NOC Sustainability Project
A PLATFORM TO PROMOTE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF ORGANISATIONS
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.

“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**

| Infrastructure & Natural Sites | Sourcing & Resource Management | Mobility | Workforce | Climate |

**UN SDGs**


---

**THE COMITÉ NATIONAL OLYMPIQUE ET SPORTIF FRANÇAIS SUPPORTS THE AGENDA FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY LEADING TO PARIS 2024**

Over the last 20 years, France has been the host to 55 international competitions, climbing to the podium of the top three countries for hosting major world sporting events. Building on the national expertise, the French Ministry of Sports, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) France, and close to 80 organisers of sporting events signed a charter of 15 eco-responsible commitments to achieve the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games legacy goals.

As part of their commitment to create tools to help stakeholders carry out the transition into sustainability in sports, the French National Olympic and Sports committee (CNOSF), with support of the IOC, has launched a dedicated platform to share best practices on sustainable development. The platform for “environmental excellence through sport” or RSO (Social Responsibility of Sports Organisations) is a call for all stakeholders in the sports movement to structure and promote their approach to sustainability.

The platform allows for any type of organisation from federation to club level, have a clear benchmark of their current practices using a self-assessment tool and identify a clear action plan.

**OBJECTIVES**

The CNOSF launched the RSO platform with the goal of:

- Creating tools for organisations to evaluate their current performance and identify concrete actions towards sustainability.
- Foster cross-collaboration within local stakeholders that can share world-class expertise across organisations of all sizes.
- Leverage the arrival of the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic games to accelerate positive transformation with social, environmental and economic impacts.

The campaign recognises that by the very nature of their associative role, sport organisations have naturally always played an important role within social responsibility. This commitment has traditionally been reflected in, among other functions, the promotion of physical activity and wellbeing, education, support for diversity and the awareness for the environment. However, as part of the country’s commitment to the Agenda 21 in regard to sustainable development, RSO proposes a process of continuous focus on four objectives: the sustainability of the organisation, its performance in a spirit of solidarity, strengthening the credibility and loyalty of the athletes and the development of its activity in favour of local and regional communities.
of action developed in partnership with National Federations and stakeholders. Through this space, sports organisations can share and consult charters, documentations, guides, templates and general best practices which foster cross collaboration.

The RSO platform seeks to serve as a catalyst for cross-pollination of the best sustainability practices in France through a definition of Social Responsibility that encompasses social, environmental and economic impact. The CNOSF is encouraging organisations of all sizes to establish new sustainability strategies for their structure, the development of their sports and bringing the values of sport and Olympism to life.

RSO offers organisations a self-diagnostic tool where organisations can audit their performance on six lines of actions. The action lines have been derived from the ISO 26000 standard for Social Responsibility and include:

- Governance
- Management and Development of Stakeholders
- Role of Athletes
- Environmental Protection
- Integrity and Values, and
- The Development of Local and Regional Economies.

Upon establishing a baseline, the platform also presents a comprehensive toolbox for continuous development across all six lines of action.

BENEFITS

- Launching the RSO platform, the CNOSF managed to deliver on its commitment to create tools to support stakeholders’ transition into sustainable sports.
- Through the creation of a self-assessment tool, sports organisations of any size can establish a sustainability baseline and get an action plan catered to their needs.
- The centralised role of a National Olympic Committee is a powerful catalyst to create synergies and transfer of knowledge between organisations of different sizes and types.

CONTACT: Audrey Wittersheim, Responsible for Sustainable Development and Outdoor Sports audreywittersheim@cnosf.org

EVALUATION

The RSO platform seeks to serve as a catalyst for cross-pollination of the best sustainability practices in France through a definition of Social Responsibility that encompasses social, environmental and economic impact. The CNOSF is encouraging organisations of all sizes to establish new sustainability strategies for their structure, the development of their sports and bringing the values of sport and Olympism to life.