

SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN

Sustainability Action Plan 2023-2024

Catani Sport Horses B.v

Promise from the Founders

Catani Sport Horses B.v. is a family-owned equestrian stable in the Netherlands. We breed, train and trade high quality show jumpers. Our strategy is to grow our business and enhance horses and people's wellbeing without harming the environment. This means treating horses and people with respect and taking a lean approach for energy, waste, and materials. In terms of sustainability, our greatest challenges are

- Generating CO₂ emissions through our business operations
- Ensuring the health and well-being of animals
- Ethical issues of horse breeding, sport, and business

To tackle these environmental, social and governance (ESG) challenges, Catani Sport Horses has set measurable goals and defined concrete actions. We measure our impact against United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and our management and daily operations are led by the following questions:

- 1) How do our actions affect horses' well-being and the state of the environment and biodiversity?
- 2) How can we operate by producing and consuming less?
- 3) Are our actions honest and trustworthy (even when no one is watching)?

We prefer quality over quantity and practise *less is more* philosophy, which means that we consume what is needed and nothing more. We try to redesign, reuse, repair or recycle everything. Our way of work is based on trust, treating everyone equally and having a good time together.

At Stal Catani, 21st April 2023
Johanna & Vilma Catani

1 Environmental Goals & Actions

Equestrian industry has a negative impact on the planet and environment in many ways. Biggest environmental challenges are the use of horse feed, excessive consumption of fossil fuel-based energy and generating waste. To continue working with horses for generations to come, we need to accelerate our transition towards more sustainable operations. Our environmental goal is to **mitigate negative impact of our business operations towards environment and biodiversity** through the following actions.

- Using more sustainable horse feed
- Transition towards 100 % renewable energy consumption
- Implementing circular thinking in materials and nature
- Minimize all waste.

We measure this goal by calculating our CO₂ emissions of our stable and operations.

Sustainable horse feed

Horse forage and hay require a lot of energy to produce. We stable owners can make a difference through finding horse feed that is manufactured as close as possible and by choosing sustainable suppliers.

[Hay from local producers](#)

Hay is the most important food for our equine partners. To minimize CO₂ emissions, we buy hay from local farmers to prevent long transportation and prefer the hay that has been dried under the sun instead of using mechanical drying process.

Forage by Pavo

We feed our horses as simple and healthy as possible by analysing closely their needs. CSH partners with Pavo, which is a Dutch horse feed brand and has a sustainability action plan called in place. Pavo collaborates constantly with its suppliers to find more sustainable solutions, for example for calculating CO₂ emissions of raw materials, using GMO free ingredients, developing sustainable packaging, efficient logistics etc.

Use 100% renewable energy

Equestrian facilities consume lot of energy in heating, cooling, lightning, and water. Our industry also needs energy for transporting horses to the competitions, often long distances by plane or truck. As Catani Sport Horses mainly trains and trades young horses, we do not need to travel extensively. We try to minimize long-distance competitions and enter the local shows when training the youngsters. Our energy efficiency actions are:

Installing solar panels

Our goal is to install solar panels by the end of 2024, start generating energy from renewable sources and getting rid of gas entirely.

Energy efficiency in daily practices

We have been able to reduce our energy consumption every year by raising awareness of unnecessary use of warm water, optimising the heating, and switching off lights when leaving tack room, indoor, wash place etc. We will turn all lighting into LED when they are renewed.

Minimize landfill waste

Stable operations generate lot of waste but with good planning, extensive recycling, sustainable purchasing choices and circular mindset we can mitigate our landfill waste significantly.

Reusing horse manure

We mostly use the straw bedding that can be reused in mushroom farming. Few of our horses are standing on shavings which is unsustainable as shavings cannot be reused. We are constantly following the market and actions to find more sustainable solutions for creating afterlife for shavings. Horses leave manure and urine also to the fields. We prevent soil contamination by cleaning up the fields weekly.

Reducing industrial plastic

Industrial plastic is generated mainly through hay and shavings packaging, ropes around hay and straw bales and containers of horse supplements. We choose the brands that offer refillable and recyclable packaging. When taking industrial plastic to milieustraat we squeeze all plastic waste as tight as possible to avoid transporting air.

Food waste

We compost the food waste here at the stables to create new soil to nourish our plants.

Change of mindset

We have managed to reduce our landfill waste significantly through few easy daily practices:

- We sort out all waste.
- We buy second hand and repair old instead of buying new.
- We reuse as much as possible. Every time we buy something we think of what will happen to it when we don't need it anymore. If the answer is to throw it away, we think again. For example, we donated our broken tractor tyre to a playground and old tack is given to the riding school or sold as second hand.
- We take care of the biodiversity of our property for example by planting meadows for bees, installing birdhouses, creating multi-year flower beds, composting, using rain water...

2 Social Goals & Actions

Our social goal is **to ensure the health and well-being of all horses at our care**. We do it by establishing daily routines, constantly learning on horses' behaviour and needs. We conduct and measure the following operational concept, which is divided into four themes: Feed, Exercise, Rest and Partnership

Feed

- We feed horses 4 times a day so that they have shorter intervals between feedings. Our horses are always given enough time to eat and digest the food.
- Our feeding program is based on analyzed, top quality hay that is as nutritious, dust and pollution free as possible.
- We monitor the water consumption and teach our horses to drink both from a bucket and automate.
- We report the nutrition related health issues such as obesity, condition of intestines, blood levels

Exercise

- Our horses are exercised daily: in the paddock, riding, hacking, competing, walker.
- We turn out horses together so they can play with other horses.
- We love competing with our horses but always ensure that both rider and horse are mentally and physically up to the task.
- We report the exercise related injuries, and analyse the performance against the physical and mental well-being of the rider and horse
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Rest

- Our stable is calm, clean, and quiet, horses can have their rest when they want.
- Boxes are clean with good ventilation, windows to look out, and thick bedding to lie down and roll when desired.
- We monitor horses' health and mental well-being and balance their exercise and rest accordingly.

Partnership

- Partnership with the horse is a unique privilege which we always respect.
- Our responsibility is to be the advocate of horsemanship and ensure wellbeing of the horse. This means that we must put our private ambitions and goals to the secondary position and have courage to say no when it is for horses' best interest.

We measure the well-being of the horse and rider based on our 4-theme matrix and use SDG Monitor for data collection and showing the impact.

3 Governance Goals & Actions

Our governance actions are targeted to tackle the ethical issues of horse breeding, equestrian sport, and business. We at Catani Sport Horses consider ourselves very lucky that we can live in a partnership with horses and nature. It is a great privilege to share our lives with animals. This privilege comes with responsibilities to ensure a good life for our equine partners. For this purpose, we have created some hands-on tools such as CO₂ calculation of Stal Catani, Daily practices for circular thinking, 4-theme model to ensure well-being of horses through daily operations and Ethical guidelines to give us direction for better management and people relations.

Ethical Guidelines at Stal Catani

- Horses come first – no matter what. You are never too tired, angry, or busy to leave your horse unattended.
- Have daily routines in place. Horses love routines. Be tidy and precise with everything.
- Listen to your horses, clients and employees. It helps you to make better decisions.

- Have courage to say no when someone is asking you to act against the best interest of the horse. You are the advocate of good horsemanship so be on the horse's side.
- Act honestly and kindly also when no one is looking.
- Everyone is equal at Stal Catani and deserves being treated respectfully. Team means together.
- We do not need to see eye to eye on everything, but we always talk politely to each other. All bullying is forbidden.
- Pay your bills and salaries on time
- Enjoy the ride. We are the lucky ones to be able to spend time with horses every day (If you are feeling sad, patting a horse, dog or a cat helps).

Measures that matter

We measure our performance with the following indicators.

- CO₂ emissions on horse feed, energy consumption and generating waste
- Observing the every horse's behaviour and well-being through out 4 theme model
- 100 % attendance rate of going through the ethical guidelines with people working at Stal Catani

The positive impact we are creating is shown against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and we use the SDG Monitor measurement tool for that. This sustainability plan is assessed twice a year, and performance is reported once a year. The whole team of Stal Catani is engaged in sustainability work. We are in this together.

Managing business operations sustainably

Positive business growth and sustainability are not trade-offs. We believe that sustainable business practices generate solid business growth. We will also analyse our sustainable actions and the positive business impact they are creating. Our managing tools are

- **Ethical Guidelines** are used to manage our way of working and treating horses and people
- **Horse well-being model** gives us framework for analysing the well-being of the horse
- **Biodiversity plan** is based on circular model of thinking on how we can restore our living environment and live in symbiosis with flora and fauna
- **SDG Monitor measuring tool** is used to show the positive impact Stal Catani is creating through executing this sustainability plan