

Strategic framework:
reusable dishes and public
events in Tallinn



Liina Kanarbik

Lead Specialist

Circular Economy Department
Tallinn Strategic Management Office

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Is it possible to serve food and drinks from reusable dishes in a mass event where there are 80 000 participants?



THE 13TH
YOUTH SONG & DANCE
CELEBRATION
30.06-2.07.2023

The strategic framework and journey to banning
single-used dishes in public events ...

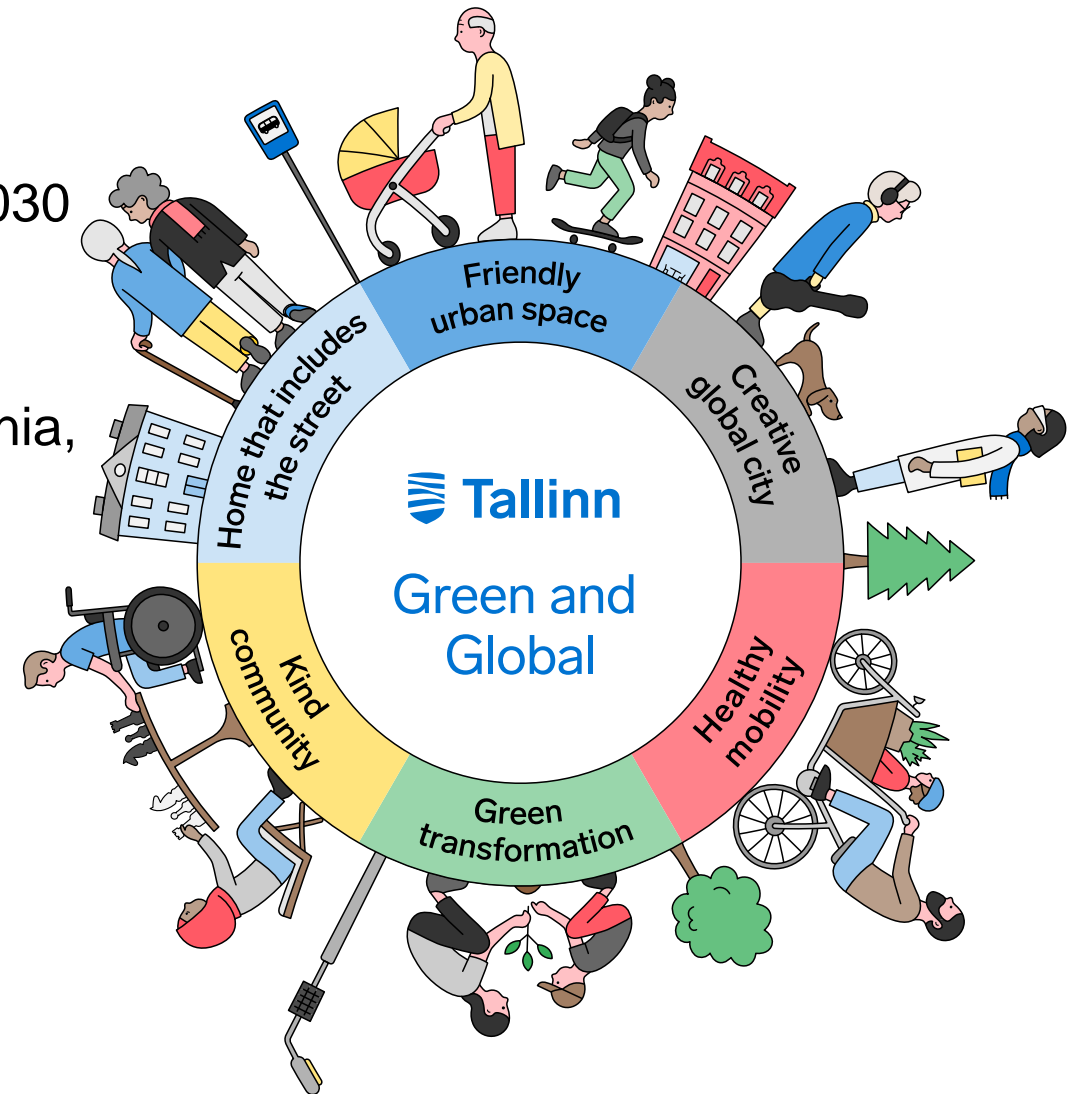
Strategic framework related to sustainability and circular economy



- Moving towards a circular economy requires a systemic and strategic approach on a local level
- Harmonized guidance is needed to develop a suitable strategic framework that contributes to the reduction of single-used products

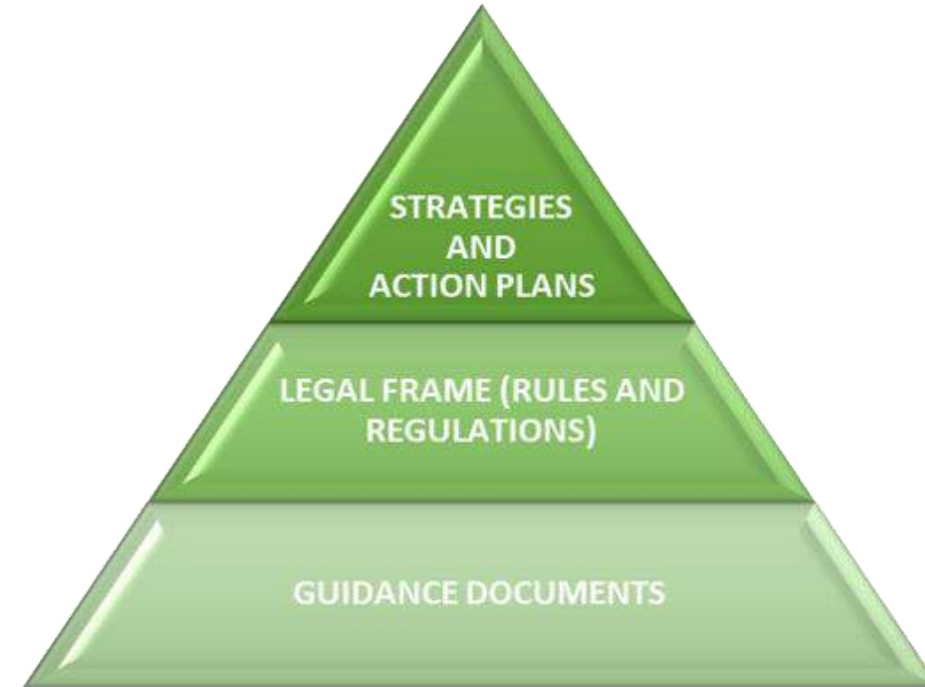
Strategic framework related to sustainability and circular economy

- Tallinn 2035 Development Strategy
- Tallinn Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan 2030
- Tallinn Waste Management Plan 2022-2026
- OECD report on the Circular Economy in Tallinn, Estonia, 2023
- Tallinn Waste Management Regulations



Strategic framework for waste prevention and reduction in Tallinn

- **First level (strategies and action plans)** – at the top of the pyramid are long-term goals and targets for the sustainable use of materials
 - [Tallinn waste management plan 2022-2026](#)
- **Second level (legal framework: rules/regulations)** – based on the strategy/action plan, the municipality adopts necessary legal acts
 - [Tallinn Waste Management Regulations](#)
 - [Procedure for organising and holding public events in City of Tallinn](#)
 - [Guidelines for organizing sustainable events by city authorities](#)
- **Third level (guidance documents)** – various operational guidelines for external/internal stakeholders
 - Recommendations for event organisers



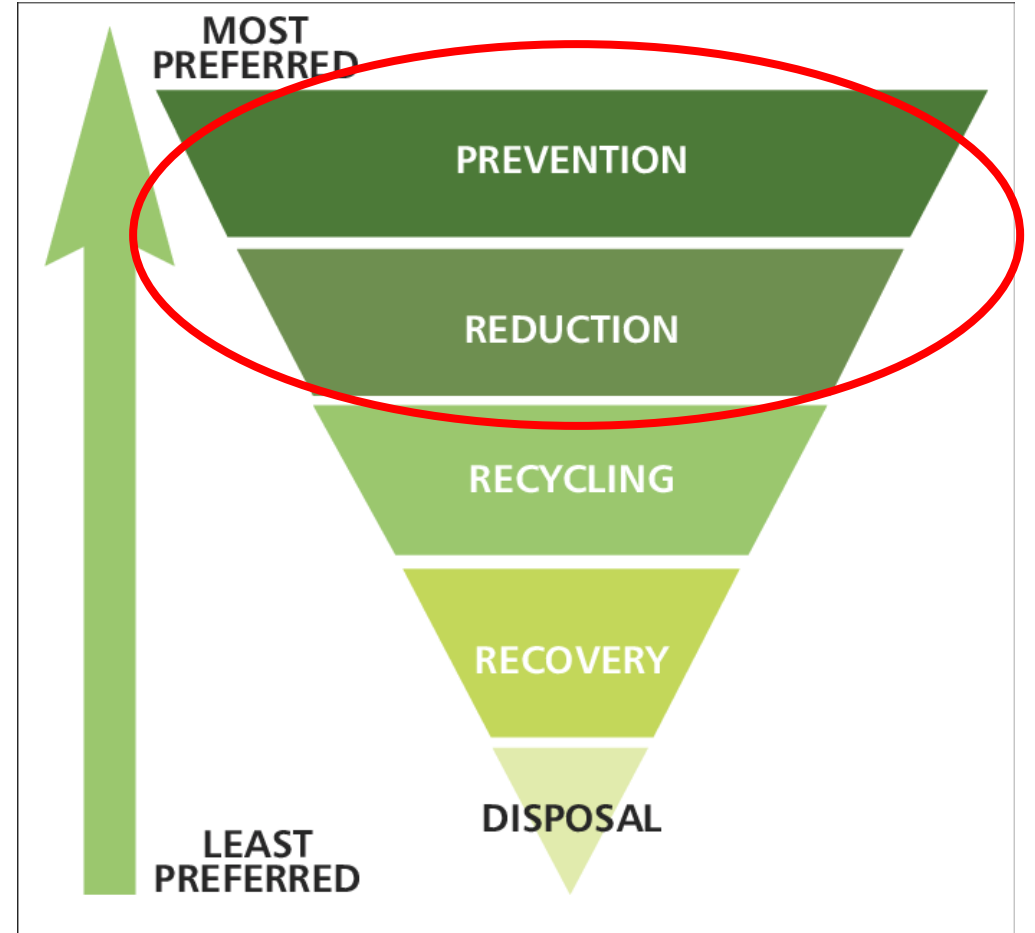
The concept for the strategic framework. Source: SEI Tallinn

Waste prevention/reduction and public events in Tallinn

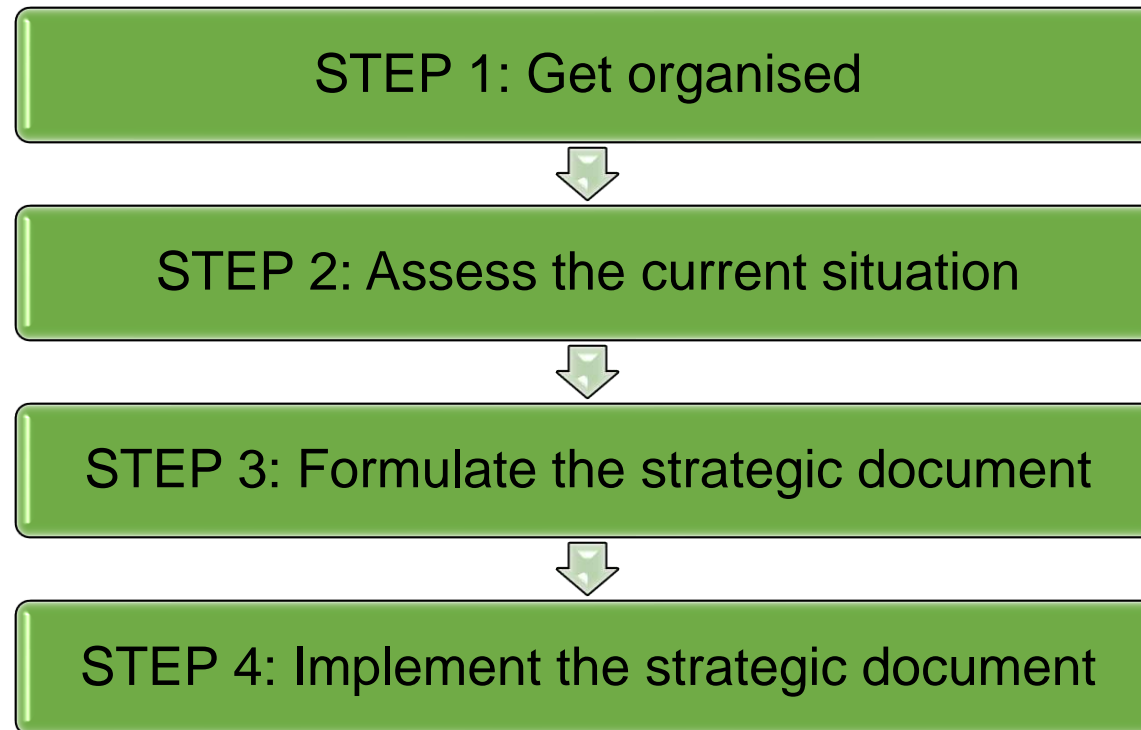
- October 2019 - Tallinn banned single-used plastic cups, plates, cutlery
- Only compostable dishes, cutlery (EN 13432) were allowed

Replacing the material of a disposable product does not solve the waste problem!





Strategic framework for waste prevention and reduction



Process

Moving towards reusables...



2021-2022

Assessing situation

- Tallinn waste management plan 2022-2026 promotes moving towards a circular economy
- Assessing the current reuse situation



Spring 2022

Onboarding events

- Draft ready - Guidelines for organizing sustainable events
- Finding event organizers to test the guidelines



Summer 2022

Testing the guideline

- 2 sports events
- Music festival
- Family festival



2022 – 2023

Formulating the regulation

- Meeting stakeholders
- Formulating the strategic document



March 2023

Announcing the new regulation

- Implementing city regulations
- June 2023 – only reusable dishes allowed in public events

KOV määruste valdkondlik liigitus: Korrakaitse → Avaliku ürituse kord

Teksti suurus: A A A

Tallinna linnas avaliku ürituse korraldamise ja pidamise kord

Meeldetuletused ↓ Laadi alla ↓ Trüki RSS Abiinfo

Õigusakt KOV veebileht Andmekogud

Valjaandja: Tallinna Linnavolikogu

Akti liik: määrus

Teksti liik: terviktekst

Redaktsiooni jõustumise kp: 21.03.2023

Redaktsiooni kehtivuse lõpp: Hetkel kehtiv

Avaldamismärge: RT IV, 18.03.2023, 20

Vali redaktsioon: Eelmine ↓ Hetkel kehtiv

Võrdle redaktsioone Vaata digitemplit

Tallinna linnas avaliku ürituse korraldamise ja pidamise kord

Vastu võetud 29.05.2014 nr 12

RT IV, 10.06.2014, 16

jõustumine 01.07.2014

KOV määruste valdkondlik liigitus: Keskkond ja heakord → Jäätmeähtlus

Teksti suurus: A A A

Tallinna jäätmehoolduseeskiri

Meeldetuletused ↓ Laadi alla ↓ Trüki RSS Abiinfo

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Redaktsiooni jõustumise kp: 21.03.2023

Redaktsiooni kehtivuse lõpp: Kehtetu

Avaldamismärge: RT IV, 18.03.2023, 25

Vali redaktsioon: Eelmine ↓ Hetkel kehtiv

Võrdle redaktsioone Vaata digitemplit

Tallinna jäätmehoolduseeskiri

Vastu võetud 08.09.2011 nr 28

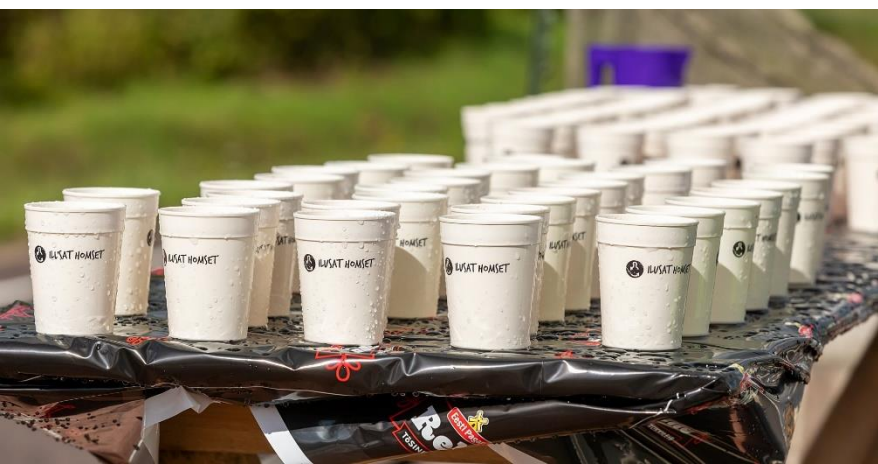
jõustumine 01.10.2011

 Muudetud järgmiste aktidega (peida)

Vastuvõtmine	Avaldamine	Jõustumine
Kehtetu	RT IV, 18.03.2023, 7	21.03.2023

Tallinn City Council introduced new regulations in spring 2023:

- [1. Tallinn Waste Management Regulations](#)
- [2. Rules for organising and holding public events in city of Tallinn](#)



Public events in Tallinn since June 2023

- **June 2023** – food and drinks may only be served in reusable containers (e.g. plates, bowls, drinking glasses, coffee cups) and use only reusable cutlery (e.g. knives, forks, spoons, chopsticks) in public events **up to 30 000 visitors/day in Tallinn**.
- **January 2024** – only reusable dishes are allowed in public events **in whole Estonia** regardless the number of visitors.
- **Public event** = an entertainment event, competition, performance, trade event or other similar gathering of people that takes place in a public place and is open to the public with or without a ticket.

The power of regulation as a peakon!

The regulation gave an exception to events with more than 30 000 visitors/day. 3 such events in the summer of 2023. All of them **voluntarily** opted for reusable dishes.



The Weeknd
55 000 visitors
Reusable cups 😊



Depeche Mode
40 000 visitors
Reusable cups 😊



Youth Song and Dance Festival
80 000 participants
100% reusable dishes and cutlery 😊



THE 13TH
YOUTH SONG & DANCE
CELEBRATION
30.06-2.07.2023

Dance Celebration
performance “Bridges”

Total performers and visitors

46 828



XIII Youth Song Festival
“Holy is the Land”

Total performers and visitors

84 811



30.06-02.07.2023



70 waste collection points



11 reusable dishes collection points

CUP  2€

Food and beverages are sold in reusable dishes (cups and dishes), which cost a refundable deposit. Cutlery (fork, knife, spoon) are also reusable, but do not require a refundable deposit.

Return deposit dishes to the return tent and get the deposit back. Return cutlery to the same place.

Before returning deposit dishes, empty leftover food and beverages in the biowaste containers located near the return tents if necessary.

PANDITOPS

Look for the tent with the Pandīnōu logo!



- Around 100 „green ambassadors“
- 70 waste collection points
- 11 reusable dishes collection points

Youth Song & Dance Festival 2023

- ~ 100 000 people
- 85 000 pcs reusable cups
- 155 000 pcs reusable plates/bowls
- 161 500 pcs reusable cutlery
- 22,1 tons of waste vs 40 tons of waste in 2019

22,1 tons of waste out of which:

- Biowaste 8,3 tons
- Mixed waste 7,9 tons
- Plastic and metal packaging waste 3,9 tons
- Paper and cardboard waste 0,5 tons
- Glass packaging waste 1,5 tons

Amount of mixed waste per person reduced



2019

178g



2023

60g



Reusable dishes



Guidelines for Organizing Sustainable Events

Guidelines for Organizing Sustainable Events



Tallinna
linnapea

- mayor's directive
- since April 5th 2023
- conference, seminar, reception, charity or entertainment event, competition, performance, trade event or other similar gathering of people
- all city institutions

KÄSKKIRI

05.04.2023 nr T-4-1/23/6

Keskkonnahoidliku ürituse korraldamise reeglid

[Kohaliku omavalitsuse korralduse seaduse](#) § 50 lg 1 p 3 alusel, kooskõlas Tallinna Linnavolikogu 9. märtsi 2023 määruse nr 3 „Tallinna jäätmehoolduseeskiri“ § 4 lõigetega 1 ja 2 ja 17. detsembri 2020 määruse nr 26 „Tallinna arengustrateegia „Tallinn 2035““ strateegilise sihiga „Roheline maailm“ ning tulenevalt vajadusest kehtestada Tallinna linna asutuste korraldatavatele üritustele ühtsed reeglid, et hoida ürituste keskkonnamõju võimalikult väike

1. Üldsätted

1.1 Käskkirjas määratakse kindlaks Tallinna linna asutuste (edaspidi *korraldaja*) korraldatavate ürituste keskkonnahoiureeglid, mille täitmise peab tagama korraldaja.

1.2 Käskkirjas mõistetakse ürituse (edaspidi *üritus*) all konverentsi, seminari, vastuvõttu, tänu- ja heategevusüritust, lõbustusüritust, võistlust, etendust, kaubandusüritust või muud sellesamast inimeste koos olemist, mis ei ole koosolek, sh Tallinna linna asutuste siseüritust.

1.3 Korraldajal tuleb Tallinna linna sõlmitavates üritust puudutavates lepingutes määratleda lepingu teise poole kohustus järgida käskkirjas kindlaks määratud reegleid.

2. Jäätmete vähendamine ja ringlussevõtt

2.1 Korraldaja on kohustatud tagama üritusel jäätmete liigiti kogumise.

2.2 Eraldi tuleb koguda vähemalt biolagunevad jäätmed, paberi- ja kartongijäätmed, segaolmejäätmed ning klaas-, sega- ja pandipakend, kui seda üritusel tekib.

2.3 Üritusel kasutatavad jäätmemahutid või -raamid peavad olema tähistatud sinna kogutava jäätmeliigi nimetusega eesti keeles ja vajadusel ka võõrkeeltes ning õiget värvi piktogrammiga vastavalt Tallinna jäätmehoolduseeskirjale.

2.4 Korduskasutatavate anumate ja söögiriistade kogumiskoht (nt kast, automaat) peab olema jäätmemahutitest selgelt eristatav.

2.5 Liigiti kogutud jäätmed tuleb üle anda vastavat keskkonnakaitsetalust omavale jäätmekäitlejale. Avaliku ürituse korraldaja peab jäätmete üleandmist ja koguseid tõendavad dokumendid esitama e-posti aadressil jaatmed@tallinnlv.ee.

3. Materjalid ja ostud

3.1 Inventari, materjale ja muid asju tuleb tellida mõõdukas koguses, et ülejääk oleks võimalikult väike. Dekoratsioonid peavad olema korduskasutatavad või nende materjalid ringlussevõetavad. Ürituse korraldamiseks vajalike asjade, sh dekoratsioonina kasutatavate (kunst)taimede ostmise asemel tuleb neid võimalusel üürida.

3.2 Kutsed, infomaterjalid jms tuleb võimalusel esitada elektrooniliselt. Paberi kasutamisel peab see olema ökomärgisega.

Guidelines for Organizing Sustainable Events

Focus areas

- **Materials and Purchases**
- **Catering and Water Use**
- Waste Management
- Transport
- Energy and Resource Efficiency
- Taking Into Account the Environment and Community
- **Communication and impact on the venue**



Source: Acento

Materials and Purchases

- **Decorations must be reusable** or their materials recyclable
- **Renting** instead of buying
- Only eco-labeled paper should be used
- Printing only when necessary
- E-invitations, information materials
- **Name card holders and neckbands must be reusable**
- Souvenirs and gifts must be shared as little as possible. Local products (food/drinks) preferred.
- In case of goods, souvenirs, gifts - unnecessary packaging must be avoided.
- Cleaning products (e.g. hand soap, tissue paper) must be **eco-labelled**
- **Refillable containers** must be used instead of disposable containers (e.g. soap dispensers).



Waste Management

- **Separate waste collection (at least bio, packages and mixed waste; paper, glass and deposit bottles if generated)**
- Waste containers/frames/labels used at the event must be marked with correct color, pictograms, in foreign languages
- **Reusable dishes must be collected separately, clearly visible**
- **Proof (documents) of separately collected waste (amounts, types) must be provided**



Catering and water use

- Food and drinks may only be served in **reusable containers** and use only reusable cutlery
- **Tap water** (instead of bottled water) should be preferred as drinking water
- Fill glasses only when needed
- **Small food packets are not allowed** (e.g. salt, sugar, pepper, coffee cream, honey).
- **Remaining food must be distributed** to organisers, visitors or donated to other partners in reusable containers
- **Local, seasonal, organic food is preferred, vegan food should be served**



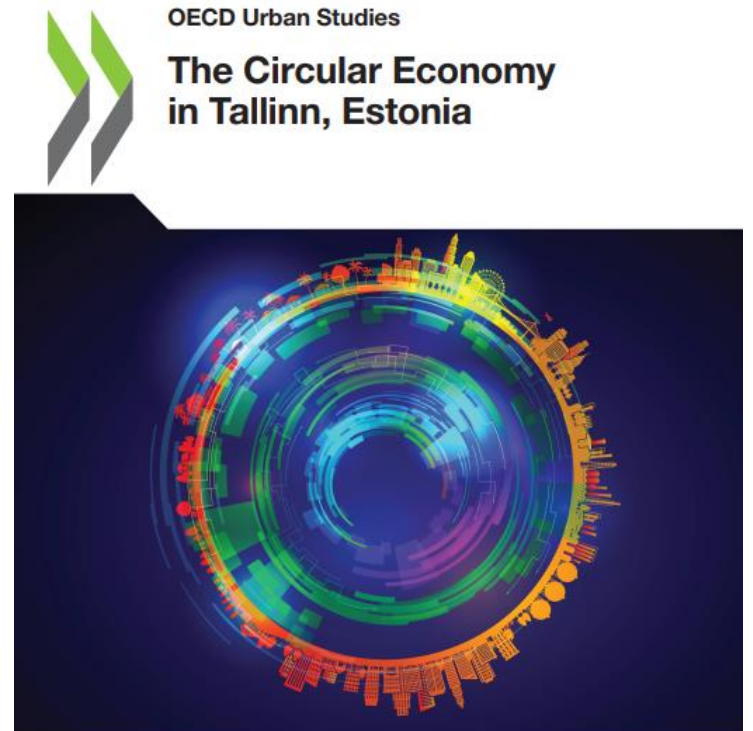
Communication and impact on the venue

- Local property owners must be informed about the event
- After event the venue must be cleaned, land restored
- **Sustainability** (use of transportation, using own bottle, reusables, etc) **must be available to the visitors**, e.g. on the website/tickets, during the event with signs, by host, ...
- **Using „green ambassadors“ to raise the awareness of the green event**



New strategical document:

- Strategical document – „**Tallinn’s Circular Economy Development Plan 2035**“ preparation was launched by the City Council in Feb 2024
- Focus areas:
 - Built environment
 - Circular products and services
 - Sustainable food and bioeconomy
 - Green procurements
 - Raising awareness
 - Waste management
- Prepared from February 2024 to June 2025



Paldies!
Aitäh!
Thank you!

Liina Kanarbik
Lead Specialist
Circular Economy Department
City of Tallinn
Liina.Kanarbik@tallinnlv.ee

