

Ibn Battuta Sustainability & Society Guideline

Diversity & Inclusion

Respectful conversations
Mutual acceptance
Confidential Counselors

1.

Activities

2. Sustainable promotion
Public transport

Food

Vegetarian
Local products
Organic food

3.

Waste

4. Reusable tableware
Planning groceries
Eco-friendly choices

Travel

Sustainable travel choices
RUG travel map

5.

Committee Clothing

6. Committee pins
Environmentally-friendly clothes
Sustainable printing

Purchasing

Local gifts
Limit ordering online

7.

Supporting Charity

8. Financial support
Awareness for chosen charity
Volunteer work



Ibn Battuta

Sustainability Guideline

Diversity and Inclusion

At Ibn Battuta we strive for an open atmosphere for all members. This means that we aim to provide a place in which members feel respected, regardless of their background. Interactions should be carried out respectfully and based on mutual acceptance. Therefore, we want to provide everyone with a platform to learn and develop their own knowledge. In case of any concerns, the Confidential Counselors of Ibn Battuta can be reached via confidentialcounsellors@ibnbattuta.nl.

1.

Activities

2. Sustainability should be considered when planning activities. This includes the promotion of the activity, the travel to the activity, as well as the activity itself and its logistics. For promotion, no individual flyers should be handed out, but instead, the committees can make use of the TV screen promotion in the Coffee Room. When traveling to activities past biking distance, going by public transport is the norm.

Food

3. The food provided at all activities should be at least vegetarian and if possible, also include plant-based options. At committee meetings, eating vegetarian is encouraged. Additionally, the quality of products should be considered. Local and organic groceries can be purchased at the market on Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays in the city center and at the Ekoplaza where students get a 10% discount. Furthermore, local restaurants and businesses can be supported during committee evenings and activities. An overview of local shops can be found in this map from the Green Office: <https://tinyurl.com/ycxfu74d>.

Waste

4. Within the Coffee Room, we are increasingly trying to be more aware of waste. The reusable coffee mugs are a yearly recurring tradition that is feasible to be carried on in the future. This already reduces the waste of single-use plastics in the Association by a large amount. At activities and weekends, single-use plastics are not tolerated anymore. Members are stimulated to bring reusable tableware. In case single-use tableware is needed, eco-friendly options are provided. Additionally for activities and weekends where food is purchased the number of participants should be taken into account to limit the amount of food waste. If something is left divided it among participants or find a way to donate it.



Ibn Battuta

Sustainability Guideline

Travel

Traveling within the Association is encouraged to be with public transport whenever it is feasible to reach the destination easily. Furthermore, for excursions also a touring car can be considered instead of individual vans. For larger and longer excursions an eye should be kept on the sustainability of travel and also its activities. The short foreign excursions are mostly by public transport. For an indication of travel times and recommendations on sustainable travel, the RUG travel map can be consulted: <https://www.rug.nl/about-ug/profile/facts-and-figures/duurzaamheid/nieuws/vliegensvlug-met-de-trein?lang=en>.

5.

Committee Clothing

Over the long run, committee clothing can get unsustainable, especially when the committee is unaware of its options. Different choices can be made when choosing committee clothing. For example the type of clothing and what quality but also how it's printed (foil print vs screen print). With the higher subsidy for sustainable clothing, committees are more drawn to durable options that will last longer. When more money is spent on clothing items committees think twice about the design and will wear their items longer.

6.

Purchasing

Many committees and the Board need gadgets or also gifts for their activities. In case items need to be purchased, we want to emphasize the origin of the products. Especially for food or gifts, local shops can be made use of. Places like de Kaaskop or Kruidenier Wolters provide great gift baskets in different price ranges. Additionally, when wanting to purchase items online, it should be considered if this is necessary or if it can be bought in a store in Groningen. For events with a winner, prizes are often cups to pass along which will be engraved with the winner to also give it a historical meaning.

7.

Supporting Charity

During the year a charity is chosen by members in the field of spatial sciences. Committees and members are encouraged to find a way to either individually support societal concerns or as a committee find ways to do so. This can be done by either organizing an activity for all members to offer a platform to contribute or by organizing something together as a committee. Next to helping a charity, we can use our platform to inform our members about the topic.

8.

