

HG^GBA

HỘI DOANH NGHIỆP XANH TP. HCM

Sustainable Event Report

June 2025 | Ho Chi Minh City



Kết nối xanh - Bền vững tương lai

Powered by  Green Transition

FOREWORD



The Ho Chi Minh City Green Business Association (HGBA) was established with the mission to foster a pioneering business community dedicated to sustainable development, environmental protection, and green solutions in production and operations. Our vision goes beyond awareness-raising, we aim to connect resources, support corporate social responsibility, and contribute to building a prosperous, equitable, and green economy.

To fulfill our commitment, we are expanding our mindset and actions across the entire value chain, with a clear goal: reducing carbon emissions in Vietnam through practical and measurable solutions.

In this spirit, the **Inaugural Congress of HGBA (Term 2025–2030)** proudly marked one of the first collaborations with Green Transition to deliver a **Sustainable Towards Net-Zero Event**. From planning and communications to execution, the event seamlessly integrated sustainable practices: promoting low-carbon mobility, energy efficiency, waste reduction, eco-friendly catering, and clear communication of climate and community efforts.

We believe this first term will mark a new chapter, where businesses not only connect and collaborate, but co-create a greener, more responsible and sustainable economy. HGBA remains committed to advancing these shared values and walking alongside enterprises on the green transition journey ahead.

Mr. Dinh Hong Ky
Chairman of HGBA

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I Executive Summary & Event Strategy

1. About Green Transition & This Report



Increase awareness with our passionate experts



Straightforward, practical actionable solutions to act for quick wins



Collaboration spirit through impactful partnership to achieve common goals

Green Transition empowers individuals and corporations to navigate sustainability and ESG with ease. Our expert team, with 10 to over 18 years of experience, offers tailored solutions from workshops and advanced training to consulting and ongoing support.

As a “ONE-STOP” ESG solution, Green Transition helps organizations adopt sustainable practices seamlessly. We aim to lead the shift towards a competitive, green future by enhancing business competitiveness, building strategic partnerships, and uniting passionate individuals for sustainability.



This report presents a comprehensive sustainability assessment of the **Inaugural Congress of the Ho Chi Minh City Green Business Association (HGBA)**, held on **10th June 2025** at the **GEM Center**. Recognizing that events are among the most resource-intensive activities, the Congress not only marked the beginning of a collaborative green business movement in Ho Chi Minh City, but also demonstrated a genuine commitment to sustainability by actively applying Sustainable Event Management (SEM) practices aligned with international Net-Zero standards. From reducing single-use plastics to optimizing energy consumption and delivering a certified carbon offset program, every element was purposefully designed to minimize environmental impact and set a meaningful example of how sustainable events can truly walk the talk.

Following ISO 20121:2024 guidelines, GRI G4 Event, Berlin Sustainable Event Guidelines, our sustainability assessment covered energy, water, waste, logistics, catering, and attendee mobility, etc. serving as a benchmark for future sustainable events.

LinkedIn



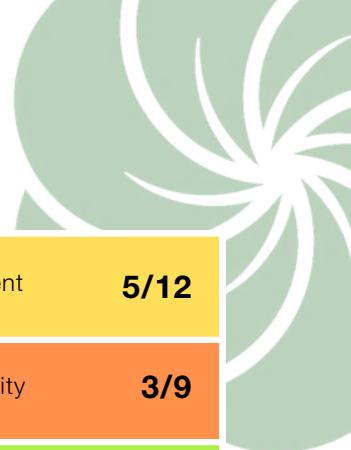
Facebook



Website



Executive Summary & Sustainability Overview



<p>You are a GREEN CHAMPION</p> <p>> 120</p> <p>91 - 120</p> <p>61 - 90</p> <p>31 - 60</p> <p>0 - 30</p>	<p>71/153*</p> <p>Total Overall Score</p>	<p>Sustainability Planning & Communication 13/21</p> <p>Logistics Suppliers 2/18</p> <p>Other Vendors 1/9</p> <p>Supply Chain 3/27</p>	<p>Waste Management 5/12</p> <p>Transport & Mobility 3/9</p> <p>Venue & Accessibility 12/18</p>
	VISIONARY	<p>Catering & Food Management 18/27</p>	<p>Health, Safety & Inclusion 8/12</p>
	GREEN LEADER	<p>Energy Management 5/12</p>	<p>Exhibitor & Booth N/A</p>
	GREEN CHAMPION	<p>Water Management 4/15</p>	<p>Accommodation N/A</p>
	CHANGE AGENT		
	CHANGE PIONEER		

*Based on current scope of the assessment (excluding criteria not yet applied for this event)



I Executive Summary & Event Strategy

2. Executive Summary & Sustainability Overview

This report highlights key insights from the **Inaugural Congress of the Ho Chi Minh City Green Business Association (HGBA)**, held on **10th June 2025** at the **GEM Center**. Designed and executed with a strong commitment to environmental and social responsibility, the event aimed to comply with leading international sustainability frameworks, including ISO 20121, GRI Standards, and the G4 Event Sector Supplement, Berlin Sustainable Event Guidelines.

The assessment covered all major aspects of event sustainability, ranging from sustainability planning and communication, supply chain management, catering, energy management, to water use, transport, venue accessibility, and waste reduction, etc. Through a structured evaluation framework consisting of 9 thematic areas and scoring criteria on a 0–3 scale, the report aims to provide transparency on the event's environmental and social footprint while offering insights for continuous improvement.

Key sustainability highlights of the event include:

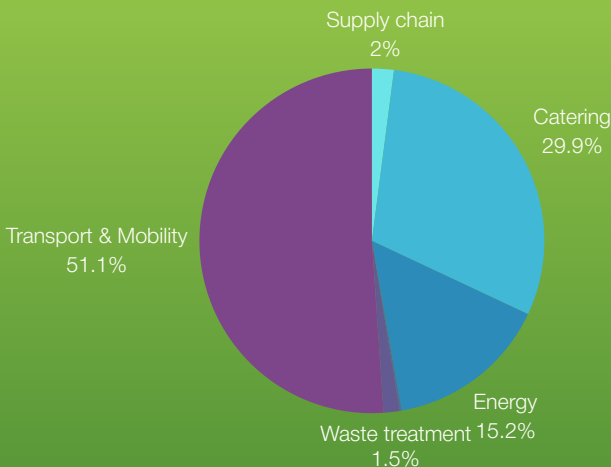
- The event mainly featured **plant-based meals**, with around 60% of ingredients locally or seasonally sourced. All dishes were **vegetarian or included fish**, helping reduce red meat use and lower the carbon footprint.
- Carbon emissions were calculated for **food, energy, transport, waste, water, and a part of procurement** using the GHG Protocol and national emission factors, and displayed live to participants via a carbon tracker.
- **Sustainability messages** were communicated before, during, and after the event through digital and on-site visuals. Attendees were informed about limiting wasteful gifts and flowers, and all guest gifts reflected ESG and sustainability values.
- Efforts were also made to ensure resource-efficient infrastructure and measure **Scope 2 and 3 emissions** from event operations.

TOTAL EMISSIONS OF THIS SUSTAINABLE EVENT

966.19 kg CO2e

ESTIMATED EMISSIONS OF A TYPICAL EVENT* **with the same measurement*

1750 kg CO2e



NEARLY 45% AVOIDED

By organizing a toward net-zero event, the organizer has **avoided emissions of nearly 784kg CO2e.**



Planting 32 Trees

The total estimated carbon emissions from key activities of the event are **966.19 kg**. These emissions are being considered for better control and mitigation in future events.

This report reflects not only the achievements but also the learning and opportunities for better alignment with global ESG standards. It serves as a reference point for future events to build more resilient, inclusive, and low-impact experiences.

**Estimated emissions of a typical event are derived from publicly available sources, including the United Nations Environment Programme, Zero Waste Event Planning Guide – Eco-Cycle, FAO Food Waste Footprint Report, WWF Hotel Kitchen Project, and UK DEFRA Emission Factors.*

I Executive Summary & Event Strategy

3. Event Profile & Context

The Inaugural Congress of HGBA (2025–2030 Term) set out with a dual purpose: to mark a significant milestone in Ho Chi Minh City’s green economic development strategy and to actively contribute to Vietnam’s national commitments to sustainable development and climate change adaptation. The event was structured into **three** sessions:

- Part I: Internal Congress Session
- Part II: Green Transition Dialogue in Global Turbulence
- Part III: Congress Inauguration Ceremony & Banquet

Embracing the principles of a Net-Zero Event, it incorporated practical measures such as plant-based catering, reusable materials, and clear sustainability messaging. Each session reflected HGBA’s **strong commitment** to climate action and a greener future.




II ESG Performance Breakdown

1. Sustainability Planning & Communication

ISO 20121 Clause 6.2.1, 6.3, 7.3, 8.2, 9.1→3; GRI 2-16, 22, 25, 26, 27, 29; G4 Event EO9, EO4

Effective planning and clear communication play a vital role in the success of a sustainable event. Clearly defined environmental & social goals, along with transparent actions to achieve them, help engage attendees, suppliers, and partners, creating a shared sense of responsibility and reinforcing the event's commitment to sustainability.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
Sustainability frameworks applied					An internal framework which referenced some ESG criteria was applied help organizers run the event effectively.
SET specific ESG goals and metrics					(Not yet applied)
Monitoring, assessment and reporting system					There was a 3rd party responsible for evaluating and reporting the entire event process.
Disseminate ESG criteria to stakeholders (internal & external)					ESG criteria were communicated publicly and directly to stakeholders: organizing committee, service providers, and attendees.
Stakeholder Engagement in Planning					Input was gathered from the association's executive committee and sustainable event consultants to integrate the organization plan.
ESG communication channels before – during – after the event					ESG messaging communicated consistently before, during, and after the event through multiple channels.
Post-event Feedback and ESG Improvement Mechanism					(Not yet applied)
TOTAL			13/21		



HGBA - Hội Doanh nghiệp Xanh TP HCM
 3 June at 18:01 · 🌱
 HGBA - HCMC Green Business Association - Save The Date - 10/06/2025

Hội Doanh nghiệp xanh TP.HCM sẽ chính thức tổ chức Đại hội thành lập cho nhiệm kỳ I (2025 - 2030), đánh dấu mốc quan trọng cho sự ra đời của cộng đồng Doanh nghiệp hướng đến phát triển xanh và bền vững.

"Kết nối xanh - Bền vững tương lai"
 🕒 Thời gian: 13:30, Thứ 3, ngày 10/06/2025
 📍 Địa điểm: Trung tâm sự kiện GEM Center, Tầng 5, Sảnh Castor, số 8 Nguyễn Bình Khiêm, Phường Đa Kao, Quận 1, TP. HCM.

Là một phần trong cam kết thúc đẩy nỗ lực giảm phát thải Carbon tại Việt Nam, sự kiện sẽ được tổ chức theo định hướng Sự kiện Bền vững hướng tới Net-Zero, bằng cách lồng ghép các sáng kiến bền vững như khuyến khích "di chuyển xanh", tiết kiệm năng lượng, giảm thiểu chất thải, dịch vụ ăn uống thân thiện với môi trường, cũng như nhiều hoạt động khác.

Các anh chị, ban lãnh đạo các doanh nghiệp xanh, nếu có quan tâm, vui lòng liên hệ trước ngày 05/06/2025 qua Ms. Thủy Linh (0919 058 329) và Ms. Thủy Trang (Hotline 091 164 2025).

...
 #HCMC #HoChiMinhCity #HGBA #GreenBusinessAssociation #DoanhNghiepXanh #SaveTheDate.





II ESG Performance Breakdown

2. Supply Chain: Logistics & Other Suppliers

. 2.1. Logistics Suppliers

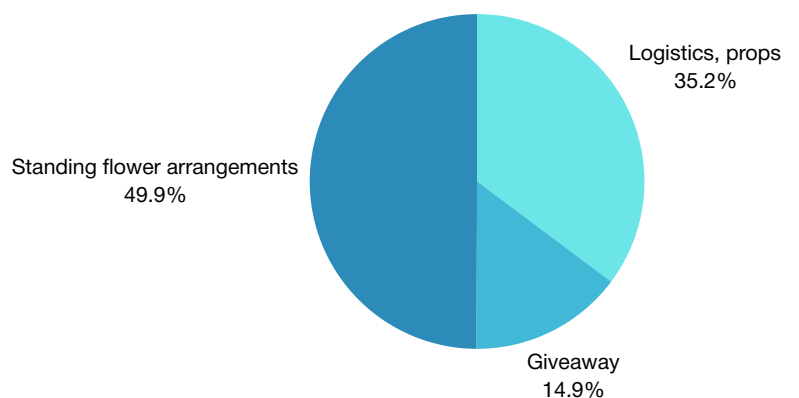
ISO 20121 Clause 6.2.1&2, 8.2&3, GRI 2-6, 2-23, 302-1, 305-3, 308, 414, G4 Event EO3, EO5, EO9

Logistics suppliers responsible for transporting goods and equipment can significantly contribute to an event's emissions. Smart logistics planning helps reduce this impact through careful procurement and conscious material selection. Every decision, from minimizing packaging to optimizing delivery routes, adds up to lower carbon emissions. Choosing local, seasonal, and reusable items over single-use or imported alternatives reflects a strong commitment to sustainability across the supply chain.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
ESG practices of logistics suppliers					(Not yet applied)
Level of ESG integration in contracts					(Not yet applied)
Extent of ESG requirement communication to suppliers.					ESG theme and criteria communicated informally/indirectly to suppliers, not documented.
Percentage of suppliers using fuel-efficient or electric vehicles					(Not yet applied)
Fuel saving and emission reduction initiatives					(Not yet applied)
Emission tracking from suppliers activities					Preliminary estimations (e.g., transport distance, fuel consumption) calculated using GHG Protocol, IPCC, and ISO 14064 guidelines.
TOTAL		2/18			



Emissions from Logistic Transportation:
19.79 kg CO2e




II ESG Performance Breakdown

2. Supply Chain: Logistics & Other Suppliers

. 2.2. Other Vendors

ISO 20121 Clause 6.2.1&2, 8.2&3, GRI 2-6, 2-23, 302-1, 305-3, 308, 414, G4 Event EO3, EO5, EO9

Service or other providers not directly involved in physical logistics, such as those offering translation, design, or software, still participate in shaping the event's sustainability footprint. While their impact may be less visible, integrating ESG criteria into the vendor selection process ensures that sustainability principles are applied consistently across all services. Prioritizing partners who align with environmental and social values helps reinforce a holistic and responsible approach to event planning.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
ESG practices of other suppliers					(Not yet applied)
Level of ESG integration in contracts					(Not yet applied)
Extent of ESG requirement communication to suppliers.					ESG theme and criteria communicated informally/indirectly to suppliers, not documented.
TOTAL		1/9			




II ESG Performance Breakdown

3. Catering & Food Management

ISO 20121 6.2.1&2, 6.3, 8.2; GRI 204-1, 301-1, 302-5, 305-3, 306-2&3, 308, 414-1, G4 Event EO5

Catering choices greatly influence an event's overall sustainability. Prioritizing plant-based, locally sourced, and seasonal ingredients helps reduce carbon emissions and supports regional producers. Thoughtful menu planning also minimizes food waste, while offering diverse and inclusive options ensures accessibility for all dietary needs. Reducing single-use packaging and encouraging reusable or compostable serviceware further reflects a commitment to responsible consumption. Together, these efforts elevate the event's environmental and social responsibility through conscious food management.

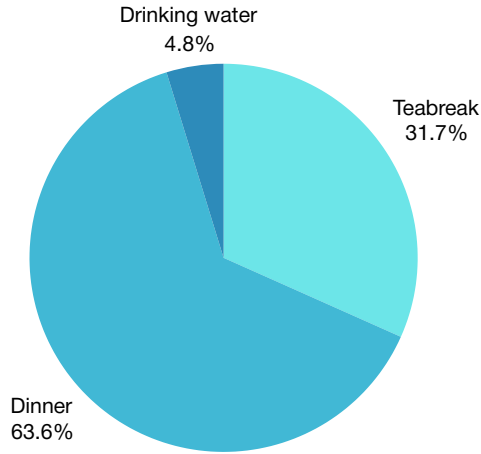
Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
ESG practices of catering providers					The restaurant has a Food Safety and Hygiene certificate, ensuring the health and safety of consumers.
Level of ESG integration in catering contracts					ESG factors mentioned generally in contracts, non-binding.
Extent of ESG requirement communication to caterers.					ESG requirements communicated informally, verbally, not documented.
Proportion of low-impact, non-red-meat dishes.					80% of food served at the event is vegetarian (one dish is made from salmon)
Percentage of local and seasonal ingredients					From 30% to under 60% local and seasonal food ingredients
Food waste management initiatives					The kitchen employs basic waste-reduction practices (e.g., neat prep, limiting excess ingredients), but lacks formal food waste sorting/processing. Untouched meals returned to organizers for staff takeaway.
Type of packaging and utensils used (reusable, biodegradable, etc.)					Most (over 90%) of the products were reusable.
Clear food labeling (allergens, vegan options)					All dishes clearly labeled and described.
Estimation of carbon footprint from catering					CO ₂ e emissions have been calculated based on data provided by the suppliers (unstandardized, unverified) and followed IPCC/GHG Protocol guidelines
TOTAL					18/27



II ESG Performance Breakdown

3. Catering & Food Management

ISO 20121 6.2.1&2, 6.3, 8.2; GRI 204-1, 301-1, 302-5, 305-3, 306-2&3, 308, 414-1, G4 Event EO5



Emissions from Catering:
289.3kg CO₂e

See more details [HERE](#)




II ESG Performance Breakdown

4. Energy Management


ISO 20121 Clause 6.2.1, Clause 9.1; GRI 302-1, 302-4; G4-EO7, EO8

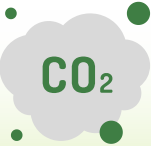
Energy use is a critical factor in determining an event's carbon footprint. From venue lighting and sound systems to air conditioning and digital infrastructure, energy consumption powers the experience, but also contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions. Efficient equipment, smart lighting, and mindful scheduling of high-demand activities can reduce peak load and energy waste. Ultimately, conscious energy planning not only lowers emissions but also signals leadership in environmental stewardship, setting a strong precedent for future events.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
Energy sources					Uses grid electricity; energy efficiency considered for equipment selection, but no renewable sources utilized.
Energy Management Certification					The operator mentioned implementing energy management but no specific certification.
Energy saving measures and initiatives					Specific energy efficiency plan implemented (LEDs, timers, light sensors, zoned lighting, etc.), with continuous monitoring and adjustments.
Calculation carbon footprint from energy consumption					Preliminary estimations based on venue usage data, applying EVN emission factors.
TOTAL		5/12			



Energy Consumption
223.5 KwH





Emissions from Energy Consumption:
147.33 kg CO2e




II ESG Performance Breakdown

5. Water Management

ISO 20121 Clause 6.2.1, 8.2, 9.1; GRI 303-1 to 303-5; G4-EO6

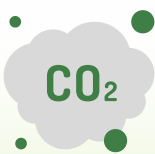
From restrooms and catering to cleaning and landscaping, water is a resource often overlooked but deeply embedded in event operations. A venue with efficient fixtures — such as low-flow faucets and dual-flush toilets — helps reduce unnecessary consumption. Thoughtful water planning not only supports resource efficiency, but also engages participants in conservation through awareness signage and gentle behavioral nudges.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
Water sources					City water source confirmed, but venue declined to provide inspection documents, maintenance records, or filtration system information.
Water stress or scarcity status of location					Local water stress not identified or considered.
Water saving measures and initiatives					Water-efficient fixtures used (sensor faucets, dual-flush toilets, low-flow bidet sprayer, etc.).
Wastewater treatment method					No information on wastewater treatment system
Calculation carbon footprint from water consumption					Estimated water usage for CO2 calculation based on IPCC guidelines.
TOTAL					4/15



Estimated Domestic Water Consumption:
1500 liter*

**Assuming 150 guests, each using the restroom twice during a 6-hour event, 5 liter of water per time*



Emissions from Water Consumption:
1.62 kg CO2e



II ESG Performance Breakdown

6. Waste Management

ISO 20121 Clause 6.2.1, 8.2, 9.1; GRI 306-1 → 306-5, G4-EO5

Effective waste management is a cornerstone of sustainable event planning. From minimizing single-use materials to ensuring proper sorting and recycling, a clear waste strategy helps significantly reduce landfill contributions. Monitoring and adjusting waste practices throughout the event also ensures continuous improvement. These measures reflect a commitment to environmental stewardship and resource efficiency.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
Waste management plan and policy					Clear event waste management plan including waste quantification and designated collection service; disposal method not verified.
Infrastructure & waste sorting					There were some trash bins, but they were not clearly classified.
Waste measurement, monitoring and post-treatment					Preliminary waste documentation/photos exist, but no formal measurement; disposal method unclear.
Calculation carbon footprint from waste treatment					CO ₂ e emissions from waste disposal calculated using default factors (IPCC, GHG Protocol), but waste quantity was estimated.
TOTAL		5/12			



35kg from food processing and cut flowers for decoration



8.91kg PVC from backdrop
5kg PF from standing flower arrangements
8kg PE from fabric, bow, nylon wrapping



3kg PET from plastic water bottles
23.05kg carton and paper from nametag and packaging



Emissions from Waste Treatment:
14.56 kg CO₂e




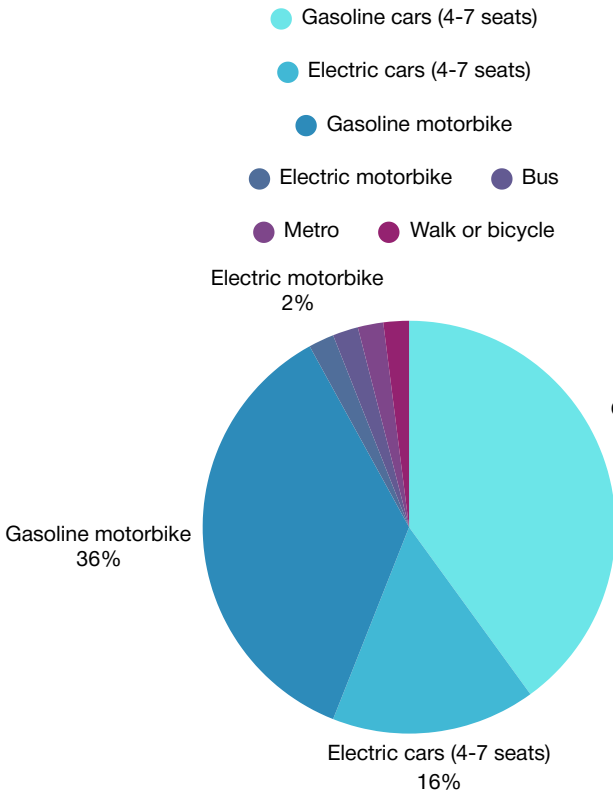
II ESG Performance Breakdown

7. Transport & Mobility

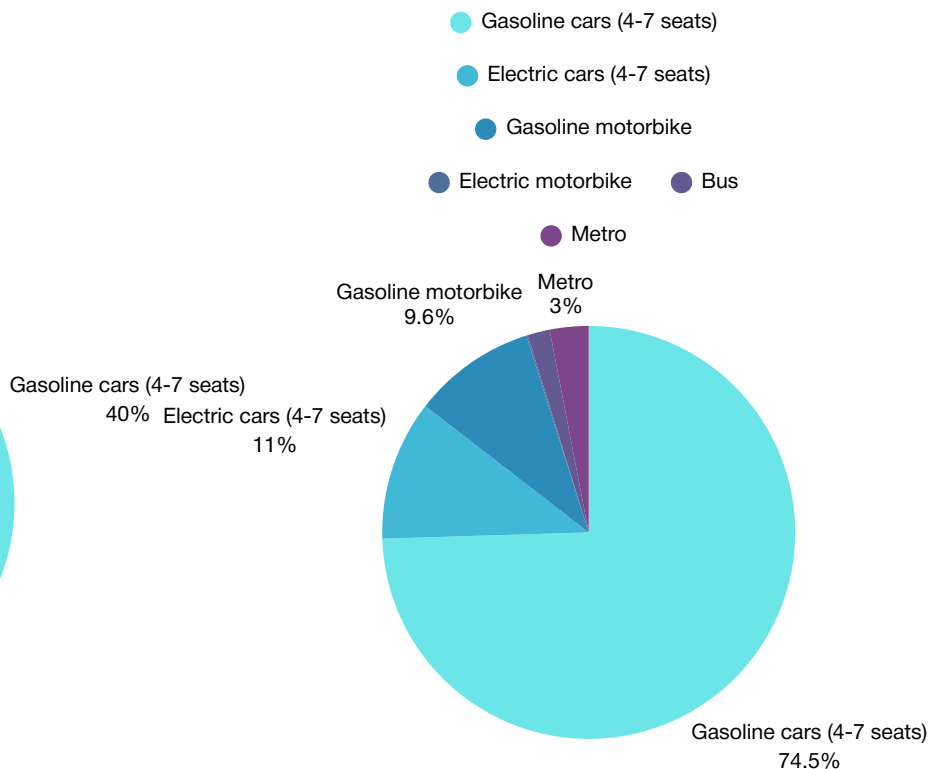
ISO 20121 Clause 6.2.2, 8.2; GRI 305-3; G4-EO1, EO3, EO4, EO5

Transport and mobility are major contributors to an event's environmental footprint, particularly through emissions associated with attendee travel and logistical movements. Promoting low-carbon options, such as public transport, along with providing participants with clear mobility information or organizing shared transport options can significantly reduce these emissions and encourage more sustainable choices. The availability of virtual participation also helps lower emissions by reducing the need for long-distance travel. Understanding travel behaviors and per-capita emissions provides organizations with insights that drive ongoing improvements in sustainable mobility.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
Support and promote sustainable mobility					Sustainable transportation encouraged (mentioned on invitations, website, posters, etc.), but details are vague or unclear
Modes of transport used by attendees					24% of attendees used low-emission vehicles to travel to the event
Calculate CO _{2e} emissions from travel to events					CO _{2e} emissions calculated, categorized by transport mode, using standard factors (GHG Protocol, DEFRA, etc.), with a summary report. However, data collected represents less than 30% of actual attendees.
TOTAL		3/9			



Modes of Transport Used by Attendees



Emission Rate from Attendee Mobility

Emissions from Transportation:
493.59 kg CO_{2e}*

**Data was estimated and converted from a survey sample of 45/170 participants.*

II ESG Performance Breakdown

8. Venue & Accessibility

ISO 20121 Clause 6.2.1, 6.3; GRI 302, 305, 413; G4-EO2, EO5, EO9

Choosing an appropriate venue is fundamental to achieving sustainable event goals. A well-selected location can reduce carbon emissions while supporting energy efficiency, waste reduction, and inclusivity. Key considerations include venues that hold green building certifications, have robust environmental and social policies, or actively implement sustainability practices. Ensuring physical accessibility and minimizing the need for excessive travel or resource use contributes to a more equitable and environmentally conscious event experience.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
Green building certification (LEED, LOTUS, EDGE...) or other ESG certifications					Environmental commitment stated, but no specific certifications held.
Resource-saving infrastructure					Integrated energy/water saving systems: sensors, LED lighting, dual flush toilets, natural cooling, etc.
Ability to provide ESG data from venue					Partial data provided but incomplete (e.g., only estimated waste, water, and electricity usage, not event-specific).
Accessible infrastructure for people with disabilities					Comprehensive accessible infrastructure for people with disabilities (ramps, restrooms, signage, priority seating, parking, etc.), demonstrating clear preparation and inclusivity.
Multilingual signs, mobility guides					Multilingual guidance system: TV screens, maps, clear signage, and on-site navigation assistance.
Bicycle/electric vehicle/green vehicle parking					There was parking inside the building with security, clear signs, and integrated into the event planning.
TOTAL				12/18	




II ESG Performance Breakdown

9. Health, Safety & Inclusivity

ISO 20121 Clause 8.2, 8.3, GRI 403, G4 EO2, LA8

Ensuring health, safety, and inclusivity is a foundational aspect of sustainable event management. A comprehensive risk assessment and management plan helps identify potential hazards and implement preventive measures, while an effective emergency preparedness and response plan ensures participants' well-being in case of unexpected situations. Adequate on-site security also contributes to a safe and welcoming environment. Beyond physical safety, creating an inclusive space where all individuals feel respected and supported is equally vital. Together, these elements foster trust, accessibility, and a sense of belonging, reinforcing the event's commitment to ESG.

Criteria	0	1	2	3	Good Practices 
Risk assessments and safety plans					There was an overview of site risks, but no specific documentation (only survey without notes, verbally asking building staff)
Emergency response setup					Comprehensive emergency response system: fire and safety equipment, clear and disseminated floor plans with safety instructions, drills/training conducted, designated emergency response team and leader.
Medical and first aid readiness					There was a simple first aid kit (1-2 sets), but it was unclear who is in charge
Professional security team with full knowledge and skills					Professionally trained security personnel equipped to assist attendees (especially elderly, disabled, LGBTQ+ individuals, etc.) with a friendly demeanor and sensitivity training.
TOTAL					8/12





Summary & Forward Planning

1. Certification & Carbon Offset

HỘI DOANH NGHIỆP XANH TP.HCM

CÁC TIÊU CHÍ ĐÁNH GIÁ SỰ KIỆN BỀN VỮNG

Tiêu Chuẩn Sự Kiện Bền Vững

Tiêu Chuẩn Đánh Giá Carbon

Tiêu Chí Đánh Giá

DỊCH VỤ ĂN UỐNG			KẾ HOẠCH - TRUYỀN THÔNG BỀN VỮNG
RÁC THẢI			NĂNG LƯỢNG
VẬN CHUYỂN - DI CHUYỂN			NƯỚC
THỰC PHẨM			SỨC KHỎE & AN TOÀN - HOÀ NHẬP
ÁP KHÁC			DỊCH VỤ LƯU TRỮ
GIÁO DỤC - HIỆN LÂM			ĐỊA ĐIỂM & KHẢ NĂNG TIẾP CẬN

Quy Trình Triển Khai Sự Kiện Bền Vững

Lên Kế hoạch

Đánh giá

Bù đắp Carbon

Chứng nhận

A “Sustainable Event towards Net-Zero” is designed to significantly reduce its environmental impact by minimizing carbon emissions throughout all phases of the event. This includes actions such as lowering energy consumption, using renewable energy where possible, reducing waste, and promoting sustainable sourcing. While it may not fully offset all emissions, the event aims to address unavoidable carbon impacts. In recognition of their active contribution to promoting sustainability throughout the event, Mr. Bao Nguyen, representing Green Transition, presented certificates to the event organizers and sponsors. The goal is continuous improvement towards Net-Zero, not immediate perfection.



LIVE CARBON DATA TRACKER

As part of the event’s commitment to transparency and real-time sustainability insights, a Live Carbon Data Tracker was implemented to monitor the event’s environmental footprint.



Attendees’ transportation data was collected and visualized instantly, offering live updates on mobility-related emissions. Meanwhile, data from other emission sources - such as catering, venue energy and water use - were updated twice throughout the event. This initiative not only raised awareness among participants but also showcased how real-time tracking can support more accountable and data-driven approaches to sustainable event management.



Summary & Forward Planning

2. Action Plan & Future Recommendations

1. SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING & COMMUNICATION



YOU SHOULD

- Adopt ESG frameworks (ISO 20121, GRI, G4 Event)
- Set clear, measurable sustainability goals
- Ensure ESG principles are communicated and integrated throughout all event stages by developing an ESG guideline or checklist to align all teams and vendors

2. SUPPLY CHAIN: LOGISTICS & OTHER SUPPLIERS



YOU SHOULD

- Screen vendors based on ESG performance and certifications
- Include sustainability clauses in contracts.
- Communicate with suppliers via multi-channel (email, verbal...), make sure ESG requirements are understood and applied
- Require evidence of emission reduction and ethical practices

3. CATERING & FOOD MANAGEMENT



YOU SHOULD

- Standardize catering contract templates with ESG criteria.
- Require clear reporting from suppliers: certificates, raw material sources...
- Work with a food waste recycler or disposer.

4. ENERGY MANAGEMENT



YOU SHOULD

- Prioritize venues with ISO 50001 or green building certifications
- Request renewable energy sourcing or purchase I-RECs
- The temperature adjustment of A/C to higher degree to limit the energy consumption

5. WATER MANAGEMENT



YOU SHOULD

- Assess water stress at the event location
- Monitor water consumption accurately
- Explore rainwater harvesting or greywater reuse options
- Add water-saving propaganda images in water-using areas

III Summary & Forward Planning

2. Action Plan & Future Recommendations

6. WASTE MANAGEMENT



YOU SHOULD

- Provide clearly classified trash bins at the event (with color and symbol), with instructions for use.
- Set up a form to record waste generated by time and location, with staff or volunteers to support monitoring.
- Coordinate with waste treatment unit to prepare post-event report, confirm treatment method (recycling, landfill, composting...).

7. TRANSPORT & MOBILITY



YOU SHOULD

- Increase transportation survey participation via QR codes or integrated registration forms.
- Provide public transport maps and suggested shared routes
- Promote “green mobility” communications via email and other channels before the event.
- Increase carbon offsetting efforts (e.g., by integrating voluntary offset contribution options directly into the event ticketing or registration platform)

8. VENUE & ACCESSIBILITY



YOU SHOULD

- Choose venues with green certifications or request existing certifications from venue management.
- Build a quick site assessment checklist based on ESG criteria – from on-site surveys to evidence gathering.

9. HEALTH, SAFETY & INCLUSIVITY



YOU SHOULD

- Create a formal risk assessment document noting hazards by area (e.g., slippery surfaces, electrical panels, crowded areas).
- Ensure on-site medical support and accessibility provisions

IV Testimonials

From Event Organizers and Participants

Ms. Luu Thi Thanh Mau,
CEO, Phuc Khang Corporation



As a member of the HGBA Standing Committee and a leader deeply committed to sustainable development through Phuc Khang Corporation's pioneering green building projects, I was proud to support the HGBA Inaugural Congress - a milestone event not only for the business community, but also for advancing Ho Chi Minh City's and Vietnam's green growth strategies. In collaboration with Green Transition, every aspect of the event reflected a genuine commitment to ESG principles. I believe that through collective will and tangible steps, we can nurture a business ecosystem that grows responsibly while creating lasting value and well-being for society.



Mr. Nguyễn Vĩnh Lộc (Louis)
GEM Center, Country Head Of Sales

Being part of this event from the earliest planning stages gave us not only a logistical role, but a learning opportunity. We gained first-hand experience of what it truly means to host an event with sustainability at its core - from rethinking materials and minimizing waste to improving operational efficiency across the board.

The experience reaffirmed our belief that responsible event management is not a future ideal - it is a present-day commitment. At GEM Center, we are proud to bring that commitment to life through thoughtful details: energy-conscious practices, waste-reducing solutions, and service models that honor both quality and care for the planet. We deeply value the trust placed in us and hope to continue walking alongside partners who dare to do more - for people, for the planet, and for the future of events.

Mr. Ryan Galloway, Chief Growth Officer
TECHCOOP - AgriFintech for MSMEs



Pleased to attend the inaugural meeting of the Ho Chi Minh City Green Business Association—good to see solid organizations getting behind this important cause. The themes of sustainability were thoughtfully embedded throughout the event, from serving mostly plant-based meals to collecting name badges for reuse. These small but meaningful actions reflect attention to detail and genuine commitment: both things HGBA members can aspire to. I look forward to seeing the Association's future impact and hope to continue engaging in initiatives that contribute to Vietnam's green development.

Thank You!

Green Transition would like to express our gratitude to the partners and suppliers who contribute to the production of this report:

Ho Chi Minh City Green Business Association (HGBA)
GEM Center
MinMax Green
Planetzero.earth

HGBA
HỘI DOANH NGHIỆP XANH TP.HCM




As the organization entrusted with designing and delivering a sustainable event for the HGBA Inaugural Congress, we at Green Transition are proud to support this effort which are truly aligned with our values and from HGBA. This Congress was not only to talk about green business collaboration in spirit, but also living it by putting into practice to "WALK THE TALK".

From early planning to execution, we worked closely with partners and the organization team to integrate meaningful actions following international standards ISO 20121, GRI G4 Events but also to calculate the carbon footprint of the event. I believe this event has set a strong benchmark for future gatherings aiming to contribute to Vietnam's net-zero and green growth goals with simple actions. It's a great honor for Green Transition to be part of this journey and contribute of the meaningfulness for this Green Business Association launch.

Contact Us

 314/6 Dien Bien Phu Street, Ward 11, District 10, HCMC

 info@greentransition.asia

LinkedIn



Website



Facebook



V Appendix

Methodology for Event Report

Our Sustainable Event Assessment System is built upon leading international standards, ensuring transparency and high reliability. We strictly adhere to the guidelines of **ISO 20121:2024 (1)**, **G4 Event (2)**, **Sustainable Event Guidelines Berlin (3)**, incorporating best practices in environmental impact assessment.

The assessment criteria are designed with two main indicator groups: quantitative and qualitative. For the quantitative indicators, the main focus is on assessing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions based on the guidelines of the **GHG Protocol (4)**, the **IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) (5)** and **ISO 14064-2 (6)**. The calculation process is performed accurately and efficiently through a dedicated tool provided by our partner MinMax Green – a reputable and experienced entity in this field. This ensures the accuracy and objectivity of the assessment results.

The qualitative indicators will complement other factors related to the event's sustainability, providing a more comprehensive view of the environmental and social impacts. This methodology is committed to providing a comprehensive, reliable, and comparable assessment report, supporting organizations in organizing sustainable events and minimizing negative impacts on the environment.

- (1) ISO 20121:2024 Event sustainability management systems - Requirements with guidance for use
- (2) GRI G4 Event Organizers Sector Disclosures
- (3) Sustainable Event Guidelines Berlin
- (4) GHG Protocol
- (5) IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)
- (6) ISO 14064-2

I – Quantitative indicators:

Qualitative indicators are structured into 11 topics, each scored based on individual criteria. Furthermore, some criteria are assessed using results from quantitative indicators. The total score across all themes is then categorized and ranked into four groups:

Visionary: From 121 to 153

Green Leader: From 91 to 120

Green Champion: From 61 to 90

Change Agent: From 31 to 60

Change Pioneer: From 0 to 30

The assessment topics include: Sustainability Planning & Communication, Supply Chain: Logistics & Other Suppliers, Catering & Food Management, Energy Management, Water Management, Waste Management, Transport & Mobility, Venue & Accessibility, Health, Safety & Inclusivity, Exhibitor & Booth, Accommodation (flexible tailor-made based on event types).

II - Qualitative indicators:

For quantitative factors, we focus on assessing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions according to the guidelines of the GHG Protocol published in March 2004 by WRI that is under WBCSD and the IPCC. We employ a three-scope approach (Scopes 1, 2, and 3) to measure and report GHG emissions (flexible tailor-made based on specificity of the event venue i.e solar rooftop, ground water usage...). We utilize a toolset provided by our partner, MinMax Green. For details, please refer to: <https://minmaxgreen.vn/Identity/Login>.



A. Scopes and Calculation Methodology:

a. Scope 1: Direct Emissions

Definition: Includes GHG emissions that occur directly from sources owned or controlled by the event organizers. Under ideal conditions, this excludes fugitive emissions and refrigerant emissions from cooling equipment.

Sources: In this case, Scope 1 emissions primarily stem from fuel combustion (if any) for event operational equipment such as generators, portable heating systems, onsite vehicles (if applicable).

Calculation Methodology: We will collect data on fuel consumption (e.g., liters of diesel, cubic meters of gas) and utilize emission factors from the IPCC to convert this into CO₂e (carbon dioxide equivalent). Fuel consumption data will be gathered from invoices, delivery receipts, or fuel usage records from service providers. The assumption of no fugitive emissions and exclusion of refrigerant emissions simplifies the calculation and reflects an idealized scenario. A sensitivity analysis considering potential fugitive emissions could be conducted in future reports.

b. Scope 2: Indirect Emissions from Electricity Consumption

Definition: Includes GHG emissions resulting from the grid electricity consumed by the event.

Sources: Electricity consumption by lighting systems, sound systems, air conditioning, and other electronic equipment at the event.

Calculation Methodology: We will collect data on electricity consumption (kWh) from electricity bills or energy usage reports from the event venue. The emission factor for electricity will be determined based on the venue's electricity source (e.g., the Vietnam national grid, as published in the document number 327/BĐKH-PTCBBT dated 19th Mar 2024 by DDC (MONRE) for year 2022, or renewable energy). This factor will be sourced and verified from reliable data sources such as government databases or relevant international organizations.

c. Scope 3: Other Indirect Emissions

Scope 3 encompasses GHG emissions not directly controlled by the event organizers but related to the event's activities. We will calculate the following sources:

•Goods Transportation:

Definition: Emissions generated from transporting goods (equipment, materials, gifts, etc.) from the production site/warehouse to the event venue.

Calculation Methodology: We will collect information on the mode of transport (trucks, containers, etc.), transportation distance, and type of fuel used. Corresponding emission factors from the GHG Protocol will be used to calculate CO₂e.

•Attendee Transportation:

Definition: Emissions generated from attendees' travel from their homes to the event venue and back.

Calculation Methodology: We will estimate the number of attendees using different modes of transport (private vehicles, public transport, etc.) and use average emission factors for each transport mode, based on statistical data on fuel consumption and average distances. Surveys or information collected from attendees may be used for more accurate estimation.

•Waste and Wastewater Management:

Definition: Emissions generated from the processing of waste (organic waste, recyclable waste, non-recyclable waste) and wastewater generated from the event.

Calculation Methodology: We will measure the amount of waste and estimate the wastewater generated from participants attended the event. We will then use emission factors from local waste and wastewater treatment processes or relevant studies to calculate CO₂e.

V Appendix

Methodology for Event Report

B. Limitations and Assumptions:

This methodology assumes ideal conditions for Scope 1 emissions, excluding fugitive emissions and refrigerant leaks from cooling equipment. This simplification may underestimate the true Scope 1 emissions.

Other assumptions and limitations in the calculation process will be clearly stated in the report.

The accuracy of the report depends on the accuracy of the collected data.

C. Reporting of Results:

The report will present assessments across 11 topics, GHG emissions broken down by category and total event GHG emissions categorized by scope (Scopes 1, 2, and 3), along with implemented mitigation measures. The report will also include recommendations for future events to minimize environmental impact.

