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
As part of FIS Green, the FIS’s comprehensive new sustainability strategy due to be launched in early 2017, the FIS decided to create a database of sustainability initiatives implemented by ski resorts across the globe. The database features projects conducted by more than 700 ski resorts, which were selected from the existing database of resort information available to the FIS. A total budget of 5,000 CHF was allocated to the project.

The information was compiled through online desk research from the websites of the ski resorts. This method was specifically chosen as the FIS preferred to focus on information that was already publicly available, which confirmed that the ski resorts had sought to communicate their initiatives. The collected information has been divided into four focus areas: alternative methods of energy; recycling practices; alternative methods of transport in the resort; and existing partnerships with public transportation.

The data has been collated and will be presented on FIS websites in the form of a “live” database, which allows for changes to be made in real time. This format means that the public always has the most up-to-date information, and resorts are always able to update their details.

**TIME & PERSONNEL**
Two staff members spent 50% of their time on the project for four months.

**COMMUNICATION**
The results of the project will be presented on the FIS website, as well as on the FIS-managed websites for two initiatives:

**OBJECTIVES**
The International Ski Federation (FIS) considers ski resorts as the home for its sports. With sustainability becoming an increasingly important subject throughout the sport industry, the FIS wanted to highlight the sustainability-related initiatives being carried out by ski resorts across the globe. The objectives were to create a database of ski resorts’ sustainability initiatives, showcase and share them with the general public, and to motivate resorts to further continue their efforts in sustainability.
World Snow Day, a one-day event that gives children the chance to experience snow sports as part of the Bring Children to the Snow campaign; and SnowKidz, similar to World Snow Day but held all year round. In total, these websites receive an average of more than four million page views per year. The project will also be promoted during the launch of FIS Green in 2017.

**EVALUATION**

One potential challenge for the project, already identified by the team, is the fact that ski resorts may at first be apprehensive about the project as it may, in some instances, highlight their shortcomings. To combat this, the FIS plans to focus on the positive points: the project is an opportunity to promote their initiatives; it offers a chance to encourage new sustainability practices; and each resort has the ability to update its own information.