



IF Sustainability Project
**IIHF SUSTAINABILITY
AWARD**



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



A NEW SUSTAINABILITY AWARD ENCOURAGES THE IIHF'S MNAs TO IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

In May 2019, the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) celebrated the first edition of their new annual sustainability award ceremony, which had been launched at the start of the year. Having noticed a significant increase in sustainability initiatives during events among its Member National Associations (MNAs), the IIHF decided to recognise and promote the work of the MNAs through a sustainability award.

Determined by a jury composed of the IIHF Social & Environmental Committee, the IIHF Sustainability Award consists of a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize presented to the best sustainability projects, giving recognition and money to further develop the initiative and encouraging other MNAs to take similar actions. Having received 11 applications, the IIHF awarded the first ever IIHF Sustainability Award to the South African Ice Hockey Federation (SAIHF) for their project called Save Water during the 2019 IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship qualification. Inspired by the encouragement of the IIHF to implement sustainability initiatives, Save Water focused on four key areas:

- **Ice recycling system:** The snow pit of the arena was reworked to dump ice through a chute in the wall into an outdoor reservoir so that the snow could be melted by ambient temperatures without the need for hot water.
- **Dehumidification and air conditioning:** The chillers, pumps and valves in the arena were insulated to reduce heat gain into the refrigeration system. This saves over 1.25 million kilowatt hours of energy a year.
- **Refilling of used water bottles:** The IIHF produced posters that explained the threat of drought and presented education on the benefits of using water dispensers to refill water bottles. Five water fountains were installed, saving approximately 4,800 single-use bottles.
- **Introduction of waterless hand sanitisers:** A waterless alternative to clean hands was offered in public restrooms. Appointed water marshals also checked on leaking taps, showers and toilets, and reported any issues directly to the maintenance team.



OBJECTIVES

By creating the IIHF Sustainability Award, the IIHF aimed to:

- Raise awareness about sustainability across the sports community.
- Demonstrate and promote concrete sustainability actions to the ice hockey family and inspire all Member National Associations (MNAs).
- Motivate and support event organisers to become involved with sustainability programmes and initiatives.



The award was such a success among MNAs that the IIHF will implement the award programme yearly – and showcase all winners on their website and through communication platforms – to help raise awareness throughout the sports community.

EVALUATION

By creating a sustainability award for its MNAs, the IIHF has raised interest and awareness on the importance of sustainability throughout the ice hockey family. The IIHF has received positive feedback from its MNAs, and this has helped engage their stakeholders and increase collaboration on sustainability. Through the award, the IIHF can demonstrate how sport can be a positive driver for environmental and social change.

BENEFITS

- The award has proved an effective way to generate interest within the sport community and raise awareness on the importance of sustainability.
- The award process has created the space for collaboration and engagement within the MNAs.
- The IF has now increased its support platform for its MNAs, with exposure and communications between both similarly improving.

“THE IIHF IS VERY PROUD ABOUT THE MOTIVATION AND COMMITMENT OF THE ICE HOCKEY FAMILY AND WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO CONTINUING THIS GREAT AWARD CEREMONY.”

DR BEATE GRUPP, IIHF LIFE MEMBER AND CHAIRWOMAN OF THE IIHF SOCIAL & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

