2017 is the UN Year of Sustainable Tourism for development. During this, Positive Impact are telling the story of the power of events and how they can promote environmental, social and economic sustainability.

How can events create peace, justice and strong institutions?

Our theme of the month is "how can events create peace, justice and strong institutions". At Positive Impact, we are helping the United Nations achieve Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels.

In our interview with Olympic Gold Medalist Etienne Stott, he talks about the power of sport events bringing inclusion, acceptance and breaking down artificial barriers concerning nationality.

"There's a need especially in these trickier times to show that we have so much in common and that these barriers and categories are somewhat artificial.” Etienne Stott

Positive Impacts in the world

- **Refugee Crisis**
  - Through acceptance and inclusion, we can help give refugees hope for the future.
  - To read about some success stories, go to Refugee Action’s website: [http://www.refugee-action.org.uk/refugee-voices/](http://www.refugee-action.org.uk/refugee-voices/)

- **Religion**
  - Everyday we see headlines in the media that create division and hate in society. However, the Guardian reported on a community project which brought eight religious leader and their congregations together for eight days in one room in Jerusalem. The project exemplified how unity and acceptance can create peace in the world. [https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/sep/24/unity-gives-jerusalem-a-prayer-jews-muslims-and-christians-join-for-worship](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/sep/24/unity-gives-jerusalem-a-prayer-jews-muslims-and-christians-join-for-worship)

- **Diversity**
  - Diversity is a challenge across the technology industry. VMware have therefore launched an initiative called VMInclusion in order to broaden diversity and inclusion at work with a particular focus on women and underrepresented groups. [https://www.vmware.com/radius/join-vmware-diversity-inclusion-journey/](https://www.vmware.com/radius/join-vmware-diversity-inclusion-journey/)

Top Tips by the United Nations

- Raise awareness in your community about the realities of violence and importance of peaceful and just societies
- Exercise your right to freedom of information and share your opinion with elected representatives
- Promote inclusion and respect towards people of different backgrounds, ethnic origins, religions, gender, sexual orientations and different opinions


Share a Positive Impact

At Positive Impact, we are telling the story of the power of events on Twitter @Share_a_PI

Help us reach our goal of 2 million examples of sustainable practices and send us a photo of a sustainable initiative at an event. Don't forget to use our hashtag #shareapositiveimpact