



# Sustainability Goals 2022

We, at the EBF, believe that each organisation can contribute to a better and more sustainable future for all. To us, sustainability means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This report, published on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March 2019, focuses on the key sustainability challenges that we face and the many ways we are responding. To identify these challenges, we have used the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Framework. These sustainable development goals provide a shared blueprint for prosperity for people and the planet.

## Offer services and events that substantially increase the number of students with relevant skills.



As the EBF we want to be part of inclusive and equitable quality education and promote learning opportunities for all. We can do this by substantially increasing the number of adults who have relevant skills for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship. As of 2019 we offer a portfolio that offers services and events that are fit for the employability of students. If the EBF wants to continue to offer relevant services and events, it is necessary that the EBF Portfolio is annually evaluated. Each year, five key skills should be determined that are valuable and relevant in the economics and/or business field at that moment. This

information can be collected via the business meetings during the summer by the EBF Commercial Officer and the EBF Career Officer. After the assessment of different companies' answers, the five most relevant skills should be chosen. Each skill should be covered by at least one event or service over that year. By offering relevant events and services we hope to increase the number of students who have skills that are valued by companies.

We also want to make sure that everyone has equal access to our events and workspaces. The EBF will try to organise as many events as possible at locations that are suitable for physically disabled people or measures must be taken to ensure the accessibility for all. The possibility to access the event as a physically disabled person should also be communicated through promotion and/or information provision before the event. Also the workplaces at the Study Associations Wing should become accessible to everyone.

Lastly, we want our members to acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development. This includes, among others, events about sustainable development and lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development. For the upcoming years, the EBF wants to organise at least one event per year that regards such a topic.

**“Offer relevant services and events that cover five skills annually determined by the demand of businesses.”**

**“Make all events and workspaces accessible for physically disabled people.”**

**“Organise at least one event per year that addresses sustainable development.”**

# Reduce food waste.



Every year, 1.3 billion tonnes of food is wasted every year, while almost 2 billion people go hungry or undernourished. We want to make sure that the EBF does not contribute to this enormous number. The EBF organises multiple events where food and drinks are served. First of all, over catering should be avoided. The volume of food that is required should be accurately estimated considering the number of attendees in the past and the progress of enrolments should be honestly and regularly communicated to caterers and food vendors. Also communicate to attendees what food will be available and when, this way attendees won't bring their own food. The organisation should also ask for dietary requirements during the enrolment to reduce wastage and satisfy attendees. Lastly, a food salvage or re-distribution programme should be in place. Caterers should be requested to not uncover, open or serve all food at once, so that if over supply has occurred, the perishable food has been handled correctly for donation to food salvage programmes. By installing these regulations, the EBF can become 100% food waste free.

**“All EBF Events will be 100% food waste free.”**

# Reduce waste from operations.



Paper accounts for 25% of landfill waste. By 2022, the EBF should be completely paper waste free in all its internal operations. These operations include board meetings, committee meetings, committee and board recruitment interviews and office work. The EBF iPad should be used to its full extent and each office in the Study Associations Wing should be provided with a paper recycling bin. If paper has been used for other operations than mentioned previously, it should be collected and recycled at all times. For our events, the organisation of each event should consider what files are absolutely crucial to print and think of ways to better use laptops, mobile phones and the iPad. Also companies should be asked to consider

the amount of paper that they bring. This could for instance be included in the standardised emails that are sent to the participating companies. If paper is used by either the organisation or participating companies, it should be collected and recycled at all times. Therefore, there should be waste paper bins readily available in foyers, workshop rooms, or other relevant rooms.

Plastic pollution is crippling the earth's ecosystems. More than 8 million tonnes of plastic enter the ocean every year. As the EBF, we should completely get rid of single-use plastics. We have determined three categories of single-use plastic. The first is plastics that are intended to be used only once before they are thrown away or recycled. The second is plastics that are only used for less than a week. The last one is all packaging, containers, disposable items and materials used for branding and marketing use. So, they are not products that have an end of use value beyond the market recycling value, products that can be used over a number of years and that can be repaired, refurbished or dismantled and industrially recycled, or plastic products that have a life span longer than one month from use. So, how should we deal with these single-use plastics? We should look at traditional methods of sourcing materials as they might help to find solutions. Think of life before plastic! Below, a hierarchy of alternatives is provided:

<b>1: Eliminate</b>	Eliminate a product/activity Can the item be redesigned to remove the need for any plastic components?
<b>2: Reusable</b>	Use reusable alternatives This may mean swapping plastics for dispensers, refillable cups and bottles
<b>3: Renewable</b>	Use more sustainable materials from renewable resources For instance FSC certified paper, cardboard or cotton
<b>4: Recyclable non-plastic</b>	Use materials that have a high recycling rate that are not plastic For instance glass bottles or paper and cardboard packaging
<b>5: Recyclable plastics</b>	Where single-use plastic is necessary due to regulation Aim to source appropriate plastic material that is fully recyclable

Lastly, the promotion of the EBF should be redesigned and evaluated constantly. It should especially be considered whether flyers are still the best way to target our audience. We will investigate different options to promote our events, like only handing out flyers at lectures or only using screens around Plaza and Kapteynborg. Also different social media approaches can be considered just like the improvement of mouth-to-mouth advertising. In 2022, a maximum of 8,000 flyers can be ordered, however, this is only if there is absolutely no other alternative. If these flyers are ordered, they should be printed on recycled paper at all times. The gadgets that are handed out by the EBF and her committees should also be considered in their relevance and sustainability. Conventional items should be replaced by more responsible items or by virtual or experiential gifts. Giving something that is different also increases the chances that people will enjoy it and will remember it. Also the number of goodie(s) (bags) that is required should be accurately estimated considering the number of attendees in the past and the progress of enrolments. The required number of goodie bags, adjusted by the number of no-shows and people who don't get their goodie bag should be honestly communicated to companies.

**“All operations will be 100% paper waste free.”**

**“All operations will be 100% single use plastics free.”**

**“A maximum of 8,000 flyers can be ordered per year and all flyers must be printed on recycled paper.”**

**“Gadgets in goodie bags should be 100% sustainable.”**

## **Sustain valuable partnerships.**



The EBF cannot succeed without valuable partnerships. In 2019, we have chosen ChildsLife as a partner to donate left-over goodies to. By donating, among other things, notebooks, pens and t-shirts, we have helped numerous children in their education. For the future, we want to sustain such partnerships but also build new ones. By 2022, we want 75% of our partners to have defined their commitment to sustainability. A commitment can be through an annual sustainability report, sustainable initiatives, or by having sustainable jobs, internships or traineeships available.

Lastly, as the EBF we want to be able to defend where our money goes, also via investments made by the bank that we have put our money in. Therefore, we want to investigate the possibilities to switch to a bank that invests in sustainable purposes, for example the ASN Bank. This bank invests in sustainable development by investing our money in sustainable living, climate, human rights, and biodiversity. So, by 2022 we must have switched banks.

**“Sustain valuable partnerships with charity.”**

**“At least 75% of our partners must have defined their commitment to sustainability.”**

**“Switch to ASN Bank.”**