



‘Sustainability is about ensuring balance between people, environment and economy so as not to deplete the earth. For now, but also for future generations. Meeting our own needs must therefore be balanced with that what the earth can handle.’

greenlabel@ssa-web.nl



Preface

Dear reader,

Following the launch of the Green Label in 2021, many conversations, brainstorming and sparring have taken place over years to make adjustments within this document. I am proud to present the updated Green Label handbook from the third Sustainability Committee of the Student Activities Foundation. Since September, the working group has been busy taking the Green Label a step higher. With the feedback from last year, we got to work and arrived at this document. I would like to thank the directors from the sustainability committee for the time you have devoted to this, in addition to your existing duties from your association.

On behalf of SSA's third sustainability committee, I wish you the best of luck!

Carmen Erenstein

Chairman sustainability committee '22-'23

Table of contents

Preface

Table of contents

Introduction

Subjects

Scoring

Introduction

The Green Label was set up in 2021. When writing its policy plan, the SSA board considered how the student organizations of Hanze University Groningen could take action to become more sustainable in their own way. This revealed a demand for a Sustainability Committee.

The Green Label uses three stars to indicate how sustainable a student organization is. All student organizations of Hanze UAS can obtain the Green Label.

Points can be earned per section. It is important for an organization to describe as fully and concretely as possible what it has done to become more sustainable for each section. The sustainability committee uses this description to determine how many points you can earn. The points gained are equivalent to stars. The Green Label will be displayed as a sign with the year in which the Label was obtained in the office of the student organization concerned.

The checklist that HG student organizations can complete is listed separately on ssa-web.nl.

How it works

A total of 100 points can be obtained on the following subjects:

1. Organization
2. Activities
3. Vitality
4. Other

All student organisations are required to complete the topic 'Organisation'. The other topics should be filled in when applicable to the organisation. The sustainability committee will judge how many points the student organisation has earned out of the maximum number per section.

As a HG student organisation, describe for each section what you have done to become more sustainable in that area. Try to give as complete and concrete a description as possible. Only with a good description can the sustainability committee properly assess how many points your sustainability efforts are worth. For each description, also indicate what impact you think your organisation's sustainability efforts will have.

Every year, the September boards must submit the document on 1 May and the February boards on 1 December. You do this by emailing the document to greenlabel@ssa-web.nl. A Green Label is valid for one year. The sustainability committee has one month to feedback how many points you receive and whether you receive a Green Label with star(s). HG student organisations do not have the right to view, but can use a feedback moment before 1 May (for September boards) or 1 December (for February boards). These moments are fixed at the beginning of the year.

Stars

1 star 25-50 points

2 stars 51-75 points

3 stars 76-100 points

Award ceremony

A Green Label award ceremony is held once a year. This ceremony coincides with the presentation of the board certificates. The date for this ceremony is in the SSA's annual schedule. During this presentation ceremony, an award will also be presented for the 'Most Sustainable Association' of that board year.

Sustainability subsidy

Making an association more sustainable costs money. Money that not all HG student organisations have at their disposal. To accommodate these organisations, the SSA, together with Student Affairs, has created the sustainability subsidy. This subsidy will fall under the HG Support Fund and can be applied for by organisations when they do not have sufficient financial resources at their disposal to become more sustainable. Please note that this application must be submitted to the SSA treasurer. The treasurer will then look at this application. You can read more about this application on the SSA website.

Subjects

Organisation

The first part applies to all HG student organisations and is conditional for any HG student organisation. Should this section not be completed, the organisation will not be eligible for a Green Label. The heading organisation is the overarching section containing the general operation of the association with regard to (waste) policy, paper and plastic use, stock and, clothing/merchandise.

Activities

The second section focuses on an organisation's activities. This includes both study-related and social activities. In this, it is important that sustainability is also promoted in social activities. This includes awareness and motivation regarding sustainability, as well as paper use and transport.

Vitality

The third part focuses on vitality of the association itself. It is about encouraging sustainable behaviour and making the organisation and its members feel fit. Vitality includes mental and physical health and diversity and inclusion.

Other/free interpretation

In the last part, there is room for free interpretation. If your organisation contributes something within the sustainability section that is not described in the first four sections, it is possible to provide this. In addition, this section looks at sustainable external parties and supporting good causes.

Scoring

Organization

Sustainability in the policy plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainability as a goal in the policy plan• Concrete plans with regard to sustainability	9 +5
Reducing paper consumption	7
Reducing plastic consumption	6
Sustainable use of catering	5
Sustainable use of stock	5
Sustainable use of club clothing/merchandise	6

Activities

Organising activity related to sustainability	8
Reducing plastic use	6
Using sustainable modes of transport	7

Vitality

Providing tools related to mental health	4
Paying attention to physical health	4
Paying attention to diversity and inclusion	4

Scoring

Other

Charities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Making statements for a good cause• Organizing an activity for a good cause	4 8
Using sustainable promotional material	8
Motivating to become more sustainable	4
Free interpretation (BONUS)	+10

