IBU

International Olympic Committee

IF SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

CLUB CLIMATE TROPHY

International Olympic Committee

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 contribute to the holistic integration of sustainability and should be continued.

"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

These case studies, which now also showcase the best practices of National Olympic Committees (NOCs), form part of a strategic support system made available 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.

Each NOC/IF sustainability project contributes to one or more of the IOC's sustainability focus areas and one or more of the UN SDGs.

IOC FOCUS AREAS

INFRASTRUCTURE & NATURAL SITES | SOURCING & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT | MOBILITY | WORKFORCE | CLIMATE

UN SDGs

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'CLIMATE CLUB TROPHY'-UNVEILING SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES IN BIATHLON CLUBS

As the governing body for biathlon worldwide, the International Biathlon Union (IBU) has developed a sustainability strategy to influence change across the sport more widely. This strategy begins with a focus on the IBU's activities and extends to IBU events and the global biathlon family, including the National Federations and their members, partners and sponsors, as well as the media and numerous biathlon fans worldwide.

The IBU joined forces with its long-term sponsor and Climate Partner Viessmann (a Germany-based climate and energy solutions provider) to launch the Viessmann IBU Climate Club Trophy in January 2023. This initiative was designed to acknowledge the remarkable sustainability endeavours undertaken by biathlon clubs worldwide. The IBU reached out to the biathlon family to identify and reward the clubs with the most effective sustainability practices. Among the multiple submissions, the efforts of four biathlon clubs were explored through detailed case studies to promote their sustainability engagement and share any lessons learned on the IBU website. The winner received a gift voucher from the IBU's climate and energy solutions partner, which could be redeemed for photovoltaics, heat pumps and solar thermal systems. The value of the voucher was determined by the number of hits (to the target) the athletes made in the World Championships, and for each hit made in the tournament, the voucher's value increased by EUR 3. The athletes scored a total of 7,981 hits, and the winner received a voucher worth EUR 24,000.

Some of key takeaways and best practices from these biathlon clubs include:

Craftsbury Outdoor Center -

The Craftsbury Outdoor Center (COC) in Vermont, USA, is both a non-profit organisation and a successful biathlon club with a mission to support lifelong sports participation, teach sustainable practices, and protect the surrounding land, lake, and trails. The COC aims to be a model for sustainability, conservation, education, and stewardship in its community by minimising ecological impact, conserving energy, and raising awareness through various initiatives. To achieve its goal, the COC uses solar panels, sustainable heating systems and, EV charging stations, and promotes sustainability through educational programmes

Sport Club Biathlon Mania -

Sport Club Biathlon Mania, located in Slovakia near Banská Bystrica, stands out for due to its innovative approach to developing young athletes aged 6 to 15. Founded by former elite biathlete Dušan Šimočko, the club uses laser rifles to teach shooting skills, resulting in a reduced ecological impact and significant cost savings. The club's main initiatives, besides the laser rifles for training, are using a 15-seater bus for transportation, and creating hand-made medals from old air rifle cartridges.

UKS Kamieńczyk -

The School Children Sport Club Kamieńnczyk (UKS Kamieńczyk) is committed to fighting for a better tomorrow through sustainability initiatives. Working in partnership with the Karkonoski National Park and National Forestry, it emphasises education and collaboration with its young members aged 7 to -15. Ultimately, the club aims to create lasting habits and inspire others to embrace sustainability. Addressing various IBU sustainability issues, the club participates in reforestation and clean-up actions, activities, recycles lead ammunition shells, promotes sustainable food practices, and focuses on waste reduction, separation, and recycling.

BENEFITS

- Clubs receive international recognition on global platform.
- Sharing sustainability best practices and lessons learned to tackle similar problems.
- Encouraging active participation and collaboration within the biathlon community, fostering a sense of unity.

OBJECTIVES

- Honour outstanding sustainability initiatives by sports clubs.
- Encourage and promote sustainable practices at the grassroots level of the biathlon community.
- Share successful case studies and best practices to inspire and educate others on options for concrete sustainability action.

DAV Ulm -

Deutscher Alpenverein (DAV) Ulm''s goal is to pursue measures that are environmentally friendly, economically sound, and beneficial for the sport. Faced with snowless winters in its home region due to climate change, DAV Ulm has focused on roller skiing and invested in a biathlon training centreer to grow its youth talent pool. To mitigate its own climate impact, the club has an operational sustainability strategy that includesing water harvesting for snowmaking, lead bullet collection, energy-efficient buildings with air source heat pumps and a planned photovoltaic system, as well as bus-sharing with partners to reduce emissions from travel.

"With the Climate Club Trophy, Viessmann is delighted to have created a platform with the IBU to showcase sustainable projects at biathlon clubs worldwide. The applications were impressive, demonstrating that much is already being done, especially on infrastructure and at grassroots levels. The Trophy also showed that sustainability and future generations are key issues not only for us as the Official Climate Partner of the IBU, but for the entire biathlon community."

-LARS EINLOFT, SPONSORING MANAGER, VIESSMANN CLIMATE SOLUTIONS SE

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