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Research on Economics, Management and Information Technologies

SUSTAINABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY AT WE LOVE GREEN: A MUSIC FESTIVAL CASE STUDY IN PARIS

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1

SUSTAINABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY AT WE LOVE GREEN: A MUSIC FESTIVAL CASE STUDY IN PARIS

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Project: Universal Accessibility and Sustainability: Cultural Heritage and Tourism - https://remit.upt.pt/en/universal-accessibility-and-sustainability-cultural-heritage-and-tourism/
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2

Table of Contents

1 QUICK RECAP

2 WHAT'S NEW SINCE MAY New!

3 CRITERIA AND STRUCTURE

4 RESULTS: SUSTAINABILITY

5 RESULTS: ACCESSIBILITY

6 THE CRITICAL STRUCTURAL TENSION

7 DISCUSSION

8 LIMITATIONS

9 CONCLUSIONS

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

3

1 QUICK RECAP

From the May proposal - same research question, same case, same objectives

To what extent does We Love Green align its sustainability practices with the TBL and the UN SDGs, and its accessibility standards, as evidenced by its official documentation?

1. Coherence with TBL / SDGs
2. Balance across the 3 TBL dimensions
3. SDG documentary support
4. Alignment with 4 accessibility dimensions

Case: We Love Green - open-air festival, Bois de Vincennes, Paris. Documentary analysis (Bowen, 2009) of official sources, chosen for its explicit sustainability identity and public documentation.

4

2 WHAT'S NEW SINCE MAY

Literature review completed; both matrices finalised and applied to the full document corpus

Matrix 1 - Sustainability

TBL X EIC Principles x UN SDGs

17

final criteria across Environmental, Social & Economic dimensions

Applied to: We Love Green website, FALC 2025 Guide, 2026 site map

Matrix 2 - Accessibility

Buhalis & Darcy (2011), Table 2.5

19

final criteria across Mobility, Hearing, Vision, Cognitive + Transversal

Scale applied to every criterion: Met / Partially met / Not documented

5

3 CRITERIA AND STRUCTURE (MATRIX 1)

ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES

- Conservation of resources, including water, energy and natural resources
- Waste management
- Carbon emissions reduction and management
- Supply chain management and responsible purchasing
- Biodiversity preservation

SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Universal human rights
- Community impacts
- Labour practices
- Respect for culture
- Safety and security
- Health and well-being

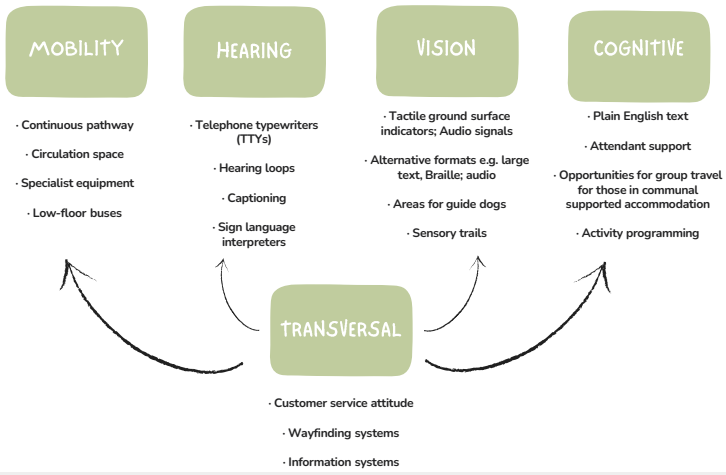
ECONOMIC PRACTICES

- Collaboration and partnerships
- Local support, including small and medium enterprises (SMEs)
- Stakeholder participation
- Equitable economic impact
- Transparency
- Responsible governance

TBL Dimension	Sustainability dimension (Environmental / Social / Economic)
EIC Criterion	Criterion from the EIC Principles for Sustainable Events
Documentary evidence - We Love Green	Verbatim evidence extracted from official documentary sources
Source	Section or page of the source document
SDGs (EIC)	SDGs assigned at dimension level per EIC classification
Assessment	Met / Partially met / Not documented

6

3 CRITERIA AND STRUCTURE (MATRIX 2)



Dimension	Accessibility dimension (Mobility / Hearing / Vision / Cognitive / Transversal)
Standard/Criteria (Buhalis & Darcy, 2011)	Criterion from Buhalis & Darcy (2011), Table 2.5
Documentary evidence	Verbatim evidence extracted from official documentary sources
Source	Section or page of the source document
Assessment	Met / Partially met / Not documented

7

4 RESULTS: SUSTAINABILITY

15 of 17 EIC criteria fully met - no criterion left undocumented



Environmental & Economic

All 11 criteria fully met - 78% waste recycled, 400 tC02e disclosed, ISO 20121 certified, transparent governance.

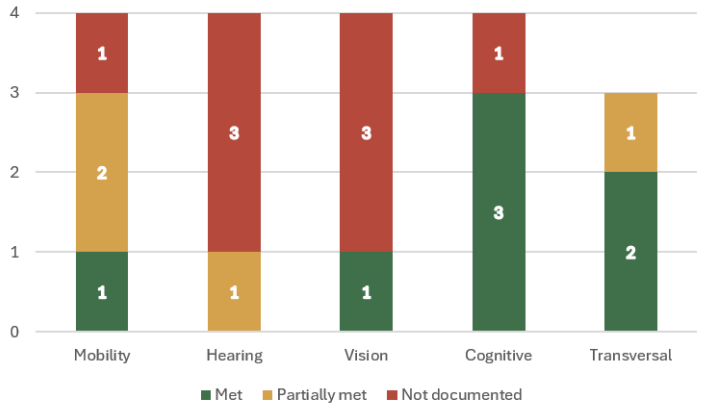
Social - the only gaps

Human rights and labour practices: "Partially met" - no data on staff working conditions, pay, or workforce diversity.

8

5 RESULTS: ACCESSIBILITY

A far more uneven picture: 7 met · 4 partially met · 8 not documented (of 19)



Cognitive - the strongest

3 of 4 criteria met - anchored by the FALC guide, Handi-Welcome, volunteers, and dedicated rest spaces.

Hearing & Vision - the weakest

6 of 8 criteria combined not documented - no captioning, sign language, tactile indicators, or alternative formats.

6 THE CRITICAL STRUCTURAL TENSION

Metro Line 1 - the only direct public transport link to the festival



Is NOT accessible to wheelchair users

Despite We Love Green's declared, comprehensive accessibility commitment, the single direct transit connection to the site remains structurally inaccessible - a tension that on-site provisions alone cannot resolve.

7 Discussion

Three patterns emerge from bringing sustainability and accessibility together

1	Visible vs invisible commitments	Strong, transparent sustainability across all three TBL dimensions, but partial alignment in labour practices reveals a recurring tension between visible environmental action and less visible social responsibility (Mair & Smith, 2021).
2	Absence as evidence	The lack of data on staff working conditions is not a neutral silence - it is itself a substantial finding under documentary analysis (Bowen, 2009).
3	A gap that undermines the whole	Genuine cognitive-accessibility efforts coexist with an inaccessible transit link and undocumented sensory provisions - stated commitments outpace systematically verified practice (Darcy, 2012).

11

8 LIMITATIONS

1 Single case
Findings cannot be generalised beyond We Love Green

2 Official sources only
Documentation may understate the festival's actual practices

3 SDG granularity
Goals are grouped at TBL-dimension level, not linked to individual criteria

4 No primary data
No stakeholder interviews, future research could add comparative, cross-festival analysis

12

9 CONCLUSIONS

We Love Green shows a well-documented, coherent sustainability commitment across environmental, social, and economic dimensions.

Accessibility remains significant but uneven - Metro Line 1 and undocumented sensory provisions are the most significant gaps between stated and documented practice.

The gap between the image of sustainability and fully integrated accessible practice has direct implications for research and event-management policy.

13

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14

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16


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17