

KOSOVO



CARBON FOOTPRINT REDUCTION STRATEGY



Co-funded by
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INTRODUCTION

The Kosovo Olympic Committee's Introduction

The Kosovo Olympic Committee recognizes the urgent need to address the global climate crisis by reducing carbon emissions, a key driver of global warming. As an organization that represents the pinnacle of sport in Kosovo, we are fully committed to reducing our own carbon footprint and positively influencing our value chain. Moreover, we aim to leverage the power of sport to engage athletes, national governing bodies, fans, and the broader sporting ecosystem throughout our country.

Climate change is already impacting sport worldwide—shortening participation windows, disrupting competition calendars, and posing significant social and economic challenges. This reality demands decisive and coordinated action.

We draw inspiration from the leadership of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), particularly through Agenda 2020+5, its strong alignment with the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and its advocacy for the UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework. These global efforts have guided and empowered our own journey toward sustainability.

As President of the Kosovo Olympic Committee, I am proud to affirm our commitment to this cause. We have adopted the IOC's sustainability framework to better understand the areas where we can exercise control and influence, enabling us to integrate sustainability principles more effectively across all aspects of our operations.

Furthermore, we are honored to participate in the OCEAN (Olympic Committees of Europe Approaching Carbon Neutrality) project—an ambitious initiative uniting 18 National Olympic Committees from across Europe, coordinated by the European Olympic Committees EU Office.

This collaboration represents a shared commitment to innovation, responsibility, and a more sustainable future for sport.

Mr. Ismet Krasniqi, President of the Kosovo Olympic Committee



About the OCEAN project

Led by the EOC EU Office, the OCEAN project is a coordinated effort to empower National Olympic Committees (NOCs) to play an active role in tackling climate change. The initiative supports NOCs in lowering their carbon emissions and integrating sustainable practices across their activities. With strong backing from the International Olympic Committee and the Association of National Olympic Committees, OCEAN highlights the influential role sport can play in shaping public awareness and attitudes towards sustainability.

The Kosovo Olympic Committee is a committed contributor to this initiative, taking concrete steps to track and reduce emissions within its own operations, while also promoting environmental responsibility throughout the wider sports sector in Kosovo. The project is built around a clear, phased framework comprising three core stages:

Capacity Building through Education

A crucial first step in the OCEAN project is equipping 'Climate Action Officers' with the knowledge and tools needed to drive change. These officers receive in-depth training on climate science, sustainability principles, and methodologies for measuring carbon emissions, enabling them to act as leaders and advocates for sustainability within their respective NOCs.

Development of a Carbon Footprint Measurement Tool

A standardized measurement tool is being designed to assess carbon emissions from various activities, ranging from infrastructure use to event organization. This tool will enable NOCs, including the Kosovo Olympic Committee, to obtain an accurate understanding of their environmental impact and identify priority areas for action.

Creation of Tailored Reduction Strategies

The final phase focuses on crafting National Carbon Footprint Reduction Strategies that address the unique challenges and opportunities faced by each participating NOC. These strategies will outline actionable steps for reducing emissions while maintaining the integrity and growth of the sports sector.

A Vision for Sustainable Sports in Kosovo

By participating in the OCEAN project, the Kosovo Olympic Committee becomes a key partner in promoting sustainability within the European sports community. Through its engagement in the project, the Kosovo Olympic Committee adopts sustainable practices, positioning itself as a driver of positive change in Kosovo sporting landscape.

In line with the principles of the UNFCCC Sports For Climate Action Framework, the Kosovo Olympic Committee commits to:

Undertake systematic efforts to promote greater environmental responsibility - Integrating sustainability into all aspects of the Kosovo Olympic Committee operations, including facility management, event organization, and partnerships.

Reduce overall climate impact - Measuring and taking action to reduce overall climate impact from our operations.

Educate for climate action - Raising awareness about the importance of sustainability among athletes, members of the Kosovo Olympic Committee, and the broader community, ensuring that the values of environmental responsibility are embraced at all levels.

Promote sustainable and responsible consumption – Using our procurement systems we will endeavor to source sustainable products and services

Advocate for climate action through communication – Using our platforms and engagement with national federations, athletes and fans we will act as advocates for climate action.

Through its partnership in the OCEAN project, the Kosovo Olympic Committee demonstrates its commitment to addressing the global climate crisis and building a sustainable future for sports. The project aligns with global sustainability goals and highlights the role of sport as a powerful tool for driving social change.

THE KOSOVO OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

Background

The Olympic Committee of Kosovo was officially established in 1992 and acknowledged as the highest sports institution in Kosovo in 2003 by the Law on Sports (Law No. 2003/24) passed by the Assembly of Kosovo. The United Nations-led administration in Kosovo previously established a working group to engage with the IOC to allow athletes to participate in the Olympic Games.

Its mission is to continuously contribute to the promotion of sport as a universal civilizational heritage; the dissemination of Olympic principles, ethical and moral standards in sports; the achievement of top athletic performances by Kosovan athletes; the promotion of Kosovo as a democratic state; and the advocacy of fair play in sports.

Recognized by the International Olympic Committee in 2014, the Kosovo Olympic Committee is one of the newest Olympic Committees.

NOC's Primary Missions – in collaboration with its members and partners

- The Kosovo Olympic Committee maintains strong partnerships with its members, national sports federations, and the broader sporting community, including legal entities that play a key role in advancing sport and the Olympic movement. It also collaborates with a range of institutional and corporate partners to further its mission. Its core areas of focus include:
- **Promoting Olympic values**
- The Committee plays a vital role in fostering sport and Olympism across Kosovo. It actively promotes the core principles of the Olympic movement—championing ethics, respect for human dignity, fair play, tolerance, non-violence, and a culture of integrity in sport.
- **Supporting athletes, coaches, and federations**
- By providing both financial and logistical support to national sports federations, the Committee helps ensure that Kosovan athletes and coaches are equipped to succeed. This includes preparation and participation in high-profile international events such as the Olympic Games, Mediterranean Games, and other major competitions.
- **Engaging with government and international partners**
- Through close cooperation with national authorities, international institutions, and local communities, the Kosovo Olympic Committee works to embed sport within wider social development agendas, ensuring that sport serves as a driver for positive change throughout the country.

NOC Headquarters – Facilities Inside the Building

The headquarters of the Kosovo Olympic Committee is located in the House of Sports in Pristina. The facility houses several key departments and offices, including:

Office of the President and Secretary General

Executive Board Members' Office

Administration Office

Finance and Legal Department

International Relations Department

Olympic Academy

Projects Department

Media and Communication

Marketing and Design Department

Logistics

NOC's Principal Resources

The Kosovo Olympic Committee relies on various resources to fulfill its missions:

- Human Resources: The Kosovo Olympic Committee's management of sports, administration and marketing, and organizational development.
- Financial Support: Funding through Olympic Solidarity, IOC, sponsorships and partnerships with various organizations.
- Network of Members and Partners: Cooperation with national sports federations, local sports communities, international organizations, and private sector partners.

GOVERNANCE FOR CLIMATE-RELATED ISSUES

The Kosovo Olympic Committee has formally identified climate-related management as a key organisational priority within its statutes. Oversight of sustainability and climate initiatives is led by the Secretary General, ensuring that environmental responsibility is embedded at the highest level of leadership. This governance structure reinforces the Committee's commitment to integrating environmental considerations into all strategic decision-making.

The Committee's sustainability strategy outlines a practical roadmap for reducing its environmental footprint, enhancing resource efficiency, and promoting sustainable development throughout its operations. This approach is grounded in the adoption of best practices, with clear objectives, defined timelines, and measurable outcomes to drive meaningful progress.

To track and evaluate the impact of these efforts, a set of key performance indicators has been established. These include reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, improvements in energy and water efficiency, and significant reductions in waste—ensuring that sustainability is not only a guiding principle, but a measurable priority.

CLIMATE-RELATED RISKS & OPPORTUNITIES

The Kosovo Olympic Committee recognises climate change not only as a serious challenge but also as a catalyst for transformation within the sports sector. The risks it presents—such as the disruption of sporting events due to extreme weather, damage to infrastructure, and the impact on athlete health and performance—underscore the urgent need to build resilience across all levels of sport.

At the same time, this challenge offers a powerful opportunity. By leading on sustainability, the Kosovo Olympic Committee can position itself as a driver of innovation and positive change. Taking steps such as shifting to renewable energy, embracing sustainable procurement, and reducing waste not only benefits the environment but also delivers long-term economic efficiencies and wider social value.

A central priority for the Committee is the measurement and reduction of its carbon footprint. Understanding greenhouse gas emissions across its operations is key to identifying areas for improvement and implementing the most effective strategies. This evidence-based approach ensures resources are used efficiently and allows for transparent tracking of progress. The Committee is committed to adopting science-based targets in line with global efforts to reduce emissions and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

PARTICIPATION IN THE OCEAN PROJECT

The Kosovo Olympic Committee's active involvement in the OCEAN project reflects its strong commitment to sustainability and climate action. This collaborative initiative unites National Olympic Committees from across Europe to collectively tackle the pressing challenges posed by climate change. Through its participation, the Kosovo Olympic Committee not only gains insight into best practices from across the continent but also shares its own valuable knowledge and experiences.

Within the framework of the OCEAN project, the Committee is engaging with forward-thinking solutions aimed at reducing carbon emissions, improving the environmental sustainability of sporting events, and fostering greater awareness of climate issues among athletes, staff, and stakeholders. The project serves as a platform for the exchange of practical tools, expertise, and resources—helping the Kosovo Olympic Committee to maximise its impact and ensure its sustainability efforts are aligned with both European policy goals and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

LONG-TERM VISION

The Kosovo Olympic Committee's long-term vision is to position itself as a leading advocate for environmental responsibility within the sports sector. Central to this ambition is the creation of a sustainable support system that actively engages athletes, national sports federations, and the wider public—raising awareness and fostering a culture of environmental stewardship.

This vision goes beyond reducing the Committee's own environmental footprint. It seeks to inspire and empower others across the sporting ecosystem to embrace sustainable practices and contribute to collective climate action.

At the heart of this commitment is the integration of sustainability into the Committee's organisational culture—ensuring that climate responsibility is embedded at every level. By doing so, the Kosovo Olympic Committee aims to leave a lasting legacy, one that not only transforms its own operations but also helps shape a more sustainable future for the broader sports community and society as a whole.

CO₂e EMISSIONS CALCULATION OF THE KOSOVO OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

The calculation of CO₂e emissions gives the total emissions arising directly or indirectly due to the activities of the organization within the boundary of the scope. By conducting this calculation, the Kosovo Olympic Committee improves its understanding of climate risks and high intensity areas in which it will aim to reduce.

Activities of the Kosovo Olympic Committee in the Context of Climate Impact

Given the nature of its office-based operations, emissions are primarily derived from indirect emissions (Scope 3), such as purchased goods and services.

Emission Inventory Development

The development of the emissions inventory is based on three key factors:

- Emission reduction goals: A 50% reduction (inline with UNFCCC Sports for Climate Action Framework).
- Main sources of emissions.
- Emission reduction opportunities.

Identification of Emission Sources

At the Kosovo Olympic Committee location, sources of emissions have been identified and categorized according to the following categories.

- Category 1 – Buildings
- Category 2 – Canteens
- Category 3 – Material usage
- Category 4 – Transportation
- Category 5 – Flights
- Category 6 – Overnight stays
- Category 7 – Events
- Category 8 – Olympic games

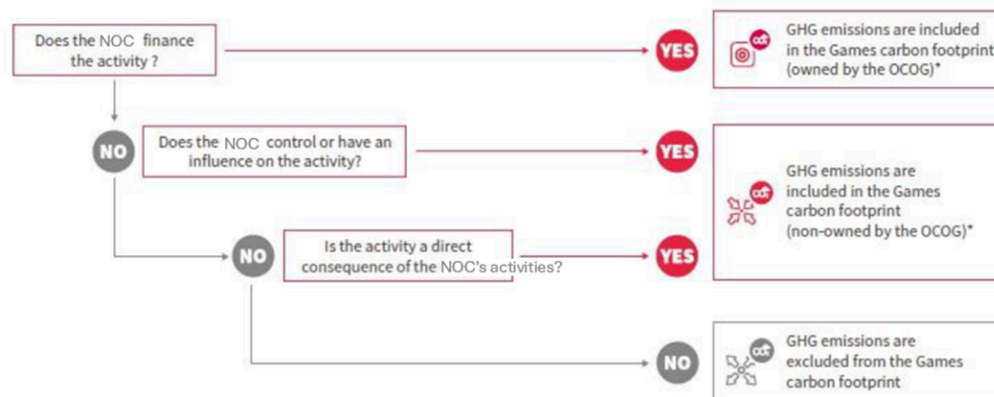
Methodology for Calculating CO₂e Emissions

The methodology for calculating the carbon footprint of the Kosovo Olympic Committee follows a structured and systematic approach based on the OCEAN project framework. This ensures consistency in reporting and enables accurate tracking of emissions over time. The process begins with defining the scope of measurement, followed by comprehensive data collection, calculation, and interpretation of results. The final step involves identifying and implementing reduction measures to minimize the organization's carbon footprint while maintaining alignment with international standards.

Identification of CO₂ Emission Sources

To ensure a precise assessment of the carbon footprint, it is crucial to identify all relevant sources of CO₂ emissions. The Kosovo Olympic Committee follows the IOC decision tree (figure 1) to categorize its activities and emissions systematically. The key sources include energy consumption in buildings, refrigerants, transportation (commuting and official travel), material usage, waste generation, and participation in events. While emissions related to travel and accommodation for the Olympic Games fall under the responsibility of the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games, all other event-related emissions are included in the Kosovo Olympic Committee's general footprint. By mapping out these emission sources, the organization gains a clearer understanding of where targeted reductions can be most effective.

Scope definition: Decision tree in the IOC Carbon Footprint Methodology



*If the answer is YES but the emissions cannot be estimated with any reasonable degree of accuracy, these may be excluded from the carbon footprint calculation. However, their omission must be clearly explained and justified in the carbon footprint report.

Figure 1

Data Collection and Selection of Emission Sources

Once emission sources have been identified, the Kosovo Olympic Committee undertakes a thorough data collection process across all relevant departments to ensure a complete and accurate emissions profile. This includes gathering detailed information on energy use, travel activity, material consumption, and waste generation.

The collected data is then analysed using standardised emission factors to calculate the organisation's total carbon footprint. To ensure consistency, transparency, and accuracy in these calculations, the Committee relies on the CO₂ footprint calculation tool developed by the Öko-Institut—a trusted framework designed to assess emissions across a wide range of operational categories.

This analysis offers valuable insights into the organisation's environmental impact, helping to pinpoint major sources of emissions and identify areas where improvements can be made. Ongoing monitoring and regular reporting are embedded into the process, enabling the Kosovo Olympic Committee to track its progress over time and implement focused, data-driven sustainability actions.

Emissions from Buildings

Energy use in buildings represents a major source of an organisation's overall carbon footprint, with emissions largely arising from electricity consumption, heating, cooling, and ventilation systems. The environmental impact is also influenced by the type of energy used—whether sourced from fossil fuels or renewable alternatives.

As the Kosovo Olympic Committee operates from rented office space, the associated emissions fall under Scope 3—indirect emissions that occur as a result of activities not directly owned or controlled by the organisation but still within its value chain.

Emissions from Canteens

Canteens are often a notable source of CO₂ emissions, with impacts stemming from food production, transport, packaging, and the energy demands of kitchen equipment. The overall footprint is significantly influenced by the type of food offered and how it is managed and served.

However, as the Kosovo Olympic Committee does not operate its own canteen facilities, there are no direct emissions attributed to this category within its operations however the purchase of food has been added to this category for reporting purposes.

Emissions from Material Usage

The use of materials such as office supplies, promotional items, and equipment contributes to CO₂ emissions throughout their lifecycle—from production and transportation to eventual disposal. Items like paper, plastic, and other consumables can significantly impact the environment, especially when not sourced or managed sustainably.

Emissions from Transportation

Commuting and the use of company-owned or rented vehicles add to an organisation's carbon footprint through fuel consumption and tailpipe emissions. The reliance on conventional, fossil fuel-powered transport increases environmental impact, particularly in the absence of low-emission alternatives.

Emissions from Flights

Air travel remains one of the most carbon-intensive modes of transportation, generating high emissions per passenger-kilometre. Travel undertaken by athletes, staff, and officials for competitions, training, and official meetings contributes considerably to the organisation's overall emissions profile.

Emissions from Overnight Stays

Accommodation during trips or events results in indirect emissions from hotel operations, particularly energy used for heating, cooling, lighting, and water. The carbon impact of these stays can vary significantly based on the environmental policies and efficiency measures of the accommodation provider.

Emissions from Events

Sporting events, conferences, and related activities can be major sources of emissions, driven by venue energy use, participant travel, catering, and waste generation. Large-scale events, in particular, demand a comprehensive sustainability approach to effectively reduce their environmental footprint.

Emissions from Olympic Games

Participation in the Olympic Games generates emissions through international travel, accommodation, logistics, and resource use by athletes and their support teams. While the responsibility for accounting these emissions formally lies with the Organising Committee of the Olympic Games, National Olympic Committees—such as the Kosovo Olympic Committee—can still play an important role in reducing their impact. By encouraging sustainable travel options, efficient planning, and mindful resource consumption, NOCs can contribute meaningfully to broader climate action efforts associated with the Games.

Determining the Base Year

To monitor emissions and achieve emission reduction goals, it is necessary to select a base year. The Kosovo Olympic Committee has selected 2022 as the base year, as data for this year is the first available since 2019.

Results of the Emissions Calculation

The results of the Kosovo Olympic Committee's emissions calculation for 2022 are presented by seventeen categories. All results are expressed in t CO₂e and percentages.

Table: Results of the Emissions Calculation for the Kosovo Olympic Committee in 2022 (market-based approach)

Carbon footprint result reference year 2022

	[t CO ₂ equivalents]	Percentage
Energy & buildings	9	1
Refrigerants	0	0
Canteens/Food	23	3
Materials usage	73	11
Commuting	1	0
Vehicle fleet	40	6
Flights	105	16
Overnight stays	79	12
Events - sports events and other external events	326	49
Events - in-house events	0*	0
Other	10	2

Total	685
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*There was a data gap for in house events as no data was collected however there were some in house events organized in the baseline year.

Emissions linked to the Olympic Games were recorded but separated from the total:

Emissions due to travels and overnight stays of athletes and entourage at the Olympic Games	19
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Scope Representation of Emissions Results

The following table provides a structured overview of CO₂ emissions categorized into three distinct scope identifying the primary sources of emissions and understanding their relative contributions to the overall carbon footprint.

Table: Results differentiated by scope 1 / 2 / 3t

Scope	%	tCO ₂ e
Scope 1	4,80	32
Scope 2	0,75	5
Scope 3	94,44	629
TOTAL	100.00	666

MEASURES & GOALS

The carbon footprint assessment for 2022 reveals that events (46%) and flights (20%) were the most significant contributors to overall CO₂ emissions. The substantial share attributed to events underscores the environmental cost of hosting, travel, and material use—highlighting the importance of adopting sustainable procurement practices and reducing waste wherever possible.

Emissions linked to buildings were primarily driven by energy usage for heating, cooling, and electricity. Through greater energy efficiency and, where feasible, transitioning towards renewable energy solutions to reduce the organisation's long-term environmental impact

The next phase in our sustainability journey involves implementing a range of strategic actions specifically designed to tackle our emission sources. These efforts aim to meaningfully lower overall emissions, embed environmentally responsible practices, and contribute to the global fight against climate change.

The following section details the planned initiatives and actions the Kosovo Olympic Committee intends to carry out in pursuit of these emission reduction goals.

Through the adoption of these measures, we not only seek to enhance our own environmental performance but also hope to inspire wider change across the Kosovo sporting community—encouraging other organisations and stakeholders to join us in embracing sustainability.

Buildings

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	Delivery year
Electricity Usage Optimisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Installing LED lighting. - Turning off lights when natural light is sufficient and when leaving the room. -Turning off electrical equipment when not in use. - Utilizing IT equipment, printers, and multifunctional devices with eco-certifications. 	High	Government department (who manage the building), Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2027
Heating Energy Optimisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Turning off heating when the window is open, when leaving the room for an extended period, or when leaving work for home. - Optimizing/modernizing the heating system. 	High	Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2025

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementing temperature control systems: setting thermostat-air conditioner to 25°C for cooling and 20°C for heating. 				
Air Conditioning Systems Optimisation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use air conditioning units with refrigerant R-32 or centralized cooling systems. - Turning off air conditioning when not needed. 	High	Building owner Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2025

Optimizing energy use in buildings not only contributes to sustainability but also lowers operational costs. Not owning the building does mean that some of the action may be more difficult to implement so the NOC will have to discuss feasibility with the landlord.

Biodiversity

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	Delivery year
Increase biodiversity and local carbon sequestration	<p>Sport and environment day plant garden and maintain sites at kinder garden and local oncology centre.</p> <p>Partner with local NGO and government.</p>	Medium	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2025

Water consumption & Waste

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	Delivery year
Water Usage Optimisation:	- Install water-saving fixtures like low-flow taps and dual-flush toilets.	Medium	Landlord, Secretary General, Climate Action Officer	The NOC budget	2027
Waste Management Optimisation:	- Comprehensive waste separation into categories (municipal waste, paper, plastic, cans, organic waste). - Returnable packaging bins for recycling bottles and cans.	Medium	Landlord, Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	N/A	2027
Reduce waste and Conserve Resources	- Replacement of plastic/paper cups: Distribute reusable mugs. - Bulk purchasing of sugar to reduce packaging waste.	High	Landlord, Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2027
Reduce event water consumption and single use plastic use	We will follow and implement the guidance in the IOC's Plastic Game Plan for Sport	Medium	Local Organising Committees, Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	Event Budget (if needed)	2027
Water use at conference/meetings	Use water fountains and reduce plastic use	High	Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2027

Investigate shared assets for events i.e. flags and water coolers.	Identify commonly purchased or leased items	Medium	Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NO	
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The Kosovo Olympic Committee is committed to sustainability by integrating responsible resource management into its operations. A key focus is on minimizing single-use plastics, reducing packaging waste, and ensuring efficient food management during events. This not only prevents excess food waste but also aligns catering services with broader environmental goals. At the same time, efficient water use—through reduced consumption and recycling—helps conserve valuable resources and lowers the energy required for water treatment and distribution. Additionally, effective waste management, including recycling and reducing landfill waste, plays a crucial role in cutting down methane emissions, a potent greenhouse gas.

Materials Usage

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	Delivery year
Paper usage reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use electronic records instead of paper where possible. - Minimize paper use with eco-friendly printer settings and recycled paper. - Use of recycled A4 paper for office use. - LED screens to be used instead of printed banners 	Medium	Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2025
Minimising waste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use branded tote bags to reduce waste 	Medium	The NOC staff members	The NOC budget	2025
Environmentally Sustainable Materials Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use eco-labeled products for procurement. Use IOC sustainable branding guidelines. 	Low	The NOC President, Secretary General	The NOC budget	2026

Sustainable procurement; where is it made, what is it made from and what happens to it at the end of its life.	- The NOC will adopt the principles from the IOC's sustainable procurement guidelines both for its operations as well as hosting events.	High	The NOC President, Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff.	The NOC	
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The **Materials Usage** category directly impacts the CO₂ footprint by addressing the environmental costs of producing, transporting, and disposing of materials. Reducing paper usage alone can significantly lower carbon emissions, as paper production is energy-intensive and contributes to deforestation. Minimizing waste through repurposing materials also helps reduce landfill emissions, which are a major source of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. Additionally, opting for **environmentally sustainable materials** reduces the carbon footprint associated with the extraction and processing of raw materials. Together, these measures play a crucial role in minimizing resource consumption and decreasing overall CO₂ emissions.

Commuting

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	Delivery year
Choosing eco-friendly form of commute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encourage sustainable commuting: walking, cycling, or public transport. - Promote carpooling among employees. - Financial incentives for public transport (e.g., ticket reimbursement). 	High	The NOC, Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2025
Encourage cycling	Introduce bicycle parking at office	High	The NOC, Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2025

The **Staff Commuting** category has a direct effect on the CO₂ footprint, as transportation is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions. By encouraging eco-friendly commuting options, such as cycling, walking, or using public transport, the Kosovo Olympic Committee can significantly reduce its overall emissions. Car travel, especially single-occupancy vehicles, is one of the largest sources of CO₂ emissions globally. Shifting to greener commuting alternatives helps lower both direct emissions from staff travel and reduces congestion, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable organization.

Vehicle Fleet

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	Delivery year
Transition from fossil fuel use and vehicle usage optimisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use electric or hybrid vehicles for business travel. - Optimize vehicle routes to reduce fuel consumption. - Perform regular vehicle maintenance to improve efficiency and reduce emissions. 	High	Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2025
Reduce national federation emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vans to be shared by federations for use to ensure more efficient transport to events locally and abroad. 	Low	Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2025
Executive travel reduction in emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigate purchase of efficient bus for team travel and executive members to domestic and overseas events 	Medium	Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026

Abandoning fossil fuel use and optimizing vehicle usage by shifting to electric or hybrid vehicles can drastically reduce emissions. Additionally, improving fleet management to ensure vehicles are used efficiently, with reduced idle time and optimized routes, helps further minimize fuel consumption. This collaboration aligns perfectly with our goals under the OCEAN project, as it not only supports our commitment to reducing emissions but also sets an example for others in the sports community to prioritize eco-conscious partnerships.

Transportation

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	Delivery year
Optimising transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritize trains over flights when feasible. - Minimize air travel with virtual meetings and prioritize car travel for trips under eight hours. 	High	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026
Air Travel carbon reduction policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air travel will be limited to economy/premium economy fares and lowest carbon routing will be adopted i.e. direct flights. 	High	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026

The **Transportation** category directly impacts the CO₂ footprint, as transportation is one of the largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions globally. By optimizing transportation—whether through more efficient fleet management, reducing unnecessary flights, or encouraging low-emission travel options—the Kosovo Olympic Committee can significantly reduce its carbon impact. Shifting to electric vehicles, minimizing air travel, and promoting sustainable alternatives like trains or carpooling all contribute to a decrease in overall emissions, supporting both environmental sustainability and cost savings.

Logistics

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	Delivery year
Reducing the need for frequent deliveries and transportation	- Better inventory management, including reducing surplus and waste	Medium	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2025
Supplies transport optimisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selection of Environmentally Conscious Suppliers. - Consolidate deliveries to reduce transportation trips. - Partner with logistics providers committed to sustainability. 	Medium	The NOC President, Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026
Reduce logistics emissions for purchased goods	Engage with 4F to ensure 1 order of uniforms and to request reduction in packaging not singly wrapped.	Medium	The NOC President, Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026

The **Logistics** category plays a key role in reducing the CO₂ footprint by minimizing the need for frequent deliveries and optimizing the transport of supplies. Reducing the frequency of shipments and consolidating deliveries not only lowers fuel consumption but also decreases emissions from transportation. By improving logistics planning and using more efficient transportation methods, the Kosovo Olympic Committee can significantly cut down on its environmental impact while enhancing operational efficiency. These efforts contribute to both sustainability and cost-effectiveness in the organization's supply chain.

Overnight Stays

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	Delivery year
Reducing the impact of overnight stays on CO ₂ emissions.	- Choose sustainable accommodations, opt for eco-friendly options	Medium	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members.	The NOC budget	2025

The Overnight Stays category addresses the environmental impact of travel and accommodation. By choosing accommodations with sustainable practices—such as energy efficiency, renewable energy use, and waste reduction—organizations can significantly reduce their contribution to tourism-related CO₂ pollution. Limiting excessive travel and promoting local or eco-friendly lodging options further supports sustainability efforts in the hospitality sector. These practices help mitigate the broader environmental impact of overnight stays and contribute to a greener approach to tourism.

Events (External, In-house, Olympic Games, Mediterranean Games)

For the 2030 Mediterranean Games, Sustainability encompasses environmental, social and economic issues. As such, opportunities to reduce the environmental impact of the event should be taken at every chance/moment as well as maximising social and economic aspects which can include engagement with local communities and a wide variety of demographics. The Kosovo NOC will utilize the [IOC's sustainability management in sport guidelines](#) as an overarching blueprint to be adopted.

The organisers will work with the federations to maximise sustainability opportunities as well as the ensure the following requirements are met:



Creating an Event Specific Sustainability plan

In advance (6 months) of the event, a sustainability plan will be developed which will include the following points:

- Designate an individual with responsibility for sustainability tasks
- Ensure no single use plastics, specifically; bags, water bottles, cable ties are used for the event;
- Opportunities to reduce carbon footprint;
- Create an optimized branding plan to reduce single use banners;
- Provide adequate drinking water stations throughout the venue;
- Ensure regular cleansing of the venue to ensure no litter;
- Share with stakeholders a list of relevant national and local regulations;
- Record and report on utility use during the event, specifically; electricity, water, gas and petrol/diesel and shuttle km travelled;
- Ensure all waste stations are clearly marked and provision of both recycling/composting and non-recycling are located together;
- Organize sustainability educational activity for spectators; and
- Supply sustainability data to organizers (for their post event report).
- The organizers will adopt the guidelines for ISO 20121 – 'A specification for sustainable events'.

Event Sustainability targets

The overarching sustainability targets are:

1. Achieve ISO 20121 certification
2. Elimination of single use plastic
3. Benchmark carbon footprint for the event
4. Engage with local communities
5. Deliver STEM related sessions to local communities
6. Reduce waste and increase reuse and recycling opportunities

Goal	Process	Priority level	Involved/in charge	Funding	
Transportation and Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote low-emission transportation options for attendees, such as shuttle services or carpooling. - Optimize logistics to reduce unnecessary transportation and energy consumption. 	High	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026
Venue Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prioritize venues with sustainable certifications (ISO 20121 (sustainable event management system or ISO 14001 environmental management system) or those implementing environmentally friendly practices. - Choose locations that are easily accessible by public transportation. 	High	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026
Waste Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure the provision of clearly labeled recycling and composting bins at event sites - Collaborate with waste management services to 	High	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026

	properly dispose of or recycle event-generated waste				
Reduce water use and single use plastic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water will be monitored in terms of its use. - Water dispensers will be utilized and athletes encouraged to use their reusable drinking bottles. 	Medium	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026
Catering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid individual packaging by using bulk serving options. - Ensure proper handling and donation of surplus food to reduce food waste. - Ensure plant based meal options are available (less CO₂e) 	High	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026
Event Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use digital alternatives to printed materials wherever possible (e.g., digital tickets with QR code, programs, and signage). - If printing is necessary, use recycled or FSC-certified paper and eco-friendly inks. 	High	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026

Energy Use	- If possible, collaborate with venues that generate or use renewable energy.	High	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026
Temporary Power	- If possible grid energy will be used but in certain events temporary power should be derived from renewable sources working with suppliers to use the most sustainable option available in country.	Medium	The NOC Secretary General, Climate Action Officer and staff members	The NOC budget	2026

The **Events** category focuses on optimizing the organization of events to reduce environmental impact. This includes streamlining logistics, minimizing waste, and using sustainable materials for event setups. By adopting eco-friendly practices such as digital solutions instead of printed materials and ensuring efficient transportation for attendees, the carbon footprint of events can be significantly reduced. These efforts contribute to more sustainable event management and support broader environmental goals within the organization's activities.

Education for National Sports Federations

To actively involve national sports federations in the Kosovo Olympic Committee's sustainability efforts, a version of the OCEAN project strategy will be developed. This tailored document will be concise, easy to understand, and aligned with the communication style and practical needs of the federations. It will:

Highlight key actions federations can take within their operations and events to support carbon reduction goals.

Offer clear, practical guidance—such as limiting single-use plastics at competitions or improving travel logistics—to help make sporting events more sustainable.

Encourage federations to share their own sustainability initiatives, helping to build a collective resource of best practices across the sector.

To complement the written guidance, online seminars will be organised to provide additional support, address questions, and foster an open space for discussion. This approach is designed to engage stakeholders without overwhelming them, increasing the likelihood of successful adoption and implementation of the proposed measures.

Kosovo National Olympic Committee will engage with athletes, partners and sponsors with training such as climate fresh training or carbon literacy training.

Evaluation and Continuity

Both employee and federation-focused education efforts will include regular evaluation to assess progress and adjust the content based on participant feedback. To support lasting change, refresher sessions will be introduced, reinforcing the importance of sustainability and encouraging long-term behavioural shifts.

This inclusive and adaptive approach ensures clear, two-way communication and fosters a collaborative spirit—laying the groundwork for shared success in meeting the goals of the OCEAN project.

ROLE OF ATHLETES IN PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY

In Kosovo, athletes are not only celebrated for their sporting excellence but also hold a special place in society as trusted, influential figures. Recognising this, the OCEAN project strategy places a strong emphasis on involving athletes as key advocates for sustainability—within the Kosovo Olympic Committee, across national sports federations, and throughout the wider community.

Athletes have the power to inspire people across all ages and backgrounds. By actively engaging them in the promotion of environmental responsibility, the strategy seeks to:

Raise public awareness about the urgency of reducing CO₂ emissions and embracing sustainable practices.

Reinforce sustainability efforts within the Kosovo Olympic Committee and sports federations by showcasing athletes who lead by example.

Encourage the broader population to adopt more environmentally conscious behaviours, inspired by the actions of their sporting heroes.

To support this, the Kosovo Olympic Committee plans to:

Partner with athletes to co-create impactful campaigns that highlight the importance of sustainability in both sport and daily life.

Involve athletes in educational workshops and events, offering opportunities for them to speak about their commitment to sustainability and engage directly with stakeholders.

Shine a spotlight on athletes already living sustainably, positioning them as ambassadors for change and role models for the community.

By harnessing the visibility and respect that athletes command, the Kosovo Olympic Committee aims to significantly amplify the reach and effectiveness of the OCEAN project—driving meaningful cultural and behavioural change well beyond the boundaries of sport.

ENGAGEMENT

The Kosovo Olympic Committee is firmly committed to the principles of Sport for Climate Action (S4CA), actively embedding these values into all aspects of its operations. By embracing these principles, we aim to uphold our responsibility—not only to our athletes and the sporting community, but also to the people of Kosovo and the planet as a whole. Sustainability lies at the core of our strategic vision, guiding us in reducing environmental impact while championing the ideals of Olympic sport.

A key pillar of this commitment is our close collaboration with national federations (NFs). By working in partnership, we ensure that sustainability is not a standalone effort but a shared priority throughout the Kosovan sporting landscape.

In our daily operations, we prioritise sustainable practices across all internal and external events. This includes the use of recycled and environmentally friendly materials wherever possible, and a strong focus on minimising food and beverage waste. Event planning is approached with care, ensuring catering is accurately scaled to avoid overproduction—an important step in cutting down waste and conserving resources.

Our broader approach is guided by the “reduce, reuse, recycle” philosophy, ensuring that sustainability is embedded in every stage of our activities. Whether through operational choices or strategic planning, we are committed to making a tangible contribution to environmental protection while setting a strong example for others in the sports sector.

INTERNAL AUDIT AND MONITORING

INTERNAL AUDIT AND MONITORING

To support the effective delivery of the OCEAN project strategy, the Kosovo Olympic Committee will implement a comprehensive internal audit and monitoring framework. This system will play a key role in assessing the impact of sustainability measures, ensuring alignment with established goals, and identifying opportunities for continuous improvement.

Key Objectives of the Internal Audit:

Monitoring Implementation of Measures

Conduct regular reviews to confirm that the sustainability initiatives outlined in the strategy are being carried out as intended.

Evaluate the effectiveness of these actions and their contribution to reducing the Committee's overall CO₂ emissions.

Employee Engagement and Compliance

Assess the level of employee involvement and adherence to sustainability practices.

Identify any knowledge gaps or areas of non-compliance, and recommend targeted interventions such as additional training, guidance, or internal communications.

Resource Usage Analysis

Track the consumption of key resources—such as energy, water, and paper—and determine whether reductions are in line with targets.

Ensure that waste management practices, including sorting and disposal, are consistently applied across the organisation.

Sustainable Procurement and Partnerships

Review procurement activities to ensure that all goods and services align with the sustainability standards set out in the strategy.

Evaluate relationships with suppliers and partners to verify alignment with ecological values and responsible sourcing practices.

Reporting and Feedback

Findings from internal audits will be compiled into comprehensive reports and shared with management and relevant stakeholders. These reports will:

Highlight achievements and areas of progress.

Identify ongoing challenges and provide actionable recommendations for improvement.

Inform future updates to the OCEAN project strategy, ensuring it remains dynamic and responsive to evolving needs.

This process strengthens transparency and accountability, reinforcing the Kosovo Olympic Committee's commitment to environmental responsibility. By embedding regular monitoring and feedback, the Committee lays the groundwork for sustained progress and long-term impact.

POLICY

As part of its commitment to continuous improvement, the Kosovo Olympic Committee has pledged to calculate its CO₂ footprint annually. This routine measurement allows for the tracking of progress toward sustainability goals, the identification of areas for improvement, and the assurance that meaningful steps are being taken to reduce environmental impact. Regular reporting also aligns the Committee's efforts with global climate standards and reinforces its accountability to partners and the public.

Sustainability is not viewed as a one-time effort, but as an ongoing journey. Through active collaboration with stakeholders—federations, sponsors, and local authorities—and alignment with national sustainability priorities, the Kosovo Olympic Committee is helping to lead the way in embedding environmental responsibility into sport.

As both a champion of sport and an advocate for climate action, the Kosovo Olympic Committee is proud to be contributing to a greener, more sustainable future for the sporting community and society at large.

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