



International Ski
Mountaineering
Federation

SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2024-2025

ISMF SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

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1. INTRODUCTION

During the 2024–25 season, the International Ski Mountaineering Federation (ISMF) collected sustainability checklists and reports from the following World Cup and Youth World Cup events:

- Skimo World Cup Boí Taüll
- Villars World Cup
- Marmotta Trophy
- Youth World Championships Forni di Sopra
- Tromsø Arctic Skimo

Local Organising Committees (LOCs) completed sustainability checklists covering the main impact areas of ISMF events. These checklists were converted into percentage scores per area and per event. This annual report synthesises those results and complements them with qualitative information from the organisers' reports.

2. METHODOLOGY

Source documents:

- ISMF Sustainability Checklists for each event, completed by the LOCs.
- Sustainability report forms or GreenEvent checklists where applicable.

Scoring:

- Each checklist item was converted into a number between 0-5. There were obligatory items for each part of the checklist. They are scored as 5. Then the rest are scored based on the importance and assigned a color. Then the total scores were calculated and divided by the maximum possible total to come up with a percentage. Percentage implementation scores were (0–100%) calculated for each checklist item and reported.
- “Not applicable” items were excluded from the denominator, so they do not penalise the score.

Limitations:

- Data are self-reported by the LOCs and are not independently audited.
- Some areas are missing for some events, especially in catering, acoustics and communication.
- The scores reflect the adoption of sustainability measures, not a full life-cycle assessment or absolute impact (for example, they do not provide CO₂ tones or total waste volume).

3. OVERALL SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE

3.1. CROSS-EVENT OVERVIEW

Average sustainability scores were calculated for each event across the areas for which data were available. These averages provide a comparative overview of how far sustainability measures have been implemented at each venue.

Table 1: Overall sustainability scores by event.

Event	Overall score (%)
BoiTaul	90.9
Villars	72.4
Marmotta	87.8
Forni Di Sopra	62.5
Tromso	80.0

3.2. AREA-LEVEL PERFORMANCE

The checklists are structured into the following main areas: Resources, Waste, Mobility, Catering, Energy, Circuit and Event Areas, Communication, Acoustics, and Social Responsibility. The table below shows the percentage scores per category and event.

Table 2: Category scores by event (%).

Category	BoiTaul	Villars	Marmotta	Forni Di Sopra	Tromso
Resources	77.0		75.0	63.0	
Waste	100.0		92.0	100.0	
Mobility	100.0	100.0	64.0	72.0	87.0
Catering	85.0		97.0	48.0	71.0
Energy	86.0		97.0	90.0	
Circuit		68.0			84.0
Event Areas		66.0			93.0
Communication	100.0	57.0	94.0	56.0	65.0
Acoustics	100.0		100.0	100.0	
Social Responsibility	79.0	71.0	83.0	71.0	80.0

4. EVENT PROFILES

4.1. SKIMO WORLD CUP BOÍTAÜLL

Quantitative profile:

- Overall mean score around 91%, the highest of all analysed events.
- Particularly strong performance in Waste, Mobility and Communication, where scores reach 100%.
- Slightly lower, but still strong, scores in Resources and Social Responsibility.

Qualitative highlights:

- Extensive use of digital communication and limited, targeted printed material.
- Clear system for separate waste collection for visitors and staff, with responsibilities assigned.
- Mobility plan that includes public-transport information and discourages incentives for car use.

Focus for improvement:

- Further strengthen social responsibility elements, such as accessibility and community-engagement measures.
- Improve resource use by maximising recycled paper, minimising promotional gadgets and extending the reuse of materials.

4.2. VILLARS WORLD CUP

Quantitative profile:

- Overall mean score around 72%.
- Very strong performance in Mobility, where the event scores 100%.
- More moderate scores in Event Areas, Communication and Social Responsibility, with several missing values in other areas.

Qualitative highlights:

- Signs and decorations are reused across editions, and name tags or lanyards are collected and reused.
- The course is set mainly on official ski slopes, keeping additional landscape impact limited.
- Main environmental concerns noted relate to noise from the sound system rather than structural issues.

Focus for improvement:

- Strengthen communication by systematically presenting sustainability measures on the website, social media and in on-site information.
- Improve documentation of catering, energy, resources and acoustics to allow complete scoring in future seasons.

4.3. MARMOTTA TROPHY

Quantitative profile:

- Overall mean score around 88%.
- Outstanding performance in Catering, Energy and Acoustics, all close to or at 100%.
- Lower, but still good, scores in Mobility and Resources.

Qualitative highlights:

- Uses a formal GreenEvent checklist with strict requirements in waste management, communication and social responsibility.
- Catering shows very high use of reusable dishes, reduced food waste, and strong preference for regional and organic products.
- Acoustics measures are fully implemented, with deliberate reduction of noise and protection of sensitive areas.

Focus for improvement:

- Mobility is the main relative weakness and can be strengthened by increasing incentives for public transport and organised car-sharing or shuttle services.
- Resource use can be improved by further reducing printed material and promotional items and maximising reuse of decorations and infrastructure.

4.4. YOUTH WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS FORNI DI SOPRA

Quantitative profile:

- Overall mean score around 63%, the lowest of the analysed events but with several strong areas.
- Waste and Energy reach 100% and 90% respectively.
- Catering, Acoustics and Communication scores are significantly lower.

Qualitative highlights:

- Very systematic approach to separate waste collection for visitors and staff; structures and equipment are reused extensively.
- Energy measures include moderate heating levels, switching off unused equipment, and the use of grid electricity rather than diesel generators, with several renewable-energy options ticked.
- Social responsibility elements include barrier-free access, dedicated parking and involvement of associations and volunteers.

Focus for improvement:

- Catering can be strengthened by increasing vegetarian options, favouring local and organic foods, and expanding the use of reusable tableware.
- Communication could more clearly highlight the event's sustainability measures and expectations for participants.

4.5. TROMSO ARTIC SKIMO

Quantitative profile:

- Overall mean score is 80%.
- Very strong scores in Event Areas and Circuit, both above 80–90%.
- Lower, but still decent, scores in Catering and Communication, with several items marked as not applicable or not documented.

Qualitative highlights:

- Races are partly held in resort terrain and partly in the backcountry, with organisers noting minimal impact on landscape and fauna when snow cover is sufficient.
- Course management includes reuse of signs, systematic post-race clean-up and clear rules and penalties for littering.
- Waste management includes separate containers and staff responsibility, while tap water in carafes and reusable beverage containers are provided.

Focus for improvement:

- Communication of sustainability measures can be made more explicit in race guides, websites and athlete briefings.
- Catering documentation can be improved and the share of regional, organic and vegetarian options gradually increased.

5. KEY STRENGTHS AND GOOD PRACTICES

Across all events, several strong and consistent patterns emerge:

- Waste management is a clear success area. All events provide separate bins for visitors and staff and assign responsible personnel. Boí Taüll, Marmotta and Forni di Sopra achieve near-perfect scores in this area.
- Energy efficiency and low-impact venues are well established. Most events reuse infrastructure, keep heating moderate, and switch off devices when not needed. In some cases, renewable energy sources and offsetting measures are explicitly used.
- Mobility awareness is increasing. Villars, Boí Taüll and Tromsø provide clear information on public transport and, where appropriate, shuttles or walking access routes.
- Course stewardship is strong. Organisers emphasise post-race clean-up, reuse of signs and careful use of noise and explosive control in avalanche management.
- Social responsibility elements such as barrier-free access, special parking for people with disabilities and collaboration with associations are visible in several events and provide templates for others.

6. COMMON GAPS AND PRIORITY AREAS

The cross-event analysis also highlights recurring gaps that should be prioritised in the coming seasons:

- Incomplete documentation: Several items are marked as non-applicable or left blank, especially in catering, acoustics, communication and energy. In some cases, actions may exist but are not recorded, which reduces comparability between events.
- Resource use and materials: Printed material and promotional gadgets are still widely used. Opportunities remain to reduce material use at the source, particularly PVC banners and single-use items.
- Catering sustainability: Vegetarian and plant-based options, systematic use of local and organic products, and the avoidance of single-use containers are not yet consistent across events.
- Communication: Some LOCs implement strong measures but communicate them weakly. Making sustainability visible to athletes, spectators and partners is still an underused lever.
- Acoustics: In mountain environments, organisers often manage noise well in practice but only some explicitly document noise-control measures and the protection of sensitive areas.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1. FOR THE ISMF

- Standardise scoring and weighting by providing a short scoring guide so LOCs understand how answers translate into percentages, and consider giving higher weight to Mobility, Energy and Waste.

- Establish a minimum documentation standard so that all world-level events complete every item as Yes/No/Not applicable with a short justification, and submit a small set of photos documenting key measures.
- Create benchmarks and recognition, such as a league table and area-specific awards (for example, Best Waste Management or Best Mobility Plan), using high-performing events as references.
- Develop guidance packages or playbooks based on existing good practices, focusing on waste and energy, course stewardship and accessibility.
- Set medium-term federation-level targets, such as requiring all World Cup events to exceed a defined minimum overall score and avoiding very low scores in any area.

7.2. FOR LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEES

- Make sustainability visible by including a dedicated section on event websites, in race guides and at athlete or volunteer briefings.
- Strengthen catering policies to ensure at least half of the menu is vegetarian, tap water is freely available, reusable tableware is used wherever possible and local or organic products are highlighted.
- Reduce materials at the source by defaulting to digital communication, printing only what is necessary on recycled paper and preferring reusable or service-based alternatives to physical giveaways.
- Formalise acoustics and wildlife protection measures by documenting noise limits, quiet periods and the avoidance of sensitive habitats.
- Treat the checklist as a learning tool by adding comments about what worked well, what was challenging and what will change next year.

8. OUTLOOK

The 2024–25 sustainability data show that ISMF events already operate at a relatively high level of environmental and social responsibility, especially in waste management, energy use and mobility planning. The next step is to transform these efforts into a coherent, transparent system with consistent documentation, clear benchmarks and active sharing of knowledge between organising committees.

By consolidating the strengths visible in this report and addressing the common gaps, ISMF can position ski mountaineering as a model for sustainable international winter sport events.