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Europe**



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Sustainability in project activities

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About Interreg Europe's approach


- 2024 **internal discussion** about sustainability
- Early 2025 programme manual update (**7 steps**)
- Spring 2025 **survey** among all project partners



7 steps for **greener project activities**

1. Consider going online!
2. Prefer green venues
3. Go for low-carbon travel
4. Refuse - Reduce - Re-use – Recycle
5. Green the plate
6. Make it beautiful
7. Spread the word

https://www.interregeurope.eu/sites/default/files/2023-02/IR-E_programme_manual_annexes.pdf#page=45

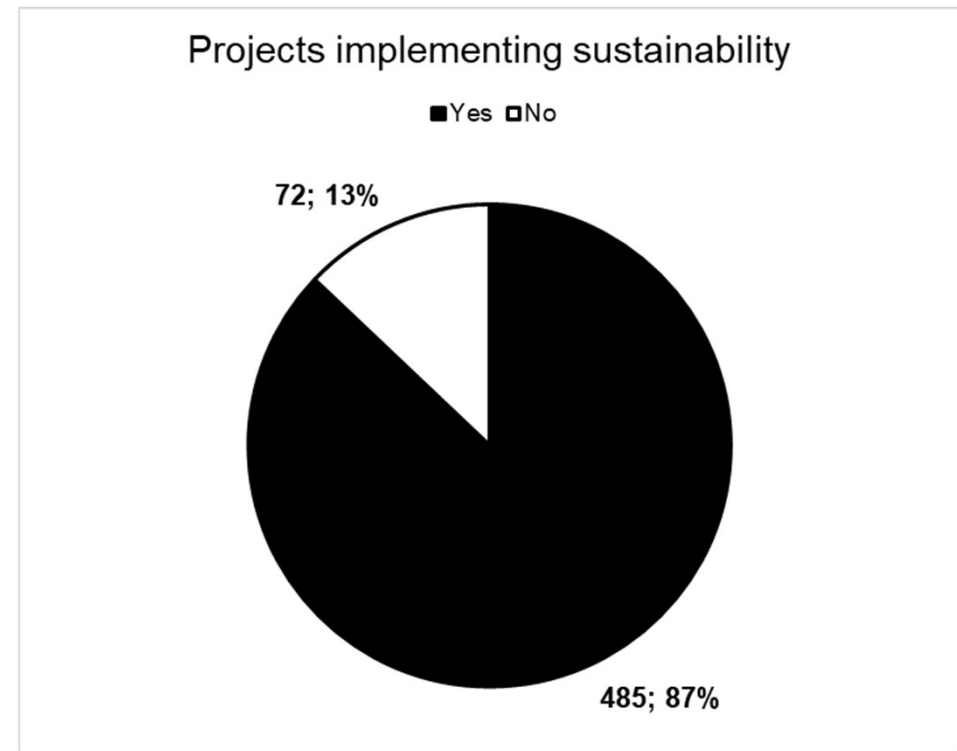


About the survey: **results**

652 responses

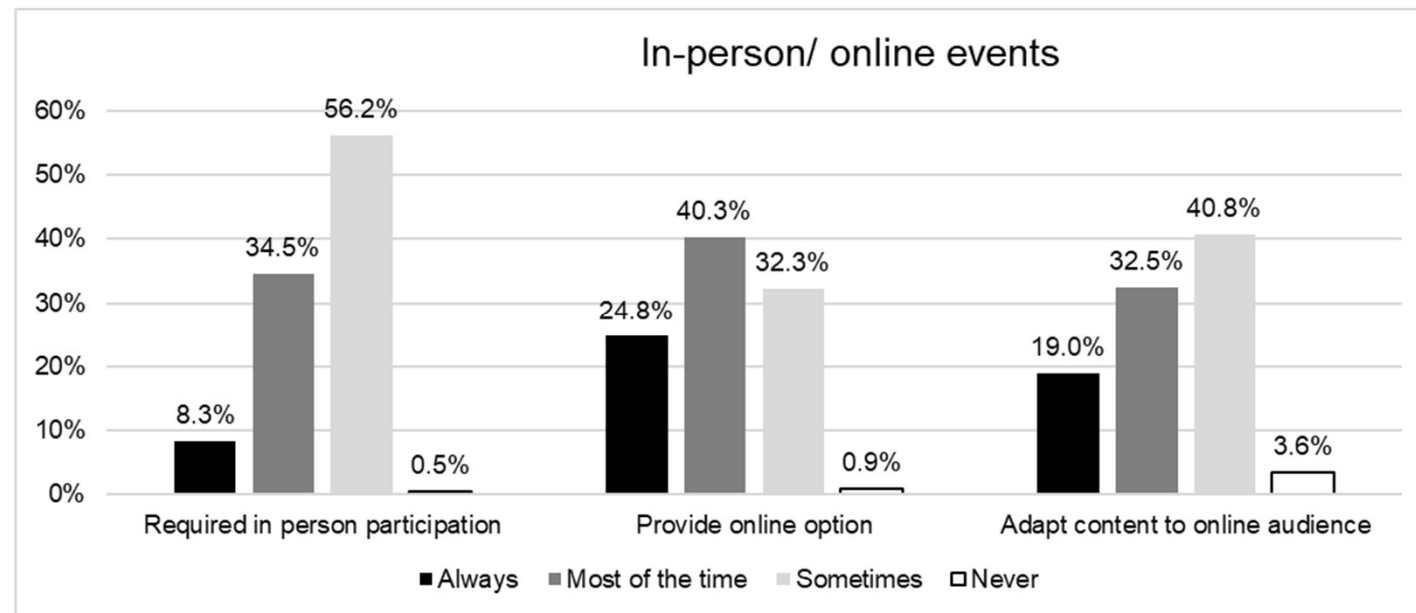
237 projects represented (**90%**)

87% implementing sustainability



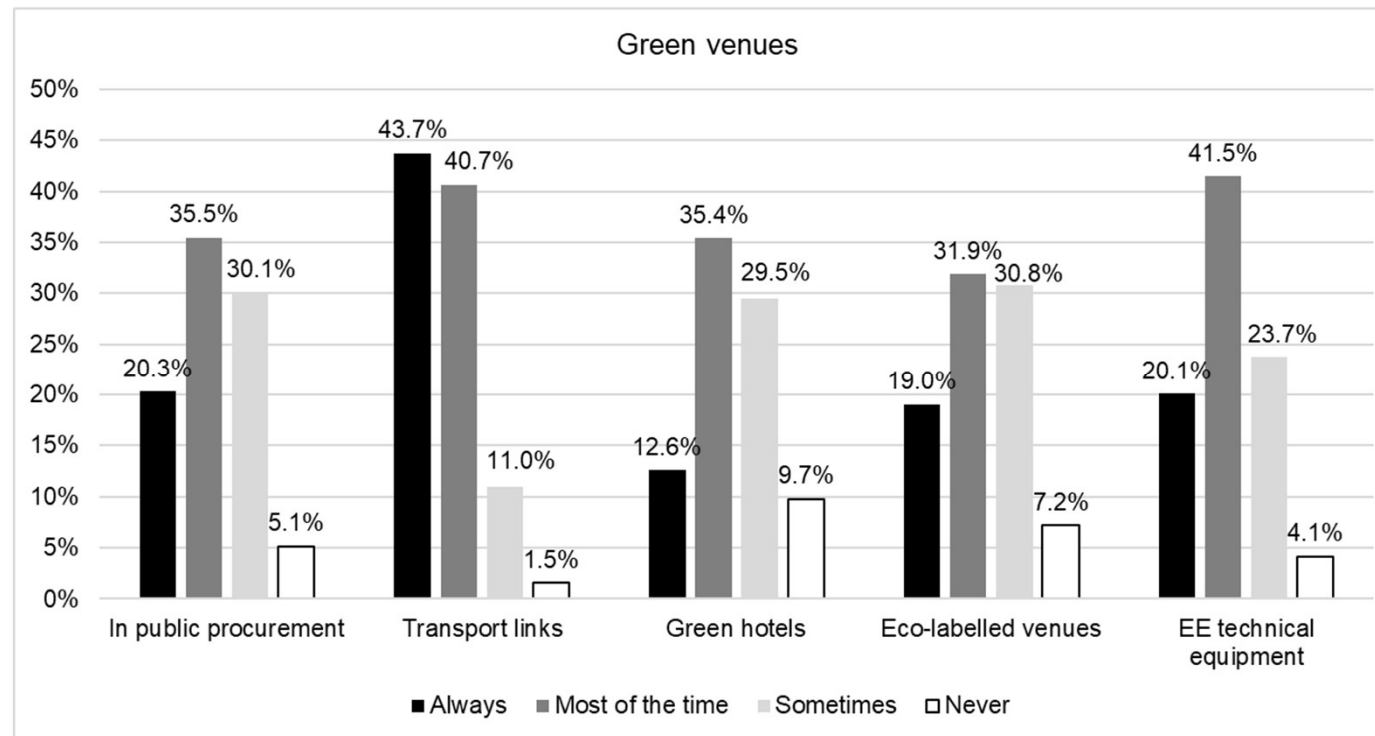
Event formats

- **65% online option**
most of the time
available
- **8% always in person**



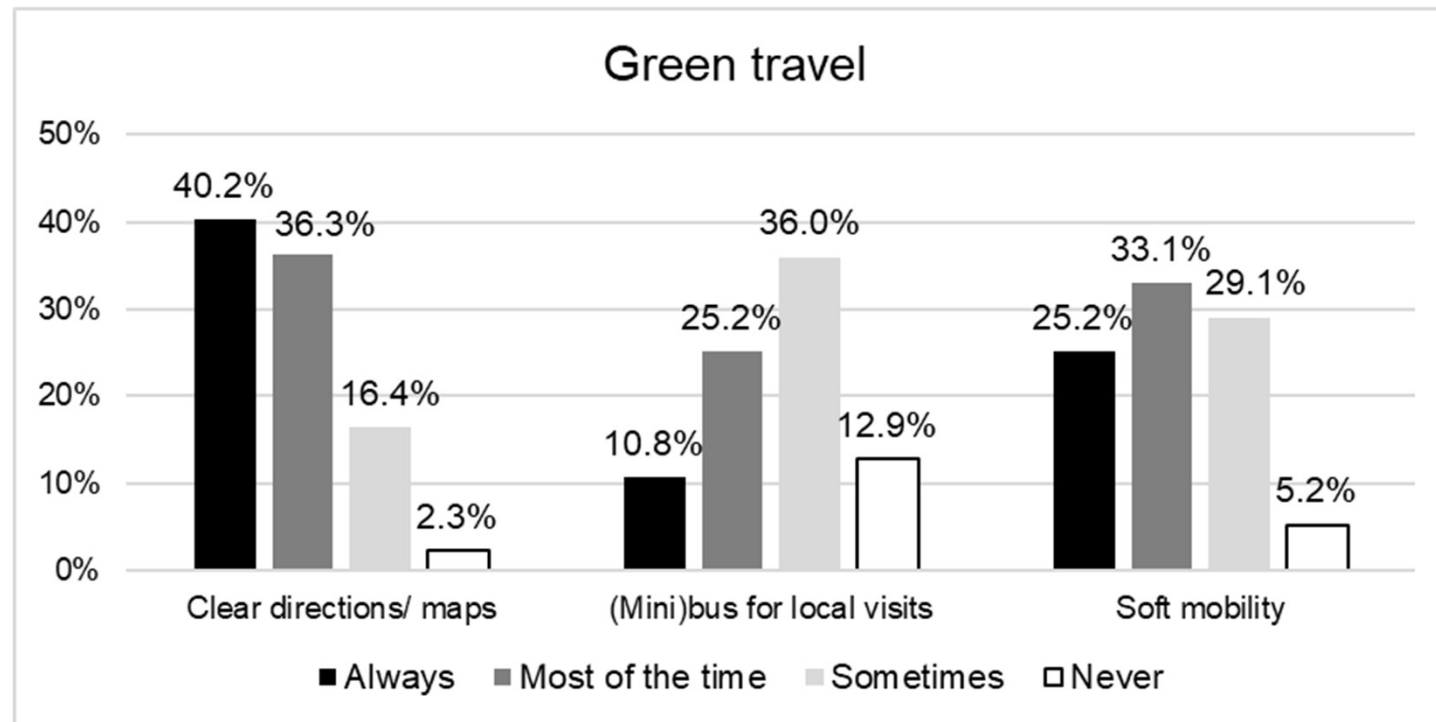
Event venues

- **80%+** transport links
- **60%+** energy efficient technical equipment
- **50%+** green public procurement



Travel to events

- **75%+** maps and directions
- **~60%** soft mobility
- **35%+** bus for local visits




Food and material

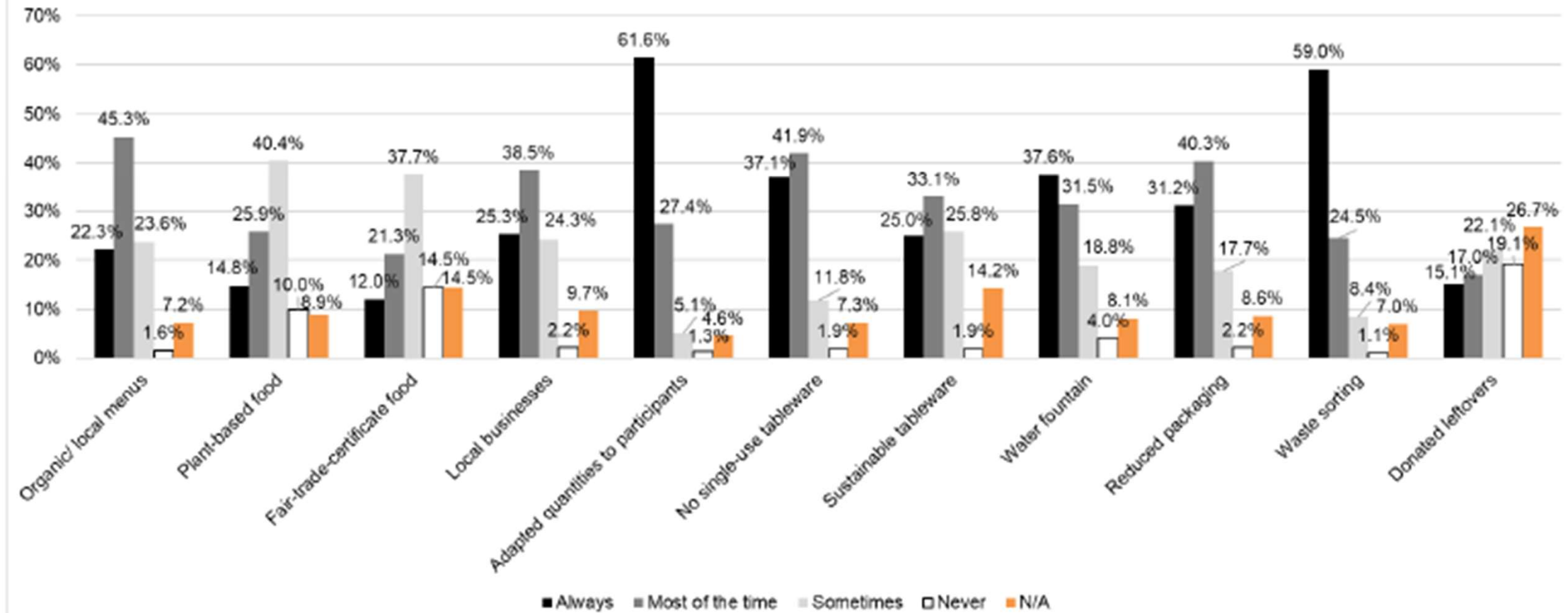
Food

- **~90%** adapt quantities to number of participants
- **~79%** avoid single-use tableware
- **65%+** offer organic or local menus

Material

- **~90%** produce minimum quantities/ use online info
 - **85%+** think twice before printing
- 

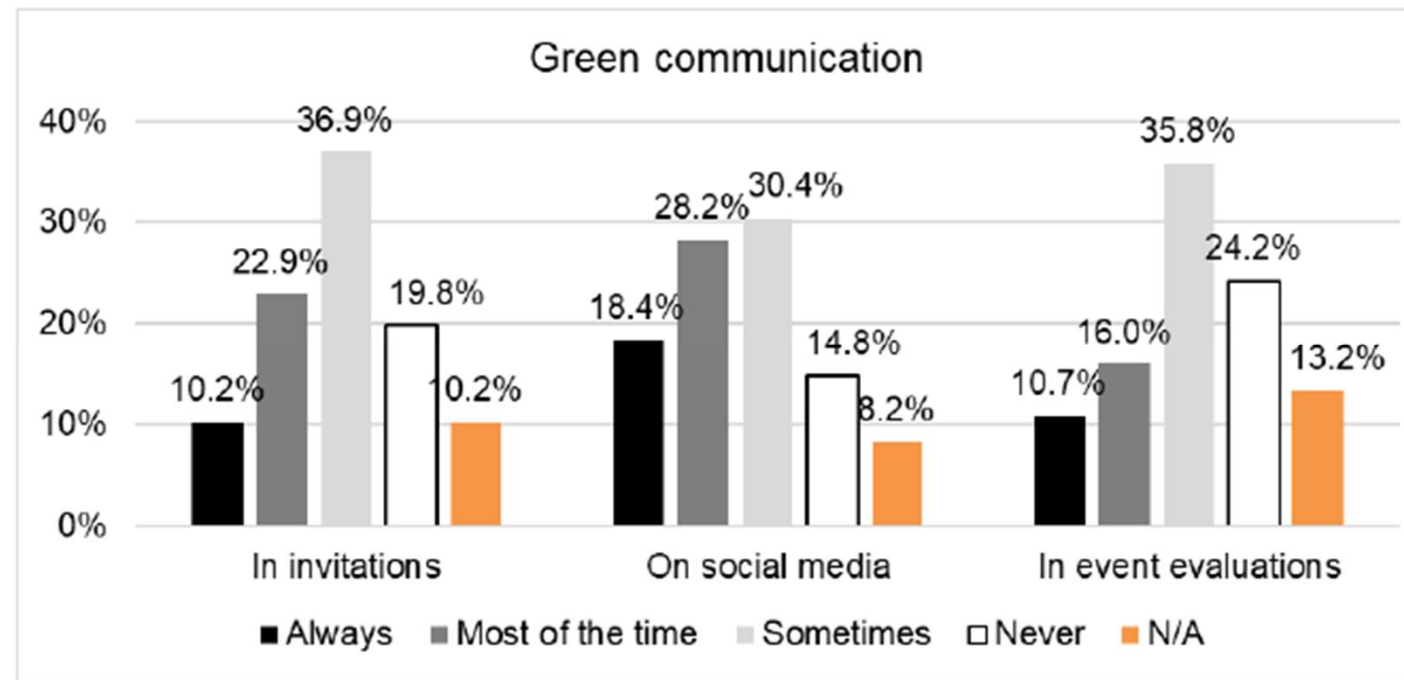
Catering measures



Communication

Weakest area

- ~**45%** social media
- ~**30%** invitations
- ~**25%** in event evaluations



Three key highlights

- **High adoption of sustainability measures**

Most projects implement eco-friendly practices in events, travel, materials, and catering

- **Communication is the weakest link**

Informing participants and stakeholders about sustainability actions is limited

- **Barriers persist**

Costs, procurement rules, or transport connectivity sometimes hinder use of green practices



Follow-up on the survey

Webinar for projects

- In December 2025
- **Three project examples**
 - Self-assessment checklist
 - Green catering following partner institution rules
 - Sustainable event guidelines
- 193 participants



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