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IF Sustainability Project
**FIFA QUALITY
PROGRAMME**



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IF SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

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



FIFA HAS ESTABLISHED A PROGRAMME TO ENSURE THAT THE MANUFACTURERS OF FOOTBALL EQUIPMENT COMPLY WITH ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICES.

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Social responsibility is a key issue for FIFA, which believes that football can bring about positive social change. As part of this responsibility, FIFA has implemented the FIFA Quality Programme to protect the interests of its stakeholders and to ensure that correct measures were being taken in the production of football equipment, surfaces, technology and services used for the sport. The FIFA Quality Programme has been built on in-depth studies, surveys and analyses of players' needs, and also encompasses aspects of safety, performance, durability, quality assurance and playing comfort.

To assist with the management of the programme, FIFA has partnered with the World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry (WFSGI), which strives to promote fair and environmentally friendly working conditions. The WFSGI was selected because of their expertise and experience in social responsibility, which is an integral part of the

certification criteria. The partnership ensures that suppliers comply with ethical business practices in terms of child labour, working hours, health and safety requirements and environmental responsibility, as laid down in WFSGI Code of Conduct.

FIFA requires all its licensed suppliers to be part of the FIFA Quality Programme. Licensees must demonstrate to FIFA that they have signed the WFSGI Pledge, which confirms that FIFA-certified footballs, artificial turf and other products comply with the WFSGI Code of Conduct on internationally recognised labour standards. FIFA commissions the WFSGI to organise detailed social audits and evaluations, and only companies that have been confirmed as being compliant with the international requirements stipulated are eligible to become FIFA licensees.

The annual fee for suppliers to be certified with the WFSGI Pledge is 1,500 CHF. However, this is free to WFSGI



members. The proceeds contribute to FIFA's investment in infrastructure and development programmes such as the Football for Hope movement, which aims to establish sustainable programmes that work towards greater social development. When customers purchase FIFA Quality-branded football equipment, they are automatically supporting FIFA's efforts to promote social development through football.

Sharing the knowledge FIFA has gained through implementing

OBJECTIVES

The FIFA Quality Programme has been developed to provide an internationally recognised and dependable industry standard for football equipment, playing surfaces and goal-line technology.

The programme has been designed to improve the game and protect players, clubs and associations by endorsing products that comply with the highest safety and quality standards, while also ensuring that football equipment is produced in the most sustainable way possible.



Each project contributes to one or more of the IOC's sustainability focus areas and one or more of the UN's SDGs:



UN SDGs



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the programme, memorandums of understanding have been established with the International Hockey Federation (FIH) and World Rugby in relation to quality turf surfaces.

TIME & PERSONNEL

The FIFA Quality Programme is managed by four full-time licensee account managers and researchers. The WFSGI oversees the social audits.

COMMUNICATION

Details of the programme and its certification schemes are published on a dedicated part of the FIFA website, at <http://quality.fifa.com>. In addition, the two FIFA Quality labels used on football equipment, FIFA Quality and FIFA Quality Pro, are considered to be excellent marking tools for the scheme.

EVALUATION

As of 2016, there are currently 65 licensees of FIFA footballs, 25 licensees of FIFA football turf and three

licensees of FIFA goal-line technology. All licensees have signed the WFSGI Pledge, which is a requirement to be part of the FIFA Quality programme. In addition, more than 50 of the licensees' subcontractors fully comply with the WFSGI Code of Conduct, which means that a total of 150 manufacturers are part of the annual certification scheme.

