



Version I

**Environmental Sustainability Tips**  
for Artists and Cultural Professionals

These tips have been formatted as a brochure for ease of use. We encourage you to read this digitally to minimise environmental impact. If printing, please refer to the guidelines on page 13.

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**CULTURE MOVES EUROPE** encourages artists and cultural professionals to adopt sustainable practices in their mobility project. This could be both while travelling or during the implementation of your project. While environmental sustainability is not required and does not count as eligibility criteria, you can earn an extra 2 points in the selection process by incorporating it. This initiative is part of the **Greening strategy of Creative Europe**<sup>1</sup> and aims to promote environmental awareness across the cultural sector.

To help applicants and selected grantees get inspired, we have compiled a list of practical tips on how to make your mobility project more sustainable. If you want to make a positive impact but are not sure where to start, do not worry – we have put together a list of ideas to inspire you, simply pick the ones that are within your control! Remember, even small changes can lead to a big impact.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/e20ac9a0-f52b-11ed-a05c-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>  
<http://>





# PROJECT FOCUS / THEME

Consider the environment, nature protection or increasing biodiversity in your project's theme.



# TRAVEL

In addition to the travel allowance, you can get a green mobility top-up for sustainable journeys of 600 km or more, using sustainable ways of travelling in both directions!<sup>1</sup>

Worried it might take too long?

You have **15 days before and after** your project to fully enjoy your green, slow travel adventure!

Give preference to trains or buses.

If travelling by car look for **LIFT SHARING** apps and websites to share your journey or join another person, because single-use car travel results in higher per-person fuel consumption, emissions, and road congestion.



In large countries, **LIFT SHARING** with strangers is very common via apps and websites. The driver lists their journey, and the website/app will suggest the charge for the passenger. Passengers verify their identity with a passport, apply to join, and the driver decides if they accept them.



<sup>1</sup> section 4b of the Call for Individual Mobility

# JOURNEY PLANING



Opt for international rail or bus passes (they can be cheaper than individual tickets!)

Look for websites and services online that can assist you. Just search for routes like "Amsterdam to Madrid without plane" for plenty of advice on the internet.

Browse some booking websites that help with planning and reserving journeys.

Search for routes with the least changes for easier travel.

Pick night trains to make best use of your travel time.

Avoid short transfer times between connections prevent possible delays.

Pack light, focus on essentials - it will make the trip easier and less stressful overall!

Use digital tickets (and maps, guides, etc.), do not print them.

*If full green travel is not feasible, each small decision toward sustainability counts.*



## DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Look for bike or scooter hire options in the area. Walk, cycle or choose public transport.

Check if local travel networks offer discounts for several rides (daily/monthly passes, etc.).

Share taxis.

# ACCOMMODATION

Choose a location within walking, cycling or easy public transport distance from your residency.

Look for accommodation with sustainability initiatives and green accreditations (e.g. energy efficiency, waste reduction or a certification).

Consider if accommodation, e.g. apartments, is affecting the housing available for local residents.



## DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Request that towels and bed linen will not be replaced more often than once per week.

Turn off lights, heating, and air conditioning when not needed or when leaving the place.

Take shorter showers / turn off the water to soap up.

# FOOD

Consider what food standards you will choose for your meals:

Vegan/Vegetarian/low-meat meals

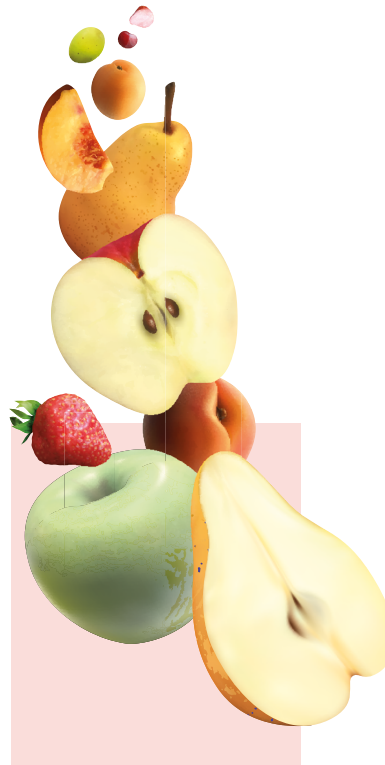
Local produce

Seasonal fruit and vegetables

Give preference to Fairtrade tea and coffee.

Try to avoid food delivery.

Shop locally e.g. local markets rather than supermarkets.



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# FOOD PACKAGING AND SERVEWARE



Bring a reusable water bottle.



Bring your own reusable bags for grocery shopping.



Request reusable crockery and cutlery at your venue.



Use reusable napkins.



Use tupperware or beeswax wrap instead of plastic or foil film.



Minimise products in single-use packaging.

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# ENERGY MANAGEMENT

Figure out simple ways to use less energy:

Try using hand tools.

Remember to switch things off when not in use.

## DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

Put all electrical items on an extension cable so it is easy to switch off.

Have a daily switch-off routine.

*For Advanced Users:* Gather electricity and gas meter readings from before and after your project if you plan to measure your carbon footprint.



# WASTE MANAGEMENT

For physical projects, plan the end of life of your project from the beginning - what will happen with it?

## Waste reduction

Try to avoid using nails and glue so materials can be easily reused.

Look for organizations like schools, colleges, or designers who can host your work or reuse the materials.

Donate leftover materials (e.g. paint brushes, fabrics, tools etc.) to other artists, schools, venues etc.

## Waste management and recycling

Talk to the venue about materials and the reuse and recycling facilities in their country.

Request recycling bins.

Recycle materials where possible.

Consider repurposing leftover materials for future projects.



# EQUIPMENT / MATERIAL CHOICES

Design to minimise wastage of materials:

Plan projects to use only the necessary materials.

Use modular designs that can be easily repurposed.

Prioritise upcycling and reuse (e.g. leftover fabrics, paper, and other materials from previous projects).

Choose hiring and borrowing over buying new equipment (e.g. musical instruments and sound equipment, costumes, furniture, set pieces, easels, etc.):

Check online platforms for rental options.

Consider second-hand shops.

Exchange or share materials with other artists.

*No need to make all these changes at once. Start by focusing on what is feasible for your project.*

If buying new:

Choose energy-efficient equipment.

Try to avoid online purchasing and delivery of materials.

Pay attention to packaging.

Consider certifications and standards e.g.:



Printing:

Minimize printed materials and provide digital versions where possible.\*



Keep in mind the digital carbon footprint: use digital tools wisely and avoid unnecessary data transfers.

If printing, use FSC/PEFC-certified or recycled paper.

# SUSTAINABLE USE OF TECHNOLOGIES

Use energy-efficient devices and keep your software up to date to cut down on digital carbon.

Take care of your equipment! Repair and care instead of replacing and when your old device reaches the end of life recycle it.

Develop your digital management plan. Keep emails short and use direct messages or face-to-face talks instead of long threads. Regularly delete old files and emails to save space and energy.

Review when and how you use and/or produce video and heavy images. If you are watching or listening to something on repeat - download instead of streaming.

Look at best practice in website maintenance and design to reduce environmental impact.

Pick cloud services that use renewable energy. Look for updates in sustainability and digital services since this is an area of rapid growth.

*Remember, every small action to cut digital carbon makes a difference. Start with the simplest changes*

# INTERNATIONAL PARTNER / RESIDENCY HOST

Share the [Environmental Sustainability Tips](#) with your international partner/host.



## DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Work with the international partner/ host to gather data and insights for the Mobility Project Activity Report.





# IN YOUR ACTIVITY REPORT

For your project Activity Report, you are required to report on the sustainability measures you adopted for your mobility project.

This could include:

- Your use of sustainable materials.
- Your experience with green travel.
- Your choices for environmentally friendly accommodation.
- Further information on the list of actions you choose from this checklist.

For Sustainability Ninjas:

- How your project inspired positive environmental change with partners, the public, and the local community.
- A carbon footprint calculation\*.



## CARBON CALCULATOR

To understand the carbon footprint of your project, use a carbon calculator (**you can find the list here, p. 148**) and input:

- Miles travelled and mode of transport.
- Energy usage from meter readings before and after the event.
- Materials used.
- Weight of waste and recycling.

\* section 4b of the Call for Individual Mobility

# IN YOUR COMMUNICATION

Share your sustainability actions within your mobility project on social media – your personal experience can inspire others more effectively than simply highlighting the problem.

It could be:

- Your sustainable travel adventure.
- Food enjoyed that met your environmentally sustainable criteria.
- Why you made your material choices.
- Creative reuse and upcycling initiatives you used.
- Use of online meetings to cut down on travel and carbon emissions.
- Awareness of energy use when sending or downloading large files.
- The impact of cloud storage and data centers on energy consumption.
- Anything else you find relevant and would like to share with us!



*Do you have any other ideas or tips about environmental sustainability? We would love to hear from you! Feel free to email us at [culturemoveseuropa@goethe.de](mailto:culturemoveseuropa@goethe.de). Your insights are always welcome!*

