


SUSTONICA CRITERIA FOR VACATION




RENTALS: COUNTRY HOMES*




*Country homes include non-urban properties, for example ski chalets, beach houses, cabins and villas.



SECTION A: Maximise Energy Conservation & Minimise



Dependency on Fossil Fuels Criteria



Criteria	Indicator	Points	Verification	SDG Target
<p>A.1. Do you acquire Green Energy from your electricity supplier?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you purchase 100% renewable energy from your electricity supplier?</p> <p>The energy you consume is from renewable sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - wind - solar - hydro - geothermal - biomass <p><i>These tariffs typically involve suppliers purchasing Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) or Guarantees of Origin (GOs) to match the amount of renewable energy they generate or purchase from renewable sources to the amount of energy their customers consume.</i></p>	2	<p>Send your latest electricity invoice indicating the % of Green Energy or a Certificate from your supplier demonstrating the source of energy.</p>	 <p>Target 7.2 INCREASE GLOBAL % OF RENEWABLE ENERGY By opting for green energy, you are affecting its production.</p>

<p>A.2. Is the fridge energy efficient?</p>	<p>Can you demonstrate that your fridge is energy efficient?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EU: A/B/C label - USA: Energy Star - Elsewhere: equivalent <p><i>The appliance that consumes the most (apart from air-conditioning) is usually the fridge. A “class F” fridge will use on average 253 kWh per year, compared to a “class A” fridge which uses around 109 kWh per year.</i></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Point your phone camera to the label inside the fridge so we can see the model name and number.</p>	 <p>Target 7.3 DOUBLE THE IMPROVEMENT IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY By buying the most efficient products, you are affecting their production.</p>
<p>A.3. Is there a smart indoor thermostat?</p>	<p>Can you prove that the property has a Smart Indoor Thermostat?</p> <p>Smart thermostats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - set locking limits to setting the temperature at something absurdly hot or cold - can be operated remotely when the property is vacant. 	<p>2</p>	<p>Point your phone camera to the smart thermostat so we can see the model name.</p>	 <p>Target 7.3 DOUBLE THE IMPROVEMENT IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY By buying the most efficient products, you are affecting their production.</p>
<p>A.4. Are most of the bulbs LED?</p>	<p>Can you demonstrate that at least 80% of the bulbs in the vacation rental are LED?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LED bulbs have a distinctive, compact shape. <p><i>Replacing energy-saving light bulbs with LED light bulbs can offer savings of up to 50% in consumption on lighting.</i></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Point your phone camera to the lights in each room of the vacation rental.</p>	 <p>Target 7.1 UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MODERN ENERGY Because LEDs are more efficient and last longer, they lower energy bills and</p>

				support increased energy access.
A.5. Is your cooktop an induction cooktop?	<p>Can you prove that your cooktop is induction?</p> <p>- induction cooktop in the kitchen</p> <p><i>An induction cooktop conserves energy as it is 12% more efficient at heating food than a smooth-top electric cooktop or range. Induction cooktops are great for safety, don't warm up the air and are much easier to clean.</i></p>	1	Point your phone camera to the induction cooktop so we can check if it is one. In case this is not visible please take a magnet and show us if it sticks to the bottom of your cookware.	 <p>Target 7.3 DOUBLE THE IMPROVEMENT IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY</p> <p>The use of induction cooktops can contribute to this target by increasing the efficiency of energy use in cooking and reducing energy waste.</p>
A.6. Are your windows high performance?	<p>Can you demonstrate that all your windows are double or triple glazed?</p> <p>- windows have multiple panes of glass</p> <p><i>Good glazing reduces heat gain and loss, thereby helping to minimise the use of artificial heating and cooling in a building. Up to 40% of a home's heating energy can be lost, and up to 87% of its heat gained through windows.</i></p>	1	Point your phone camera to all the windows of the rental.	 <p>Target 7.1 UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MODERN ENERGY</p> <p>Having high-performance windows can support this target by improving energy efficiency in buildings and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
A.7. Have you installed a smart occupancy sensor?	<p>Can you prove that you have smart occupancy sensors installed?</p> <p>- smart occupancy sensors turning lights off</p>	2	Point your phone camera to the smart occupancy sensor	 <p>Target 7.3 DOUBLE THE</p>


	<p>- and/or smart occupancy sensors for turning off heating/cooling</p> <p><i>Use of occupancy sensors for control of lighting can save up to 30% electrical energy used for lighting and combined with smart thermostats can also turn on/off the air-con and heating systems when guests are not home.</i></p>		<p>thermostat and mention the service you use.</p>	<p>IMPROVEMENT IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY</p> <p>Occupancy sensors can contribute to the goal of doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency by reducing energy waste.</p>
<p>A.8. Do you have ceiling fans installed or no air-conditioning?</p>	<p>Can you demonstrate that you have ceiling fans or no air-conditioning?</p> <p>- ceiling fans to distribute the cool air more evenly, minimising the need for air-conditioning</p> <p>- no air-conditioning to reduce energy consumption drastically</p> <p><i>Central Air Conditioning (AC) uses around 3500 watts of electricity per day, an AC window unit uses between 600 and 1500 watts and a ceiling fan uses between 30 and 50 watts.</i></p>	1	<p>Point your phone camera to the ceiling fans. If no air-con is offered please point to the ceilings of each room to confirm this.</p>	 <p>Target 7.2 INCREASE GLOBAL % OF RENEWABLE ENERGY</p> <p>By consuming less energy than air conditioning systems, ceiling fans can help reduce overall energy consumption and support the goal of providing access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.</p>
<p>A.9. Do you make a clothesline or drying rack available?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you have a clothesline or drying rack to dry guests clothes</p> <p>- clothesline - drying rack</p> <p><i>By encouraging guests to</i></p>	1	<p>Point your phone camera to the clothesline and/or drying rack.</p>	 <p>Target 7.2 INCREASE GLOBAL % OF RENEWABLE ENERGY</p> <p>By reducing energy</p>



	<p><i>use a clothesline or drying rack as opposed to the dryer they will reduce their energy consumption. Electric dryers span a wide range of wattages, from about 2,000 to 6,000 watts.</i></p>			<p>consumption, using a drying rack instead of an electric dryer can help reduce overall energy consumption and support the goal of providing access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.</p>
<p>A.10. Do you offer an EV charging facility or a list of local EV charging stations?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you have an EV charging facility or list of local EV charging stations?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EV charging facility - List of local EV charging stations <p><i>Providing access to EV chargers can help increase the adoption of electric vehicles, which are a more energy-efficient and sustainable form of transportation.</i></p>	1	<p>Point your phone camera to your EV charging station or send us the map that you give to guests of local EV charging stations.</p>	 <p>Target 7.3 DOUBLE THE IMPROVEMENT IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY By reducing dependence on fossil fuels and improving energy efficiency, access to EV chargers can support the goal of providing access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.</p>
<p>A.11. Can the sun coming through the windows be screened?</p>	<p>Can you demonstrate that you have sun screening in your windows?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - window Films - window Shades - awnings - solar Screens - exterior Shutters - trees and Plants <p><i>Window screening can help to reduce the amount of heat that enters a home,</i></p>	1	<p>Point your camera to the windows screening method.</p>	 <p>Target 7.2 INCREASE GLOBAL % OF RENEWABLE ENERGY Window screening can contribute to SDG 7 by reducing the energy consumption of air conditioning units, promoting more</p>





	<p><i>which can reduce the need for air conditioning and lower energy consumption. Window screening can also help to maintain a more consistent indoor temperature, which can reduce the need for heating in the winter.</i></p>			<p>efficient use of energy in the home, and helping to protect the environment from the harmful effects of non-renewable energy sources.</p>
<p>A.12. Are solar panels installed?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you have solar panels (photovoltaic panels) installed?</p> <p>- you convert sunlight into electrical energy using photovoltaic cells</p> <p><i>By using solar panels you reduce the need for non-renewable energy sources such as coal, oil, and natural gas. This, in turn, leads to a decrease in the emission of greenhouse gases and air pollutants, helping to mitigate the impact of human activity on the environment and combat climate change.</i></p>	2	<p>Point your phone camera to your solar panel installation or send us the installation invoice.</p>	 <p>Target 7.1 UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MODERN ENERGY The implementation of photovoltaic (PV) panels supports the adoption of renewable energy sources and reduces the reliance on non-renewable energy sources, furthering the objective of supplying accessible, dependable, and sustainable energy to all.</p>
<p>A.13. Are heat pumps installed?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you provide heating and/or cooling through thermal energy heat pumps?</p> <p>- air source - water source - ground source</p> <p><i>Heat pumps come in different types, including air-source, ground-source, and water-source, each of</i></p>	2	<p>Point your phone camera to your heat pump installation or send us the installation invoice.</p>	 <p>Target 7.2 INCREASE GLOBAL % OF RENEWABLE ENERGY By reducing the reliance on non-renewable energy sources and</p>

	<i>which utilises different sources of thermal energy to provide heating and cooling. This makes heat pumps a more environmentally friendly alternative to traditional heating and cooling systems, as they significantly reduce the carbon footprint of a building.</i>			increasing the use of renewable energy sources, heat pumps support the transition towards a more sustainable and environmentally friendly energy mix, contributing to the realisation of SDG 7.2.
TOTAL: 13 criteria		19 points		1 goal (7) 3 targets (7.1, 7.2, 7.3)

SECTION B: Promote Destination & Minimise Negative Impact on the Community Criteria


Criteria	Indicator	Points	Verification	SDG Target
B.1. Is the property wheelchair accessible?	<p>Can you prove that the property is wheelchair accessible?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - step-free access - wheelchair-friendly rooms - wide doorways and hallways - a roll-in shower in the bathroom - adjustable bed in the bedrooms. <p><i>If any of the above are available 2 points are awarded.</i></p>	2	Point your phone camera to the wheelchair-accessible features. We may ask you to send us the doorways and hallways measurements.	 <p>Target 10.2 PROMOTE UNIVERSAL SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INCLUSION</p> <p>A wheelchair-accessible rental would enable persons with disabilities to have equal access to the rental and to have</p>



				equal opportunities to participate in society.
B.2. Is there a printed sustainability chart?	<p>Can you prove that you have a sustainability chart?</p> <p>Listing all the things that you do with regards to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - energy efficiency - waste reduction - water conservation - respect of the community - promoting the destination <p><i>By showing complete transparency on your efforts you will influence guests to make changes in their own way of living.</i></p>	1	Point your phone camera to your printed sustainability chart.	 <p>Target 13.2 INTEGRATE CLIMATE CHANGE MEASURES</p> <p>A printed sustainability chart can support the implementation of target 8.9 by helping guests make more environmentally friendly choices during their stay, which contributes to a larger effort of mitigating climate change. Moreover, promotes sustainable practices and raises awareness about the need for action on sustainability issues.</p>
B.3. Is there a list of locally sourced food stores?	Can you demonstrate that you have a list of locally sourced food stores available?	1	Send us an example inside your printed welcome book / website / digital welcome book.	 <p>Target 2.3 DOUBLE THE PRODUCTIVITY AND INCOMES OF SMALL-SCALE FOOD PRODUCERS</p> <p>Providing tourists with access to vegetarian food, locally produced food and organic food options can contribute to this goal by supporting small-scale</p>
B.4. Is there a list of locally vegetarian restaurants?	Can you demonstrate that you have a list of vegetarian restaurants available?	1		
B.5. Is there a list of organic food restaurants?	Can you demonstrate that you have a list of organic food restaurants available?	1		



				food producers and promoting sustainable agriculture practices.
B.6. Is there a list of local volunteering work?	<p>Can you demonstrate that you have a list of local volunteering work available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community improvement projects - Urban greening initiatives 	1	Send us an example inside your printed welcome book / website / digital welcome book.	 <p>Target 11.3 INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE URBANISATION Volunteering can have a positive impact on multiple dimensions of sustainable development, making it relevant to multiple SDGs. In the context of sustainable cities and communities, guests can be invited to join community improvement projects and urban greening initiatives.</p>
B.7. Is there a list of local heritage sites?	<p>Can you demonstrate that you have a list of local heritage sites available?</p>	1	Send us an example inside your printed welcome book / website / digital welcome book.	 <p>Target 11.4 PROTECT THE WORLD'S NATURAL & CULTURAL HERITAGE Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.</p>
B.8. Is there a list of off-the-beaten-path sites?	<p>Can you demonstrate that you have a list of off-the-beaten-path sites available?</p>	1	Send us an example inside your printed welcome book / website / digital welcome book.	 <p>Target 11.4 PROTECT THE WORLD'S NATURAL & CULTURAL HERITAGE Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.</p>
B.9. Do you showcase local artists?	<p>Can you demonstrate that you showcase local artists' work?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - paintings - sculptures 	1	Point your phone camera to the art and mention the name of the	 <p>Target 8.9 PROMOTE BENEFICIAL AND</p>



	<i>Vacation rental homes provide a display opportunity for local artists. Include notes that the artwork is local and for sale.</i>		artist.	SUSTAINABLE TOURISM By supporting local artists, the vacation rental home can help to foster sustainable tourism and vibrant, inclusive communities.
TOTAL: 9 criteria		10 points		5 goals (2,8,10,11,13) 6 targets (2.3, 8.9, 10.2, 11.3, 11.4,13.2)



SECTION C: Minimising Waste

Criteria	Indicator	Points	Verification	SDG Target
C.1. Do you provide at least four recycling bins?	<p>Can you prove that you have at least four recycling bins available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - glass - paper - plastic - organic <p><i>Encourage your guests (and staff) to sort out waste by making available and clearly labelling four waste types bins. Provide different waste bags based on the type of recycling.</i></p>	1	Point your phone camera to the recycling bins offered.	 <p>Target 12.5 SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE WASTE GENERATION By making it easy for guests to recycle, the vacation rental can help to minimise waste and contribute to a more sustainable tourism industry.</p>

<p>C.2. Do you provide refillable shampoo and soap dispensers or biodegradable plastic toiletries?</p>	<p>Can you prove that refillable dispensers or biodegradable plastic toiletries are available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - refillable shampoo dispenser - refillable soap dispenser - biodegradable plastic toiletries <p><i>Research shows that up to 95% of the plastic used in a hotel bathroom ends up in landfill where they sit for hundreds of years. The easy alternative is to use refillable containers for shampoo, conditioner and soap. You can also offer individual-sized bottles made from biodegradable plant-derived bioplastics (PLA).</i></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Point your phone camera to refillable soap and shampoo dispensers in the bathrooms or the brand of your biodegradable plastic toiletries.</p>	 <p>Target 12.5 SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE WASTE GENERATION By reducing the amount of waste generated from single-use toiletry items, the provision of refillable shampoo and soap dispensers contributes to the goal of reducing waste and promoting more sustainable waste management practices.</p>
<p>C.3. Do you have tap water filters or a list of nearby water stations?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you have tap water filters available or make a list of nearby water stations available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - tap water filter - filtering jug - water station list <p><i>Stop leaving plastic water bottles for your guests on arrival. Instead invest in a tap water filter or a filtering jug for the fridge. Water filters eliminate unpleasant tastes, odours and more than 100 substances. Alternatively</i></p>	<p>2</p>	<p>Point your phone camera to the water filter or filtering jug.</p>	 <p>Target 12.5 SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE WASTE GENERATION Offering tap water filters or a list of local water stations in a vacation rental can also contribute to reducing waste, specifically plastic waste, as guests won't have to purchase single-use plastic water bottles.</p>


	<p><i>list local water stations where guests can fill up their own bottles with filtered water, still or sparkling.</i></p>			
<p>C.4. Do you refrain from making single-use plastic available?</p>	<p>Can you demonstrate that there are no single use plastics available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no complimentary plastic water bottles (alternatively offer glass bottles) - no cling film - no cotton bud sticks - no straws - no disposable cutlery nor plates. - no wet wipes <p><i>Single use plastics have a devastating impact on our environment. Eliminate single-use plastic. Wet wipes are made with plastic and can take 100 years to decompose.</i></p>	1	<p>Point your phone camera to the welcome pack offered. Open all the kitchen draws so we can verify that there's no plastic offered.</p>	 <p>Target 12.2 SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT AND USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES By reducing the use of single-use plastic, a vacation rental can contribute towards reducing plastic waste and conserving natural resources, which is in line with this target.</p>
<p>C.5. Do you offer recycled paper products?</p>	<p>Can you demonstrate that the paper you offer is made from recycled paper?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - napkins - paper towels - toilet paper <p><i>While paper products generally have a small carbon footprint collectively they are</i></p>	1	<p>Point your phone camera to the napkins, paper towels and paper toilet offered.</p>	 <p>Target 12.5 SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE WASTE GENERATION By using recycled paper products in vacation rentals you can contribute to reducing waste and promoting a circular</p>




	<p><i>contributing to deforestation, global warming, and an ever increasing waste problem. Choose paper products from recycled paper that is processed chlorine-free, with minimal packaging and free from dyes and fragrances.</i></p>			economy, which is in line with this target.
<p>C.6. Are your bed linen and/or towels eco-friendly?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you offer eco-friendly bed linen and/or towels?</p> <p>Made from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - organic cotton - linen - bamboo <p>and processed using environmentally-friendly methods, such as low-impact dyes.</p> <p><i>The bedding and towel industry is heavily reliant on cotton as part of its materials, and when it isn't sourced sustainably it can wreak havoc on the environment & local communities.</i></p>	1	<p>Point your phone camera to the brand of the bed linen and towels. If your linens and towels are provided by an external company please give us the name of the company so we can check with them.</p>	 <p>12.8 PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PRACTICES By choosing to use eco-friendly bed linens, you can support and encourage the development and adoption of sustainable practices in the textile and bed linens industry, which aligns with this target.</p>
<p>C.7. Do you offer sustainable shopping bags?</p>	<p>Can you prove that sustainable shopping bags are made available?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - reusable shopping bags - trolleys - baskets 	1	<p>Point your phone camera to the sustainable shopping bags you offer.</p>	 <p>Target 12.5 SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE WASTE GENERATION By offering reusable shopping bags,</p>



	<p><i>Offer these for your guests to go shopping with so they won't have to use single-use plastic bags.</i></p>			<p>trolleys, and baskets you can help your guests contribute to reducing plastic waste and promoting sustainable waste management practices.</p>
<p>C.8. Do you offer green cleaning products?</p>	<p>Can you prove that green cleaning products are offered?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - dishwashing liquid - dishwasher tablets - washing powder / stripes <p><i>Offer your guests green cleaning products and use them to clean your rentals. Green cleaning products are naturally derived, non-toxic, and biodegradable, meaning they have less impact on the environment. They can help lessen both water and air pollution, and effectively fight climate change and ozone depletion.</i></p>	1	<p>Point your phone camera to green cleaning products offered and their labels.</p>	 <p>Target 12.4 RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS AND WASTE</p> <p>By reducing the amount of waste generated and the use of harmful chemicals, the use of green cleaning products can contribute to the achievement of this target by promoting responsible consumption and production.</p>
<p>C.9. Do you have a microplastic filter for the washing machine?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you have a microplastic filter for the washing machine?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - microplastic filter device - microplastic filter washbag <p><i>Every time we wash clothes in washing machines, plastic fibres</i></p>	1	<p>Point your phone camera to the external microplastic filter of your washing machine or the wash bag you offer.</p>	 <p>14.1 REDUCE MARINE POLLUTION</p> <p>The use of microplastic filters in washing machines would help reduce the release of</p>

	<i>from synthetic textiles make their way into rivers, lakes and oceans.</i>			microplastics into the aquatic environment, thus contributing to the achievement of this target.
TOTAL: 9 criteria		11 points		2 goals (12,14) 4 targets (12.2, 12.4, 12.5, 12.8, 14.1)

SECTION D: Water Conservation


Criteria	Indicator	Points	Verification	SDG Target
D.1. Does the washing machine have an eco-setting?	<p>Can you prove that the washing machine has an “Eco” Setting?</p> <p>- eco-setting dial</p> <p><i>The eco setting typically uses lower water temperatures, reduced washing and rinsing times, and less energy-intensive heating methods to clean clothes.</i></p>	1	Point your phone camera to the settings of your washing machine so we can check if it has an eco-setting.	 <p>Target 6.4 INCREASE WATER-USE EFFICIENCY AND ENSURE FRESHWATER SUPPLIES</p> <p>By reducing the amount of water used in the washing process, the eco-setting of a washing machine can help conserve water resources.</p>



<p>D.2. Does the dishwasher have an eco-setting?</p>	<p>Can you prove that the dishwasher has an “Eco” Setting?</p> <p>- eco-setting dial</p> <p><i>When compared to hand washing dishes, dishwashers can be more water-efficient, especially if they have an eco-setting that reduces water usage.</i></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Point your phone camera to the settings of your dishwasher so we can check if it has an eco-setting.</p>	 <p>Target 6.4 INCREASE WATER-USE EFFICIENCY AND ENSURE FRESHWATER SUPPLIES</p> <p>The use of the eco-setting in a dishwasher can help reduce water usage, which aligns with this target.</p>
<p>D.3. Do you have a leak detection system?</p>	<p>Can you prove that there is a leak detection system?</p> <p>- leak detection device</p> <p><i>Water leak detection systems provide maximum protection against water leaks and resulting house flooding with 24/7 monitoring. The system cuts off the water flow to the entirety of the household by closing a valve within the leak detector.</i></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Point your phone camera to the leak detection device.</p>	 <p>Target 6.4 INCREASE WATER-USE EFFICIENCY AND ENSURE FRESHWATER SUPPLIES</p> <p>By detecting leaks and reducing the amount of water lost through leaks, a leak detection system can help conserve water resources, thus contributing to the achievement of this target.</p>
<p>D.4. Are the toilets water efficient?</p>	<p>Can you prove that the toilets are water efficient?</p> <p>- low-flow toilets - dual flush toilets</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Point your phone camera to the toilets so we can see the flush</p>	 <p>Target 6.4</p>



	<p><i>Low flow fixtures are specifically designed to limit water waste. The average low flow fixture expels around half the gallons per minute than a standard fixture. Add that up over time, and you can save about a thousand gallons of water per year.</i></p>		<p>button and the brand of the toilet.</p>	<p>INCREASE WATER-USE EFFICIENCY AND ENSURE FRESHWATER SUPPLIES By using water-efficient toilets, you can reduce the amount of water used for flushing, thus conserving water resources and helping to achieve this target.</p>
<p>D.5. Are the showers water efficient?</p>	<p>Can you demonstrate that the showers are water efficient?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - smart showers - low-flow shower heads <p><i>Low flow fixtures are specifically designed to limit water waste. The average low flow fixture expels around half the gallons per minute than a standard fixture. Add that up over time, and you can save about a thousand gallons of water per year.</i></p>	1	<p>Point your phone camera to the shower heads so we can see the brand name.</p>	 <p>Target 6.4 INCREASE WATER-USE EFFICIENCY AND ENSURE FRESHWATER SUPPLIES By using water-efficient showers, you can reduce the amount of water used for showering, thus conserving water resources and helping to achieve this target.</p>
<p>D.6. Are you collecting rainwater?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you are collecting rainwater?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rain barrels - Cisterns - Green roofs - Rain gardens - Permeable pavement - French drains 	1	<p>Point your phone camera to the rainwater collection installation.</p>	 <p>Target 6.4 INCREASE WATER-USE EFFICIENCY AND ENSURE FRESHWATER SUPPLIES</p>

	<i>Collecting rainwater can be an effective way to conserve water, reduce demand on municipal water supplies, and help manage stormwater runoff. It can also provide a source of water for outdoor uses, such as watering plants and landscaping, and can reduce water bills for homeowners and businesses.</i>			SUPPLIES By collecting rainwater, individuals and communities can increase their water-use efficiency, conserve water resources, and address water scarcity.
TOTAL: 6 criteria		6 points		1 goal (6) 1 target (6.4)
GRAND TOTAL: 37 Criteria		46 points	15 points to pass (33%)	9 goals 14 targets

SECTION E: Reducing Pollution Criteria - *Only if the Country Home as a Swimming Pool or Hot Tub*

Criteria	Indicator	Points	Verification	SDG Target
E.1. Is the pool and/or hot tub ionised?	<p>Can you prove that your swimming pool or hot tub is run on an ionisation system such as copper or silver?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ionised pool - ionised hot tub <p><i>Ionisation is a 100% safe and healthy option for treating hot tubs and pools. It is safe for humans</i></p>	1	Point your phone camera to your pool ioniser kit and send us the latest invoice.	 <p>Target 3.9 REDUCE ILLNESSES AND DEATH FROM HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS AND POLLUTION By reducing the risk of exposure to harmful chemicals and pollutants,</p>

	<p><i>and poses no harm to the environment. Moreover, ionised pools and hot tubs are the least expensive to maintain and are easy to operate and keep balanced.</i></p>			<p>copper ionization helps to promote good health and well-being for those using the pool and hot tub.</p>
<p>E.2. Is the pool and/or hot tub heated via a heat pump or solar panels or not heated?</p>	<p>Can you prove that your swimming pool and/or hot tub are heated with renewable energy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - heat pumps - solar panels - no heating <p><i>Installing an energy-efficient heating system, such as a heat pump or solar panels, can reduce the energy consumption of pools and hot tubs and lower your carbon footprint. The best option is to have no heating.</i></p>	2	<p>Point your phone camera to your heat pump / solar panel installation or send us the installation invoice. Or confirm that the pool is not heated.</p>	 <p>Target 7.1 UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO MODERN ENERGY Heating a pool or hot tub with solar panels or heat pumps helps to promote the use of renewable energy sources, reducing dependence on finite fossil fuels and promoting a more sustainable energy future.</p>
<p>E.3. Do you have a smart pool and/or hot tub smart thermostat?</p>	<p>Can you prove that you use a smart thermostat for your pool and/or hot tub?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Temperature control - Energy efficiency - Remote control - Weather monitoring - Maintenance alerts <p><i>Smart pool / Hot tub</i></p>	1	<p>Send us the invoice of your smart pool / hot tub thermostat or a screenshot of your app.</p>	 <p>Target 7.2 INCREASE GLOBAL % OF RENEWABLE ENERGY By reducing energy consumption, smart pool thermostats can help to reduce greenhouse gas</p>

	<i>thermostats help to promote energy efficiency and reduce energy waste, as they allow for precise temperature control and reduce the need for manual adjustments.</i>			emissions and promote the use of renewable energy sources, thus contributing to the goal of increasing the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.
E.4. Is your pool and/or hot tub saltwater chlorinated?	<p>Can you prove that your pool and/or hot tub is using saltwater chlorination?</p> <p>- saltwater chlorination kit</p> <p><i>Using saltwater chlorination instead of traditional chlorine can reduce the use of harsh chemicals and provide a gentler and more sustainable way to keep the pool and hot tub clean.</i></p>	1	Point your phone camera to the saltwater chlorination kit and send us your latest kit invoice.	 <p>Target 3.9 REDUCE ILLNESSES AND DEATH FROM HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS AND POLLUTION</p> <p>By reducing the need for chemical chlorine, saltwater chlorination can help to reduce the risk of exposure to harmful chemicals and promote good health and well-being for those using the pool or hot tub.</p>
E.5. Is your pool and/or hot tub being naturally filtered?	<p>Can you prove that you are using a natural filtration system for your pool?</p> <p>- sand filters - biofilters - ozone generators</p> <p><i>By relying on natural processes, such as the action of bacteria and plants, to remove contaminants and</i></p>	1	Send us the invoice of your natural filtration system kit.	 <p>Target 14.1 REDUCE MARINE POLLUTION</p> <p>Natural filtration systems for swimming pools and hot tubs help to reduce the amount of chemicals and pollutants in the</p>

	<i>impurities, natural filtration systems can help to promote a more sustainable and eco-friendly approach to water purification.</i>			water, reducing the risk of water and soil pollution. By
TOTAL: 5 criteria		6 points		3 goals (3,7,14) 4 targets (3.9, 7.1, 7.2, 14.1)
GRAND TOTAL: 42 Criteria		52 points	17 points to pass (33%)	10 goals 15 targets