

Sustainability

The network identified three specific goals from the UN goals for sustainable development, which we believe we can contribute to:

12.5

By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse

12.8

By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature

13.3

Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

Due to the different nature of the events, each festival faces different challenges in terms of sustainability. With Lasten Festarit and Barnens Kulturkalas being outdoor events with food sales etc, they generate a significant amount of waste and thus must have strong policies to manage this. Barnens Kulturkalas is pioneering amongst Swedish festivals in terms of waste reduction and recycling, and has, since 2008, been working systematically with sustainability. Similarly, Lasten Festarit has strict requirements for all vendors to sort and recycle waste.

All festivals work actively to ban the use of single-use materials at our events, and to use mostly recycled and/or repurposed materials in workshops etc.

With Barnameningarhátíð and Barnafestivalurin being indoor events in venues with their own policies, their task is more one of raising awareness than active waste reduction.

Examples of both specific waste reduction initiatives and awareness-raising include:

- *Barnens Kulturkalas encourages people to bring own food containers, gives out reusable water bottles, they have a food vendor, who makes food out of food waste from shops, there are information points about waste reduction and environmental issues on site and all vendors are required to offer vegan alternatives and have at least 30% organic ingredients.*
- *Lasten Festarit requires all vendors to recycle their waste, their programming includes performances specifically designed to raise awareness about sustainability (musicians playing instruments made from recycled materials etc) and the mascot of the event, Roskissalle (Garbage Bear), teaches children about how to be ecological in a way that is suitable for children. These are only examples about sustainability in Lasten Festarit.*
- *Barnameningarhátíð works actively with children to raise awareness about environmental issues, e.g. by running workshops where they answer questions about what kind of earth they want to leave for future generations, and always encourages partners to use recycled materials.*

- *Barnafestivalurin encourages all visiting schools and nurseries, to limit waste from packed lunches etc. Partners are similarly asked to not provide the children with anything that generates waste (e.g. balloons). The café in the Nordic House serves mostly organic, local and vegetarian food. Children, who submit artwork to the festival are always encouraged to use recycled materials and/or to work with themes relating to sustainability.*
- *All four festivals encourage people to drink tap water rather than bottled water, by having water fountains or similar on site and not allowing vendors to sell bottled water.*

Equality

5.2

Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

5.5

Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

5.b

Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women.

All festivals work actively in ensuring gender balance in terms of staff, performers, workshop leaders etc. The programmes are made carefully to appeal to both genders and to break down gender stereotypes. Examples of specific initiatives include:

- *Each year Barnafestivalurin hosts a conference for children aged 13-14 on children's rights, which also highlights equality.*
- *The board of Barnameningarhátíð includes children and young people of both genders, thereby empowering them to take active part in decision-making.*
- *Barnens Kulturkalas educates all staff (both permanent and temporary) to be aware of and report inappropriate behaviour, and to treat everyone equally. They also collect statistics about gender balance at events in order to make improvements where necessary.*
- *The roles of the genders have been faded to the background in Lasten Festarit, marketing is targeted to both genders and all the activities are suitable for boys and girls.*

All festivals promote gender balance in terms of children participating in workshops, activities etc. and to show female role-models in both typical and non-typical gender roles.

Diversity

10.2

By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

All festivals have a high level of accessibility both of disability, economic status and age with accessible sites, free events and a diverse programme appealing to all age-groups.

With Gothenburg and Helsinki having a longer history of immigration, they have extensive experience in working with diversity in terms of race, ethnicity and origin, from which Reykjavík and Tórshavn can learn.

Specific initiatives include:

- *Barnamenningarhátíð works actively to ensure participation of children with disabilities in all types of activities, ranging from children's news reporters to dance performances.*
- *Barnens Kulturkalas continuously strives to improve diversity on the stage by f.eks. organising a variety show with participants from a diverse range of backgrounds. The temporary staff similarly came from a very diverse range of backgrounds and encourages school from different parts of Gothenburg to meet and work together on arts projects.*
- *Barnafestivalurin in regular dialogue with different key organisations, societies etc working with diversity and/or minority groups to ensure that the programme of activities is inclusive and accessible to all.*
- *Lasten Festarit is open and free for everyone. People can find information about Lasten Festarit also in English and Russian. In addition, Lasten Festarit co-operates with Musikantit which offers different kinds of cultural education in Finnish and Russian and we have had volunteer workers from different cultures. In the area, Lasten Festarit has taken accessibility into consideration by arranging a parking lot, toilet and all other facilities for children with disabilities.*