

# Wanda Diamond League Xiamen 2025 Sustainability Report

*For a Better Tomorrow*

## Introduction

The Wanda Diamond League Xiamen continues its journey as one of China's leading athletics events and a pioneer in sustainability. Building on the momentum from 2024, this year marks the **second consecutive year of implementing the World Athletics sustainability standard, *Athletics for a Better World***.

The 2025 edition has seen higher ambitions, including raising targets for local sourcing, waste diversion, and carbon reduction while deepening collaboration with local stakeholders and the community. This report summarizes **achievements, challenges, and areas of improvement** across all key sustainability goals.

## Achievements

### Sustainable Production and Consumption

- Reached the **target of 50% local services by having 73,6% within 100km**, strengthening the local economy and reducing transport-related emissions.
- Suppliers underwent sustainability evaluations, with preference given to reusable and environmentally responsible products.
- Reduced unnecessary procurement by adopting stricter approval processes for purchases.

### Waste Management

- Achieved **over 90% diversion of waste from landfill**, there is no landfill in Xiamen.
- Introduced **daily waste weighing at stadium and hotels**, improving accuracy and transparency in waste reporting.
- Established closer cooperation with local waste management providers, ensuring more efficient segregation and recycling.

### Food & Catering

- Eliminated **all single-use plates and cups in the VIP area**.
- Increased share of **locally sourced food** in catering, reducing transport emissions and supporting farmers.
- Food ordering processes optimized, significantly reducing surplus and waste.

- Healthy and affordable menus promoted among spectators and staff.

### Climate Change & Carbon

- All **official cars (28 in total) were electric**, reducing event-related emissions.
- **Carbon footprint calculation** completed with CTI, including reporting on travel, energy, waste, and catering.
- Partnered with **Xiamen Air** and the **Environmental Department of Xiamen** for awareness activities (e.g., releasing fish into the sea).
- Produced **recycled-material bags signed by athletes** as a sustainable giveaway, reducing reliance on synthetic souvenirs.
- Increased visibility of sustainable travel campaigns, with public encouraged to use bikes, walk, or take public transport.

### Local Environment & Air Quality

- Hosted a **fish releasing with city representatives, Environmental Department of Xiamen and athletes**, reinforcing long-term environmental benefits.
- Conducted **daily air quality monitoring for one month** around Egret Stadium, providing transparent reporting to stakeholders.
- Collaboration with host city identified potential new air quality initiatives for future editions.

### Environmental Protection

- Integrated **habitat protection measures** into safety meetings and security plans.
- Worked with local authorities on **wildlife preservation projects**, ensuring minimal ecological disruption.
- Implemented effective clean-up protocols, ensuring **zero pollution to land or water** post-event.

### Community Impact

- Expanded volunteer base by recruiting from **four local universities**, strengthening community engagement and building local capacity.
- Continued cultural integration, with **local music and traditions showcased** at the official hotel and official venues (eg. Cultural city tour with athletes).
- Local athletics clubs engaged in rehearsals and referee duties, deepening connections with grassroots sport.

- Staff and contractors received training on cultural sensitivity and community respect.

## Global Equality, Diversity & Wellbeing

- Maintained **fair competition standards**, including drug screening as per WA guidelines.
- Expanded inclusive pre-event competitions with **mixed relays and a qualifying event one week prior**.
- Enforced **HR policies ensuring equal opportunities** across athletes, staff, and officials.
- Website reporting tool for discrimination remained active and accessible.
- Arena accessibility improvements continued, ensuring safe participation for all. Upgraded press area and mondo track.

## Challenges

### 1. Sustainable Production & Consumption

- Sourcing all items locally while maintaining quality proved difficult; some imports were still required.
- Supplier capacity for truly sustainable products remains uneven.

### 2. Waste Management

- While diversion rates improved, it requires broader spectator cooperation and more advanced recycling technology. Xiamen has no reporting of the waste handling, so we have to weigh all waste ourselves. This continues to be a challenge with systems in a big city it is hard to change.
- Public education on proper waste sorting still needs strengthening.

### 3. Food & Catering

- Tracking food waste with precision across multiple vendors remains a challenge.
- Creating a menu that serves all purposes (including all allergies and

### 4. Climate Change & Carbon

- Despite being at a good level of active and public transport (68,65%), **spectator travel** remains one of the largest contributors to emissions, difficult to control directly. Since we have our meeting in China, **athlete and AR travels** are close to 50% of our emissions, and more than 4x some other Diamond League events.

- Renewable energy adoption at the stadium is still limited due to infrastructure constraints. Everything delivered to the stadium comes from mixed sources.

## 5. Local Environment & Air Quality

- Air quality monitoring over a month is a positive step, but the **impact on broader stadium area air quality is limited** without long-term citywide measures.

## 6. Community Impact

- While university engagement grew, **volunteer retention and long-term involvement** remain challenges beyond the event.
- Balancing international event requirements with meaningful local cultural integration requires careful planning.

## 7. Equality, Diversity & Wellbeing

- Ensuring **consistent enforcement** of anti-discrimination policies across all levels remains a priority.
- Accessibility improvements are ongoing but still limited by venue infrastructure.

## Areas of Improvement

### 1. Deeper Supplier Engagement

- Work with suppliers to co-develop sustainable solutions (e.g., reusable service systems, eco-certification).
- Strengthen supplier monitoring to ensure compliance with sustainability standards.
- Co-operate more with partners on sustainability campaigns and innovations.

### 2. Spectator Engagement & Education

- Launch stronger campaigns on waste sorting, carbon offsetting, and public transport use.
- Incentivize sustainable behaviors (e.g., discounts for bringing reusable bottles or taking public transport).

### 3. Carbon Reduction Strategies

- Partner with transport providers to improve sustainable travel options.
- Explore renewable energy pilots at the stadium (solar or battery storage).

#### 4. Legacy & Long-term Impact

- Build a **volunteer alumni program** to retain and upskill volunteers across editions.

#### 5. Accessibility & Inclusion

- Invest in infrastructure upgrades to ensure **universal accessibility** at stadiums and event venues.
- Increase diversity in leadership and decision-making roles within the organizing committee.

### Conclusion

The 2025 Wanda Diamond League Xiamen showcased meaningful progress in sustainability, with higher targets and more ambitious activities compared to 2024. While significant achievements were realized—such as the elimination of single-use items in VIP areas, daily waste monitoring, electric vehicle deployment, and stronger community integration—challenges remain, particularly around waste diversion, renewable energy, and long-term stakeholder engagement.

By focusing on **education, innovation, and legacy building**, the event is well positioned to solidify its role as a **national and international role model for sustainable athletics** in the years ahead.