











About Sports for Nature

Voluntary framework for sport organisations – 4 key principles

Teamwork is in our nature – 5 partners, 100+ sport organisations

Commitment, Action & Accountability

Support & Collaboration

Overall objective

To deliver transformative, nature positive action across sports by 2030 and beyond, enabling sports to champion nature and contribute to its protection and restoration.

Institutional partners





International Olympic Committee





Supported by





Sports depend on nature

NATURE IS A

"Playground"

Rivers, lakes, ocean, forests, mountains, fields...

Provider

- Healthy nutrition
- Sport infrastructure
- Sport equipment and apparel

Protector and ally

- Health, wellbeing and performance
- Reduction of the impacts of climate change





Healthy nature?

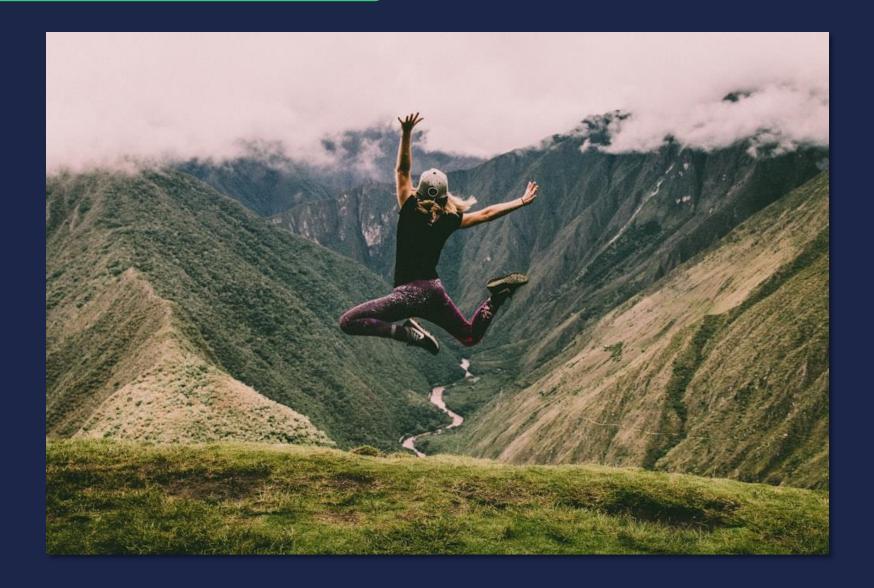




FIGURE C

Global risks ranked by severity over the short and long term

"Please estimate the likely impact (severity) of the following risks over a 2-year and 10-year period."

Risk categories

Economic

Environmental

Geopolitical

Societal

Technological

2 years

1 st	Misinformation and disinformation

Extreme weather events

State-based armed conflict

th Societal polarization

th Cyber espionage and warfare

6th Pollution

th Inequality

Involuntary migration or displacement

9th Geoeconomic confrontation

10th Erosion of human rights and/or civic freedoms

10 years

st	Extreme weather events	

2nd Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse

3rd Critical change to Earth systems

h Natural resource shortages

5th Misinformation and disinformation

6th Adverse outcomes of Al technologies

7th Inequality

8th Societal polarization

9th Cyber espionage and warfare

10th Pollution

Source

World Economic Forum Global Risks Perception Survey 2024-2025.



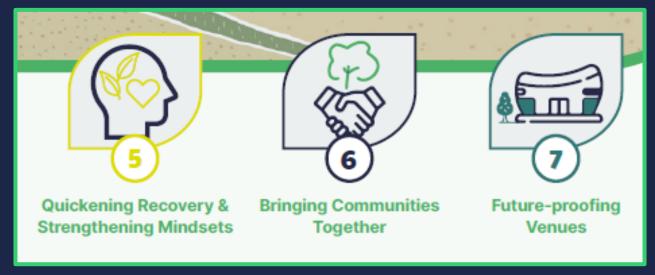
Source: WEF

Not only a reasonability to act for nature and the environment, but also a great opportunity.



Tangible benefits/opps









SPORT

To be successful, projects must now meet of one of six criteria:

- · Carbon emissions: travel and facilities
- Circular economy: supply chains, products and waste
- Blue-green environment quality and use
- Biodiversity
- Adapting to climate change and extreme weather events
- Just transition: inequalities, inclusion and participation.

sportengland.org

Source: Sport England



Buildings

Category	Actions	Elements of urban nature	Co-benefits
Green Infrastructure	Install green roofs with native, pollinator-friendly plants.		
	Add living walls with diverse vegetation.		
	Incorporate planters for microhabitats on balconies or terraces.		
	Use shielded, warm-spectrum LEDs.		
Lighting	Install motion sensors or timers.		
	Explore dark-sky certifications.		
	Install sound barriers for noisy events or equipment.		
Sound	Use sound-absorbing materials where feasible.		
	Use bird-safe patterned or coated windows.		
Bird-friendly Design	Incorporate swift boxes or other bird-friendly features.		(1)
	Avoid reflective landscaping elements that confuse birds.		
Organic Waste	Compost organic waste into fertile soil.		
Management	Donate excess compost to local organisations.		
	Install rainwater capture systems for irrigation.		
Integrated Water	Treat and reuse greywater for landscape irrigation.		
Management	Replace impermeable surfaces with permeable surfaces.		
	Use drip irrigation or smart irrigation.		
Community Engagement	Organise guided tours highlighting green features.		
	Partner with local schools on biodiversity education projects.		

Club Grounds

Category	Actions	Elements of urban nature	Co-benefits
Habitat creation	Establish wildflower meadows and wetland habitats.		
	Create woodland edges and hedgerows.		
	Layer vegetation.		
	Conserve large trees.		
	Incorporate living fences.		
	Leave deadwood.		
	Add unique features e.g., floating wetlands, insect hotels, or brush piles.		
Native plants	Select native species adapted to the local environment.		
	Include year-round flowering plants to support pollinators.		
	Partner with local native plant nurseries.		
	Install rain gardens or bioswales to manage stormwater.		
Water management	Use rain barrels or cisterns for water collection.		
3	Implement efficient irrigation systems like drip irrigation.		
Turf management	Reduce mowing frequency in non-playing areas.		
	Leave grass clippings in place to improve soil fertility.		
	Use integrated pest management strategies to minimise pesticide use.		
Soil health	Test and amend soil to improve fertility and structure.		
	Avoid over-compaction in non-playing areas.		
Community engagement	Organise biodiversity walks or events to showcase habitat improvements.		
	Partner with local schools for educational activities.		
	Invite community to tend to vegetable gardens.		

Neighbourhood

Category	Plays	Elements of urban nature	Co-benefits
Collaboration	Partner with neighbouring venues and landowners to align biodiversity efforts.		
	Host workshops or meetings to identify shared goals.		8
Green corridors	Establish corridors connecting your venue to nearby green spaces.		rx (†) (*)
	Work with local authorities to integrate corridors into urban planning.		
	Use native hedgerows or tree-lined paths to enhance connectivity.		
Invasive species	Identify invasive species in the area using local databases or expert advice.		
	Replace invasive plants with native species.		
	Provide tools and training for volunteer removal events.		
Community cleanups	Organise litter cleanups with local schools and groups.		
	Provide equipment and incentives for participants.		8
	Encourage long-term engagement by educating volunteers on the environmental impact of cleanups.		
Public engagement	Install interpretive signage to inform visitors about green corridors and invasive species efforts.		
Avoiding sensitive areas	Identify and map ecologically fragile zones (e.g., bird nesting sites, rare plants) with expert guidance.		
	Redirect activities and spectators using signage, designated routes, and alternative fan zones.	2	
	Monitor impact with tools like mobile data tracking to minimise disturbance to wildlife.		

Education, Promotion and Advocacy

Category	Plays	Elements of urban nature	Co-benefits
Educational materials	Create visually engaging materials like infographics and videos.		
	Highlight local biodiversity and the benefits of your efforts.		
	Include interactive elements such as quizzes or augmented reality experiences.		
	Install educational signage with QR codes for deeper learning.		
On-site activities	Organise guided nature walks and biodiversity workshops.		
	Develop an exhibition garden showcasing native plants and their ecological role.		
	Host biodiversity-themed match days with activities for fans.		
Fan engagement	Encourage public participation in restoration projects.		
	Promote citizen science apps to engage fans in recording species observations.		
Advocacy	Use events to advocate for urban greening and biodiversity policies.		
	Collaborate with like-minded organisations to amplify your voice.		
	Publish annual impact reports to inspire broader action.		





Sports for Nature: Introduction

sportsfornature@iucn.org
www.sportsfornature.org