

SUSTAINABILITY MAKING ROOM FOR A BETTER WORLD

Travel, accommodation, transportation, trade fairs and restaurants leave an environmental footprint that cannot be ignored. We want to take our responsibility and help drive sustainable development forward.

It is important to us that our visitors feel confident that we offer first-rate experiences, while taking responsibility for our footprint. We think that a good venue should not only be ready for the future – it should lead us there. It is quite simply time for a better world. Since 1997 we have been working on sustainable development as a natural part of our total operations. Today sustainability is one of our five main strategies and a natural part of our vision of being Europe's most attractive venue by offering the best total experience.

KEY EVENTS DURING THE YEAR:

- In January carbon offsetting of all shipments managed by our shipping agent began.
- In May we began collaboration with IT4Kids. This organisation sells all our old IT equipment and then donates the sum in our name to an aid agency.
- In May we also launched an accessible hotel suite as part of our initiative to make the hotel more accessible for everyone, whatever their accessibility requirements.
- In June we completed our equal treatment plan, which was then implemented across the group.
- In August we encouraged our employees to use public transport by offering them the chance to buy an annual season ticket for Västtrafik as a company benefit.
- In September we rolled out our communication concept for sustainability – Time for a better world. This concept is intended to increase awareness of our sustainability programme and targets our visitors, guests and customers.
- In November Gothenburg ranked first in the Global Destination Sustainability Index (GDSI), a ranking of the sustainability performance of participating cities. We collaborate with the city on sustainability issues and this ranking provides validation, strengthening us on the global market.

FROM CLEANING AND TRANSPORTS TO FOOD AND DRINK

We have broad business activities and have identified a number of focus areas in which we have an impact on people and the environment – from cleaning and transports to food and drink. Sustainability efforts are driven by committed employees across the whole business.

WASTE

We want to reduce the total amount of waste and make it easy for our guests, visitors and exhibitors to manage their waste. Today we have containers for sorting paper, combustible waste, glass and cans in most public areas and the majority of our hotel rooms. Over 85 per cent of our waste is recycled. Some is composted and digested for conversion into biogas used to fuel the cookers in our restaurant kitchens.



CHEMICALS

Our ambition is that all products used in the daily operation should be ecolabelled with the EU Ecolabel, the Nordic Ecolabel or Good Environmental Choice. This applies to everything from dishwasher detergents, window-cleaning products, floor and toilet cleaners to paints and glues. We are constantly working to restrict the need for chemicals through changes in working practices and innovative solutions.

TRANSPORT

We want to reduce CO₂ emissions and traffic pressure in central Gothenburg. We therefore optimise our logistics through consolidation and compression of goods volumes to and from our facility. This eliminates one in three shipments. For customers wanting to take active responsibility, we offer carbon-offset shipment options. All shipments under our own management are carbon offset.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE

Our ambition is to satisfy the buzzwords 'organic, locally produced and Fairtrade' in our restaurant offering. We also make our first choices among otherwise equivalent products based on these criteria. Today, for example, our wine list includes a number of organic options.



KRISTER DAHL, EXECUTIVE CHEF AT GOTHIA TOWERS, on the roof of Gothia Towers, which is home to around 100,000 bees. The honey produced, around 40 kilos per year, is used as flavouring in the kitchen, on the breakfast table and in the bar at Upper House Dining.

ENERGY

We want to offer a climate-neutral venue, and renewable energy is a prerequisite for being able to achieve this goal. Today we use wind energy, as the whole facility's electricity requirements are met by wind power. This resulted in a reduction in CO₂ emissions from our facility of over 5,500 tons in 2016. We are working continuously to reduce our energy consumption by constantly optimising our properties, lighting, ventilation, heating, cooling and behaviours.

ACCESSIBILITY

Everyone, whatever their accessibility requirements, should be able to visit the Swedish Exhibition & Congress Centre and Gothia Towers. We are therefore working constantly to improve our facility from an accessibility perspective. Thresholds, lifts, WCs and hotel rooms – we are planning and implementing both short- and long-term adaptations to our premises. We keep current information on our entrances and premises updated at www.tillgänglighetsdatabasen.se. All our exhibition halls, conference premises and restaurants offer basic accessibility.

SOCIAL COMMITMENT

We choose to support organisations and projects working locally for good causes. Our partners are Gothenburg Rescue Mission and Friends of El Sistema in Gothenburg.

- Gothenburg Rescue Mission helps people on the margins of society. Our collaboration involves buying ecolabelled produce such as jam, marmalade and juice from their organic farm at Björlanda Rectory. We also donate leftover food to their cafe on Vasagatan in central Gothenburg and organise an annual Christmas gift campaign for children in need. We even sponsor one of their fieldworkers.
- Friends of El Sistema in Gothenburg is a non-profit association with roots in Venezuela, which uses music to create a positive social change in children's lives. Our collaboration involves supporting the development of El Sistema's activities in Gothenburg and co-organising concerts. Today around 1,600 children receive tuition in various instruments in the Gothenburg area.



KEY RATIOS	2016	2015
Waste recycling rate	90.0 %	85.0 %
Energy consumption per m ²	190 kWh	189 kWh
Energy consumption-related CO ₂ emissions per m ²	8.0 kg	7.2 kg
Organic products as a share of total food range, calculated in SEK	17.3 %	12.4 %



ISO 20121 is the international event sustainability standard, to which we are certified.

This standard was first used at the 2012 Olympic Games in London.



100%

100 PER CENT of the coffee served at our venue is Fairtrade.



60,000 SEK 60,000 was donated to Gothenburg Rescue Mission during the Christmas gift campaign. This sum was spent on children's counselling, soft toys for unaccompanied child refugees and porridge breakfasts at the Rescue Mission's cafe for the homeless.



11,300 portions were donated to Gothenburg Rescue Mission.

66%

66 PER CENT of our permanent employees have so far completed the sustainability training launched in 2015.

6,000 Christmas gifts

6,000 CHRISTMAS GIFTS were collected during Gothia Towers' annual Christmas gift campaign. All the Christmas gifts were distributed by Gothenburg Rescue Mission to children and young people in need.



Accessibility

DURING THE YEAR we uploaded information on the facility's accessibility to www.t-d.se to make it easier for everyone to visit our venue.

