



# Sustainable Development through Sport



#### **ABOUT US**

The <u>FiCS Coalition for Sustainable Development through Sport</u> is chaired by Istituto per il Credito Sportivo (ICS) and its co-chairs are the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).



# **OUR SECRETARIAT**

Sport Impact, an independent agency specializing in structuring, financing, and promoting sport-for-development projects, oversees the Coalition's Secretariat. The Secretariat facilitates communication and coordination among the members, monitor coalition's projects and initiatives and assist the chairs in the engagement strategy of the coalition



#### **MEMBERS**

The Coalition currently brings together 22 member organizations that actively participate to delivering the Coalition's objectives, through regular meetings during plenary sessions and work streams. See Annex for the full list of members.



### **OUR OBJECTIVES**

The coalition members share the core belief that Physical activity, physical education, and sport are powerful levers for sustainable development, and transformation of society by, for and with the youth and specifically marginalized groups. They recognize the need to mobilize financing and investment, at scale, to fully realize this potential.







## **KEY MESSAGES**

Effective sport based policies, programmes and infrastructure, not only help to deliver health and community resilience, but also to build more cohesive and peaceful societies by disseminating the values of sports, such as empathy, respect, discipline, fair game and team building while facilitation positive social connections.

**Sport is an impact-generating instrument**: It is a teamwork-based development intervention and a high-impact and low-cost tool for sustainable development

**Investing in sport creates long-term externalities** for a country in terms of public health, infrastructure development, education and jobs, equality, inclusion and social cohesion, and income and return of investment at various scales.

#### MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- There was an important shift in the global policy dialogue on sport & sustainable development in 2024 with clear progress from "recognition" of sport as an enabler of sustainable development to "acknowledgement" of the need for concrete investment, made at scale and in a sustainable manner
- The Paris Summit on Sport for Sustainable Development (#S4SD), hosted by IOC and France on the eve of the Olympic Games Paris 2024, was a landmark event in this regard. The Summit saw over 60 world leaders and leaders of international organizations support the <u>Paris Agreement for Sport and Sustainable Development</u>, which sets out 10 key commitments.
- Building on this momentum, in October 2024, the G7 Development Ministers Meeting adopted the Pescara Declaration on Sustainable Investment in the Sport "ecosystem", encouraging further investment in this area, welcoming the engagement of an increasing number of public development banks, and financing stakeholders to mobilise quality investments to foster sport for development.
- For the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of FiCS, which took place from 26 to 28 of February 2025, in Cape Town, a dedicated "Sport, Arts and Culture Arena" has been set up to spotlight the crucial role of PDBs in promoting investments in these innovative sectors as drivers of







social and economic progress. The 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the FiCS Sport Investment Forum was co-organized by the Coalition, Sport Impact and the co-hosts. On this occasion, a High-Level Conference on Sport and three thematic workshops on innovative S4D financing instruments, the legacy of major sporting events, and the impact of sports on SDGs (in particular on education, gender equality, inclusion, and health) have been organized with the participation of over 30 high-level speakers from 23 institutions.

- The coalition published a joint statement and launched a roadmap for investing 10 bn USD at domestic and international level, in community-based, inclusive and sustainable sports infrastructure and human capital development projects by 2030. This was followed by setting out specific commitments at the Olympism365: Sport for a Better World Summit held from June 3 to 5 in Lausanne, Switzerland. These focused on mobilising concessionary financing for sport and sustainable development initiatives in the priority areas set out in the Paris Agreement; strengthening the pipeline of projects in these areas; and, releasing a compendium of research and impact studies providing evidence and support for impact investment at scale.







#### **ROADMAP 2025**

- At the Sport for Sustainable Development Summit (July 2024) and the G7 Declaration in Pescara (October 2024), the Coalition emphasized the potential of a Global Sport Impact Fund for sport for development. This fund has three key objectives: i) Assess how to mobilize public and private financial resources, ensuring investments contributing to measurable sustainable development outcomes; ii) Conduct a pre-feasibility study to confirm the fund's relevance by identifying financing gaps and opportunities in the sector; and iii) Fine-tuning recommendations on the fund's structure, governance, investment strategy, and suitable financial instruments.
- The research agenda aims to further strengthen evidence for sport's role in achieving social outcomes, guiding policymaking and investment decisions, and tapping into the growing impact investment market. The research agenda aims to optimize knowledge sharing and research on the social and -economic impact of sport through i) making existing knowledge available to support advocacy; ii) setting common standards for terminology, concepts and methodologies; iii) addressing research gaps through new research projects and data gathering iv) evaluating financial instruments and identifying good practice. This work has been advanced through the development of a compendium of knowledge products, which is a resource library that facilitates knowledge access and identifies preliminary research gaps.
- The coalition members continue to work on the framework for investing USD 10 billion, at domestic and international level, in community-based, inclusive and sustainable sports infrastructure and human capital development projects by 2030. This includes the advancing announcements made at the Olympism365: Sport for a Better World Summit (June 2025) of action by Coalition members to mobilise concessionary financing to enable public authorities, working with civil society and private sector collaborators, to scale and sustain sport-based infrastructure and human capital development projects.
- Finally, the Coalition is determined to present the state of play at international events and Summits, and at the highest level leveraging the leadership role of Italy and Senegal as hosts of the Milano-Cortina 2026 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games and Youth Olympic Games Dakar 2026 respectively, and the role of host of other major Sport events.
- The Coalition extends the invitation to other PDBs to become members of the Coalition, in an attempt to consolidate the important achievements of the last two years. This is with the aim of maintaining high regard on the part of political authorities, international organisations and PDBs for the potential of sport as a factor in sustainable development.

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# LIST OF MEMBERS

Association of National Development Finance Institutions in Member Countries of the Islamic Development Bank	ADFIMI
Agence Francaise de Développement	AFD
Association of Development Financing Institutions	ALIDE
The Bank of Foreign Trade in Colombia	BANCOLDEX
Banque Ouest Africaine De Développement	BOAD
Banco de Desarrollo de América Latina	CAF
Cassa Depositi e Prestiti	CDP Italy
Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations	CDC France
Caisse de Dépôt et de Gestion	CDG Maroc
Development Bank of Rwanda	BRD
Development Bank of Southern Africa	DBSA
Istituto per il Credito Sportivo e Culturale	ICSC
Japan International Cooperation Agency	JICA
International Olympic Committee	IOC
European Network of Academic Sports	ENAS
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit	GIZ
International Paralympic Committee	IPC
Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games Organising Committee	Paris 2024
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	UNESCO
Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games Organizing Committee	Dakar 2026
Yunus Sport Hub	Yunus
Laureus Sport for Good	Laureus