



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

# FACTSHEET

## OLYMPIC SOLIDARITY

### UPDATE - JUNE 2020

## HISTORY

The IOC's idea of supporting a number of National Olympic Committees (NOCs) after their countries gained independence originated in the 1960s. An International Olympic Aid Committee (IOAC) was created in 1962 and transformed in 1968 into an IOC Commission with the same name. In 1971, the Commission was merged with a similar body created by the Permanent General Assembly of National Olympic Committees (the predecessor of the Association of National Olympic Committees [ANOC]) and became the committee for the Olympic Solidarity.

In 1981, in accordance with the decision of the then IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch, and then ANOC President and IOC member Mario Vázquez Raña, the Olympic Solidarity Commission acquired its definitive form, with the task of satisfying the needs and interests of the NOCs. In 2001, IOC President Jacques Rogge decided to strengthen the work of the Olympic Solidarity Commission and to create continental programmes to respond to the needs, priorities and interests of the NOCs and the particularities of their continents. To this end, he restructured the Commission and appointed Vázquez Raña as its Chairman.

The Commission is composed of individual members appointed by the IOC President. Dr. Robin E. Mitchell, IOC member, is the Chair of the Olympic Solidarity Commission.

## MISSION

Olympic Solidarity is the organ responsible for administering and managing the NOCs' share of the broadcast rights from the Olympic Games. It redistributes these funds through diverse programmes according to the needs and priorities of the NOCs and their Continental Associations.

Rule 5 of the [Olympic Charter](#) states: "*The aim of Olympic Solidarity is to provide assistance to NOCs for athlete development programmes, in particular those which have the greatest need of it. This assistance takes the form of programmes elaborated jointly by the IOC and the NOCs, with the technical assistance of the International Federations (IFs), if necessary.*"

## THE 2017-2020 PROGRAMMES

In accordance with the Olympic Charter, Olympic Solidarity offers the NOCs an efficient consulting service to assist them in gaining access to financial, technical and administrative assistance through:

- World Programmes, which cover and reinforce all areas of sports development;
- Continental Programmes, designed to meet some of the specific needs of each continent;
- IOC Subsidies for NOCs' participation in Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games, which help the NOCs to participate in these Games and allow them to benefit from financial assistance.

## WORLD PROGRAMMES

These are divided into five areas:

1. Athletes
2. Coaches
3. NOC management and knowledge sharing
4. Promotion of the Olympic values
5. Forums and special projects

### 1. ATHLETES

The seven programmes for athletes are structured so as to enable the NOCs to provide technical and financial assistance to athletes of all levels who are preparing for different international competitions, and especially, but not exclusively, the Olympic Games.



- Olympic Scholarships for Athletes “PyeongChang 2018”
- Olympic Scholarships for Athletes “Tokyo 2020”
- Team Support Grant
- Continental Athlete support Grant
- Youth Olympic Games – Athlete Support
- Athletes Career Transition
- Refugee Athlete Support.

### **Olympic Scholarships for Athletes “PyeongChang 2018”**

This programme offered the NOCs the chance to provide their athletes with the support they need to prepare and attempt to qualify for the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018. Its main goal was to improve the competitiveness of the Olympic Winter Games rather than to expand artificially the universality of these Games. Consequently, this programme was available only to NOCs that took part in the Olympic Winter Games in Sochi and had a strong winter sports tradition. The Olympic scholarships were available from 1 November 2016 until 28 February 2018.

### **Results from the scholarships programme for PyeongChang 2018:**

- 435 athletes (291 men and 144 women) benefited from an individual Olympic scholarship, of which...
- ...268 scholarship holders (182 men, 86 women) qualified for the Games.
- They competed in 5 sports and won 13 medals.
- 14 tailor-made grants were allocated
- 89 NOCs benefited from the programme.

### **Olympic Scholarships for Athletes “Tokyo 2020”**

This programme offers substantial assistance to elite international athletes nominated by their respective NOCs for their preparation and

qualification for the Games of the XXXII Olympiad Tokyo 2020, paying particular attention to athletes and NOCs with limited financial means.

This programme, available to all NOCs, was officially launched in September 2017 and will close in July 2021. (one year later than previously planned due to the postponement of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020).

### **Some figures from the previous scholarships programme for Rio 2016:**

- 1,547 athletes benefited from an Olympic scholarship.
- 815 scholarship holders (477 men and 338 women) from 171 NOCs qualified and competed in 22 sports.
- 10 additional scholarships were allocated to the Refugee Olympic Team (ROT) to 4 women and 6 men.
- 101 medals were won (33 gold, 26 silver and 42 bronze).

### **Team Support Grant**

This programme offers financial assistance to one national team per NOC to prepare and participate in regional, continental or world level competitions with a view to qualifying for the Olympic Games in Tokyo in . It is intended in priority for athletes whose NOC's financial means are limited. Each NOC can submit a request for a grant for one team in a summer sport and another team in a winter sport. The NOCs can give priority to the competitions that they consider the most important.

### **Continental Athlete Support Grant**

For the smaller NOCs in particular, after the Olympic Games, the continental and regional games are the most important competitions, as they have the chance to be more widely represented in these. This programme offers financial assistance to NOCs for their athletes' preparations for multisport Games.



## **Youth Olympic Games - Athlete Support**

The aim of this NOC assistance programme is to identify, qualify and prepare a small number of young athletes with a view to their participation in the Summer and Winter Youth Olympic Games. The eligible athletes must practise an individual sport that is included in the Summer or Winter Youth Olympic Games programme and show a potential to qualify for the future editions by producing outstanding results at international or continental youth competitions.

## **Athletes Career Transition**

This programme helps the NOCs to support their athletes at various stages of their career through financial and supportive measures in view of a successful post athlete career.

## **Refugee Athlete Support**

The objective of the programme is to propose the NOCs to identify and support a limited number of refugee athletes living in their countries to prepare and participate in international competitions.

## **2. COACHES**

Three programmes are available for coach development. They take a variety of different forms and are targeted at different levels in order to respond in the best way possible to current athlete training requirements. For the 2013-2016 quadrennial plan:

- 170 NOCs have held 979 Technical Courses for Coaches.
- 637 Olympic Scholarships for Coaches have been awarded to 171 NOCs for general sports science training or sports-specific training.

- 227 projects within the framework of the “Development of National Sports System” programme have been approved for 108 NOCs.

## **3. NOC MANAGEMENT AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING**

Four programmes are offered to the NOCs:

- **NOC Administration Development:** This programme is designed to support the NOCs’ administrative structure by contributing towards their general running costs and to one-off projects to improve NOCs’ operations.
- **National Training Courses for Sports Administrators:** This enables the NOCs to organise courses for their management staff and that of their affiliated organisations. They are held on two levels (standard and advanced) and enable the NOCs to spread knowledge of the Olympic Movement and to develop the professional skills of sports administrators: 509 courses have been organised during the 2013-2016 quadrennial plan.
- **International Executive Training Courses in Sports Management:** This programme enables sports leaders to receive a grant in order to follow masters level training and help improve the management of their Olympic sports organisations. A total of 222 scholarships were awarded across 123 NOCs between 2013 and 2016.
- **NOC Solidarity Exchanges:** This programme aims at promoting solidarity by coordinating developed NOCs’ offers of assistance with the demands of the NOCs in the greatest need.

## **4. PROMOTION OF THE OLYMPIC VALUES**

Five programmes are grouped under this heading, and each makes an important



contribution to the NOCs, enabling them to pursue activities linked to sports development and the values that underpin the fundamental principles of Olympism, according to their needs, individual situation and culture.

- Sports Medicine and Protection of Clean Athletes
- Sustainability in Sport
- Gender Equality and Diversity
- Sport for Social Development
- Olympic Education, Culture and Legacy (incl. International Olympic Academy).

## **5. FORUMS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS**

The two programmes available add targeted services to the range of world programmes. The forums and workshops promote concepts and ideas to NOCs and provide specific training opportunities to targeted groups of NOCs. The special projects respond to specific requests from NOCs as a result of extraordinary or unexpected circumstances.

## **CONTINENTAL PROGRAMMES**

The continental programmes offer the NOCs access to technical, financial and administrative assistance which addresses the specific needs and priorities of the NOCs in each continent. The standard programmes for each continental association must, in principle, cover the following basic elements: administration and running costs, organisation of statutory meetings and NOC activities. In parallel, the continental associations can set aside some of the funds to develop specific programmes in accordance with the particular needs and situation of their continent. The Continental Programmes are managed by the five Olympic Solidarity offices (Abuja (NGR), Mexico City (MEX), Hawaii (KUW), Rome (ITA), and Suva (FIJ)) within the Continental Associations in full coordination with

the international Olympic Solidarity office in Lausanne.

## **IOC SUBSIDIES FOR NOCS' PARTICIPATION IN OLYMPIC GAMES AND YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES**

This programme is intended to help the NOCs participate in the Olympic Games and Youth Olympic Games.

For the Games of the XXXII Olympiad Tokyo 2020, the financial assistance provided has two complementary objectives: to help foster the universal spirit of the Olympic Games by guaranteeing the participation of all NOCs, and to give additional support to NOCs based on their contribution to the development and success of the Games.

The financial assistance covers among others the travel costs for a number of athletes and officials taking part in the Games, accommodation costs for two rooms per NOCs (up to max. 20 nights) at the Olympic Family hotel and the subsidy given to the NOCs for their participation in the Games, based on the number of athletes who actually take part in the competitions.

For the Youth Olympic Winter Games Lausanne 2020, the financial assistance aimed at helping the NOCs to support the young athletes in their Olympic aspirations. The financial assistance covered among others costs relating to travel and accommodation of the NOC team delegations in the Youth Olympic Village in Lausanne.

## **FUNDING**

The sole source of funding for Olympic Solidarity's operations and the activities of each of the programmes it offers is the NOCs' share of revenue from broadcast rights from the Olympic Games. The Olympic Solidarity Commission is responsible for defining the orientation and



managing the work of Olympic Solidarity, which includes approving the programmes and related budgets, based on the four-year plans, and monitoring the activities carried out. The initial development and assistance budget approved by the Olympic Solidarity Commission for the 2017-2020 period totals USD 509,285,000, which is 16 per cent higher overall than the budget for the previous plan.

## **BREAKDOWN OF BUDGET FOR 2017-2020:**

### **World Programmes**

USD 210,535,000

### **Continental Programmes and ANOC**

USD 222,050,000

### **IOC Subsidies for participation in Olympic Games**

USD 50,000,000

### **Administration**

USD 20,200,000

### **Technical Support Services**

USD 6,500,000

**Total USD 509,285,000**

## **BREAKDOWN OF “WORLD PROGRAMMES” BUDGET:**

### **Athletes**

USD 87,000,000

### **Coaches**

USD 33,000,000

### **NOC management and knowledge sharing**

USD 51,085,000

### **Promotion of the Olympic values**

USD 20,000,000

**Total USD 210,535,000**

## **BREAKDOWN OF “CONTINENTAL PROGRAMMES” BUDGET:**

### **Africa – 54 NOCs**

USD 41,113,000

### **America – 41 NOCs**

USD 32,580,000

### **Asia – 44 NOCs**

USD 34,132,000

### **Europe – 50 NOCs**

USD 38,578,000

### **Oceania – 17 NOCs**

USD 21,847,000

### **ANOC**

USD 53,800,000

**Total USD 222,050,000**

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## **IMPRINT**

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