



INTERNATIONAL
OLYMPIC
COMMITTEE

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NOC and IF Sustainability Project **CLEAN SEAS: ONE YEAR ON**



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NOC AND IF SUSTAINABILITY CASE STUDIES

The world faces significant challenges across a wide spectrum of economic, social and environmental matters. 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 Olympic Agenda 2020, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) launched the International Federation (IF) Sustainability Project in 2016 to obtain an overview of IFs’ sustainability initiatives – identifying common topics, challenges and good practices while also sharing information among the IFs.

One outcome of the project was a series of case studies illustrating how IFs are actively contributing towards a more sustainable world.

As part of the IOC’s objective to “profile the role of the Olympic Movement in sustainability through the aggregation of information and collective reporting”, it was agreed that the identification and sharing of information contributes to the holistic integration of

sustainability and should be continued. These case studies, which now also showcase National Olympic Committees’ (NOCs) best practices, form part of a strategic support system given to the Olympic Movement through the [IOC Sustainability Strategy](#).

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. They are also aligned with one or more of the United Nations’ (UN) framework of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which provide a common framework for organisations to explain how they plan

to contribute to sustainable development and tackle the key global sustainability challenges. 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.

The IOC provides support to NOCs and IFs in the definition, design and development of their sustainability strategies.



“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

Each NOC/IF sustainability project contributes to one or more of the IOC's sustainability focus areas and one or more of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

IOC FOCUS AREAS



UN SDGs



THE OLYMPIC MOVEMENT IS CELEBRATING 12 MONTHS OF ACTION AGAINST PLASTIC WASTE

On 5 June 2018, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) joined United Nations Environment's Clean Seas initiative (#CleanSeas) to beat plastic waste and called on other organisations and individuals from across the Olympic Movement to come on board. One National Olympic Committee (NOC) and ten International Federations (IFs) have so far joined the initiative, helping to tackle the global issue of marine litter with concrete actions. Here are just a few of the initiatives launched by IFs in 2018 and 2019:

- The International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) joined forces with the Ghost Fishing Foundation to launch Good Net, an initiative for which discarded fishing nets are recovered from the ocean and turned into volleyball nets for community use.
- World Sailing (WS) and the International Surfing Association (ISA) eliminated single-use plastics from the 2018 Youth Sailing World Championships and the World Junior Surfing Championship

- respectively, and WS also organised beach clean-ups during its event.
- The ITU (International Triathlon Union), working in partnership with the Japan Triathlon Union and the City of Yokohama for the visit of the 2018 World Triathlon Series, organised clean-ups of the port of Yokohama and recreated the natural environment needed for shellfish and other sea life to thrive in the port.
- As part of the involvement of the International Canoe Federation (ICF) in Clean Seas, and with support from the IOC, two-time canoe slalom Olympian Mike Dawson completed the first-ever descent of the Kwanza River in Angola, Africa's most treacherous river, raising awareness about plastic waste in Africa and around the world.

Many other Olympic Movement stakeholders have launched similar projects that are tackling the problem of marine litter. Reaffirming both its commitment to and leading role in Clean Seas, the IOC itself has eliminated single-use plastic water bottles

OBJECTIVES

- The Olympic Movement joined the United Nations' Clean Seas campaign in order to:
- Raise awareness about the global issue of marine litter.
 - Tackle the problem by implementing measures developed by sport governing bodies.
 - Encourage the sports community, athletes and the public to take part in the initiative and help to achieve greater results.



from Olympic House, its new headquarters, an initiative that will represent a reduction of 80,000 plastic bottles per year, and has also replaced items made of conventional plastic with items made from recycled or plant-based plastic.

EVALUATION

After one year of action, the Olympic Movement has proved its dedication to UN Environment's Clean Seas initiative. The IOC will continue to work closely with IFs, NOCs, athletes, commercial partners and other Olympic Movement stakeholders, encouraging them to join the initiative and helping them to turn their commitments into actions.



BENEFITS

- Working together with NOCs, IFs and TOP Partners, UN Environment and the IOC have shown that sport can help to tackle environmental challenges.
- Sport governing bodies can both apply concrete measures and drive their communities to act in favour of environmental causes.
- The Clean Seas campaign shows that sport has the power to influence social and environmental changes.

