



‘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.’

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Preface

Dear reader,

Following the launch of the Green Label in 2021, discussions and brainstorming sessions were held over the past few years on how the Green Label would be fleshed out. During the 2022-2023 academic year, the sustainability committee has been busy renewing a plan to initiate the Green Label. That document has been presented and so we are proud to introduce the new point system for the Green Label of Student Activities Foundation. The SSA would like to thank the directors from the 2022-2023 Sustainability Committee for the time spent on this.

On behalf of the SSA, we wish all HG student organisations the best of luck!

Sam Peters

Mister Green Label '23-'24

Table of contents

Preface

Table of contents

Introduction

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. In 2023, it was decided to appoint one person to keep an eye on it all, in this case 'Mister Green Label'.

The Green Label indicates how sustainable a student organization is through its assessment. All student organizations of Hanze UAS can obtain the Green Label.

Points can be earned per section. It is important that the HG student organization describes as fully and concretely as possible what it has done to become more sustainable in the assessment category in question. Mister Green Label uses this description to determine how many points can be earned. The points earned are converted into stars. The Green Label is awarded in the form of a recycled wood sign showing the number of stars obtained. The Green Label sign is for the HG student body itself for the time of the board year.

The checklist for HG student organizations to complete is in a separate document on ssa-web.co.uk.

It is important to mention that in the year 2022-2023, there was a baseline measurement for all HG student organizations. This baseline measurement was done to promote constant sustainability. Every year, HG student organizations describe how they have become more sustainable compared to last year. After the three-year term, another baseline measurement will be done.

How it works

A baseline measurement took place in the year 2022-2023. From the year 2022-2023, the three-year term also started. The Green Label cycle takes effect as follows:

Year 1 (2022-2023): Zero measurement

Year 2 (2023-2024): Check 1

Year 3 (2024-2025): Check 2

Year 4 (2025-2026): Zero measurement

Year 5: etc.

Each HG student organization sets the standard at zero measurement. This is because it is up to its successors to continue sustainability and to renew, perhaps even increase, its points. If an HG student organization has not submitted anything in the year of the baseline measurement, then the baseline measurement is started in the first year that the Green Label is submitted. For all HG student organizations, one line is drawn over the course of this process, the Green Label cycle is the same for every HG student organization.

The scoring is designed to be simple. To ensure that an HG student organization continues to become more sustainable, a number of points are taken off each year. This way, more room is created for improvement and sustainability, this point count differs every year. In this way, it remains a challenge to become more sustainable as an HG student organization. The concrete decrease in points per year is shown below:

Year 1 (2022-2023): Zero measurement

Year 2 (2023-2024): -15 points on Year 1

Year 3 (2024-2025): -10 points on Year 2

Scoring

Below is an example where HG student organisation A only submitted information for the Green Label in Year 1, but nothing was submitted in Years 2 and 3:

HG-student organization A	
Year 1	85 points (3 stars)
Year 2	$85 - 15 = 70$ points (2 stars)
Year 3	$70 - 10 = 60$ points (2 stars)

Below is an example where HG student organisation B only submitted information for the Green Label in Years 1 and 2, as can be seen, an additional 20 points were gained in Year 2, adding a total of 5 points. In Year 3, nothing was submitted:

HG-student organization B	
Year 1	75 points (2 stars)
Year 2	$95 - 15 = 80$ points (3 stars)
Year 3	$80 - 10 = 70$ points (2 stars)

Below is an example where HG student organisation C only submitted information for the Green Label in Year 2, as can be seen, the counter also does not start running until it is submitted:

HG-student organization C	
Year 1	-
Year 2	60 points (2 stars)
Year 3	$60 - 15 = 45$ points (1 star)

