World Sailing

Vilamoura 2025
Portugal
Youth Sailing
World Championships

Sustainability Report



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1. Introduction and Context

1.1. Youth Sailing World Championships, Vilamoura 2025

This final report refers to the participation and involvement in the Youth Sailing World Championships (YSWC) 2025, held in December 2025, internationally recognized as the highest level of competitive youth sailing.
For more than half a century, the Youth Sailing World Championships has represented the pinnacle of youth sailing performance, serving as a decisive milestone in the development of high-performance athletes and a major steppingstone for numerous world and Olympic champions. Each year, the championship gathers the best young sailors from around the world and follows a format like Olympic sailing, where all competitors race under equal technical and competitive conditions.

The 2025 edition maintained this standard of excellence, providing not only a high-level international competition environment but also a comprehensive educational and developmental experience for the athletes involved. Beyond sporting performance, the event promoted values such as fair play, intercultural exchange, individual responsibility and teamwork.

Alongside the sporting programme, sustainability and social responsibility formed an integral part of the event's organisation, reflecting the close relationship between sailing and the marine environment. Measures aimed at reducing environmental impact were implemented throughout the event, including responsible resource management, reduction of single-use materials and environmental awareness initiatives directed at athletes and team officials. These actions promoted environmentally responsible behavior as part of modern high-performance sport.

The sustainability initiatives also generated a positive social impact within the local community. Through awareness activities, communication actions and the promotion of good environmental practices, youth athletes actively contributed to disseminating responsible behaviors. These efforts reinforced the educational role of the championship and supported the objective of leaving the marine environment and surrounding community in a better condition than before the event.

In this way, the event contributed not only to sporting excellence but also to fostering environmental stewardship and community responsibility among the next generation of sailors.

This report presents the context of participation, the preparation process, execution and results achieved, as well as the sporting and environmental sustainability impact resulting from participation in the YSWC 2025.

1.2. The Event Concept

The 2025 Youth Sailing World Championships (YSWC) took place in Vilamoura, Portugal, from 12 to 20 December 2025.

The championship is widely considered a “Mini Olympic Games” for sailing, bringing together the world’s best youth sailors in a structured high-performance environment. The event featured eleven competitions across male, female and mixed categories and included six equipment classes: 29er, 420, ILCA 6, Nacra 15, Formula Kite and iQFOiL.

Eligibility was limited to sailors aged under 19 years on 31 December 2025, ensuring participation at youth development level while maintaining international competitive standards.

The Youth Sailing World Championships represents one of the most important events in the World Sailing pathway, acting as a transition stage between youth competition and Olympic high-performance sailing and serving as a platform for the identification of emerging talent.

World Sailing CEO David Graham highlighted the significance of the event, noting that the championship reflects the future of the sport and has grown substantially since its first edition in 1971, now gathering hundreds of sailors from dozens of nations and continuing to expand its global reach.



400+
Athletes

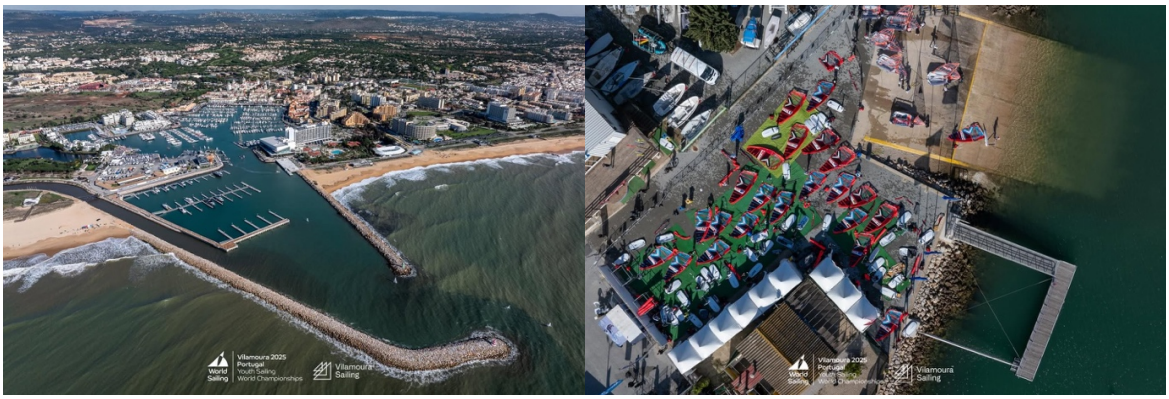


600+
Participants



70
Countries

The 2025 Youth Sailing World Championships were awarded by World Sailing to the Vilamoura Sailing Club and the Portuguese Sailing Federation, which selected Vilamoura as the event venue.







The event brough together more than 600 participants from 70 countries.

1.3. Event Sustainability Concept

The bid and subsequent event concept focused on three main elements intended to make the 2025 edition distinctive and memorable:

- **Enhancing the participant experience beyond sailing** y making use of Vilamoura's coastal setting and natural surroundings and providing dedicated areas for social interaction, recreation and relaxation. The event environment itself encouraged a closer connection with nature, reinforcing awareness of the marine ecosystem and highlighting the role of youth sport in promoting environmental responsibility and respect for coastal and ocean biodiversity.

- **Engaging the local community and host region through an ongoing legacy programme**, implemented during the event and to be continued until the 2026 edition in Vilamoura. This includes cooperation with local institutions, accommodation of participants within the Vila Galé Group hotels to support a sustainable sport environment, activation of public spaces, and opening selected side events and awareness activities to the community.

- **Promoting the event primarily through digital and social media channels**, with daily video production, live updates and commentary distributed across platforms such as YouTube and social networks, complemented by on-site screens and traditional broadcast media. This digital-first communication approach supported a paperless event, reducing printed materials while providing participants with event guidance and schedules. It also enabled the dissemination of environmental awareness content, including good sustainability practices and information on the preservation of nearby marine ecosystems and biodiversity areas along the Algarve coast.

1.4. Organizing Committee

Vilamoura Sailing, part of the Prow Group, together with the Portuguese Sailing Federation (FPV), acted as the organising authority of the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025.

The Vilamoura Sailing Centre hosts a continuous calendar of major international events, including Olympic qualification regattas and World Sailing ranking competitions, reinforcing its role as a recognised venue for high-performance sailing.

As a training base for multiple national Olympic teams, the centre combines high-level facilities with an experienced permanent staff supporting all aspects of athlete preparation and event delivery.

Located within the Vilamoura Marina complex, Vilamoura Sailing benefits from a strong network of institutional and technical partners, contributing to efficient operations and supporting the organisation's commitment to sustainability and biodiversity protection.

Building on World Sailing's sustainability principles, the event included a dedicated sustainability structure developed in collaboration with ONBLUENET and partner organisations, ensuring environmental considerations were integrated into operational decisions.

The shared commitment to sustainable practices and biodiversity protection aims to establish the 2025 and 2026 editions as a reference for responsible event organisation within international sailing.

1.5. Partners and Supporting Entities

This event relies on the invaluable support of our sponsors and partners, whose contribution is crucial to making the championship possible. We are especially proud to count on Vilamoura Marina and Prow Group, whose expertise and dedication are central to delivering a world-class sailing event.
The event could also count on the support of local and national entities and partners, including Turismo de Portugal (the Portuguese Tourism Board), the regional authorities of Loulé and Quarteira, and Portugal's leading sports organisations, such as the FPV, Portuguese Sailing Federation, Instituto Português do Desporto e Juventude, Inframoura, Algar-Ecoeventos, and the Associação de Vela do Sul. In addition, the support of private partners, including the Mirpuri Foundation, Caetano Auto, rtp2 and the Vila Galé Hoteis ensures a successful and memorable championship experience for all participants.



World Sailing, Vilamoura Sailing and the Portuguese Sailing Federation further contributed to the event through the involvement of their sponsors and partners: Musto, Kuhne + Nagel, Ovington Boats, International Laser Class Association, iQFOiL Youth & Junior, Nautivela, Nacra Sailing, AlphaRopes.

1.6. Venue

The event took place in Vilamoura, located on the Algarve coast within the Municipality of Loulé, Portugal. The venue combines marina infrastructure, coastal conditions and logistical accessibility suitable for large international sailing competitions.
The sailing area is characterized by stable wind conditions and open sea access, providing appropriate technical conditions for youth high-performance racing across multiple equipment classes. The proximity between the marina, boat park, accommodation and support facilities allowed efficient daily operations and reduced transport requirements during the event.
The surrounding region includes environmentally sensitive coastal and marine areas under official protection, notably the Ria Formosa Natural Park and the Pedra do Valado Nature Reserve. These protected ecosystems, recognized by Portuguese environmental authorities and integrated within international conservation frameworks, reinforced environmental awareness among participants and supported the integration of sustainability principles into the event organization.



Marina Vilamoura; Parks and Golf in Vilamoura



Beachs in Loulé; Ria Formosa Natural Park Reserve



Coastal and Braches; Pedra do Valado Natural Recife Reserve



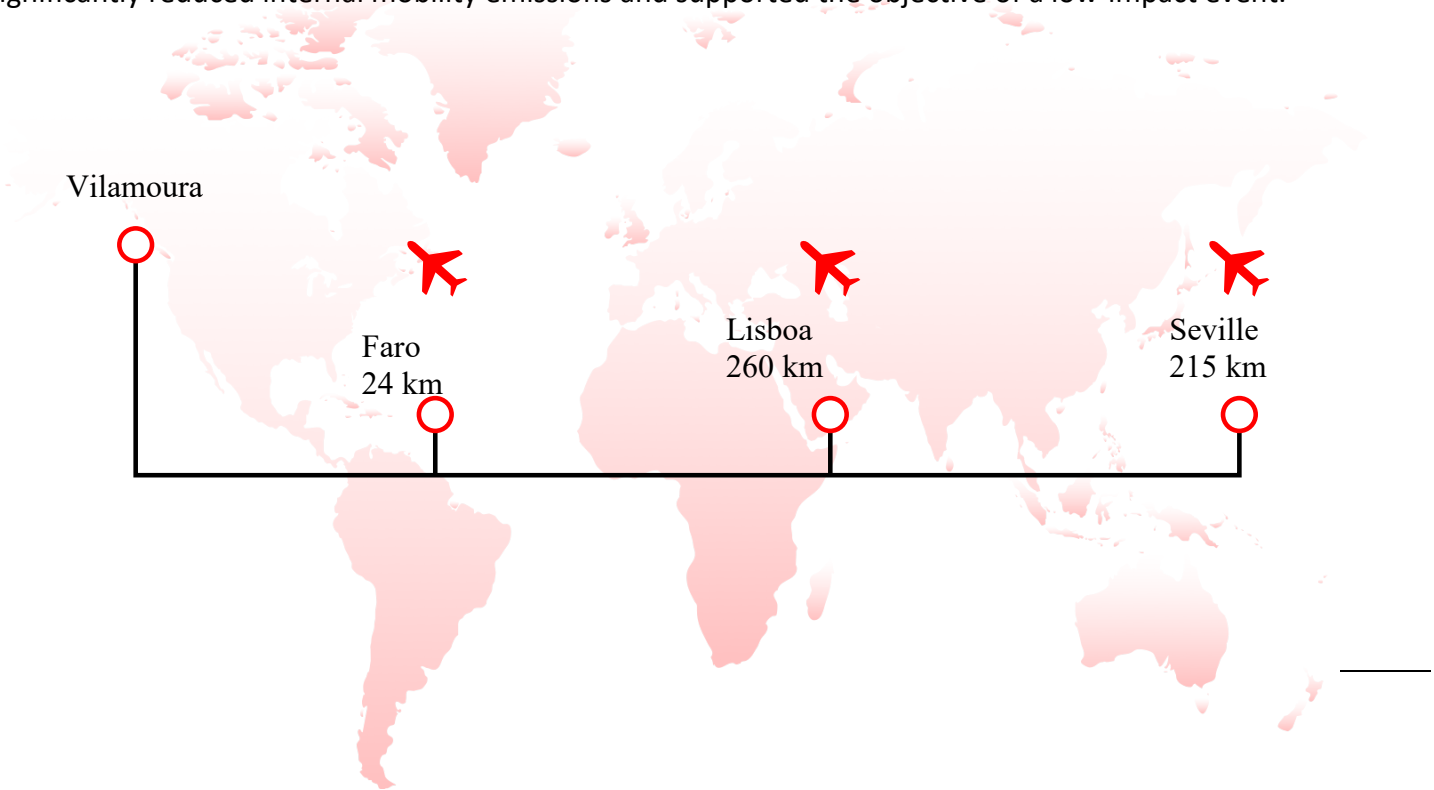
Heritage in Loulé Town Center

1.7. Travel and Transports

Despite its peripheral geographic location within Europe, the Algarve benefits from well-established national and international transport connections. Faro International Airport, located approximately 25 km from Vilamoura, served as the main entry point for international participants, with regular flights connecting the region to multiple destinations.

The event mobility plan was designed to minimize transport requirements. Only two organized transfers were provided: arrival transfers between the airport and the official accommodation/venue area in Vilamoura, and departure transfers at the end of the championship.

All official facilities — accommodation, boat park, marina, race office and support services — were located within walking distance, allowing the event to operate without the need for daily motorized transport. This significantly reduced internal mobility emissions and supported the objective of a low-impact event.



1.8. Vilamoura Marina – Vilamoura Sailing Center

Located within Vilamoura Marina on the south coast of Portugal, the Vilamoura Sailing Centre is a dedicated facility for dinghy sailing training and competition, established in 2017.

The centre includes a 7,000 m² boat park with controlled access and permanent security, supported by technical and operational services required for international sailing events. Its infrastructure allows the accommodation of multiple classes simultaneously and supports large-scale competition logistics.

The sailing area provides direct access to open sea conditions within a short distance from the launching area, offering stable wind and sea conditions suitable for youth and Olympic class racing.

The concentration of facilities within a single operational area contributed to efficient event management and reduced internal transport needs during the championship.



1.9. Efficient Venue Connectivity

The championship layout was designed so that all key areas were located within comfortable walking distance of the official accommodation. This enabled athletes and team officials to move throughout the venue without the need for motorized transport.

For the kite classes, the beach competition area was situated directly opposite the hotel. For the remaining classes, the boat parks were located a short walking distance away, followed by a brief shuttle boat crossing providing direct access to the marina side.

This configuration supported efficient event operations while reinforcing sustainability objectives by reducing internal transport requirements and promoting low-impact mobility throughout the venue.



1.10. Boat Parks, Event Facilities

Upon arrival, accreditation and registration were conducted at the Race Office located in the Vila Galé Ampalius Hotel, which served as the official accommodation for athletes. After completing registration, participants received accreditation cards granting controlled access to designated operational areas.

The event operated across three main venues:

Boat Park 1 – located within Vilamoura Marina

Boat Park 2 – located within CIMAV, adjacent to Vilamoura Marina

Boat Park 3 – beach area directly in front of the Vila Galé Ampalius Hotel

All areas operated under restricted access conditions. Accreditation cards identified authorised zones through a numbered access level system (levels 1–5), ensuring controlled circulation and operational security throughout the championship.





The Vilamoura Sailing Centre, which hosts Boat Parks 1 and 2, provides facilities that meet high environmental performance standards. In particular, the venue benefits from strong practices in **energy management and efficiency**, with approximately **80% of electricity sourced from renewable energy**, as well as **water efficiency measures** and an **integrated waste management system**. These features contributed to reducing the operational environmental footprint of the event and supported the sustainability objectives of the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025.

1.11. Accommodation - Vila Galé Ampalius Hotel

Located adjacent to Marina Beach and within walking distance of the venue, the Vila Galé Ampalius served as the main operational hub for the Youth Sailing World Championships.
The hotel accommodated athletes and event staff and hosted key operational areas including the Race Office, Jury Rooms and administrative facilities. The centralization of these functions contributed to efficient event management and reduced daily transport requirements.

Sustainability Profile

Vila Galé Ampalius is part of the Vila Galé hotel group, which operates under a group-wide sustainability policy guided by environmental, social and governance principles.
The group has committed to reducing environmental impact through resource efficiency, waste reduction and responsible management of energy and water. The selection of accommodation within walking distance of the venue supported the event's sustainability objectives by minimizing mobility needs and associated emissions.



1.12. Event Guide, Information and Communication

The following materials illustrate the structure of the event communication system and the digital event guide provided to participants and stakeholders.

Promoting the event primarily through digital and social media channels, with daily video production, live updates and commentary distributed across platforms such as YouTube and social networks, complemented by on-site screens and traditional broadcast media. This digital-first communication approach supported a paperless event, reducing printed materials while providing participants with event guidance and schedules. It also enabled the dissemination of environmental awareness content, including good sustainability practices and information on the preservation of nearby marine ecosystems and biodiversity areas along the Algarve coast.
This approach contributed to reducing resource consumption while improving accessibility of information and reinforcing the event's sustainability objectives.





LIVE RACING | Day 5 Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 | Vilamoura, Portugal

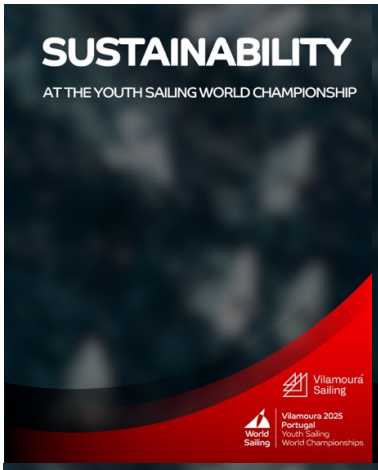
Media Center





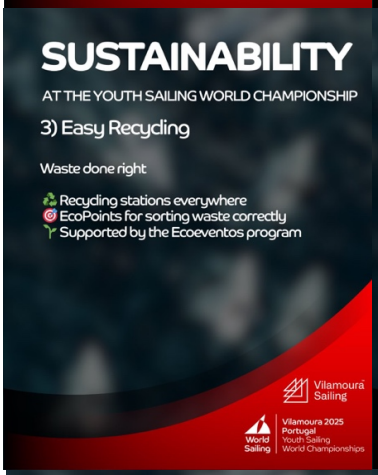
The Sustainability Management Team (Green Team) led the development and delivery of environmental education and awareness initiatives targeted at volunteers and athletes throughout the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025.

In parallel with on-site engagement activities implemented within the Boat Park complex, the Sustainability Manager, Sérgio, in collaboration with ambassador Nuno, event hosts Luísa and Lourenço, and Head of social media Alexia, developed and delivered dedicated video content promoting good environmental practices and responsible behaviors. These materials were designed to reinforce the intrinsic link between sailing and ocean stewardship, while empowering young athletes to act as ambassadors for sustainability within their communities.

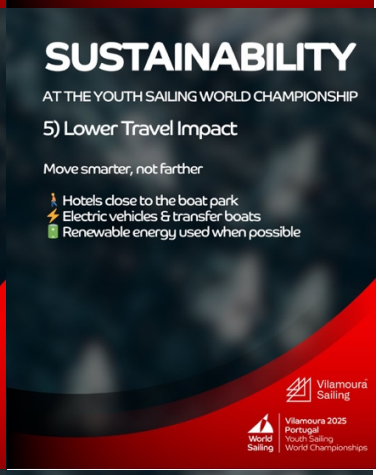

SUSTAINABILITY
AT THE YOUTH SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP


SUSTAINABILITY
AT THE YOUTH SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
1) Paperless Racing
No paper needed
All race info is digital
Less waste, same competition


SUSTAINABILITY
AT THE YOUTH SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
2) Say No to single use-plastic
Bring your bottle
Water refill stations on site
Single-use plastics discouraged


SUSTAINABILITY
AT THE YOUTH SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
3) Easy Recycling
Waste done right
Recycling stations everywhere
EcoPoints for sorting waste correctly
Supported by the Ecoeventos program

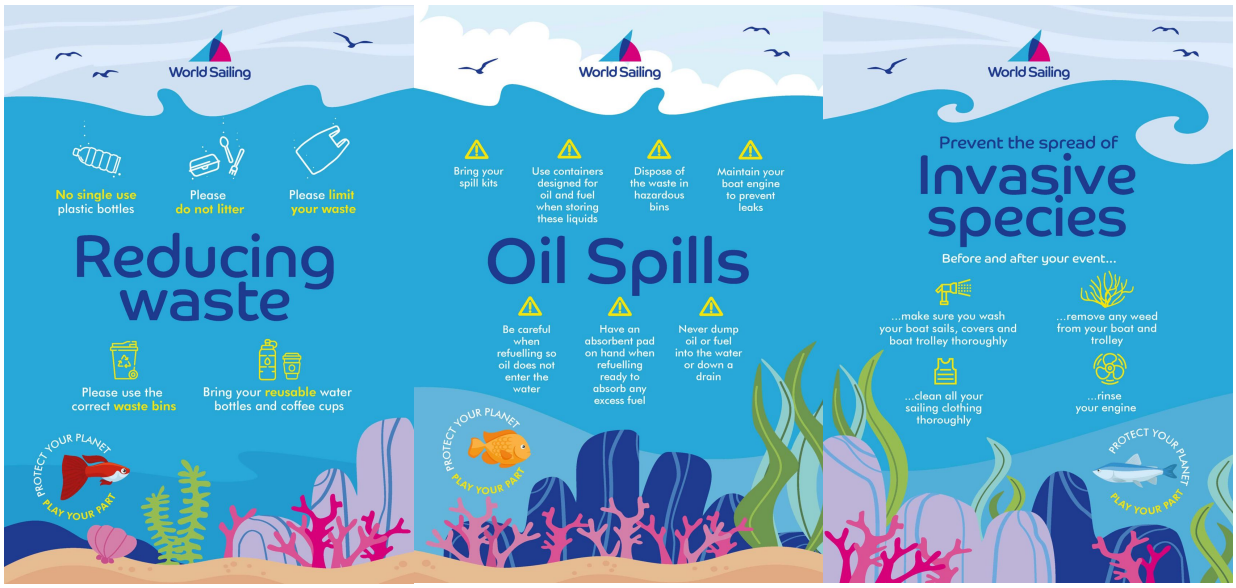

SUSTAINABILITY
AT THE YOUTH SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
4) Fewer Boats on the Water
Less fuel, cleaner seas
Electric race marks
Coaches share boats
Only select coaches use support RIBs


SUSTAINABILITY
AT THE YOUTH SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
5) Lower Travel Impact
Move smarter, not farther
Hotels close to the boat park
Electric vehicles & transfer boats
Renewable energy used when possible


SUSTAINABILITY
AT THE YOUTH SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
6) Tracking Our Impact
We measure what we use
Carbon footprint calculated
Tree-planting project planned to offset impact


SUSTAINABILITY
AT THE YOUTH SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
7) Your Turn
Sustainability starts with you
Reduce waste
Refill, reuse, recycle
Walk when you can
Respect the ocean
Share your actions
Use #SustainableSailors and
#OceanDefenders


SUSTAINABILITY
AT THE YOUTH SAILING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
8) What goes where?
GLASS
PLASTIC & METAL
PAPER





Further education and awareness initiatives are planned for the local school community, in partnership with CCMAR, the University of Algarve and the Mirpuri Foundation. These actions are intended to extend the sustainability legacy of the Youth Sailing World Championships beyond the event period, strengthening ocean literacy, promoting the protection of marine biodiversity and fostering environmentally responsible behaviors among younger generations in the host region.

These initiatives contribute to the objectives of SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 13 – Climate Action and SDG 14 – Life Below Water, reinforcing the role of sport as a catalyst for sustainable development.

1.13. Sustainability Management – Green Team

A dedicated sustainability management structure was established for the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025, aligned with World Sailing sustainability guidelines and integrated into the overall event governance. **> CLEAN REGATTAS – BEST PRACTICE 10 <**

The sustainability framework was coordinated jointly by Vilamoura Sailing and ONBLUENET, in collaboration with institutional and operational partners. This structure was responsible for the planning, implementation and monitoring of environmental measures, ensuring the integration of sustainability principles across event preparation, delivery and legacy.

Onbluenet
Do green to be blue

CleanTech & Sustainability

Sustainability & Biodiversity Management

Sustainability and Biodiversity Manager (YSWC 2025–2026)
Sérgio Carmo Fonseca (Eng.), CEO and Founder, ONBLUENET

Digital Monitoring Tools | C-More Sustainability Platform

Digital tools were used to support sustainability monitoring, data collection and reporting, allowing structured evaluation of environmental actions implemented during the event. (SGS GHG Certificaded)
The sustainability structure established measurable environmental commitments, promoted responsible resource management and supported environmental awareness among participants. This coordinated approach contributes to the development of a long-term sustainability framework for future editions of the Youth Sailing World Championships.







The Green Team developed a sustainability plan prior to the event, detailing the objectives and actions to be implemented by the Organising Committee. The measures were grouped into thematic areas: energy, water, waste, carbon footprint, transportation, accommodation, food, communication, materials and services, race management and measurable outcomes.

The sustainability management team and Green Team worked closely with World Sailing and consulted Sailors for the Sea prior to the event, as achieving Clean Regattas Platinum Level certification was one of the key objectives of the Organising Committee. In parallel, a structured collaboration with World Sailing supported the preparation and implementation of an event management system aligned with ISO 20121 principles. The event was subsequently audited by BSI, resulting in recognition of good practices and recommendations promoting continuous improvement towards the 2026 edition. The Clean Regattas sustainability criteria are referenced throughout this report to highlight actions and outcomes relevant to the certification process. – CLEAN REGATAS – Best Practice 10 -

In collaboration with INFRAMOURA and the Municipality of Loulé, a set of carbon compensation and environmental preservation initiatives linked to the YSWC 2025 will be implemented throughout 2026, leading up to the next edition of the event. These actions will actively engage local communities and schools, reinforcing the event's long-term sustainability legacy and its commitment to climate action and ecosystem protection.

1.14. The Sport Event

The 11 events were also spread across 3 race courses/areas named A- Vilamoura, B Loulé and CQuarteira.





1.15. Openning & Close Ceremonies

The Opening Ceremony of the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 marked the official start of the event, bringing together athletes, team officials, volunteers and local stakeholders in a vibrant celebration of youth sailing and international friendship.

Held in Vilamoura, the ceremony highlighted the diversity and unity of the participating nations through a traditional team parade, cultural entertainment and official welcome addresses. The event provided an important platform to promote the core values of the championship, including fair play, respect, inclusion and environmental responsibility.









In line with the event's sustainability commitments, the ceremony made use of existing permanent facilities specifically suited to host the event, thereby minimising the need for temporary structures and materials, while also serving as an opportunity to communicate key environmental messages to participants and the local community.









Overall, the Opening Ceremony set a positive and inspiring tone for the championship, reinforcing the Youth Sailing World Championships as not only a high-performance sporting event but also a celebration of global youth engagement and ocean stewardship.



2. Sustainability Efforts



2.1. Waste & Materials

The Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 adopted a comprehensive eco-event approach focused on waste prevention, material efficiency and circular economy principles across all operational areas.

Key measures implemented included:

- Paperless event strategy and strong reduction of printed materials
- Elimination of single-use plastics wherever operationally feasible
- Installation of clearly identified waste separation and eco-points across all venues
- Deployment of centralised waste collection centres in the Boat Parks and main functional areas
- All event signage was designed and produced with reuse in mind. The materials were specifically developed so that they can be reused at future events, including the 2026 Youth Sailing World Championships, reducing the need for new production and consequently minimising material consumption and waste.

- Participant communication on local waste management and recycling rules through dedicated signage and digital information
- Promotion of recycling and upcycling practices in collaboration with local partners
- Integration with the Ecoeventos Algarve (e-Circular) programme, implemented in partnership with Inframoura and Algar
- These actions were supported by Inframoura, Algar, Municipality of Loulé, Vilamoura Marina, Vila Galé Hotels, local partners and volunteers, ensuring full alignment with local waste infrastructure and best environmental practices.

Eco-Events and Waste Management at YSWC 2025

The Organising Committee, supported by the Sustainability Management Team (Green Team), local partners and volunteers, established an integrated waste management system covering the Boat Parks, competition areas and main event venues.

- Waste streams were clearly segregated through dedicated collection points for:
- paper and cardboard
- packaging materials
- glass
- mixed waste

This structured approach aimed to:

- maximise recycling and recovery rates
- minimise landfill disposal
- support circular resource flows
- promote responsible behaviour among athletes, team officials and volunteers

Waste performance was subject to **data collection, monitoring and reporting** in line with ISO 20121 continuous improvement principles.


ECOPONTO








PAPER
PLASTIC AND METAL


Algar
ALGAR


PAPER
PLASTIC AND METAL

2.1.1. Waste Generation (Carbon Footprint)

Waste generation was estimated based on the number of full 250–270 L containers collected during the event. Average material densities were applied to convert volume into weight.

Waste Type	Units	Estimated Weight (kg)	Emissions (tCO_2e)
Paper/Cardboard	15 containers	273 kg	0.006
Packaging	17 containers	155 kg	0.003
Mixed waste	10 containers	338 kg	0.158
Total Waste			**0.167 tCO_2e**

2.2. Total Boat Park Emissions

Source	Emissions (tCO_2e)
Electricity	0.10
Water	0.004
Waste	0.167
Total	**0.27 tCO_2e**

Awareness actions, on-site signage and digital communication materials reinforced correct waste separation practices throughout the event. These measures contributed to reducing the environmental footprint of the championship and aligned the event with recognised eco-event best practices and World Sailing sustainability guidelines.

2.3. Energy & Water

2.3.1. Energy (Electrical – Renewble – Based)

Marina Boat Park – Estimated Utilities Consumption and Emissions

Electricity at the Boat Park was primarily used for equipment operation and technical support services required during racing days. The average power demand was estimated at 20 kWh over approximately 8 hours per day, corresponding to a daily consumption of 160 kWh.

The energy supply benefits from Vilamoura Marina's ongoing investments in energy efficiency and on-site photovoltaic generation, which contribute to a significant share of renewable electricity within the local grid mix. Based on available information, approximately 60% of the electricity consumed originated from renewable sources. In line with market-based accounting principles under the GHG Protocol, only the remaining non-renewable share (approximately 40%) was considered in the carbon footprint calculation.

Over seven operational days, the total non-renewable electricity consumption was estimated at 448 kWh, resulting in:

Electricity emissions: 0.10 tCO_2e

This relatively low emissions profile reflects both the compact operational setup of the Boat Park and the positive contribution of Vilamoura Marina's renewable energy strategy and energy management practices.

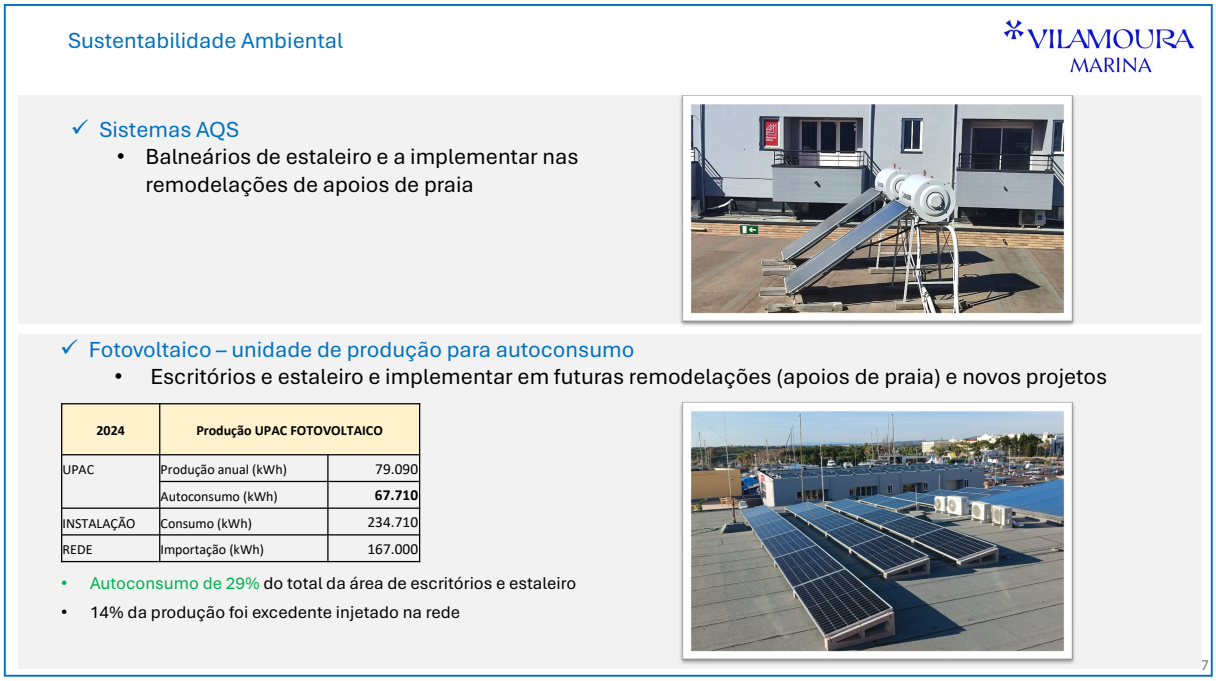
Photovoltaic and Solar Thermal Systems – Marina Administrative Building

The administrative building of Vilamoura Marina is equipped with rooftop renewable energy systems that contribute directly to the facility's environmental performance and energy efficiency. These include a photovoltaic (PV) installation for on-site electricity generation and a solar thermal (AQS – domestic hot water) system.

The photovoltaic system supports the building's self-consumption strategy by producing clean electricity from solar energy. The energy generated supplies not only the administrative building but also

contributes to the electrical needs of the Boat Park, reducing dependence on grid-supplied power and lowering associated carbon emissions during the event.

The solar thermal AQS system supplies hot water to the bathroom and changing room complex supporting the Vilamoura Sport Center, significantly reducing the need for conventional energy for water heating.



Renewable Energy Context (Vilamoura)

The venue benefits from the PV Central Praia da Marina, developed in partnership with the Municipality of Loulé, which contributes to the increasing share of renewable electricity within the local energy mix and supports the event's low-carbon energy strategy.



Contribution to ISO 20121 Sustainable Event Management

These measures demonstrate strong alignment with the principles of ISO 20121 – Event Sustainability Management Systems, particularly regarding resource efficiency, climate impact reduction and the integration of sustainability into venue operations.

The use of on-site renewable energy, combined with efficient energy management and monitoring practices implemented by Vilamoura Marina, supports:

- Reduced Scope 2 emissions associated with event electricity use
- Evidence-based environmental performance monitoring
- Continuous improvement in energy efficiency
- Strengthened supplier and venue sustainability credentials

Collectively, these actions contributed positively to the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 ISO 20121 compliance process and reinforced the event's positioning as a low-impact international sailing championship.

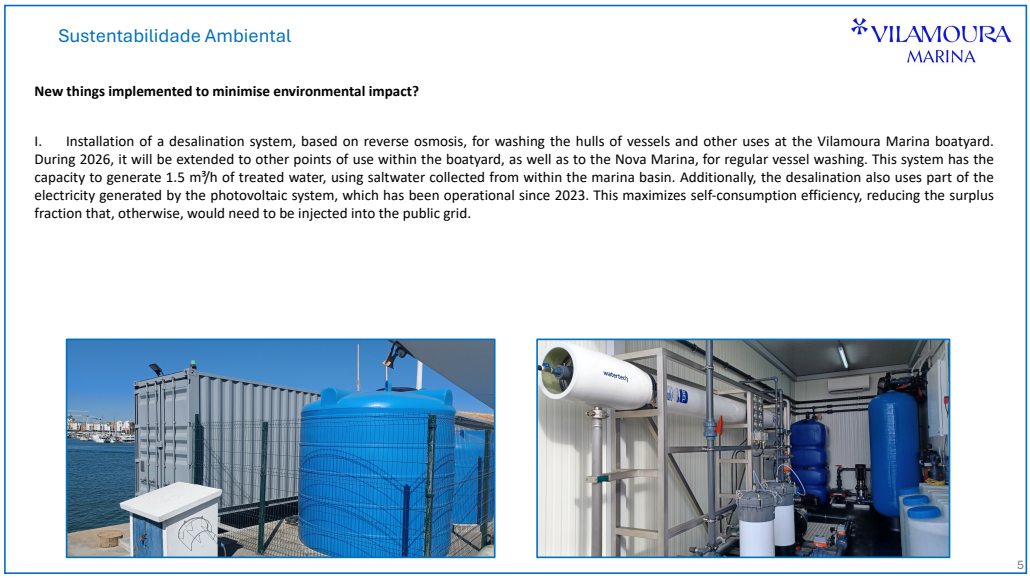
2.3.2. Water

Water Management at the Boat Park

The Boat Park is equipped with a dedicated desalination unit, enabling the production of water with adequate quality for boat washing operations. This solution avoids the use of potable water for technical purposes, contributing to more efficient and responsible water resource management.



By utilizing desalinated non-potable water for post-race cleaning activities, the event reduced pressure on the municipal drinking water supply while maintaining the operational standards required for high-performance sailing equipment. Based on operational estimates, this measure avoided the consumption of approximately 5 m^3 of potable water during the event period.



" Installation of a desalination system, based on reverse osmosis, for washing the hulls of vessels and other uses at the Vilamoura Marina boatyard. During 2026, it will be extended to other points of use within the boatyard, as well as to the Nova Marina, for regular vessel washing. This system has the capacity to generate 1.5 m^3/h of treated water, using saltwater collected from within the marina basin. Additionally, the desalination also uses part of the electricity generated by the photovoltaic system, which has been operational since 2023. This maximizes self-consumption efficiency, reducing the surplus fraction that, otherwise, would need to be injected into the public grid. "

This approach reflects good water stewardship practices and contributes directly to SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation, supporting the sustainable management and efficient use of freshwater resources in the host region.

2.4. Water Consumption

Freshwater was used for daily post-race boat washing operations.

Parameter	Value
Water consumption	1.5 m^3 per day
Total (7 days)	10.5 m^3

Using standard emission factors for water supply and treatment:

Water emissions: 0.004 tCO_2e

2.5. Drinking Water

Drinking Water Management

The Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 implemented measures to reduce single-use plastics by promoting access to safe drinking water across the event footprint.

Eliminate single-use plastic bottles; Install water fountains and refill stations in park and venues.
Data: Colect, Monitoring, Report
Partners: Vilamoura Marina; Hotel Vila Galé





Single-use plastic bottles were actively discouraged through the installation of drinking water fountains and refill stations across the Boat Park and key venue areas. These facilities enabled athletes, officials and volunteers to refill reusable bottles conveniently throughout the event.

> CLEAN REGATTAS – BEST PRACTICE 1 <

2.6. Carbon Footprint Calculation

Scope 1, 2 and 3 in chain with our direct partners.
Carbon footprint acoordind to ISO 14064, and GHG Protocol.
Service made by ONBLUENET with C-MORE Sustainability Platform (SGS Certification)
Data: Colect, Monitoring, Report, Proposal Measures to Reduce and Compensation, offset partial inevitable carbon emissions.
Partners: Scope 1,2 with Key Sustainability Partner; Scope 3 with All Partners.

Carbon Footprint Assessment

As part of its sustainability commitments, the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 included the assessment of the event's carbon footprint. The objective of this process was to quantify greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions associated with the organisation and delivery of the championship, identify the main emission sources and support informed decision-making for future editions.

The assessment followed recognized international methodologies for event carbon accounting and considered emissions generated across key operational areas, including participant travel, accommodation, energy consumption, transportation, materials, catering and waste management.

Data collection was carried out in collaboration with operational partners and service providers, using available activity data and reasonable assumptions where necessary. The results provide an indicative measurement of environmental impact and establish a baseline for monitoring performance and implementing reduction strategies in future editions.

This assessment forms part of a continuous improvement approach, enabling the Organising Committee to prioritize mitigation actions and progressively reduce emissions in subsequent events, particularly in preparation for the 2026 edition in Vilamoura.



In Carbon Footprint Report

These methodologies ensured a consistent and transparent approach to quantifying emissions and supported comparability with future editions of the event.



Pic 1: Steps of the YSWC Carbon Footprint Calculation

This assessment covers the seven greenhouse gases recognized under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), Sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF_3).

These greenhouse gases are converted and expressed as carbon dioxide equivalent (CO_2e), the universal unit used to indicate global warming potential (GWP) over a 100-year period. The global warming potential represents the relative radiative forcing impact of a given greenhouse gas compared to carbon dioxide, for which the GWP is defined as 1.
Emission factors and global warming potentials published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) were used, consistent with national greenhouse gas inventory reporting under the UNFCCC framework and adapted where appropriate to national reference data.

The assessment considered both direct and indirect emissions associated with the organisation of the event across its value chain. Direct emissions correspond to sources owned or controlled by the Organising Committee, while indirect emissions result from event-related activities occurring at sources owned or controlled by third parties.

Event Carbon Footprint Summary

World Sailing Managed Emissions

Source	Emissions (tCO_2e)
Travel Emissions – Participants	749.98
Equipment Transportation (to Vilamoura and return)	48.20
Subtotal – World Sailing Managed Emissions	**798.18 tCO_2e**

Vilamoura Sailing and Local Partners Managed Emissions

Source	Emissions (tCO_2e)
Airport Transfers – Ground Transport	7.81
Marina Boat Park – Utilities Consumption	0.27
On-Water Operations – Fuel Consumption	55.18
Accommodation – Hotel Vila Galé	13.45
Subtotal – Local Operations Emissions	**76.71 tCO_2e**

Total Event Carbon Footprint

Category	Emissions (tCO_2e)
World Sailing Managed Emissions	798.18
Local Operations Emissions	76.71
Total YSWC 2025 Carbon Footprint	**874.89 tCO_2e**

YSWC 2025 Carbon Footprint by Scope

Scope	Source	Emissions (tCO_2e)
Scope 1 – Direct emissions	On-water operations fuel consumption (boats)	55.18
	Airport transfers – organisation vehicles	7.81
Subtotal Scope 1		**62.99 tCO_2e**
Scope 2 – Purchased energy	Marina boat park electricity consumption	0.10
	Hotel electricity consumption	11.44
Subtotal Scope 2		**11.54 tCO_2e**
Scope 3 – Other indirect emissions	Participant travel (flights & cars)	749.98
	Equipment transportation	48.20
	Hotel water consumption	0.43
	Hotel waste generation	1.58
	Boat park water consumption	0.004
	Boat park waste	0.167
Subtotal Scope 3		**800.36 tCO_2e**

Total Emissions - Distribution by Scope

Scope	Emissions (tCO_2e)	Share
Scope 1	62.99	7.2%
Scope 2	11.54	1.3%
Scope 3	800.36	91.5%
Total	**874.89 tCO_2e**	**100%**

The carbon footprint of the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 was predominantly associated with **Scope 3 emissions**, which represented approximately **91.5% of total emissions**. This result was mainly driven by international participant travel and equipment transportation, typical of global sporting events.

Direct operational emissions (**Scope 1**) accounted for a relatively small share (7.2%), primarily related to safety and race management vessels and organised transfers. Purchased energy (**Scope 2**) represented only 1.3% of the total footprint, reflecting the compact event layout and the use of a single accommodation facility within walking distance of the venue. Overall, the results highlight that the main opportunity for emission reduction in future editions lies in travel-related mitigation strategies rather than local event operations.

2.7. Pathway for Future Editions

Based on the results of this assessment, future emission reduction efforts will primarily focus on travel-related measures, including optimization of logistics, promotion of lower-carbon travel options and improved equipment transport planning. Local operational emissions are already comparatively low; therefore, the main potential for improvement lies in influencing participant travel behavior and supply chain decisions.

The findings of the 2025 edition establish a baseline for the **2026 Youth Sailing World Championships in Vilamoura**, supporting a continuous improvement approach aligned with the event's sustainability commitments and long-term environmental legacy objectives.

2.8. Carbon Compensation

Tree planting in spring to offset event impact.
Data: Colect, Monitoring, Report, Proposal Measures to Reduce and Compensation, offset partial inevitable carbon emissions.
Partners: Scope 1,2 with Key Sustainability Partner; Scope 3 with All Partners.



Native Tree Planting Initiative

In partnership with the Municipality of Loulé, a native tree planting initiative will be implemented with the active involvement of the local school community. The action focuses on planting indigenous species, supporting local biodiversity, ecosystem restoration and long-term carbon sequestration.

This initiative strengthens the environmental legacy of the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 by engaging younger generations in hands-on climate action and nature-based solutions, while contributing to the enhancement of local green infrastructure in the host region.

The programme contributes directly to SDG 13 – Climate Action and SDG 15 – Life on Land, reinforcing the role of sport as a catalyst for environmental awareness and community engagement.

Carbon Offset Estimation

To contextualise the magnitude of locally managed emissions, an equivalent biological carbon sequestration scenario was estimated.

The emissions generated by **Vilamoura Sailing and Local Partners operations (76.71 tCO_2e)** were compared with the average carbon sequestration capacity of trees in a Mediterranean climate. A mature tree typically absorbs approximately **22 kg CO_2 per year**.

Based on this value:

- **Annual compensation equivalent:** approximately **3,450 trees** would be required to offset the emissions in one year.

Considering a long-term sequestration period commonly used in environmental projects (30 years of growth):

- **Long-term compensation equivalent:** approximately **115 trees** would offset the same emissions over their lifetime growth period.

This comparison is provided for reference purposes to illustrate the scale of emissions and does not replace certified carbon offset mechanisms. Any formal offsetting strategy would require verified carbon credits or certified reforestation programmes.

2.9. Partnerships (Key Sustainability Partners)

Dedicated Sustainability Manager with Sérgio Fonseca and Onbluenet Team
working closely with Key Sustainability Partners, Vila Galé Hotels, Vilamoura Marina, Algarve University, Inframoura MLoulé.

Key Sustainability Partners

All partners play an active role in contributing to a more sustainable event, each bringing specific efforts, resources and expertise that reinforce the environmental commitments of the Youth Sailing World Championships. Among them, several of our core partners stand out for their established sustainability strategies and publicly available sustainability reports, demonstrating transparent governance, measurable action and long-term environmental responsibility.

The Vilamoura Marina, Vila Galé Hotels Group, InfraMoura and the Municipality of Loulé each maintain formal sustainability reporting processes, showcasing their commitments to energy efficiency, responsible resource management, biodiversity protection and community engagement. Their leadership and proven track record in these areas strengthen the event's Sustainability Structure and ensure that our collective impact extends well beyond the competition itself.

Venue Partners

VILAMOURA MARINA

Vila Galé HOTÉIS

Institutional Partners

loulé Aqui e Agora

infra moura

Partnerships

The Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 was supported by a strong collaborative framework led by the dedicated Sustainability Manager, together with the Onbluenet team and Vilamoura Sailing. Working in close coordination with key sustainability partners — including **Vila Galé Hotels**, **Vilamoura Marina**, **University of the Algarve**, **Inframoura**, and the **Municipality of Loulé** — the Green Team ensured the effective integration of environmental and social responsibility principles across the event. This multi-stakeholder approach strengthened the implementation of sustainable practices, enhanced monitoring and reporting capabilities, and reinforced the event's long-term positive legacy for the local community and marine environment.

Key Sustainability Partnerships — ESG Alignment

Partner	ESG Pillar	Role	Area of Contribution
Vilamoura Marina	Environmental (E)	Venue and infrastructure partner	Green energy supply (~80% renewable), integrated waste management, water efficiency, sustainable venue operations
Vila Galé Hotels	Environmental (E) / Social (S)	Official accommodation partner	Energy and water efficiency, waste reduction, responsible guest engagement
Municipality of Loulé	Social (S) / Governance (G)	Public authority partner	Community programmes, local stakeholder engagement, environmental initiatives and tree-planting actions
Inframoura	Environmental (E) / Governance (G)	Urban and environmental management partner	Urban services, environmental management, public space maintenance and efficiency
Algar EcoEventos	Environmental (E)	Environmental services partner	Event waste management, recycling systems, eco-event operational support
University of the Algarve – CCMAR	Social (S) / Environmental (E)	Scientific and educational partner	Marine biodiversity awareness, scientific support, education and community outreach
Onbluenet	Governance (G) / Environmental (E)	Sustainability coordination and technical support	Sustainability strategy, monitoring and reporting, ISO 20121 alignment, Saylors for the Sea biodiversity initiatives

All partners play an active role in delivering a more sustainable event, each contributing specific capabilities, resources and expertise that reinforce the environmental and social commitments of the Youth Sailing World Championships.

Several core partners stand out for their established sustainability strategies and publicly available reporting frameworks, demonstrating transparent governance, measurable performance and long-term environmental responsibility. In particular, Vilamoura Marina, the Vila Galé Hotels Group, Inframoura and the Municipality of Loulé maintain structured sustainability programmes covering energy efficiency, responsible resource management, biodiversity protection and community engagement.

Their recognised leadership and proven track record in sustainability significantly strengthen the event's Sustainability Management System and support alignment with ISO 20121 principles. Through this collaborative approach, the collective impact of YSWC 2025 extends well beyond the competition period, contributing to lasting environmental and community value in the Algarve region.

2.9.1. Vilamoura Marina Sustainability

Key Sustainability Partners

VILAMOURA MARINA

Importance for the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025-2026

Certifications, awards and demonstrated environmental practices show that Vilamoura Marina goes far beyond compliance—delivering audited, measurable and recognized sustainability leadership. This credibility strengthens the environmental integrity of major events such as the Youth Sailing World Championships, helping position the 2025 and 2026 editions as a global benchmark for sustainable sailing events.



SGS ISO 14001 SGS ISO 14001 GOLD ANCHOR Platinum Bandeira Azul INTERNATIONAL CleanMarina

Marina			
Certifications	**Symbol**	**Certifications body and way of attribution**	**Scope**
ISO 14001 (Environmental Management System) - Since 2002		SGS - Société Générale de Surveillance Audits by experts in ISO 9001 and 14001 Standards	International
ISO 9001 (Quality Management System - Since 2004			
European Blue Flag for Marinas (continuously, since 2001)	Bandeira Azul	Blue Flag Association (ABAAE / FEE), Application form with compliance with the Blue Flag criteria + unannounced inspections	International
5 Golden Anchor Award - Since 2008		The Yacht Harbor Association Application form with compliance with the 5 Golden Anchor criteria + audit by a marina expert + mystery shopper	International
Platinum – Gold Anchor - Since 2023	GOLD ANCHOR Platinum		
Clean Marina - Since 2023	CleanMarina	The Yacht Harbor Association Application form + audit by a marina expert	International
Sustainability Engaged 2024 (2022 and 2023 reports)		Turismo de Portugal Sustainability report - ESG performance indicators - environmental, social and governance.	National

Vilamoura Marina, S.A. has implemented an integrated Quality and Environmental Management System (QEMS) certified under ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 standards. This system covers all marina and shipyard operations, as well as seven beach concession areas under its management.

In addition to these certifications, since 2024 Vilamoura Marina has been part of the Empresas Turismo 360º ESG reporting programme, promoted by Turismo de Portugal, having been awarded the "Sustainability Engaged" seal for its 2022 and 2023 reporting cycles.

From an environmental sustainability perspective, the marina continues to maintain several recognised national and international distinctions, including the Blue Flag of Europe and Clean Marina certifications. In 2024, Vilamoura Marina was further recognised internationally with the "Sustainable Marina of the Year" award within the Golden Anchor marinas programme of The Yacht Harbour Association (TYHA).

Under its QEMS framework, Vilamoura Marina continuously monitors key environmental indicators across its functional areas. Within the shipyard and operational zones relevant to the event, detailed and/or aggregated data are systematically collected for water consumption, electricity use and waste management, supporting transparent environmental performance tracking.

A comprehensive Internal Emergency Plan is in place across all operational areas, covering multiple risk scenarios including fire, tsunami, evacuation procedures, spill response and first aid.
In particular, marina personnel receive regular internal and external training on spill prevention and response, ensuring preparedness and rapid intervention capability in the event of environmental incidents.

2.9.2. Vila Galé — Sustainability Profile, Actions and Certifications



The Vila Galé Hotels Group demonstrates a structured and proactive approach to sustainability across its portfolio, including Vila Galé Ampalius, the official accommodation partner for YSWC 2025. The group integrates environmental management, resource efficiency and responsible hospitality practices into its operational model, supporting the event's overall sustainability objectives.

Concrete Sustainability Actions and Practices

The hotel holds the internationally recognised Green Key eco-label, confirming compliance with recognised standards of environmental management, guest comfort and sustainable hospitality operations.

Across the Vila Galé network, including the Ampalius unit, the group has implemented a wide range of sustainability measures, including:

- Reduction of paper consumption through digitalisation of processes
- Progressive elimination of many single-use plastics
- Implementation of efficient waste management systems
- Ongoing initiatives to reduce energy and water consumption
- Progressive adoption of renewable energy sources across properties

Internal efforts focus on minimising resource use and waste generation, favouring digital solutions, improving operational efficiency and strengthening environmental performance management.

In several units, the group maintains systematic monitoring of key environmental indicators — including water consumption, energy use and waste generation — as part of a broader environmental management strategy.

Importantly, within the framework of the ISO 20121-aligned event sustainability management process, Vila Galé Ampalius demonstrated strong cooperation, transparency and data availability, enabling robust carbon footprint assessment and supporting the continuous improvement objectives of the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025.

Vila Galé — Sustainability Profile, Actions and Certifications

Existing Certifications and Awards — Vila Galé Hotels

The group's sustainability performance is supported by multiple recognised certifications and programmes:

- ECO-HOTEL — Certification based on the identification and management of environmental and socio-economic impacts
- LIDERA — Certification awarded to developments demonstrating superior environmental performance
- GREEN KEY — International distinction for establishments implementing robust environmental practices
- TUI Umwelt Champion — International award recognising excellence in sustainability best practices
- Turismo 360º Business Programme — National ESG framework supporting measurement, management and reporting of environmental, social and governance performance

Through these structured policies, certifications and continuous improvement measures, Vila Galé Hotels reinforces the environmental credibility of the YSWC 2025 accommodation model and contributes positively to the event's alignment with ISO 20121 sustainable event management principles.

As part of the ISO 20121 certification process, an independent audit conducted by BSI on 16 December included an assessment of the Vila Galé partner. The audit reviewed and evaluated the hotel's sustainability performance, practices and operational measures relevant to the event.

The findings confirmed that Vila Galé demonstrated a high level of alignment with the event's sustainability requirements, contributing positively to the overall conformity of the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 with ISO 20121 principles. This external verification further supports the event's recognition as a high-performing sustainable event under the ISO 20121 framework.

2.10. Accommodation & Food

Vila Galé Partner
The official event accommodation at Vila Galé Ampalius implemented a range of responsible hospitality practices aligned with the sustainability objectives of the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025. Key measures included:

- Use of durable, reusable dinnerware (ceramic and metal) to reduce single-use materials
- Preference for local ingredients and fresh seasonal produce
- Partnership with a food bank to minimise food waste
- Diversion of organic waste from landfill through composting practices
- Provision of vegetarian meal options to support lower-impact dietary choices
- These actions contributed to reducing the environmental footprint of catering operations while promoting responsible consumption among participants.
-







2.10.1. Accommodation – Hotel Vila Galé Carbon Footprint

The carbon footprint associated with accommodation was calculated using real consumption data provided by the official event hotel for the period **12–20 December 2025**. The calculation considered electricity consumption, water use and waste generation associated with participant stays. **> CLEAN REGATTAS – BEST PRACTICE 1 <**

Activity Data

Parameter	Value
Total overnight stays	2,608
Overnight stays related to the event	2,062
Electricity consumption	49,743 kWh
Water consumption	1,256 m^3
Cardboard waste	144.34 kg
Packaging waste	185.58 kg
Glass waste	82.48 kg
Mixed waste	2,680.6 kg
Used cooking oil	32 kg

Accommodation Emissions

Source	Emissions (tCO_2e)
Electricity consumption	11.44
Water consumption	0.43
Waste generation	1.58
Total Accommodation Emissions	**13.45 tCO_2e**

The accommodation footprint reflects optimised room allocation, allowing participants to be efficiently grouped and reducing per-person energy intensity. Furthermore, the use of a single official hotel within walking distance of the venue contributed simultaneously to:

- reduced Scope 3 transport emissions
- improved operational efficiency
- lower overall event environmental impact

Benchmark Comparison

Industry references for European hotel events typically range between:

- 10–20 $kgCO_2e$ per guest-night (standard hotel operations)
- 8–12 $kgCO_2e$ per guest-night (efficient or sustainability-focused hotels)

YSWC 2025 performance

- **6.52 $kgCO_2e$** per overnight stay
- 35–65% lower than typical hotel event benchmarks
- Within the best-practice efficiency range

Interpretation (ISO 20121 Continuous Improvement)

The lower-than-average accommodation footprint can be attributed to:

- Optimised room allocation and high occupancy rates
- Centralised accommodation model
- Efficient resource management at Vila Galé Ampalius
- Reduced internal transport needs due to walkable venue design

This result demonstrates strong alignment with ISO 20121 resource efficiency principles and confirms accommodation planning as a key leverage point for reducing event-related emissions.

2.11. Transport

The championship layout was intentionally designed to ensure that all key functional areas were located within comfortable walking distance of the official hotel. This compact event footprint enabled athletes and team officials to move efficiently throughout the venue without the need for routine motorised transport, significantly reducing mobility-related emissions.

In line with the event's sustainable event management objectives and ISO 20121 principles, the Organizing Committee implemented a consolidated airport transfer strategy, optimising vehicle occupancy, reducing the total number of journeys and promoting shared mobility solutions.
From a greenhouse gas accounting perspective, ground transport associated with participant mobility and airport transfers is reported under **Scope 3 (indirect emissions**), as these activities occur outside the direct operational control of the event organizer but arise from event-related activities.
The organization of collective transfers significantly reduced emissions compared to individual transport alternatives. Despite the large number of participants, shared mobility effectively limited the transport carbon footprint and supported the event's **low-impact mobility strategy**, in full alignment with the continuous improvement approach promoted by ISO 20121.

Venue Road Transport

Through our partnership with **Caetano Auto / Toyota**, we had access to fully electric 9-seat vans that were used for transporting both equipment and staff within the venue. This solution allowed us to significantly reduce the environmental impact associated with on-site logistics, minimizing greenhouse gas emissions and noise pollution typically generated by conventional combustion vehicles.

By integrating electric mobility into our operational planning, we reinforced our commitment to sustainable event management and responsible resource use. The use of zero-emission vehicles contributed to lowering the overall carbon footprint of the event while ensuring efficient and reliable transportation for the team and necessary materials throughout the venue.

This collaboration highlights the importance of working with partners who share the same vision for innovation, sustainability, and the transition toward cleaner mobility solutions.


World Sailing
Vilamoura 2025
Portugal
Youth Sailing
World Championships


World Sailing
Vilamoura 2025
Portugal
Youth Sailing
World Championships

Airport → Hotel Transfers
Dedicated arrival transfers were coordinated between Faro Airport and the official hotels using high-occupancy vehicles, maximising transport efficiency.





Hotel → Airport Transfers
Return transfers were organised through grouped departure schedules to ensure high load factors and minimise empty runs.



Route	Passengers	Vehicle Type	Distance (km)	Total Fuel (L)	Emissions (t CO_2e)
Airport → Hotel	445	Van	25	2,670	7.16
Hotel → Airport	485	Bus	25	243.75	0.65

Total Transfer Emissions

Total: 7.81 tCO_2e

The organisation of collective transfers significantly reduced emissions compared to individual transport alternatives. Despite the large number of participants, shared mobility limited the transport carbon footprint and contributed to the event's low-impact mobility strategy.

2.12. Travel

Participant travel was monitored and its associated carbon footprint calculated as part of the YSWC 2025 greenhouse gas inventory. Travel choices remained under the responsibility of athletes, teams and their entourages; however, the Organising Committee recorded travel data to assess the overall event-related impact.

Due to its peripheral location, the Algarve benefits from strong multimodal connectivity, both nationally and internationally. Faro International Airport serves as the main international gateway, with regular flights from major European and intercontinental hubs. The region is also accessible via an efficient motorway network and national rail services operated by Comboios de Portugal (CP), providing lower-carbon alternatives where feasible.

From a GHG accounting perspective, participant travel represents the largest Scope 3 emissions source, as these journeys occur outside the operational control of the event organiser but are directly associated with event participation.

How to get here

Train

Regular connections with the major portuguese cities.
Alfa Pendular: High speed train
Intercidades: Lisbon - 3 hours
Porto - 5:30 hours

Bus

Several connections from portuguese main cities and Spain.
Lisbon - 2:30 hours
Seville - 2 hours

Road

Main road links:
A22 Highway (Via do Infante)
N125 National Road
N431 Huelva - Seville

Airport

Faro International Airport has regular connections with the major European capitals.
Lisbon - 2:30 hours
Seville - 2 hours
Vilamoura - 15 mins

Due to its peripheral location, the Algarve enjoys good transport connections, both internally with the other Portuguese cities and externally with the rest of the world. Various national airlines have regular flights to the Algarve, making Faro a busy international airport.
The Algarve also benefits from a good road network, composed of motorways, trunk roads and a range of secondary roads, making the journey comfortable and efficient whether you're travelling by bus or driving in a rented car.
Rail transport is another alternative for visitors to the region. The Portuguese rail service (CP - Comboios de Portugal) has avast network of trains to places all over the country.

Travel Emissions – Participants

Category	% of Participants	No. Participants	Emission Factor (kg CO_2/km)	Average Distance (km)	Emissions (tCO_2e)
European Participants	58%	337	0.158	1,800	191.69
Intercontinental Participants (Medium-haul)	26%	148	0.150	6,000	266.40
Long-haul Participants (Extreme)	15%	88	0.110	15,000	290.40
Subtotal Air Travel		573			**748.49**

National Participants (Portugal – Car)		13	0.192	300	**1.50**
Total Travel Emissions	100%	577			**749.98**

Participant air travel accounted for the dominant share of the event carbon footprint, highlighting international mobility as the primary decarbonisation challenge for future editions. This finding will inform the continuous improvement process under ISO 20121, including:

- promotion of regional participation where feasible
- encouragement of lower-carbon travel options
- future exploration of travel-related mitigation measures

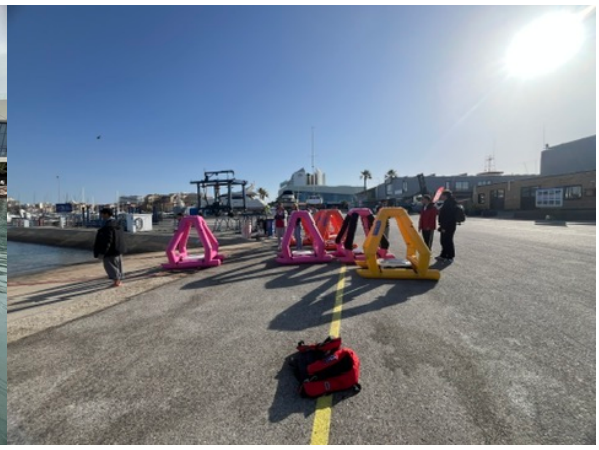
2.13. Land and On Water Operations

Operational planning for the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 prioritised low-impact solutions both on land and on the water, in line with the event's sustainability framework and ISO 20121 principles.

2.13.1. Electric robotic marks

The regatta deployed fully electric robotic marks across all racing areas, eliminating the need for fuel-powered buoy management and significantly reducing on-water emissions and noise. This innovation also improved operational efficiency and reduced disturbance to the marine environment.





2.13.2. Suport Boats Management

The support boat fleet was carefully managed and monitored throughout the event to optimise fuel consumption and operational efficiency. Where possible, navigation planning, fleet coordination and engine use were optimised to reduce unnecessary movements and associated emissions.









The management of support and operational boats was carefully planned to optimize fleet efficiency and minimize environmental impact throughout the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025. Fleet deployment was centralized and coordinated daily, ensuring that only the necessary number of vessels operated on the water at any given time.





Priority was given to **multi-functional RIBs and shared support vessels**, allowing race management, safety, media and technical functions to be combined whenever operationally feasible. This approach reduced total engine hours, fuel consumption and associated GHG emissions.





Navigation routes and standby positions were also optimised to avoid unnecessary travel distances, while continuous monitoring of fuel use supported accurate carbon footprint accounting and performance review.

This structured fleet management approach is aligned with **ISO 20121 principles of resource efficiency and operational control**, contributing to the event's low-impact on-water strategy while maintaining the highest standards of safety and race management.

The support fleet comprised a mix of transfer boats, multi-function RIBs, race committee vessels and coach boats powered by gasoline and diesel engines. In total, the fleet configuration included:

- 3 CR transfer boats (40 hp, gasoline)
- 43 multi-function RIBs for race management and organisation (60–90 hp, gasoline)
- 2 race committee / jury vessels (150–200 hp, diesel)
- high-power coach boat – Ocean Quest (500–600 hp, diesel)
- additional coach/tour support boats (200 hp, diesel)

Fleet deployment was centrally coordinated daily to ensure that only the vessels strictly required for racing, safety and technical support were active on the water. Priority was given to multi-functional use of boats, reducing duplicate movements and unnecessary engine hours.

Navigation patterns, standby positioning and daily fuel monitoring were implemented to optimise routes and improve the accuracy of the carbon footprint inventory.

This structured fleet management approach is aligned with ISO 20121 principles of operational control, resource efficiency and continuous improvement, supporting the event's low-impact on-water strategy while maintaining the highest safety standards.

Transfer Inter Marina





2.13.3. On-Water Operations – Fuel Consumption and Emissions

The fuel consumption of operational vessels used during the championship (race committee, jury, safety, organisation and coaching boats) was monitored throughout the event period (12–20 December 2025). Emissions were calculated using fuel-specific emission factors.

- **Gasoline emission factor:** 2.31 kg CO_2/L
- **Diesel emission factor:** 2.68 kg CO_2/L

Daily Emissions Summary

Day	Total Emissions (t CO_2e)
Day 2	1.00
Day 3	4.01
Day 4	10.03
Day 5	10.03
Day 6	10.03
Day 7	10.03
Day 8	10.03

Support Fleet Emissions — Scope Classification

Emission Source	Scope (GHG Protocol)	Operational Control	Emissions (tCO_2e)	Notes
Gasoline consumption – CR transfer boats	Scope 1	Yes (event-controlled)	Included	Direct fuel combustion
Gasoline consumption – Multi-function RIBs	Scope 1	Yes (event-controlled)	Included	Race management fleet

Diesel consumption – Race Committee / Jury boats	Scope 1	Yes (event-controlled)	Included	Official race operations
Diesel consumption – Coach boats (Ocean Quest)	Scope 1	Yes (event-controlled)	Included	Technical support
Diesel consumption – Coach/Tour support boats	Scope 1	Yes (event-controlled)	Included	Support operations
Total On-Water Operations	**Scope 1**	—	**55.18 tCO_2e**	Direct operational emissions

Total Emissions – On-Water Operations

Total: 55.18 tCO_2e

Fuel consumption from safety, race management and organisational vessels represented one of the main direct emission sources (Scope 1) of the event. Emissions were concentrated on racing days, reflecting operational requirements to ensure athlete safety and fair competition conditions. The stable daily values indicate consistent operational planning and similar weather and race management conditions throughout the championship.

2.14. Equipment Transport to Vilamoura (recalculated)

World Sailing was responsible for providing the class equipment (boats and associated components) required for the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025. All equipment was centrally supplied and transported in advance to Vilamoura, ensuring standardised racing conditions for all athletes.

Following the conclusion of the championship, the same equipment was returned to the respective suppliers and class partners.



Approximate distances by road to Vilamoura

Origin	Destination	Distance
North Shields (UK)	Vilamoura	2,400 km
Portoroz (SI)	Vilamoura	2,600 km
Scheveningen (NL)	Vilamoura	2,300 km
Viana do Castelo (PT)	Vilamoura	600 km
Hamburg (DE)	Vilamoura	2,700 km
Cadiz (ES)	Vilamoura	350 km

Calculation by route

Qty	Origin	Distance (km)	tCO_2e por viagem	Total tCO_2e
4	North Shields	2400	2.28	9.12
1	Portoroz	2600	2.47	2.47
1	Scheveningen	2300	2.19	2.19
4	Viana do Castelo	600	0.57	2.28
3	Hamburg	2700	2.57	7.71
1	Cadiz	350	0.33	0.33

Total Equipment Transport Emissions (to Vilamoura)

Total = 24.10 tCO_2e

Total Equipment Transport Emissions (to Vilamoura and return)

The transportation of equipment was recalculated considering **Vilamoura (Portugal)** as the final destination and origin for all shipments. All deliveries and returns were assumed to be carried out by heavy-duty curtain-sider trucks.

Emissions were calculated using a standard European road freight emission factor of **0.095 kg CO_2e per ton-kilometre**, assuming an average cargo load of **10 tonnes per vehicle**. Road distances between each supplier location and Vilamoura were estimated using the most direct road routes.

The resulting carbon footprint associated with equipment logistics was:

- **Transport to the event venue:** 24.10 tCO_2e
- **Return transport to suppliers:** 24.10 tCO_2e

Total equipment transportation footprint: 48.20 tCO_2e



2.15. Community & Education

The Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 strengthened its community and education pillar through targeted engagement with local schools, universities and the wider public. Activities included awareness campaigns, educational content, social media challenges and direct outreach initiatives designed to promote sustainable behaviours among young people and event stakeholders.

Building on the work led by the Sustainability Management Team (Green Team), dedicated environmental education and awareness actions were delivered to volunteers, athletes and the local community. These initiatives emphasised the strong connection between sailing and ocean stewardship, empowering youth participants to act as ambassadors for sustainability.

Special focus was given to awareness-raising on sustainability and biodiversity linked to the nearby Algarve marine protected areas, including the Ria Formosa and the Pedra do Valado Reserve. Through digital communication, on-site messaging and planned follow-up actions with partner institutions, the event contributed to increasing public understanding of marine ecosystem preservation and responsible environmental practices.

These efforts support the long-term positive legacy of the event and align with SDG 4 – Quality Education, SDG 13 – Climate Action, and SDG 14 – Life Below Water.

2.16. Certifications

Standards, Certifications and Strategic Alignment

The Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 was delivered within a robust sustainability framework aligned with leading international standards and initiatives.
The Organising Committee is aiming to achieve Platinum Certification under the Clean Regattas programme, developed by Sailors for the Sea, reinforcing the event's commitment to best practices in sustainable sailing events.

The event sustainability management system was developed in alignment with ISO 20121 – Event Sustainability Management Systems, ensuring a structured approach to planning, implementation, monitoring and continuous improvement.

In parallel, the event contributes to the objectives of World Sailing's Sustainability Agenda 2030 and supports the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through targeted environmental, social and governance actions.



Biodiversity considerations were further strengthened through alignment with the Benches EU Biodiversity Evaluation Tool, supporting the protection of marine ecosystems and coastal habitats in the Algarve region.

Carbon footprint measurement and environmental data management were supported by ONBLUENET through the C-MORE Sustainability Platform, following recognised greenhouse gas accounting methodologies (GHG Protocol and ISO 14064 principles), with verification pathways aligned to international certification frameworks.

Together, these frameworks position the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 as a benchmark event in sustainable international sailing, combining sporting excellence with measurable environmental responsibility and transparent governance.

2.17. Legacy

The Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 aims to inspire the next generation of sailors, foster sustainable practices, and set a benchmark for responsible international sporting events.
Throughout the championship, targeted awareness actions engaged participants, coaches, support staff and visiting communities, highlighting the importance of ocean health, pollution prevention and respect for local marine habitats. By intentionally combining sporting excellence with environmental responsibility, the event reinforced the role of youth sport as a catalyst for positive change.
The YSWC 2025 strives to leave a meaningful and lasting legacy — not only in the development of sailing talent, but also in safeguarding the natural heritage of the Algarve's coastal and marine ecosystems for future generations.



Understanding our Ocean

Increasing our knowledge of past and present natural processes is crucial to formulate hypothesis for the future, from local ecosystems to the whole world, from molecules and genes to complex ecosystems.



Exploring sustainable ways of harvesting the richness of our waters

We explore new approaches to obtain basic knowledge about marine organisms in order to identify new marine products and resources, predict the environmental impact and promote a sustainable vision of marine exploitation.

Protecting marine life

To truly protect marine biodiversity, sustainable management policies based on science and the details of the ocean's rich biodiversity must be advised and implemented

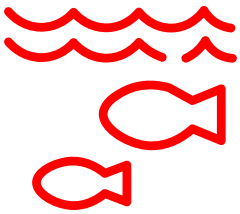




3. Biodiversity Commitement

At the Youth Sailing World Championships 2025 (YSWC 2025), we reaffirm our strong commitment to the protection, conservation and enhancement of marine and coastal biodiversity. In close partnership

with Vilamoura Sailing, Vilamoura Marina and the event's Sustainability Management Team (Green Team), a comprehensive environmental framework was implemented to integrate biodiversity protection across all dimensions of the event — from shore-side operations to on-water racing activities. The event's biodiversity strategy is supported by concrete operational measures, including the elimination of single-use plastics, deployment of reusable service solutions and water refill stations, use of renewable solar energy, and strict adherence to World Sailing sustainability guidelines. These actions aim to minimise environmental disturbance while promoting responsible resource use throughout the championship.
In parallel, targeted awareness and education initiatives were delivered to athletes, coaches, support staff and visiting communities, highlighting the importance of ocean health, pollution prevention and respect for local marine habitats. By combining sporting excellence with environmental responsibility, YSWC 2025 seeks to generate lasting behavioural change within the global sailing community.
Through this integrated approach, the event strives to leave a positive and measurable legacy — not only in competitive sailing performance, but also in safeguarding the natural heritage and ecological value of the Algarve's coastal and marine environment.



3.1. Ocean & Biodiversity

The event implemented a proactive set of measures focused on pollution prevention, green boating practices and marine ecosystem protection. Biodiversity performance was assessed using the **Benches EU Biodiversity Evaluation Tool**, with particular attention to nearby sensitive ecosystems, including the Algarve reef system "Pedra do Valado" and the **Ria Formosa Natural Park**.

Within Vilamoura Marina, a dedicated **Biodiversity Regeneration Project** is underway, incorporating nature-based solutions to enhance marine habitat quality in the marina environment. A key component is the Biohut® ecological engineering system, developed by Ecocean, which is designed to restore nursery functions and improve biodiversity in urbanised coastal waters.

Environmental monitoring, data collection and reporting procedures were established to track progress and support continuous improvement in line with ISO 20121 principles.

Key partners involved:

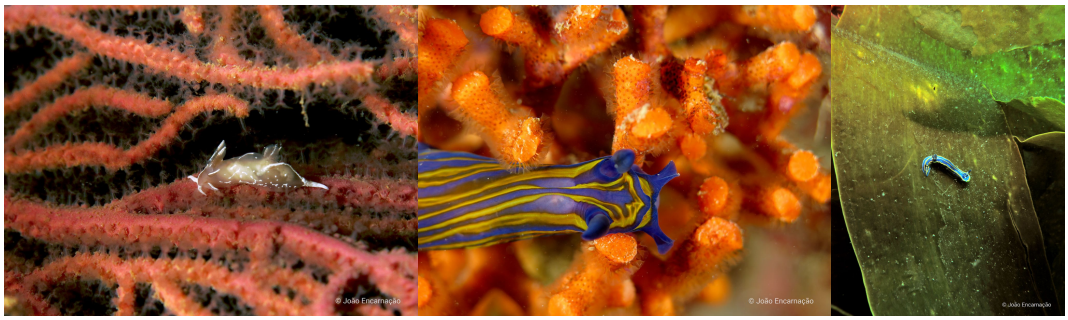
- Vilamoura Marina

- University of Algarve
- CCMAR
- Mirpuri Foundation
- Loulé Municipality

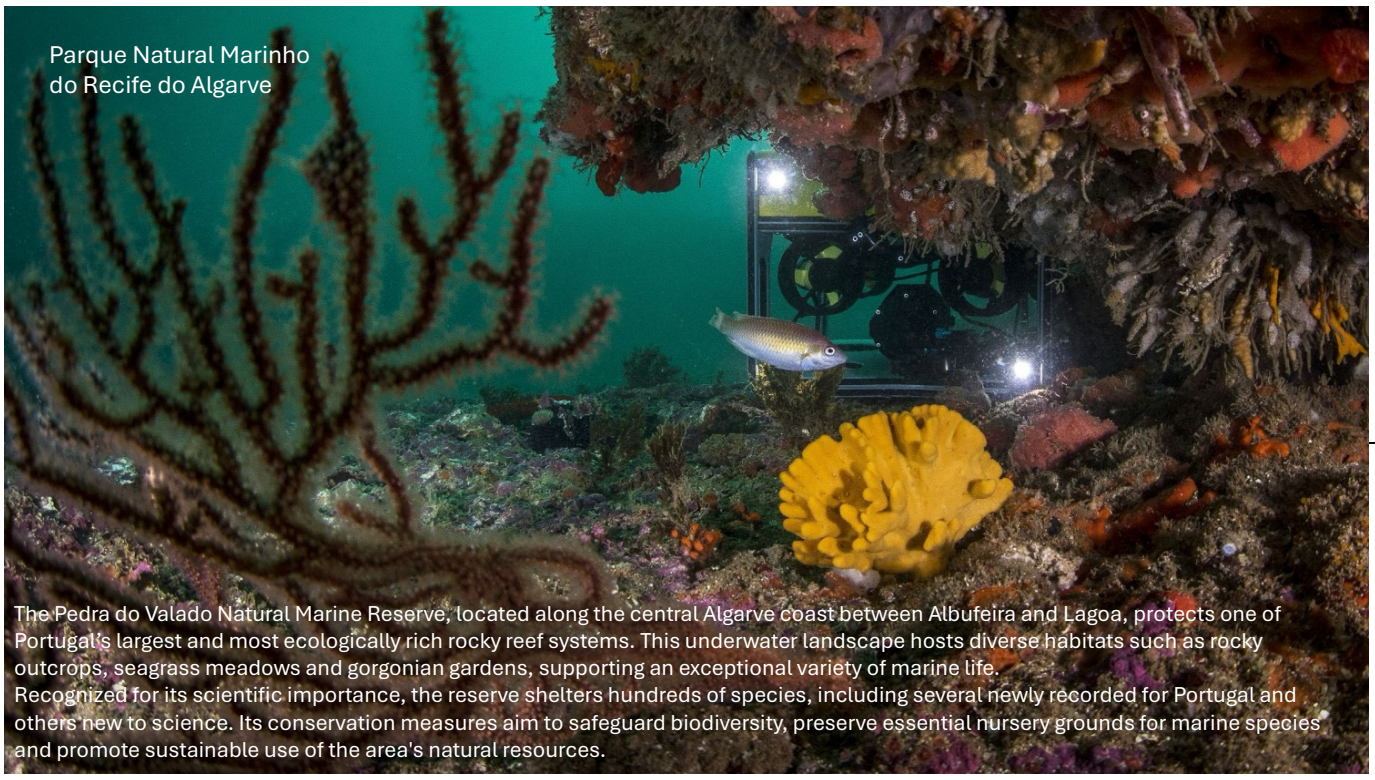
Pollution prevention, green boating, harbor cleanups, Biodiversity impact evaluation with Benches EU tool linked to The Algarve Reef “Pedra do Valado” and Parque Natural da Ria Formosa.
Vilamoura Marina – Biodiversity Regeneration Project in Marina
Ecocean is the creator of the **Biohut®** system — an ecological engineering solution designed to restore marine nursery functions in urbanized coastal areas.
Data: Colect, Monitoring, Report
Partners: Vilamoura Marina; U.Algarve; CMAR; Loulé Municipality











Parque Natural Marinho
do Recife do Algarve

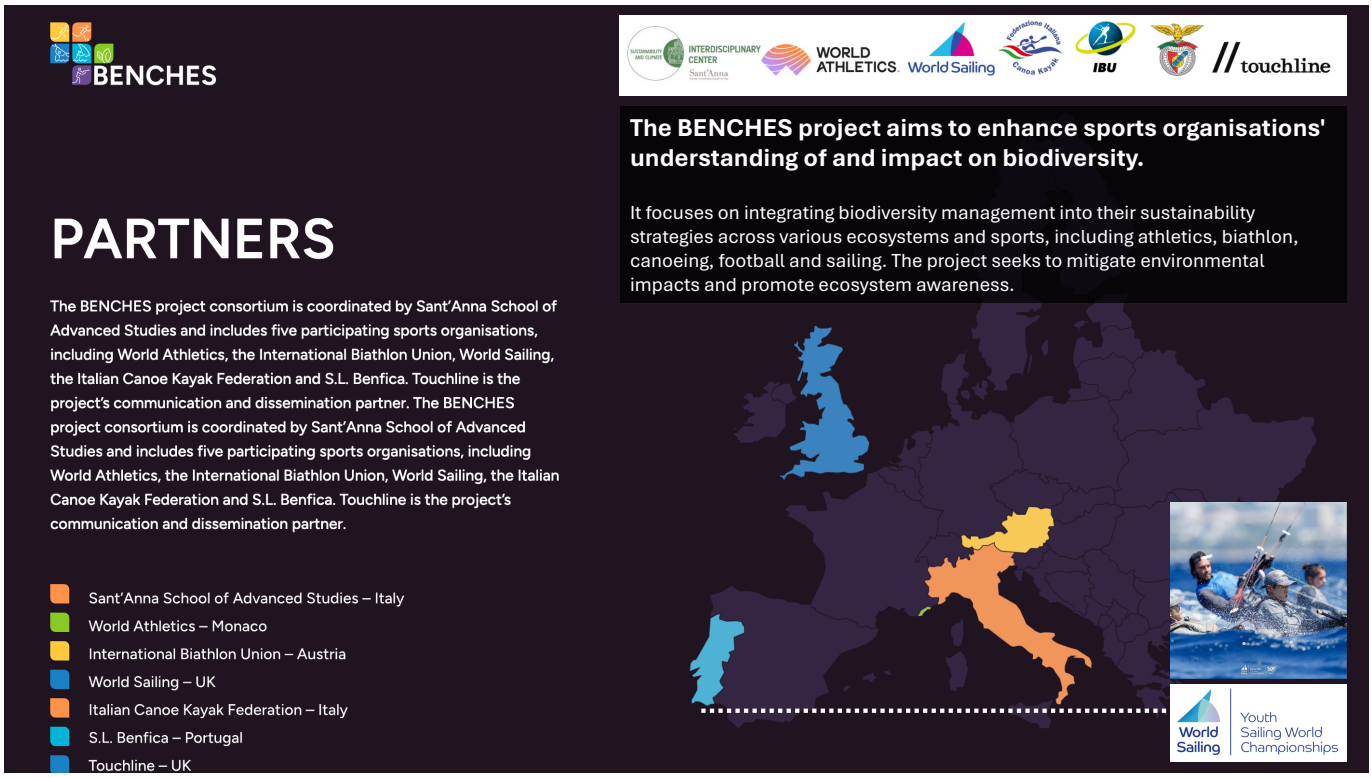
The Pedra do Valado Natural Marine Reserve, located along the central Algarve coast between Albufeira and Lagoa, protects one of Portugal's largest and most ecologically rich rocky reef systems. This underwater landscape hosts diverse habitats such as rocky outcrops, seagrass meadows and gorgonian gardens, supporting an exceptional variety of marine life.
Recognized for its scientific importance, the reserve shelters hundreds of species, including several newly recorded for Portugal and others new to science. Its conservation measures aim to safeguard biodiversity, preserve essential nursery grounds for marine species and promote sustainable use of the area's natural resources.



The Ria Formosa Natural Park, stretching along the eastern Algarve coast, is one of Portugal's most important coastal lagoon systems. Formed by barrier islands, tidal channels and extensive marshes, it provides a unique mosaic of habitats that support remarkable biodiversity.
Recognized as a vital wetland of international importance, the park is home to numerous bird species, rare plants and diverse marine life. Its protected status helps conserve migratory bird routes, safeguard nursery areas for fish and shellfish, and ensure the sustainable use of natural resources in harmony with local communities.

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION
SUSTAINABLE REARING
FISHING & REARING DEVICES
ecocean
Raised to be wild
DIAGNOSTIC USES
FRESHWATER
OUR PROJECTS





3.2. Equity Diversity and Inclusion

3.2.1. Gender Balance

Gender equity and the promotion of diversity and inclusion across the sport of sailing are key priorities shared by World Sailing and the Organising Committee. Both entities worked collaboratively to ensure balanced representation and equal opportunity in the appointment of key roles within the event structure.

The Youth Sailing World Championships continue to serve as an important platform for advancing gender equality in competitive sailing, reinforcing World Sailing's commitment to inclusive participation pathways and fair access to high-performance environments.

3.2.2. Emerging Nations Programme

World Sailing's Youth Emerging Nations Programme is delivered annually in advance of the Youth Sailing World Championships. Selected sailors are invited to participate in a dedicated four-day training camp before competing in the Championships.

“Since 2021, sailors from 33 nations have taken part in the World Sailing Youth ENP. In 2025 alone, the programme supported 21 sailors from 15 countries spanning Africa, South America, the Caribbean, Oceania, and Europe – a powerful reflection of sailing’s growing global reach.”



World Sailing provides comprehensive support to participating athletes, including:

- International flights to the event
- Event entry fees
- Training camp costs
- Boat charter
- Accommodation

The programme currently operates in the ILCA 6 and iQFOiL Youth classes. Athletes also benefit from world-class coaching throughout the event, ensuring both on-water performance support and technical development.



The Organising Committee supported the Emerging Nations Programme by assisting World Sailing with local operational delivery, including:

- Airport transfers
- Meals and catering support
- Bicycle provision for local mobility
- Support boats and technical assistance
- Equipment storage and venue facilities
- Coaching and on-water support coordination

This collaboration contributed to reducing participation barriers and strengthening global inclusivity within youth sailing, in alignment with the social sustainability objectives of the Youth Sailing World Championships.

APPENDICES

1-Carbon footprint report

2- Event sustainability plan