

Migros Culture Percentage Dance Festival Steps 2022 Greenhouse gas balance

Migros Culture Percentage Dance Festival Steps has organised Switzerland's biggest dance festival every other year since 1988. Steps brings contemporary dance to the Swiss public. In 2022, nine national and international dance companies gave 72 performances in about 39 Swiss theatres, all in just under a month. Steps works with a network of local operators in its capacity as tour organiser.

In 2022, a greenhouse gas balance was created for the first time in cooperation with sustainability partner for the festival Amstein + Walthert. The balance covered the organisation and performance of the festival. The methodology, data collection and results are detailed below.

Methodology and system limit

The life cycle approach was applied to the overall balance. That means direct (Scope 1) and indirect (Scope 2 and Scope 3) greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) were covered. Emission factors from different sources were considered (e.g. KBOB factors) to calculate the greenhouse gas emissions.

- The **parameters in terms of organisation** include: building energy (offices), employee mobility (commuting, visioning, meetings) and artists, material consumption, printing, food, water and waste, merchandise, accommodation (employees and artists).
- The **festival parameter** includes: visitor mobility, building energy (partner theatres), material consumption, printing.
- The **framework programme** ("Dance with your Association", "Professional workshops" and "Steps seismograph") were included in the organisation balance, however building energy was not, nor was water and waste due to missing data plus there was not much need for them.

As gathering data from all 39 theatres would have been very laborious, detailed data was collected from three model theatres. Some basic data was also gathered by means of a survey distributed to 17 of the 39 theatres. The data from the model theatres and survey was extrapolated and evaluated for the balance. Incomplete data made it impossible to include emissions from drinks and refreshments purchased by visitors. The same goes for water and theatre waste, which are not included either due to incomplete data. Visitor responses to questions about their mobility were low, so statistical values were added to give a realistic picture. It was also assumed that fewer people were travelling compared to other festivals due to COVID-19. As a result, GHG emissions were lower, especially for mobility and accommodation.

Evaluation

Most greenhouse gas emissions, over 90% in total, are accounted for by transport (64%), accommodation (21%) and building energy (8%). However, there are data gaps, for example with regard to food, and experience has shown that this area also accounts for a large share of GHG emissions at festivals.

- In **transport** visitor mobility accounted for about 45% of emissions. Approximately 31% of emissions are from goods transport and another 24% from artist and employee mobility (about 19% and 5% respectively).
- Overnight stays are included under **accommodation**. From a total of 1,765 overnight stays, 97% of emissions from 1,701 overnight stays were accounted for by artists and only 3% by employees, for screenings for example.
- **Building energy** accounts for 92% of emissions for heating and only 8% for electricity. Energy consumption and the source were taken into consideration. Cooling energy and/or refrigerants are not included in the calculations.

How many emissions are caused by the Steps?

- CO₂-equivalents:
 - Transport 100 t
 - Accommodation 33.2 t
 - Building energy 12.8 t

CO₂

158.6 t CO_{2,eq}

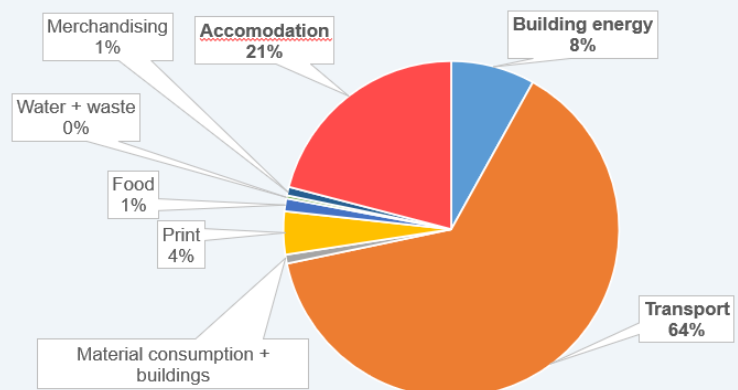


Chart1: Greenhouse gas balance by area in % (organisation and festival)

Steps 2022		Per visitor	
Area	CO2,eq [kg]	Area	CO2,eq [kg]
Building energy	12'811	Building energy	0.84
Transport	100'956	Transport	6.64
Material consumption + buildings	1'354	Material consumption + buildings	0.09
Print	6'564	Print	0.43
Food	1'943	Food	0.13
Water + waste	469	Water + waste	0.03
Merchandising	1'300	Merchandising	0.09
Accommodation	33'219	Accommodation	2.18
Sum		Sum	
Year	CO2,eq [kg]	Number of visitors	CO2,eq [kg]
-	158'616	15207	10.43

Chart2: Evaluation per area for emissions in total and per visitor

Area surveyed	Description
Building energy	Electricity and heating for offices and theatres
Transport	Goods transport, employee mobility, visitors and artists
Material consumption + buildings	Drinking cups, hygiene products, devices, furniture. Flower bouquets (without stage sets as provided by artists)
Print	Placards, flyers, programme
Food	Meals and drinks for staff and artists (excl. visitors)
Water + waste	Water and waste for offices (excl. theatres, supporting programme)
Merchandise	T shirts for the organising team and artists
Accommodation	Overnight stays for artists and staff (screening)

Further steps and measures

The balance included making recommendations to companies and partners on how to improve ecological sustainability. The Dance Festival has also defined steps to manage the organisation and performance in a more sustainable way.