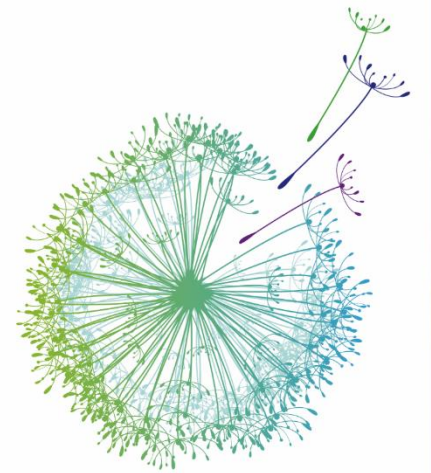


Sustainable Tourism through Hostelling



#sayhitotheworld



2017
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
FOR DEVELOPMENT



Sustainable Tourism through Hostelling - 10 Areas

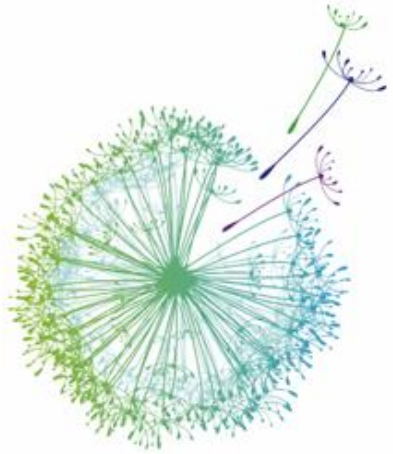
Programme Overview

www.hihostels.com

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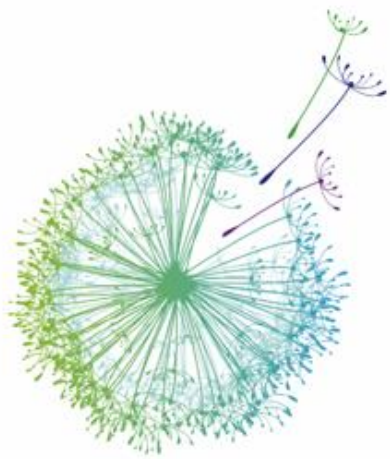
2017
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Why do we celebrate Sustainable Tourism?

BECAUSE IT'S BEEN OUR MISSION SINCE 1932!

To promote the education of all young people of all nations, but especially young people of limited means, by encouraging in them a greater knowledge, love and care of the countryside and an appreciation of the cultural values of towns and cities in all parts of the world, and as ancillary thereto to provide hostels or other accommodation in which there shall be no distinction of race, nationality, colour, religion, sex, class, or political opinions and thereby to develop a better understanding of their fellow men, both at home and abroad.





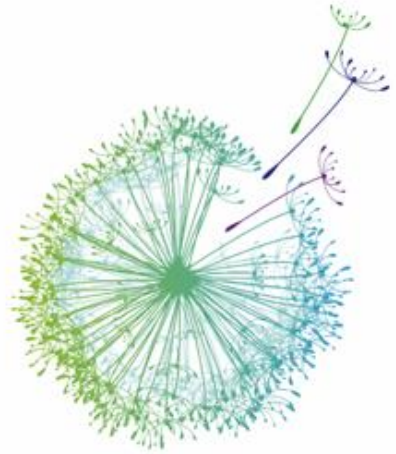
2017
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
FOR DEVELOPMENT

The UN has declared **2017 the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development** and we were not going to miss the opportunity to show the world how **youth hostelling drives sustainable tourism to foster development globally, this year and beyond.**

In the context of the SDGs, the International Year of Sustainable Tourism aimed to foster a change in policies, business practices and consumer behaviour towards a more sustainable tourism sector and focused on the following 5 key areas:

- Inclusive and sustainable economic growth
- Social inclusiveness, employment and poverty reduction
- Resource efficiency, environmental protection and climate change
- Cultural values, diversity and heritage
- Mutual understanding, peace and security





2017
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
FOR DEVELOPMENT

How did we celebrate the UN Year in 2017?

- By defining what sustainable tourism means for us at Hostelling International
- By identifying 10 areas relevant to our operations, all based on the 3 key pillars of sustainability – social, environmental and economic
- By rolling out a 10-month campaign explaining how the hostels and travellers can contribute
- By showcasing best practices from the HI network that address the 10 Areas
- By creating monthly live webinars
- By engaging our guests with concrete tips and information about responsible travelling
- By contributing with inspiring and replicable solutions on the UNWTO website
- By creating long lasting partnerships to help us advance our mission
- By engaging the HI Network in the UN Year campaign
- By highlighting the role of Hostelling in driving Sustainable Development in its communities





30 Participating National Associations/Countries
HI International Office



9 Live webinars
90+ live attendees
350+ views on each recording



333,034 reach on Facebook
15 HI Blog posts
7000+ unique readers
450+ Facebook shares of blog posts



144 HI Staff in the 2017 UN Year of Sustainable Tourism group on Workplace

2017 UN YEAR IN FIGURES



31 Projects approved as Solutions/Knowledge on UN Year's website – more to come!
3 Events



2 global Partnerships
5 Collaborations

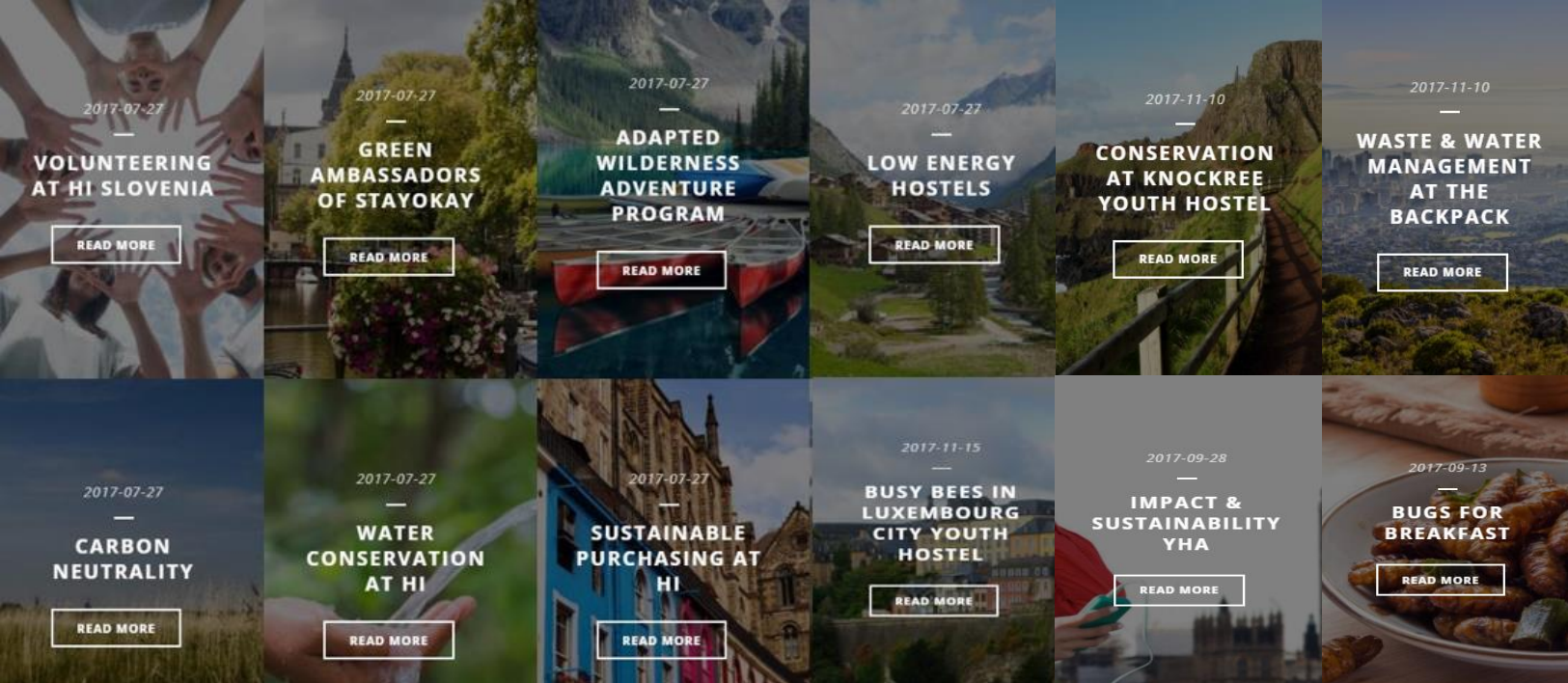


13 videos produced by the network for the UN Year campaign

30 PARTICIPATING NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS/COUNTRIES

- SUSTAINABLE TOURISM THROUGH HOSTELLING -





SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

34 HI Projects approved as Solutions/Knowledge/Events on the UN Year Campaign website – more to come!

www.tourism4development2017.org



PARTNERSHIPS



HI is part of the Board of the UN World Tourism Organisation ([UNWTO](#)) Affiliate Members.

HI's partner to fight climate change, calculate and compensate for CO2 emissions is [myclimate](#). [Read more about Our Hostels – Achieving carbon neutrality.](#)

SANDEMANs NEW Europe is the world's largest promoter of walking tours, offering over 80 different tours in English and Spanish in 18 cities across 13 countries every day. HI members receive 25% discount on paid tours. SANDEMANs offer our guests low-impact informative walking tours to embrace the local culture and history. [Read more.](#)

Urban Adventures is about a new style of travel experience for those who want to get off the beaten path and really connect with a destination. Their tours are currently available in 163 cities across 96 countries and HI members receive 15% discount. Urban Adventures is helping our guests connect with the local community. [Read more.](#)



COLLABORATIONS



MUD JEANS

[MudJeans](#) presented their circular denim and partnership with StayOkay – the Dutch HI Association, in the month of [Consuming Sustainably](#).



[Keroul](#) shared with us their expertise on inclusive destinations in the month of [Mobility](#).



The bottle is the message

[Dopper](#) sponsored the M&S meeting in Berlin and inspired us with their reusable bottles.



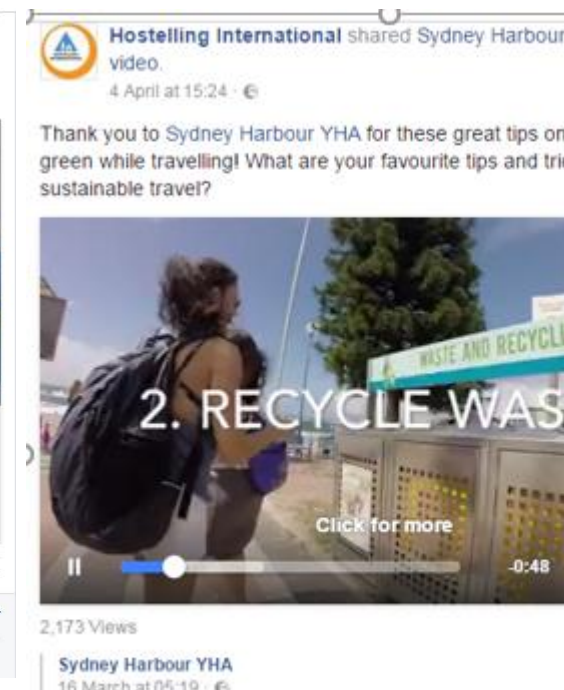
Normative is Israel YHA's Business Intelligence partner. Learn more about them in the webinar we had in the month of [Continuous Improvement](#).



Accomable

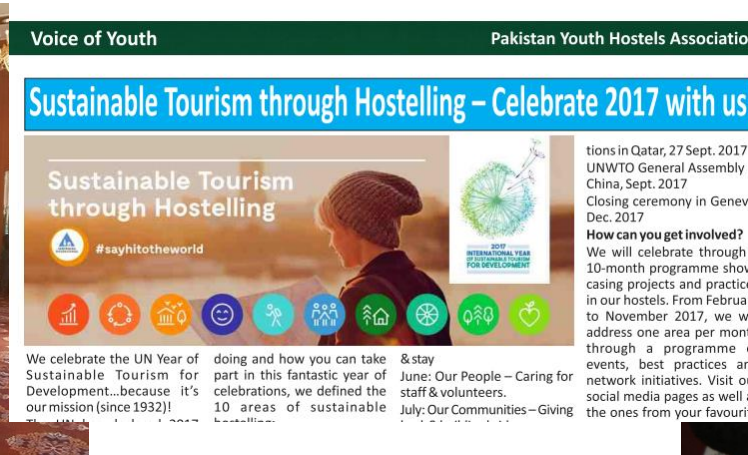
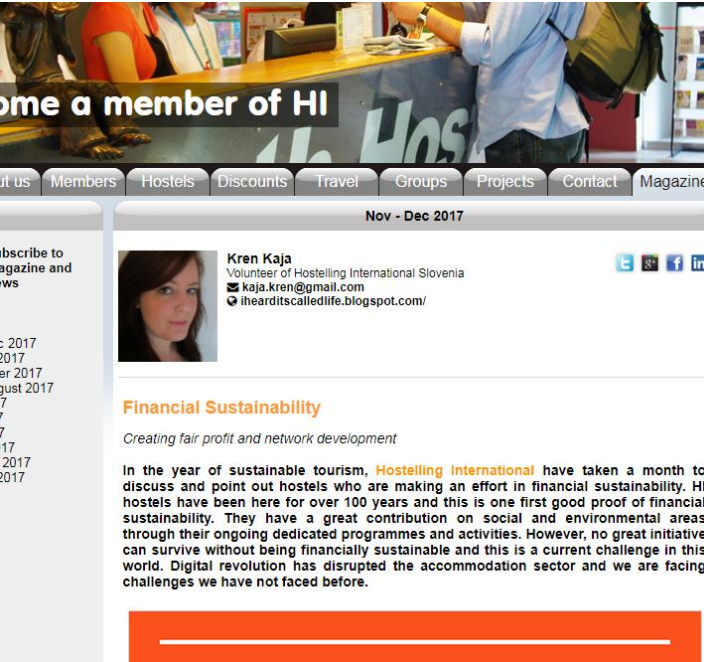
Accomable shared with us their experience on accessible travel in the month of [Mobility](#).





ONLINE & ONSITE COVERAGE FROM HI

- **82 sustainability-related posts on HI's Facebook page with 333,034 reach!** That is a 310% increase in sustainability posts and 126% more reach than in 2016 (20 sustainability-related posts with 147,299 reach).
- Presentation at the UNWTO Headquarters, January 2017.
- Presentation at the **Congress of Young Leaders in Tourism – Reinventing the future**, May 2017. [Read more.](#)
- Presentation at the **Global Conference on Jobs and Inclusive Growth: Partnerships for Sustainable Tourism**, November 2017. [Read more.](#)
- Presentations in all internal meetings attended by PSS staff (CEO Meeting, HI-Q&S Training and Audits, all official visits from the HI Network etc.)
- Disseminating information on HI's LinkedIn and Twitter accounts.



ONLINE & ONSITE COVERAGE FROM THE HI NETWORK

- Coverage on HI Slovenia's [Globetrotter Magazine](#).
- Presentation and banners shown during the [42nd World Youth Rally organised by HI Korea](#).
- Coverage on [Israel YHA's website](#).
- Coverage theme on [HI Norway's website](#) and project theme for ["Say HI to Sustainability"](#), a partnership between HI Norway and HI Brazil.
- Celebration of the theme Engaging Guests [by YHA Qatar](#).
- Coverage in the [YHA Pakistan's Comms](#).

2017 is the United Nations Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, promoting improved understanding, peace and security, driving economic growth for those on climate change and environmental factors.

Our friends at Hostelling International (HI) have enthusiastically thrown themselves project head first, and as an affiliate of the UN World Tourism Organization, have they are rolling out this year.

February through November, they're embarking on a new monthly goal, with focus on carbon neutrality, caring for staff and volunteers, engaging guests, and this month "Back and Building Bridges".

Giving back and building bridges encompasses some incredible projects: we pass on [OneDollarGlasses project](#) (helping people who need, but unfortunately can't afford glasses), [Korea Youth Hostel Association's World Youth Rally](#), teaching people about Korea to protect the environment.



ONLINE COVERAGE from PARTNERS

Here are some great examples of hostels that are not only sustainable but also promote it between their guests.

Hostelling International: Sustainable Tourism through Hostelling

HI has been on the mission on sustainability and raising awareness between its staff and guests since 1932. Due to International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development they have prepared a campaign which defines 10 different areas of sustainable hostelling. Each month of the year is dedicated to the improvement of one of those areas. Their strong social media activity around this topic

Read more about their actions as I find it

WHY WAIT TO SEE THE WORLD?

Hostelling International hostels are committed to sustainability in every sense of the word. From using less resources than even Energy Efficient Hotels to only opening hostels in repurposed buildings, Hostelling International is committed to sustainability.

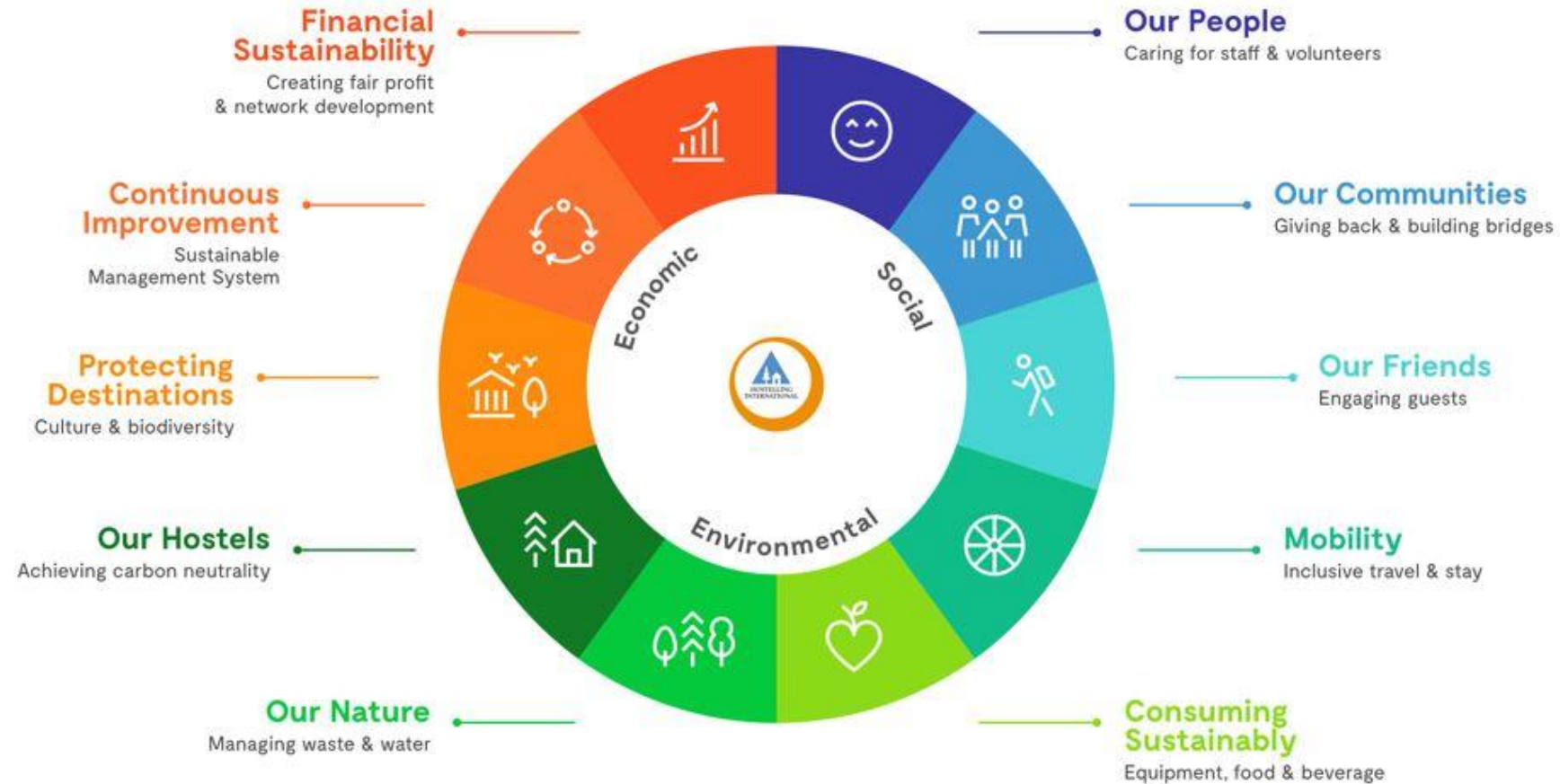
I stayed in their property in San Diego a couple years ago and it was the perfect place to meet fellow travelers and explore the Gaslamp District from. I've written in the past about how hard it is traveling the US solo, and having a hostel option, is a great way to help to bridge that gap.

What are climate protection short-term and long-term targets and how could myclimate support you in reaching those targets?

In the short term, we would like to increase the understanding of the economic value of working on climate protection. We want to achieve this through increasing the number of hostels and Head Offices involved in our HI-Q&S programme, raise more funds within our booking platform to offset higher amount of CO2 emissions, and finally, we will publish an "Interaction Report" to highlight our UN Year of Sustainable Tourism for

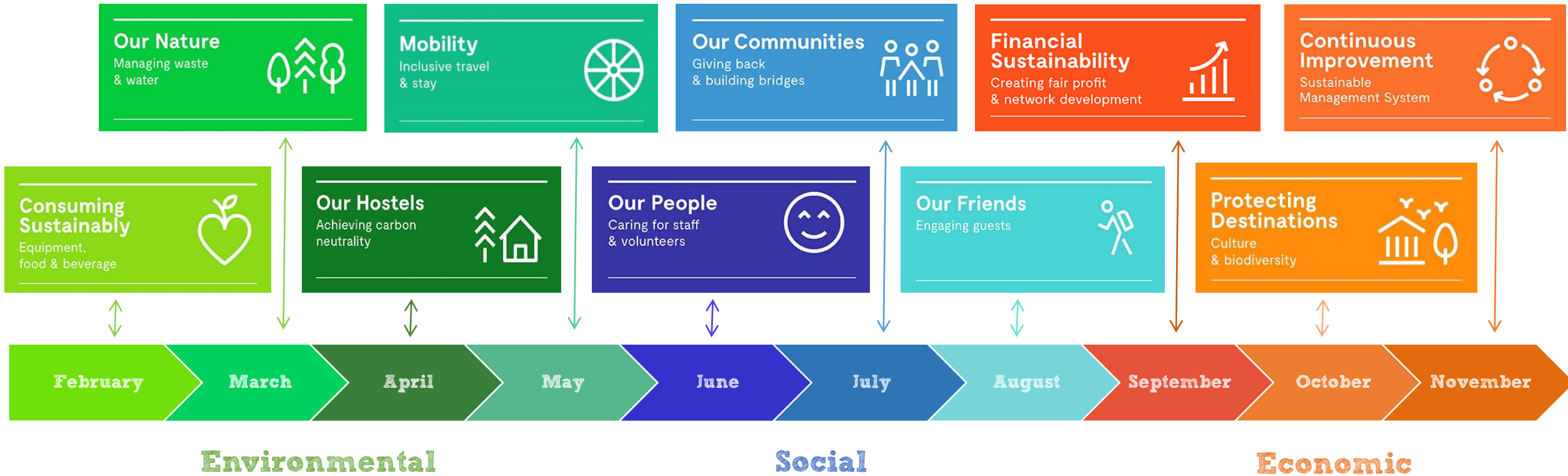
- Article by dontmesswiththereceptionist.com
- Article by [SANDEMANs NewEurope](https://SANDEMANs.com/NewEurope)
- Interview with [myclimate](https://myclimate.ch)
- Article by [whywaittoseetheworld](https://whywaittoseetheworld.com)

Sustainable Tourism through Hostelling



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Timeline of 2017



Star Projects - Highlights

- Heart to Heart Community – YHA China
- Charity for Single Parent Families – Japan YHA
- Impacting and transforming lives – YHA E&W

- HI Slovenia's volunteers
- Green Ambassadors - Stayokay
- Green Messengers - HI Iceland

- Experience with HI-Q - FUAI
- HI-Q(&S) Management Systems

Financial Sustainability
Creating fair profit & network development

Our People
Caring for staff & volunteers

- OneDollarGlasses – HI Bolivia
- Community projects at the Backpack
- The 42nd World Youth Rally – HI Korea
- Give back to the local community – HI USA

Continuous Improvement
Sustainable Management System

Our Communities
Giving back & building bridges

Protecting Destinations
Culture & biodiversity

Our Friends
Engaging guests

- Bugs for breakfast - Danhostel
- Salsa every day - El Viajero Hostels Colombia
- Engaging guests - AIG Italy
- Communal dinners - El Viajero Hostels Uruguay
- Toda quarta feira – HI Brazil

Our Hostels
Achieving carbon neutrality

Mobility
Inclusive travel & stay

- carbonNZero certification – YHA New Zealand
- Low energy hostels – Swiss Youth Hostels

- Adapted wilderness adventures – HI Canada
- Tourism for all – DJH Bavaria

Our Nature
Managing waste & water

Consuming Sustainably
Equipment, food & beverage

- Water and waste initiatives – REAJ Spain
- Eliminate bottles water – YHA Australia

- Consuming locally – HI Norway
- Taste the difference – Scottish YHA



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Consuming Sustainably

Equipment, food & beverage



#sayhitotheworld

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM THROUGH HOSTELLING



WHAT DOES CONSUMING SUSTAINABLY MEAN FOR HI?

Consuming Sustainably in our hostels means making conscious decisions on buying products that ensure continued great service and quality for our guests, while at the same time supporting our communities and minimising the negative impact on the environment.

[Read more](#)

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

Consuming Sustainably

Equipment,
food & beverage



National HI Association

HI Norway



Consuming locally at Lillehammer Hostel

Lillehammer Hostel has a policy of doing as much of their purchasing as possible, locally. Not only do they have their own bakery and kitchen where locals come to shop, but they cooperate with local businesses and organisations to have them each decorate a room in the hostel!

[Read more](#)

"It is great to cooperate with local businesses and organisations to create publicity - both for the hostel and for the organisations! Then you become a true part of the local community"

Ragna Skøien, Sustainability Coordinator HI Norway

OBJECTIVES

The cooperation with local organisations such as the local branch of Amnesty International gives publicity to good causes. There is also a room called the "second hand room" filled with only second hand furniture, focusing on sustainable and reusable materials. The outcome is that the hostel has a good standing in the local community, the guests see inspiring and fun rooms and consumption decreases.

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE ACTION



Economic

Supports local economy

Social

Encourages local collaboration

Environmental

Reduced CO2 emissions from transportation

Consuming
Sustainably

Equipment,
food & beverage



National HI Association SYHA Hostelling Scotland



Taste the difference

In February 2016, the Scottish YHA made a decision that all food and beverage (including alcohol) served in Scottish youth hostels are sourced locally and of Scottish provenance. Everything from eggs to dairy to packed lunches is sourced locally.

[Read more](#)

"All 32 SYHA Hostels are supplied by the same local companies. Our guest reviews for Food and Catering have increased."
Dan Osborne, Hostel Operations Manager

OBJECTIVES

To keep all food offering local to the hostels and Scottish, sustaining local businesses whilst educating and promoting Scotland to our guests.

8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



Economic

Supports local economy

Social

Encourages local collaboration

Environmental

Reduced CO2 emissions from
transportation

Consuming Sustainably

Equipment,
food & beverage



National HI Association:

Youth Hostels Luxembourg



Sustainable purchasing policies at Youth Hostels Luxembourg

All of our restaurants rely heavily on local and seasonal products. Our meats and vegetables are almost exclusively provided by a local producer. As with our fair trade products, local meats are labelled on the menu.

[Read more](#)

All 10 Luxembourg Youth Hostels are certified "Fair Trade Zones", a label awarded by Fairtrade Luxembourg based on the purchasing policies of restaurants and catering businesses.

Furthermore, as our restaurants provide the catering for ten day-care centres, we try hard to lead as a positive example to young people. The children of these day-care centres are also invited to visit the farm and have the process of growing food explained, after which the staff and children prepare a meal out of the food they just harvested.

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the initiatives is to raise awareness of the impact that our consumption patterns have on the environment as well as the global economy. The carbon and water footprints of our food choices are unfortunately only very rarely taken into account. Consequently, we also want to encourage people to abstain from a daily consumption of meat.

3

GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



4

QUALITY
EDUCATION



10

REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



12

RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



15

LIFE
ON LAND



Economic

Supports local economy
Decreased consumption

Social

Encourages local collaboration
Healthier eating choices

Environmental

Reduced CO2 emissions from
transportation
Supporting seasonal products



HOW DOES HI ADDRESS WASTE AND WATER MANAGEMENT IN PRACTICE?

[Read more](#)

As hostels, we have the power to directly make a positive contribution to protecting the environment in the way we handle and manage waste as well as water usage in our operations. From daily habits to specialised equipment, our hostels should strive to use water resources efficiently and reduce their production of non-recyclable waste.

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

72.000 litres of water saved in the production of single use water bottles.

OBJECTIVES

The main aim was to reduce the number of plastic bottles in landfill. We did this by educating guests that tap water in Australia is safe to drink, free and that by refilling a water bottle they can help the environment and save money. We estimate that YHA has prevented up to 40,000 bottles a year from going to landfill or our oceans and waterways.

National HI Association

YHA Australia



Eliminate the sale of bottled water

In mid-2014, all YHA Australia operated hostels stopped selling bottled water. Hostels installed water fountains for guest use and sold refillable water bottles.

[Read more](#)

Our Nature

Managing waste
& water



Economic

Decreased consumption
Hostels sell a refillable bottle

Social

Local collaboration
Raising awareness about the bottle water industry

Environmental

240 kg CO2 emissions saved in production of single use bottles
80 kg non-recyclable waste saved



So you want to run a zero-landfill activity?

Things to consider....

Shop locally - Farmers markets generally stock local produce which means that less CO2 has been produced in transporting it to you. You are also then helping to sustain local production in your area.

Transport - IDEALLY you would walk, skateboard or ride a bike to do the shopping and get to work - but the next best thing is to catch public transport! Why not make an event out of it and take guests to a local market to help shop and bring it back?

Community - Most of these suggestions are to do with running a food based event - but what if you ran a walking tour and encouraged guests to pick up 6 pieces of rubbish as they went along? Or if you took guests out to plant trees locally? Organising a clothes swap in the hostel is a good way to reduce the waste caused by the 'no space left in my bag' syndrome and you can donate leftovers to a charity shop. Showing documentaries in the hostel is also a great way to have an educational activity - movies like 'plastic paradise' are available on youtube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scGWyfyimM>) and are confronting, but sometimes that's what we need!

Consider quantities - Make your food quantities as exact as possible to those you are feeding - but also consider where the leftovers are going. Is there a local charity that takes meals for the homeless? Is it appropriate for composting? Will your staff appreciate it for lunch the next day?

Less Packaging - At farmers markets it is easy to bring along cloth bags for transporting fruit and vegetables (Be aware of things like rubber bands and twist ties - Take them off and return them to the seller for re-use!) Take a Tupperware container to the deli for your meat or cheese. 'Zero waste pantry' stores - where you can bring in Tupperware and jars to fill with flours, rice, couscous etc. - are becoming more and more common, see if there is one near you! If you do need to buy something in packaging - have a close look to see how you can recycle the container. You are running a zero LANDFILL activity - if there is recycling or compost at the end, it's ok!

Go acoustic - Turn off electricity for the night! Can you get an acoustic musician to perform for the night? Have an open mic (without the mic) night? Encourage lights off so you can star gaze? Turn off the Wi-Fi and play board games instead? Run a trivia night?

Go Vegetarian - the meat industry produces huge amounts of CO2 and methane, takes up lots of water to sustain, damages natural waterways and sometimes has questionable rearing and killing methods. It's just kinder to the world to go vegetarian.

Share information - Let guests know what you are doing. Make sure there are plenty of signs around your event letting people know what you are doing and why. The point of the exercise is to educate! Write messages on a blackboard or at least make sure you can recycle the signs you make afterwards.

Service - This is an obvious one, don't use disposable plates, cups or cutlery! Even if they are biodegradable or recyclable. Guests can be encouraged to wash and dry their cutlery.

National HI Association

YHA Australia



Waste and Water conservation initiatives

Just take a few minutes to watch the videos below, they speak for themselves!

Clean-up Australia



Pittwater YHA' water actions <3



Zero-waste celebrations for Earth Hour



Our Nature
Managing waste & water



OBJECTIVES

Minimise the negative impacts of our activities and increase the positive.



Economic

Water engineering vital for the country's economic growth

Social

Awareness of historical conflicts because of the water supply

Environmental

Using water resources responsibly



"We must keep on working to increase the awareness about the water and waste management. We wish all hostels worldwide got involved with sustainability!"

Susana Soto, Department of Communication and Marketing

Best practice from 3 REAJ HI Hostels

- **As Corcerizas (Ourense):** An all organic vegetable garden at the hostel and video presenting the lifestyle of the "Pasiegos", old ethnic group in the north of Spain who conserve water and produce the minimum waste
- **Espinosa de los Monteros (Burgos):** Educational centre, bioconstruction and bioclimatic architecture
- **Twentytu (Barcelona):** Pneumatic waste collection and separation

National HI Association

REAJ – HI Spain



Waste management and water conservation

REAJ wants to prove that a more sustainable tourism is possible, and are aiming to have all of their hostels (290) embrace all pillars of sustainability.

[Read more](#)

Our Nature

Managing waste & water



Waste Management – The pasiegos valleys

The pasiegos valleys
ESPINOSA DE LOS MONTEROS

WASTE MANAGEMENT

0:07 / 2:27

Economic

Reduced costs from purchasing in bulk
Better value for money for guests

Social

Local collaboration
Raising awareness about waste and water management

Environmental

Increased environmental awareness
Reduce CO2 emissions
Conserving water and reducing non-recyclable waste

~2000 liters of water saved monthly
All you need: water tanks, filters,
pallets & piping.

OBJECTIVES

Every year, the city of Brasília faces a dry period from June to September. In efforts to ration their water supply, the city rotates a 24h stop of water on different areas of Brasília. Therefore, the water tanks are first and foremost an effort to be able to still provide the hostel and its guests with water on the days the area is cut off from the municipality's water sources.

National HI Association HI Brazil



Water conservation in dry areas

Hostel 7 have installed a rainwater harvesting system on the rooftop of their building in Brazil. The collected water is filtered and used for showers and bathrooms in the hostel

[Read more](#)

Our Nature
Managing waste
& water



Organic compost at Aracaju Aju HI
Hostel – watch the video



Economic

Potential economic gains on the long run

Social

Awareness of environmental causes
that can affect the community

Environmental

Using water sources responsibly





At the model's location, we had to prepare a proper infrastructure needed around it: light, sitting places, comfortable access to the area and a water tap needed to demonstrate rain falls on the model. Vocal explanations (Hebrew, English) are available via the voice box near the model and an educational booklet for group activities are ready to use.

OBJECTIVES

Raising awareness about the water challenges of the country, as well as educating the public on the historical development of Israel which is linked to the water supply and sanitation.

National HI Association

Israel YHA




“Water in Israel” Model

In the courtyard at Karei Deshe Hostel stands a 6m. (~18 ft.) aluminium model of Israel, which demonstrates the topographic structure of the land and presents the large cities in the country, main roads and all our hostels. The model acts as a base for activities about the water in Israel: Showing the national water pipe route, precipitation in the different areas, streams and rivers, water reservoirs, flood waters and more. There is a voice instruction box next to the model.

[Read more](#)

Our Nature

Managing waste & water



Economic

Water engineering is vital for the country's economic growth

Social

Awareness of historical conflicts because of the water supply

Environmental

Using water resources responsibly

<div>6</div> <div>CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</div> <div></div>	<div>11</div> <div>SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</div> <div></div>	<div>12</div> <div>RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</div> <div></div>
<div>13</div> <div>CLIMATE ACTION</div> <div></div>	<div>14</div> <div>LIFE BELOW WATER</div> <div></div>	<div>15</div> <div>LIFE ON LAND</div> <div></div>

“We have a worm bin where specific vegetable waste that the worms can eat (they are picky eaters) is stored and given to the worms. They then create a wonderful organic fertiliser for our garden here at the hostel. Our gardener, Majid, is employed 3 days a week to take care of the garden’s needs and to ensure our herbs and plants (even a banana tree) are growing generously.”

Jade Calmeyer, Hostel Manager

OBJECTIVES

- Reduce the usage of water and make guests aware of the crisis in the local community.
- Reduce waste at the hostel.

The Backpack -
South Africa



Waste and water
management

Being a sustainable accommodation means that we have taken steps to ensure that our hostel is one that has a low impact on the environment and will positively affect employment for locals. Here at The Backpack, we go to extreme lengths to try and cut down on waste and be sustainable in the long run. We think it is vital for all establishments to take on this mentality as it can only deliver positive outcomes in the long run for our people and our planet.

[Read more](#)

Our Nature
Managing waste
& water



Economic

- Decreased consumption
- Return of investment

Social

- Local collaboration
- Supporting locals to gain practical skills and continue their education

Environmental

- Worm farm
- Composting food waste



WHAT DOES “CARBON NEUTRALITY” ACTUALLY MEAN FOR HI?

[Read more](#)

“Being carbon neutral is a term that’s thrown around a lot, but the idea is that for an organisation, the amount of equivalent carbon dioxide emitted equals zero. This might seem impossible, but it can happen through a process of measuring activities that contribute to equivalent carbon emissions, reducing them and offsetting remaining emissions via a certified third party”.

Brian Westwood, YHA New Zealand

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

Our Hostels

Achieving carbon
neutrality



National HI Association:

YHA New Zealand



carboNZero certification Minimising our impact on the planet

Undertaking a long term commitment to
reducing our carbon emissions through
improved hostel facilities, staff and
customer behaviours, measuring these
activities and promoting our commitment.

[Read more](#)

***Why did we do it?** “First and foremost, we did it because it's the right thing to do. Climate change is one of the biggest issues facing the world today and we think it's our responsibility to do what we can to help. YHA New Zealand was founded on a love of the outdoors, which means we're pretty determined to protect the awesome environment New Zealand has to offer too. We also have a triple-bottom line reporting structure, which means environmental sustainability and responsible tourism are at the core of how we operate.”*

Brian Westwood, Manager Marketing & Sales

Sunshine Solar Testimonial – watch
the video



7 AFFORDABLE AND
CLEAN ENERGY



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



OBJECTIVES

To minimise our carbon footprint, save money through reduced energy consumption, meet our organisational values and be authentic to our brand and customer expectations.

Economic

Local carbon credit provider. Cost reduction. Customer and brand loyalty. Staff retention.

Social

Local collaboration. Guest education boards. Community project engagement.

Environmental

Current reduction in carbon footprint
Future Commitment to a minimum annual
5% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions

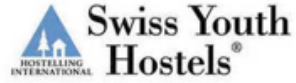
Our Hostels

Achieving carbon neutrality



National HI Association:

Swiss Youth Hostels



How to build a low energy hostel

Minergie is a quality label for new and renovated buildings. Those awarded the certification demonstrate significantly lower use of energy than conventional constructions. The approach was adopted by the Swiss Youth Hostels for new buildings and major conversions. A first milestone was the opening of the Minergie Youth Hostel in Zermatt in January 2004.

[Read more](#)

Actually it is more an energy-efficient standard than a project. We build and renovate our new hostels in Minergie-Eco standard, which unites reduction of complete energy consumption of approx. 20% and reduction of fossil consumption of approx. 50%

WHY this strong dedication to build low energy hostels?

"It starts with a strong commitment to sustainability." René Dobler, CEO

[Building low energy hostels: watch the video](#)



Economic

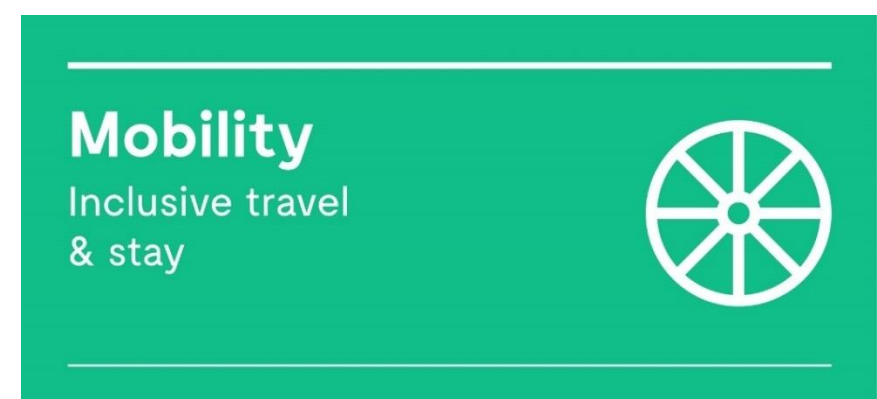
The costs of building in Minergie standard are about 10% higher
Lower energy consumption

Social

Raising awareness
Education

Environmental

Reduction of any heating resources, such as heating oil or gas
Reaching CO2-neutrality
Recycled building materials



HOW DO WE ADDRESS INCLUSIVITY IN OUR HI HOSTELS?

Read more

Accessible Travel & Accommodation. Our Hostels are visited by many different people with different abilities and we are aiming to provide facilities that can be enjoyed by everyone. Supporting the principles of universal accessibility and striving to be inclusive is one of the main challenges we have.

Responsible and Sustainable Travel. The accommodation sector 'only' accounts for ca. 20% of CO2 emissions in tourism, but the largest proportion of up to 75% is produced by the transportation sector ([UNWTO](#)). And that's why at HI we strive to encourage guests and staff alike to travel responsibly and reduce the impact of their journey.

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

"What a wonderful weekend in the clean fresh air of the mountains. Couldn't believe I was rock climbing and using an outhouse. Hope we do it again next year. It's adventures like this that make you feel less handicapped and more positive. Thanks for that."
Participant

OBJECTIVES

- Create and promote access to wilderness and outdoor activities not currently available to persons with limited mobility.
- Increase capacity of the hostelling community to include persons with limited mobility.
- Reduce barriers by retrofitting and renovating existing buildings and facilities at our wilderness hostels to accommodate persons with limited mobility and an interest in benefiting from outdoor and wilderness experiences.
- Help break down myths about the capabilities of people with a disability.
- Facilitate access to wilderness and the outdoors, in turn, to all the physical, emotional and mental health and well-being benefits that come with exposure to nature and wilderness.

National HI Association HI Canada



Adapted wilderness adventures

Partnering with the Canadian Paraplegic Association in 2011, HI-C-Pacific Mountain began the journey to make wilderness experiences available to travellers on the Ice Fields Parkway in the Alberta Rockies. The passion brought to the project by the people who provide activity services for people with disabilities is an essential component of the initiatives.

[Read more](#)

Mobility

Inclusive travel
& stay



Economic

Hostels open for all
Opportunities for service providers

Social

Inclusive initiative
Community development

Environmental

Low impact activities
Nature enjoyed by all



Since 2015, 16 Youth Hostels in DJH region Bavaria went through the certification process of this label. The process is still ongoing and the aim is to get all Bavarian Youth Hostels audited. The rating system provides detailed information for guests so they can determine if they can use the hostel for their purpose before booking it.

Why did DJH choose the certification process of Tourism for All? What are the benefits?

- The connection to our core values of “experience community”, especially in terms of inclusive travel.
- To get sensitised about the needs handicapped people face in their daily routines (we also have handicapped employees).
- To receive a comprehensive analysis (by specially trained auditors) of our existing infrastructure that creates transparency for our guests (strengths and weaknesses) and helps us to improve our product quality.
- To simplify the access to reliable information and improve the communication with the guests at the pre-booking status (e.g. through our own and external webpages).
- To strengthen the youth-hostel network: Forwarding guest requests with special accessibility needs to hostels which can fulfil them.

National HI Association



Tourism for all

“Tourism for All” is both an information and rating system as well as a label in the field of accessible tourism that applies throughout Germany. Information required for the guests is gathered by trained inspectors and assessed according to clearly defined quality criteria. They were developed in cooperation with relevant organisations as well as players in the tourism industry.

[Read more](#)

Mobility

Inclusive travel
& stay



Economic

Hostels open for all

Social

Travel opportunities for differently
abled people
Community development

Environmental

Low-impact activities



Few simple steps to get started with such an initiative:

- contact partners
- inform the public
- test out the tour beforehand
- prepare logistics (staff, volunteers, tools etc.)

OBJECTIVES

Promoting sports activities for people with special needs.
Promoting creative expression for people with special needs.

National HI Association

HI Slovenia



Inclusive experiences at Ars Viva Hostel

Bike Tours for people with special needs, giving people with special needs a chance to test out adaptive bikes and experience the impressive bike routes of the Green karst. There is also a Mouth and Foot Painting Artists Summer Camp at Ars Viva. Get inspired by the beautiful cultural and natural heritage of Notranjska region.

[Read more](#)

Mobility

Inclusive travel
& stay



Economic

Supporting the HI Mission
EU Funding

Social

People development
Non-formal education

Environmental

Low-impact activities



3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES

In Ein Gedi hostel we've built lately a special wing for hosting large groups of differently abled people with serious handicaps. For example, these 18 rooms were built with wide doors, beds and sinks lowered for people in wheelchairs and so are the tables in the dining room. This wing got in March 2017 an award "Simcha Lustig Access Israel Accessibility Award" for its accessibility level.

CONCRETE FEATURES

- In every YHA Israel hostel at least some of the rooms are suitable for differently abled people.
- Public areas are accessible for strollers and wheelchairs.
- Sound kits for hearing problems in the receptions.
- Special marks for blinds near the stairs and in public areas.
- Subtitles in our educational programs movies.
- Simple language text in several of our educational programs.
- All workers are trained to give accessible service.
- Receptionists have various accessibility aids.
- Educational programmes are physically accessible.

National HI Association Israel YHA



Inclusive travel & stay

IYHA hostels are accessible for various groups: kids, old people, differently abled people etc. It's very important to us to make it possible for everyone to travel around and visit the hostels and the country without letting their handicap stop them. IYHA is in a middle of a long term process that will make all hostels available and accessible.

[Read more](#)

Mobility

Inclusive travel
& stay



Economic

Hostels open for all

Social

Inclusive design
Community development

Environmental

Low-impact activities



"As a former high-level athlete, now disabled due to an accident in skicross competition, I remain an athlete in the head and in practice. For me, as for all people with disabilities, access to sports or travel with family or friends is essential. As a resident of Serre-Chevalier, I am very proud of the station's dynamic in the development of disabled sports and adapted tourism. I am, therefore, delighted to be the godfather of the renaissance project of the Serre-Chevalier Youth Hostel that we must support. It will allow to offer adapted, well thought and structured accommodation where life will be as easy for the valid ones as for the invalid ones. It is an offer that is rare and deserves to be valued. I count on you to help FUAJ carry out this project and obtain the *Tourisme & Handicap* label for the 4 deficiencies. "

Florent Astier, Sponsor

- OBJECTIVE**
- FUAJ is calling upon the public to raise € 30,000 to:**
- Develop the common living space that will allow everyone to meet at any time of the day, from sharing breakfast and regional meals to lively evenings.
 - Install an elevator to make all levels of the Youth Hostel accessible.

National HI Association

FUAJ – HI France

Logo of FUAJ (Fédération Unité des Alpinistes de Jeunesse) and HI-France (Haut Impact France).

Revive a youth hostel for the pleasure of sharing mountain sports amongst differently abled people.

FUAJ is on a mission to raise funds to help with the renovation of the Youth Hostel to become accessible to all 4 impairments and to obtain the *Tourisme & Handicap* label.

[Read more and support this project](#)

Mobility

Inclusive travel & stay

permettre une grande mixité sociale et culturelle."

Pierre

Watch the video

Economic

Hostels open for all

Social

Inclusive design
Community development

Environmental

Low-impact activities

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Our People

Caring for staff
& volunteers



HOW DO OUR HI HOSTELS CARE FOR THEIR PEOPLE?

[Read more](#)

Without our dedicated employees, volunteers and interns, hostelling would not be what it is today: an open community of like-minded people connected through their common aim of living in a world built on tolerance, mutual understanding and respect.

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

Our People

Caring for staff
& volunteers



National HI Association

HI Slovenia



“We can’t imagine the future nor purpose of HI Slovenia without young people and volunteers.”

Anja Žepič, Vice-President

Volunteering opportunities

The work of Hostelling International Slovenia is based primarily on volunteers, who spend their free time and knowledge promoting youth mobility and the development of youth travel. They contribute to a better functioning of the organisation in various forms, such as participation in promotional campaigns, journalism and participation in various interesting projects at home and abroad.

[Read more](#)

OBJECTIVES

- EVS Projects – we will focus on obtaining funding through the Erasmus+ programme
- Strengthening mentorship
- New voluntary activities

Meet the volunteers –
watch the video

Why is
**BEING A VOLUNTEER
A FANTASTIC EXPERIENCE**

0:04 / 3:02

3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



Economic

Supporting the HI Mission
EU Funding

Social

People development
Non-formal education Developing Key
Competences

Environmental

Eco activities at the hostels

Our People

Caring for staff
& volunteers



National HI Association

Stayokay – Netherlands

stayokay

Green Ambassadors

Meet the Green Ambassadors of Stayokay! A very involved and enthusiastic group of 35 colleagues with one goal: to make Stayokay more sustainable.

Key actions and local initiatives reinforce each other and reduce our carbon footprint on energy, waste, water and improve on health & well-being.

[Read more](#)

“Not only large technical investments will help to contribute to a better world, but more important is the involvement and commitment of people that will contribute to a higher and long term positive effect on sustainability. This project will entrench sustainability as a part of Stayokay's "DNA".”

Mirjam Kiestra, Sustainability Coordinator

OBJECTIVES

Behavioural change as a strategy to minimise our carbon footprint.

In the long run our guests and employees make our organisation, and a drive for sustainability can only be successful in the longer term if it becomes a personal motivation for everyone. In this way, everybody can make a difference by showing how sustainability can be incorporated in their daily work.

**Meet 2 of the Ambassadors –
watch the video**



3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



Economic

Extra incentives for staff
Increasing reputation
Customer and brand loyalty

Social

Staff development
Increased engagement
Raising awareness and education

Environmental

Behavioural change towards sustainability
Reduction of carbon footprint

Our People

Caring for staff
& volunteers



National HI Association

HI Iceland



Green Messengers EVS Project

The main aim of the project is to raise awareness about sustainability issues among international guests of HI Iceland, the staff of the HI hostels and the local community by maintaining the already developed sustainability policy of HI Iceland and developing new ways to increase sustainability consciousness in the daily activities of the HI hostels. In order to do so, HI Iceland has designed Green Messengers and run it for the last 10 years. The project is funded by the EU Erasmus+ fund (Youth in Action). The aim of the fund is to inspire a sense of active European citizenship and it promotes mobility within and beyond the EU's borders.

[Read more](#)

3 Main Focus Areas:

1. Environmental management – Swan Ecolabel
2. Environmental education / Education for sustainability
3. Organising events

OBJECTIVES

The overall aim of the project Green HI Hostels is to raise awareness about sustainability issues, within the local community, the International guests of the HI Iceland, as well as the in-house team.

Watch the video



3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



13 CLIMATE
ACTION



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



Economic

Supporting the HI Mission
EU Funding

Social

Youth development
Non-formal education
Education for sustainability

Environmental

Monitoring resource usage
Eco activities at the hostels
Environmental awareness



Our Communities

Giving back & building bridges



#sayhitotheworld

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM THROUGH HOSTELLING



Our Communities

Giving back
& building bridges



WHY GIVING BACK AND BUILDING BRIDGES IN OUR COMMUNITIES?

[Read more](#)

Tourism has a massive impact on the people that live in and around a destination. Since the very beginning of the hostelling movement and our foundation over 100 years ago, Hostelling International has been committed to supporting the communities around our hostels and contributing to the protection and preservation of local historical, archaeological, culturally and spiritually important properties and sites in all parts of the world.

February

March

April

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September

October

November

The indigenous rural population is often denied access to medical care. The Campaign "Lentes al Instante" brings the OneDollarGlasses into schools and social institutions from the subtropical lowlands around Santa Cruz to the Brazilian border.

~12.000 were impacted by this initiative

OBJECTIVES

In Bolivia, a large number of school children and poor rural people have never visited an optician, nor have they checked their vision. More than 250,000 people would need glasses to finally see better during their education, later during their jobs and enjoying third age.

National HI Association HI Bolivia



OneDollarGlasses – Lentes al instante

Worldwide, more than 150 million people would need a pair of glasses, but cannot afford it. They cannot learn, cannot work and cannot provide for their families. A solution: The OneDollarGlasses. They consist of a lightweight, flexible spring steel frame and prefab lenses and can be locally manufactured in Bolivia with simple bending machines. During eye-test campaigns, HI Bolivia volunteers staying at the different HI Hostels help those in need of assistance.

[Read more](#)

Our Communities

Giving back
& building bridges



Economic

Supporting the HI Mission
EU Funding

Social

People development
Non-formal education

Environmental

Low-impact activities



“The Backpack plays a huge role in the community project and they have helped so many kids within the project. When I turned 16 they employed me at The Backpack at the reception, café and rooms. This showed me how to work and act professionally and how to save my money I was earning. The Backpack has supported me financially by paying for my study fees for the past two years and continue to do so on condition that I pass my exams.”

Michaela Dampies

As far as we know everyone who has ever been to our project has come away feeling that they have contributed to a good cause and hopefully even when they go home can look around and see where they can make a difference in their own communities.

The Backpack - South Africa



Community projects

The Backpack aims to bring everyone together despite their differences and backgrounds, helping and assisting communities where we can be of utmost importance.

Several projects:

- Community shop
- The Rope Skipping Project
- The Soccer Project
- Vallie’s Stitch and Bitch Program

[Read more](#)

Our Communities

Giving back
& building bridges



Economic

Supporting the HI Mission
Supporting the local community

Social

People development
Non-formal education

Environmental

Eco-activities at the hostel



25 Groups, 478 participants, 16 hostels with groups (out of 25 available), 1160 comped overnights, 205 paid overnights (beyond the 5 free) 3,941 hours of volunteer service to local communities.

Volunteer projects included: serving dinner to the homeless, volunteering at an adult day care, food prep for individuals living with HIV/AIDS, beach clean ups, sorting donations at a homeless shelter, participating in the Hackathon 2030, helping at food pantries, gardening at an urban farm and graffiti abatement.

OBJECTIVES

- Introduce FIT groups to HI USA and hostelling as a way to increase global awareness and intercultural understanding (via Hostelling 101 Session).
- Promote civic responsibility through action (via the Service Project).
- Facilitate communication among people of diverse backgrounds (via the Hostel Activity).

National HI Association
HI USA



Great Hostel Give Back

The Great Hostel Give Back (GHGB) is a program that supports the HI USA mission by donating a free hostel stay to groups who do service work that will benefit the community surrounding the hostel. During January and February, GHGB rewards groups of 8 or more with a free night's stay at a participating hostel for each day they volunteer a minimum of 2 hours - up to 5 nights. (Groups must find their own service project. Groups may pay for additional overnights beyond the 5.)

[Read more](#)

Our Communities

Giving back
& building bridges



Economic

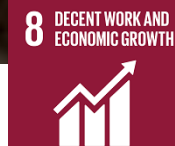
Local economic development
Customer, Brand development and awareness building

Social

Local community development
Civic/Community engagement

Environmental

Local environmental restoration



We have awarded almost 200 scholarships to young people across the U.S. so they could learn Arabic in Jordan, volunteer in India and Vietnam, teach maths in the Dominican Republic, or board a plane for the very first time to study abroad in Europe. In 2017, over 150 volunteers served on the local committees.

OBJECTIVES

- From our Mission and Purpose - Hostelling will foster a dynamic community of travellers with the wisdom, humanity, and leadership skills to improve our communities, our country, and our world.
- From Vision 2020 - HI USA will be “a vibrant presence in communities across the United States”
- From Vision 2020 - HI USA will be "an effective advocate for youth travel."
- From Volunteer Strategy - HI USA will engage current, legacy and new volunteers



Explore the World Travel Scholarships

At HI USA, we think travel should be as much about making a difference in the world as it is about seeing it. That’s why we’ve created Explore the World Travel Scholarships. Recipients receive \$2,000 to help finance their international trip that includes an educational or service component. These scholarships will provide support to emerging independent travellers who want to explore the world while pursuing a learning or educational objective, and contribute to the well-being of society.

[Read more](#)

Our Communities

Giving back
& building bridges



Economic

Local economic development
Customer, Brand development and awareness building

Social

Local community development
Civic/Community engagement

Environmental

Local environmental restoration

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Our Mission

Educate our future generations that they have a responsibility to protect and preserve our planet

OBJECTIVES

- Delivering three messages that young people, known as hostellers, should know in the present age, as a future leader:
 - a. As Youth, we have a responsibility for the planet.
 - b. Importance of traditional culture developed by ancestors.
 - c. Even if we are different, we can be one by being friends.
- Educating Hostellers about the Philosophy of Hostelling International
- Introducing Korean Culture to foreign hostellers

National HI Association HI Korea



World Youth Rally 2017 – Youth Responsibility for SDGs

The World Youth Rally is an annual event hosted by Hostelling International KOREA, which is led primarily by Korean college students. This event creates a learning platform for the participants, from all over the world, to learn about the Korean culture and to come up with ways to protect our environment through teamwork and collaboration. The event invites approximately 200 hostellers from various countries and lasts for four nights and five days.

[Read more](#)

Our Communities

Giving back
& building bridges



Watch the video



Economic

Supporting the local community
HI Mission

Social

People development
Non-formal education
Cultural awareness

Environmental

Sustainable Development Goals
Environmental awareness



Our Friends

Engaging guests



#sayhitotheworld

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM THROUGH HOSTELLING



2017
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM
FOR DEVELOPMENT

Our Friends

Engaging guests



HOW CAN WE ENGAGE OUR FRIENDS – OUR GUESTS?

[Read more](#)

We believe our hostels are not just about having a place to stay, they are places for travellers to come together and share; not just rooms but also sharing in discovering new cultures as well as themselves. By facilitating intercultural exchange, we believe we open minds and hearts to a more tolerant world, making our hostels and mission more relevant than ever! We embrace the diversity of our guests and our host destinations and we want our travellers to thrive in a broad-minded world built on mutual understanding.

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

Our Friends

Engaging guests



National HI Association

Danhostel – Denmark



Bugs for Breakfast

The world continues to face major challenges, which include issues with the environment, climate change and misuse of natural resources. By 2050 it is estimated that more than 800 million will lack enough food and that over 1 billion people will be without clean drinking water (Source: Technological Institute). It is against this backdrop that three Danhostels have chosen to introduce a selection of dishes prepared with insects.

[Read more](#)

“We’ve always placed a lot of importance on sustainability. Insects for breakfast is a good initiative, and now we’re going to find out if it hits the spot with the public and whether we can extend it to more hostels.”

Ole Andersen, the chief executive of Danhostel, told TV2 Lorry.

OBJECTIVES

At Danhostel, we are interested in making a difference regarding the environment, climate and use of natural resources. We hope that we can inspire others to do the same and share in renewing the debate on these issues.

Economic

Value for guests

Social

Alternative consumption

Environmental

Sustainable eating
Reduced water and energy



Our Friends
Engaging guests



National HI Association

El Viajero Hostels in Colombia



Hostels involved:
El Viajero Hostel Cali
El Viajero Hostel Cartagena
El Viajero Hostel San Andrés
El Viajero Hostel Salento

Salsa for all

Dance classes are free in all El Viajero Hostels in Colombia, we offer different kind of dances every night, from Salsa, which is the most common dance in the country, to champeta, a regional urban dance very popular in Cartagena and the Colombian Caribbean coast.

[Read more](#)

OBJECTIVES

With the dance classes in-group, we pursue two objectives:

- On the one hand, music and dance are a fundamental part of Colombian culture, and with these classes guests can better understand the local culture, learn how people dance here and put it into practice later when they leave the hostel.
- On the other hand, the group classes are the ideal environment to meet other travellers from all over the world while having fun and learning from new experiences. We have many solo travellers who take the classes as an opportunity to meet new friends with whom they can go out afterwards or even continue their journey together.

3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



5 GENDER
EQUALITY



17 PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE GOALS



Economic

Value for guests

Social

Alternative consumption

Environmental

Sustainable eating
Reduced water and energy

Our Friends

Engaging guests



National HI Association

AIG - Italy



Socio-cultural tourism

At the "Baia del Corallo Hostel" in Palermo and in collaboration with the new AIG Point "A Casa di Amici" and the "La Bottega delle Percussioni" Association, "Il Ritmo degli Ostelli" project was born. It is an artistic and ethno-anthropological multifunctional centre in which a series of events, musical performances and workshops take place and HI guests can get together and discover local traditions.

[Read more](#)

Events December 23rd-28th:

Meditation - Acroyoga - DrumCircle - Christmas Party

OBJECTIVES

1. Promoting social tourism through an amazing travel experience.
2. Discovering local traditions with our guests.

3

GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



8

DECENT WORK
AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10

REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



12

RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



Economic

Supporting locals and traditional values

Social

Social aggregation
Traditional culture

Environmental

Environmental awareness

Our Friends

Engaging guests



National HI Association

AIG - Italy



Sea-turtle recovery

AIG - Sailing is a project born from young people's passion for sailing and the preservation of the planet.

It is promoted by AIG HI ITALY and it involves the Ostello Diffuso di Bisceglie and the Baia del Corallo Hostel. It is estimated that about 150,000 sea turtles every year are caught in fishing gear in the Mediterranean and that over 40,000 of them die. At the AIG Ostello Diffuso di Bisceglie, guests can live the unique experience of releasing these magnificent creatures back into the water.

[Read more](#)

How exactly are the guests involved in this experience?

The guests are involved in an intensive way in all processes: from when the turtles are rescued until the end of their period in the specialised centres. They are involved in the last step as well: releasing them back into the sea.

OBJECTIVES

1. Promoting sustainable tourism through an amazing travel experience.
2. To show and inform our guests about the extinction of sea turtles.
3. Educate guests to respect the beauty of wild sea.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



15 LIFE ON LAND



Economic

Supporting local economy

Social

Experiential education

Environmental

Environmental awareness

Our Friends

Engaging guests



National HI Association

El Viajero Hostels in Uruguay



Communal dinners

In our hostels we offer our guests communal dinners, from barbecues to homemade pizzas. Guests can join this activity almost every night of the year for a small fee and enjoy the best Uruguayan gastronomy while meeting other travellers. Along with the communal dinner, our guests can also enjoy live music shows in our facilities, which gives them the opportunity to integrate even more.

[Read more](#)

Hostels involved:
El Viajero Hostel Montevideo
El Viajero Hostel Colonia
El Viajero Hostel Punta del Este

OBJECTIVES

This activity is both a cultural and social one and is designed so that travellers get to experience what an important part of the Uruguayan culture the grill and the "asados" (barbecue) are. On the other hand, this is a perfect way to meet other people and make new friends. Often, the day after the communal dinner, our guests go out together to explore the city, exchange contacts or even travel together to other cities.

3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



Economic

Value for guests

Social

Alternative consumption

Environmental

Sustainable eating
Reduced water and energy

Our Friends

Engaging guests



National HI Association

HI Brazil



Toda Quarta Feira – Giving guests a taste of local culture

Toda Quarta Feira, meaning every Wednesday, is a weekly event at Hostel 7 Goiânia where the guests, hostel staff and the local community are invited to socialise. Every week the event has a different theme, such as, for example games, arts or local food & drinks, providing locally brewed beer and local special dishes at a very affordable price. There is always music, either by a DJ or by local artists playing the guitar or even rapping – and of course enough space to dance. Sometimes there is a “feirinha” - a small market - where small-scale local businesses are invited to showcase and sell their products

[Read more](#)

In order to attract a wider scope of people to join the event, and also to make the event and hostel more known, short videos have been produced from the events, and these together with a lot of photos are used for promotion on social media.

OBJECTIVES

Toda Quarta Feira is meant to offer the guests and the local community a social activity on an otherwise quiet Wednesday in Goiânia.

Furthermore, it is giving the local businesses and artists a stage to showcase their brands, products, art and music for everyone to enjoy. The hostel then becomes a social hub that more and more people get to know and where everyone is welcome.

Another objective is also to inspire and give ideas to the attendees on small things one can do to be more environmentally friendly.

9

INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



11

SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



Economic

Value for guests

Social

Alternative consumption

Environmental

Sustainable eating
Reduced water and energy



National HI Association

Qatar YHA

بيوت الشباب القطرية
QATAR YOUTH HOSTELS

Celebration of Our Friends – Engaging guests

Our Friends
Engaging guests



3 GOOD HEALTH
AND WELL-BEING



8 DECENT WORK AND
ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED
INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



16 PEACE, JUSTICE
AND STRONG
INSTITUTIONS



Economic

Supporting the HI Mission

Social

Youth development
Non-formal education

Environmental

Awareness

Our Friends
Engaging guests



National HI Association

AIG - Italy



Responsible trekking

By staying in Biccari, where you can find a lot of the activities of the Ostello Diffuso of the Dauni Mountains, you will be able to visit one of the five natural truffle areas in the Puglia area by hiking trails. The habitat in which the truffles grow is characterised by the presence of oaks. The collection of truffles is carried out with the help of dogs or pigs because this limits the excavation to the point where the truffles are located and avoids revealing the roots where there may be new carpofori. In the same area, you can experience the exciting fun routes of the Adventure Park that's surrounded by the forest.

[Read more](#)

Each tour is guided by certified naturalistic and geological guides who are passionate about the mountain and, above all, are community members.

OBJECTIVES

1. Discovering the Natural Area of Monti Dauni by responsible trekking.
2. Learning how to harvest truffles without damaging territory.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Economic

Increase the responsible harvesting of local truffles

Social

People development

Environmental

Exploring nature through responsible trekking

Our Friends

Engaging guests



National HI Association

AIG - Italy



Solidarity trip

Since 2015, the Hostel in Florence has welcomed asylum seekers at its facility to help cope with the migrant emergency in Italy. Collaboration with the "Italian Culture and Sport Association" in the hostel has proved to be of paramount importance to safeguard the dignity of the people through numerous socio-cultural initiatives.

[Read more](#)

Activities offered:

- Italian language lessons
- Intercultural dialogue
- Workshops: carpentry, gardening, electro-hydraulics etc.
- Guided city tours etc.

OBJECTIVES

1. Welcoming refugees.
2. Encouraging integration between refugees and guests through socially useful activities.
3. Encouraging an intercultural exchange.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Economic

Skills improvement

Social

People development
Intercultural exchange

Environmental

Caring for the environment



Financial Sustainability

Creating fair profit
& network development



#sayhitotheworld

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM THROUGH HOSTELLING



Financial Sustainability

Creating fair profit
& network development



WHY SHOULD WE CREATE FAIR PROFIT & NETWORK DEVELOPMENT?

[Read more](#)

As the pioneers of the hostelling movement we know that resilience is the key to maintaining, strengthening, and continuously developing our network. Our mission lies at the core of our hostels, which are designed to facilitate social mobility for everyone and intercultural exchange. Hostels need to be welcoming and receive enough guests to cover their costs and hopefully be able to invest in further projects and sustainable initiatives. Also, as a non-for-profit organisation, we need to ensure fair profit to allow investment in continuing to deliver our mission.

February

March

April

May

June

July

August

September

October

November

"Since returning from summer camp, I feel elder brother have changed a lot. He is not that harsh to his younger brother and becomes more intimate to me. His sense of humor is improving. I checked his composition yesterday, his level of expression has suddenly risen. Surprise, surprise!!!"

Participant

OBJECTIVES

Right from the beginning, sustainable development was the prime consideration for the renovation work of this house, based on the following principles:

- Minimise construction waste
- Use of recycled building materials
- Apply energy saving systems wherever possible
- Conservation

National HI Association

YHA China



Heart 2 Heart Community

Heart 2 Heart Youth Hostel is a social enterprise under the auspices of Yunnan Heart to Heart Community Care.

Mission: To promote sustainable living practices, social and service learning, eco-farming, healthy eating, love and care of the countryside and animals. The ultimate objective is to achieve community development among the ethnic minority groups in the area.

Vision: To build a harmonised community by means of local participation through hostelling, eco-farming and agricultural business.

[Read more](#)

Financial Sustainability

Creating fair profit & network development



Economic

100% non-profit

Social

Social enterprise
Transforming lives
Supporting local NGOs in cash & in kind

Environmental

Eco-farming and related activities
Sustainable living practices
Environmental awareness education programs



"It was a unique wonderful experience for Children. Please organise this fantastic event every year. Thank you so much!"

Participant

National HI Association

Japan Youth Hostels



Charity for Single Parent Families

During the Peace Week this year (21-27 September 2017), HI Hostels in Japan gave JPY250/night/person of the overnight fee to provide disadvantaged children the opportunity to see the world.

Donated money was used for the Nature and Christmas program for 30 children in Single Parent families in December and will also support the ski school for children with disabilities.

[Read more](#)

Financial Sustainability

Creating fair profit
& network development



OBJECTIVES

- Give travel opportunities to unfortunate kids.
- Promote mutual understanding and compassion.

Finland



#SLEEP
FOR
PEACE



Japan

Economic

Supporting the local community

Social

New life opportunities
Social help

Environmental

Awareness
Digital meeting with Santa



“We believe travel, adventure and discovery transforms lives”

OBJECTIVES

Impact measurement in YHA has two aims:

- To demonstrate the difference YHA makes to young people's lives.
- To evaluate how our programmes/interventions can be further improved to deliver better outcomes and outputs.

National HI Association

YHA England & Wales



Impact & Sustainability

For more than 80 years, YHA's mission has remained that of inspiring all, especially young people, to broaden their horizons, gaining knowledge and independence through new experiences of adventure and discovery. Our ability to sustain the organisation reflects our success at ensuring that we achieve the most sustainable result - from a financial, environmental and social perspective.

[Read more](#)

Financial Sustainability

Creating fair profit & network development



Economic

Investing back over £30 million in our property portfolio

Social

Impacting & transforming lives
Enable personal development of participants

Environmental

Ensuring sustainable legacy





Protecting Destinations

Culture & biodiversity



#sayhitotheworld

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM THROUGH HOSTELLING



Protecting Destinations

Culture
& biodiversity



WHY SHOULD WE PROTECT THE DESTINATIONS OF OUR HOSTELS?

Read more

Destinations are not just visitor attractions, they are home to different people of diverse cultures and unique biodiversity. Both of which are some of the main reasons why tourists travel there in the first place. At HI, we acknowledge the importance of protecting everything that a destination is, so that future generations can also learn about the diverse culture and biodiversity of that particular place. We believe in the positive impacts our travellers have on the community, and on preserving a destination's natural assets.

February

March

April

May

June

July

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September

October

November

Protecting Destinations

Culture
& biodiversity



National HI Association

Israel YHA



A different kind of education

In recognition of its educational mission, HI Israel has education centres offering a wide range of programs for students, teaching staff, soldiers, visitors, tourists and others. The programs offer a fascinating and tangible experience, adapted to the geographic and historic location of each hostel.

Activities are held in Hebrew and English, including in the evenings, some by prior arrangement, serving both guests of the hostel and outside visitors.

[Read more](#)

In order to attract a wider scope of people to join the event, and also to make the event and hostel more known, short videos have been produced from the events, and these together with a lot of photos are used for promotion on social media.

OBJECTIVES

Providing added value beyond the accommodation



Economic

Educational centre – unique experience tied with the geographical and historical location of each hostel

Social

Inclusivity
Mind opener
History and culture

Environmental

Environmental awareness
Water conservation

Protecting Destinations

Culture
& biodiversity



National HI Association

An Óige – Irish YHA



Knockree Youth Hostel Conservation Plan

An Óige's volunteer led Conservation Group was formed in 2007 and since then has worked tirelessly to identify threats, grants, management and educational options to help preserve the native Irish habitats around Knockree Youth Hostel.

[Read more](#)

“Working on this project has shown me that environmental protection is at the heart of what the Youth Hostelling movement is about both for the Irish National Association and internationally!”

Philip Hayden

Learn more – watch the
video

Knockree
Conservation
Project

Economic

Value for guests
External funding

Social

Community education

Environmental

Environmental awareness
Conservation of native Irish habitats

Protecting Destinations

Culture
& biodiversity



National HI Association

Youth Hostels

Luxembourg

LUXEMBOURG
YOUTH HOSTELS



Busy bees on our rooftop

Due to the (well-documented) decline of bees and their essential environmental function, the Luxembourg City Youth Hostel decided in 2013 to collaborate with a local beekeeper and lend its roof to three colonies of bees.

[Read more](#)

How much honey are you able to produce with the hives?

In total, the three hives produce roughly 80 kg (176 lbs) of honey per season.

OBJECTIVES

We wanted to support the local biodiversity and raise awareness of both the vital importance and harmlessness of bees. The honey we receive in turn is used in the in-house restaurant as well as sold to guests in jars, which helps us maintain the project and break even.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



15 LIFE ON LAND



Economic

Value for guests
External funding

Social

Community education

Environmental

Environmental awareness
Conservation of native Irish habitats

Protecting Destinations

Culture
& biodiversity



National HI Association

Swedish Tourist Association (STF)



SVENSKA
TURISTFÖRENINGEN

Protecting Destinations

The Swedish Tourist Association (STF) believes it should be easy and inspiring to discover Sweden in a sustainable way. We want to inspire tourism that is based on respect for the natural and cultural environment of the places visited, tourism that is built on curiosity and the joy of discovery. We hope that our vision - encouraging people to discover Sweden - will bring people closer together, while at the same time increasing commitment for the preservation of natural and cultural values.

[Read more](#)

One important step in this process is to gather each accommodation in our network to work in the same sustainable direction, each of them in their own unique way. We have chosen to address this through a pledge, launched in late 2016.

OBJECTIVES

Making it easier and inspiring to discover Sweden in a sustainable way



Economic

Supporting the local economy

Social

Education

Environmental

Protecting Sweden as a destination

Protecting Destinations

Culture
& biodiversity



National HI Association

Hong Kong YHA



Mei Ho House Revitalisation Project

The Heritage of Mei Ho House (HMHH) museum is the first privately-run museum of Hong Kong Housing established and operated by the Hong Kong Youth Hostels Association. Mei Ho House originated from a devastating fire that broke out in 1953 (later known as “Shek Kip Mei Fire”) and made nearly 58,000 people homeless. In order to provide long term housing to the large number of fire victims, the government built the first batch of resettlement blocks on the site of the fire. The eight six-storey resettlement blocks, which included Mei Ho House, were completed in 1954

[Read more](#)

Mei Ho House marked the beginning of Hong Kong’s public housing programme, making it an ideal site for setting up a museum focusing on the history of the local community and the evolution of public housing and folk life.

OBJECTIVES

HMHH is established to promote community-led conservation of the tangible and intangible cultural heritage, traditions and ethos of Mei Ho House and Hong Kong through the collection and preservation of artefacts, research, education and exhibition of Hong Kong’s community development, living environments and aspects of social life since the 1950s. From guided tours to cultural events, the Mei Ho House provided an authentic social and cultural experience to its visitors.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES



Economic

Value for guests

Social

Education
Culture and history

Environmental

Preservation
Environmental awareness



Continuous Improvement

Sustainable Management System



#sayhitotheworld
SUSTAINABLE TOURISM THROUGH HOSTELLING



Continuous Improvement

Sustainable Management System



BUILDING RESILIENCE IN OUR ORGANISATION

[Read more](#)

Our guests are at the centre of everything we do. While their budget may be limited, the quality of HI is not! We aim to provide our guests with the most enjoyable stay possible, while offering excellent value for money. Therefore, we have developed a way of ensuring quality and sustainability in our hostels, firstly through our internationally agreed upon Assured Standards, and secondly through HI-Q and HI-Q&S, HI's Quality & Sustainability Management Systems.

February

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November

What do you like the most about HI-Q? And the least?

Its adaptability. It is possible to use the label in small Youth Hostels as well as large ones, no matter the number of beds or employees. We just have to adapt the HI-Q management system to the functioning of the Youth Hostel and this is a standard quite similar to ISO 9001 but adapted to Youth Hostels.

OBJECTIVES

Our objective in terms of quality is to guarantee to each of our members a permanent and constant quality of service in the facilities as well as in the services in all of our Youth Hostels, especially with the HI-Q label.

For FUAJ, respecting the environment and future generations is at the heart of its concerns.

National HI Association
FUAJ – HI France



Experience with HI-Q

Why is it important for FUAJ to work with a quality management system?

For FUAJ, the implementation of a quality management system is needed, that is the reason we have been committed from the beginning to the HI-Q (Quality) label. Indeed, a quality management system is a real asset because it provides a framework and allows the Youth Hostels to identify their key points but also their weak points, so that they can constantly improve.

[Read more](#)

Continuous Improvement

Sustainable Management System



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Economic

Financial Sustainability
Value for guests

Social

Staff engagement
Education

Environmental

Awareness
Measuring performance and key figures

What is quality in a hostel?

Always doing the normal and expected things right & adding value to the service and product by at least creating a personal connection. Always trying to deliver a memorable experience.

Jurgen Gross, HI-Q Consultant

BENEFITS OF HI-Q(&S)

- Quality and Sustainability Management system built on the diversity of the HI network.
- Based on the processes of each hostel and adapted to small, medium and large hostels, as well as Head Offices.
- Created with the customer and hostel needs in mind.
- Focused on the hostel's daily and long-term processes
- Follows the customer journey: from check-in to check-out.
- Ensures resilience through risk management and operational efficiency.
- Enhances the customer experience.
- Connects the network.

Hostelling International



HI's Quality & Sustainability Management Systems



HI-Q (&S) is a framework of customer focused process examples to support HI Hostels and Associations with practical, proven tools to build and maintain their own Quality & Sustainability Management System.

HI-Q&S system is recognised by the Global Sustainable Tourism Council (GSTC).

[Read more](#)

Continuous Improvement

Sustainable Management System



HI-Q: 400+ hostels

HI-Q&S: 138 hostels

38 Associations & 9 Offices



Economic

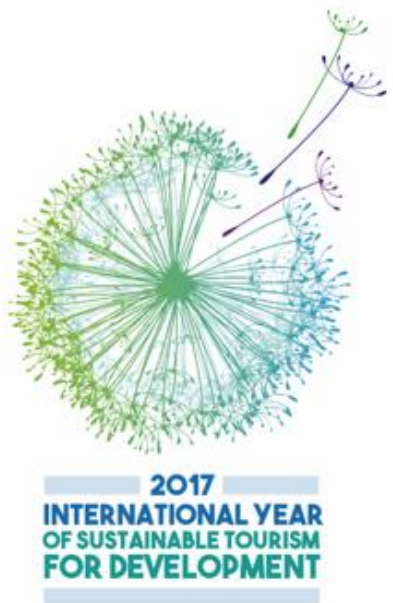
Financial Sustainability
Protecting Destinations
Continuous Improvement

Social

Caring for Our People
Building Bridges in Our Communities
Engaging our guests

Environmental

Consuming Sustainably
Managing our resources
Mobility and Achieving Carbon Neutrality



How will we advance our contribution to sustainable tourism beyond 2017, in the years and decades to come?

- We commit to play our part to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and the 2050 Paris Agreement by setting concrete targets to measure our efforts.
- We commit to work together to advance the 10 Areas of Sustainable Hostelling as our framework.
- We commit to continue engaging and inspiring our hostels and hostellers to take part in all aspects of sustainable tourism by educating, sharing and collaborating.
- We commit to continuous improvement by working with our Quality and Sustainability Management System.



A group of four young adults, two women and two men, are standing outdoors in a mountainous area. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. They are wearing backpacks, suggesting they are hikers or travelers. The background features a steep, rocky mountain slope with some evergreen trees and a clear blue lake in the distance.

Thank you for reading!

If you would like any further
information, please contact us at
pss@hihostels.com

