000** • **ISO 45001** • **International Labor Organization (ILO)** • **SA8000**

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Table 9: Accommodation (continuation)

Questions for Suppliers	**Note: Not all questions will apply to every supplier. Please use your discretion to determine which questions are relevant based on the supplier's products, services, and scope of operations.**
	1. What measures do you have in place to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions (for example, renewable energy, smart systems, or energy monitoring)? 2. What systems do you have in place to reduce water use (for example, low-flow fixtures, linen reuse programs, or water recycling)? 3. How do you reduce waste, including single-use plastics, food waste, and guest amenities? 4. Do you have any recognized sustainability certifications or green building ratings? If yes, which ones and at what level? 5. How close is your property to event venues, and what sustainable transportation options are available for guests? 6. How do you ensure fair wages, reasonable working hours, and safe working conditions for staff, especially during busy event periods? 7. What percentage of your staff and suppliers are local, and how do you support the local economy? 8. What sustainability goals or improvement plans do you have for the next 3–5 years? 9. How do you ensure the suppliers and partners you work with follow good environmental and social practices? For example, how do you choose and monitor them to address issues such as fair wages, human rights, local sourcing, carbon emissions, resource efficiency, and waste reduction?

Table 10: Purchases

Purchases	**Purchases** include a range of consumable and promotional items, such as awards and promotional merchandise, flowers and mascots, printed media (brochures, tickets, programs), and office or operational supplies used to support staff, volunteers, and administration.

Why it matters	• Producing goods requires raw materials, energy, and water, which can lead to:
	  • Resource depletion and habitat destruction from extracting raw materials.
	  • Pollution during manufacturing.
	  • Greenhouse gas emissions from the production and transportation of products.
	  • Depletion of freshwater supplies.
	• Single-use or low-quality items often become waste quickly, meaning they are more likely to end up in landfills or be burned in incinerators, both of which contribute to pollution and environmental damage.
	• Because many products are made through global supply chains, there is also a risk of unfair wages, unsafe working conditions, excessive working hours, and other human rights violations if suppliers are not carefully selected and monitored.

Expectations	**Avoid:** • Single-use or disposable promotional items. • Cut flowers that will be thrown away after the event. • Materials that cannot be recycled or composted. • Ordering more items than needed without a plan to reuse, donate, or repurpose leftovers. **Prefer:** • Products made from recycled or sustainably sourced materials. • Reusable, durable merchandise instead of short-lived items. • Living plants instead of cut flowers for decoration. • Renting items (such as mascot costumes) instead of buying new ones. • Digital materials instead of printed items when possible. • Certified sustainable paper (e.g., FSC or PEFC) and vegetable- or low-VOC-based inks for printing. • Local suppliers and shorter supply chains to reduce transport impacts. **Ensure:** • There is a clear plan to reuse, donate, take back, or recycle items after the event. • Accreditation badges are made from paper, and lanyards are collected for reuse. • Suppliers meet recognized ethical labor and production standards.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Milieu Program Sierteelt (MPS):** An international organization based in the Netherlands that certifies and sets sustainability standards for growing flowers, plants, and other horticultural products. • **FSC or PEFC (including FSC Recycled / PEFC Recycled):** These certifications show that wood or paper products come from responsibly managed forests. The "Recycled" label means the product is made with recycled wood or paper materials instead of new (virgin) wood. • **RecyClass Recyclability Certification:** Verifies whether plastic packaging is compatible with the full recycling system. It evaluates how well packaging performs across the entire waste management chain, including collection, sorting, recycling, and the ability of the recycled material to be reused in new products.

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Table 10: Purchases (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **EN 15343:**
	A European standard that sets requirements for tracking recycled plastics and verifying the amount of recycled material used in plastic products. It applies to companies that manufacture, recycle, or package plastic products. Companies can obtain certification against the standard to demonstrate that they have reliable processes in place to track materials, verify product quality, and accurately calculate recycled plastic content.
	
	• **APR Design® Recognition:**
	A voluntary third-party recognition program that verifies whether plastic packaging components meet the recyclability criteria outlined in the APR Design® Guide for Plastics Recyclability.
	
	• **European Bioplastics Seedling Mark:**
	A certification label that shows plastic packaging is compostable under European standards. This means the material can break down properly in approved industrial composting facilities.
	
	• **EN 13432:**
	A European standard that sets requirements for packaging to be labeled as industrially compostable. It ensures the packaging breaks down in industrial composting facilities within a specified timeframe and does not leave harmful residues.
	
	• **OK Compost:**
	A certification from TÜV Austria that confirms a product or packaging can safely break down through composting. It shows the material meets strict composting standards and will decompose properly without causing environmental harm.
	
	  • **OK Compost INDUSTRIAL:**
	  Shows that a product can break down in industrial composting facilities at high temperatures (55–60°C) within a set period of time.
	
	  • **OK Compost HOME:**
	  Shows that a product can break down at lower temperatures, such as in a backyard compost pile or home compost bin
	
	Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include:
	
	• **Global Recycled Standard (GRS)**
	• **Blue Angel**
	• **EU Ecolabel**
	• **SA8000**
	• **SMETA / Sedex**

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Table 10: Purchases (continuation)

Questions for Suppliers	**Note: Not all questions will apply to every supplier. Please use your discretion to determine which questions are relevant based on the supplier's products, services, and scope of operations.**
	1. Do your products have any recognized third-party environmental or social certifications? If yes, which ones? 2. How do you measure, report, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions from producing and transporting your products? 3. Are your products designed to be reused, repaired, or recycled as part of a circular economy approach? 4. How do you measure and reduce environmental impacts throughout the product life cycle, accounting for energy use, water use, emissions, and pollution? 5. Where are your products made, and how do you ensure fair wages, safe working conditions, and respect for human rights in your supply chain? 6. What options do you offer for reusing, renting, returning, recycling, or responsibly disposing of products at the end of their life? 7. Have you mapped the companies that provide the materials, parts, and services used in your products beyond your direct suppliers? If so, what processes do you use to identify, monitor, and reduce environmental and social risks in those companies, such as emissions, resource use, labor conditions, and human rights impacts? 8. What steps are you taking to reduce plastic use and prevent plastic pollution, such as eliminating unnecessary single-use plastics and increasing recycled content? 9. Are your products designed so people with different abilities can use them easily, and do they respect cultural and religious differences? 10. Do your products meet safety requirements, especially if they are intended for children or likely to attract them?

Table 11: Services

Services	**Services** include all outsourced, contracted, or internally managed activities that are essential to delivering the event. These include facility management, cleaning and laundry, safety and security, medical support, and professional services like editorial, legal, consulting, and design. These services mainly depend on human labor, as well as cleaning chemicals, supplies, equipment, and transportation, and are often carried out by temporary staff or subcontracted workers. Whether services are delivered in-house or by external providers, the same sustainability standards apply. The products used, the procedures followed, and the working conditions provided must meet the expectations set out below, regardless of who carries out the service. When contracting external providers, organizations must ensure that these requirements are clearly communicated, contractually embedded, and regularly monitored.
Why it matters	• Cleaning products and other supplies can release harmful chemicals that affect indoor air quality, water systems, and the environment. • Day-to-day service activities use energy, water, disposable materials, and rely on transportation, which can create greenhouse gas emissions and increase resource consumption. • Outsourced or temporary workers may face unsafe working conditions, low wages, or limited access to benefits and social protections if not properly managed.
Expectations	**Avoid:** • Cleaning products that contain harmful or toxic chemicals (e.g., phosphates, parabens, persistent chemicals). • Products that do not break down naturally (non-biodegradable). • Single-use tools and too many disposable supplies. • Service providers that do not clearly explain their labor practices. **Prefer:** • Cleaning products certified by recognized environmental labels. • Trash bags made from recycled or compostable materials. • Local service providers to support local employment and reduce travel-related emissions. • Digital services (when possible) to limit printing and transportation impacts. **Ensure:** • Workers are paid fairly, properly trained, and work in safe conditions. • Subcontractors and temporary staff are clearly managed and monitored.
Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	• **Safer Choice:** A certification and ecolabel program run by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that evaluates every ingredient in cleaning and consumer products to ensure they are safe for human health and the environment. • **Green Seal:** An independent certification and ecolabel that indicates a product or service meets rigorous standards for protecting human health and the environment. It is used for products such as cleaning supplies, paper products, toiletries, and other consumer and commercial goods. • **RecyClass Recyclability Certification:** Verifies whether plastic packaging is compatible with the full recycling system. It evaluates how well packaging performs across the entire waste management chain, including collection, sorting, recycling, and the ability of the recycled material to be reused in new products.

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Table 11: Services (continuation)

Recognized Standards, Certifications, and Labels	Refer to Annex 1 Table 12 and Annex 1 Table 13 for broader certifications that apply across multiple procurement activities. Examples include: • **EU Ecolabel** • **ISO 14001** • **Blue Angel** • **Nordic Swan** • **SA8000** • **ISO 26000** • **SMETA / Sedex**

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Table 11: Services (continuation)

Questions for Suppliers	**Note: Not all questions will apply to every supplier. Please use your discretion to determine which questions are relevant based on the supplier's products, services, and scope of operations.** 1. Do you have any recognized third-party certifications related to environmental management, worker health and safety, or social responsibility? If so, which ones? 2. What policies and processes do you have in place to ensure fair pay, safe working conditions, and compliance with labor laws for all workers, including temporary and subcontracted staff? 3. What steps do you take to reduce environmental impacts from your day-to-day service activities, including energy use, water consumption, waste, and transportation? 4. What training do workers receive on health, safety, and protecting the environment in their jobs, such as managing waste, using resources efficiently, and preventing pollution? 5. Do you measure and report greenhouse gas emissions from your operations and transportation? If so, what steps are you taking to reduce them? 6. What steps do you take to reduce single-use, disposable materials when providing your services? 7. Do you try to hire local workers and buy from local suppliers so that staff, materials, and deliveries do not need to travel long distances, and to support the local economy? 8. What cleaning products and chemicals do you use? Are they certified by recognized ecolabels (such as Safer Choice or Green Seal) or free from hazardous substances?

8. CONCLUSION

Sustainable procurement is one of the most powerful tools available to reduce the environmental and social impacts of snow sports events. Every purchasing decision shapes the environmental and social impact of an event, influencing greenhouse gas emissions, resource use, waste generation, workers' labor conditions, and the well-being of host communities. By integrating sustainability considerations into procurement decisions, organizers can significantly reduce these impacts while maintaining the quality, safety, and operational success of events.

In practice, sustainable procurement should focus on areas where it can make the greatest difference. Organizers are encouraged to set clear priorities by targeting goods and services that present the highest sustainability risks or the strongest opportunities for improvement. Particular attention should be given to areas linked to major sustainability challenges. These include reducing greenhouse gas emissions to support climate change mitigation, protecting biodiversity (plants, animals, and natural ecosystems), preventing pollution, ensuring fair and safe working conditions, and supporting local businesses and economies in host communities.

This guide provides Local Organizing Committees with clear direction for responsible purchasing. By applying the principles outlined in this guide, procurement can drive meaningful improvements in how goods and services for snow sports events are sourced, produced, and delivered. Procurement decisions made at each event can also have ripple effects across the wider network involved in event delivery, encouraging more responsible environmental and social practices among suppliers. In this way, responsible purchasing can create real sustainability benefits that extend far beyond the event itself.

Sustainable procurement is not a one-time action but a continuous process of improvement, collaboration, and innovation. Organizers should work closely with suppliers from the outset, communicate sustainability expectations clearly, and regularly review procurement practices to identify new opportunities for improvement.

The procurement decisions made today help protect the natural environments and communities that snow sports will continue to depend on in the years ahead. In doing so, they safeguard the future of the sport, ensuring that future generations can enjoy and compete at the same scale.

ANNEX

9. ANNEX

Annex 1 – List of Certifications and Standards

Table 12: Environmental Certifications and Standards

CERTIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS	DESCRIPTION
B Corp Certification	A certification that recognizes companies that meet high standards for social and environmental performance. This means the company has been independently assessed on how it treats workers, supports communities, manages its environmental impact, and operates responsibly and transparently.
Blue Angel	Germany's official environmental label for products that have been independently verified to have lower environmental and health impacts.
Climate Neutral Certification	This certification confirms that a company tracks how much carbon it emits, takes steps to reduce those emissions, and offsets any remaining emissions.
Cradle to Cradle Certified®	A product certification that checks whether a product is designed for a circular economy. This means the product is made to be reused, repaired, remade, or recycled so its materials stay in use for as long as possible instead of being thrown away as waste.
Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS)	A voluntary environmental management tool that helps organizations evaluate, report, and improve their environmental performance. It includes the requirements of ISO 14001 and focuses on measurable improvements, legal compliance, transparency, and both direct and indirect environmental impacts, such as energy use, emissions, procurement, and supply chain activities.
EU Ecolabel	The European Union's official environmental label for products that have been independently verified to have lower environmental impacts throughout their entire life, from raw materials and production to use and disposal.
Global Recycled Standard (GRS)	An international certification that confirms that a product contains recycled materials. It also checks that the company follows responsible environmental, social, and chemical management practices throughout its supply chain.
ISO 14001-14004 (Environmental Management Systems)	A set of standards that explain how an organization can set up, use, maintain, and improve a system for managing its environmental impact. It is the most widely used and recognized environmental management standard.
ISO 14040-14044 (Product's Life Cycle Assessment)	A set of international standards that explain how to measure and evaluate the environmental impacts of a product, service, or process throughout its entire life cycle. This includes impacts from raw material extraction, manufacturing, transportation, use, and final disposal or recycling.
ISO 14046 (Water Footprint)	A standard for assessing environmental impacts related to water use.
ISO 14067 (Carbon Footprint of Products)	A standard for measuring and reporting the greenhouse gas emissions created at every stage of a product's life cycle, from raw material extraction and manufacturing to transportation, use, and final disposal or recycling.
ISO 20121 (Event Sustainability Management Systems)	A standard that helps event organizers manage sustainability. It provides a clear framework for reducing the environmental, social, and economic impacts of events.
Nordic Swan	The official environmental label used in Nordic countries for products that meet strict standards for sustainability. This means the product has been independently checked and shown to have lower environmental impacts throughout its life, from production to disposal.
Recycled Claim Standard (RCS)	An international certification that confirms that a product contains recycled materials. It uses an independent third party to verify the recycled content and tracks those materials through every stage, from raw material sourcing and manufacturing to processing and final production. The aim is to make sure recycled materials are properly documented and traced.

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Table 12: Environmental Certifications and Standards (continuation)

CERTIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS	DESCRIPTION
Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO)	A certification that confirms palm oil has been produced using responsible environmental and social practices. This includes reducing deforestation, protecting wildlife and local communities, and ensuring fair working conditions on palm oil plantations.
Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) validation	An independent review that confirms a company's greenhouse gas reduction targets are based on the latest climate science and are in line with what is needed to reduce the effects of global warming.
TRUE Zero Waste Certification	A certification that recognizes organizations that keep at least 90% of their waste out of landfills, incinerators, and the natural environment. This means they reduce waste, reuse materials, recycle properly, and redesign processes to prevent waste from being created in the first place.
UL Solutions – ECOLOGO	Products and services are independently verified to have lower environmental and health impacts. This certification evaluates the product's entire life cycle, from production to disposal, and requires thorough scientific testing and third-party audits to confirm it meets strict environmental standards.
Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC) compliance	An industry initiative that helps companies eliminate hazardous chemicals from their supply chains by identifying harmful substances used in materials or manufacturing processes and replacing them with safer alternatives to protect workers, consumers, and the environment.

Table 13: Labor and Social Responsibility Certifications and Standards

CERTIFICATION AND STANDARDS	DESCRIPTION
amfori BSCI (Business Social Compliance Initiative)	A supply chain audit program that helps companies improve working conditions in their supply chains. Independent audits assess whether factories follow standards for fair wages, reasonable working hours, safe working conditions, and respect for workers' rights.
Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI) Base Code	A set of internationally recognized standards used to assess and improve working conditions. It outlines basic labor rights such as fair wages, reasonable working hours, safe workplaces, no child or forced labor, and respect for workers' freedom of association. Companies that adopt the ETI Base Code typically verify compliance through third-party social audits conducted by independent auditing organizations.
Fairtrade International Certification	A certification that helps ensure farmers and workers are paid fairly and work in safe conditions. It also supports better prices for producers, community development projects, and environmentally responsible farming practices.
International Labor Organization (ILO)	A worldwide agreement by governments, employers, and workers to protect basic workplace rights, including the right to join unions, end forced and child labor, prevent discrimination at work, and ensure safe and healthy working conditions.
ISO 26000 (Social Responsibility)	An international standard that provides guidance on how organizations can act responsibly toward society. It applies to all types of organizations and covers seven key areas, including human rights, labor practices, fair business practices, and consumer protection.
ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems)	An international standard that helps organizations manage workplace health and safety. It gives clear guidance on how to find and reduce risks, follow safety laws, involve employees, and keep improving safety over time.
Rainforest Alliance Certification	A certification that confirms products are grown or produced using environmentally responsible farming practices. It also helps protect forests and wildlife while promoting fair wages, safe working conditions, and respect for workers' rights.
SA8000	A voluntary certification that checks whether workplaces meet international standards for fair and safe working conditions. It is independently verified by a third party and focuses on protecting workers' rights and improving labor practices.
SMETA/Sedex	• Sedex: A global membership organization and online platform that helps companies track and improve ethical and responsible practices across all the stages involved in making and delivering their products, from sourcing raw materials to manufacturing and final delivery. It also allows businesses to share information about labor, environmental, and business standards with customers and partners. • SMETA: An audit method developed by Sedex that checks how well a company follows responsible business practices. It reviews areas such as working conditions, health and safety, environmental performance, and business ethics.

Annex 2 – Sustainable Sourcing Code Template

This template, which combines and builds on the Sustainable Sourcing Codes used by FIS, FIFA, and the IOC, sets out the minimum environmental, social, and ethical standards that suppliers must follow when providing goods or services. It covers areas such as climate and air quality, waste and circularity, biodiversity, human rights, labor practices, and ethical business conduct. LOCs and NSAs can apply it directly or adapt it to their specific context. The template includes a supplier commitment statement to be signed before contracting.
Access the template here and adapt it as needed.

Annex 3 – Template Contract for Suppliers

This contract template integrates sustainability requirements into the formal agreement between the contractor and its suppliers. It includes clauses on environmental sustainability, responsible supply chains, sustainability reporting and data, as well as standard commercial terms such as pricing, warranties, and termination. The contract requires compliance with a Sustainable Sourcing Code, which can be the template provided in Annex 2 or an equivalent document adapted by the user.

Access the template here to see how sustainability requirements can be embedded directly into your supplier agreements.

Annex 4 – Sustainable Procurement Risk Matrix

This matrix maps sustainability risks across all procurement categories covered in this guide. For each sub-category, it rates environmental, social and labor, supply chain and economic, regulatory, and reputational risks as high, medium, or low, with a brief justification for each rating. It can be used to prioritize due diligence, focus supplier engagement on the highest-risk areas, and determine where stronger contract clauses and monitoring are needed. The ratings provided are a starting point – users are expected to adapt them to their specific event context, as risk levels may vary depending on venue location, supplier base, event scale, and applicable local regulations.

Access the matrix here and start identifying which procurement categories require the most attention.

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