IF Sustainability Project
REDISTRIBUTION OF BOXING EQUIPMENT
The world faces important challenges across a wide spectrum of economic, social and environmental issues, and the sport community is not immune from their impacts. The Olympic Movement has both an opportunity and a duty to actively contribute to the global sustainability debate in line with its vision of “Building a better world through sport”.

With this in mind, and in response to recommendation 5 of Olympic Agenda 2020 (“Include sustainability within the Olympic Movement’s daily operations”), the IOC conducted the International Federation (IF) Sustainability Project throughout 2016. The IOC carried out the project with three objectives: obtaining an overview of IFs’ sustainability initiatives; identifying common topics, good practices and shared challenges; and sharing information among the IFs. As part of this project, the IOC collaborated with the IFs to compile a series of case studies reflecting how IFs are contributing towards a more sustainable world.

Each case study is aligned with one or more of the IOC’s five sustainability focus areas: infrastructure & natural sites; sourcing & resource management; mobility; workforce; and climate. These focus areas were selected through an extensive stakeholder engagement process, taking into consideration today’s key sustainability challenges and the manner in which the IOC believes the Olympic Movement can most significantly contribute to addressing them.

The case studies are also aligned with the United Nations’ (UN) framework of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This framework is pivotal for the Olympic Movement: in September 2015, the UN General Assembly confirmed the important role that sport can play in supporting the UN’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its SDGs.

“Sport is also an important enabler of sustainable development. We recognise the growing contribution of sport to the realisation of development and peace in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of young people, individuals and communities as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives.” Paragraph 37, UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
AIBA HAS SET IN A PLACE A POLICY TO REDISTRIBUT BOXING EQUIPMENT FROM MAJOR COMPETITIONS TO NATIONAL FEDERATIONS.

More than ten years ago, AIBA established a redistribution policy for the sport equipment it acquires for its annual major events. For each event, AIBA secures sponsorship partners that provide the necessary equipment, such as boxing rings, boxing gloves, head guards, pads and punching bags. Within the framework of the sponsor agreement is the understanding that all equipment used for the event will be donated to the host National Federation (NF). The NF then has the responsibility of redistributing the equipment to local clubs and development centres in order to help athletes who require proper equipment for training and competition.

“The feedback from members has always been positive.”

In addition to this redistribution programme, the framework of AIBA’s supplier agreements and the briefing document for competition bids also contain a sustainability matrix, with questions that verify if potential suppliers are using ethical and sustainable best practices when identifying potential sponsorship partnerships.

For hosting the AIBA Women’s World Boxing Championships Astana 2016, the Kazakhstan Boxing Federation received 250 pairs of gloves and 150 head guards, of which 180 pairs of gloves and 100 head guards were used during the competition. After the event, all used and unused gloves and head guards were distributed to the 16 officially affiliated regional boxing federations within Kazakhstan to assist in the development of the sport.

The main mission of these regional bodies in Kazakhstan is to identify local boxing talent and to train and prepare them to become future members of the national boxing team. The regional bodies each have their own training centres, and the gloves and head guards that they received after the championships are now being used by the athletes who train in them.

The previous year, the Qatar Boxing Federation (QBF) received 320 pairs of gloves and 700 bandages, which were used during the AIBA World Boxing Championships Doha 2015. Following the competition, the QBF distributed some of this equipment to developing national boxing federations in Asian and African countries such as Afghanistan, the Comoro Islands, Sudan, Nepal, Yemen and Djibouti, and donated the

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the Redistribution of Boxing Equipment programme run by the International Boxing Association (AIBA) is to prolong the lifespan of sporting equipment, giving support to the Local Organising Committees (LOCs) of boxing tournaments by providing resources that will help local athletes to develop.
two competition rings to the Afghanistan Boxing Federation and the Sudan Boxing Federation. The QBF also distributed used training rings, sandbag stations, gloves and bandages to newly formed boxing clubs in Qatar.

COMMUNICATION
AIBA makes no specific communications about this longstanding programme, as it is an internal method of best practice. However, references were made to it as part of AIBA’s recently launched #HeadsUp! development programme.

EVALUATION
After the conclusion of each major tournament, AIBA compiles a post-event report that includes detailed information about the redistribution of boxing equipment. The feedback from members has always been positive, as they see the programme as one of the benefits of hosting a major AIBA event and a means of assisting in the development of local athletes.