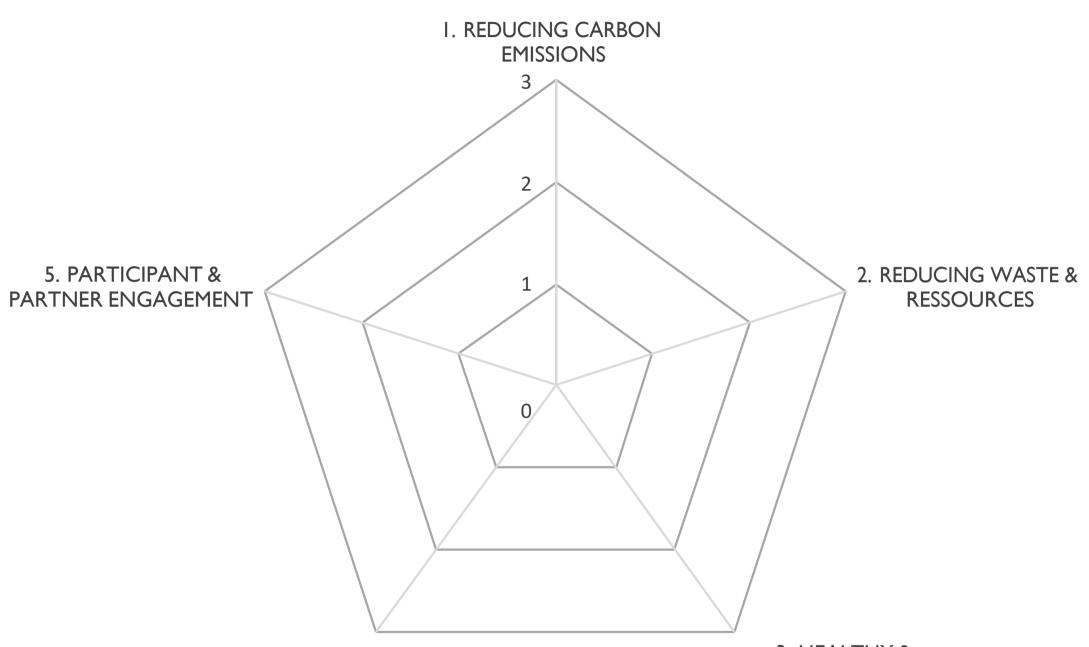
SUSTAINABLE EVENTS SETTING THE AMBITION

HOW AMBITIOUS ARE YOU WHEN IT COMES TO?



4. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

(3 high priority - 2 medium priority - 1 low priority)

By Sofus Midtgaard, Leaderlab - sofus@leaderlab.com

3. HEALTHY & SUSTAINABLE FOOD



1: Reducing carbon emmisions

All responsible event organisers need to address their impact on climate change. At an event gathering hundreds and sometimes thousands of participants, CO2 emissions not least from flight/transportation are significant. Challenge yourself on emissions.

- Travel: How much can you limit flights for staff, participants and audience?
- Transport: What are ways of getting people around the city using zero-emission transport, e.g. e-busses, bicycling, walking or other?
- Food: How can you avoid the most emission-heavy food-types, especially meat?
- Plastic and fossil-based materials: Can you reduce the amount of single use products?
- Renewable energy: Are your arenas, venues, hotels etc. sourcing renewable power?
- Offset: Do you, and your participants or audience offset emissions by supporting certified offset schemes?
- <u>Start planning your sustainable event</u>

2: Reducing waste and resources

An event leaves a very tangible and physical impact from the materials and resources it uses. But, if managed correctly, an event can be an active part of a circular society. Challenge yourself in these areas:

- Reduce: Are you taking a hard look at each handout, poster, goodie-bag or merchandise and asking yourself whether it is truly needed, or if alternatively, it can be done digitally or in other ways?
- Rethink: Do your participants or audience need it? Can you encourage them to bring their own bottles, pens and paper?
- If you need it, then how is it made? Are you avoiding single-use plastics, and overall looking at the recyclability and responsible sourcing of your materials and products?
- Reuse & Recycle: Are you making sure that whatever you get produced for your event is also handled responsibly after the event has finished? What about all the flowers? Or leftover food?
- Read more about sustainable <u>communication and materials</u>.

3: Healthy and sustainable food

New options are continually emerging that will both allow you to provide a strong culinary experience for your participants and audience while significantly reducing the social and environmental impact of your food and drink. Challenge yourself in these areas:

- How much can you reduce food waste?
- Is your food sourced locally, bringing a clear environmental benefit, supporting local business and communities?
- Are you going for food types that have the least environmental footprint (e.g. plant based) and ingredients which in general are local and in season?

- Rethink what is done with leftovers: Should and can it be donated or composted? Can your vendor e.g. offer ways of supplying portion sizes that reduce the waste of buffets?
- Read more about sustainable <u>food and beverages</u> for your event.

4: Social responsibility

Social responsibility for an event means building sustainable relations and ensuring everyone has an equal opportunity of access. Ensuring broad gender and societal representation among participants, panels, keynotes will build diversity. Challenge yourself in these areas:

- Experience: Can you facilitate new and interesting experiences of the beaten track avoiding putting additional pressure on the neighborhoods impacted by mass tourism?
- What are local communities experiencing? Can the potential nuisance of your event be converted into engaging activities for the local citizens?
- Providing value for local business: Can you procure from local suppliers, not only providing value and support for businesses but create more engaging experiences for participants?
- Do you actively promote full gender equality (the target being a 50/50 gender split) and cultural/ethnic and age diversity to play a role at the event?
- Do you make it possible for all groups to participate? Is there good physical and digital accessibility on transport, venue, arenas, accommodation? Do you provide special ways or prices for students to participate?
- Wellbeing: Have you thought through and implemented good health and safety procedures that are appropriate for your type and size of event, and follow public guidelines?
- Read more about social sustainability and partnerships.

5: Participant and partner engagement

Creating a sustainable event does not rest on the shoulders of the organiser alone and can only be done in strong collaboration with participants and local businesses and communities. Challenge yourself in these areas:

- Are your ambitions clear? What do you want to achieve? How will you engage with local communities? And what role will the participants and audience play in this?
- Thinking beyond your venue and event: Can you facilitate additional interactions with local people and communities, businesses, science or organisations in ways that generate value for both parties?
- Facilitate sustainable behaviors: Are you continually helping participants and the audience understand what they need to do, e.g. around transport, recycling, visiting the city, engaging with local communities, etc.?
- Are positive experiences shared? Get participants and audience feedback and encourage them to share if they have seen or experienced something at the event or as part of their visit to Copenhagen that will impact their own future behavior?
- Read more about <u>lasting impact</u>.