

Ecological sustainability in the cultural sector: recommendations for a more sustainable tour

The mission of Steps

Steps has set itself the goal of reducing the festival's emissions to the greatest extent possible. To that end, we have developed a sustainability concept, have measured the Co₂ emissions of the 2022 edition and will continuously formulate and implement new measures in the future.

As a network project, we see great opportunities in our partners' sustainability efforts. Our concept therefore also contains recommendations for our event partners and for the touring companies.

A sustainable cultural sector should become the new normal as soon as possible. We are confident that we will achieve this goal through a shift in thinking, continuous learning and creative development of new strategies.

Dear Artists

We would like to know if you want to get on board with us. Below you will find a collection of recommendations for your Steps tour, which we collected during our research activities. We would be delighted if you help to contribute to a more sustainable cultural sector by implementing the recommendations and measures.

Here are the most efficient measures:

- Please don't fly if you can **travel** to the event **by train** in nine hours or less.
- Make a distinction between rehearsals and performances. Rehearsals might be possible in **daylight settings**. In this way, you can make a direct contribution to reducing electricity consumption.

AND THIS IS WHERE YOU CAN START:



Measures which are easy to implement



Measures which have a great impact

MOBILITY



Thanks to our compact Swiss tours, we reduce the footprint, which would be much greater in the case of individual guest appearances at different times. In order to further reduce emissions, we want to avoid travelling to events by plane within Europe. Please **don't fly** if you can travel to the event by train in nine hours or less. Steps will pay additional per diems and accommodation costs if required.



If you still choose to fly, please **carbon offset** your flight. Most airlines offer carbon offsetting programmes.

- Journeys within Switzerland are organised by Steps. If at all possible, we organise journeys by train.
-

CATERING



Please only order food and drink backstage that you actually need. **Vegetarian or vegan, regional, seasonal and organic** are best.



Use your own drinking bottles. The quality of Swiss **tap water** is excellent. If you don't have any water bottles, you can order them from us.

- Try to **avoid waste** wherever possible. If there is any waste, please separate it. In Switzerland, glass, PET, aluminium, cardboard and paper are recycled.
-


ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE





Don't leave the lights on unnecessarily in the theatres. Don't forget to turn off the light in the dressing rooms.

- **Minimise energy consumption** where possible.
- Make a distinction between rehearsals and performances. Rehearsals might be possible in **daylight settings**.

SCENOGRAPHY

- Plan your scenography (costumes, set, infrastructure) in such a way that **no large consignments** are required.
 - Ensure you have a sustainable set. You should, for example, choose materials which you can reuse in a future production and/or have already used during a previous production.
-  **Avoid food waste** on stage.

ORGANISATION

-  Avoid meetings that require people to travel to different places. Hold **video conferences** instead.
- Don't print e-mails, technical riders, contracts or other documents.
-  **Print economically** and on both sides of recycled paper.
- Use **digital signatures** where possible.

Do you want to gain a deeper understanding of the topic?

- [Guide on ÜBER LEBENSKUNST](#) – a project conducted at the initiative of the German Federal Cultural Foundation in cooperation with the Haus der Kulturen der Welt in Berlin
- [Green Mobility Guide for the Performing Arts](#) from On the Move
- [Le Guide méthodologique – Eco conception aux Ateliers du Festival of the Festival d'Aix en Provence](#)
- [Einfach machen! – Ein Kompass für ökologisch nachhaltiges Produzieren im Kulturbereich](#) from the German Federal Cultural Foundation in Berlin
- [Wiki zu Theater und Nachhaltigkeit](#)
- **On the subject of stage design**
[Bühnenbild und ökologische Nachhaltigkeit](#) – final thesis of Ralph Zeger for LMU Munich, theatre studies, training, theatre and music management
- **On the subject of Catering**
[Tasty Future – für eine zukunftsfrohe Esskultur](#)

We work with these network partners on the topic of sustainability:

Amstein + Walthert

Amstein + Walthert offer advice and support on the topic of sustainability: analysis, strategy, data collection and evaluation (carbon footprint), sustainability report, measures and objectives. We support clients from the cultural sector and other industries. www.amstein-walthert.ch

Vert le Futur

Vert le Futur is committed to a sustainable culture and event industry. As an interdisciplinary network of organisers, intermediaries, those engaged in the cultural sector and sustainability specialists, Vert le Futur promotes the exchange of experiences and knowledge transfer in the field of environmental sustainability in art and culture. www.vertlefutur.ch

Reflector – an ecological act for the performing arts

With three pilot theatres, Reflector develops concrete recommendations for action that enable those engaged within the world of performing arts throughout Switzerland to make theatre operations environmentally sustainable. The recommendations for action are made available on a digital platform. Reflector is funded by m2act in cooperation with the Migros Pioneer Fund. www.reflector.eco

Tasty Future

Tasty Future supports cultural institutions in giving their catering businesses a new strategic direction – in a way which is as environmentally friendly and plant-based as possible – and thus also in contributing to a more climate-friendly, ethical and forward-looking dining culture. From theatre bistros to canteens, and from dressing room snacks to premiere buffets – we want to start where there is plenty of room for manoeuvre and leverage. Tasty Future supports a gradual operational and culinary transformation and provides impetus for discursive and artistic projects that can support the process. www.tastyfuture.ch