

IF SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT UCI SUSTAINABILITY GUIDELINES



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.

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.

The IOC provides support to NOCs and IFs in establishing, designing and developing 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 SDGs.



SOLID STEPS TO MAKE CYCLING ONE OF THE MOST SUSTAINABLE SPORTS WORLDWIDE

As part of its commitment to uphold the five principles of the UN Sports for Climate Action Framework, the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) is aiming to make cycling one of the most sustainable sports in the world by increasing the positive environmental, social and economic impacts of its operations and activities.

As part of its strategy, the UCI published its [Sustainability Guidelines](#) to provide simple, practical and essential information on key

aspects of sustainability for the sport of cycling. This programme was developed in close collaboration with cycling stakeholders, and it supports both the Sustainability Strategy of the IOC and the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The main section of the guidelines is a detailed overview of the different focus areas of sustainability in cycling, and how to act upon them. The UCI highlights concrete actions and offers case studies from other cycling organisations as an inspiration for all sports stakeholders.



Environmental and climate action to combat the sport's impact:

- Cycling events, venues and organisations must recognise the potential risks posed by **global warming** and implement strategies to manage the impacts. For example, being able to alter event schedules due to extreme weather conditions.

- Moreover, outdoor events can have negative impacts on **biodiversity**, but there is massive potential for cycling to raise awareness about the value of biodiversity to people, its links to the sport, and the importance of biodiversity conservation.

- Travel and transport remain one of the areas with the highest environmental impact in sport, and the UCI therefore aims to reduce its emissions by implementing measures such as holding meetings virtually whenever possible, or choosing the “greenest” options for both people and equipment travel.

- Another priority is **sustainable sourcing** and ensuring a climate friendly supply chain. Sports organisations can collaborate with suppliers to share environmental and social targets and include sustainability criteria in contracts.

- Furthermore, the UCI is raising awareness about **circular economy principles**, as well as the importance of collaborating with suppliers and broadcasters to find more sustainable energy supplies.

OBJECTIVES

- Provide simple, practical and essential information on key aspects of sustainability, helping National Federations, event organisers, teams and all other cycling stakeholders start the journey to developing effective sustainability programmes.

- Promote greater environmental responsibility and education within the sport by highlighting case studies and examples of best practice.

- Provide practical checklists to help stakeholders deliver sustainable events that maximise positive and minimise negative impacts on people and the planet, including promoting cycling as a mode of transport.



Social initiatives to establish a healthy and inclusive community:

- The sport of cycling is a platform to create a **sustainability culture** within the community and encourage people to choose more responsible behaviours, like the use of bikes as a means of transport, which is positive to both physical health and the environment.

- Moreover, making sports more **diverse and inclusive** is a worldwide recognised need and opportunity. To provide a space where everybody feels comfortable, the cycling community must take a zero-tolerance stance towards

all types of discrimination and harassment, and implement policies to increase diversity.

The UCI's Sustainability Guidelines reinforce the organisation's sustainability strategy and showcase the action that the Federation is taking to promote cycling as a solution to

address some of the greatest challenges in today's society: climate change, air pollution, equality and health risks due to inactivity. The UCI aims to create value for all stakeholders and provide education, resources and support to develop further responsible initiatives and reach sustainability goals collectively.



BENEFITS

- Gain trust among local communities, public authorities and other stakeholders, which can translate into lower risk and better partnerships.
- Contribute to the inclusion and diversity culture of the organisation by inviting people from different backgrounds to be part of the cycling community and bring new perspectives and ideas.
- Achieve direct savings and efficiencies through reuse strategies, waste management and effective sourcing of goods and materials.

"These guidelines set out the UCI's sustainability vision, recommendations for all cycling stakeholders with practical advice and case studies, and detailed checklists enabling sporting organisations worldwide to integrate sustainable practices into their daily operations. Such actions will enable all of us to reduce our carbon footprint whilst also ensuring that active travel via cycling can leave a long-lasting legacy and social impact for populations around the world."

DAVID LAPPARTIENT, UCI PRESIDENT