



Strasbourg, 30 June 2022

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“Mapping of sports facilities – Meeting 2: Sustainability”

Online meeting organised jointly by EPAS and the Mulier Instituut

Tuesday 5 July 2022
9am – 12.30pm

Venue:
Palais de l'Europe (meeting room no. 15)

Online via BlueJeans
<https://bluejeans.com/994520127>

Background and programme

Background

Sustainability is a key area flagged up in the [revised European Sports Charter](#) (ESC) and falls under “sports ethics” which includes respect for human rights and sustainability (Article 7 revised ESC). Article 9 of the ESC sets forth the wide parameter covered by sustainability:

Article 9 – Sustainability

1. The principle of sustainability in sport requires all activities to be economically, socially and **environmentally sustainable**, in particular:
 - a. when planning, implementing and evaluating their activities, **organisers of sports activities and events should pay due consideration to sustainability, be it economic, social or environmental;**
 - b. whereas the growing consumption of sporting goods can generate a positive impact on the global economy, the industry should take responsibility for developing and integrating practices that are satisfactory in social terms and are environmentally friendly;
 - c. indoor and outdoor activities should be carried out responsibly, in other words the precautionary principle (resource conservation and risk prevention) should be implemented. **Owners of sports infrastructure have to act proactively to identify the effects and consequences of their facilities, avoid potential damage to nature and, where necessary, take counter- and protective measures against such risks;**
 - d. the organisation of major sports events should ensure a sustainable legacy for the hosting communities with regard to their economic, social and environmental impact, in particular to balance the financial cost of the infrastructure with its post-event use and the effect on participation in sport.
2. All stakeholders should take responsibility to reduce their carbon footprint and pursue commitments and partnerships for climate action in recognition of the increasingly negative impact of climate change on society and on sport.

The second meeting in the series of 3 on the mapping of sports facilities co-organised between the Mulier Instituut and EPAS will focus on sustainability in a wide sense, but with a particular focus on environmental sustainability in relation to sports facilities.

Objectives

The aim of this online meeting is to:

- gain insights into current sustainability measures in sports facilities;
- bring together researchers and national level policy-making experts to identify solutions to explore how to maximise sustainability measures in or related to sports facilities across Europe and at national level.

Thematic scope

The forthcoming online meeting on Tuesday 5 July 2022 meeting explores the following questions:

- To what extent do sports facilities in Europe already taken on board sustainability issues?
- Which policies/ tools already exist to encourage the promotion of sustainability in relation to sports facilities?
- What are the barriers which prevent implementation of further sustainability measures in sports facilities?
- Which resources do facility owners have at their disposal to implement sustainability?
- What lessons can be learnt going forwards?
- What broader sustainability issues related to the sport 'place and space' can be identified (e.g. mobility for sport, sport tourism, climate impact on sport locations).

Speakers

The online meeting will be co-chaired and co-moderated by Dr. Remco Hoekman, Director of the Mulier Instituut and Ms Francine Hetherington Raveney, Deputy Executive Director of EPAS.

Speakers will include researchers, policy-making experts and other experts in this field as well as the wider sports movement.

Draft agenda

9-9.10am Opening words (Remco Hoekman and Francine Hetherington Raveney)

9.10am-10.10am International and European angle

- *Francine Hetherington Raveney, Deputy Executive Secretary, EPAS* - Presentation of the revised European Sports Charter and the work of EPAS in relation to sustainability and mapping of sport facilities
- *Orsolya Tolnay, Member of the Board of Directors, Sport and Sustainability International (SandSi)* – Presentation on the work of SandSi
- *Peter Fischer* - The EU perspective: presentation from the European Commission

10.10-10.30am Questions and answers

10.30-10.50am Break

10.50am-11.50am National case studies

- *Dr Remco Hoekman, Mulier Institute/ Radboud University* – The Netherlands
- *Maël Besson* -Consultant on Sustainability - France
- *Prof. dr. Pamela Wicker, Bielefeld University* - Germany
- *Tapani Laakso, Jyväskylä University* - Finland

11.50am-12.10pm Questions and answers

12.10pm-12.30pm Conclusions and information about follow-on work and the next online meetings end 2022 on channels of investment in sports facilities

(Remco Hoekman and Francine Hetherington Raveney)

Structure and practical arrangements of the webinar

The online meeting is scheduled to last 3.5 hours with a 20-minute break. As this is an online meeting, participants will be invited to pose questions through the chat function of the BlueJeans online platform to be asked to speakers at the end of each section.

The working language of the online meeting will be English.