

Schweizer Alpen-Club SAC
Club Alpin Suisse
Club Alpino Svizzero
Club Alpin Svizzer



1 TO 12 AUGUST 2023



**IFSC CLIMBING
WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIPS** **BERN 2023**
SWITZERLAND

CLIMBING & PARACLIMBING

SUSTAINABILITY CONCEPT





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CLIMBING & PARACLIMBING

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 THE IFSC CLIMBING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023 IN BERN

The IFSC Climbing World Championships (WCH) are carried out every two years in different cities and countries around the world. In 2023, the championships will take place in Bern, Switzerland. 750 athletes from all over the world, including about 150 parathletes, will participate in the competitions. The championships last for 12 days. During these days, 55 000 visitors, mainly coming from Switzerland but also international guests, are expected. The event is organized by an association under the funding body of the Swiss Alpine Club (SAC).

1.2 SUSTAINABILITY

«Sustainability means meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.»¹

Or as Hans Carl von Carlowitz already said in 1713:

«You must only cut down as many trees as there will grow in the same time.»

However, nowadays the term sustainability includes many more aspects than environmental issues and sustainability concepts are most often based on the three dimensions economy, environment and society.¹



FIGURE 1
The three pillars of sustainability

When planning and evaluating any activity or event, these three dimensions must be considered to guarantee a sustainable execution.

In 2015, all UN member states adopted the «17 Sustainable development goals» which aim to make our planet a better place to live and to regularly evaluate sustainability goals by 2030.²

A holistic approach is taken to achieve these goals. Included are areas such as infrastructure, gender equality, climate protection, peace and security, sustainable consumer behavior and the reduction of inequality. The organization committee of the IFSC Climbing World Championships 2023 has made these goals its own to further expand its sustainability efforts.

1.3 SUSTAINABILITY WITHIN THE IFSC CLIMBING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023: MISSION & VALUES

Besides the sportive highlights, our slogan «The best sport climbing world championships of all time» implies that we want to organize an event which is future-oriented in all areas and sets new standards in sustainability. Our goal is to provide an event with minimized impact on our nature and our climate. Equally important to us are aspects of sustainability such as inclusion, equality and fair work conditions which we want to guarantee.

This concept describes our sustainability goals, our measures to achieve them and the criteria by which we evaluate our actions and outcome.

Our aim is to inspire future events and to raise awareness amongst our athletes, visitors, and volunteers regarding the importance of sustainable behaviors so to allow future generations to enjoy the same world as we do.

1.4 SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Our concept is based on various existing sustainability concepts of the stakeholders within the IFSC Climbing World Championships.

They include:

- Swiss Alpine Club Climate Strategy (in German)³
- IFSC Sustainability Guidelines 2020⁴
- City of Bern: Checklist for sustainable events (in German)⁵
- «Saubere-Veranstaltung»: Platform for sustainable events (in German)⁶
- The «Sportgastro»–Catering's sustainability concept
- The International Olympic Committee's «Branding & Signage guide»⁷
- The International Olympic Committee's «Plastic Game Plan for Sport»⁷

2. SYSTEM BOUNDARIES

Not every activity in relation to the IFSC Climbing World Championships can be influenced by us and thus, some activities cannot be considered in this document.

Figure 2 shows the system of sustainability regarding the event and defines the boundaries. Moreover, some important outputs are illustrated.

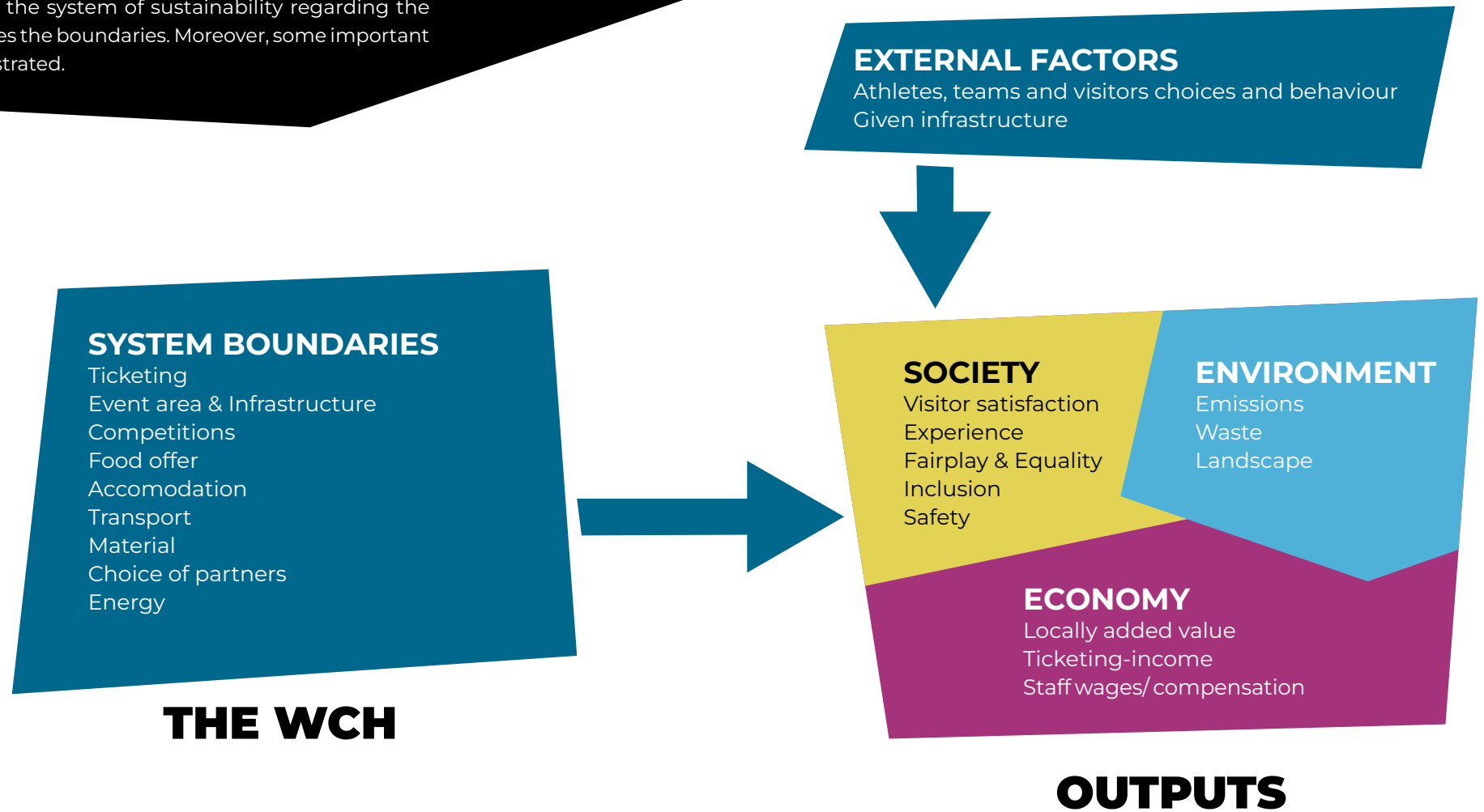


FIGURE 2
Sustainability system and boundaries

3. ACTORS

TABLE 1 illustrates the actors within the WCH as well as their influence and interests.

ACTOR	INFLUENCE	INTEREST
Organizing committee	All strategic/major decisions regarding event organization & operation. Setting examples of sustainable behavior.	Successful event (stakeholders' satisfaction, balanced budget, achieve best-possible sustainability)
Swiss Alpine Club SAC	Climate strategy General conditions for staff and helpers Act as an example regarding sustainable behaviour	Promotion of sport climbing Successful event. Successful (national) athletes
International Federation & Officials	Providing requirements and standards for the WCH delivery. Setting examples of sustainable behavior.	Successful event, i.e. competitions (athletes' satisfaction)
Volunteers	Fulfilling diverse (given) tasks during the event.	Meaningful tasks, fun, being part of the international climbing community
Athletes & Teams	Major target group of the event. No event without athletes. Setting examples of sustainable behavior.	Successful competitions, achieving good placements, fulfilling trainers' and fans' expectations, fan enthusiasm
Visitors & Spectators	Individual behavioral decisions (i.e. journey, food).	Fun, excitement

ACTOR	INFLUENCE	INTEREST
Official institutions City, Canton of Berne, Swiss Federation	Permits and authorizations. Providing sustainability guidelines and regulations.	Added value to region. Life quality for inhabitants and tourism promotion.
Partner institutions	Offering services and material at reduced costs for the WCH.	Representation of values and activities to public, image transfer, revenue.
Mobility partners	Offering service at reduced costs.	Providing sustainable future-oriented transport measures. Creating awareness, marketing, image transfer for the region.
Sponsoring partners	Providing financial resources.	Marketing, image, revenue.
Suppliers	Delivery of material and services.	Revenue.
Media	Coverage, reporting, news delivery and promotional activities.	Gain audience, revenue, information delivery.
Society (People living/working in the area)	Tolerance or claim of probable noise/ crowds during the event.	New insights in a new sport. Minimized impact of noise, waste, etc.
Security & First-aid-personnel	Duty to guarantee safety and security during the event.	Assignments, safety & security.

It is important to know about the influences and interests of the various actors to define our possibilities to influence their behavior as much as possible to be in order to our sustainability concept.

4. THE WCH SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, MEASURES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

TABLE 2 shows our sustainability goals, the planned measures to achieve these goals as well as the evaluation criteria. The first columns indicate the relevant phase(s), the third to last and second to last columns show the involved actors and the organization committees influence in reaching the defined sustainability goal. The last column shows our priority for the theme.





RELEVANT PHASE			GOALS	MEASURES
PRIOR	DURING	POST		
GENERAL				
X	X	X	<p>Guarantee compliance of the organization committee with the sustainability concept and its evaluation.</p>	<p>Official adoption of the concept</p> <p>Define responsible persons.</p> <p>Instruct the organization committee (OC) at an assembly in good time.</p>
X	X	X	<p>Stakeholders are informed about the sustainability concept and instructed to act in compliance with it.</p> <p>The public is informed about the sustainability concept.</p> <p>The evaluation is accessible to the public.</p>	<p>The sustainability concept and its evaluation after the event will be published on the official website bern2023.org and its accessibility posted on social media and in a newsletter.</p> <p>Officials and volunteers are instructed to act in compliance with the concept.</p> <p>Information points on-site.</p> <p>The event and its sustainability concept will be registered on the platform saubere-veranstaltung.ch (EVENTprofil).</p>

INVOLVED ACTORS: OC = organization committee

T = Teams P = Partners S = Suppliers V = Visitors

Rating of **OC INFLUENCE** from **1 to 5** where 1 represents lowest influence and 5 represents highest influence.





Rating of **PRIORITY** from **1 to 5** where 1 represents lowest priority and 5 represents highest priority.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	INVOLVED ACTORS	ORGANIZATION'S INFLUENCE	PRIORITY
Responsible person is defined and fulfills her tasks. – The concept has been instructed to the OC.	OC		
<p>Concept and evaluation published on website.</p> <p>Number of clicks on the concept.</p> <p>Likes on Social Media</p> <p>Number and content of information points on-site.</p> <p>Visitors' feedback (collected through questionnaires on-site).</p>	OC		

4. THE WCH SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, MEASURES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)

TABLE 2


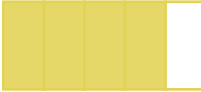

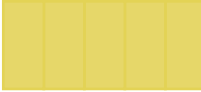


The WCH sustainability goals, measures and evaluation criteria

RELEVANT PHASE			GOALS	MEASURES	EVALUATION CRITERIA	INVOLVED ACTORS	ORGANIZATION'S INFLUENCE	PRIORITY
PRIOR	DURING	POST						
ENVIRONMENT TRAVEL & LOGISTICS								
X	X		<p>Public Reduce carbon footprint: Maximize transport by bike/ foot and public transportation. Minimize travels by car/ plane.</p>	<p>Cooperation with national public transport company: Ticket includes free travel between home city and event location. Cooperation with local public bike supplier. Free public transport included in overnight-stay at hotel in Berne. Communication: Travel to arena is only described by means of bike/ foot/ public transportation on website. Parking possibilities and arrival by car isn't mentioned. Sufficient and clearly marked bike and foot paths as well as bike parking spaces. (given)</p>	<p>Amount of bikes in bike parking spaces. Amount of parking tickets sold in the nearby parking. Visitors' questionnaire on-site.</p>	OC, T, V		
X	X		<p>Teams and officials Reduce carbon footprint: Maximize transport by bike/ foot and public transportation. Minimize travels by car/ plane.</p>	<p>Cooperation with national public transport company: reduced ticket prices for teams. Free public transport included in overnight-stay at hotel in Berne. Communication: Travel to arena is only described by means of bike/ foot/ public transportation. Parking possibilities and arrival by car isn't mentioned. Request to avoid plane travels instead choose train travel in information sheets to national federations. Provide clear and sufficient information on how to arrive by train/ public transport.</p>	<p>Cooperations with public transport. Number of athletes/ teams/ officials arriving by plane.</p>	OC, T, V		

4. THE WCH SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, MEASURES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)

TABLE 2

The WCH sustainability goals, measures and evaluation criteria

RELEVANT PHASE			GOALS	MEASURES	EVALUATION CRITERIA	INVOLVED ACTORS	ORGANIZATION'S INFLUENCE	PRIORITY
PRIOR	DURING	POST						
ENVIRONMENT WASTE								
X	X		<p>Avoid & reduce waste. Recycle.</p>	<p>Ban of single-use material (no flyer-policy, re-usable catering material). Inform exhibitors in outdoor-village.</p> <p>Program information not on paper but by scannable QR-codes on durable posters on-site as well as on video cube live on stage.</p> <p>Enough bins on-site with waste separation possibilities</p>	<p>Waste produced during the event.</p> <p>Printed paper material prior/ for the event.</p>	OC, S, V		
ENVIRONMENT MATERIAL								
	X		<p>Minimize impact on environment due to new productions of competition material/ infrastructure and discard after the event.</p>	<p>Re-usage of competition walls from WC Meiringen and storage for upcoming events in the region.</p> <p>Climbing holds will be borrowed from manufacturer and can be returned after the event.</p> <p>Bouldering mats are borrowed and returned for re-use to the provider.</p>	<p>Amount of competition material/ infrastructure that was newly produced and is not re-used vs. is/was re-used.</p>	OC, S		
	X		<p>Minimize impact on environment due to new productions of garments and equipment for staff and discard after the event.</p>	<p>Usage of garments and equipment from ecologic and fairtrade companies.</p> <p>Pool of garments and central laundry to avoid redundant production.</p> <p>Non-individual, redundant productions will be delivered to helpers (lottery) or charity after the event.</p>	<p>Amount of produced garments and equipment, amount unused, amount delivered to charity.</p>	OC		

4. THE WCH SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, MEASURES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)

TABLE 2





The WCH sustainability goals, measures and evaluation criteria

RELEVANT PHASE			GOALS	MEASURES	EVALUATION CRITERIA	INVOLVED ACTORS	ORGANIZATION'S INFLUENCE	PRIORITY
PRIOR	DURING	POST						
ENVIRONMENT CATERING								
	X		Minimize food waste. Minimize waste. Prefer local and vegetarian alternatives.	See «Sportgastro» concept and requirements of the city of Bern. No single-use plates etc. but use of recycled papers or edible material (e.g. bread).	Food offer Food waste produced. Food trucks on site.	S		
ENVIRONMENT INFRASTRUCTURE & ENERGY								
X	X		Low impact on environment due to infrastructure changings	Usage of already existing infrastructure (PFA, Curlinghall).		OC, S		
	X		Energy consumption	Reduce energy consumption, e.g. no air conditioning but air exchange through open doors (infrastructure given by the PFA).	Energy consumed	OC, S		
	X		Enough toilets	Indoors, a minimum of 1 toilet per 150 visitors is provided. Toilets for people with disabilities are provided.		S		
ENVIRONMENT TICKETING								
X	X		Reduce waste. Promote sustainable organizations & projects.	Primarily electronically delivered tickets, delivery via mail/ QR-Code even when purchased on-site.	Tickets delivered in paper vs. digitally	OC, V		
ENVIRONMENT SIDE-EVENTS								
	X		Create awareness for sustainability issues, raise interest and give good examples.(e.g. ecologically friendly behaviour). Promote sustainable regional initiatives and projects	Experience-Village with information and experience booths of relevant organizations. Option for visitors to donate their deposit for multi-use cups to an organization (tbd).	Feedback of exhibitors and visitors Collected money	OC, S		

4. THE WCH SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, MEASURES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)

TABLE 2








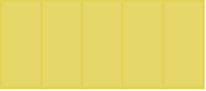
The WCH sustainability goals, measures and evaluation criteria

RELEVANT PHASE			GOALS	MEASURES	EVALUATION CRITERIA	INVOLVED ACTORS	ORGANIZATION'S INFLUENCE	PRIORITY
PRIOR	DURING	POST						
SOCIETY INCLUSION								
X	X		<p>Equality of competitions in paraclimbing.</p> <p>Active promotion of sports for people with a handicap.</p> <p>Sustainable development of a Swiss Paraclimbing Team.</p> <p>Barrier-free access.</p>	<p>The paraclimbing competitions will take place in the middle of the schedule.</p> <p>Side-events that are accessible or targeted to handicapped people (Stockhorn, city tours).</p> <p>If necessary, infrastructure adaptations on-site.</p> <p>Cooperation with national institutions (PluSport etc.) including pre-events to promote paraclimbing.</p> <p>Relevant exhibitors in Experience-Village to create awareness and allow hands-on experiences for non-handicapped people.</p>	<p>Number of visitors at para-competitions.</p> <p>Number of exhibitors in the experience-village and their feedback.</p> <p>Feedback from para-athletes and visitors.</p>	OC, S		
SOCIETY EQUALITY								
X	X	X	<p>Equality of all involved and addressed people, no discrimination of any social or ethical group nor gender.</p> <p>No discrimination of the office employees of the organization.</p>	<p>Written texts are always gender-neutral.</p> <p>Information is provided in multiple languages (at least two out of German, English, French).</p> <p>Activities and attractions for all ages.</p>	<p>Check communication</p>	OC		

4. THE WCH SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, MEASURES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)

TABLE 2











The WCH sustainability goals, measures and evaluation criteria

RELEVANT PHASE			GOALS	MEASURES	EVALUATION CRITERIA	INVOLVED ACTORS	ORGANIZATION'S INFLUENCE	PRIORITY
PRIOR	DURING	POST						
SOCIETY ANTI-DRUGS, ANTI-DOPING								
	X		Protect youth.	No alcohol to under-aged. No-smoke policy on-site. No sponsoring/ advertisement of alcohol/ tobacco industry. offer of attractive non-alcoholic drinks.	Any incidents with drunk people Any incidents with drugs on-site	OC, V		
	X		Setting a clear anti-doping statement.	Providing infrastructure for doping controls. Information for athletes prior to the event about our values.	Number of doping controls and incidents.	OC, T		
			Setting a clear fairness statement	swiss sports integrity				
SOCIETY SECURITY								
	X		Guarantee safety and basic health services.	A security concept is defined, and basic health care guaranteed by experienced staff of the PFA.	Number of safety/ health incidents, reaction time and taken measures, outcomes	S		
SOCIETY VOLUNTEERS								
	X		Treat volunteers in a fair and honoring way. Reward for engagement. Provide unique experience that motivates for volunteering in future events.	Volunteers will be organized via a central, reliable platform of a local institution (SwissVolunteers). Sufficient information prior and during the event is provided. Possibility to stay overnight for volunteers that travel longer ways and stay multiple days, organized by the WCH organization committee. Free food and drinks during their assignment. Volunteer garments, gadgets and party.	Number of volunteers. Feedback.	OC		

4. THE WCH SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, MEASURES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)

TABLE 2

The WCH sustainability goals, measures and evaluation criteria





RELEVANT PHASE			GOALS	MEASURES	EVALUATION CRITERIA	INVOLVED ACTORS	ORGANIZATION'S INFLUENCE	PRIORITY
PRIOR	DURING	POST						
SOCIETY PROMOTION & LEGACY								
X	X		Promote sports climbing amongst a broad audience. Create a «climbing community» amongst Swiss climbing gyms. Allow for an active participation in the event.	Organization of local side and promotion events (open access for everybody). Involve Swiss climbing gyms in the promotion of the WCH, organize fun competition for climbers at the various gyms. Involve local SAC-organizations and invite them to join the event together. Village of Experiences during the event with activities and climbing walls for all skill levels with a focus on families.	Participants in fun competition. Participating gyms	OC, V, P		
X	X		Promote regional and local tourism.	Cooperation with city and canton of Bern as well as «BernWelcome». Cooperation with local companies and transportation to organize side events for teams and visitors to explore the region aside from the competitions. Promotion events prior the event at attractive tourism spots.	Feedback from cooperation partners (number of visitors at cooperation sites etc.)	OC, P		
	X	X	Science legacy.	Integration of the ICRC congress into the WCH so to allow research on-site, e.g. establish research within Paraclimbing.	Feedback from ICRC members and research evaluation.	OC, P		
		X	Create a local legacy.	Bouldercube used for promotion events prior to the event shall be installed permanently in the city of Berne, if allowed.	Success of implementation.	OC, CITY OF BERN		
		X	Use learnings for future events.	Publish and forward this concept and its evaluation.		OC		

4. THE WCH SUSTAINABILITY GOALS, MEASURES AND EVALUATION CRITERIA (continued)

TABLE 2

The WCH sustainability goals, measures and evaluation criteria

RELEVANT PHASE			GOALS	MEASURES
PRIOR	DURING	POST		
ECONOMY				
X	X		Sponsors and Partners represent our values.	Choose/Accept only sponsors and partners that represent our values.
		X	Invest possible revenues in measures that support further sport climbing.	Possible revenues will be transferred to the SAC and used within climbing activities.

EVALUATION CRITERIA	INVOLVED ACTORS	ORGANIZATION'S INFLUENCE	PRIORITY
Chosen sponsors and partners.	OC, P		
Budget evaluation.	OC		

INVOLVED ACTORS

OC = organization committee

T = Teams

P = Partners

S = Suppliers

V = Visitors



Rating of **OC INFLUENCE** from **1 to 5** where 5 represents highest influence and 1 no influence.







Rating of **PRIORITY** from **1 to 5** where 1 represents lowest priority and 5 represents highest priority.

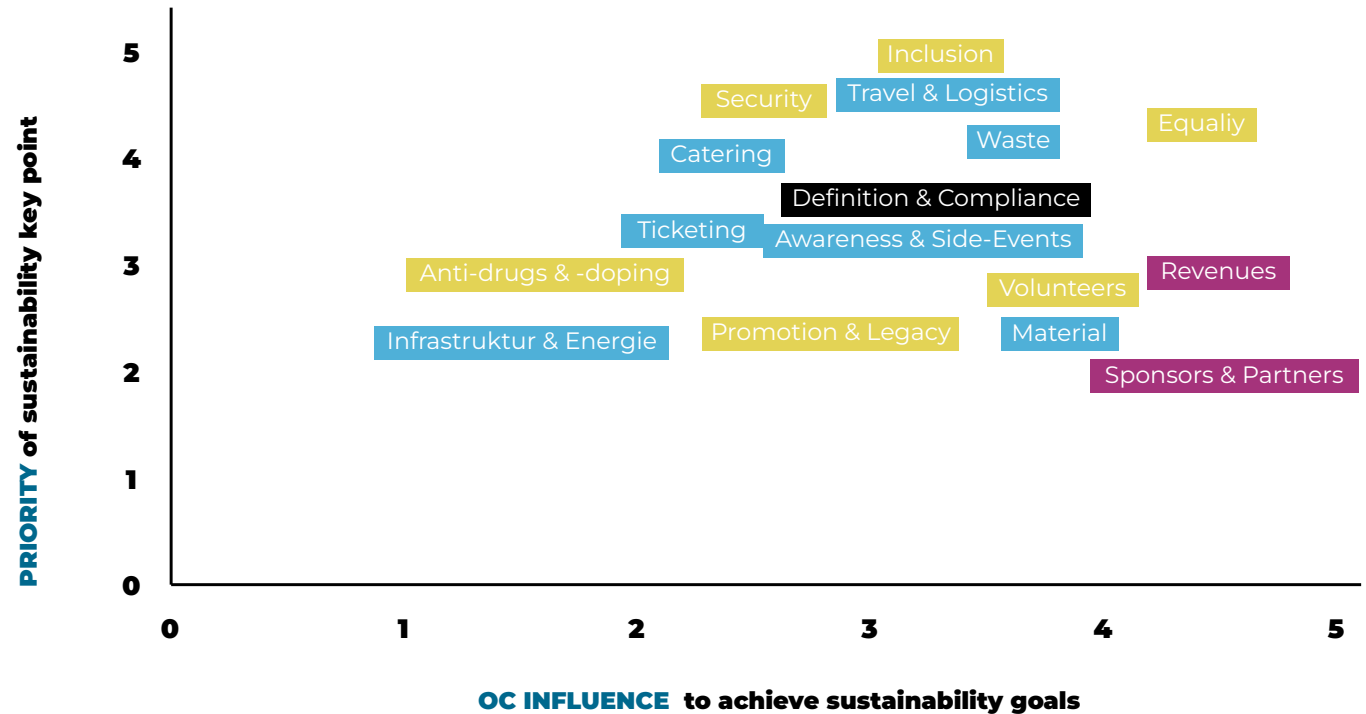
5. KEY THEMES

Based on our planned activities and their probable consequences, relevant key themes for our sustainability strategy were defined. In Figure 3, these themes are laid out by priority and influence of the organizing committee.

Points further up to the right have higher importance in our planning and evaluation to achieve best possible sustainability.

FIGURE 3
Sustainability key points and the organization committee's influence

-  **Black = General**
-  **Blue = Environment**
-  **Yellow = Society**
-  **Purple = Economy**



6. SUMMARY OF KEY ELEMENTS

Figure 4
Sustainability key elements

NO DAMAGE
Climate awareness
and Waste reduction

NO COMPROMISE
Transparence and
Fairness

NO BARRIERS
Equality and Inclusion

7. EVALUATION AND FUTURE ACTIONS

This concept and our measures will be evaluated after the event in September 2023. The evaluation will be published online and accessible to the public. Learnings of the concept will be used for organizing future events of the SAC and transferred to future event organizers within the IFSC.

8. SOURCES

LITERATURE

- ¹ Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future. **United Nations General Assembly**. 1987.
- ² **United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs**. THE 17 GOALS. 2015.
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- ⁴ **IFSC. IFSC Sustainability guidelines**. 20.05.2020.
- ⁵ **City of Bern. Checkliste nachhaltige Veranstaltung Stadt Bern**. 14.12.2021.
- ⁶ **Saubere-Veranstaltung.ch. Plattform für nachhaltige Sport- und Kultur-events**. 2022.
- ⁷ **International Olympic Committee. New guide commissioned by IOC and UEFA helps identify more sustainable solutions for event branding and signage**. 17. 03 2021. [quote from: 02.09.2022]

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