

TEMPLATE FOR REPORTING ON RECENT INITIATIVES ON SPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

Sports for Climate Action Framework

Task: Provide a summary of the initiative, including a brief overview, proposed/actual outcomes and an assessment of any lessons learned and the way forward.

Timeframe: Please only include initiatives that fall within the reporting timeframe of January 2022 – February 2024

Please provide more details on each initiative including items below:		
Objective(s):	<i>Please indicate which, if any, of the following fall among the main objectives of the initiative:</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring no one is left behind (advancing empowerment, inclusiveness and equality through sport) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leveraging sports events to promote action to combat climate change, advance peace and/or sustainable development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict prevention/peace building
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research development, data collection and/or data dissemination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safely harnessing sport for sustainable development, peace and wellbeing in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, including through the use of technology
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce the 2030 Agenda and eradicate poverty in times of multiple crises, leading to the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safeguarding sport from corruption and crime
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened global framework on sport for development and peace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other (please specify)
Situation	<p><i>What is the challenge or problem that the initiative aims to address?</i></p> <p>The Sports for Climate Action Initiative is an effort to tackle climate change by utilizing the global popularity and influence of sports. The initiative acknowledges that the sports industry not only contributes to carbon emissions through activities such as travel, energy use, and construction of sports facilities but also has a significant cultural and social impact that can be used to promote environmental awareness and action. The aim of the initiative is to make the sportspart of the solution on climate action and identify action roadmaps that would be aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement. The key goals of the initiative are:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and support professional sports organizations to assess and minimize their carbon emissions in operations and events. • Utilize the platform of sports to educate and engage fans and communities about the urgency of climate action. • Acts as a voice for the sports community to drive policy changes towards environmental sustainability.
<p>Implementation mechanisms:</p>	<p><i>What are the means/processes of implementation of the initiative?</i></p> <p>The implementation of the Sports for Climate Action Initiative is structured around five guiding principles—promoting greater environmental responsibility, reducing climate impact, educating for climate action, promoting sustainable consumption, and advocating for climate action. These principles guide the implementation and actions of its signatories, which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing a framework that outlines commitments to climate action, and a process to guide signatories on how to integrate these principles into their operations. • Convening 260+ signatories to enable practical share of best practices, challenges, and successes in implementing the principles, enhancing the sports sector's contribution to climate action. • Offering access to expert networks and resources for knowledge sharing in workshops, webinars, meetings, resources pool. • Requiring signatories to report their progress, ensuring accountability in adhering to the principles and promoting transparency in environmental efforts. <p><i>What are the main deliverables/activities involved?</i></p> <p>The following activities and deliverables are central to the initiatives's mission to enable sports organizations to become leaders in climate action, providing them with the tools, knowledge, and platform needed to empower them to take climate action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and fans engagement strategies for mobilizing fans and communities around climate action. • Guidelines to help organizations implement strategies that minimize environmental impact. • Educational initiatives and webinars designed to increase climate awareness among sports communities. • Advocacy platforms for signatories to push for climate related policies and practices. • Access to collaborative networks and a resource database for sharing experiences and solutions. • Support for using athletes' influence to inspire broader engagement in climate initiatives. • Technical Workshops on mitigation, adaptation, and influence. • Reporting Framework: A system for signatories to report climate action efforts, ensuring accountability. <p><i>What is the time frame of implementation?</i></p>

	<p>The Sports for Climate Action Initiative through a process of consultation, builds a two year strategy that focuses on building capacity and promoting various aspects of mitigation, adaptation, and influence. As such, there is a two year timeframe for implementing particular strategic goals but the initiative as a whole is long term, as are the climate goals enshrined in it. The 2024-2025 timeframe will focus on efforts of signatories to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enhance resilience to climate impacts, and leverage its global influence to bring sport and its community along in the climate conversation and solidarity.</p>
<p>Target Audience(s):</p>	<p><i>Who are the beneficiaries of the proposed/implemented initiative?</i></p> <p>The primary beneficiaries of the Sports for Climate Action Initiative are professional sports organizations. These entities range from local sports clubs to international sports federations, encompassing teams, leagues, associations, broadcasters, and venues involved in the sporting ecosystem.</p>
<p>Partners/Funding:</p>	<p><i>Who are the main organizations/entities involved in the initiative and what are their roles?</i></p> <p>UNFCCC: As the leading body, the UNFCCC provides the overarching framework, strategic direction, and coordination for the initiative. It facilitates the development of the initiative's goals, principles, and implementation strategies.</p> <p>Signatories: The signatories include a wide range of sports entities such as international sports federations, national leagues, clubs, event organizers, and sports venues. These organizations commit to implementing the initiative's principles within their operations, events, and community engagements. They actively participate in shaping the priorities and goals of the initiative through feedback, collaboration, and shared experiences.</p> <p><i>What are the main sources of funding of the initiative?</i></p> <p>The main sources of funding for the initiative primarily include voluntary contributions from stakeholders interested in promoting climate action in the sports sector. Additionally, the initiative has received a 3-year grant from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, which provides support for its activities and goals.</p>
<p>SDG Alignment:</p>	<p><i>To what SDG goal/target/indicator is this initiative targeted?</i></p> <p>The initiative primarily targets SDG 13 (Climate Action), specifically aiming to mobilize sports organizations worldwide to take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. Additionally, it supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by fostering global collaborations and knowledge sharing among sports organizations, environmental groups, and governments. • SDG 4 (Quality Education) through educational campaigns and programs that promote awareness and action on climate change and sustainability within the sports community.

	<p><i>Please indicate any other national or internationally agreed goals/commitments to which this initiative is aligned.</i></p> <p>The initiative is aligned with key international efforts, including the "A sport sector playbook for the European Green Deal," which urges sports organizations to establish a baseline carbon footprint and develop environmental sustainability plans within their sport's strategy. Additionally, it supports the "Race to Zero" campaign's ambitious targets of reducing carbon emissions by 50% by 2030 and achieving net zero by 2040.</p>
<p>Alignment with global frameworks:</p>	<p><i>How does this initiative align with/contribute to the objectives of the Kazan Action Plan, WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity or other related internationally agreed frameworks on sport and/or physical activity?</i></p> <p>The initiative aligns with the Kazan Action Plan by urging sports organizations to adopt practices that support SDG 13 (Climate Action) and enhance policy coherence for sustainable development within sports. Similarly, it supports the WHO Global Action Plan on Physical Activity by fostering the creation of healthier, more accessible sports environments and raising awareness on the dual benefits of physical activity for health and the environment.</p>
<p>Alignment with United Nations Action Plan on SDP:</p>	<p><i>Which of the four thematic areas of the UN Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace is this initiative designed to align?</i></p> <p>The initiative aligns closely with the UN Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace, as both its objectives and principles resonate with the broader goals of leveraging sport to foster sustainable development and peace. The initiative's focus on promoting environmental responsibility, reducing climate impact, educating for climate action, advocating sustainable consumption, and enhancing communication aligns with the UN Action Plan's objectives to improve cooperation and coordination, encourage communication, align with global frameworks, and develop leaders in sport.</p> <p><i>To which action area(s) of the Plan is this initiative designed to contribute?</i></p> <p>The initiative is designed to contribute to the action areas of the UN Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace, as follows:</p> <p>Global Framework for Sport for Development and Peace:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving Cooperation and Coordination: enhances stakeholder coordination in the sports sector to support the SDGs, fostering a unified vision of sport's role in sustainable development. Encouraging Communication and Information Sharing: promotes the exchange of best practices within sports, facilitating a culture of environmental responsibility. Supporting Alignment with Global Frameworks: aligns sports practices with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, highlighting the sector's role in achieving global environmental goals.

	<p>Developing Leaders and Role Models: mobilizes athletes and clubs to champion climate action, inspiring collective efforts towards sustainability.</p> <p>Policy Development: supports the development and implementation of policies aimed at environmental responsibility and climate mitigation and adaptation, by integrating climate action into sports policies and fostering climate action within sports organizations.</p> <p>Resource Mobilization, Programming, and Implementation: encourages sports organizations to establish a baseline carbon footprint and develop environmental sustainability plans, aligning with resource mobilization efforts for sustainable development through sport.</p> <p>Evidence of Impact and Follow-up: establishes a reporting framework to facilitate transparent reporting on greenhouse gas emissions, sustainability initiatives, and progress towards climate goals.</p>
<p>Outcomes:</p>	<p><i>What are the expected/actual outcomes of the initiative?</i></p> <p>The outcomes of the initiative are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting sustainable practices to minimize greenhouse gas emissions. • Providing a structured process to help organizations achieve net zero carbon emissions. • Engaging stakeholders to drive collective action and discussions on climate action. • Integrating climate education and awareness within the sports community, aligning with Action for Climate Empowerment principles.
<p>Mechanism for monitoring and evaluating implementation:</p>	<p><i>What are the mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the implementation, outcomes and impact of the initiative?</i></p> <p>The initiative utilizes its own reporting system to monitor progress and outcomes, tracking implementation activities and assessing the reduction of carbon emissions. Additionally, it publishes the reports on the Global Climate Action Portal, ensuring transparency and accountability in achieving climate goals.</p> <p><i>What specific monitoring and evaluation tools are involved?</i></p> <p>The initiative’s own questionnaire is structured based on globally recognized frameworks, ensuring alignment with industry standards for environmental reporting and management. This framework has been adjusted to consider for sports-related activities, influence, communications, and promotion of climate action. Additionally, the data collected from the questionnaire will be compiled and published in a summary report to provide stakeholders with insights into the environmental performance of sports organizations, highlighting achievements, areas for improvement, and collective progress towards climate action goals.</p>
<p>Challenges/Lessons learned</p>	<p><i>What have been/were the main challenges to implementation?</i></p>

The implementation of the initiative encountered several challenges that impacted its effectiveness and reach. These challenges included:

- Limited resources for development of guidance materials and toolkits.
- The diverse levels of knowledge and needs of signatories posed challenges in tailoring support and resources to meet individual requirements.
- Many organizations lacked sufficient climate literacy, which impeded their ability to address environmental challenges effectively.
- Resistance from senior management to adopt climate action initiatives within some organizations.
- Difficulties arose in integrating mitigation, adaptation, and influence strategies into sustainability plans.
- Language barriers presented communication challenges, which requires additional resources to ensure inclusive participation.

What lessons learned have been/can be utilized in the planning of future initiatives?

Some learned lessons include:

- Future initiatives should prioritize the inclusion of organizations from the Global South from the beginning and provide tailored support to help them develop and stabilize roadmaps for climate action. Recognizing the unique challenges faced by these regions and providing targeted assistance can foster greater participation and impact.
- It's essential to recognize that organizations have different levels of maturity and capabilities when it comes to climate action. Future initiatives should offer flexible support mechanisms that cater to the diverse needs and capacities of participating organizations. This approach ensures that all organizations, regardless of their starting point, can effectively engage in and benefit from climate action efforts.