

A guide for MOs and local groups to reduce the environmental impact of their events.

GREENER EVENTS

#ForHerWorld



WORLD ASSOCIATION
OF GIRL GUIDES
AND GIRL SCOUTS



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When talking about climate change and protecting our environment, conversation can quickly become overwhelming. I have often felt powerless to address climate change. I was always wondering how I could have a real, positive impact to save our planet. It took me a few conversations with friends to realise that addressing climate change does not need a few people to be perfectly sustainable, it needs everyone to be imperfectly sustainable.



Climate change and the environment is a big issue for girls. Through U-Report, the UNICEF polling platform, girls told us that climate and environmental issues were the second most important thing they wanted us to focus on.



In my daily life, I try to consciously practise the Girl Guide and Girl Scout Leadership Model and knowing that climate change is a big issue for girls around the world, writing this toolkit was for me, a way to lead for impact. Inspired by the responsible action mindset, I wanted to mobilize energy around “what needs changing, and what needs to be protected”. I felt that my experiences and learnings were worth sharing to lead and create positive change.



I am so proud to be part of such an empowering Movement, proud to see the commitment of our MOs from the four corners of the world to protect our planet. I decided to write this toolkit to support our MOs and their local groups when organising events, to further their commitments, and help them address climate change and the protection of our environment.



Let's guide green and scout sustainably!



Please consider the environment before printing this toolkit, it is best to use it on your device as some links will only work in the digital version.



“Our environment is our shared home. Let's lead the world to protect it because as young women, we have the strength to change our world for the better.”

Participant of the Helen Storrow Seminar, 2019



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ABOUT WAGGGS

The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) is the largest voluntary Movement dedicated to girls and young women in the world. We are a diverse Movement representing ten million girls and young women from 150 countries.

Through innovative non-formal education programmes, leadership development, advocacy work and community action, we empower girls and young women to develop the skills and confidence needed to make positive changes in their lives, their communities and their countries.

For more than 100 years, Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting has transformed the lives of girls and young women worldwide, supporting and empowering them to achieve their fullest potential and become responsible citizens of the world.

Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting is about connecting with others, from our local community to our 10 million sisters around the globe. We gather to connect, share, learn and make positive change together.



WAGGGS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges our world is facing. As one of the largest youth organisations, WAGGGS has chosen to address this challenge through a variety of programmes including:

[The Helen Storrow Seminar](#)

The Helen Storrow Seminar (HSS) takes place every year in the Swiss Alps at our Chalet as well as in different pop-up venues around the world. The HSS brings together groups of young women to develop their leadership skills, have adventures and create environmentally sustainable change projects to impact their local community.

one being The Green Tech Generation Campaign which challenges young women to take responsibility for the environment.

[The Tide Turners Plastic Challenge Badge](#)

This badge encourages young people to take action to reduce plastic waste in their own lives, and helps them become leaders in their communities to make sure that as many people as possible join the global fight to eradicate the single-use plastic that is damaging our oceans.

[YUNGA Challenge Badges](#)

Developed in collaboration with United Nations agencies, civil society and other organisations, YUNGA Challenge Badges are a set of badges focusing on Biodiversity, Food Security & Climate Change, Climate Change, Ending Hunger, Forests, Nutrition, The Ocean, Soils and Water.

[The Goals.org](#)

Following the pledge to leave no one behind, WAGGGS wants to contribute to make the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) a reality to ensure that "All girls are valued and take action to change the world". TheGoals.org by ISYMP and WAGGGS have joined forces in a project called "Unlock Leadership for Change" in which youth leaders around the world are trained to use TheGoals.org and thus educate their peers in their communities on the SDGs.

[Be The Change Toolkit](#)

Be the Change aims at helping girls everywhere to speak out and drive change. This tool helps our MOs to take action on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. Be The Change supports Girl Guides and Girl Scouts everywhere to take action for the Sustainable Development Goals.

[WAGGGS delegation at the Conference Of the Parties \(COP\)](#)

WAGGGS has prepared and brought a delegation of young women to most of the COP meetings in recent years. Young women from Girl Guiding and Girl Scouting will be present at the COP in Glasgow in 2021.

[The YESS programme](#)

The Youth Exchange South to South (YESS) Girls Movement is an international exchange programme. There are 6 core initiatives of the YESS programme,



Welcome to the Greener Events #ForHerWorld Toolkit

If you are looking for ways to limit your environmental impact when hosting an event and to educate your participants around climate change in a fun way, this toolkit is for you!

Despite the fact that each of our 150 MOs across the globe experience climate change in different ways, considerations are often very similar: food, energy, location of venue, waste and recycling, etc. Thus, the Greener Events #ForHerWorld toolkit can be adopted and implemented to suit different contexts and needs. There are many options towards hosting sustainable events, with Greener Events #ForHerWorld toolkit, we try to present you accessible and exciting tips!

Following the Girl Guide and Girl Scout leadership model, Greener Events #ForHerWorld is a tool to lead for impact and practise your Responsible Action Mindset. You are encouraged to drive constructive change for our planet, to transform your environmental values into action and inspire others to follow your lead. Do not underestimate the ripple effect your actions can have, and how they may impact yourself,



your team, your community, the Movement, society...

Through the different parts of this toolkit, you will be inspired to rethink the way you plan and execute your events to make them more sustainable. You will also be given tools to educate your participants around climate change and sustainable ways of living so they can contribute to a positive change for the environment in their daily lives and in their community. In the Appendix p 28, you will find an action plan to help you prepare your event in a sustainable way.

We hope that this toolkit will be useful for you to make our world a more sustainable and fairer place!



MINIMIZE THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF YOUR EVENT



The following part is divided into different topics; food, waste management, merchandise, internet use and transportation. For each part, you will be given recommendations to minimise the carbon footprint of your event. The recommendations are based on facts illustrated with infographics. Each recommendation is ranked with stars from 1 to 3 to show how easy they are to complete depending on your context (1 being easy to implement regardless of the sociocultural context, 3 might be challenging to implement depending on sociocultural context).

“One individual cannot possibly make a difference, alone. It is individual efforts, collectively, that makes a noticeable difference—all the difference in the world!”
Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE, primatologist



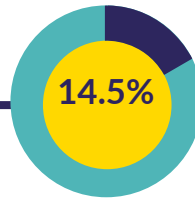
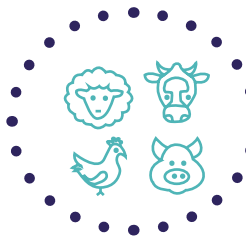


1. FOOD

The infographics below show the environmental impact of the food industry and the way we consume food. To help you address this, you will find recommendations around prioritizing vegetarian meals, having a vegan day during your event and sourcing your food locally.



655 litres of water are needed to produce 3.8 litres of milk.



The livestock industry represents 14.5% of the global greenhouse gas emissions



Tip 1. Prioritising vegetarian menus ★

Why: Vegetarian meals are more environmentally friendly. By prioritizing vegetarian meals, you will considerably reduce your event's carbon footprint.

How: When gathering information about your participants, ask them if they would be happy to only have vegetarian meals during the event. Here is an example of how to phrase this, to positively impact their answer.

Note: If you do offer vegetarian meals, make sure that the person in charge of the catering service is aware about the nutrition needs of vegetarian diets. For more information on healthy vegetarian diet check the [NHS website](#).

Dear participants of (insert the name of your event here),

Have you ever wondered about the environmental impact of eating meat? Just to give you a quick idea, to produce one kg of meat, 15 500L of water are needed. The livestock industry is responsible for 14.5% of the total greenhouse gas emissions.

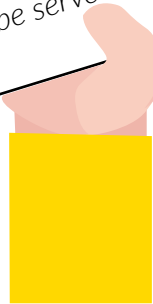
As for many other Girl Guides and Girl Scouts around the world, taking action to protect our environment is very important to us. The (name of your event) could be a great place to start being changemakers!

Would you consider being part of a positive change during the event and having vegetarian meals only?

Please check the option that suits you best :

I am happy to have vegetarian meals only during the event

I don't feel comfortable with only having vegetarian meals and would like to be served meat during the event.





Tip 2. Organise a vegan day ★

Why: By having a vegan day during your event, you will reduce your carbon footprint for the day. As shown in the figures on page 8, not only the livestock industry negatively impacts our environment but the dairy industry as well. Encouraging your participants to go vegan for a day will also help to break down stereotypes about veganism. Your participants will realise that being vegan is not as hard as they might think and it is actually easy to prepare delicious vegan meals.

How: The day before Vegan day, explain to your participants why you are doing this. Highlight the fact that all of their nutrient requirements will be met by the meal served to them. Make sure that the cooks know how to prepare nutritious vegan meals or invite them to learn about it. Check [the NHS website](#) for more information on vegan diets.

In the appendix P 29, you will find 3 vegan recipes from different countries. Try to create your own recipe or adapt it with ingredients readily available in your country.



Tip 3. Local and seasonal food ★★

Why: Locally grown food doesn't require long trips to be transported across the world until they reach their final destination. Reducing food kilometres helps alleviate our dependence on fossil fuels, reduces air pollution and cuts back on greenhouse gas emissions. Also, locally sourcing our food has a positive impact on the local economy and supports local incomes. It is important to consume seasonal fruits and vegetables not only because they are fresher and contain more nutrients but because they can also be sourced locally and do not have to travel overseas to end up in your plate.

How: Encourage the person in charge of the catering to look for local food providers. You can get in touch with your council or the local community to find local producers. If you want to know what the seasonal fruits and vegetables in your region are, you can look it up online. Below is an example of a seasonal fruits and vegetables calendar from Chile.





2. WASTE MANAGEMENT



The infographics below show facts around general waste and food waste. Tackling the issue of waste that is produced in our world is not an easy thing to do. This is why you will find recommendations on how to start composting, how to redistribute your food left-overs, how to limit the use of single-use plastic products, how to have recycling facilities on site and how to go zero waste.



1/9 people in the world are hungry.

Yet



1/3 of the food is wasted. The amount of food produced but not consumed represents 1.3 billion tonnes each year.



Every day approximately 8 million pieces of plastic find their way into our oceans.



Each household produces around 1 tonne of rubbish every year.





Tip 1. Limit the use of single-use plastic products ★

Why: As shown on page 10, the use of single-use plastics not only negatively impacts our environment but our use of these plastics is also deadly for many marine species and ecosystems.

How:

1. If picnics are planned during the event, ask participants to bring a lunchbox so they can pack their sandwiches and don't have to use plastic film.
2. Avoid products packaged as single products or individual portions such as cookies, crisps, single portion butter/jam...Instead, Buy bulk packets of crisps and give each participant their own single serve.
3. If your venue has no access to running drinking water, use a bulk water dispenser rather than bottled



"We have the power to make a difference in this world. We are lucky enough to have a voice and it needs to be heard because the trees, ocean and animals do not have that voice, so we must stand together and speak for our environment".

Helen Storrow 2018 participant

Tip 2. Recycling facilities on site ★ ★

Why: When we recycle, materials are converted into new products, reducing the need to consume natural resources which will help to protect natural habitats. Furthermore, using recycled materials in the manufacturing process uses less energy than that required for producing new products from raw materials. Thus, it reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

How: Be aware that recycling at your venue is only efficient if your local government has recycling facilities. Conduct research to find out whether it is possible to recycle in the area where your event is located. Find out how the recycling system works and set up your recycling stations accordingly. Make sure signs have clear graphics on what to throw in each container.

Check the example in the appendix P30, to get an idea about how to recycle efficiently.



Tip 3. Composting ★

Why: Composting reduces methane emissions from landfills and lowers your carbon footprint. Also, it improves the soil's fertility and protects biodiversity.

How: First of all, check to see if your venue is near composting facilities or if local farmers would be happy to collect your food waste.

If not you could start your own compost to use in your venue's garden or the community's gardens. There are different ways of composting.

The Basic Compost Heap

Ideal if you have space in the back of your garden. Check [this website](#) to find more on how to make your basic compost heap

The composting bin

Even if your venue has no garden, there are many different ways you can make a composting bin yourself and it is relatively cheap. You can upcycle a lot of different materials to turn them into composting bins.

What can I compost?

YES	NO
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruits and vegetables scraps • Egg shells • Grass clippings • Horse, cow, chicken or rabbit manure • Leaves and garden prunings • Tea bags and coffee grounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meat or bones • Dairy products • Baked products • Cooked rice • Nappies • Dog poo • Cat litter • Walnut shells • Diseased plants • Non-organic • Plastic bags





Tip 4. Zero waste ★

Why: In our daily lives, we use a lot of products that are disposable, we use them once and then throw them away. However, if we want to reduce the waste we produce, there are plenty of reusable items that we can make ourselves. They are useful in our daily lives, economical and they are fun to do!

How:

1. To limit the waste you produce, try to buy in bulk as much as possible, rather than individual packages, and use reusable items instead of disposable items, such as plates and cutlery. When it comes to soap for example, choose a soap bar instead of a liquid soap bottle.
2. During your event organize a zero waste DIY activity. Include in your programme time to have an activity to teach your participants how to create their own reusable items.

Check the appendix P31 to get some ideas of what you can teach them to do.



Tip 5. Redistribute your leftover food ★

Why: 795 million people in the world do not have enough food to lead a healthy active life. If we have the capacity to redistribute the food we have left over, we can do our part to alleviate world hunger and contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goal number 2, Zero Hunger.

How: Conduct some field research in your local community to Find out if there are homeless shelters and foodbanks in the area in which your event is being held. Ask them how you can organize food collection and comply with safety requirements.

You can also approach student associations and offer to redistribute your leftover food to students. Conduct research to know about the different initiatives available in your community. In London for example, you can download an application called OLIO. [OLIO](#) connects neighbours with each other and with local businesses so surplus food can be shared, not thrown away.

To go further: To limit your food waste, purchase according to the number of participants you are expecting. Serve reasonable food portions, and invite them to come back to get more food later rather than getting too much and wasting uneaten.





3. MERCHANDISE

When hosting events, it is nice to create a feeling of unity and offer your participants different goodies such as T-shirts, caps, pins, badges... However, as the facts below will show you, the production of such merchandise directly impacts climate change. Sourcing eco-friendly merchandise for your participants is possible. You will see in the recommendations that you can organise an activity with your participants to create your own event T-shirts, boost the local economy by offering locally produced goodies and make sure to offer reusable goodies.



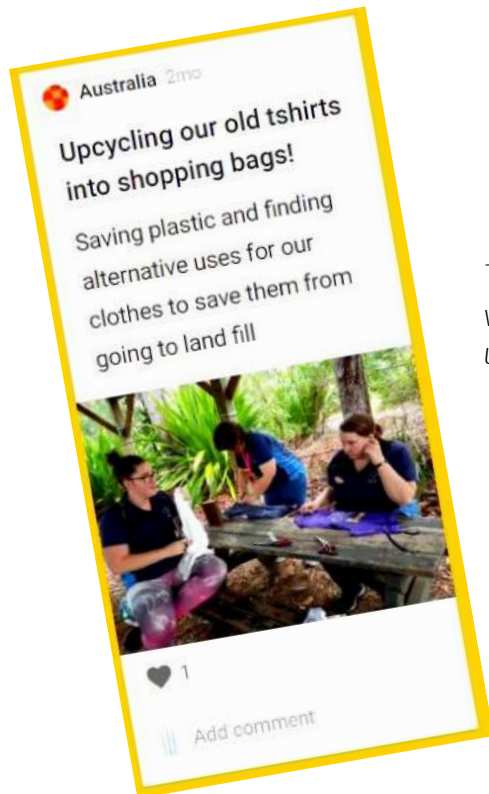
2700 Litres of water are needed to produce 1 T-shirt



The cotton industry uses 25% of the world's pesticides and herbicides.



After being manufactured, goodies created for an event often travel by ship, train, truck. When ending in participants' hands, one single object already contributed significantly to increasing your event's carbon foot-print.



The Australian Girl Guides in 2017 when hosting a Helen Storrow Pop-up seminar



Tip 1. Locally produced goodies ★ ★

Why: Locally produced goodies or gifts won't have to travel the world to end up in the hands of your participants. It will contribute to the development of the local economy.

How: Find out if there are local craftspeople that could create goodies or gifts for your event. Try as much as possible to choose fair trade, organic and local products. Fair trade is a way of buying and selling products that makes certain that the people who produce the goods have good working conditions and are paid a fair wage. Organic products are produced consciously trying not to harm the environment.

Tip 2. DIY T-shirts ★ ★

Why: It is nice to create a feeling of belonging for an event. It helps participants feel part of the experience and it is a great tool to communicate around your event. It is important to look at a sustainable way to provide your participants with a T-shirt or other garment. By encouraging your participants to bring a second-hand white T-shirt, you will avoid contributing to the fast-fashion industry.

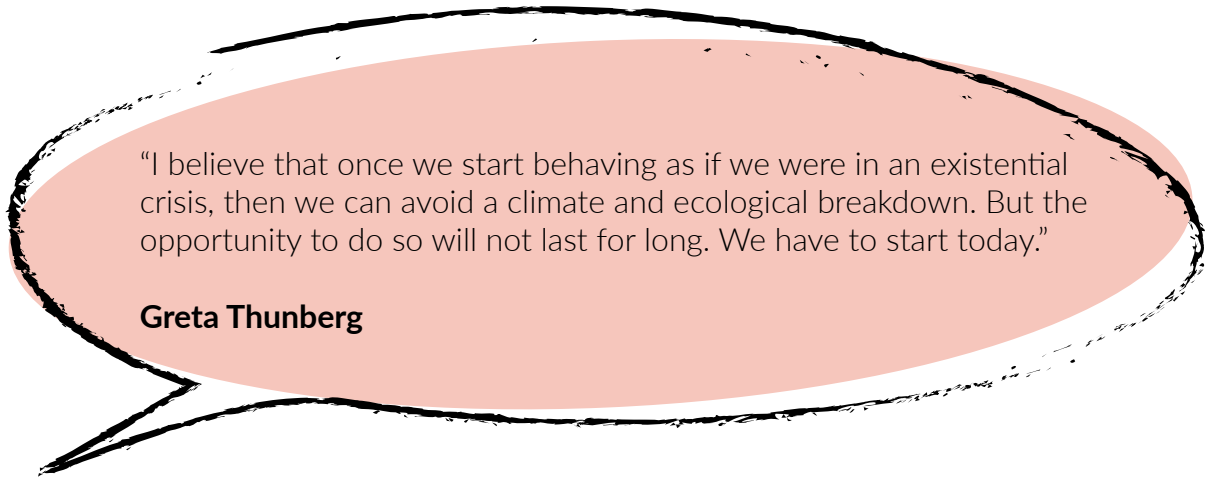
Why is the fast-fashion industry harmful for the environment? Here are some hints: toxic colourants are used to dye clothes; a lot of pesticides are used to grow cotton, In China alone, production of waste textiles will exceed 100 million tons by the end of 2020.

Buying second hand clothes is one of the best ways to deal with textile waste.

How: At the beginning of your event, organise an activity where participants will have the opportunity to customize a second hand T-shirt for the event.

- Before the event, design what you would like to have on your event T-shirt.
- Then, create a stencil. (Relevant to your event, like the event name or logo).
- For your event buy textile paint - if you can find eco-friendly paint, it's even better!
- Ask your participants to bring a second hand T-shirt of the colour of your choice.





"I believe that once we start behaving as if we were in an existential crisis, then we can avoid a climate and ecological breakdown. But the opportunity to do so will not last for long. We have to start today."

Greta Thunberg

Tip 3. Reusable merchandise ★★

Why: By making sure to have gifts and goodies that have a real purpose and can be reused, you will incentivise your participants to become responsible consumers, you will promote a circular economy that encourages to buy, use, repair and recycle, rather than a linear economy that encourages to buy, consume and throw away.

How: When choosing your goodies and gifts, ask yourself, is this really useful for my participants? Will they use it again after the event? Does this add value to my event?

Moreover, if you create or order merch to promote your event (for example banners), get some that you will be able to use again after your event.

Here are some ideas of useful reusable goodies:

-Reusable water bottle

-Notebook

One more thing to take into account when ordering your merchandise is to be precise with what is needed, have a margin of only 3-4% extra merchandise.



4. INTERNET USE AND DATA STORAGE



To manage your event you will need to use different devices, applications, software, the internet... Even though internet use and data storage is not the sector harming the environment the most, it is important to be aware of its environmental impact. You will see that a conscious use of the internet will help you to minimise the impact your event has on climate change.



Twenty milligrams of CO₂ are generated every second that someone is using a simple website. There are 35 billion minutes logged online every month from users worldwide.



The energy footprint of the IT sector in 2017 was estimated to consume approximately 12% of the total global electricity per year.





3 tips for a conscious use of the internet ★

Why: The internet industry and data storage also contribute to global warming and there are very easy things we can do to limit this impact.

How: Being conscious about ways to minimize your carbon footprint when using the internet is an easy step to take for any event you organise.

1. When choosing which app to use check if they are powered by renewable energies. You can use one of these websites to gather information <http://www.clickclean.org/international/en/> or <https://www.thegreenwebfoundation.org/>
2. For searches and other quick tasks, use a tablet or smartphone instead of a desktop or laptop – they use much less energy than larger devices.
3. Change your search engine to a more responsible one. Ecosia for example donates 80% or more of its profits to non-profit organizations that focus on reforestation.

Here are some directions to help you change your search engine browser.

Step 1: Go on the [Ecosia website](#)

Step 2: click on the right button “Add to chrome” (or edge depending on the tool you’re using).

Step 3: Click “Add extension” in the Chrome dialogue box that appears.

Step 4: Try searching from the address bar! Make sure to “Keep Changes” in order to confirm Ecosia as your default search engine in Chrome.





5. TRANSPORTATION



To come to your venue participants will have to take a vehicle. Whether it is a car, a bus or a plane, their journey will have an impact on the environment (unless they travel by bike or walk). The transport industry is very polluting as it releases CO2 into the air and other fine particles which can be dangerous for people and animals' health. To minimise your event's environmental impact, encourage your participants to commute in a greener way!



Compare a journey by **car** emitting **1000 kg of CO2** into the atmosphere. The same journey by **public transport** (bus, tram, metro) emits between **70 and 200 kg of CO2** and the same journey by **bicycle** emits **0kg of CO2**.



Outdoor air pollution leads to **4.2 million deaths** each year, with the vast majority (90%) in low- and middle-income countries.





Tip 1. Airport/ Train station pickup ★★

Why: Organising such a service will prevent participants commuting individually from the station to the venue. By picking them up in groups, you will reduce the individual journeys and the transportation carbon footprint of your event.

How: Send clear explanations to your participants on to commute using public transport from their arrival point to the venue. If public transport is not reliable, rent a minivan to pick up participants at the airport or the train station. Plan in advance 3 to 4 time slots a day (amount needed depending on the number of participants) when you will be arranging a van to pick up participants at the airport/train station. Communicate these time slots with your participants so they can book their arrival time according to these slots. Make sure to connect your participants together before the event so they can wait together.



Tip 2. Hold a “Commute green contest” ★

Why: Who doesn't like a good challenge? By encouraging your participants to come to the event in the most sustainable way possible, you will challenge them not to rely too much on polluting transportation.

How: Hold a contest for your participants to encourage them to come to the venue in the most sustainable way possible. Tell your participants at least 4 months before your event that the person making the best effort to travel in the most sustainable way will receive a prize.

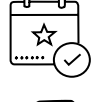
You can provide your participants with the tips below to travel in a sustainable way:

-Carpool: Carpooling connects drivers who have spare seats with people who travel to the same destination. Different websites provide this service. You can check [Blablacar](#), [Waze Carpool](#). When carpooling make sure that the website you are choosing is reliable.

- Travel by train instead of catching a plane!

-If you can and if it is safe, make your journey an adventure and come by bike for a zero emission travel journey. it will be even more challenging if you live far from the venue!

During your event, highlight the different efforts made by your participants.





EDUCATE YOUR PARTICIPANTS

“Education, if it means anything, should not take people away from the land, but instill in them even more respect for it, because educated people are in a position to understand what is being lost. The future of the planet concerns all of us, and all of us should do what we can to protect it. As I told the foresters, and the women, you don’t need a diploma to plant a tree.”
– **Wangari Maathai, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate and author of *Unbowed***



Hosting an eco-friendly event does not stop at the different actions you take to reduce your carbon footprint. It is really important to educate your participants, to tell them why you are doing specific things to make this event as eco friendly as possible and how they can take this back home in their community, school, family...



When educating participants, challenges and ways to address specific topics will vary greatly depending on:



- The age and experience of the group members
- The size of the group
- The realities of their local community



Try to keep this in mind when planning your programme. In this part of the toolkit, you will find examples of how you can educate your participants.



1. SPREAD THE MESSAGE



For every action taken or recommendation followed, it is important to raise awareness and to educate participants about it. You can do so by different means:



Have posters around your venues. For example if you are having vegetarian meals, have posters that show the impact of the livestock industry on the environment and the positive impact of having a vegetarian diet. Allow time during your program to have activities around the environment.



1.1 A green library



Have a green library corner with different resources at your venue. Here are some ideas of resources you could display.



[UNDP. \(2018\). The 2030 Agenda in Action - What does it mean?](#)

This explainer leaflet shows what is new about the SDGs, what moving away from the 'business as usual' way of development implies, and how UNDP is helping countries to make the 2030 Agenda a reality.

Find a variety of interesting articles on the [National Geographic website](#)

National Geographic is one of the largest nonprofit scientific and educational organizations in the world. Their website features articles, videos, photographs about Nature and environmental conservation among others.



Have a folder with different eco friendly DIY objects/projects.

Print outs of the 17 different SDGs. You can find them [here](#).

[This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate](#) by Naomi Klein

In this book, the author takes a look at seven communities around the world with the proposition that we can seize the crisis of climate change to transform our capitalist economic system into something better.



[The Beekeeper's Lament](#) by Hannah Nordhaus

A story depicting the symbiosis between agriculture and bees, the author tells how one man and half a billion honey bees help feed America.

[Storms of My Grandchildren](#) by James Hansen

A book about the coming climate catastrophe and our last chance to save humanity.



1.2 Deliver sessions around the environment.



At some point during your event, after breakfast, for example, or after the lunch break, invite participants to take part in short environmental sessions.



To help you with this, you will find in the Appendix p 32-35 examples of session plans exploring



1. The SDGs: What are the 17 different goals and how they can be implemented in different contexts.
2. Our water consumption: The concept of virtual water, how much water is needed to produce different items and what can be done to reduce our water consumption.
3. The interdependencies in our environment: How living beings are interconnected and the implications of human activity on ecosystems



If you want to prepare your own session, do not forget to use [WAGGGS non-formal educative method](#), and the [Girl Guide and Girl Scout Leadership Model](#).



1.3 Start meals with sharing fun/scary facts around the environment.



Have some facts ready or invite your participants to share facts about their own communities regarding climate change and the environment.

Here are some facts:



- The amount of water on Earth is constant, and continually recycled over time: some of the water you drink will have passed through a dinosaur.



- A glass bottle can take 4,000 years to decompose.
- We have explored more of Space than our terrestrial oceans.



- Biodegradable plastic bags are in reality only degradable if specific conditions are met.
- Toilet paper requires 27,000 trees to be cut down per day.



- More than a million species face potential extinction as a result of disappearing habitats, changing ecosystems, and acidifying oceans



- 60% of global clothing is made out of polyester, polyester is made out of micro-plastic particles which are very harmful for the environment and our oceans.



1.4 Host a movie night

During your event you can host a movie night. Screen an environmental movie. Here are some ideas of movies you could screen.

Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Secret Kip Andersen and Keegan Kuhn, 2014.

"An environmental documentary showing how animal agriculture is the leading cause of deforestation, water consumption and pollution, and is a primary driver of rainforest destruction, species extinction, habitat loss, topsoil erosion..."

This shocking yet humorous documentary reveals the absolutely devastating environmental impact large-scale factory farming has on our planet, and offers a path to global sustainability for a growing population".

Available online.

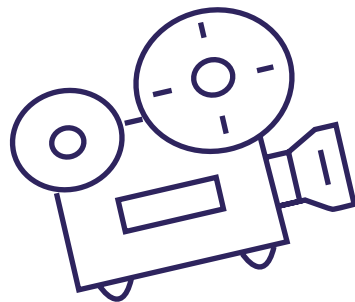


Tomorrow (Demain) Melanie Laurent and Cyril Dion, 2017.

"The documentary *Tomorrow* sets out to showcase alternative and creative ways of viewing agriculture, economics, energy and education. It offers constructive solutions to act on a local level to make a difference on a global level. .

Tomorrow is not just a film, it is the beginning of a movement seeking to encourage local communities around the world to change the way they live for the sake of our planet."

Available online .



Before the Flood Fisher Stevens and Leonardo DiCaprio, 2016

"*Before the Flood*, presented by National Geographic, features Leonardo DiCaprio on a journey as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, traveling to five continents and the Arctic to witness climate change firsthand. He goes on expeditions with scientists uncovering the reality of climate change and meets with political leaders fighting against inaction. With unprecedented access to thought leaders around the world, DiCaprio searches for hope in a rising tide of catastrophic news".

Available online .





2. THE GOALS.ORG



During their spare time, invite your participant to explore TheGoals.org.



The Goals.org activities can be done as a group. Once a group is signed up to the platform, they can choose a 'course' of activities. There are courses on each individual Sustainable Development Goal, as well as one introductory course. You can just do one, or as many as you like! Your group will need to meet over a number of sessions to complete a course – though the length of time will depend on what you choose to do.



What is TheGoals.org?

TheGoals.org is an online user-friendly and fun crowd learning platform that offers non-formal programmes based on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The site's aim is to help people understand what the goals are about and how to tackle them in their own communities.

This platform is designed to work on even the simplest online device. It connects learners globally to explore global challenges and take local action. Young people are supported and encouraged to be agents of change, and connect with others in a global space. TheGoals.org provides a space for young people to learn about global issues, take local action, share their projects, highlight results and learn from each other.

TheGoals.org is translated into WAGGGS' four official languages: English, French, Arabic and Spanish

How do I get started?

If you are 13 years old and upwards and you are part of a non-formal group you can register in the platform:

Visit waggs.thegoals.org and register as:

- **Coach:** the leader. A Coach signs up first to the platform, and invites Students to join the platform by adding their email. The Coach is their guide throughout. The Coach is able to monitor progress and put together groups, and can monitor more than one group. Coaches have their own area to manage participants and follow their steps. Coaches can communicate with their groups on the platform.
- **Student:** the participants in the courses. They are invited by Coaches to join the platform by email. Students can access the platform from their own respective devices but the courses are collaborative in nature – you only need one device.
- **Group:** consists of students and is managed by a coach. The group inputs to the course together.

How does The Goals.org work?

- **Courses:** once a group is signed up to the platform, they will choose a 'course' of activities. There are courses on each individual Sustainable Development Goal, as well as one introductory course. You can just do one, or as many as you like! Your group will need to meet over a number of sessions to complete a course – though the length of time will depend on what you choose to do.
- **Missions:** Each course is made up of 'missions' to complete. These build into 'Mission Stories' which are shared across the platform for other young people to add ideas and feedback. By completing the course missions one by one, groups grasp the global context of the SDG they are focusing on, take a close look at their local circumstances and come up with solutions to improve their local and even global community.



FINAL TIPS

Acting for the climate means first to identify and then to reduce the greenhouse gases that we emit on a daily basis. The first two parts of this toolkit will help you address the reduction of your carbon footprint. We might ask ourselves, what can we do to compensate for the environmental impact we have and cannot avoid?

This action of compensation is called carbon offsetting, it can act on the share of incompressible greenhouse gas emissions that we cannot or do not yet know how to reduce satisfactorily. There are different ways to offset your carbon emission, for example you can:

- Plant trees: Planting trees is a great way to help sequester carbon emissions. Through photosynthesis trees absorb carbon dioxide to produce oxygen.
- Support projects that act towards carbon offsetting.
- Allocate part of your event's budget for carbon offsetting.

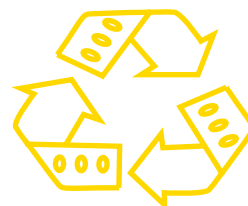
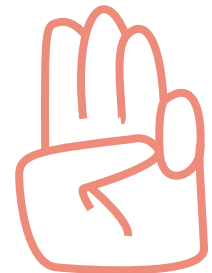
It is important to emphasise that carbon offsetting should not be seen as a solution. The best way is not to emit CO2, not to compensate for what we are emitting.

Congratulations! You now have access to different tools, tips and solutions to ensure that your future events will not only be more respectful of our environment but will also educate your participants about the importance of protecting it!

We hope that after using this toolkit you not only feel prepared, but also excited, to start rethinking the way you organize events and make them as sustainable as possible!

Want to inspire other local groups and MOs? We invite you to share on social media any initiatives you take as a result of using this toolkit! Use the hashtag **#guidingandscoutinggreen** and tag **@wagggsworld**

Together let's contribute to make the world a better place!





SOURCES



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To go further:

You can calculate your carbon footprint using one of these calculators:

<https://www.terrapass.com/carbon-footprint-calculator>
<https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/>

Check the [Steps Toward Sustainable Development A Toolkit For Projects](#) written by the WAGGGS Arab Region

APPENDIX

ACTION PLAN

Use this action plan template to set objectives to make your next event the most sustainable possible. In the action column, write how you intend to reach these objectives and in the success indicators explain how you will measure the outcomes of your objectives.

Category	Objective	Action	Success indicators
 Food			
 Waste management			
 Merchandise			
 Internet use			
 Transportation			
Other			



VEGAN RECIPES

Breakfast: American Banana Pancakes

for 10

Ingredients:

- 3 bananas
- 3 tablespoons (tbsp) of sunflower oil
- 3 teaspoon (tsp) of lemon juice
- 1.5 tsp of ground cinnamon
- 300 g plain flour
- 1.5 tsp of baking powder
- 750 ml plant based milk or water

Preparation:

Step 1: In a mixing bowl, mash the banana with a fork and whisk in the oil, lemon juice and cinnamon. Add the flour and baking powder. Stir while gradually adding the plant-based milk (or water). The batter will take on the consistency of yogurt.

Step 2: Place a frying pan on a medium heat. Oil it using a little sunflower oil on a scrunched piece of kitchen towel. Drop tablespoonfuls of batter onto the pan and swirl so it spreads across the surface. When bubbles pop and the glossiness of the pancake becomes matte (about two minutes), flip over. Cook for a further couple of minutes.

Step 3: place the finished pancakes on a plate. Repeat the process until the batter is used up. Serve hot with maple syrup, sugar cane juice or jam.

Other easy breakfast idea: Toasts with peanut butter and jam; fruits.

Lunch: Atakilt Wat

Ethiopian Spiced Cabbage, Carrot & Potatoes for 10

Ingredients:

- 3 tsp turmeric
- 3 tsp olive oil
- 3 onions, thinly sliced
- 6 carrots, thinly sliced
- 6 cloves garlic, minced
- 1.5 tsp ginger, minced
- 1.5 tsp cumin
- 1.5 head of cabbage, thinly sliced
- 12 potatoes, peeled and cut into 1 inch cubes
- salt & pepper

Preparation:

Step 1: Heat oil in a deep pan over medium heat, add onion and carrots and cook, stirring occasionally, about 6 minutes or until veggies begin to soften.

Step 2: Stir in the garlic, ginger, turmeric and cumin. Cook about 1 minute or until fragrant. Stir in the cabbage, potatoes and 1 tsp salt, cover the pan and reduce heat to medium-low. Cook stirring occasionally until potatoes are tender, about 25 minutes. Salt and pepper to taste.

Dinner: Indian green lentil dhal

for 10

Ingredients:

- 1 kg green lentils
- 5 tbsp vegetable oil
- 5 pieces of cinnamon stick (or grounded cinnamon)
- 5 small onions chopped finely
- 5 tbsp ginger and garlic paste
- 5 tsp chilli powder
- 2.5 tsp ground turmeric
- 5 tsp salt
- 625 g ripe tomatoes chopped
- 4 L warm water
- Small red chilli finely chopped
- 5 tbsp coriander freshly chopped
- rice

Preparation:

Step 1: Place the green lentils in a sieve, wash them under cold water and leave them to drain.

Step 2: Heat the oil in a saucepan, add the cinnamon stick, chopped onion and garlic and ginger paste. Saute for approximately 5 minutes.

Step 3: Add the drained lentils, chilli powder, turmeric and salt and combine everything together, stirring constantly and adding drops of warm water if the mixture begins to stick.

Step 4: Add the tomatoes and combine and cook everything together, stirring for a further 3 minutes.

Step 5: Add the water, bring the contents to the boil, reduce the heat so the contents are just simmering slightly, put the lid on and cook for 20 – 30 minutes stirring every so often.

Step 6: Once the lentils are softened completely, remove the cinnamon stick.

Step 7: Garnish with the red chilli and freshly chopped coriander then serve with wholegrain basmati rice / chapati breads.



HOW TO RECYCLE

Here is an example of how to recycle and what rubbish to put in which container. This is a common example but make sure to check with the council as recycling systems can be slightly different from one country to another.

Ideally, you will need six different containers

1

- Glass bottles
- Glass jars
- Glass containers

2

- Office paper
- Newspaper
- Brown paper bag
- Magazine
- Junk mail
- Cardboard paper board (cereals, snacks boxes)
- Toilet paper rolls.

3

- Hard plastics
- Plastic bottles
- Plastic containers
- Plastic cap

4

- Tin
- Aluminum
- Steel cans

5

- Compostable waste

6

Non-recyclable items. Here is a brief list of non-recyclable items:

- Plastic shopping bags
- Plastic stretch wrap (Tips any soft plastic is not recyclable)
- Polystyrene Foam Cups or Containers
- Take-out containers
- Drinking cups
- Hygienic products
- Baby diapers
- Broken or sharp glass
- Fast food packaging

When recycling the four first categories of litter, make sure that the litter are clean and made out of one material. For example, milk or juice cardboard bottles might not be recyclable because they are made out of different materials such as cardboard, plastic and aluminium.



ZERO WASTE Do It Yourself

Reusable beeswax wrapping papers

Material you'll need:

- beeswax beads or pellets (you can find these in craft shops or online)
- Baking paper.
- Iron.
- cotton fabric.

Step 1: Cut squares of 100% cotton fabric in sizes to fit your bowls.

Step 2: Choose a large flat work surface and make sure to cover it with something that can withstand heat. Tear off two equally-sized sheets of baking paper, both bigger than your largest pre-cut cloth square. Tape one piece of baking paper to your work surface.

Step 3: Place one pre-cut cloth square on top of your taped-down baking paper. Sprinkle beeswax beads evenly over the cloth square, making sure to cover all the way to edges.

Step 4: Place the second sheet of baking paper over the top. With a hot iron, gently iron over the top of the baking paper, going back and forth a few times.

Step 5: Remove the top sheet of baking paper and inspect your work. Areas that did not get enough beeswax will be lighter in color. Simply sprinkle a small amount of wax on those areas, cover with baking paper, and iron again. If your cloth has too much wax on it, you can put another piece of fabric on top, place baking paper over both of them, and iron gently. The top piece of fabric will soak up some of the wax.

Step 6: Carefully remove the hot fabric from your work surface and hang to dry. Fabric will stiffen as it dries.

Reusable makeup remover pad

Material you'll need:

- Soft jersey fabric (2 different ones, used t-shirts work great)
- Thread matching your fabric color
- A fabric pen
- Some pins
- A pair of scissors
- A sewing machine (or a needle and some thread to do it manually)

Step 1: You can use two different fabric: one for the pads top and the softer fabric for the makeup remover side. Prepare your fabric by cutting squares of 3cm sides. Cut as many pieces as you want pads, remember you need two fabric pieces to make each pad.

Step 2: Place one of each square on top of each other, wrong side facing and pin them together. Sew with small zig-zag stitches following the circle line. Or sew manually very tightly. Leave an unsewn gap of 1 cm.

Step 3: Flip the pad to have the right side out.

Tote Bags

As the UK Girl Guides showcased in their [guiding magazine - The Environmental Issue p 40](#), you can create tote bags made out of old T-shirts.

Material you'll need:

- An old T-shirt
- Scissors
- Textile sharpies, rubans, buttons (optional)

Step 1: If your T-shirt has sleeves, your first step is to cut them off. You simply need to create a straight profile along both sides of your future bag. The sleeves are in the way, so turn the shirt into a tank top in this step.

Step 2: To avoid having to sew the bottom of the shirt, cut a series of fringes which you will then tie together. Get a pair of scissors and carefully cut a bunch of fringes across the bottom of the shirt. Make sure the shirt is laying flat when you do this. You need the fringes in the front and back to line up with one another. Also, mind that you do not make the fringes too thin, or they will not be robust enough. You can make them as long or short as you like. Just remember that the longer you cut the fringes, the lower the tote bag's capacity will be.

Step 3: Once you have your fringes ready, you need to tie them together. Start on one side of the shirt, and take the two fringes there that match up in the front and the back, and tie them into a secure double knot. Then move onto the next pair of fringes and do the same thing. Just keep repeating until you have completely closed off the bottom of the bag.

Step 4: Your tote- bag is ready, you can now decide to decorate it with textile sharpies or rubans, buttons...

Session plan: The SDGs

Time: 60 mins

Capacity: 2 min- 10 max

Age: 14+

Material needed: SDGs printouts

Learning objectives: In this session, participants will gain a better understanding of the SDGs and will share how they address them in their community.

Participants will:	What happens:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get familiar with the 17 SDGs 	<p>Activity: Ask the participants if they can explain what the Sustainable Development Goals are and why they were created? Ask them if they can name the 17 different goals.</p> <p>Then, if needed deepen the given definition by saying that the SDGS are the world's efforts to make some major and sustainable changes in a variety of areas, which affect everyone globally. Every country is facing issues that have had international attention. In 2015, aware that the previously set Millennium Development Goals presented some limits, the United Nations General Assembly designed the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a collection of 17 global goals designed to be a "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all".</p> <p>Print out or if possible display on different devices the UNDP brochure on the SDGs</p> <p>Display the 17 SDGS in different places around the room, and invite your participants to discover the different goals.</p>	20 mins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand different contexts 	<p>Discussion: Invite participants to think about which SDG is the most important to address in their community. Ask them to stand in front of this SDG poster.</p> <p>Participant will have 25 minutes to discuss in group why this SDG is important, and consider how to address this SDG giving examples. After their discussion, each SDG group will present their findings to the rest of the group in a creative way (poem, dance, play, drawing...) Give participants tools to express themselves in a creative way (Sharpies, paper, crafts, speakers to play music, costumes...)</p>	25 mins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect on the session. 	<p>Reflection: Ask participants to think about what personal changes they could make in their daily lives to address the SDGS, and who could be their allies to make that change happen (Their school teacher, someone in their religious community, the mayor of their city/village...)</p>	15 mins

Session plan: Water consumption

Time: 30 mins

Capacity: 2 min- 10 max

Age: 8+

Material needed: A device to show the video, Papers and sharpies/ pencils

Learning objectives: In this 30 min session, participants will gain a better understanding of their water consumption, how much water is needed to produce different items and what they can do to reduce their water consumption.

Participants will:	What happens:													
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn how much water is needed to produce different items. 	<p>Activity: Ask the participants to guess how many litres of water is needed to produce 1kg of the following items. The participant that is the closest to the answer scores 1 point. At the end of the game, the participant that scored the most wins.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>1 kg of beef : 15415 L</td> <td>1 kg of milk: 1020 L</td> <td>1 T-shirt: 2700 L</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 kg of chicken: 4325 L</td> <td>1kg of nuts: 9063 L</td> <td>1 kg of cotton: 10 000 L</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 kg of pork: 5988 L</td> <td>1 kg of cereals: 1644 L</td> <td>1kg of chocolate: 17 000L</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1kg of eggs: 3265 L</td> <td>1 kg of vegetables: 322L</td> <td>1 kg of beer: 1420 L</td> </tr> </table> <p>Source: https://waterfootprint.org/en/water-footprint/product-water-footprint/</p>	1 kg of beef : 15415 L	1 kg of milk: 1020 L	1 T-shirt: 2700 L	1 kg of chicken: 4325 L	1kg of nuts: 9063 L	1 kg of cotton: 10 000 L	1 kg of pork: 5988 L	1 kg of cereals: 1644 L	1kg of chocolate: 17 000L	1kg of eggs: 3265 L	1 kg of vegetables: 322L	1 kg of beer: 1420 L	10 mins
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1kg of eggs: 3265 L	1 kg of vegetables: 322L	1 kg of beer: 1420 L												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn what virtual water is Reflect on their water consumption 	<p>Activity: Ask participants if they know what virtual water is. If the definition is given and is complete, that is brilliant! You can show the video below to complete your participants understanding of it. If not, you can add to what has been said:</p> <p>Our water consumption does not end with how much water we drink and use to shower or to do the dishes. Our virtual water consumption also has to be taken into account to calculate our total water consumption. Virtual water is the hidden water used for the production or manufacture of the products and food we consume every day. For example, when cooking pasta, the direct water I used is the amount boiled to cook the pasta, say 2 liters. However, the virtual water consumption is much more important as a lot of water was needed to grow the wheat, to produce the fuel for machines to harvest the wheat, to create the electricity for processing the wheat into flour and pasta and to transport the pasta to the store.</p> <p>Find more information here: https://www.watercalculator.org/footprint/what-is-virtual-water/</p> <p>To increase your participants understanding, show this short video about water footprint: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=le1ukZBcvBY&feature=youtu.be</p> <p>Invite your participant to think about what they have just learned; can they identify what habits they have that impact significantly on their water and virtual water consumption? Ask participants to do a mindmap in small groups to reflect this.</p>	10 mins												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect together on what they can do to reduce their water consumption 	<p>Reflection: Invite the participants to brainstorm together on what are the different action they can take to reduce their direct water consumption and virtual water consumption. Here are some example to help you guide the brainstorming if they do not have many ideas.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>-Take 5 min max showers</td> <td>-Eat meat no more than once a week</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-Install water saving shower head</td> <td>-Save rain water to water your plants.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-Buy your clothes second hand</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>Invite each participants to take the pledge on one of the discussed actions and to stick to it at home. Then come back together as a group and invite the participants that want to, to share what action they are going to do back home.</p>	-Take 5 min max showers	-Eat meat no more than once a week	-Install water saving shower head	-Save rain water to water your plants.	-Buy your clothes second hand		10 mins						
-Take 5 min max showers	-Eat meat no more than once a week													
-Install water saving shower head	-Save rain water to water your plants.													
-Buy your clothes second hand														

Session plan: Interdependencies in the environment

Time: 40 mins

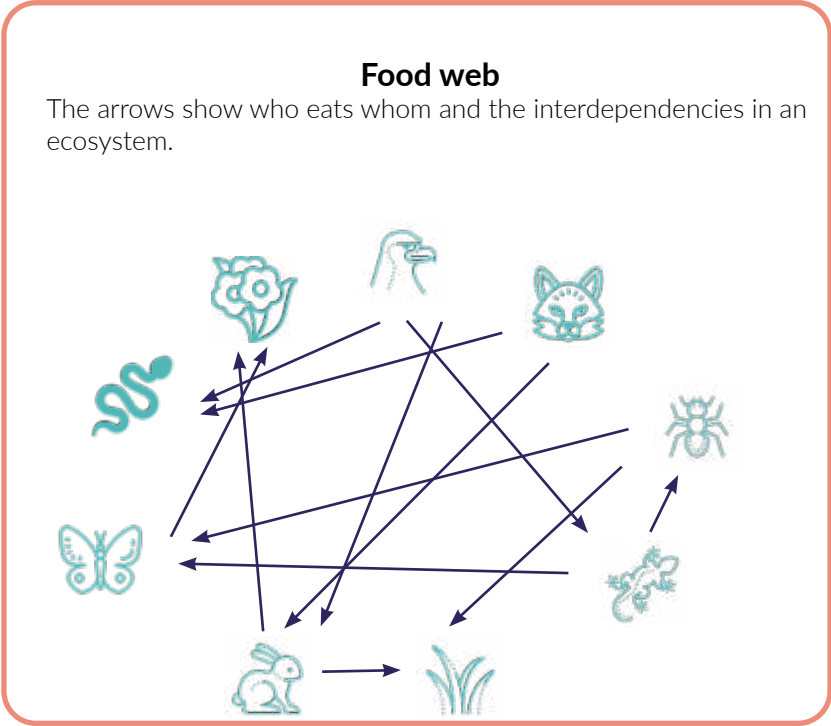
Age: 6+

Material needed: Threads, scissors, a screen to show the video

Capacity: 6 min - 50 max

Learning objectives: In this session, participants will become aware of the interdependence between living beings and non-biological elements. They will assess the implications of human activity on ecosystems.

Participants will:	What happens:	Time:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn about the interdependencies in the ecosystems and what food webs are. Point out what phenomena disrupt these ecosystems. 	<p>Activity: Start by asking participants what they can know about a food web; if they do not know, give them a definition:</p> <p>A food web shows how each living thing gets food; it shows the interconnectivity between the different living things of an ecosystem. It can be described as a “who eats whom”. There are many different food webs within each habitat. <i>See next page for an example of a food web</i></p> <p>Invite participants to form a circle. Explain that they are going to produce a food web.</p> <p>Hold the end of the string in your hands, and say the name of a plant, for example grass. Take the end of the string and throw the ball to a participant who must catch it. Now, a link connects you with this person. In turn, the second person says the name of an animal which eats grass, a rabbit for example. Then the 2nd person hold onto the thread and throws the ball of thread to another person. The third participant says the name of an animal eating rabbits or grass. Continue the game so that the thread weaves across the circle. If your participants are running out of ideas, give a hint and continue until the group produces a “food web” in the form of a gigantic spider web.</p> <p>Challenge your participants to create the longest chain!</p> <p>Once the food web is created, ask participants to give examples of events that could damage the food chains (for example, building a highway, deforestation, over hunting/ over fishing...). For each example given, cut the appropriate thread.</p> <p>Start the discussion by asking the participants what happened when the threads were cut? Was there any further impact? How did they feel while witnessing the destruction of the threads representing chains of life and food web?</p>	<p>15 mins</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect on their impact on ecosystems. 	<p>Ask participants to discuss in small groups what they have learned from this food web, What is the human impact on the environment? How are we disrupting the chains of life?</p> <p>After this reflection, show participants the video “How wolves change rivers”. A video that shows how the reintroduction of wolves in the Yellowstone National Park in the USA has had a great impact on the park’s food web and ecosystem.</p>	<p>15 mins</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect on the session. 	<p>Reflection: After participants have watched the video, ask them to brainstorm in small groups, what they can do to prevent the disruption of the food webs? Give them 10 minutes and invite them to present their ideas to the group.</p>	<p>10 mins</p>





We would love to hear your feedback after you have used the Toolkit individually or with your team.




Please email your suggestions and feedback to: climateaction@waggs.org



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