



# **LIMBURG**

**FLANDERS**

2024 UEC ROAD EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

# SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

Version July 2024





## FOREWORD

*Between Wednesday 11 and Sunday 15 September 2024, all European cycling eyes will be on Limburg, as the easternmost province of Flanders welcomes the UEC Road European Championships. Starting in Heusden-Zolder and finishing in the centre of Hasselt, the fourteen races that constitute the European Championships will showcase Limburg and Flanders, the cradle of cycling, for five days. The UEC Road European Championships provide the perfect opportunity, together with the next generations, to tackle the challenges of tomorrow. Standing still is moving backwards, which is why it is crucial to look critically at the future and its challenges.*

*One of these challenges is sustainability. Being mindful of the environment not only plays a crucial role in today's society; it is also one of the core tasks of the 2024 UEC Road European Championships. By embracing sustainability during the European Championships, the UEC, together with the Flemish government, the province of Limburg, Sport Vlaanderen, the host cities Hasselt and Heusden-Zolder, the LOC (the local organising committee), OVAM, Belgian Cycling, Cycling Vlaanderen and all the partners involved, will embrace this challenge. In this way, the 2024 UEC Road European Championships can promote positive change and set an inspiring example for the sports community and its fans.*



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**1<sup>st</sup> EC  
1995**



\*\*\*  
**UEC Road European Championships**

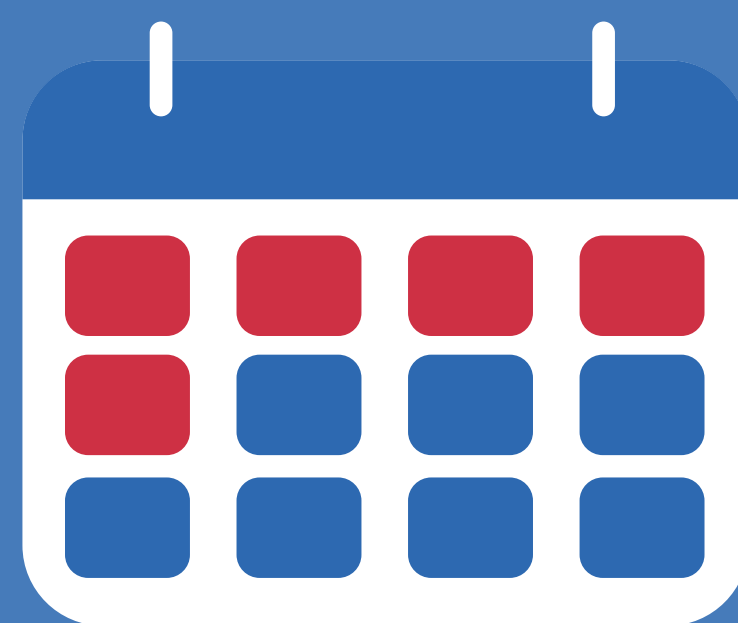
**3 DISCIPLINES**

**30<sup>th</sup>  
EDITION**

PREVIOUS EC  
**DRENTHE**  
NETHERLANDS



**5  
DAYS**



**3  
DIFFERENT  
CATEGORIES**



# LIMBURG 2024

# 30<sup>th</sup> EDITION

## 11 - 15 SEPTEMBER

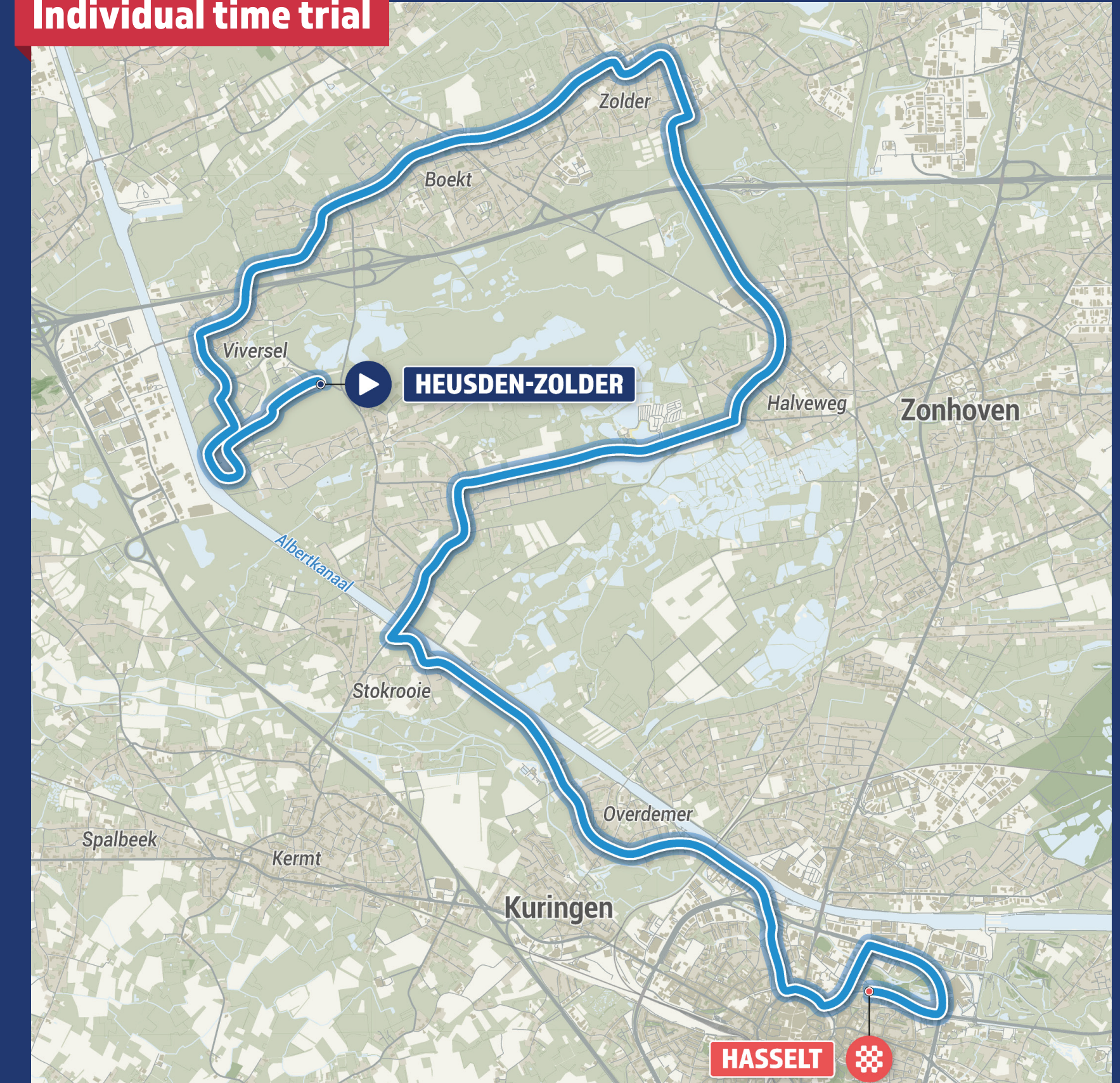


## 2<sup>ND</sup> TIME IN BELGIUM

### Road race



### Individual time trial





# THE PROCESS

The development of a sustainability plan for the 2024 UEC Road European Championships in Limburg is a meticulous and participatory process that involves different stakeholders and takes into account a variety of aspects of sustainability.

- 1 Stakeholder analysis:** All relevant stakeholders are identified and involved. These include local communities, government agencies, sponsors, teams and fans, among others. It is important to understand their perspectives, concerns and ideas regarding sustainability and integrate them into the plan.
- 2 Strategy development:** A comprehensive sustainability strategy encompassing all aspects of the event, including waste management, energy consumption, water management and so on, is developed. However, this strategy must be practical and doable.
- 3 Ambition:** For each theme, the first step is to determine an ambition that the organisation wants to achieve. This is a general objective that is linked to each theme.
- 4 Objectives:** To measure progress and to evaluate the impact of the sustainability plan, concrete objectives are formulated. It is important that these goals are ambitious but achievable.
- 5 Action points:** The objectives established can only be achieved by formulating action points. These actions are concrete measures that are applied during the organisation of the event in order to achieve the objectives.

- 6 Partnerships and collaborations:** Collaborations take place with sustainable partners, environmental organisations and experts in order to obtain advice and support in implementing the sustainability strategy. Local communities are also involved in the process so that they too can benefit from the event in a way that enhances their environmental and social well-being.
- 7 Communication and awareness:** A communication strategy is developed to highlight the importance of sustainability and to engage participants, fans and partners in the pursuit of a green European cycling championships. In the process, an awareness campaign is conducted that spreads educational and inspirational messages about sustainability.
- 8 Monitoring and Evaluation:** Finally, a system is implemented for the continuous monitoring of the sustainability performance during the event. After the event, a thorough evaluation is carried out to see if the objectives have been achieved.

Creating a sustainability plan for the European Championships requires close cooperation between all stakeholders and a commitment to the creation of a positive impact on both the sport and the environment.





# SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

*Sustainability and accessibility are crucial for the 2024 UEC Road European Championships, as the event provides a unique opportunity to spread a sustainability message to a wide audience and to minimise the impact of the sport on the environment.*

*Cycling events, with their sizeable logistics and participants, often have a significant environmental footprint. By embracing sustainability during the European Cycling Championships, we can stimulate positive change and set an inspiring example for the sports community and the fans.*

*By integrating sustainability into the European Championships, we demonstrate our responsibility with regard to the environment and the local communities where the European Championships will take place. This is done on the basis of a comprehensive sustainability plan prepared by the LOC in collaboration with EventFlanders, OVAM, Sport Vlaanderen, the province of Limburg and the host cities Hasselt and Heusden-Zolder.*

*Measurable objectives and action points are established based on nine different themes. These themes are:*

- 1 Mobility
- 2 Energy
- 3 Water
- 4 Space utilisation
- 5 Waste
- 6 Catering
- 7 Materials
- 8 Health
- 9 Good governance
- 10 Accessibility

*By creating awareness about sustainability during the European Cycling Championships, we want to have a positive impact not only on the environment, but also on the participants, fans and partners. By implementing these actions, the cycling event will not only have a positive impact on nature and the local communities, but will also serve as an example of sustainable event management within the sector. Together we can make a difference and strive towards a greener future for the sport of cycling and the planet as a whole.*



# MOBILITY

## AMBITION

Visitors reach the various event locations of the European Cycling Championships smoothly, safely, comfortably and efficiently via sustainable transport, and this without affecting the environment and local residents or causing nuisance.

There is also a range of energy- and environment-friendly modes of transport that visitors can use that take into account all the needs and obstacles associated with these modes of transport.

## OBJECTIVES

- A maximum number of visitors come to the event on foot or by bike.
- A maximum number of visitors come to the event using collective transport.
- Maximum road safety and traffic liveability.
- Full reachability and accessibility of all official fan and VIP zones, and maximum effort for all other zones.
- Mapping the modal split of visitors, volunteers, employees, teams and suppliers.

## SDGs



## ACTIONS

### 1. Appoint mobility partner and prepare mobility plan

Scelta Mobility has been appointed as mobility partner for the 2024 European Cycling Championships. Scelta Mobility is responsible for preparing the mobility plan. This plan is prepared in consultation with the LOC and other involved parties. This plan focuses, among other things, on the directing of the traffic, use of existing parking facilities, limiting parking inconvenience for residents, ... and so on. The mobility partner will also see to an effective communication with the visitors and shall provide them with mobility information. It is the role of the host cities to communicate with their residents, traders, businesses and so on about mobility.

### 2. Promote the STOP principle

The STOP principle will be promoted throughout the entire event. STOP stands for: walking, cycling, public transport and private motorised transport. Walking and cycling to the event are being promoted and people are asked to leave their cars at home, wherever possible.

#### WALKING:

- Together with the host cities, safe walking routes are picked out and communicated to the visitors in advance. These will also be made visually clear during the event.

#### CYCLING:

- Together with the host cities, safe cycling routes are picked out and communicated to the visitors in advance. This will highlight the numerous cycling routes in the region even more.

- Sufficient parking facilities for bikes are provided, no more than 500 metres from an event site.
- Promote the share platforms of share bikes and communicate in advance about places where share bikes are available.

#### PUBLIC TRANSPORT:

- Engage with the various transport providers in order to optimise public transport services based on the estimated demand for transport during the event.
- Make clear the walking distances from bus and train stations.
- Visualise the accessibility.
- Clear communication regarding the availability and prices of trains and buses from NMBS and de Lijn.

#### PRIVATE TRANSPORT:

- Visitors are informed that only limited parking is available. People are advised against coming to the event by car.
- Maximum use is made of existing parking facilities and as few additional parking facilities as possible are created.

### 3. Collaboration with de Lijn and the NMBS

Examine how visitors can get to the event with the different transport options. For example, the NMBS will increase the capacity of their trains and provide additional trains on Sunday.





# SUSTAINABILITY

## 1. ENERGY

### AMBITION

Reduce energy consumption as much as possible during the entire event, as well as during the set-up and take-down. Almost all the power used is green power and comes from the city grid or other renewable energy sources.

### OBJECTIVES

- Use 70% green electricity during the event at the event sites.
- Identify all the energy demands in advance and compare it with the effective consumption.

### SDGs

AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



CLIMATE ACTION



## ACTIONS

### 1. Prepare energy plan and appoint an energy specialist

To ensure that energy consumption is limited as much as possible, an energy plan will be prepared. Furthermore, an energy specialist will be appointed to help prepare this plan.

### 2. Use of urban green power

Throughout the event, maximum use will be made of the existing electricity grid in order to keep the use of generators to a minimum.

### 3. Deployment of sustainable alternatives

If connection to the fixed electricity grid is not possible, sustainable alternatives will be provided. This can be in the form of green batteries and mobile solar panels. If generators have to be deployed, biodiesel is used. This will also be communicated to the visitors.

### 4. Clear agreements

Via the sustainability charter, agreements are made with partners and exhibitors regarding energy-saving measures. (LED lighting, A+++ applications, etc.)

### 5. Avoid 'energy guzzlers'

Measures are taken wherever possible to avoid specific 'energy guzzlers'. For example, no bouncy castles are erected, no air pillars are used that need constant power, fridges and freezers with energy label A+++ or A+++ are used as much as possible, LED lighting is used as much as possible, etc.

### 6. Measuring

Throughout the event, the energy consumption of the organisers and exhibitors is measured. In this way, a retrospective evaluation can be made comparing different energy sources. The measuring will take place at different moments, so that both the set-up and take-down can be taken into account.

### 7. Electric vehicles

The vehicles deployed for the fleet during the European Cycling Championships will as much as possible be electric. This concerns the vehicles of the organisation itself.





# SUSTAINABILITY

## 2. WATER

### AMBITION

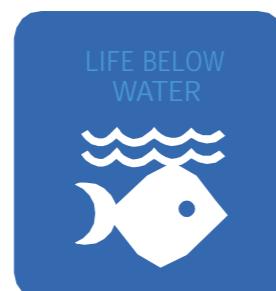
Everyone, visitors, employees and volunteers alike, must have easy access to free drinking water throughout this event. This drinking water must come from the city water network and be served in reusable beakers or drinking bottles.

Water consumption during the entire event, as well as during the set-up and take-down should be reduced as much as possible. As little water as possible is used and the water that is used is discharged where possible into the sewer system and treated afterwards.

### OBJECTIVES

- Maximum use of tap water as drinking water, with the exception of the riders. Backstage, this must be 100%.
- Deploy chemical toilets only when alternatives are unavailable.
- A minimum of two drinking water points per 500 m2 per zone are provided for the public.
- All cleaning products used during the event are eco-friendly.

### SDGs



## ACTIONS

### 1. Prepare water plan

A plan is prepared for each site to use (waste) water as efficiently as possible. This plan has an estimate of the water needs of the event and lists possible conservation measures. It also describes how the waste water removal and treatment will be done.

### 2. Eco-friendly cleaning products

Only eco-friendly cleaning products are used during the event. This by the organisation, but also by the partners and exhibitors.

Eco-friendly cleaning products are not only better for the environment, but are also much less harmful to the lungs and skin. Furthermore, using eco-friendly cleaning products also contributes to corporate social responsibility.

### 3. Use existing toilets

During the event, maximum use will be made of the existing toilet infrastructure. This for the visitors, as well as for the volunteers and employees.

### 4. Deployment of vacuum toilets

If no or insufficient existing public toilets are available, additional toilets are deployed. These are vacuum toilets where, as much as possible, the waste water is discharged directly into the sewer system.

Chemical toilets are only used when alternatives are not available.

### 5. Clear agreements

Via the sustainability charter, agreements are made with partners and exhibitors about water-friendly measures. (Ecological cleaning products, using tap water as drinking water as much as possible, ...)

### 6. Public water taps

At each event site, there are a number of public water taps that visitors can use. These water taps are connected to the municipal drinking water network.

### 7. Fixed water points for volunteers and employees

There are also fixed water points for the volunteers and employees. Here, employees and volunteers can fill up their drinking bottles throughout the event. This tap water is poured into reusable beakers or the drinking bottles given to the volunteers and employees.

### 8. Water bars in VIP zones

The VIP zones will also be provided with 'water bars' connected to the mains water. Those 'water bars' offer fresh tap water to which syrups can be added to make lemonades. The water bars have built-in gas cylinders that can be used to produce sparkling water. In the VIP zones, only water will be served via the water bars and no bottled water.



# SUSTAINABILITY

## 3. SPACE UTILISATION

### AMBITION

The event is organised with minimal impact on the terrain and the surrounding area. Vulnerable zones and protected areas are given maximum protection and highlighted.

### OBJECTIVES

- The indoor activities of the event are organised as much as possible in existing buildings. Tents are only used for VIP arrangements and technical event aspects.
- Maximum protection of terrains and planted areas.
- Maximum protection of protected areas.

### SDGs



## ACTIONS

### 1. Respect for the noise norms

Noise norms will be respected during the event.

The noise level in the fan zone is constantly monitored. Sound boxes will be placed so that the sound is distributed optimally to the public.

### 2. Protect terrain and planted areas

The terrain and planted areas will be fully protected. If necessary, measures are taken to cover the soil and shield plants.

### 3. Agreements with Nature and Forest agency

Agreements are made with the Agency for Nature and Forests to provide extra protection for the (protected) nature and forest areas through which the route passes, should this be necessary.

### 4. Highlight protected areas

Furthermore, the (protected) nature and forest areas in Limburg also receive extra attention. This is also done in collaboration with the Agency for Nature and Forests.

### 5. Curb public urination

Adequate toilets and signage are provided in order to help prevent public urination as much as possible. Police present during the event will issue fines to those urinating in public.

### 6. Use existing infrastructure

During the event, as much as possible use is made of existing buildings. The construction of additional tents is kept to a minimum and will only be used for VIP or technical matters related to the event.





# SUSTAINABILITY

## 4. WASTE

### AMBITION

*As little waste as possible is produced during the event. The waste that is produced is sorted as carefully as possible and afterwards subjected to high-quality recycling.*

*The catering material used during the event is fully reusable and is collected using a central return system, both front- and backstage. Disposable materials are fully excluded.*

### OBJECTIVES

- *One waste island per 500 square metres for residual waste and PMD is provided on all event sites. Food waste bins are also provided in the zones where food is served.*
- *Maximise the recycling of the collected sorts of waste during the event.*
- *Maximum reduction of waste.*
- *Measure the different sorts of waste produced during the event.*

### SDGs



## ACTIONS

### 1. Preparation of a waste plan

*A waste plan is prepared, setting out what needs to be done to achieve the goals around waste management. This plan contains a description of the preventive measures that are taken. It also refers to the sustainability charter and the agreements made with sponsors and exhibitors are reiterated. It includes a description of the sorts of waste that will occur at the event and also includes a plan of the waste infrastructure at the event. Finally, this plan also contains a description of the agreements and division of tasks with regard to separated waste collection, both internally and externally.*

### 2. Adequate infrastructure is provided

*Adequate waste infrastructure is provided on each site. The LOC provides waste islands in the fan zones operated by the LOC. These waste islands consist of a residual and a PMD bin. In the zones where food is served, bins for food waste are also provided. The host cities are responsible for placing additional rubbish bins outside the fan zones, if these are needed. Backstage, the LOC provides a container park where exhibitors can deposit their sorted waste.*

### 3. Waste sorting and recycling

*Maximum efforts are made to sort and recycle the waste. Different bins are provided for different waste flows. Frontstage this concerns residue, PMD and, in the zones where food is served, organic waste. Backstage, containers are also provided for residue, PMD, paper & cardboard and organic waste. Furthermore, agreements are made with cities, municipalities and waste collectors with regard to separated disposal and processing. This applies for both the front- and backstage.*

### 4. Cigarette butt collection posts

*Certain zones are smoke-free zones. In areas where smoking is permitted, cigarette butt collection posts are placed.*

*These posts are specifically intended for the collection of cigarette butts. The cigarette butt collection posts serve several purposes, including collecting cigarette butts in an environmentally conscious manner, reducing fire hazards, promoting cleanliness and facilitating waste management on the sites.*

### 5. Clear agreements

*Via the sustainability charter, agreements are made with partners and exhibitors about waste reduction measures. (Avoid gadgets, avoid unnecessary packaging, sorting of waste, etc.)*

### 6. Appoint an eco-team

*Eco-teams will be present on all sites throughout the event. They are responsible for keeping the sites clean, ensuring proper recycling, manning the busiest waste islands, ... and so on.*

### 7. Awareness campaign

*An awareness campaign will be conducted before and during the event.*

### 8. Post-event clean-up action

*After the event, a clean-up operation will be organised in order to make all sites fully clean again. To this end, there are collaborations with volunteers or local associations.*

### 9. Measure and analyse the sorts of waste collected

*Before, during and after the event, collection and recycling figures are measured per sort of waste. This enables conclusions to be drawn regarding the measures taken and recommendations can be made for other events.*



# SUSTAINABILITY

## 5. CATERING

### AMBITION

The catering at the event, in the fan zones, VIP areas, and backstage, is as ecological as possible and is made up of a balanced and varied offer with vegetarian, vegan and halal options. To this end, there is as much as possible collaboration with local caterers who work with seasonal and local products.

The catering material used during the event is fully reusable, both front- and backstage.

Disposable materials are fully excluded.

### OBJECTIVES

- 100% reusable catering material for the visitors and employees.
- Each food stall offers at least 1 vegetarian or vegan dish and makes this known.
- Maximum use of seasonal and local products.
- Food surpluses are avoided, and if they arise, donated.

### SDGs



## ACTIONS

### 1. Reusable beakers

Reusable beakers will be used on each site at the event. Via the sustainability charter, every exhibitor is obliged to use them. Together with the LOC, the host cities and an external party, a unified beaker system is developed in which the fan zones of the LOC and the catering establishments around Dusartplein all use 1 beaker system. This is coordinated by an external party. Glass and porcelain are also used in certain locations such as the VIP zones.

### 2. Reusable catering material

Furthermore, each exhibitor must also work with reusable catering materials. This means that all chip containers, cutlery, pasta pots, etc., must be reusable. These must also be collected again via a central return system.

### 3. Donate deposit to charity

Visitors are given the opportunity to donate the deposit they have paid for their reusable beakers to a (Limburg) charity. This can be done using tubes into which visitors can drop their beakers.

### 4. Reduce beverage packaging

During the event, efforts will be made to reduce beverage packaging. This involves using bulk packs, kegs on tap, large bottles and glass bottles. Also, the drinking water should where possible be tap water.

### 5. Ban on straws

No straws may be used during the event.

### 6. Clear agreements

Via the sustainability charter, agreements are made with partners and exhibitors regarding catering. The charter includes the following:

- Work with local products
- Work with seasonal ingredients
- Offer vegetarian, vegan and halal options
- Use organic and FairTrade products
- Avoid overfished species

### 7. Combat food waste

Measures are taken during the event to combat food waste. After the event, any food surpluses will be donated to clubs and organisations that can use or process these surpluses.

### 8. Drinking bottle and sandwich box for volunteers and employees

All volunteers and employees at the event receive a drinking bottle and a sandwich box as a one-time provision. They can use them throughout the entire event. This again reduces packaging and waste.

### 9. Sandwich stand for volunteers and employees

Minimal use of traditional packed lunches is made during the event. Instead, a sandwich stand is provided for volunteers and employees. This helps to avoid food surpluses and packaging as much as possible. The sandwich stand will feature a variety of offerings including vegetarian, vegan and halal products. Local traders will be used when buying bread and toppings. As well as sandwiches, employees and volunteers can also obtain fruit there Limburg (organic) farmers.

### 10. Thursday = veggie day

Thursday is vegetarian day for the employees and volunteers. No meat will be offered on that day at the catering stand.



# SUSTAINABILITY

## 6. MATERIALS

### AMBITION

*Working with ecological and reusable materials and services is a priority with the organisation of the event. This is so for the LOC itself, as well as for all exhibitors, partners, host cities and course municipalities.*

*The production of single-use materials is excluded. Borrowed or rented materials are used wherever possible.*

### OBJECTIVES

- *Maximum digital promotion and tickets.*
- *Maximum use of borrowed or rented materials.*
- *Minimal products made from single-use materials.*

### SDGs



## ACTIONS

### 1. Renting and second-hand materials

*Consideration is given to which materials can be rented. The use of second-hand materials will also be investigated. For this purpose, there is collaboration with the Hasselt thrift shop, Okazi, among others.*

### 2. Deployment of sustainable materials

*Sustainable materials are used wherever possible. This is to say that*

- *As much as possible is reusable.*
- *These are ecological or consist of recycled or recyclable material.*
- *Flags and banners get a second life afterwards.*

### 3. Limit on gadgets

*Gadgets are kept to a minimum. If someone does want to hand out gadgets, this must first be discussed with the LOC. The gadgets are not individually packaged and must be of sufficient value so that the recipient does not immediately throw them away.*

### 4. Ban on flyers and sampling

*It is forbidden to hand out flyers and samples during the event.*

### 5. Sustainable clothing

*All clothing purchased for the employees, volunteers and winners is FairTrade and made of biological material. All this clothing carries the EU eco-label and is plastic-free. Furthermore, the sizes of the volunteers and employees are requested in advance so that as little clothing as possible is produced that is not worn.*

### 6. Digital promotion and cutting back on printing

*Optimal use will be made of digital promotion before and during the event. This via the website, social media, screens in the cities, etc. This will reduce the amount of printed material as much as possible. If something does need to be printed, environmentally friendly options will be chosen.*

### 7. Signage

*The signage that will be used is made of high-standard material. This means that it can be reused later for other events. If the signage can only be used once, the method for its collection and recycling must be demonstrated.*



# SUSTAINABILITY

## 7. HEALTH

### AMBITION

*During the event, a healthy lifestyle will be actively promoted to encourage spectators to move more, eat healthier, drink more water and stop smoking.*

### OBJECTIVES

- *Smoking is only permitted in the zones provided; the rest of the event is smoke-free.*
- *Promote healthy eating, movement and a healthy lifestyle in general.*

### SDGs



## ACTIONS

### 1. Smoke-free zones

*A number of smoke-free zones will be designated at the EC event sites. To protect the health of visitors, smoking is prohibited in these zones.*

*Signage is displayed in these zones and awareness campaigns will be conducted.*

### 2. Offer healthy food

*Healthy food options will be served in the public zones during the event. Spectators thus not only have a choice of the classic event catering, but can also choose a healthy option.*

### 3. Promote the drinking of water

*Drinking water is promoted by offering free potable tap water from the city water network.*

*Employees and volunteers receive a drinking bottle from the organisation at the start of the event, which they can refill at various points throughout the entire event.*

*Even after the event, they can still use this drinking bottle for drinking water.*

### 4. Promote movement

*Movement is promoted to the maximum before and during the event in multiple ways.*

### BEFORE THE EVENT

- *In collaboration with Pukkelpop, we are organising a PKP peloton that will bring festival-goers to the festival in a peloton*
- *In collaboration with Cycling Vlaanderen, we organised an aspirant peloton to ride from Heusden-Zolder to Hasselt and back during the 100 days press moment.*

- *A 100-day countdown clock to the European Championships has been set up by UCLL college, powered by two bikes.*
- *Design of the children's book 'Billies eerste koers' (Billie's First Race), which will be distributed in primary schools in Limburg. In addition to many other purposes, this book promotes cycling among children.*
- *One week before the EC, the Best of Limburg EC ride for cycling fans has been organised on the course used for the EC. At this event, various distances can be cycled by anyone who wishes to do so. It is for the real cycling tourist as well as for families and children. This event further highlights the cycling.*

### DURING THE EVENT

- *In collaboration with Cycling Vlaanderen, there will be an obstacle course for children along the EC course.*
- *In collaboration with the UHasselt, a Sports Medicine congress has been organised during the European Championships. Cycling and walking routes to the event will be picked out and communicated to spectators in advance. Additional bicycle parking facilities will also be provided close to the start and finish zones, further promoting cycling.*
- *UHasselt is setting up a system whereby spectators can charge their mobile phones by cycling.*

### AFTER THE EVENT

- *By organising the European Championship in Flanders, cycle racing and cycling in general are getting even more media exposure. This will automatically encourage more people in Flanders to get back on their bikes and cycle more frequently.*



# SUSTAINABILITY

## 8. GOOD GOVERNANCE

### AMBITION

To organise a sustainable and accessible event where transparency of procedures and respect for legislation are central. Furthermore, the European Championships must be a safe and healthy working environment for all employees and volunteers.

### OBJECTIVES

- Maximise compliance with the sustainability charter.
- 100% transparency around the awarding procedure and hiring of partners.

### SDGs



## ACTIONS

### 1. Sustainability charter

A sustainability charter has been prepared by the LOC in collaboration with the host cities, EventFlanders and OVAM with mandatory and optional conditions that each exhibitor, partner, course municipality and host city must comply with. This charter is incorporated automatically right from the beginning with the sending out of specifications and awarding of contracts. Furthermore, engagement is also requested from all the course municipalities.

### 2. Transparency

A transparent awarding process is used to combat corruption and bribery. This both for the appointment of suppliers and the procurement of goods.

### 3. Safe and healthy working environment

Work is conducted in a safe and healthy work environment. This both before and during the event. For this purpose, there is a collaboration with To B-Seen, which supports the LOC in this and oversees the safe running of the event and the set-up and take-down.

### 4. Respect for legislation

Legislation will be fully respected in all aspects of the event.







# ACCESSIBILITY

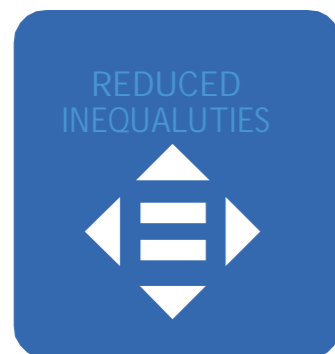
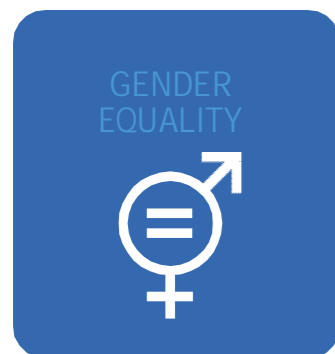
## AMBITION

Every visitor to the event feels welcome, regardless of age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, origin, etc. The same applies to people with a mental or physical disability. The event is accessible to everyone and can be experienced by everyone in the same manner.

## OBJECTIVES

- Maximum accessibility for all, with extra efforts for people who experience obstacles because of disability, skin colour, gender, origin, etc.

## SDGs



## ACTIONS

### 1. Collaboration with VZW Inter

By collaborating with VZW Inter, we ensure maximum accessibility for the European Cycling Championships. Together with them, numerous measures are taken to ensure that the event is as accessible as possible on various fronts.

### BASIC CONDITIONS ACCESSIBILITY

- Inform the visitors. Both before and during the event. All accessibility information can be found on the [limburg2024.be](http://limburg2024.be) website. At the event itself, signage and an info point are provided.
- The event is straightforward to reach. Reserved parking spaces are provided close to the event sites.
- Care is taken to ensure that people with a disability have the same experience as other visitors.

### INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

- All accessibility information can be found on the website. The contact details of VZW Inter can also be found there for people who want to submit a request to come to the event.
- Communication is in simple, clear language. No jargon is used, everything is structured and displayed in a font of an appropriate size and colour. At the event itself, the focus is on signage with pictograms.
- The event has been added to the *UitInVlaanderen* calendar and Inter will be tagged so that people can quickly see that this is an accessible event.





# ACCESSIBILITY

## LOCATION

- The event sites are accessible by car as well as by public transport, bicycle or on foot.
- Reserved parking spaces are provided close to the event sites. The access routes and other relevant information are provided in advance upon request.
- Accessible toilets are provided at various places. Their locations will be communicated in advance and indicated at the event itself via signage.
- The crossing points on the event sites are placed so that they are easy to reach. They are not far from the Inter stage and are well signposted.
- There is an Inter stage at the start presentation and by the awards podium that is reserved for wheelchair users and people with a disability. Each stage has a view of a screen. The stage is equipped with chairs and possibly a tent. The stage is constructed to ensure complete safety.
- The passageways at the event are sufficiently wide to allow easy access.
- If there is a height difference of more than 2 cm and there is no other solution or route, these are eliminated with slip-resistant ramps.
- A floor plan has been prepared clearly showing the different accessibility facilities. This floor plan will be communicated in advance and will also be on display at the event sites.

## EXTRA PROVISIONS

- During the event, on-site assistance is provided by VZW Inter. They support people with a disability, provide information and direct them to accessibility facilities such as the Inter stage. These are guides from VZW Inter itself, as well as volunteers from the organisation. They are the point of contact for all accessibility questions and issues.
  - A hearing loop system is provided for people with a hearing impairment. This allows them to follow the live TV broadcast, the teams presentation or the awards podium without any disturbing ambient noise.
  - If the demand is there, an interpreter will be deployed at the teams presentation and at the awards podium. This will be an Flemish Sign Language interpreter.
- 2. Engage disadvantaged groups**  
These people could potentially be deployed as volunteers during the event.
  - 3. Special Olympics**  
On September 15, during the Elite men's race, a competition will be contested on a section of the Hasselt Loop by the Special Olympics. Para-cyclists from 12 different countries will be taking part. By organising this on the day of the Elite men's race, the event will attract significant attention.

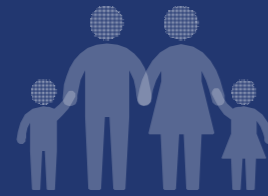




# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

*The 2024 European Championships in Limburg embraces the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations as a guide for its efforts. By focusing on various SDGs such as gender equality, responsible consumption & production and climate action, the event aims not only to offer an exhilarating sporting experience, but also to have a positive impact on local communities and the environment. The SDGs applicable to the event are:*

NO  
POVERTY



ZERO  
HUNGER



GOOD HEALTH  
AND WELL-BEING



QUALITY  
EDUCATION



GENDER  
EQUALITY



CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION



AFFORDABLE AND  
CLEAN ENERGY



DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH



INDUSTRY INNOVATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



REDUCED  
INEQUALITIES



SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



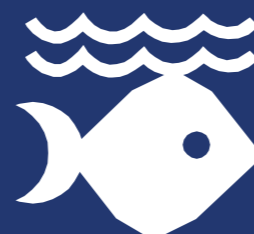
RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION



CLIMATE ACTION



LIFE BELOW  
WATER



LIFE ON  
LAND



PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS



# UEC & BELGIAN CYCLING

## COLLABORATION WITH THE UEC

*The UEC (Union Européenne de Cyclisme) is the European cycling federation. It is the umbrella organisation that manages and promotes the sport of cycling in Europe. The UEC organises the European championships, including the 2024 UEC Road European Championships. It works with national cycling federations, giving it the means to encourage national federations to take steps towards sustainability.*

*In the context of the 2024 European Cycling Championships, the LOC and EventFlanders have looked at what role the UEC can play within the sustainability plan. Concrete steps have emerged from these discussions, including adding guidelines in the technical guide regarding sustainable travel, eco-friendly accommodation and measures for ecological compensation. The technical guide is the appropriate tool to reach all federations.*

*Furthermore, the LOC and EventFlanders not only want to urge the UEC and the federations to implement measures for this European Championships, but they also strive to ensure that these sustainability principles become deeply rooted in their daily operations. The aim is to integrate sustainability into all aspects of their operations and events, creating a lasting positive impact in the long term. Through this approach, we hope to bring about a cultural change within the cycling world, whereby sustainability becomes the norm, not just during major events, but every day.*

## COLLABORATION WITH BELGIAN CYCLING

*Belgian Cycling, the Belgian national cycling federation, is also closely involved in the development of this sustainability plan. Belgian Cycling is expected to set an example in terms of sustainability for this European cycling championships.*

*Working with Belgian Cycling, we are looking at the contribution that it can make to the sustainability goals of the 2024 European Cycling Championships. Belgian Cycling will focus particularly on communication, providing sustainability ambassadors such as (former) cyclists who actively incorporate sustainability into their daily lives and, of course, set an example in terms of sustainability. Again, we want to integrate sustainability principles into the core of the activities of Belgian Cycling, both during the 2024 European Cycling Championships and thereafter.*

*Together with the UEC and Belgian Cycling, we want to work towards a greener future for the sport of cycling. Through these joint efforts, we are determined to make the 2024 European Cycling Championships a leading example of sustainable sports organisation.*





# IMPACT MEASURING

The LOC is going to work with EventFlanders and an external partner to measure the impact of their efforts for the 2024 European Cycling Championships. This measuring will include a comprehensive screening of the event's sustainability plan, whereby advice will be given regarding actions that can still be taken to make the event more sustainable. The measuring and sustainability support will consist of the following elements:

## SCREENING AND ADVISING ON THE SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

The approach begins with a thorough screening of the current sustainability plan for the 2024 European Cycling Championships. Every aspect of this plan is analysed and assessed to determine its effectiveness and targeted recommendations are made wherever possible. The aim is to offer practical and feasible suggestions that can reduce the ecological footprint of the event.

## QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

The sustainability of the event will be assessed both qualitatively and quantitatively. At least the following sustainability dimensions are taken into account:

- **Water:** Use and management of water during the event.
- **Material and waste:** The use of materials and the disposal and recycling of waste.
- **Energy:** Energy consumption and the source of the energy used.
- **Mobility:** The transport of participants, visitors, suppliers, volunteers, etc. to and from the event.
- **Food and drink:** Sustainability of the food and drinks on offer.
- **Communication:** Ways in which the event communicates its sustainability efforts.
- **Management & monitoring:** Systems for managing and monitoring the sustainability performance.
- **Biodiversity:** Impact on local flora and fauna, if applicable.

## TARGETED ADVICE PER DIMENSION

Based on the assessment, targeted advice will be formulated for each sustainability dimension. This advice aims not only to improve the European Championships, but also to help future similar events perform better in terms of sustainability.

## EVALUATION FRAMEWORK AND SCORING SYSTEM

To make the evaluation transparent and comparable, an evaluation framework will be used with a scoring system. This system can work with points, colour codes or a tiered model, making it possible to compare different events that are evaluated in the same way.

## CALCULATION OF CO<sup>2</sup> EMISSIONS

An essential part of the analysis is the calculation of the event's CO<sup>2</sup> emissions using a CO<sup>2</sup> calculator. This includes:

- **Scope 1 emissions:** Direct emissions from sources owned or controlled by the organisation.
- **Scope 2 emissions:** Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased electricity, power, heat or cooling.
- **Scope 3 emissions:** Other indirect emissions from the value chain, such as the transport of participants and suppliers, production of goods and travel of employees.

## SUPPORT FOR THE LOC

The LOC will be assisted in the gathering of the necessary information. This means that not only will a tool be provided, but there will also be active support in entering and interpreting the data.

Report and Presentation

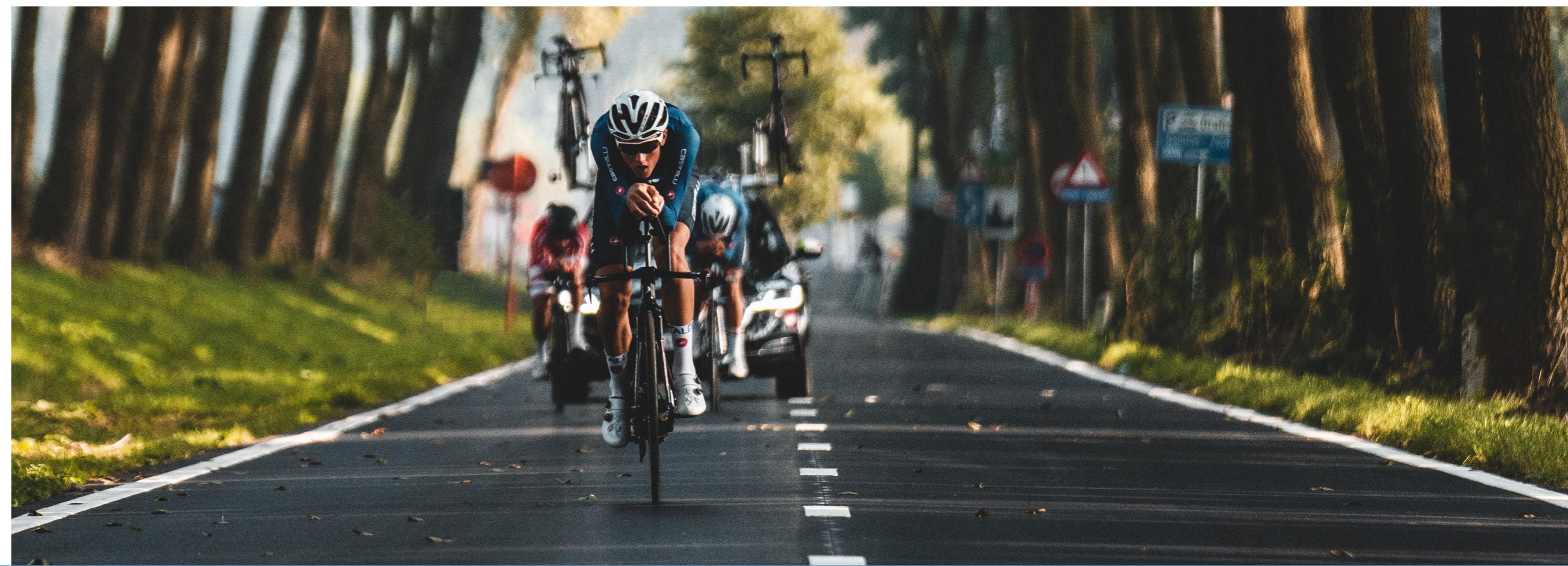
The result of these efforts will be summarised in a comprehensive report and a clear presentation. This report will contain the findings, recommendations and the formulated advice.

## COMPENSATING FOR THE REMAINING CO<sup>2</sup> EMISSIONS

Finally, advice will be formulated with regard to compensating for the remaining CO<sup>2</sup> emissions. This can be done, for example, by investing in sustainable projects or by purchasing CO<sup>2</sup> certificates.

This comprehensive approach aims to accurately measure and improve the impact of the 2024 European Cycling Championship in Limburg, with the ultimate goal being a sustainable and environmentally friendly event. This measuring can also be used as an example for other events.

★ ★ ★  
TIMING



2023

MAY JUN JUL AUG SEPT

*Prepare sustainability charter*  
*First meeting of sustainability work group*

OCT NOV DEC

*Prepare first version of sustainability plan*

2024

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG

*Practical roll-out of sustainability plan in collaboration with cities and municipalities*  
*Final version of sustainability plan*

SEP

*Communication:*  
*Mobility: last month before the event*  
*Accessibility: last month before the event*  
*Waste awareness: last two weeks before event*  
*2024 European cycling championship in Limburg*

OCT

*Evaluation and legacy*



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*We would like to thank everyone who will help to make the 2024 UEC Road European Championships in Limburg sustainable and accessible. We would like to thank them for their time, commitment, resources and services.*

*Without all these people and partners, we would not succeed in this challenge.*

*Therefore a big thank you to all the volunteers, employees and to the following organisations:*





CONTACT

[www.limburg2024.be](http://www.limburg2024.be)

