



SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

VNL 2024 Men's Volleyball Tournament
(15–20 July 2024, Slovenia, Ljubljana)

SUPPORTED BY



SUSTAINABLE PARTNER





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SUSTAINABILITY REPORT VNL 2024 Men's Volleyball Tournament (18–24 June 2024, Ljubljana)

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Ljubljana, September 2024

We would also like to thank everyone else who contributed content and helped to create the brochure, especially the members of the Green Team (see page 8).

Introduction

In addition to the responsibility to organise events on a sustainable basis, the sport industry has a very high communication potential to promote and implement sustainable action, which is a very important area in today's world and society.

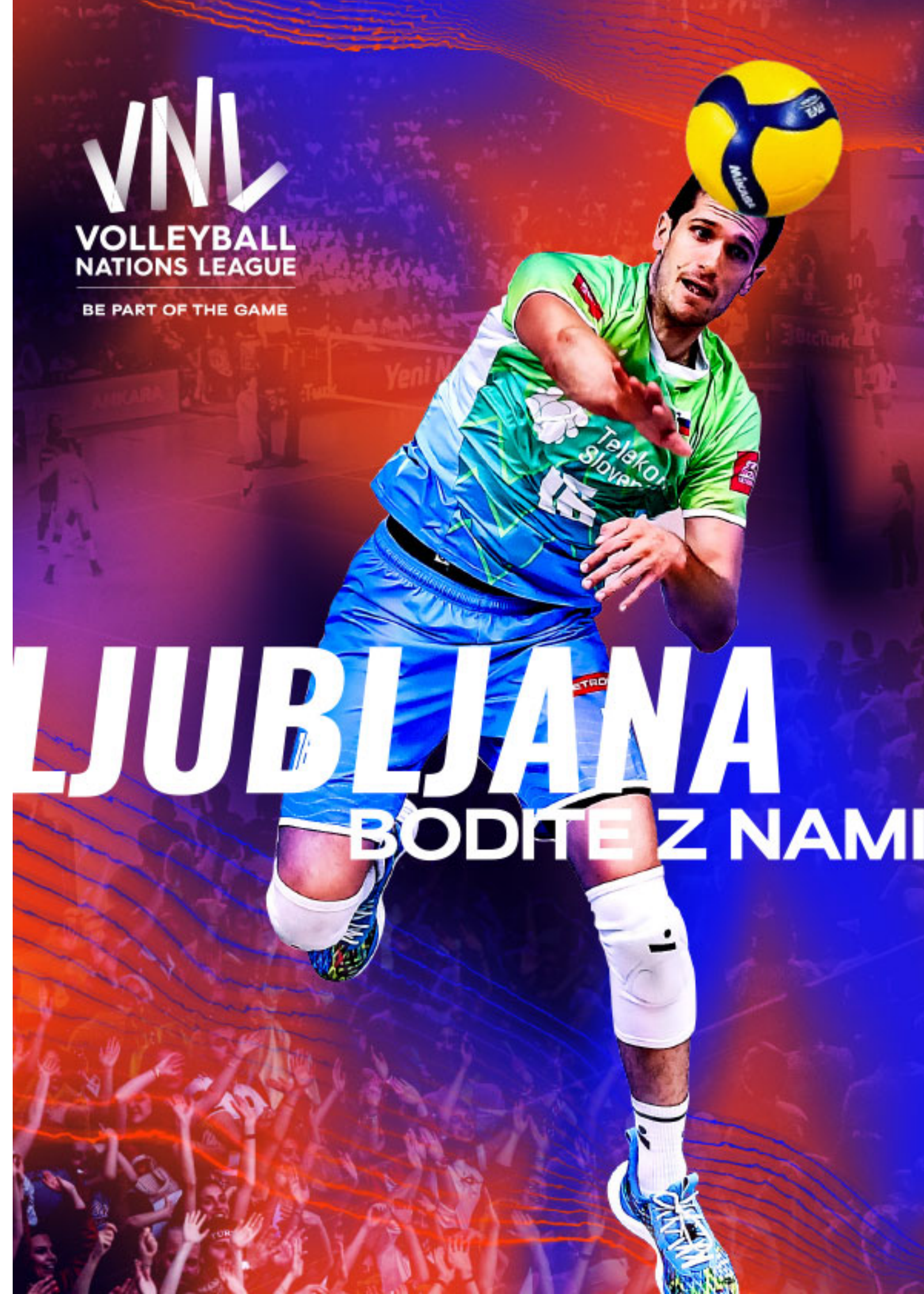
At Sport Media Focus, we have been deeply involved in the sports industry for almost three decades and, since EuroBasket 2013, in the organisation of major sporting events in Slovenia in various sports. In 2022, we have for the first time taken a serious, in-depth and structured approach to the sustainability aspect of the organisation as part of the Women's EHF Euro 2022. We continued our journey at the FIS Nordic World Ski Championships Planica 2023 and then at the 2024 ECA I Feel Slovenia Canoe Slalom European Championships in Tacen.

The next major sporting event was the VNL Volleyball Nations League 2024 tournament in Stožice, which took place from 18 to 24 June 2024. As a starting point for the sustainability project, we used the Women's EHF Euro 2022 event as a starting point, where we realised that mobility is by far the biggest burden. So this time we tackled the problem at its core and focused on mobility. Based on the calculations and research of the sustainability organisation of Women's EHF Euro 2022, and as confirmed by international research, by far the largest negative impact on the environment is caused by mobility, 65 to 75%.

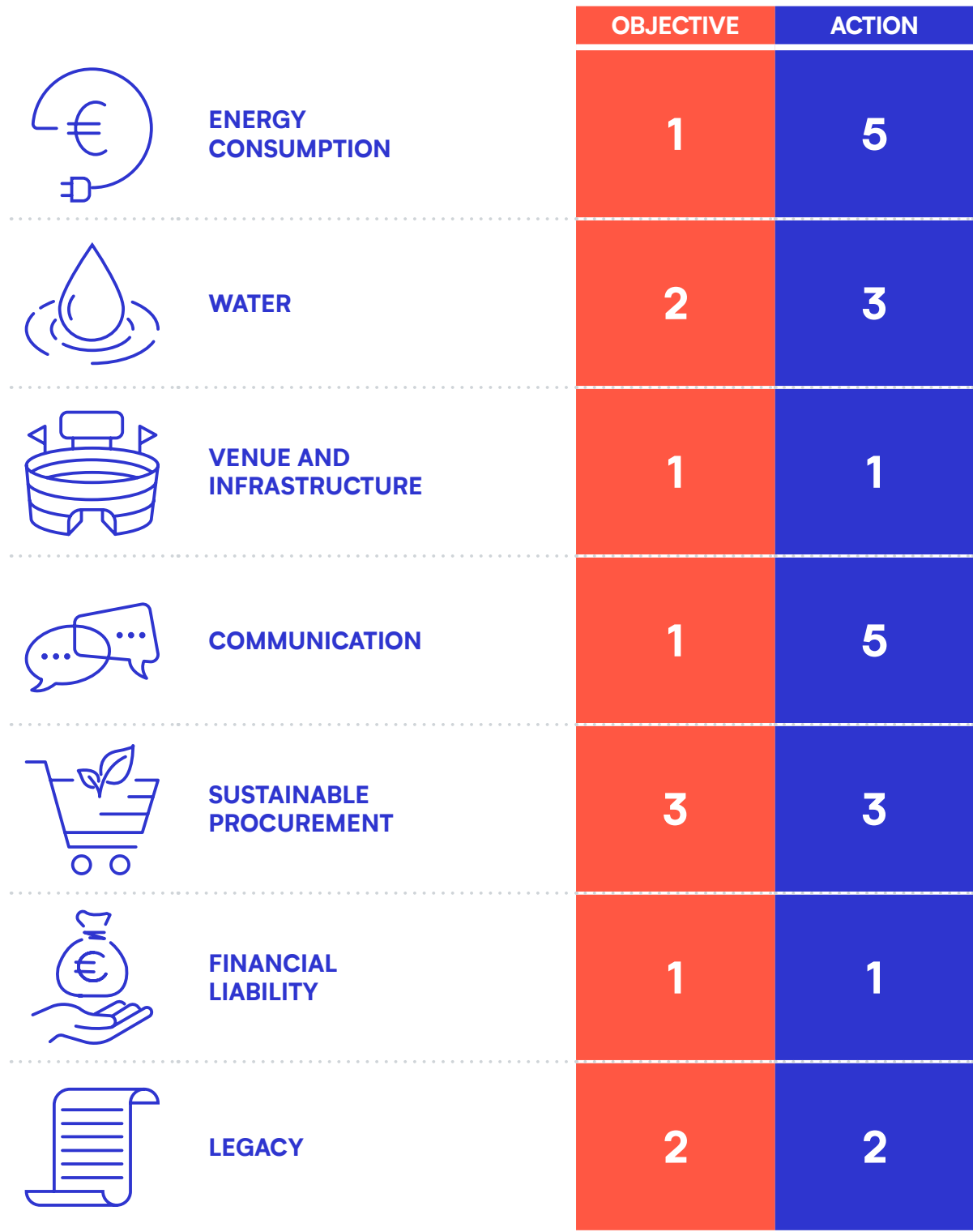
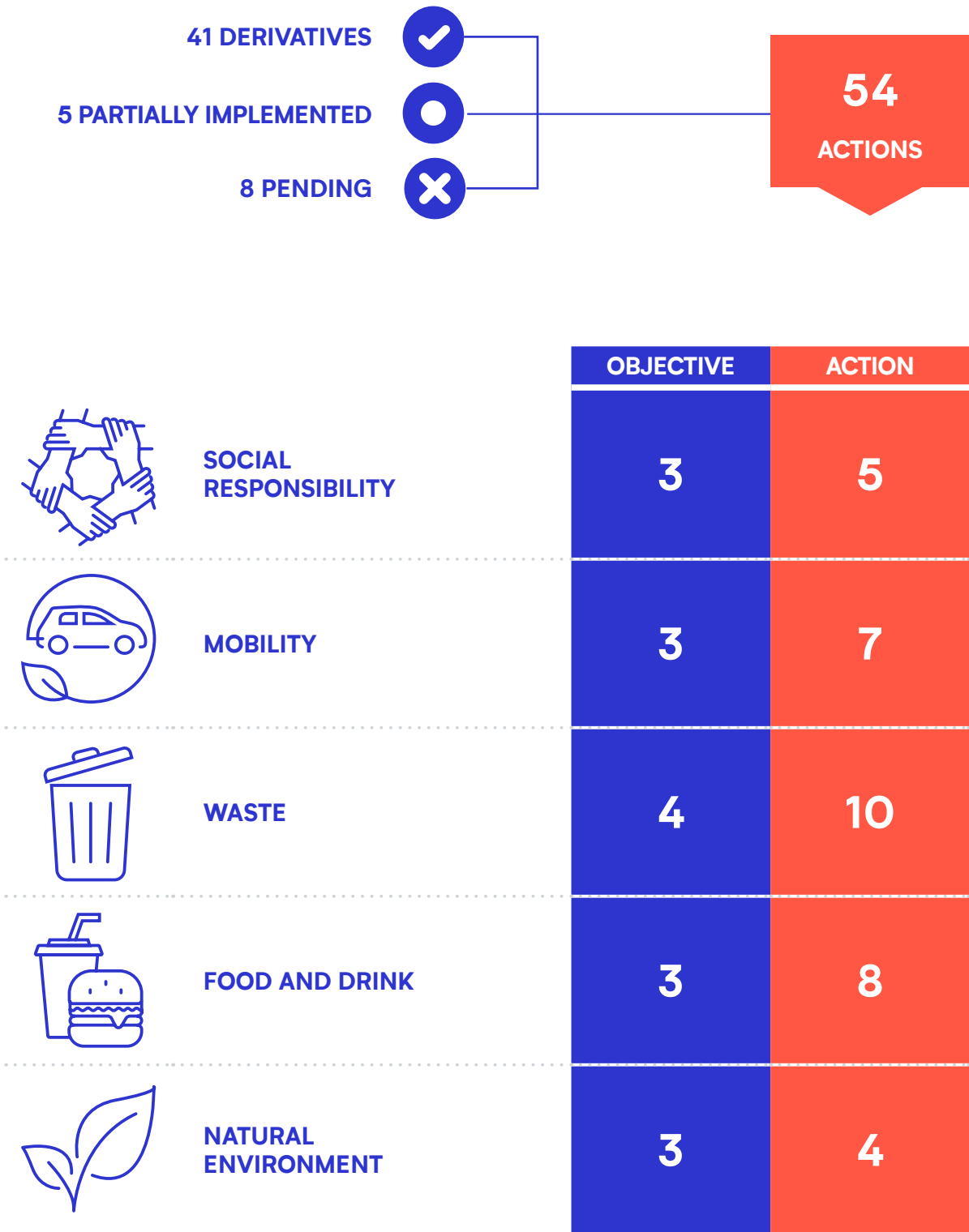
So how can we reduce the negative impact of mobility at this type of sporting event? We have taken up the challenge in close cooperation with the Municipality of Ljubljana (MOL) and its departments and services (Public institution Sport Ljubljana, Public transport LPP, Public Parkings and Markets LPT, Municipal Warden Services, VOKA SNAGA; Public Utility Company), DARS; Manager and maintainer of Slovenian motorways and expressways and the Police. Among other things, this was the first time that the new sign for traffic coexistence, which was only introduced a few months ago in the Law on New Traffic Signals, was used at a major event. It is a blue sign indicating a road or traffic lane that can only be used by passenger vehicles carrying at least one passenger in addition to the driver; in our case it was 4+.

Ljubljana is a green capital and as part of our continued efforts we want to improve the long-term sustainability awareness of all users of the sports infrastructure in the Municipality of Ljubljana. We want to use the major sporting events in Stožice Sports Centre to change the habits of visitors.

Dr Gašper Pavli
Sport Media Focus



Matrix of objectives



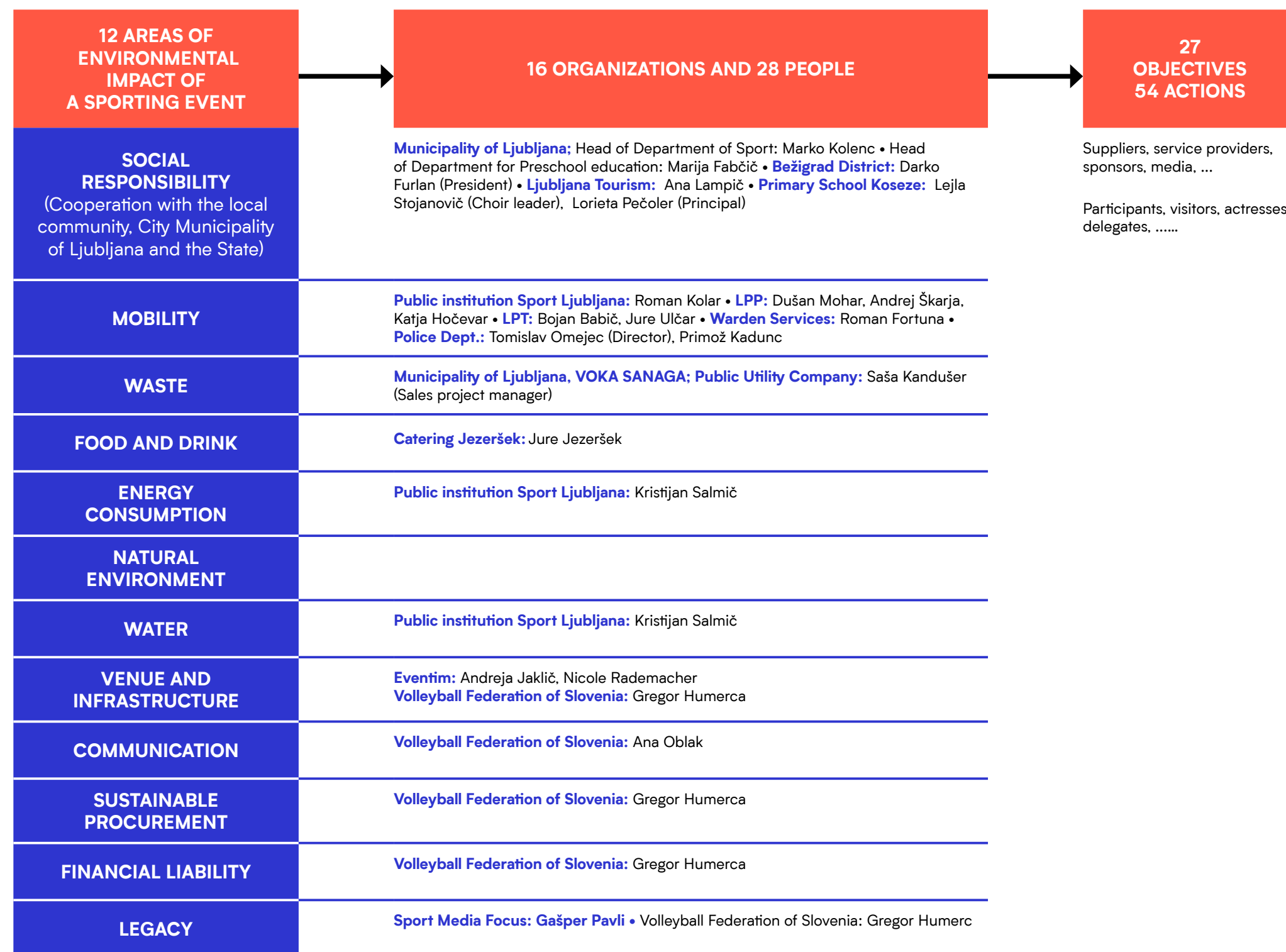
Sustainability team of sustainable sport event

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE SPORTMEDIAFOCUS:

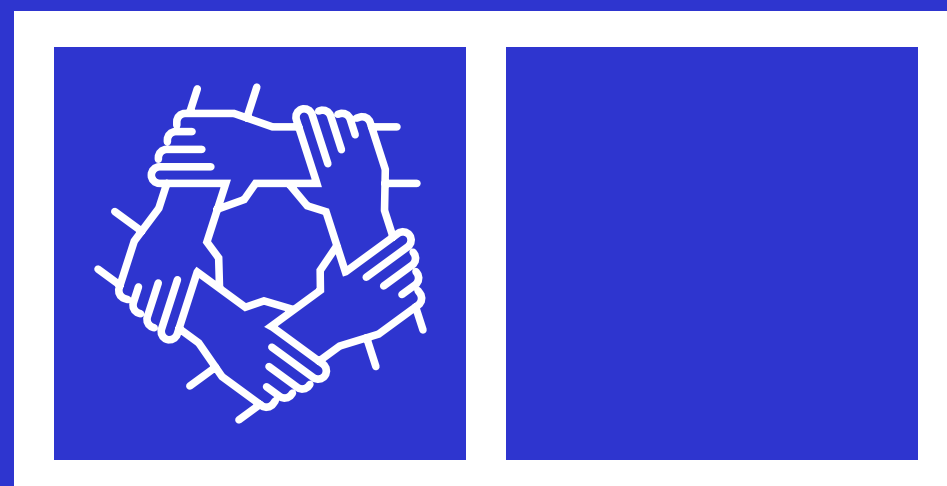
- Gašper Pavli (Head of Sustainability)
- Ivo Tomc (Sustainability team Leader)
- Arne Dolenc (Data collection)

VOLLEYBALL FEDERATION OF SLOVENIA

- Gregor Humerca (General Secretary)



1. AREA



SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

3 OBJECTIVES
5 ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 1

PROMOTION OF THE CULTURAL AND TOURIST ATTRACTIONS OF THE CITY OF LJUBLJANA AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY IN THE EVENT.

ACTION 1

Involving children from the local community in the event itself.



IMPLEMENTATION

In cooperation with the local community, 40 primary school pupils from Koseze Primary School were involved in the event. Together with the choir leader and conductor Lejla Stojanović, the children sang the Slovenian anthem at the start of Slovenia's match against Cuba.

The action was very enthusiastic, the whole hall joined in the singing, as is the tradition at volleyball matches, and a magical moment was created.



**ACTION 2**

In cooperation with the City of Ljubljana (Visit Ljubljana), we presented Ljubljana's cultural and tourist offer to visitors.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

Visit Ljubljana has published a message about the VNL tournament on the PRIREDITVE website.

<https://www.visitljubljana.com/sl/obiskovalci/prireditve/>

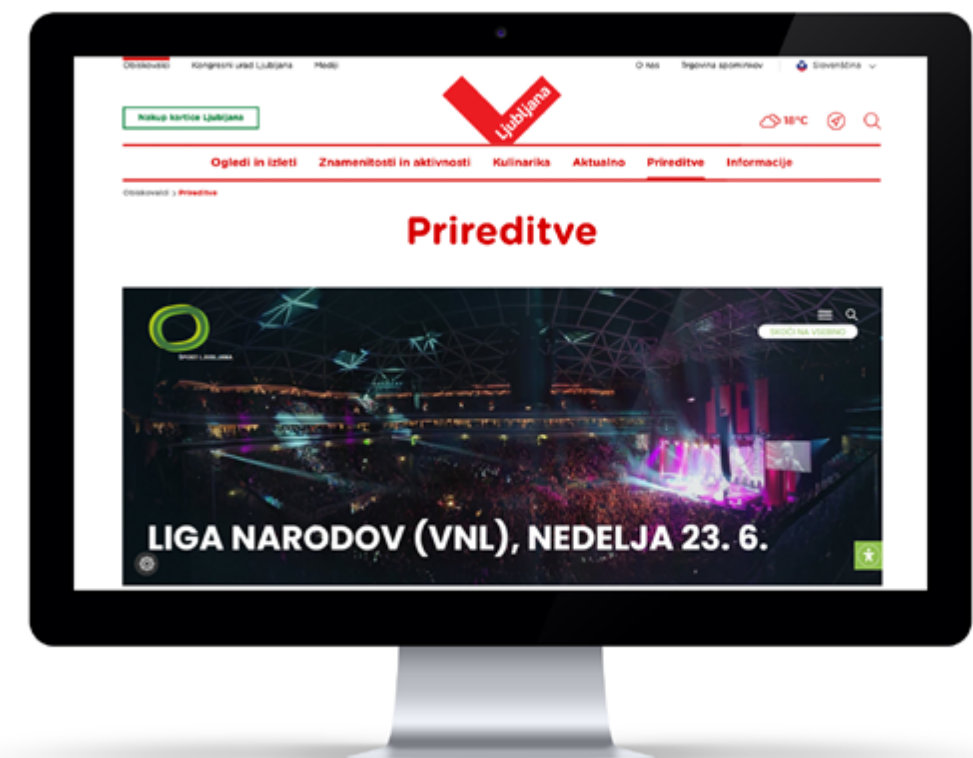
No further cooperation has taken place.

ACTION 3

For major promotional and other VNL events, we have used buildings from the cultural heritage of the City of Ljubljana (Ljubljana Castle, other cultural centers, City Hall, etc.).

**IMPLEMENTATION**

We used the premises of the City Hall for the press conference.



OBJECTIVE 2

INVOLVING 50 VOLUNTEERS FROM LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN THE ORGANISATION OF THE EVENT.

ACTION 4

We have launched a call for volunteers. We organised training and provided equipment and other conditions for their activities.



IMPLEMENTATION

We provided general training on rights and responsibilities for all candidates through Zoom, signed a volunteering agreement and provided them with accident insurance.

They worked in ten different areas, completing 2,800 hours of volunteer work before, during and after the Championships.

At the end, each person will receive a certificate for their work.



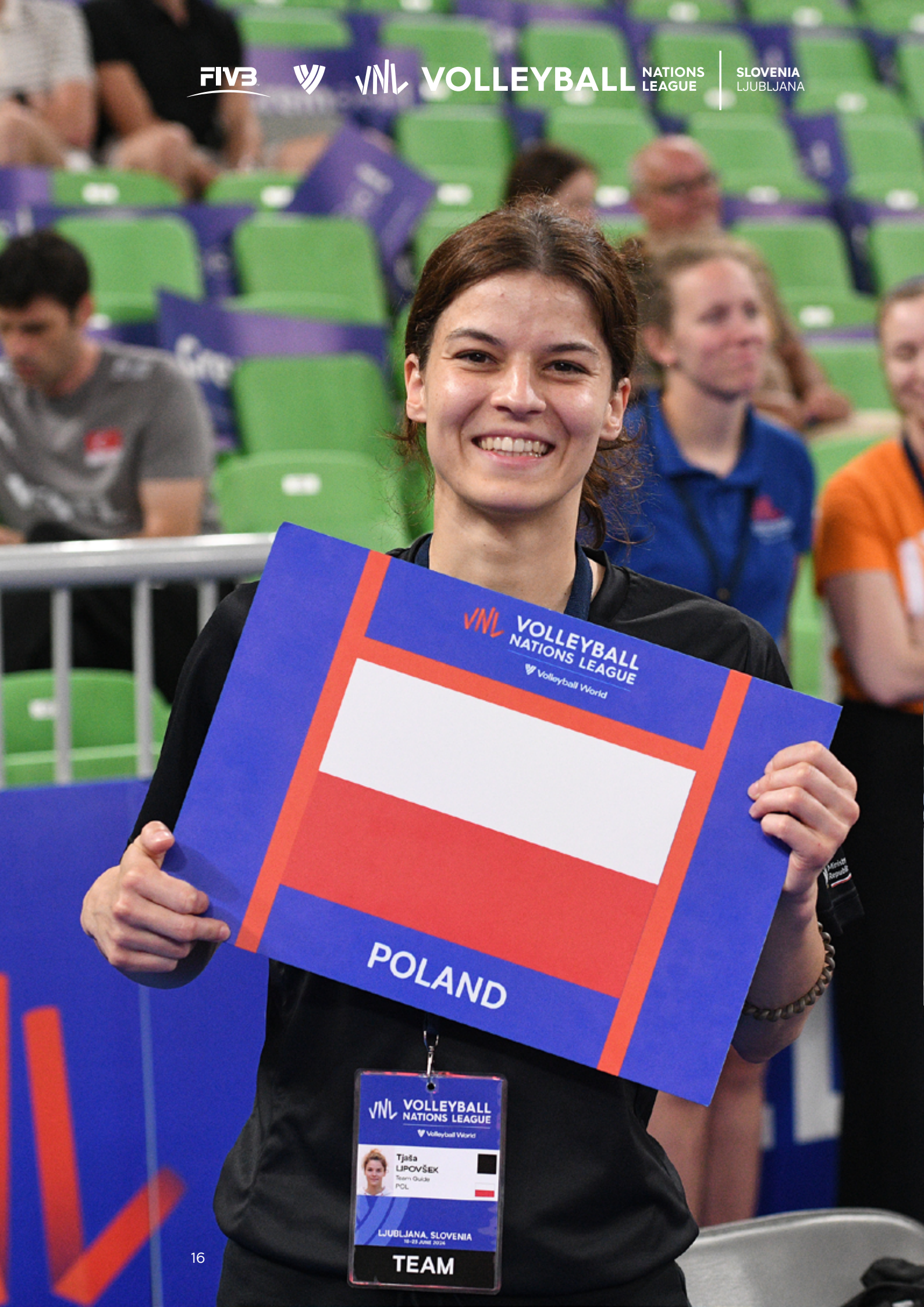
SUMMARY OF VOLUNTEER STRUCTURE:



18 to 20 years	17	Student	12
20 to 30 years	42	Student	34
30 to 40 years	10	Employed	43
40 to 50 years	10	Retired	4
50 to 60 years	10	Unemployed	3
over 60 years	7		

Special attention was paid to the selection of volunteers to work on the tournament. Individuals of different age groups registered, and were involved in areas such as:

- Team management – attachés
- Info points
- Accreditations
- Competition part
- Media
- Audience orientation
- Transport
- IT
- Green Team
- Support for the organisation



OBJECTIVE 3

COMMUNICATION WITH THE BEŽIGRAD COMMUNITY.

ACTION 5

Preparation of the basic starting points for the initiation of agreements between Sport Ljubljana and the local community of Bežigrad and the opening of a dialogue to find solutions for a more sustainable organisation of events in Stožice (the problem of parking during events in Stožice, etc.).

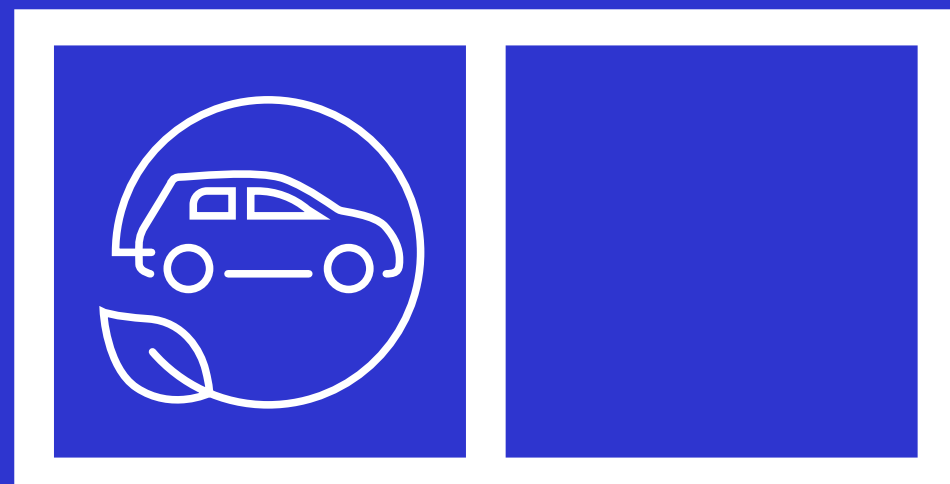


IMPLEMENTATION

We met with the President of the Bežigrad Community Council to examine in detail the mobility issues during major events at Stožice. The President, Darko Furlan, is very familiar with these issues, especially as he has a strong professional relationship with the services working in this field within the MOL. We will continue our cooperation.



2. AREA



MOBILITY

3 OBJECTIVES
7 ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 4

REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF URGENTLY NEEDED TRANSPORTS.

ACTION 6

For teams/participants from abroad who are less than 500 kilometers away, we will prepare a special letter for a sustainable ground route as part of the mobility plan.



IMPLEMENTATION

We have sent a letter to all participants in the tournament for mobility and other sustainability areas asking »How can you help«.

Two of the seven national teams arrived in Ljubljana by ground (Italy and Serbia).



ACTION 7

Together with LPT Ljubljana Parking and Markets and the Ljubljana Police Department, we have implemented a plan to allow parking for participants with a minimum of four people in one car.



IMPLEMENTATION

This concrete action has been somewhat of a central focus of our action. Because when we wanted to do something so radical, we realised that we needed to involve more and more stakeholders. This entailed a lot of conversations, meetings, messages, coordination and overcoming obstacles.

Finally, we had to coordinate everything with the following stakeholders:

- Municipality of Ljubljana, Department of Sport
- Municipality of Ljubljana, Public institution Sport Ljubljana
- Municipality of Ljubljana, Public Passenger Transport
- Municipality of Ljubljana, Parking and Markets
- Municipality of Ljubljana, Bežigrad District Community
- Municipality of Ljubljana, Warden Services
- Ljubljana Police Directorate
- DARS

Together with all partners, we drew up a detailed mobility plan that covered everything related to transport for a wide range of groups.

USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT I OZS X NLB

This is a very sensitive area, because we are changing the habits of visitors, which makes it difficult from the start, because we expected a lot of opposition. Fortunately, in most cases the response has been positive. However, changing habits definitely requires sticking to several events over a long period of time.

Link to the Mobility Plan!

- www.promet.si/sl/promet-med-odbojgarskim-turnirjem-na-ob-močju-stožice--18-6-23-6-2024
- <https://about.prevoz.org/s-prevoz-org-na-odbojgarski-vnl-spektakel/>
- <http://www.odbojka.si/source/REPREZENTANCE/2024/VNL/IN-FORMACIJE%20ZA%20OBISKOVALCE.pdf>

The first two days were very successful and the car parks were busier than usual. However, during the third day of the competition there was a misunderstanding between the protocol and the police and the traffic police and at some point we had to open the garage to all visitors to avoid congestion.

The objective was more than successfully achieved. 62% of all car journeys in the matches against Italy and Cuba had at least three or more passengers in one vehicle!



PROPOSAL

In order to be more effective in the future, more emphasis needs to be placed on greater and more coordinated communication with all partners, so that the news really reaches all visitors and there are no surprises on the ground.

It is also necessary to coordinate information between the police and the protocol!

Consideration should be given to the option of alternative access to entrances 1 and 2 by leaving the first entrances directly from the roundabout closed and directing vehicles to and from the roundabout/roundabout via entrances 1 and 2.

MOBILITY SURVEY: AT SLOVENIA - ITALY AND SLOVENIA - CUBA MATCHES

MODE OF TRANSPORTATION:	NUMBER	%
Car (outside parking)	1081	22%
Car (Sports centre garage)	2493	51%
• at least 4 passengers	1545	62%
• 2-3 passengers	859	34%
• one passenger	89	4%
On foot, by bike or Public transport	1176	24%
Electric car	45	1%
Taxi	78	2%
TOTAL	4873	100%

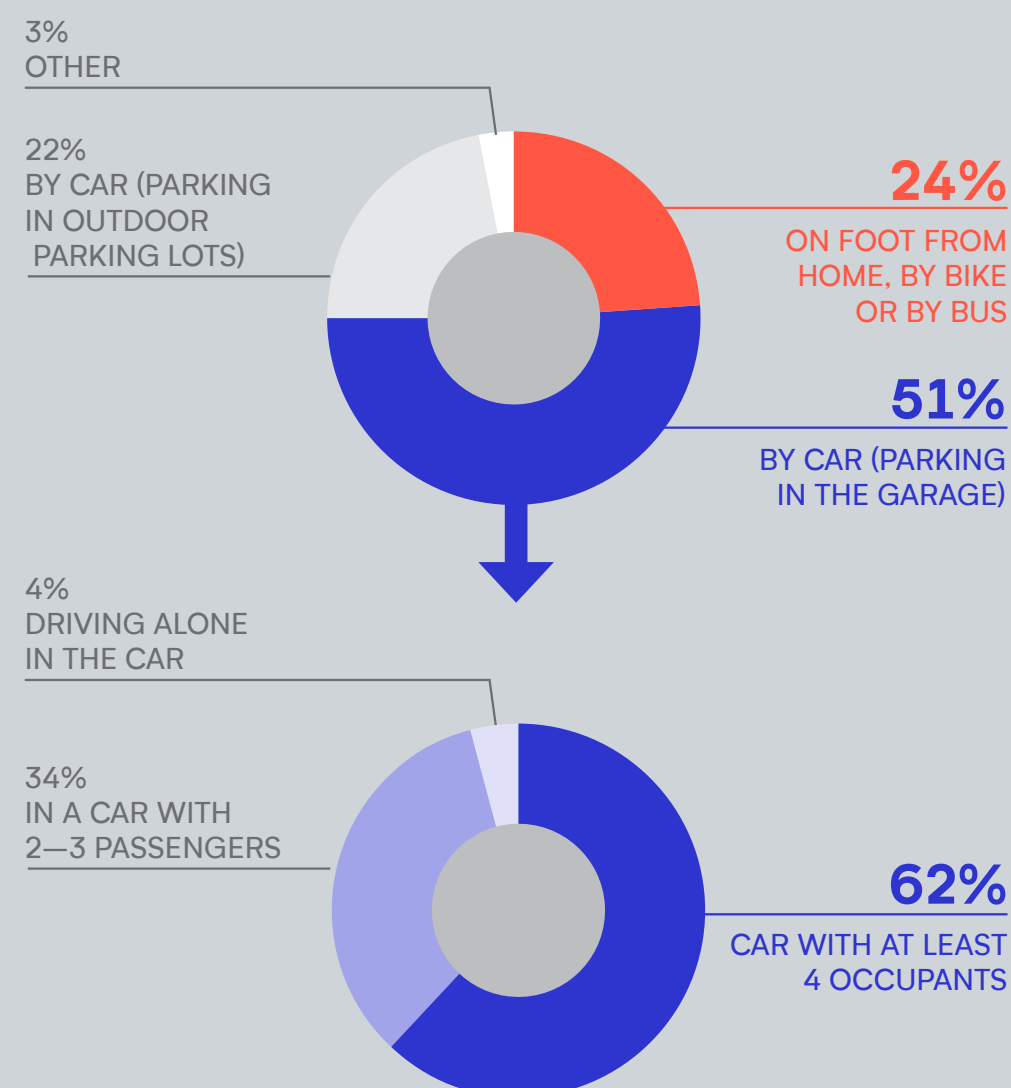
ACTION 8

During the Slovenian national team match, we conducted a survey on how to access the venue.



IMPLEMENTATION

A very important measure, as it is the numbers that tell the most and allow new targets to be set. We have identified 13 volunteers who have carried out surveys at 13 visitor entrances during the two matches. They were asked how they came to the event. They used the Tally Counter web app to conduct the survey. The response from match-goers to the quick mobility survey was very good.



**ACTION 9**

At least half of the OO meetings were held online, reducing transport costs.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

The VNL tournament organisers organised more than half of the OO meetings online. Arrangements for the operational implementation of the project were also often made online.



OBJECTIVE 5

ALL OFFICIAL TRANSPORT SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY ELECTRIC/HYBRID VEHICLES OR ENERGY-EFFICIENT BUSES.

ACTION 10

Electric and hybrid vehicles, as well as energy-efficient buses, were used for transport between the hotels and the competition venue and for airport transfers.



IMPLEMENTATION

The transport company LPP used the most economical buses for local transfers between the hotels and the venue, which are normally used in regular public transport. Transportation of official staff between the hotel and the venue was almost entirely avoided, as the vast majority of staff walked the journey each day. The distance is only 650 metres and can be covered in 9 minutes.



ACTION 11

We have selected bus operators that will meet our green public procurement standards.



IMPLEMENTATION

No electric buses were available in Ljubljana during the tournament. LPP was running test runs with electric buses on regular bus routes during the tournament and could not be used for the purposes of the tournament. In any case, the campaign will improve the sustainability of transport for major sporting events in Ljubljana in the long term. The buses we used partly met the requirements of green public transport procurement.

80%
OF ALL JOURNEYS OF EVENT
STAFF AND DELEGATES FROM
THE HOTEL TO THE VENUE
WERE MADE ON FOOT



OBJECTIVE 6

A QUARTER OF VISITORS ARRIVE ON FOOT, BY BIKE, BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT OR BY RIDE-SHARING.



ACTION 12

For the mobility needs of the event, we have prepared a mobility plan to make getting to the venue as easy and environmentally friendly as possible, and we have generously increased communication for the use of public transport, on foot or by bicycle.



IMPLEMENTATION

We have put a lot of emphasis on this measure because we know that mobility is by far the biggest burden. To promote and communicate this measure, we have also made honest and sympathetic videos with volleyball players.

Link to the Mobility Plan!

- www.promet.si/sl/promet-med-odbojgarskim-turnirjem-na-območju-stožice--18-6-23-6-2024
- <https://about.prevoz.org/s-prevoz-org-na-odbojgarski-vnl-spektakel/>
- <http://www.odbojka.si/source/REPREZENTANCE/2024/VNL/INFORMACIJE%20ZA%20OBISKOVALCE.pdf>

In recent months, we have held discussions with various stakeholders and, based on our expertise, we have prepared a starting point that will serve as a basis for communication with event organisers and visitors. We have developed a joint and comprehensive communication campaign on alternative arrival options to Stožice:

- highlighting walking, cycling and public transport routes,
- familiarisation with the car parks near Stožice,
- car parking and parking options within the Stožice car park for vehicles with four passengers.

Each day, we also invited participants and visitors to the event on the big screen in the auditorium, as well as through the announcer and press releases.

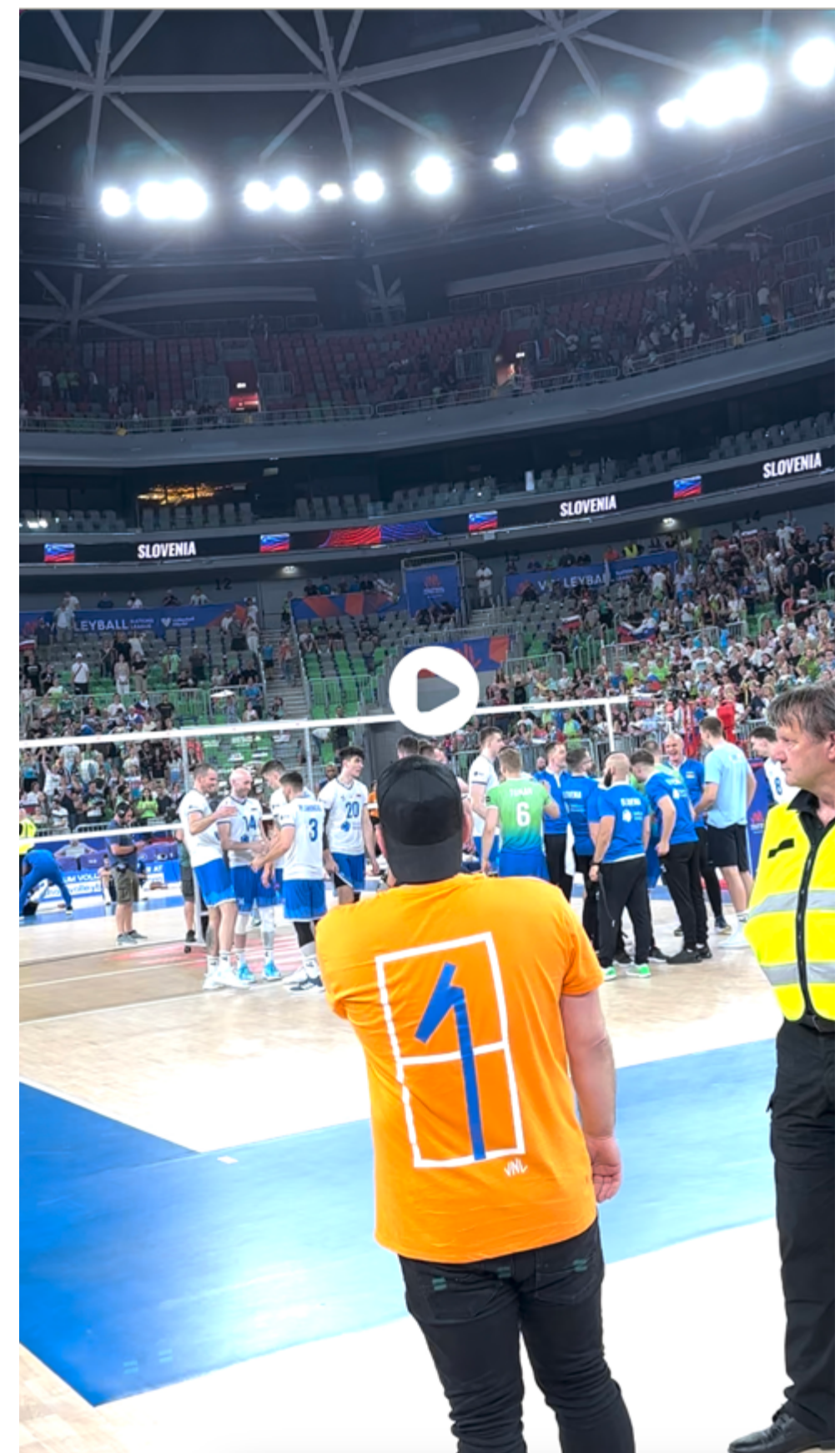
Together with the volleyball players, we also ran a promotional campaign on social media in the last 2 weeks before the event. **In total, there were 55.000 views!**

- *Use public transport | OZS x NLB*
- *Share the transport | OZS x NLB*
- *Use bike-sharing BicikeLJ | OZS x NLB*
- *Go on foot | OZS x NLB*

We have achieved one of our most important goals! 24% of all visitors to the matches against Italy and Cuba walked, cycled or took public transport (bus) to the event.



Full parking lot in Žale.



3. AREA



WASTE

4 OBJECTIVES
10 ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 7

IMPLEMENT ALL BRANDING IN A SUSTAINABLE WAY.

ACTION 13

We used only recycled materials for branding and eliminated single-use labels.



IMPLEMENTATION

The marking of the playground was done electronically. The marking of the hall and the rest of the event space was done in a conventional way. 256 kg (tarpaulin and polyplak boards) of material were used and duly disposed of and destroyed after the event. In addition, 100 kg of plastic banners and 20 kg of polystyrene banners were also used and disposed of properly after the event.



BRDO d.o.o.

Lesno Brdo 49c, 1360 Vrhnika, PE IOC Logatec, 1370 Logatec

Email: info@brdo-storitve.si

Promotor d.o.o.

Kamniška ulica 29,

1000 Ljubljana

Namen: Potrdilo o uničenju

Kraj in datum: Logatec, 24.06.2024

ZADEVA:

Odpadni material (cerada in polyplak plošče) 256kg

Potrjujemo, da smo prevzeto blago uničili v smislu, da ne more več služiti svojemu prvotnemu namenu.

Nataša Vidmar

031 666 505

Žig in podpis:

BRDO d.o.o.
Lesno Brdo 49c, 1360 Vrhnika

ACTION 14

The labelling materials are recycled after use.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

Any materials that could no longer be used after use were taken back by the supplier and sent to waste in accordance with the certificates held by the supplier.

ACTION 15

For the accreditations, we used only recycled materials (paper and cork).

**IMPLEMENTATION**

The International Volleyball Federation did not agree to accreditations without plasticisation (paper only). We used a small number of old tapes for the accreditations.



OBJECTIVE 8

15% REDUCTION IN WASTE COMPARED TO PREVIOUS SIMILAR EVENTS.



ACTION 16

We obtained waste data and agreed with representatives of Municipality Public Utility Company and Stožice Hall to continue implementing the targets we set for the 2022 European Handball Championship for Women.



IMPLEMENTATION

After the Handball European Championship, waste collection was organised at Stožice Arena, based on the recommendations and arrangements for the event. Waste volumes were obtained from VOK Snaga's waste collection and compared with data from previous events.

The tournament generated a total of 15,034 kg of mixed waste, 256 kg of industrial and office waste (tarp and polyplaque boards), 9,756 kg of paper waste (a lot of paper clapper waste), 120 kg of bio-waste, 2,352 kg of food waste, 8,750 kg of glass waste and a total of 11,857.5 kg of plastic waste. This includes waste generated at the venue (Stožice Hall), in accommodation (Austria Trend Hotel) and catering (Jezeršek Catering). Of this, 20 kg of food was recycled. It should be pointed out that these figures do not only refer to the volleyball tournament, but also include data from Sport Ljubljana on waste from the two national team basketball matches in Stožice in June.



It is difficult and unrewarding to compare data with past events, as a different methodology was used. If we compare the amount of waste with the 2022 handball championship in Stožice, we find that the total waste (mixed municipal waste + packaging + paper) consumed during the volleyball tournament was 36,647.5 kg. On average, 6,108 kg of waste (mixed municipal waste + packaging + paper) was consumed per day. In the 2022 Handball Championships, the average was 8,529 kg/day.

COMPARISON OF THE AMOUNT OF WASTE GENERATED PER 1000 FANS AT THREE LARGE SPORTS EVENTS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS IN STOŽICE.



The 2022 Handball Championships in Stožice generated 145 kg of waste per thousand fans. The volleyball tournament this year generated 36.6 kg of waste (mixed municipal waste + packaging + paper) per thousand visitors. If we add the 2022 World Volleyball Championships, which generated 245 kg of waste (mixed municipal waste + packaging + paper) per 1000 visitors, we can see that the trend of waste generated in recent years at major sports competitions in Stožice is decreasing, which is encouraging and positive for the organisers of sporting events. We hope that this trend will continue at the next major sports competition, so that even less waste will be generated than at this year's volleyball tournament in Stožice.

This was the most detailed calculation to date, so it will be possible to compare the data with future events, which will follow a similar methodology.

ACTION 17
We have developed a special plan for reusing or recycling the fan clapper.



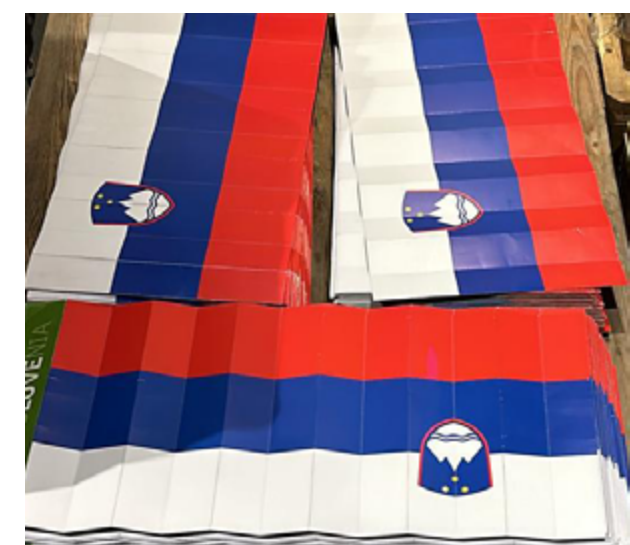
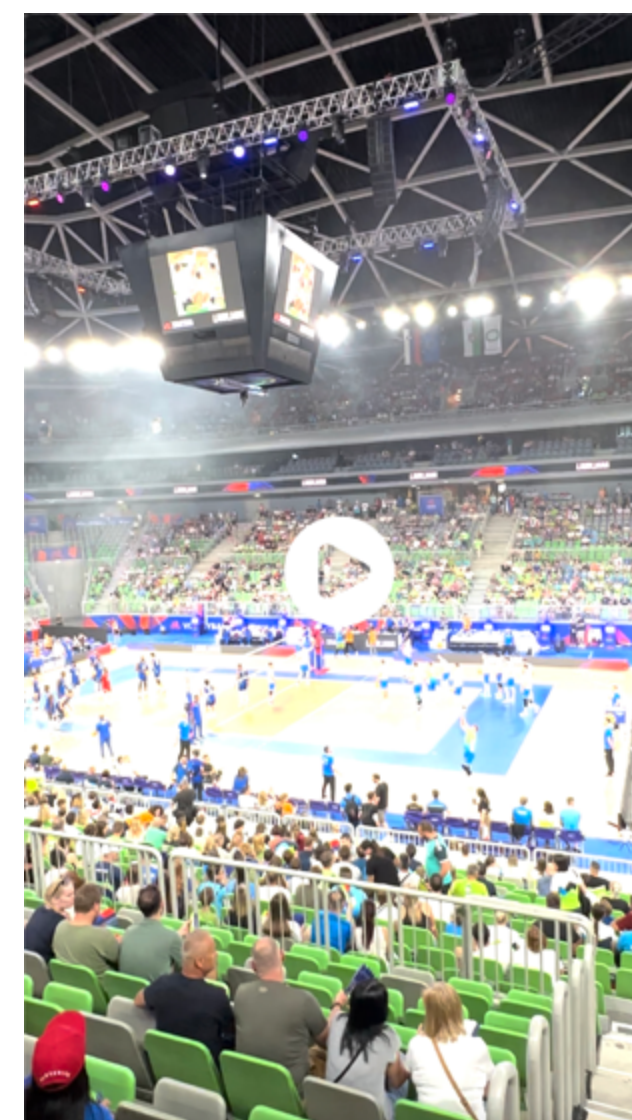
IMPLEMENTATION

We have agreed with the organisers that even though clappers are not the most sustainable fan prop, we will organise cheering with them, as they are somehow synonymous with the extraordinary fan atmosphere at volleyball matches in Stožice!

Visitors were encouraged to take the clapper with them to use next time or to dispose of them in the boxes provided. Every day, volunteers picked up the clappers that were still usable from the boxes and handed them out at the next game.

- Re-use of clippers / OZS x NLB

Clappers were also used to promote NLB's sponsorship partner.



After the games, we collected the fan props in containers prepared for this purpose. After three matches, we collected clapper from the containers to be reused. After each game we collected about 200 of them, which we stretched, folded, weighted and used in the next game.

Unfortunately, we did not foresee in advance the communication with the cleaners or the cleaning service, which automatically put the clapper in the mixed municipal waste on the first day. The total amount of mixed municipal waste in the Stožice Hall was approximately 3,200 kg. We do not know whether they were recycled or given to and distributed among the smaller clubs and societies, as this information was not obtained.

PROPOSAL

In case we have sponsor's fan props at an event and there are some left over at the end, we suggest that the sponsor distributes them among their smaller sponsored teams, which usually don't have the possibility to run such a campaign.



ACTION 18

Caterers will use 100% recycled packaging (BIO, ECO).



IMPLEMENTATION

We had two caterers at the event. Both complied with the legal provisions regarding the use of plastics, and used materials that meet sustainable principles.



OBJECTIVE 9

SEPARATE WASTE COLLECTION AT ALL LOCATIONS.

ACTION 19

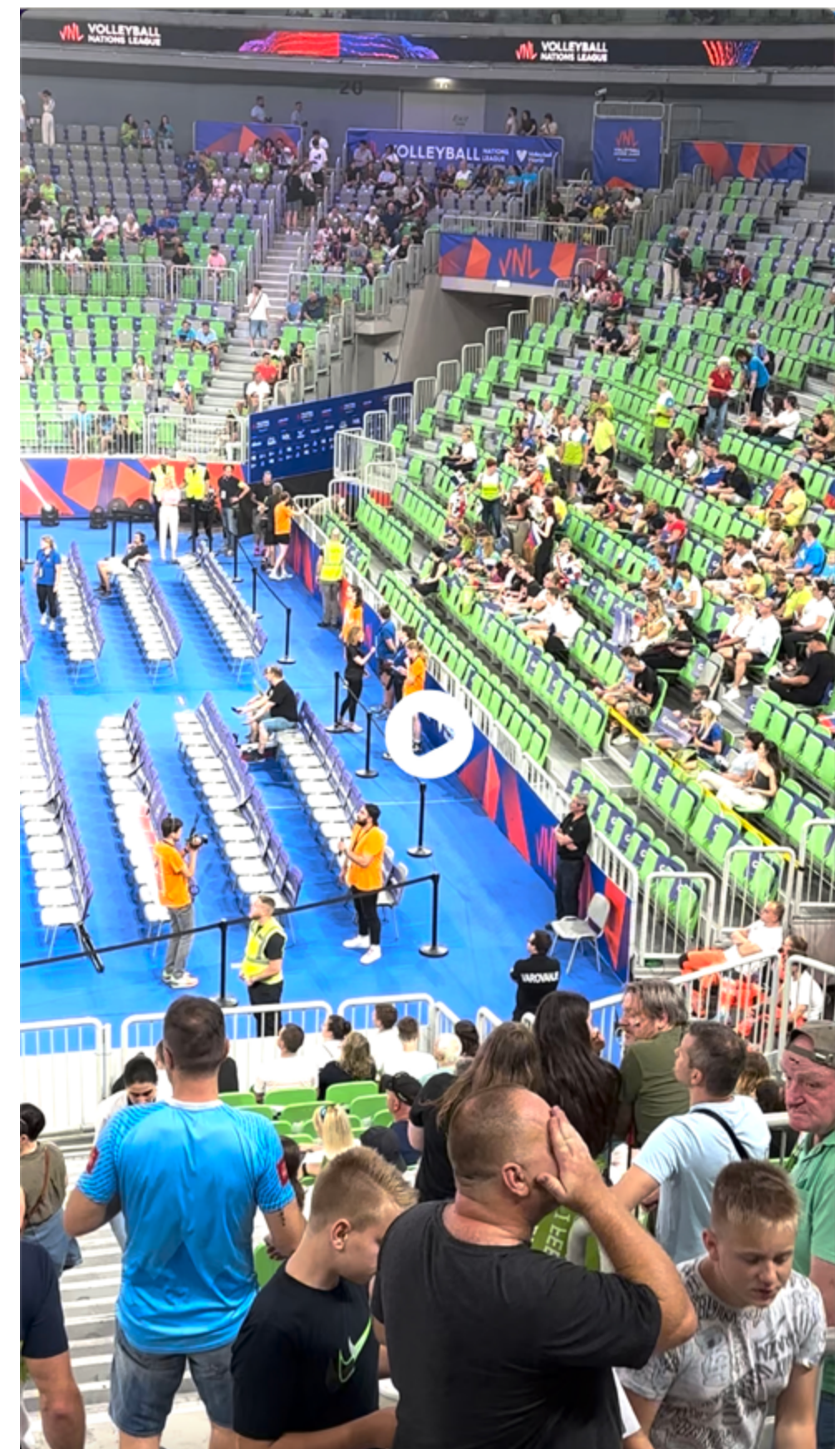
We make sure waste is separated properly: bio-waste, paper and cardboard, packaging, glass, metals, wood, and other bulky waste.



IMPLEMENTATION

Separate waste collection islands were set up throughout the event area. At points where swapping was possible, volunteers gave special reminders on how to separate properly. This particularly applies to food waste disposal, where it is sometimes not clear exactly where something goes.

- *Waste separation / OZS x NLB*



ACTION 20

We encouraged participants and visitors to the event (through signage, press releases, announcements) to dispose of their waste separately.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

We have prepared promotional messages for visitors on how to sort waste correctly. Special attention was paid to awareness-raising during matches, announcers' messages and video presentations on the big screen. Members of the Slovenian national volleyball team also helped us.

ACTION 21

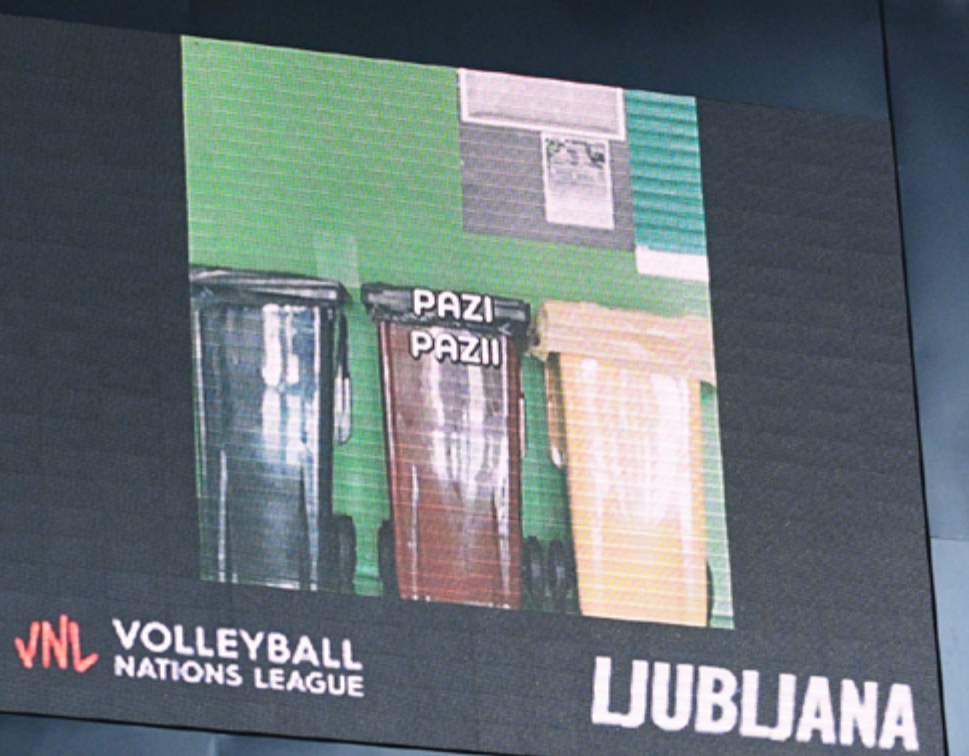
We have ensured that there are enough bins outside the hall for separate waste collection and that there are clear messages and instructions on how to separate. Project follow-up.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

Waste bins have been placed throughout the venue, based on the experience gained from previous sporting events.

PROPOSAL

Greater attention should be paid to the waste generated by the professional services that prepare the venue (telecommunications, other assembly services). In future, it should be agreed that all waste material generated during assembly should be taken away by them.



OBJECTIVE 10

REMOVAL AND PROPER DISPOSAL OF ALL WASTE GENERATED.

ACTION 22

We made sure that no waste was left at the venue after the event. We calculated the quantities of each waste with the venue managers and agreed on the timely disposal of the waste in accordance with the sustainability plan.



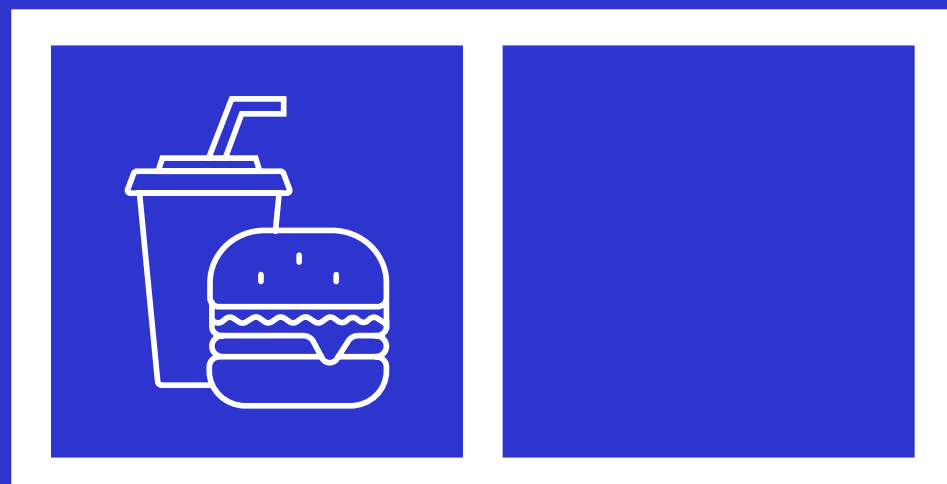
IMPLEMENTATION

Stožice has a waste collection strategy depending on the occupancy of the venue. Voka Snaga regularly collects the collected waste by arrangement and stores it in a separate area.

After the tournament, all waste was disposed of in accordance with the strategy practiced by Stožice and Sport Ljubljana. No waste was left at the venue after the tournament. We can also commend the few external contractors who independently removed the waste they generated.



4. AREA



FOOD AND DRINK

3 OBJECTIVES
8 ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 11

USE ONLY FOOD AND DRINK THAT MEETS SUSTAINABLE PRINCIPLES (ORGANIC, LOCAL, SEASONAL, FAIR, WASTE-FREE).

ACTION 23

We made sure that local suppliers were selected to shape their offer more in line with Slovenian gastronomic tradition, responsibly offering dishes with fresh local and seasonal ingredients.



IMPLEMENTATION

Both suppliers have taken into account the requirement to use food of Slovenian origin in their menus. We also agreed that they would make a daily report on the quantities of food and drink consumed and the amount of waste. Jezeršek Catering has prepared a report that will also be used to calculate the carbon footprint. We have not reached an agreement with the representatives of second catering partner – Kašča Merlačnik to provide us with this information.

PROPOSAL

Fair trade coffee and tea.



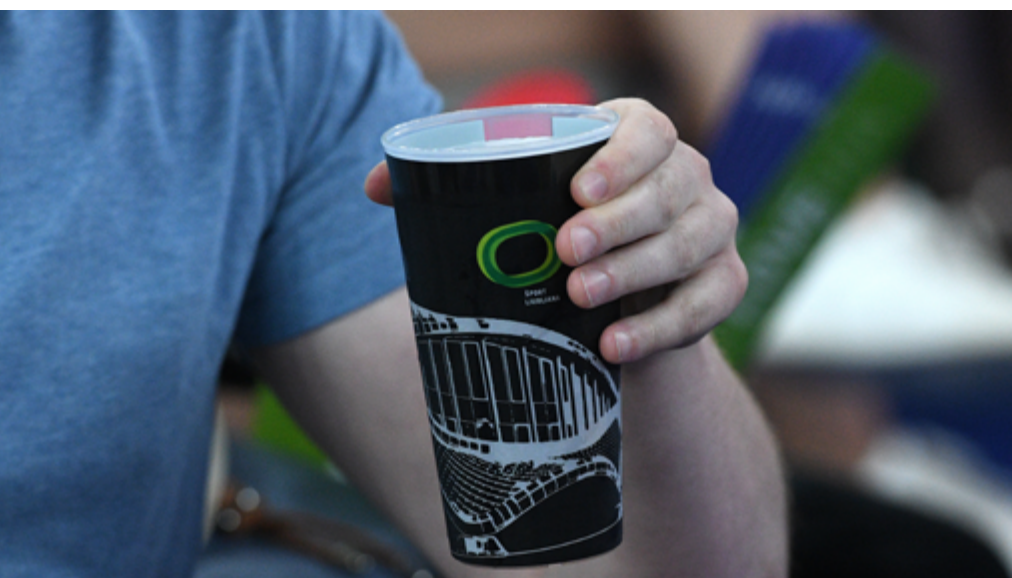
ACTION 24

At the event, we used a cavitation system for glasses and crockery.



IMPLEMENTATION

Šport Ljubljana uses coffee cups at all events. This greatly reduces the amount of plastic waste.



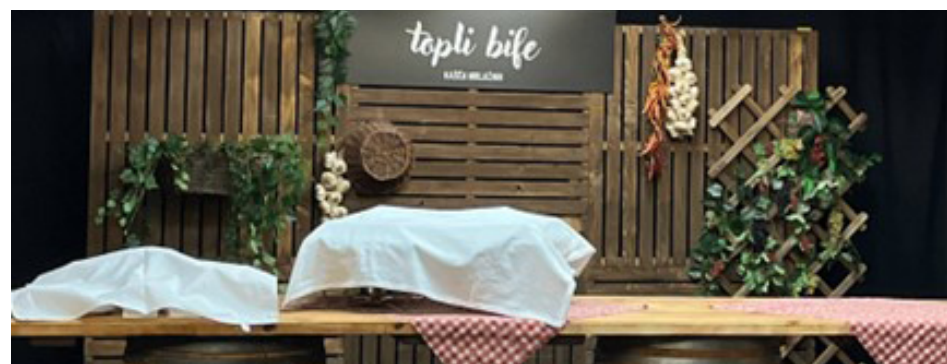
ACTION 25

We have raised awareness of sustainable food and drink principles (prominently displaying signs on origin etc. when dispensing food and drink).



IMPLEMENTATION

Both food and drink distribution points had a sign indicating the type of food. These were also prepared for non-meat eaters, following prior orders. Jezeršek has very well prepared food messages. They also encourage visitors to use only one glass in the VIP area during their visit (for example: do not constantly change wine glasses).



OBJECTIVE 12

REDUCING SURPLUS FOOD.

ACTION 26

We have promoted the reduction of food waste (measured food waste, use of 'no bag'...).



IMPLEMENTATION

The organisers have paid special attention to the correct ordering of food. All leaders had to pre-order specific quantities. After the first few days of confusion and too many leftovers, we have succeeded. A total of 20 kg of food waste was recycled during the event.

SUGGESTION

we suggest that organisers also manage their food order through the accreditation system. This way, you know exactly who is in and out of work on a given day.

An example of good practice is Planica, which has been using this system since the Nordic World Ski Championships.

ACTION 27

Distribution of unused food and drink to organisations for groups of people in need. Undistributed, unused food will be handed over to organisations (e.g. homeless center, etc.) in accordance with HACCP guidelines.



IMPLEMENTATION

Jezeršek Catering has a well-established way of using unused food. The representatives of Kašča Merlačnik did not want to hand over the data.

OBJECTIVE 13

REDUCE THE PROPORTION OF MEAT DISHES BY 20% AND INCREASE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONSUMPTION.

ACTION 28

We made sure that the amount of meat was reduced by 20%, as is the case at normal events. This is because meat production has been proven to be the most damaging to the environment.



IMPLEMENTATION

We have not specifically agreed on the measure. If necessary, the amount of meat used in the VNL event and in previous events can be calculated.

ACTION 29

With good communication, we had a vegan day for all participants (volunteers, staff, organisers, FIVB, etc.) one day during the event.



IMPLEMENTATION

Unfortunately, we have not been able to implement this measure. There were two caterers at the event and neither of them managed to run a vegetarian (or vegan) day. This was probably due to a lack of communication and coordination, as we had managed to implement this measure at a previous event (2024 ECA I Feel Slovenia Canoe Slalom European Championships) and had an excellent response from all involved.

ACTION 30

We will make sure that we serve the right amount of fruit and vegetables at all events.



IMPLEMENTATION

All distribution points (including the International Volleyball Federation's technical services) were able to provide a satisfactory quantity of fruit.

5. AREA



NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

3 OBJECTIVES
4 ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 14

USE CERTIFIED PRODUCTS THAT ARE LESS HARMFUL TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

ACTION 31

We have an agreement with the owners of the rented premises that products (cleaning products, paints, lubricants, disinfectants, detergents and other chemical products) are certified as environmentally friendly.



IMPLEMENTATION

We have already had a joint agreement with the Public institution Sport Ljubljana on the correct use of cleaning products and other materials. Sustainable principles are always taken into account in purchasing and use.

OBJECTIVE 15

WE HAVE PROVIDED E-TICKETS.

ACTION 32

Together with our ticketing partner, we largely provided digital tickets for the event (some still had to be printed, e.g. bought at Petrol gas stations).



IMPLEMENTATION

The organisers have agreed with their partner Eventim to provide as many tickets as possible in electronic format. In the future, a promotional campaign should be carried out to ensure that users do not print out the tickets they buy online.

PROPOSAL

In addition to e-tickets, all channels of the ticket provider should be used to communicate sustainability measures for the following events. This is a necessary measure, as the visitor will receive information on access as soon as he/she makes a purchase.

OBJECTIVE 16

ASSESSING THE SUCCESS OF REDUCING YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT.

ACTION 33

With the help of an external partner, we carried out an assessment of the event's carbon footprint calculation and an estimate of the potential reduction given all the activities carried out.



IMPLEMENTATION

Throughout the tournament, we collected a variety of data from all the stakeholders in the tournament. This data was used to complete the sustainability report and to calculate the carbon footprint of the event. We collected sustainability data from different areas (waste, water, mobility, catering, accommodation, purchasing, management and communication, venue, energy and event production). We came up with some interesting data and figures that will be used by the external partner to calculate the carbon footprint of the VNL 2024 in Ljubljana. We must point out that all the stakeholders of the tournament, as well as all the participants, spectators and competitors, did their best to organise the whole event as sustainably as possible. Finally, we have prepared some guidelines for the organisation of future sustainable events in Slovenia.

ACTION 34

We have developed a personal carbon footprint calculator app for participants.



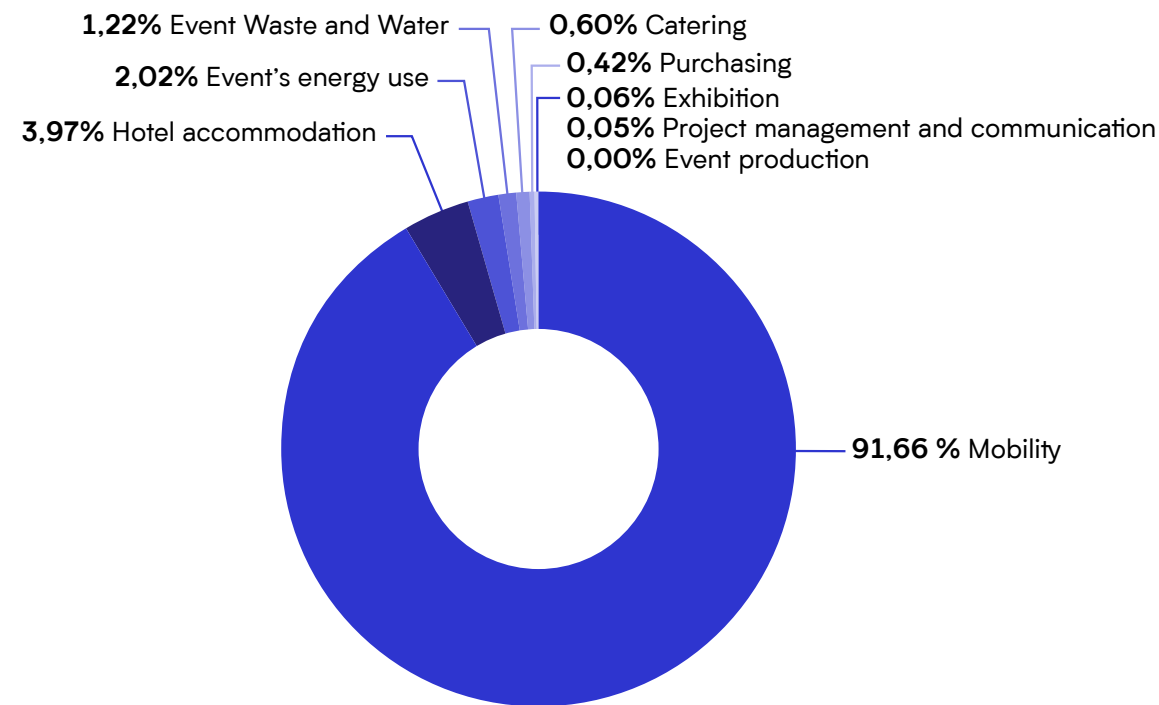
IMPLEMENTATION

"Use the personal carbon footprint calculator to check your carbon footprint and follow the suggestions to reduce it." The calculator was made available on the odbojka.si website.

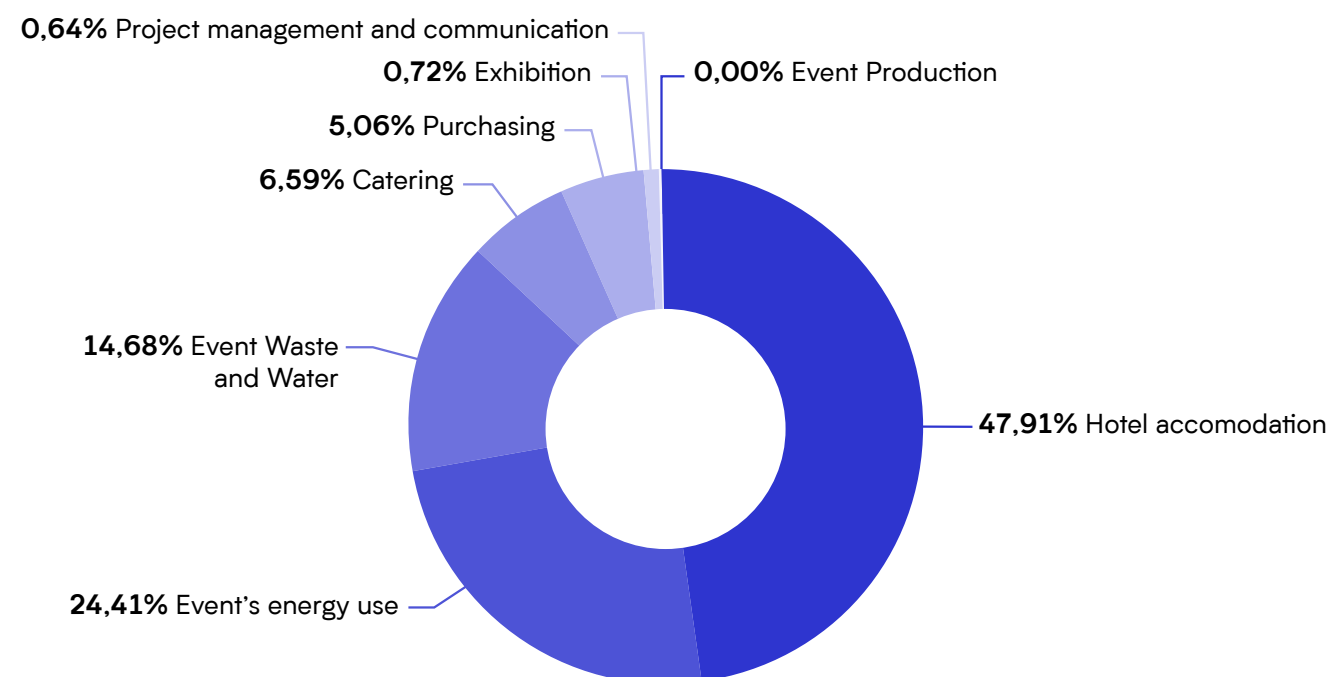


HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE REPORT

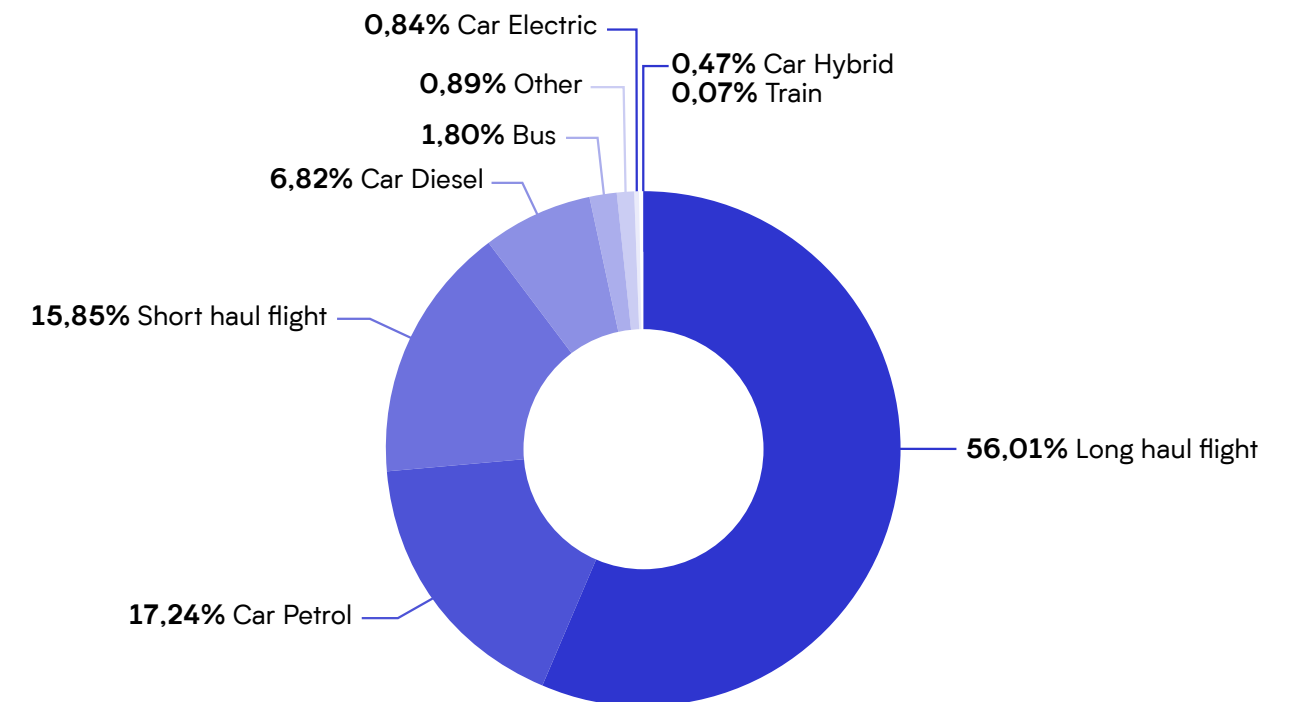
TOTAL EMISSIONS BY SOURCE - Mobility included 1.741.454,99 kg CO₂ (1741,5 t)



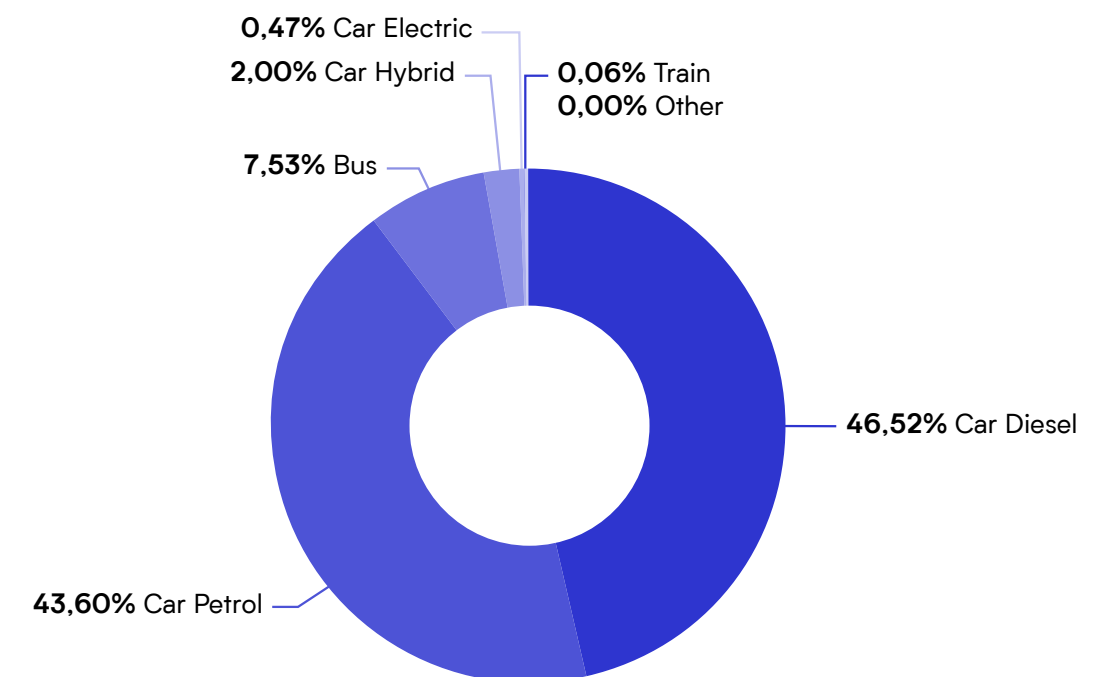
TOTAL EMISSIONS BY SOURCE - Without mobility 144.278,20 kg CO₂ (114,3 t)



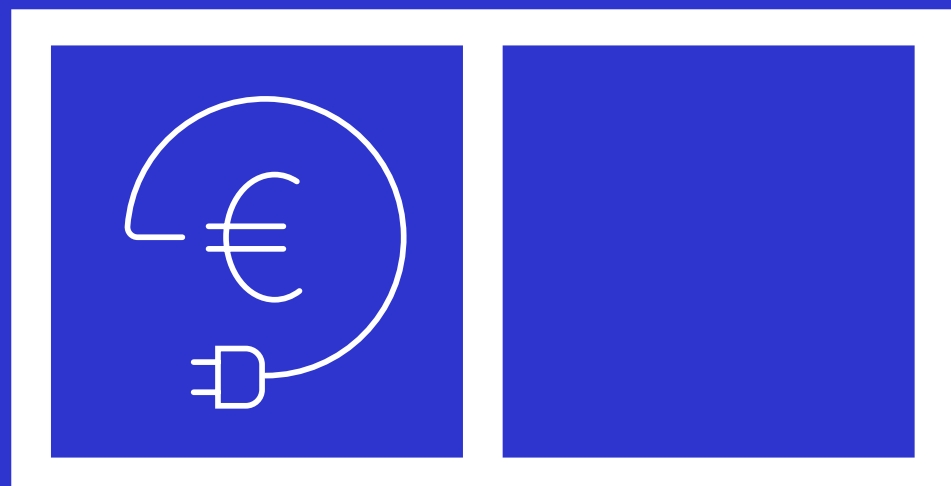
TOTAL TRANSPORT FOOTPRINT OF INTERNATIONAL SPECTATORS 1.183.925,00 kg CO₂



TOTAL TRANSPORT FOOTPRINT OF LOCAL SPECTATORS 399.912,00 kg CO₂



6. AREA



ENERGY CONSUMPTION

1 OBJECTIVE
5 ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 17

A 20% REDUCTION IN ENERGY CONSUMPTION COMPARED TO SIMILAR EVENTS IN THE PAST.

ACTION 35

Together with the venue managers, we have calculated the electricity consumption.



IMPLEMENTATION

During the whole tournament, 104,467kWh of electricity (51,274 kWh – high voltage and 53,193 kWh – low voltage) was consumed in the Stožice Arena. This also takes into account the two national basketball matches that took place in Stožice in June. There was no heating in Stožice in June. However, 92,510 kWh of electricity was used for cooling. Some heating and cooling energy was also used for catering during the tournament (heating = 1.8 kWh, cooling = 0.6 kWh) and for accommodation – at the Austria Trend Hotel. The hotel used 40% of green energy during the tournament, but unfortunately we did not obtain accurate data on cooling and heating.

COMPARISON OF THE AMOUNT OF WASTE GENERATED PER 1000 FANS AT THREE LARGE SPORTS EVENTS IN THE LAST TWO YEARS IN STOŽICE.



CONSUMPTION OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY IN KWH/ PER DAY

HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2022 (17 COMPETITION DAYS)	VOLLEYBALL AND BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2024 (6 COMPETITION DAYS)
4.646 KWH/DAY	13.308 KWH/DAY

However, it is very difficult and ungrateful to compare the data, since a different data collection methodology was used.

Again, it is very difficult and unrewarding to compare the data, as a different data collection methodology was used. In addition, two basketball matches of the Slovenian national team are also included in the calculation, as there was a communication noise in the agreement on the meter reading. Comparing the energy consumption results with the 2022 handball championship in Stožice, 104,467kWh of electricity (51274 kWh – high voltage and 53193 kWh – low voltage) was consumed during the entire volleyball tournament and the two basketball matches in Stožice this year, and a total of 106,849 kWh (VT: 52,259 kWh, MT: 54,590 kWh) during the handball championship.

We note that less electricity was used for this year's volleyball tournament and the two basketball matches than for the 2022 Handball Championships. However, the energy consumption figure for the volleyball tournament could be even lower if the electricity used in Stožice for the two basketball matches were not included. On average, 13,308 kWh of electricity was consumed per day during this year's volleyball and basketball tournaments. The 2022 handball championship will provide 4,646 kWh/day of electricity per day. The lower figure for handball is due to the longer duration of the tournament (17 days) and the volleyball tournament (together with basketball) (6 competition days).

ACTION 36

We have developed an event map to identify the places and processes where energy is consumed and set targets to reduce consumption.



IMPLEMENTATION

The map was also used from the Women's EHF Euro 2022 event.

ACTION 37

Temporary energy sources (diesel generators) will not be used at the event.



IMPLEMENTATION

Temporary energy sources have not been used.

ACTION 38

We have suggested that the air conditioning units be turned off when the halls are not in use.



IMPLEMENTATION

We have already received explanations from Stožice representatives at previous events about the protocol for using air conditioning. The Stožice Hall has the possibility to open a large 'hatch' at the top of the hall and to carry out natural ventilation at night. This measure is also used in the event that, due to the large number of visitors, the sensors in the hall detect insufficient oxygen.

We agreed with the Public institution Sport Ljubljana, the venue's manager, before the tournament that the air-conditioning will be switched off when the venue is not in use during the tournament.

ACTION 39

All electrical devices, including computers, will be completely disconnected from the power source when not in use.

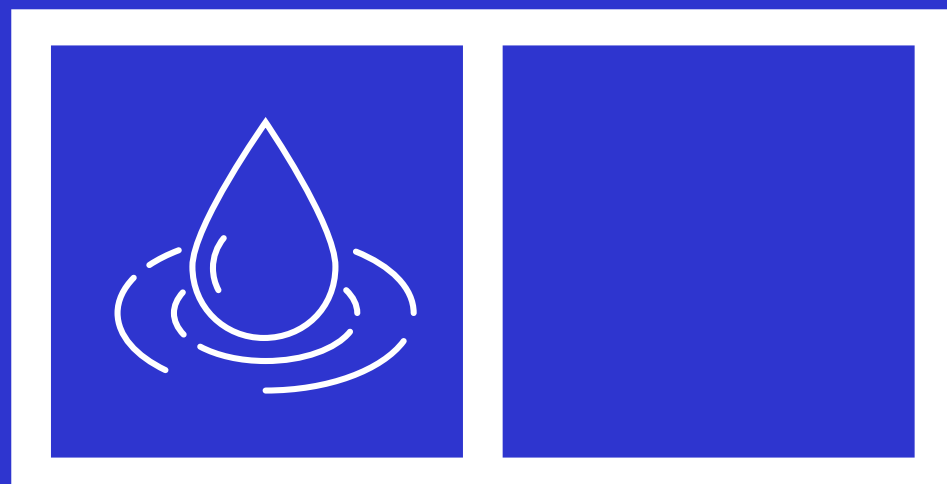


IMPLEMENTATION

We have asked the Heads of State of the participating countries to inform the members of the delegation to unplug electrical appliances after use. We have also asked the individual contractors involved in the event to do the same.



7. AREA



WATER

2 OBJECTIVES

3 ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 18

REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION BY 20% THROUGH TARGETED CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES.

ACTION 40

We have calculated the water consumption of similar past events.



IMPLEMENTATION

During the volleyball tournament in Stožice, we also measured the amount of water consumed. Through various activities and guidelines for all stakeholders and participants of the tournament, we wanted to contribute to minimising water consumption. The total amount of water used in Arena Stožice was 632 m³, which is higher compared to the amount of water used in the 2022 handball tournament in Stožice (602.96 m³). It should be pointed out that the two basketball matches in Stožice in June are also accounted for here. If we include accommodation (Austria Trend hotel) and catering (Jezeršek catering), the total water consumption was 633.1 m³. Comparing the water consumption per day, the volleyball tournament in Stožice used 105.3 m³ and the handball tournament in Stožice in 2022 used 26.22 m³. This shows that the volleyball tournament in Stožice this year used much more water than the handball tournament in 2022.

OBJECTIVE 19

PROMOTING THE USE OF TAP WATER.

ACTION 41

We will encourage the use of tap water everywhere, except for the part where the protocol says otherwise.



IMPLEMENTATION

We have had some problems with the use of drinking water in Stožice. The water in Stožice is in principle drinkable, but it should only be dispensed in designated areas. This way of using water has to be well prepared, it has to apply to everyone. There is also a big challenge in negotiating with the caterer, who has an interest in selling the water.

PROPOSAL

When eating out, you should arrange with the supplier to serve a glass of water with your meal. A small step that, with proper communication, can be a good start.

ACTION 42

We used communication campaigns to inform participants that all venues (and Slovenia in general) are suitable for drinking tap water. We encouraged the use of own drinking bidons.



IMPLEMENTATION

The measure was only partially implemented. We sent a letter to all VNL tournament participants informing them about our sustainability principles. One of the bullet points stated:

- > Tap water in Ljubljana is DRINKABLE; use your own bottle and drink tap water <.

There were no other communication actions.

PROPOSAL

An incentive for the organising team and volunteers to have their own bidons, which they keep filled. This way, the use of plastic water bottles is reduced. The organiser can provide branded glass bidons, as an example of good practice we saw at the 2024 ECA I Feel Slovenia Canoe Slalom European Championships



8. AREA



VENUE

1 OBJECTIVE

1 ACTION

OBJECTIVE 20

A WELCOMING HALL FOR ALL VISITORS, INCLUDING PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

ACTION 43

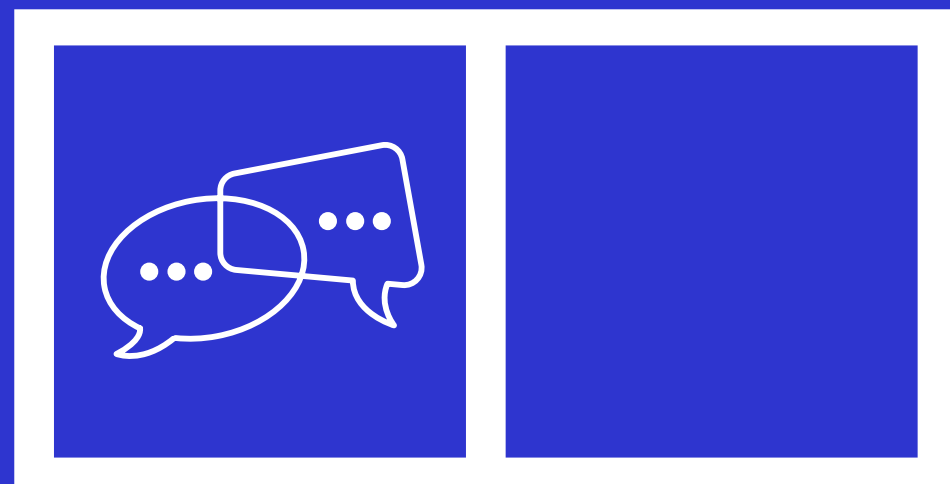
We have ensured the health and safety of people and the environment, as well as accessibility for all (e.g. people with reduced mobility, people with hearing impairments, people with visual impairments, the elderly, parents with young children, etc.).



IMPLEMENTATION

The Stožice Arena has a protocol for visits by people with disabilities, and we took advantage of this. Volunteers made sure that the persons concerned felt comfortable at the event.

9. AREA



1 OBJECTIVE 5 ACTION

OBJECTIVE 21

SUSTAINABILITY IS A PRIORITY IN ALL COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO THE EVENT.

ACTION 44

We have developed a communication plan with well-defined objectives, actions and performance indicators for the implementation of the sustainability project.



IMPLEMENTATION

We have not fully implemented this measure. While an action plan remained, the communication potential of the event and the cooperation with all stakeholders involved in communication was not exploited.

ACTION 45

We have kept visitors, competitors and everyone else involved in the event informed about the steps we are taking towards a sustainable sporting event, the opportunities and activities on offer. We encouraged them to bring sustainable practices into their daily lives.



IMPLEMENTATION

We used our volleyball players as ambassadors for this project and took five cute videos, which were broadcast on social media and on the big screen during the matches.

- Waste separation / OZS x NLB
- Re-use of clippers / OZS x NLB
- Use public transport / OZS x NLB
- Share the transport / OZS x NLB
- Use BicikeLJ / OZS x NLB
- Go on foot / OZS x NLB



ACTION 46

We have included sustainable development messages in all official communications and communications about the event.



IMPLEMENTATION

Content was regularly included in PR messages, but because we did not have a clear communication plan for the sustainability part, the potential was not realised.

ACTION 47

At each match, we have warned and called on spectators to take action five times via the official announcer and the official LED screens.



IMPLEMENTATION

At each match, the official announcer presented one of the actions from the Sustainability Action Plan to the participants in the hall three times. Once before the match, once during the match and once immediately after the match.



ACTION 48

With a special campaign, we reminded every game (Mexican wave with clappers) about proper postponement and the commitment to "create a better footprint" (sustainable everyday life and personal carbon footprint).



IMPLEMENTATION

We have not achieved this objective.

10. AREA



SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

3 OBJECTIVES
3 ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 22

AGREEING WITH SUPPLIERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS ON SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT PRINCIPLES.

ACTION 49

Sustainable procurement principles have been taken into account as far as possible in the procurement of sports equipment, office paper and hygiene paper products, electronic equipment, electricity and thermal energy, cleaning products, cleaning services, food, beverages, transport services, hotel and tourist services, etc.



IMPLEMENTATION

The project purchased only those items within each area that were strictly necessary for the successful organisation of the tournament. We were mindful of the environment, as there was no over-ordering of products. Costs were also kept as low as possible when shopping and ordering.

OBJECTIVE 23

INVOLVING SPONSORS IN SUSTAINABLE ACTIVITIES.

ACTION 50

We encouraged the involvement of sponsors in VNL sustainability projects. Building together a positive legacy for the event.



IMPLEMENTATION

The long-standing sponsor and partner of the Slovenian Volleyball Federation and the national team, NLB Bank, recognised the initiative and fully supported the implementation of the action plan.

OBJECTIVE 24

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FROM SPONSORS TO IMPLEMENT THE ACTION PLAN.

ACTION 51

The activation of sponsors can constitute the activation of a Sustainable Action Plan.



IMPLEMENTATION

As a sponsor, NLB also based the activation on sustainable principles – mobility, reuse of fan props, waste separation, etc.



11. AREA



FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

1 OBJECTIVE
1 ACTION

OBJECTIVE 25

FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE EVENT ORGANISATION.

ACTION 52

Everyone involved in the project has kept an eye on costs. The event had a positive financial legacy.



IMPLEMENTATION

We still need to get information from the Volleyball federation of Slovenia.

12. AREA



LEGACY

2 OBJECTIVES

2 ACTIONS

OBJECTIVE 26

PRODUCE A REPORT TO HELP FUTURE ORGANISERS OF SUSTAINABLE SPORT EVENTS.

ACTION 53

We have used the key findings to produce the report.



IMPLEMENTATION

Implemented; we are reading this report right now.

OBJECTIVE 27

CALCULATING THE MULTIPLIER EFFECT OF A CHAMPIONSHIP.

ACTION 54

Throughout the organisation, data will be collected on the number of hours worked, the number of overnight stays generated, as well as average prices, estimates of participant consumption, income and costs (by category).



ACTION IS STILL IN PROCESS.



Conclusion

54 ACTIONS
41 DERIVATIVES
8 PENDING
5 PARTIALLY IMPLEMENTED

The implementation of the sustainable organisation was based on a 54-action action plan, within which we successfully implemented 41 actions in full, 5 were partially implemented and 9 were not implemented. Some key highlights:

- The focus of the sustainable organisation has been on reducing the negative impact of mobility.
- We have achieved one of our most important goals! 24% of all visitors to the matches against Italy and Cuba walked, cycled or took public transport (bus) to the event.
- We have successfully implemented a pilot project with the 4+ traffic regulation and for the first time ever at a major event we have used the new traffic sign for traffic coexistence, which was only introduced a few months ago in the New Traffic Signs Act. And we achieved a very good result: 62% of all car journeys during the matches against Italy and Cuba had at least three passengers in the car!
- Only four percent of the visitors who came by car to the matches against Italy and Cuba were alone in the car.
- We have almost completely eliminated transport between the hotel and the venue for the organisational staff (delegates, referees, FIVB, etc.), who made 90% of their journeys on foot.
- We creatively involved a primary school in the event and delighted the participants.
- Working with Planet Positive to measure our carbon footprint has yielded very concrete results, which have led us to set concrete targets for the next three events.
- We used the communication potential of the athletes, our volleyball players as ambassadors of the project, and made 5 cute videos that were broadcasted on social media as well as on the big screen during the match.
- The Slovenian Volleyball Federation has embarked on a sustainable organisation for the first time in this way and has set high goals for the next three events based on the results.

As outlined in the introduction, the ultimate goal of this type of cooperation with the various federations in the field of sustainable organisation in recent years has been to establish a systemic framework for the sustainable organisation of all sporting events. We will try to apply and build on the experience, knowledge and findings from this event in all future sporting events.

The Municipality of Ljubljana, as the host of many sporting events, has all the necessary departments that every organiser of a sporting event needs in order to run the event in a sustainable way – the MOL Department of Sport, Sport Ljubljana, LPP, LPT, district communities, the Municipal Police, Voka Snaga, etc. Therefore, the ultimate goal of the cooperation with the various sports associations in the field of sustainable organisation is to organise all sporting events in a systematic way.

Our next goal is very concrete, measurable, achievable, relevant and ambitious! We want to make the next VNL Nations League volleyball tournaments in 2025–2027 the most sustainable volleyball events in the world!

Dr Gašper Pavli
Sport Media Focus



SUSTAINABLE
EVENT ORGANIZATION