



2024 ReFED Food Waste Solutions Summit Sustainability Report

CONFERENCE VITALS



ABOUT THE FOOD WASTE SOLUTIONS SUMMIT

The Food Waste Solutions Summit is the premier food waste event of the year, bringing together food businesses, funders, solution providers, innovators, policymakers, nonprofits, and more to drive the adoption of solutions to reach our collective goal of a 50% reduction in food waste by 2030.

Date	June 11 – 13, 2024
Location	Baltimore, Maryland
Venue	Baltimore Convention Center
# Attendees	727 In-Person Attendees
# Sponsors	19
Event Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 Main Stage Sessions• 19 Breakout Sessions• 4 Pre-Summit Activities• 10 Field Trips• 3 Workshops• 2 Networking Receptions, 2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches

SUSTAINABILITY ACHIEVEMENTS: THE FOOD WASTE SOLUTIONS SUMMIT

REUSABLE SERVICE WARE

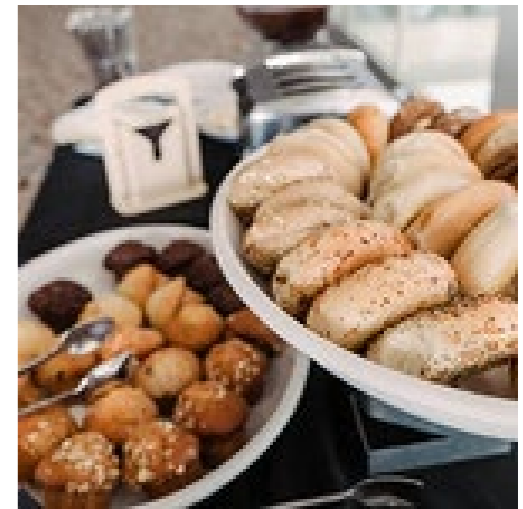
Meals, snacks, and reception food and drinks at the 2024 Food Waste Solutions Summit were served 100% on reusable service ware, eliminating thousands of disposable items typically thrown away at an average event. This saved an estimated **192,357** liters of water and **1,654** kilowatts hours of energy by “not producing” these items.

DONATING FOOD FROM THE SUMMIT

The Food Waste Solutions Summit recovered 540 pounds of food that was donated benefitting those in need in the Baltimore community. Using Feeding America guidance of 1 meal representing 1.2 pounds, this recovery translated to approximately 450 meals.

PARTNERSHIP

The Food Waste Solutions Summit chose to partner with the Baltimore Convention Center for the 2024 Summit due to their environmental and sustainability policy and food waste reduction program. By ensuring their venue comprehensively integrated sustainability training and collaboration across departments, it gave them the opportunity to gather data and reduce the footprint of the event.



*kg carbon dioxide equivalent

SUSTAINABILITY ACHIEVEMENTS

RECOVERY AND FOOD WASTE REDUCTION

ReFED’s organics recovery and food waste reduction efforts directly support the key priorities in UN SDG: 12: Responsible Consumption and Production.



COMMUNITY LEGACY PROJECT

The Food Waste Solutions Summit provided 10 field trips for participants to attend. This was to introduce the attendees to the local food system in Baltimore and bring food waste and sustainability to life. The attendees volunteered over 1200 hours total combined.



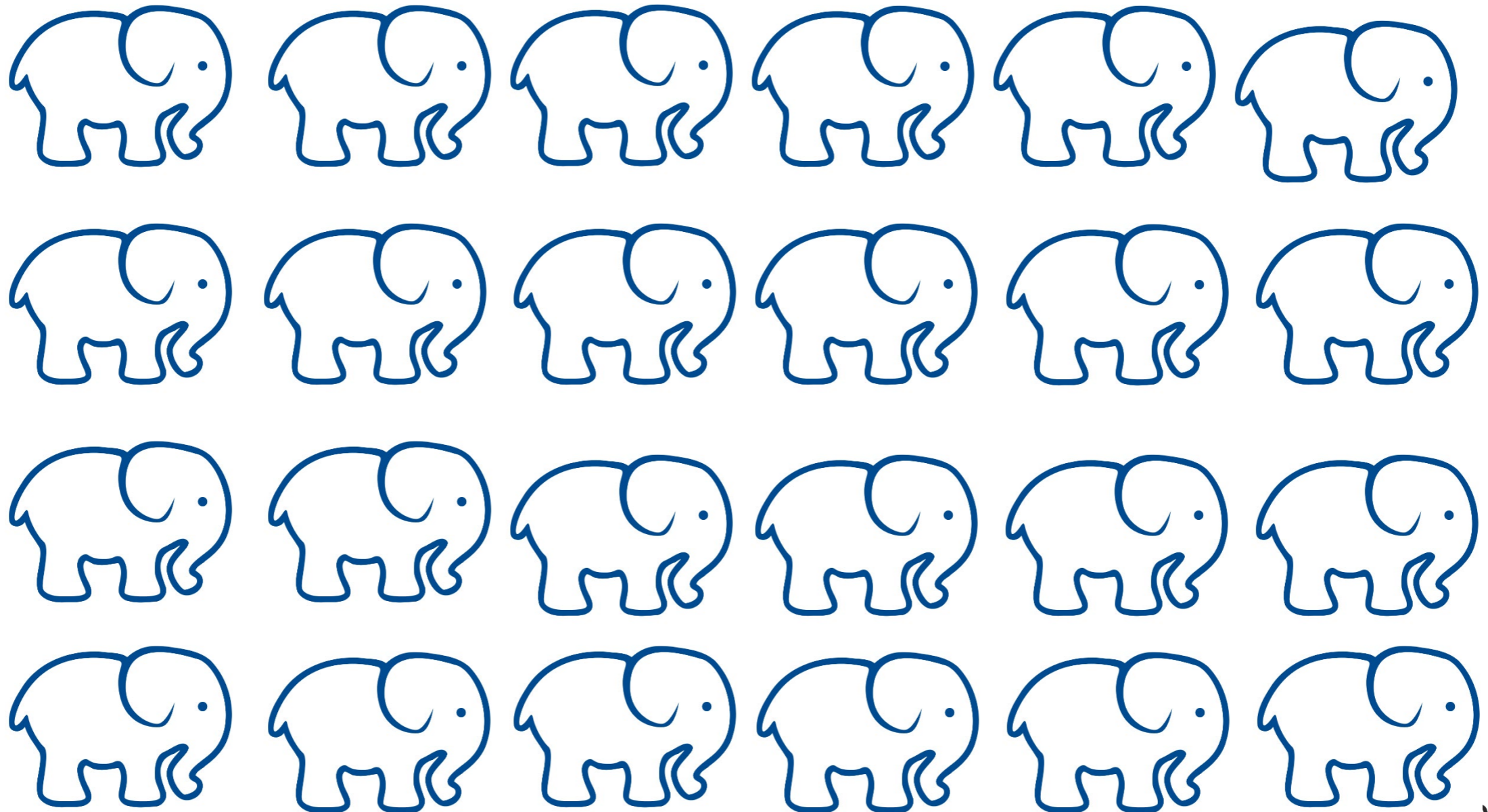
YET WE RISE

The Food Waste Solutions Summit provided a dedicated space for BIPOC leaders, which stands for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color to foster a sense of community and empowerment. This space, known as “Yet We Rise,” is where we they come together to break bread, share stories, and uplift one another.



DID YOU KNOW?

Based on Based on MeetGreen per-person / per-day event recycling averages, we estimate the ReFED Food Waste Solutions Summit **saved approximately 3,538 kilograms of waste** through its sustainability efforts. That is equivalent to the weight of 24 baby elephants!





As proud as we are of our sustainability efforts, the following are areas for continuous improvement in future event cycles:

UTILIZING DIGITAL SIGNAGE

While The Food Waste Solutions Summit utilized a sustainable substrate for their signage, we highly recommend taking advantage of all digital signage that the venue provides.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Incentivize use of public transportation by providing complimentary or reduced-price transit pass and promote use of public transit through communications to the attendees.

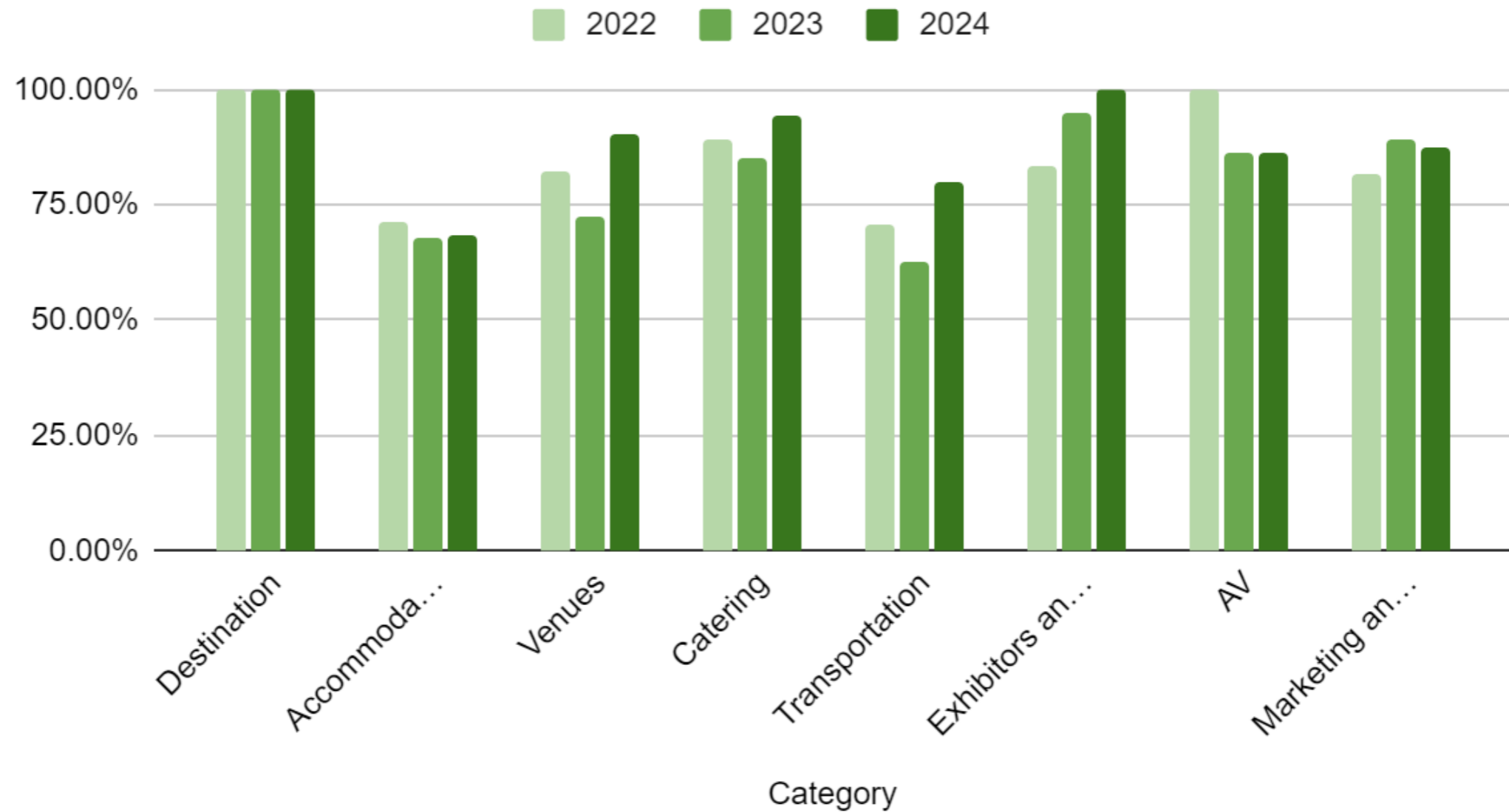
EVENT SCORING



The MeetGreen® Calculator 2.0 is a comprehensive tool available for benchmarking the sustainable elements of events. Using the Calculator allows ReFED to capture valuable information throughout the event planning process to make it easy to see where successes lay and where improvements can be made. The 2024 Food Waste Solutions Summit presented by ReFED achieved the level of Visionary.

MeetGreen[®]
Calculator 

The Food Waste Solutions Summit - 2022, 2023 and 2024



This report shows each category and the improvement(s) made over the last 3 events.



ReFED

Congratulations

**on a successful event using
the Earth's resources wisely!**

PREPARED BY MEETGREEN