

Sustainability & Social Inclusion Report 2025

Events



1. Introduction

United World Wrestling (UWW) recognizes the responsibility of international sport federations to contribute positively to sustainability and social inclusion through the way sport is organized and delivered. As a global federation operating across diverse cultural, economic, and geographical contexts, UWW approaches sustainability as a practical, context-aware process embedded within event organization rather than as a one-size-fits-all model.

In line with the values of the Olympic Movement and the principles promoted within the ASOIF framework, UWW integrates sustainability and social inclusion considerations into its events with a focus on feasibility, inclusiveness, and continuous improvement. This approach builds on previous initiatives developed between 2022 and 2024, reinforcing a progressive pathway rather than isolated actions.

UWW events serve not only as platforms for sporting excellence but also as opportunities to promote responsible practices, awareness, and positive behaviors among athletes, officials, organizers, and local communities. Within this framework, sustainability is understood as a shared responsibility, shaped by collaboration between UWW, local organizing committees, and competition stakeholders.

This report outlines how sustainability and social inclusion principles were applied across UWW events in 2025, with particular attention to organizational decision-making processes and practical implementation at event level.

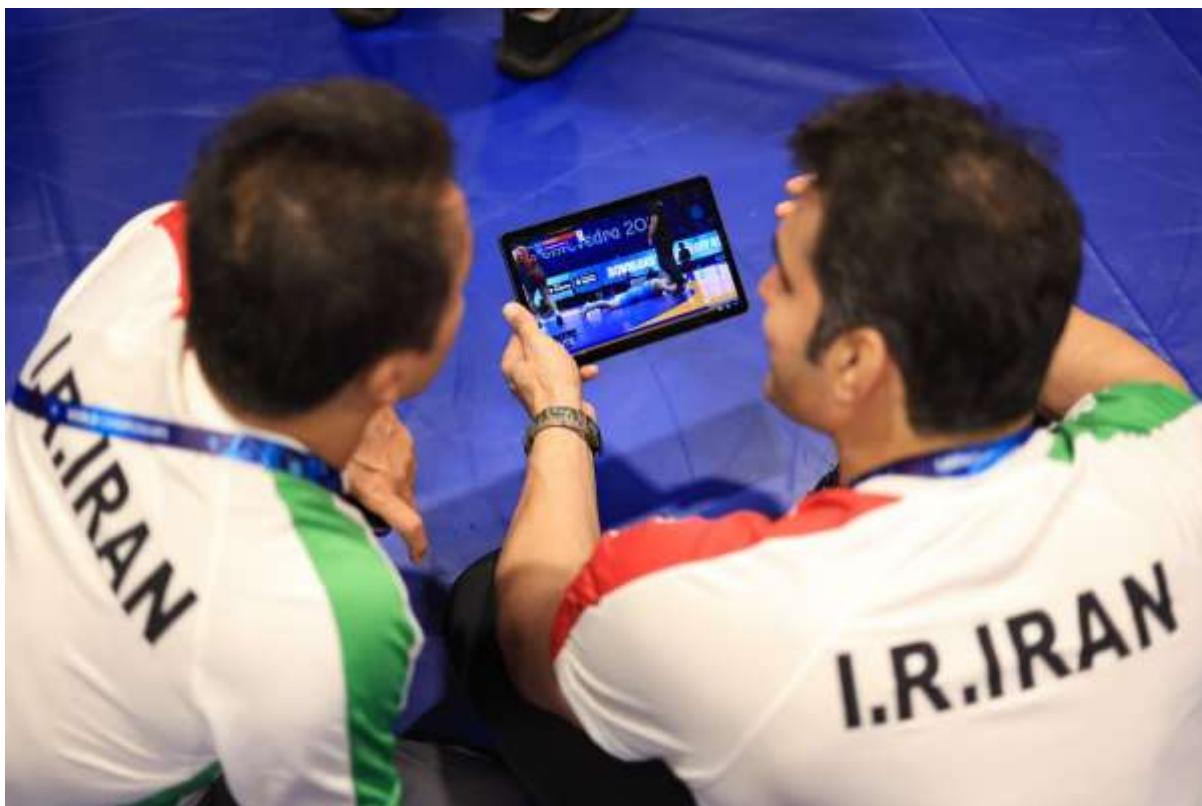


2. Governance and Framework for UWW Events

Sustainability and social inclusion considerations are integrated into the governance framework of UWW events through structured yet adaptable tools designed to support organizers across different contexts. Rather than prescribing uniform solutions, UWW promotes a common framework that allows for contextual interpretation based on local realities, event scale, and available resources.

Competition managers and local organizing committees play a central role in applying these principles throughout the lifecycle of an event — from planning and logistics to on-site delivery and post-event review. Sustainability and social inclusion reporting tools are used as a reference point to encourage reflection on key operational areas, support consistency across events, and facilitate internal learning.

This framework emphasizes informed decision-making over rigid metrics, recognizing that meaningful sustainability outcomes often emerge from practical choices made on the ground. By embedding these considerations into event preparation and execution, UWW aims to foster a culture of responsibility and awareness that evolves progressively across its event portfolio.



3. Key Areas of Action at UWW Events

Sustainability and social inclusion considerations are integrated into UWW events through a set of key operational areas that reflect both organizational priorities and on-the-ground realities. Across different event formats and regions, these areas guide decision-making processes while allowing flexibility in implementation based on local conditions.

Rather than focusing on prescriptive measures, UWW emphasizes practical approaches that support responsible event delivery, efficiency, and inclusiveness.

3.1 Venue and Infrastructure

Venue selection and infrastructure planning play a central role in the sustainable delivery of UWW events. Given the nature of the sport of wrestling, competitions can be delivered within existing sports facilities without the need for purpose-built stages, extensive temporary constructions, or large-scale structural adaptations.

Whenever possible, events are hosted in venues that are already equipped to meet competition requirements, allowing organizers to minimize additional installations and reduce the operational footprint associated with event setup and dismantling.

Operational decisions related to space usage are guided by efficiency and functionality, with particular attention to optimizing athlete flow, competition areas, and support spaces. This approach supports both environmental considerations and the overall quality of the event experience for participants and officials.



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By adapting event layouts to the specific characteristics of each venue, UWW events aim to balance operational effectiveness with responsible resource use.

3.2 Transport and Mobility

Transportation planning is approached as both a logistical and sustainability-related consideration, closely linked to venue selection and accommodation arrangements. Across UWW events, transport-related decisions are shaped by local infrastructure, safety requirements, and the overall scale of each competition.

While walking-distance solutions are prioritized whenever feasible, transport operations are adapted to context-specific realities. Key considerations guiding transport planning included:

- Centralization of competition, training, and accommodation venues to limit travel distances where possible
- Optimization of transport schedules to reduce unnecessary trips and improve vehicle occupancy
- Coordination with local organizing committees to align transport solutions with local infrastructure and operational capacity

Through this approach, transport operations supported efficiency, accessibility, and participant well-being while contributing to responsible resource use within the constraints of each event context.



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3.3 Waste Reduction and Materials Management

Waste reduction and materials management are addressed through practical operational choices that prioritize necessity, functionality, and local feasibility. Rather than applying uniform solutions, UWW events adopt context-aware approaches aligned with venue capabilities and service structures.

Across events in 2025, materials-related decisions were guided by the following considerations:

- Limiting excessive printed materials by prioritizing digital communication and operational tools where appropriate
- Reducing the use of single-use items when feasible, in coordination with venue and service providers
- Favoring locally available resources and services to support logistical efficiency and reduce unnecessary transport

Food and materials-related practices varied depending on regional and venue-specific conditions; however, the overarching objective remained consistent: to minimize avoidable waste while maintaining operational quality and participant experience.

Awareness among organizers, staff, and participants was considered a key component of these efforts, reinforcing the role of UWW events as platforms for responsible practices through daily operational behavior.



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3.4 Accessibility and Social Inclusion

Accessibility and social inclusion are integral considerations in the planning and delivery of UWW events, shaping how spaces, services, and operations are organized. These principles are applied with the objective of creating safe, respectful, and equitable environments for all participants.

While implementation varies according to venue characteristics and local context, inclusive practices across events in 2025 were guided by the following considerations:

- Ensuring equitable access to competition and support areas for athletes, officials, and accredited participants
- Promoting safe and respectful environments through clear operational procedures and stakeholder awareness
- Supporting fair participation conditions regardless of gender, nationality, or background

Event operations are designed to respond to diverse participant needs within the practical constraints of each venue and host context. Through close collaboration with competition managers and local organizing committees, inclusion is embedded as a practical dimension of event delivery rather than a standalone initiative.



4. 2025 Event Highlights

Throughout 2025, sustainability and social inclusion principles were applied consistently across UWW events of different scales and formats, including World Championships and continental competitions held across multiple regions.

While operational contexts varied significantly depending on location, infrastructure, and local capacity, a common approach guided event delivery. Key patterns observed across events included:

- Prioritization of existing venues and infrastructures to support efficient and responsible event delivery
- Logistical planning designed to optimize transportation and reduce operational complexity
- Integration of inclusive practices into daily event operations for athletes, officials, and stakeholders

The application of shared organizational principles, combined with flexible local implementation, allowed events to maintain operational quality while adapting sustainability-related decisions to regional realities. This consistency across diverse contexts reflects UWW's commitment to integrating responsible practices as a standard component of event organization rather than as isolated initiatives.



5. Lessons Learned and Continuous Improvement

Experience gained from the delivery of UWW events in 2025 reinforced the importance of adopting a structured yet flexible approach to sustainability and social inclusion within an international sporting context. Experience across different regions and event formats highlighted that meaningful progress is best achieved through informed decision-making and close collaboration.

Key lessons identified during the 2025 event cycle include:

- The value of integrating sustainability and social inclusion considerations at early stages of event planning
- The importance of close coordination with local organizing committees to adapt practices to local realities
- The effectiveness of flexible frameworks that support consistency while allowing contextual interpretation
- The role of awareness and shared responsibility in embedding responsible practices into daily event operations

Building on these learnings, UWW remains committed to refining its tools and guidance, strengthening stakeholder awareness, and promoting incremental improvements across its event portfolio. This approach reflects an understanding that sustainability is a continuous process, shaped by experience, dialogue, and adaptation over time.

Conclusion

UWW events provide an opportunity to demonstrate how international sport competitions can be delivered responsibly while maintaining operational excellence and inclusiveness. Through pragmatic decision-making, collaboration with local organizers, and attention to context-specific realities, sustainability and social inclusion principles are integrated into event delivery in a practical and scalable manner.

By building on existing frameworks and experiences, UWW remains committed to strengthening its approach to sustainable event organization, contributing positively to the broader objectives of the Olympic Movement and the international sporting community.



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