



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

IF Sustainability Project  
**IBSF SMART  
TRAVEL POLICY**





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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



# THE IBSF HAS PUT IN PLACE A NUMBER OF NEW MEASURES DESIGNED TO FOSTER A MORE SUSTAINABLE APPROACH TO TRAVEL.

In 2011, under the leadership of new President Mr Ivo Ferriani, the IBSF regularised a number of new policies relating to travel and transportation within the federation. The policies were created as a strategic response to the high travel costs that had been observed in the 2010 annual financial report.

Previously, the more than 90 jury staff assigned to competitions, the IBSF Executive Board and the IBSF staff members could organise their own travel to competitions and other events, and then be reimbursed by the IBSF. The new approach centralises all travel arrangements, with a specific employee dedicating part of her time to arranging transportation in the most efficient and sustainable way possible.

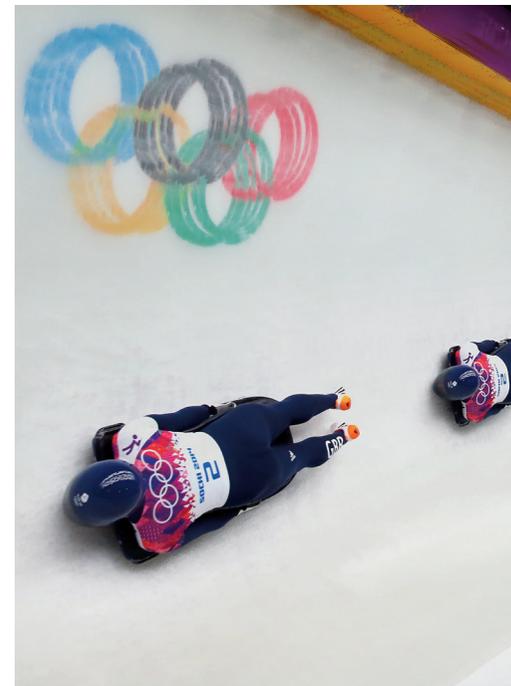
Some of the new policy initiatives are as follows:

- The event calendar is now arranged on a continental basis. Jury assignments are made with a view to reducing cross-

continental travel, which has a positive impact on the IBSF's carbon footprint.

- A designated travel day between events has been established, ensuring that athletes and staff are able to use ground transportation (where possible) to travel to the next event.
- Carpooling among jury members is promoted. Jury assignment lists for competitions are posted as early as possible to encourage the organisation of joint transportation.
- All flights lasting less than five hours must be booked in economy class.
- Site visits, special invitations from National Federations (NFs), administrative support trips and meetings are now scheduled to coincide with other scheduled events, limiting the need for additional travel.
- A maximum of four in-person executive meetings are planned each year. The remaining monthly executive meetings are conducted via conference call.
- A centralised system has been created to transport equipment. The IBSF has

committed to taking responsibility for transporting equipment from a central point in Europe to the World Championships. During the competition season in North America, athletes are able to send their equipment to a given location, and the IBSF then manages its transportation to events around the country.



## OBJECTIVES

After evaluating its annual financial report at the end of 2010, the International Bobsleigh & Skeleton Federation (IBSF) sought to find innovative ways to reduce its transportation expenditure. In addition to lowering its costs, the IBSF wanted to find a more sustainable approach towards travel, and to find creative ways to reduce the distance and time of travel for its staff because of potential health concerns.



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

#### IOC FOCUS AREA



MOBILITY

#### UN SDG



13 CLIMATE ACTION



### TIME & PERSONNEL

One staff member dedicates 25% of her time to managing the process.

### COMMUNICATION

IBSF staff consulted with the members of the jury, the group that were to be most affected by the new policy, to communicate the plans in a way that demonstrated that the goal was to make travel easier. The Executive Board also communicated its support by endorsing and adopting the new policies as part of its own approach to travel. This shared commitment was well received by the jury members.

### EVALUATION

At first, jury members were apprehensive about the policy. But over time, having seen the benefits of the new policies and acknowledged that both the Executive Board and IBSF staff have also adopted the new practices, jury members have accepted and appreciated the changes. The IBSF has also seen a 20-25%

reduction in travel costs since the policy has come into effect.

Having evaluated the process, the IBSF highlights the fact that stakeholder consultation meetings conducted before the implementation of the policy proved beneficial in ensuring that the process went smoothly and received the support of its stakeholders.

