



# **Benchmarking Methodology**

# 2023

#### **About the GDS-Index:**

The Global Destination Sustainability Index (GDS-Index) is a destination-level programme that measures, benchmarks, and improves the sustainability strategy and performance of tourism and events destinations.

Its purpose is to inspire, engage, and enable destinations to become more regenerative, flourishing, and resilient places to visit, meet, and live in.

**Scope:** Unlike other standards and rankings, the GDS-Index was originally created - for the events and meetings industry and is the only programme of its type in the world. Since 2020 we have integrated leisure tourism into the criteria, making it relevant for all urban business and leisure tourism destinations.

Origins: The GDS-Index was created in 2015 by fifteen visionary Scandinavian Cities, MCI, and the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA).

# **Governance and Criteria Development**

The criteria are reviewed annually and a draft is developed by the GDS-Index team following consultation and input from participating destinations. These draft criteria undergo an indepth revision from the GDS-Index Technical Advisory Committee. The GDS-Index team integrates all changes before sharing with a smaller set of destination sustainability managers, for final review.

# The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

The TAC is a <u>team of experts</u> in sustainable destination management, from diverse sectors and areas of city, tourism, events, and not-for-profit organisations. Their role is to provide constructive criticism and new ideas on the development of the GDS-Index benchmarking criteria, reporting indicators, research, academy, and technical platform development. This committee consists of 15 members, which have a 2-year term. New members need to apply.

### Alignment with international standards

To ensure the continued quality and relevance of the GDS-Index, we work to align the criteria with the following internationally-recognised standards and initiatives:

**UN SDGs:** The GDS-Index is committed to the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda, and we strive to mainstream the integration of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the management of destinations globally.

**GSTC Destination Criteria:** We use the <u>GSTC-D v2</u> criteria to inform the development of the GDS- Index criteria, ensuring that we remain relevant for business and leisure tourism.

**UNWTO:** We are an official partner of the UN One Planet Sustainable Tourism Programme, and integrate key components of the <u>One Planet Vision</u> into the criteria.





# **Benchmarking Categories and Methodology**

#### Criteria

The 2023 GDS-Index comprises 69 indicators that evaluate destinations across four key areas.

#### **Environmental Performance:**

17 questions – includes a city's performance pertaining to its policies and infrastructure, such as climate change commitment, carbon emissions, renewable energies, resource and water management, public transport, and air pollution levels.

# **Social Progress Performance:**

11 questions – indicates the performance of the city against indicators of SDG integration, Corruption, Personal Safety, Access to Information and Communications, Health and Wellness, and Inclusivity, using external sources such as the <u>Social Progress Imperative</u>

#### Index, and Corruption Perceptions Index.

## **Supplier Performance:**

14 questions – addresses the sustainability commitment and performance of the local meetings' industry supply chain, including airports, events agencies, hotels, venues, and restaurants.

## **Destination Management Performance:**

27 questions — indicates the sustainability commitment of the Convention Bureau or Destination Management Organisation, including questions pertaining to maturity of a destination's sustainability and regeneration strategy, leadership, communication of sustainability initiatives (to support client planners), and the accuracy of their reporting on sustainability operations.

### **Data Collection and Verification**

Once signed up as a member of the GDS-Index, the Municipality or Destination Management Organisation gathers data from interested parties and completes an online questionnaire using our OMNI data portal. They answer the questions using locally available data, alongside supporting evidence. Consultants from the GDS-Index then evaluate the submission, looking for errors in the data before verifying it. Valid evidence must be submitted to qualify each answered criterion. Failure to provide relevant evidence could result in the loss of points. Only after this assessment can the benchmarking results be released to the destination and made available online.

After benchmarking, each destination receives a Performance Improvement Report (PIR). This details their GDS-Index score and ranking, it benchmarks them against averages and other destinations, provides recommendations to improve their strategy and implementation performance, and offers relevant best practices from other destinations.

#### Data sources:

The Index criteria evaluates quantitative data points such as recycling/landfilling rates or percentages of 3rd-party-certified hotel rooms and qualitative concepts such as the destination's commitment to sustainability, the existence of a destination sustainability strategy, or the maturity of their reporting practices.

The quantitative data submitted by the destinations should originate from official sources, such as the city or the country's statistics office or from publicly available data from credible sources such as The World Bank's databank. Where there is no comparable city-level data, a regional or national value is taken. As for qualitative indicators, usually it is information

collected by the Destination Management Organisation, Convention Bureau, or city, with the help of their partners (city departments, hotel associations, etc.).

# **Scoring**

Each performance indicator is assigned a maximum number of points, and according to how well the destination fulfils each indicator, it obtains some of these points, no points, or all points (a full score). All the indicators' points for each category are then aggregated to get the category score and calculated as follows, where i = indicator and c = category.

```
Formula: Category Score_c = \sum \left( \frac{achieved\ points_i}{maximum\ points_i} \right)
```

To get the total score of the index, each category score is multiplied by its assigned weight and then aggregated as shown in the following formula.

```
Formula 2: GDS-Index Score = \sum_{c} (Category score<sub>c</sub> × Category weight<sub>c</sub>)
```

Destinations are then ranked by performance and the website is updated to reflect their ranking.

For any more information: please contact <u>info@gds.earth</u>. Information is also available on our website <u>www.gds.earth</u>

| Category        | Criteria<br>Number | Indicator  | Scoring  |
|-----------------|--------------------|--|--|
|                 |                    | Does the city have a Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation strategy?  |  |
|                 |                    | - City has a climate change mitigation strategy  | 1point   |
|                 | EN-1               | - City has a climate change adaptation strategy  | 1point   |
|                 |                    | - Strategy includes a roadmap to carbon neutrality   | 1point   |
|                 |                    | - Strategy includes reference to tourism   | 1point   |
|                 |                    | - Strategy includes reference to events  | 1point   |
|                 | EN-2               | Has the city signed up to an international movement to measure and reduce GHG emissions in line with the Paris agreement?  | 1 point  |
| Climate,        | EIN-2              | - Yes  | 1 point  |
| Energy, &       |                    | - No   |  |
| Emission        | EN-3               | What are the city's emission reduction targets for 2030 compared to business-as-usual levels? Please state the reference year.   | > 71% reduction - 4 points 51 - 70% reduction - 3 points 31 - 50% reduction - 2 points 20 - 30% reduction - 1 point <20% or no targets - 0 Points    |
| ASSE GO         | EN-4               | What are the City's Greenhouse Gas emissions per capita, measured in tonnes of equivalent carbon dioxide unit? Please explain how this figure is calculated in your destination.   | <pre>&lt;3 tCO2e points - 4 points 3 &gt; 4.9 tCO2e - 3 points 5 &gt; 7.9 tCO2e - 2 points 8 &gt; 11.9 tCO2e - 1 point &gt;12 tCO2e - 0 points</pre> |
|                 | EN-5               | What percentage of the city's total electricity consumption comes from renewable sources? Please calculate electricity consumed (not produced) from renewable sources, divided by total electricity consumed from all sources. | > 40% - 4 points<br>30% > 39.9% - 3 points<br>20% > 29.9% - 2 points<br>10% > 19.9% - 1 point<br>< 10% - 0 points                                    |
|                 |                    | Does the city have a publicly available circular economy strategy? Select all that apply.  |  |
|                 | EN-6               | - Advanced circular economy strategy exists that focuses on designing out waste and pollution, increasing material and product reuse, and regenerating natural systems.  | 1 point  |
| Resources       | LIVO               | - Basic circular economy strategy exists focusing on recycling and waste management  | 1 point  |
|                 |                    | - Strategy explicitly includes tourism   | o.5 point  |
| -W+             |                    | - Strategy explicitly includes events  | o.5 point  |
| A MARINE MARINE |                    | - Performance report produced in last 3 years  | 1 point  |
| Survey Market   | EN-7               | What percentage of the city's municipal solid waste has been disposed of in a landfill?  | > 50% - 0 points<br>35% > 50% - 1 point<br>20% > 35% - 2 points<br>10% > 20% - 3 points<br>0% to 10% - 4 points                                      |
|                 | EN-8               | What percentage of city's solid municipal waste is recycled? Please include composting but do not include incineration.  | > 71% - 4 points<br>51% > 70% - 3 points<br>31% > 50% - 2 points<br>15% > 30% - 1 point<br>< 15% - 0 points  |

|  |       | AND COLUMN TO THE COLUMN TO TH | <u> </u>   |
|--|-------|--|--|
|  | EN-9  | What is the annual total collected municipal solid waste per capita (Kg/capita)?   | Very low < 299 kg/yr - 3 points<br>Low 300 > 449 kg/yr - 2 points<br>Moderate 450 > 599 kg/yr - 1<br>points<br>High > 600 kg/yr - 0 point        |
| Air<br>Quality                               | EN-10 | What is the city's annual Fine Particulate Matter PM2.5 concentration?   | Very Low (<15) - 4 points<br>Low (16 - 25) - 3 points<br>Moderate (26 - 35) - 2 points<br>High (36 - 69) - 1 point<br>Very High (>70) - 0 points |
| 3 mm.<br>                                    | EN-11 | What is the city's annual Fine Particulate Matter PM10 concentration?  | Very Low (<15) - 4 points<br>Low (16-50) - 3 points<br>Moderate (51-75) - 2 points<br>High (76-100) - 1 point<br>Very High (>101) - 0 points     |
| Water  | EN-12 | What percentage of city wastewater receives centralised treatment?   | 80% - 4 points<br>60% > 79% - 3 point<br>40% > 59% - 2 points<br>20% > 39% - 1 points<br>0% to 19% - 0 points                                    |
| 3 2004. 3 2000.<br>                          | EN-13 | What is the country's water and sanitation score on the Social Progress Index?   | 90 -100 - 4 points<br>75-90 - 3 points<br>50-75 - 2 points<br>25-50 - 1 point<br>0-24 - 0 points   |
| Transport                                    | EN-14 | How many kilometres of bicycle paths and lanes are there in relation to population density in your destination?  | >0.75 - 4 points<br>0.74-0.5 - 3 points<br>0.49-0.25 - 2 points<br>0.24-0.1 - 1 point<br>0.09-0 - 0 points                                       |
| 3 : 11                                       | -N    | Does the city have an integrated mobility plan and/or initiatives to improve citizen health and reduce pollution? Please select what is included   |  |
| <b>3</b>                                     | EN-15 | - Soft mobility (i.e., walking, pedestrianisation, biking strategies)  | 1 point  |
|  |       | - Low carbon public transport  | 1 point  |
|  |       | - Facilitation of soft mobility connections (i.e., bicycles on trains)   | 1 point  |
|  |       | Does the city have a biodiversity strategy, and what does it include?  |  |
|  |       | - Yes, the city has a biodiversity strategy  | 1 point  |
| Bio-   | EN-16 | - The strategy is time-bound with a regular monitoring and revision process in place   | 0.5 points   |
| Diversity                                    |       | - Different biodiversity threats are identified, alongside action plans and policies to manage and mitigate them   | o.5 points   |
| 3 \$10000 9 20000000000000000000000000000000 |       | - Strategy includes reference to tourism   | o.5 points   |
| 11 13 15 15 fm<br>A 4                        |       | - Strategy includes reference to events  | o.5 points   |
|  | EN-17 | What is the city's green and blue area (hectares) per 100,000 population?  | > 1000 ha - 4 points<br>500 > 999 ha - 3 points<br>201-499 ha - 2 points<br>101-200 ha - 1 point<br><100 ha - 0 points                           |

| Category   | Criteria<br>Number | Indicator   | Scoring   |
|--|--------------------|---|---|
|  | Normaci            | How well is the city's sustainability strategy aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals?           |   |
|  |                    | - Our city/municipality does not have a sustainability strategy   | o point   |
|  | SO-1               | - The strategy is not aligned to the UN SDGs  | 0.5 point   |
| SDG  |                    | - The strategy mentions the UN SDGs   | 1point  |
| <b>₹</b> 5₽  |                    | - The strategy aligns its goals to the UN SDGs  | 2points   |
| TOTAL STATE OF THE |                    | - The strategy aligns its goals to the UN SDG targets   | 3 points  |
| ेंगेत्क "  | 50-2               | What is the country's performance at implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals on the UN SDG Index? | >80 - 4 Points<br>70 - 80 - 3 Points<br>60 - 70 - 2 Points<br>50 - 60 - 1 Point<br><50 - Points                       |
| Social<br>Progress   | SO-3               | What is the country's score on the Social Progress Index?   | 100-85 (Very High) = 4<br>75-84 (High) = 3<br>65-74 (Upper Middle) = 2<br>55-64 (Lower Middle) = 1<br>45-54 (Low) = 0 |
| Corrup-<br>tion  |                    | What is the country's score on the Corruption Perception Index?   |   |
| Action Section Parameters Section Sect | SO-4               |   | 90 -100 - 4 points<br>75-89 - 3 points<br>50-74 - 2 points<br>30-49 - 1 point<br>0-26 - 0 points                      |
| Personal<br>Safety   | SO-5               | What is the country's score for "Personal Safety" on the Social Progress Index?                             | 100-85 (Very High) = 4<br>75-84 (High) = 3<br>65-74 (Upper Middle) = 2<br>55-64 (Lower Middle) = 1<br>45-54 (Low) = 0 |
| Access to Information & Communication  | SO-6               | What is the country's score for "Access to Information and Communications" on the Social Progress Index?    | 100-85 (Very High) = 4<br>75-84 (High) = 3<br>65-74 (Upper Middle) = 2<br>55-64 (Lower Middle) = 1<br>45-54 (Low) = 0 |
| Health<br>and<br>Wellness  | SO-7               | What is the country's score for "Health and Wellness" on the Social Progress Index?                         | 100-85 (Very High) = 4<br>75-84 (High) = 3<br>65-74 (Upper Middle) = 2<br>55-64 (Lower Middle) = 1<br>45-54 (Low) = 0 |
| 3 maries 6 maries 7 maries 4 m |                    | Does the city's crisis management plan include tourism and events?  |   |
| 8 see see see see see see see see see se   |                    | - Tourism and events are not addressed  | o point   |
| 13 and 14 and 15 fine  | SO-8               | - Specifically addresses tourism  | 1 point   |
|  |                    | - Specifically addresses events   | 1 point   |

|               | SO-9  | What is the country's score for "Inclusion" on the Social Progress Index?   | 100-85 (Very High) = 4<br>75-84 (High) = 3<br>65-74 (Upper Middle) = 2<br>55-64 (Lower Middle) = 1<br>45-54 (Low) = 0 |
|---------------|-------|---|---|
| Inclusiven    | SO-10 | Are the city's walkways and public transport system adapted to support better accessibility for people with disabilities? Please select one of the following. |   |
| ess           |       | - No adaptation for people with disabilities  | o point   |
|               |       | - Only certain public areas   | 1 point   |
|               |       | - All public facilities are adapted   | 45-54 (Low) = 0 o point   |
| <b>``∂∵</b> ₽ |       | How does the city council or DMO engage and consult with local residents on important tourism topics? Please select all that apply                            |   |
|               | SO-11 | - We inform the public with quantitative and qualitative information.   | 1 point   |
|               |       | - We consult by obtaining public feedback for analysis/decisions we make.   | 2 points  |
|               |       | - We collaborate with the public in all aspects of decision making, including the development of ideas and solutions  | 3 points  |

| Category                                | Criteria<br>Number | Indicator   | Scoring   |
|---|--------------------|---|---|
|   | SU-1               | What percentage of the destination's hotel room inventory has an active 3rd party sustainability certification? See the guiding notes for the relevant hotel room numbers determined per population size.     | > 80% - 4 points<br>50% > 79% - 3 points<br>25% > 49% - 2 points<br>10% > 24% - 1 point<br>< 10% - 0 points             |
| Hotels                                  |                    | Are there destination-wide initiatives or programmes in place that target hotels to create a more circular economy? Please select all that apply  |   |
| Hotels                                  | SU-2               | - Food-waste-reduction programme  | o.5 points  |
| 1 Kar 9 SERVER II APPROXI               | 30-2               | - Single-use and plastic-elimination programme  | o.5 points  |
| 12 == 13 = 14 = 17                      |                    | - Composting programme  | o5.5 points   |
| 16 No.                                  |                    | - The DMO is promoting existing circular economy programmes to hotels   | o.5 points  |
|   |                    | Does the destination have a programme promoting and supporting hotels with a commitment to sustainable food? Please select the areas that the programme addresses.  |   |
|   | SU-3               | - Organic produce   | o.5 points  |
|   |                    | - Locally grown and made produce  | o.5 points  |
|   |                    | - Plant-based healthy options   | o.5 points  |
| Airport                                 | SU-4               | What percentage of the destination's key airport(s) have a current 3rd-party certification (i.e. ISO 14001) for its sustainability management? Please calculate an average if there is more than one airport. | >68% - 2 points<br>33%-67% - 1 point<br>0-32% - 0 points  |
|   | SU-5               | What percentage of the destination's key airports are carbon neutral for their direct emissions (not flights)? Please calculate an average if there is more than one airport                                  | > 80% - 3 points<br>50% > 79% - 2 points<br>25% > 49% - 1 point<br>< 24% - 0 points                                     |
|   | SU-6               | What percentage of event agencies located in the destination have a formal, written sustainability policy?  | > 80% - 2 points<br>50% > 79% - 1.5 points<br>25% > 49% - 1 points<br>10% > 24% - 0.5 points<br>Less than 10% -o points |
| Agency 🔐 🔯                              | SU-7               | What percentage of event agencies located in the destination have an active third-party sustainability certification?   | > 80% - 2 points<br>50% > 79% - 1.5 points<br>25% > 49% - 1 points<br>10% > 24% - 0.5 point<br>Less than 10% - 0 points |
|   | SU-8               | What percentage of the top 10 attractions located in the destination have an active third-party sustainability certification?   | Unmarked  |
| Restau-<br>rant                         |                    | Are there destination-wide initiatives or programmes in place that specifically target restaurants to create a more circular economy? Please select all that apply.   |   |
|   | SU-9               | - Food-waste-reduction programme  | 1 point   |
| 2 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 |                    | - Single-use and plastic-elimination programme  | 1 point   |
| 13 .5. 15                               |                    | - Composting programme  | 1 point   |
| 17 describ                              |                    | - The DMO is promoting existing circular economy programmes to restaurants  | 1 point   |

| Restau-<br>rant       | SU-10 | Does the destination have a programme promoting and supporting restaurants and caterers with a commitment to sustainable food?  Please select the areas that the programme addresses.  - Organic produce | 1 point   |
|-----------------------|-------|--|---|
| 2 to 8 2 min 11 min 1 |       | - Local produce  | 1 point 1 point   |
| 12 == 13 == 15 ==     |       | - Plant-based, healthy options   | 1 point   |
| TO enteriors          | SU-11 | Does the destination promote and incentivise third-party certification for restaurants and caterers with a commitment to sustainable food?   | 1 point   |
| Venues                | SU-12 | What percentage of the destination's dedicated convention centres have an active third-party sustainability certification for their operations?  | > 80% - 4 points<br>50% > 79% - 3 points<br>25% > 49% - 2 points<br>10% > 24% - 1 point<br>Less than 10% - 0 points |
| Academia              | SU-13 | What percentage of the destination's universities, colleges and hospitality schools have integrated sustainability into their undergraduate tourism and event management curriculum?                     | > 80% - 1.5 points<br>50% > 79% - 1 points<br>25% > 49% - 0.5 point<br>< 24% - 0 points                             |
|                       | SU-14 | What percentage of the destination's universities, colleges, and hospitality schools have integrated sustainability into their postgraduate (e.g. Masters) tourism and event management curriculum?      | > 80% - 1.5 points<br>50% > 79% - 1 points<br>25% > 49% - 0.5 point<br>< 24% - 0 points                             |

| Category | Criteria<br>Number | Indicator   | Scoring    |
|----------|--------------------|---|------------|
|          |                    | Does the DMO have a sustainability strategy for the visitor economy? Please select all that apply.  |            |
|          |                    | - Sustainability vision and action plan established for events  | 1 point    |
|          | DM-1               | - Sustainability vision and action plan established for tourism   | 1 point    |
|          | DIAI-T             | - Multi-year strategy (+3 years)  | 1 point    |
|          |                    | - Aligned to the city's overall development agenda (not just tourism and events)  | 1 point    |
|          |                    | - Integrates the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)  | 1 point    |
|          |                    | Does your DMO have a destination level programme for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)? Please select all of the options this programme includes.                  |            |
|          |                    | - We have a policy for DEI  | o.5 points |
|          | 514                | - We have a policy for DEI  | o.5 points |
|          | DM-2               | - We have an action plan for DEI  | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - We run annual internal DEI training sessions.   | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - We run annual external DEI training sessions.   | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - We provide best practice guides and/or tools for the tourism supply chain.  | o.5 points |
|          |                    | Does the DMO strategy contain objectives, indicators, targets, and an action plan that aims to generate socially positive outcomes? Please select all that apply        | 0.5 points |
| Strategy | DM-3               | - Clearly defines 1 or more objectives for the change that is desired within the destination  | o.5 points |
| Strategy |                    | - Contains a minimum of 1 indicator   | o.5 points |
| ▼ © E    |                    | - Contains a minimum of 1 target  | o.5 points |
| 5700     |                    | - Contains or links to an action plan to help achieve each objective through the DMO's events strategy  | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - Contains or links to an action plan to help achieve each objective through the DMO's tourism strategy   | o.5 points |
|          | DM-4               | Does the DMO strategy contain objectives, indicators, targets, and an action plan that aims to generate environmentally positive outcomes? Please select all that apply |            |
|          |                    | - Clearly defines 1 or more objectives for the change that is desired within the destination  | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - Contains a minimum of 1 indicator   | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - Contains a minimum of 1 target  | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - Contains or links to an action plan to help achieve each objective through the DMO's events strategy  | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - Contains or links to an action plan to help achieve each objective through the DMO's tourism strategy   | o.5 points |
|          | DM-5               | Does the DMO strategy contain objectives, indicators, targets, and an action plan that aims to generate economically positive outcomes? Please select all that apply    |            |
|          |                    | - Clearly defines 1 or more objectives for the change that is desired within the destination  | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - Contains a minimum of 1 indicator   | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - Contains a minimum of 1 target  | o.5 points |
|          |                    | - Contains or links to an action plan to help achieve each objective through the DMO's events strategy  | 0.5 points |
|          |                    | - Contains or links to an action plan to help achieve each objective through<br>the DMO's tourism strategy  | o.5 points |

|  |         | Has the DMO's sustainability strategy been developed with widespread stakeholder consultation? Please select all that apply and explain how the stakeholder feedback is reflected in the strategy.                 |            |
|--|---------|--|------------|
|  | DM-6    | - Involvement of key industry partners (hotels, venues, agencies)  | 1 point    |
|  |         | - Involvement of visitors and event attendees to the destination   | 1 point    |
| Strategy   |         | - Involvement of clients   | 1 point    |
| - T  |         | - Involvement of key local government departments  | 1 point    |
|  |         | - Involvement of local community and citizens  | 1 point    |
| The state of the s | DM-7    | Has the DMO's sustainability strategy and its development process been reviewed and/or updated and publicly released to key stakeholder groups within the last 3 years? Please select all that apply.              |            |
|  | DIVI-/  | - Reviewed and/or updated in last 3 years  | 1 point    |
|  |         | - Publicly released to key stakeholder groups  | o.5 points |
|  |         | - Strategy describes consultation and development process  | o.5 points |
|  | DM-8    | Does the DMO have a documented sustainability policy signed by the most senior executive support, available publicly and defining the organisation's vision, commitment, and key goals?                            | 1 point    |
| Policy &   | DM-9    | Does the DMO have a sustainable procurement policy that clearly defines procurement/purchasing practices, expectations, and requirements from suppliers?   | 1 point    |
| Certifi-<br>cation   | DM-10   | Does the DMO hold a current 3rd-party sustainability certification for its own event and/or office operations or is it in the formal process of obtaining one?   |            |
| T THE  | DIVI-10 | - We don't have a DMO certification  | o point    |
| OT ALS   |         | - We are in the process of receiving a DMO certification   | 1 point    |
| To the second se |         | - We have a valid sustainability certification   | 2 points   |
|  | DM-11   | Does the destination hold a current 3rd-party sustainable destination certification or is it in the formal process of obtaining one?   |            |
|  |         | - We don't have a destination certification  | o point    |
|  |         | - We are in the process of receiving a destination certification   | 1 point    |
|  |         | - We have a valid destination sustainability certification   | 2 points   |
| Gover-   |         | How does the DMO manage the development and governance of the sustainable tourism and events programme? Please select all that apply.  |            |
| nance  |         | - Internal sustainability team / committee   | 1 point    |
|  | DM- 12  | - Dedicated sustainability manager   | 1 point    |
| ° == 7 == 8  |         | - Committee with external industry stakeholders (e.g., venues, hotels)   | 1 point    |
|  |         | - Committee with external non-industry stakeholders (e.g., NGOs, authorities, citizens, or clients)  | 1 point    |
|  |         | Do new and existing staff in the DMO receive periodic guidance and training regarding the DMO's sustainability strategy, including their roles and responsibilities in its delivery? Please select all that apply. |            |
|  | DM-13   | - All new staff are trained  | 1 point    |
| Capacity<br>Building   |         | - All existing staff have been trained, and are retrained/updated every 2 years  | 1 point    |
|  |         | Has the DMO supported or organised sustainability training for the tourism and events value chain in the last year?  |            |
|  | DM-14   | - We supplied/supported training for tourism and event suppliers   | o.5 points |
|  |         | - We supplied/supported training for tourism operators   | o.5 points |
|  |         | - We supplied/supported training for event agencies and meeting planners   | o.5 points |

|  |         | December DMO annual december 1991 1991 1991 1991  |                     |
|--|---------|---|---------------------|
|  |         | Does the DMO provide support to the tourism and events supply chain to help increase suppliers' sustainability performance? Please specify  |                     |
|  | DM-15   | - We provide coaching or consulting support   | o.5 points          |
|  |         | - We provide financial incentives   | o.5 points          |
|  |         | - We provide marketing support  | o.5 points          |
|  |         | - We provide tools to help them drive performance and/or innovation   | o.5 points          |
|  |         | Does the DMO have a system to measure and monitor the   | 31                  |
|  |         | environmental, economic, and social impact and performance of   |                     |
|  |         | tourism? Please select which issues this data has been collected for using the options below  |                     |
|  | DM-16   | - We have a system to collect data on how tourism impacts economic  |                     |
|  | DIVI-16 | issues  | 1 point             |
|  |         | - We have a system to collect data on how tourism impacts social issues   | 1 point             |
|  |         | - We have a system to collect data on how tourism impacts environmental   |                     |
|  |         | issues  | 1 point             |
|  |         | Does the DMO have a system to measure and monitor the   |                     |
| Measure-   |         | environmental, economic, and social impact and performance of events? Please select which issues this data has been collected for using   |                     |
| ment &   |         | the options below   |                     |
| Reporting  | DM-17   | - We have a system to collect data on how events impact economic issues   | 1 point             |
| , 3  |         | - We have a system to collect data on how events impact social issues   | 1 point             |
| 2 T  |         | - We have a system to collect data on how events impact environmental   | 1 point             |
| 877.5  |         | issues  | 1 point             |
|  |         | How does the DMO publicly communicate and report on progress  |                     |
|  | DM-18   | towards its sustainability objectives? - We display performance data via a visual dashboard   | 1 point             |
|  |         | - We publish performance data on the DMO website  | 1 point             |
|  |         | - We include performance data in our Annual DMO or sustainability report  | 1 point             |
|  |         | Does the DMO use official reporting frameworks to improve disclosure  | -                   |
|  | DM-19   | on sustainable destination strategy and performance? Please select all  |                     |
|  |         | that apply.   |                     |
|  |         | - Sustainability reporting employs UN SDG goals and/or targets  | 1 point             |
|  |         | - Sustainability reporting employs an internationally-recognised framework  | 1 point             |
|  |         | - Sustainability report is audited by a third-party   | 1 point             |
|  |         | Does the DMO tourism and events website(s) provide information  | F                   |
|  |         | about the destination's sustainable events and tourism strategy and   |                     |
|  |         | initiatives? Please select all that apply.  |                     |
|  |         | - Sustainable events strategy   | o.5 points          |
| Marketing  | DM-20   | - Sustainable tourism strategy  | o.5 points          |
| &<br>Commun-<br>ications   | DIVI-20 | - Sustainability guides and manuals for suppliers, clients, and visitors (e.g., a sustainable event guide)  | o.5 points          |
|  |         | - Sustainability information about key suppliers (i.e., hotels, venues,   |                     |
|  |         | agencies, restaurants) including any Sustainability certificates and  | o.5 points          |
|  |         | credentials   |                     |
| G. ALS   |         | ·   | 0.5 points          |
| T T  | DM-21   |   |                     |
|  |         | ,   | 1 point             |
|  |         | , ,   | ·                   |
|  |         | materials   | 1 point             |
| A THE STATE OF THE | DM-21   | credentials  - Best practice examples and stories  When exhibiting at trade shows, are booths made from sustainable materials? Please select all that apply.  - Our booth is made from bio-based and/or recycled materials  - Our conference merchandise is made from bio-based and/or recycled | 0.5 points  1 point |

|                               | DM    | Does the DMO provide information about the destination's sustainability strategy and performance in its RFP responses and sales information?   |                                |  |
|-------------------------------|-------|--|--------------------------------|--|
|                               | DM-22 | - We don't share this information  | o point                        |  |
|                               |       | - We sometimes share this information  | 1 point                        |  |
|                               |       | - We always share this information   | 2 points                       |  |
|                               | DM as | Does the DMO actively promote the use of soft mobility to visitors and event participants?   |                                |  |
|                               | DM-23 | - We promote soft mobility to tourists   | 1 point                        |  |
|                               |       | - We promote soft mobility to event participants   | 1 point                        |  |
| Mobility                      |       | How does the DMO financially incentivise visitors and event participants to use public transport?  |                                |  |
| Since 7 miles Services        |       | - Free or discounted public transport for leisure visitors   | 1 point                        |  |
| 10 % 11 km 22 12 km 2         | DM-24 | - Free or discounted public transport for convention and congress visitors   | 1 point                        |  |
| 13:H                          |       | - Free or discounted public transport for some conventions and congresses  | 1 point                        |  |
|                               |       | - This is not relevant for our destination, because everything is within 30 minutes walking distance   | Exclude from total             |  |
|                               | DM-25 | Does the DMO supply a list of places of interest, transport lines, hotels / venues that support visitors with accessibility challenges to navigate the destination? Please explain your answer.    | Yes - 1 point<br>No – 0 points |  |
|                               | DM-26 | Does the DMO provide clients with ideas and resources to support local social, environmental, or economic causes and projects? Please select all answer options that apply and explain your answer |                                |  |
|                               |       | - We provide a donation programme for food   | 1 point                        |  |
|                               |       | - We provide a donation programme for leftover event materials   | 1 point                        |  |
| Supporting<br>Regene-         |       | - We provide a list of organisations that offer social support programmes and volunteering opportunities for event participants and visitors   | 1 point                        |  |
| ration                        |       | - We share a carbon offsetting programme   | 1 point                        |  |
| <b>₩</b> 2 <b>10</b>          |       | Does the DMO have a legacy and social impact programme for events?   |                                |  |
| STALS S                       |       | - We provide an impact or legacy framework and tools to event clients  | 1 point                        |  |
|                               |       | - We provide event clients with training on impact and legacy management   | 1 point                        |  |
|                               | DM-27 | - We train our DMO team on impact and legacy management for events   | 1 point                        |  |
|                               | J 2,  | - We provide incentives to clients to help increase the social, environmental, and economic impact of events on the destination  | 1 point                        |  |
|                               |       | - We facilitate formal, non-industry partnerships to help clients to generate a long-term, positive impact and legacy at the destination.  | 1 point                        |  |
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