



Climate Action and Sustainability Policy

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1. Background

Over the last number of years there has been a growing realisation that global warming is placing our planet and future generations at risk. The complex challenges ahead require actions by all of us to meet the goals of the Paris Climate Change Agreement.

Around the world, governments, cities, and businesses are taking climate action, leading the way towards a more sustainable future. Ireland has set a target to reduce carbon emissions (greenhouse gas emissions) by 51% by 2030, and to achieve a climate neutral economy by 2050. As a sporting body, we can play our part in helping Ireland achieve their goal and play our part as a climate leader to a greener more sustainable future.

2. Objectives

As a national sporting body, we aim to display climate leadership by actively engaging in the climate neutrality journey and taking responsibility for our own climate footprint.

Athletics Ireland will communicate its Environmental Policy, as appropriate, with relevant stakeholders and members. We will strive to communicate, educate and adequately train our staff on our Environmental policy. This will generate an awareness of the company's Environmental Policy and that we are striving towards continual improvement regarding environmental issues. We aim to ensure that the Board and Executive identifies, evaluates, and manages solutions to support climate leadership in Athletics Ireland and the community on an ongoing basis to the best of our abilities. This policy supports the five principles of the United Nations Sports for Climate Change:

Principle 1: Undertake systematic efforts to promote greater environmental responsibility

Principle 2: Reduce overall climate impact

Principle 3: Educate for climate action

Principle 4: Promote sustainable and responsible consumption

Principle 5: Advocate for climate action through communication

3. Environmental Policy Statement

Athletics Ireland is aware that its business activities impact upon the environment and is committed to ensuring that these activities have the least possible detrimental effect. Our sustainability register aims to define and prioritize the actions Athletics

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Ireland is taking to ensure climate leadership, which will be managed and maintained by the Board together with the Executive in a proactive manner.

We encourage an environmentally sustainable culture throughout the organisation so that sustainability is embedded as part of the organisation's decision making and operations.

We are committed to:

- ✓ Complying with all relevant legal requirements, codes of practice and regulations.
- ✓ Assessing the environmental impacts of our operations, seeking to reduce these impacts, and improving our resource efficiency through reduction of energy, water use and waste.
- ✓ Promoting environmental and energy awareness in our employees through participation and training.
Monitoring our progress to ensure on-going improvements in our environmental performance.
- ✓ Making members and suppliers aware of our sustainability policy and encouraging them to adopt sound sustainable management practices
- ✓ Communicate this policy to stakeholders and the public and work with our neighbours to reduce the impact of our operations These commitments will be carried out in line with our environmental policy
- ✓ Supporting the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Our ambition is to continuously develop the business from a long-term perspective, creating a shared value for all. We are striving to become a good corporate citizen, taking responsibility for our own development as well our impact on all people, the environment and society generally.

4. Responsibilities

Being an Environmental Champion means being we are an advocate for good environmental practice within the workplace as well as being interested and willing to learn about environmental issues and sharing this knowledge.

4.1 The Board of Athletics Ireland will ensure that a sustainability register is maintained and reviewed at least annually by the Board. The sustainability register compiled by the CEO will identify and prioritize sustainable actions in line with the United Nations Climate Change principles.

4.2 It is the responsibility of the executive to:

- Contribute to the development and implementation of our sustainability goals
- Communicate and raise awareness of environmental issues in the workplace and promote sustainable action.

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- Help identify weaknesses within the sustainability policy and register, and help to identify solutions and work towards implementing them

4.3 The CEO is responsible for the monitoring and compliance of the sustainability policy within the organization. The CEO shall include a sustainability summary in every CEO Board report on progress in implementing the sustainability plan and follow up on all KPI's that will be presented in a report each year.

5. Procedures

The CEO shall engage with relevant sub-committees, Board members, staff members and others to compile a sustainability register for Board review.

Athletics Ireland sustainability procedures will be conducted from the three pillars of sustainability which considers economic, social, and environmental aspect, ensuring all three aspects are in equilibrium to achieve sustainability.:

- Economic sustainability—striving for a stable progress over time and applying good business practice.
- Social sustainability—acting as a responsible employer as well as contributing to improved social progress within the geographics we are operating.
- Environmental sustainability—protecting the environment by actively reducing our own and our customers' environmental impact as well and optimising the resource utilisation.

6. References

- <https://olympics.com/ioc/sustainability>
- https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Sports_for_Climate_Action_Declaration_and_Framework_0.pdf
- [Microsoft Word - SU ILLiad Article Download.doc \(icsspe.org\)](#)
- [Green Teams National Programme – The Green Teams National Programme developed through the EPA's Green Enterprise Programme](#)
- Sustainability Register
- <https://worldathletics.org/athletics-better-world/sustainability>
- <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>